



Prague Symposium on Crisis,
Disaster and Trauma Psychology
20th of October 2017

'Lessons learned from the European Countries' Needs of disabled people in disasters – results of EUNAD IP project

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EUNAD Period: 01.01.2013 – 31.12.2014
EUNAD IP: Period: 01.01.2016 – 31.12.2017



- Federal Office of Civil Protection and Disaster Assistance, Bonn, Germany (Coordinator)
- University of Innsbruck, Innsbruck, Austria
- Charles University, Prag, Czech Republic
- Centre of Psychotraumatology, Alexianer Krefeld GmbH, Krefeld, Germany
- Norwegian Center for Violence and Traumatic Stress Studies, Oslo, Norwegen
- University of Southern Denmark, Odense, Denmark



Nasjonalt kunnskapssenter
om vold og traumatisk stress



Projectpartner EUNAD IP



Cooperation partners & Advisory Board EUNAD IP



- § Israel Trauma Coalition: Response and Preparedness, Israel
- § Sociedad Española de Psicotraumatología y Estrés Traumático (SEPET-D), Spain
- § Luxembourg Civil Protection, Groupe de Support Psychologique
- § Police Presidium of the Czech Republic
- § Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic
- § Impact, National knowledge & advice centre for psychosocial care concerning critical incidents, Partner in Arq, Diemen, The Netherlands
- § Julius Maximilian University, Würzburg, Institut for Special Education, Germany
- § Federal Association for Special Education, Germany
- § Federal Association of German Psychologists (BDP), Germany
- § National and European Disability Associations



MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR
OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC



EUNAD-IP: Inclusive Civil Protection Convention of right



Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)

“It clarifies and qualifies how all categories of rights apply to persons with disabilities and identifies areas where adaptations have to be made for persons with disabilities to effectively exercise their rights and areas where their rights have been violated, and where protection of rights must be reinforced.”

The rights of persons with disabilities.

Armed conflict, humanitarian crisis, disasters

Public authorities must provide medical and psychological aid.

And meet the diverse needs of the individual.



EUNAD-IP: Inclusive Civil Protection Convention of right



The Convention adopts a social model of disability, but does not offer a specific definition.

The Convention's preamble (e) explains that the Convention recognises:

"...that disability is an evolving concept and that disability results from the interaction between persons with impairments and attitudinal and environmental barriers that hinders their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others,"



Evaluation

- Current state of research and existing guidelines
- Acquisition and integration of the associations of disabled

Research

- Qualitative and quantitative research on exposition, stress reactions, needs and coping mechanisms

Workshops

- Networking, expert exchange and evaluation of results through national and european Workshops

Recommendations/ Experts

- Development and extension of EUNAD-Recommendations
- Establishment and extension of a european expert group

Training

- Development of training concepts, testing and evaluation
- Development of a training handbook

Toolkits

- Development of toolkits for children and youths, to increase self-help competences

European EUNAD IP Training: Train the trainer

Impression: The situation of people with visual impairment - basics and practical aspects



EUNAD-IP: Civil protection for visual impaired and blind persons

„Terror is bad, but going into the supermarket is hell“

Fear of daily accidents was more pronounced than fear of disasters.

Avoidance of help-seeking in unsafe situations due to the shame associated with not being able to cope.

The research findings showed that visual impaired people are at higher risk of loneliness and depressive disorders and a high risk of being bullied.

EUNAD-IP: Inclusive Civil Protection for hard of hearing/deaf persons



„A German man in Paris – Terror attack near Notre Dame, 6.6.2017“
<http://www.taubenschlag.de>

- Communication barrier
- Need of a network of interpreter
- Deaf and Hard of Hearing mostly see themselves as part of a “linguistic and cultural minority group”, not as disabled.

Notre Dame 6.6.2017



EUNAD-IP: Civil protection for intellectual disabled persons



Degree of disability is different (intellectuell disability, autistic, dementia...)

More about cognitive or more about emotional impairment?

To prepare people with intellectual disabilities for acting in emergencies, keep in mind:

People want to be active!

The need for a positive experiences!

People want to have achieved something!

The good outcome of a story!

Effects of exercises that should be avoided:

... misunderstanding of the seriousness of the situation;

... a strong fear or concern.

EUNAD-IP: Civil protection for physical disabled persons



"A psychologist will never say: I know how you feel, because they can never know how it is. I was offered psychological help right after the accident but I said 'no'. I would rather talk with one of the other physical disabled or someone who sits in the same situation or others who sit in the same situation than a psychologist"

(Søren, kørestol)

Be aware that some physical disability are invisible (f.e. respiratory illness, prosthesis).

EUNAD-IP: Dissemination



Research and Knowledge transfer (European workshop
Cologne 10/2017)

Training handbook: (1) Report on guidelines and handbooks regarding people with mental disabilities in disasters (2) Workshop: people with mental disabilities in disaster and emergency situations (3) In depth interviews on selected events (4) Pilot training (5) Development of training package

Booklet with recommendations for preparedness, response and recovery

<http://www.eunad-info.eu>

EUNAD IP: Lessons learnt

Nothing about us without us! *To get in contact and to invite affected persons and their organisations in the EUNAD project was difficult ...*

Not the needs and the demands are specific but the solutions!

Group of persons with impairment/ disability is heterogenous.

Degree of disability/ impairment is different.

Disabled people have a broad range of communication needs and different level of ability to help themselves.

Including persons as lectures or trainers

