



## Assistive technology & Artificial Intelligence for Persons with disabilities

## La technologie d'assistance et l'intelligence artificielle pour les personnes handicapées

14.03.2024 | 9:30 – 13:00 | VMA 22 | Online public hearing / Audition publique en ligne

The EESC's Permanent Group on disability Rights is organising a hybrid public hearing on "**Potential and challenges of Assistive Technology and Artificial intelligence on the life of PWD** " on **14 March 2024 from 9:30 am to 1 pm**.

Assistive technology (AT) is defined as any product that improves the lives of individuals who otherwise may not be able to complete tasks without specialized equipment. When implemented effectively, assistive technology can improve accessibility and quality of life for all. Artificial intelligence (AI) can enhance the effectiveness of AT in a number of fields, namely in communication, education, in the health sector and in mobility. However, it is important that AI is developed safely with accessibility and inclusion in mind.

During the hearing, we will discuss with stakeholders the potential but also challenges associated with the use of assistive technology and Artificial Intelligence (AI) on the life of PWDs.

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| 9:00 – 9:30   | Testing connections  |
| 9:30 - 9:40   | Welcome and introduction by <b>Marie Zvolská</b> , member of the EESC Permanent Group on Disability rights (PG DIS)  |
| 9:40 - 12:40  | <p><b>Panel discussion</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b>, EESC PG DIS Member</p> <p>Interventions by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Olivier Da Costa, Robotics and Artificial Innovation and Excellence unit, DG CONNECT, European Commission</li> <li>Brando Benifei, Member of the European Parliament</li> <li>Chloé Touzet, independent consultant, author of OECD Report on the opportunities and challenges on using AI to support people with disability on the labour market</li> <li>Carlos Duarte, Informatic Professor, Lisbon University</li> </ul> <p>With 20 Minutes Coffee Break</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kave Noori, Artificial Intelligence Policy Officer, European Disability Forum</li> <li>Laura Lazaro Cabrera, Europe's Counsel and Director of the Equity and Data programme, Centre for Democracy and Technology</li> <li>Bhatnagar Tigmanshu, Global Disability Innovation Hub, University College London (UCL)</li> <li>Jakob Rosin, Chairman of the Estonian Blind Union</li> </ul> <p>Q&amp;A</p> |
| 12:40 - 13:00 | Closing remarks by <b>Marie Zvolská</b> , member of the EESC Permanent Group on Disability rights (PG DIS)   |