



The National Disability Authority

20 Years of Disability Policy in Ireland



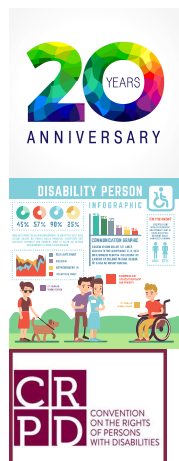
Easy-to-Understand Information

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Údarás Náisiúnta Míchumais
National Disability Authority



The National Disability Authority is called the NDA for short.

The NDA is an organisation that gives information and advice about disability issues to the Government of Ireland.



Mr. Roderic O' Gorman is the Minister
for Children, Equality, Disability,
Integration and Youth

The NDA helps the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to organise disability **policy** in Ireland.



A **policy** is a plan of action.

The NDA wants to make sure that the policies are used to improve the lives of persons with disabilities.



The NDA has many important jobs:

The NDA does **research** about disability.



Research means collecting new information.

Research helps us to understand information about disability.



The NDA checks up on standards and codes of practice.



The NDA counts the number of people with disabilities that are working in the public service.



The NDA has a **Centre for Excellence in Universal Design**.

The Centre for Excellence in Universal Design is called the CEUD for short.

The CEUD says that:

- information

- services
- places and
- products

should be made with a **universal design**.

Universal design means that environments are set up in a way that all people can use and understand things.



The NDA is an independent organisation.



20 years of Disability Policy in Ireland

This document tells us about the work the NDA did over the last 20 years.



The NDA was set-up in the year 2000.

The NDA was set up twenty years ago.

The NDA was set-up to give good quality information and advice to the government.



This information is used to write policies.



Now the NDA also gives advice about how to use these policies to improve the lives of persons with disabilities.



The NDA also checks that the policies were helpful to persons with disabilities.



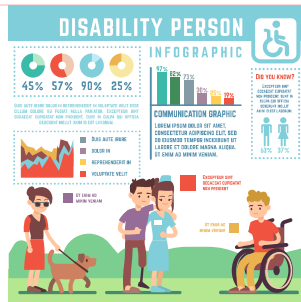
The NDA wants people with disabilities to have equal rights with other people.



The NDA wants persons with disabilities to take part in all parts of life.



The NDA wants persons with disabilities to have choice and control over how they live their lives.



Research

The NDA does a lot of **research** about disability issues.

Over the last 20 years, the NDA did research about disability and:

- employment
- transport
- independent living
- adult day services
- education
- children
- attitudes
- access
- congregated settings like residential homes



The NDA encourages other organisations to do research about disability issues.

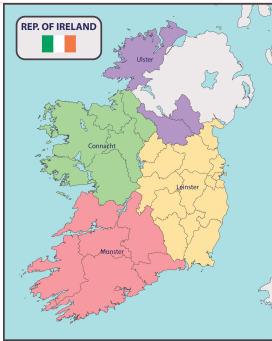
The NDA has given money to people and organisations to help them research disability issues.



The NDA organises a conference every year so that people can learn about disability policy and research in Ireland and around the world.



The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities



Ireland is changing all the time.

People are learning new ways to think about things.



In the past, we talked about helping persons with disabilities with kindness and charity.



We now know that persons with disabilities have the same rights as all people.
These are called **human rights**.



Persons with disabilities are not patients.



Persons with disabilities are equal members of their communities.



There is a document called the United Nations **Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**.

This is called the **CRPD** for short.

The **CRPD** is a legal document about human rights for persons with disabilities.



The CRPD tells us that persons with disabilities have the same rights as all other people.



In 2018 Ireland made the CRPD part of our law.



The NDA helps check that national plans follow the rules in the CRPD.



The NDA checks for any **barriers**.

Barriers make it difficult to follow the rules in the CRPD.

The NDA gives advice about how to address these barriers.



Centre for Excellence in Universal Design



The NDA has a **Centre for Excellence in Universal Design**, called the **CEUD** for short.

The CEUD opened in 2007.

Universal design means that environments are set up in a way that all people can use and understand things.



Article 4 of the CRPD says that universal design is important.

The CEUD has done very good work to research universal design.



The CEUD has done very good work to help make universal design happen in Ireland.

The CEUD worked with energy companies

The CEUD worked with colleges

The CEUD worked with tourism sector



In 2019 the CEUD won awards in Ireland and the EU for their work.



National Disability Strategy



The NDA helped to write the first National Disability **Strategy** in 2004.



A **strategy** is a plan.

The National Disability Strategy is a plan to support persons with disabilities to take part in their communities.



The Disability Act is a law.

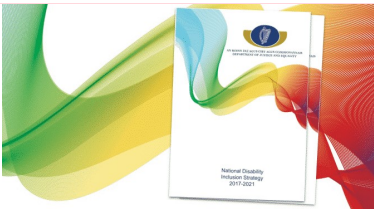
The Disability Act says that public services must include and support persons with disabilities.




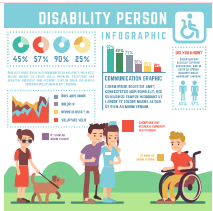
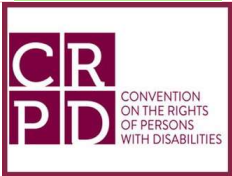


The National Disability Strategy asks different government departments to work together.



The NDA has given advice on many National Disability Strategies since 2004.



The current plan is the National Disability Inclusion Strategy 2017 - 2021

	Conclusion
	<p>Over the last 20 years, the NDA has worked to improve the lives of persons with disabilities in Ireland.</p> <p>A lot has changes in Ireland over the last 20 years.</p>
	<p>The NDA has done a lot of research about disability issues.</p> <p>The NDA has written many important policies</p>
	<p>The NDA will continue to work to help Ireland follow the CRPD rules.</p>
	<p>The NDA will continue to make sure universal design happens.</p> <p>The NDA will continue to improve universal design</p>
	<p>This document is an easy-to-read summary of some of the important work the NDA has done.</p>

