

Deinstitutionalisation for children with disabilities in Slovenia

Workshop, 10 June 2025, from 10:00 to 11:30 Brussels time. Online.

Slovenia is [working to replace](#) large institutions with services in the community. One of their main questions is how to set up good support for children with disabilities.

This **workshop looks for experience, expertise and examples that can help Slovenia** with deinstitutionalisation, setting up good support for children with disabilities.

Format of the workshop:

- Introduction – Milan Šveřepa, Inclusion Europe
- Context and questions – Andreja Rafaelič and Katarina Mauch, [Institute for Social Welfare](#), Slovenia
- Discussion about questions, examples of DI for children with disabilities – invited experts, workshop participants

We invite everyone who has experience supporting children with disabilities and wants to share it to help answer Slovenia's questions (see below).

[Register here to take part.](#)

Doing DI
Work to end segregation of people
with intellectual disabilities in institutions.

Questions that will lead the workshop discussion:

Ending Restrictive Measures and Exploring Alternatives

How to phase out restrictive measures for children, especially with complex support needs? What are some community-based alternatives and support models?

We're especially concerned about pending legislation that may permit closed units and the physical restraint of children in institutions, and we are eager to prevent this. If there are any examples of strong laws related to DI, community services, or the prohibition of restrictive measures—for both children and adults—it would be incredibly helpful.

Innovative Community Services

Are there examples of innovative or particularly effective community services that we could learn from or consider replicating?

Collaboration with Parents

Some parents and organisations are concerned that deinstitutionalisation might lead to inadequate care or “too much freedom” for their children.

We'd appreciate examples of how others have successfully engaged parents in the DI process and addressed their concerns.

Developing Foster Care for Children with Disabilities

Insights into fostering models that effectively support children with disabilities would be highly valuable. (We do have foster care in Slovenia, it's not specialised, and we don't have much foster families).