

Europe in Action conference

25 – 27 May 2026

Vicenza, Italy



“Europe in Action is great for getting ideas, sharing, connecting with people.”

Europe in Action conferences bring together more than 200 people with intellectual disabilities, their families, activists, and professionals.

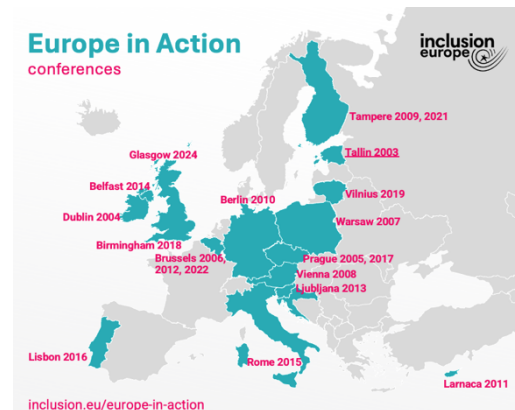
Participants discuss issues important to them and share experiences and ideas to advance inclusion.



The first Europe in Action conference was organised in 2003.

20 Europe in Action conferences took place since then.

You can revisit all the [previous conferences here](#).



Europe in Action conferences bring together people, organisations, and ideas to advance rights and inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities and their families.



 [Informazioni e registrazione in italiano.](#)

Join us in Vicenza for 3 days of sharing and learning for future of inclusion in Europe!

Europe in Action 2026 is the **21st** Europe in Action conference. It is the second time Europe in Action is hosted by Anffas in Italy.

The conference brings family members, self-advocates and professionals together to exchange, to learn, to re-charge our energy as we work for full rights and inclusion.



The conference is about supporting people with intellectual disabilities to live independently and to be included in the community.

The conference is about “Individualised, personalised, and participatory life project”:

- **Person-centred support:** Support based on individual preferences, expectations, and life situations. No more “one-size-fits-all” approach.
- **Different issues faced by people with intellectual disabilities and their families** from the right to decide, access to housing and services, education, employment, and participation.

Up to 500 participants can come to the conference.



During the conference, you will have the chance to learn and to share about:

- Disability reform and evaluation system in Italy
- The situation in Europe: Examples and practices from different countries
- Support to live independently included in the community
- Employment and education
- Self-advocacy and self-determination
- Situation of families
- Inclusion of people with complex support needs
- Inclusive transition of services
- Sport and leisure



The conference includes sessions aimed at developing our Inclusion movement:

- **Training sessions.**
- **Discussions about joint action** for full rights and inclusion in Europe.

Some workshops repeat during the conference, so that people do not miss what interests them.



The conference also includes **Anffas art exhibition**, featuring paintings, sculptures, handicrafts, and much more.

The exhibition is made of art from Anffas regional and local organizations throughout Italy.

Topics you can learn about and contribute

The conference starts on Monday at 10:00.

It ends on Wednesday at 14:00.

Day 1, Monday 25 May

Everyone gets together for a plenary session:

- Speeches from Anffas and Inclusion Europe leaders
- Speeches from Italian national and regional politicians

Big speech about the main topic of the conference

- Questions and answers with all participants.

Workshops about different topics, for example:

- Support to live independently
- Developing self-advocacy organisations
- Life project Italy
- Inclusive education Italy

Day 2, Tuesday 26 May

The day starts with a plenary session with two topics and a debate:

- European Union work for full rights and inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities and their families
- Inclusion Indicators – working together for full rights and inclusion

Workshops about different topics, for example:

- Developing self-advocacy organisations
- Life project Italy
- Support to live independently
- Inclusion of people with complex support needs

Training: How to create good grant proposals for projects supporting inclusion.

There will be the **General Meeting of the European Platform of Self-Advocates.**

After lunch, there will be more workshops about different topics, for example:

- Employment
- Legal Capacity and supported decision-making
- Young families of people with intellectual disabilities

There will be the **General Assembly of Inclusion Europe.**

Day 2 ends with a plenary session which looks at what the Inclusion movement has achieved, and where we are now.

There will be awards for those who did a lot of good work for people with intellectual disabilities and families in Europe.

This is the first time Inclusion Europe gives these awards.

Day 3, Wednesday 27 May

The day starts with a plenary session looking into the future of the Inclusion movement.

Workshops about different topics, for example:

- Developing self-advocacy organisations
- Advocacy and policy and communication
- Sports and Leisure
- New technologies
- Legal Capacity



Training: How to do advocacy and communication for topics that are important to people with intellectual disabilities and their families.

The conference ends with a plenary session, where leaders of Anffas and Inclusion Europe sum up the main topics they take away from the conference.

There will be a document with main messages from the conference.

If you are family member, self-advocate, expert and professional in inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities – this conference is for you.

Make sure to attend and benefit from the rich discussions and exchanges.

 [Register here now!](#)

(for people outside of Italy)

 [Informazioni e registrazione in italiano.](#)



[Up-to-date information about the conference.](#)

Language, location, registration

Language:

The conference is in English and Italian.

Plenary sessions and many workshops have interpretation between Italian and English.

Location

The conference takes place in the Vicenza, Italy.



Vicenza is a city in north-eastern Italy,
in the Veneto region.

Vicenza is approximately 60 kilometres west of Venice and
200 kilometres east of Milan.



Airports to reach Vicenza:

- [Venice "M. Polo" Airport](#), 77 km from Vicenza,
- [Verona "V. Catullo" Airport](#), 56 km from Vicenza,
- [Treviso "A. Canova" Airport](#), 94 km from Vicenza.

Train:

Trenitalia and Italo High-Speed rail links offer hourly trains to main Italian cities.

More information on train connections is available at www.trenitalia.it.

Vicenza Train Station is 5km from the conference venue.

To get from the Train Station to The Vicenza Convention Centre, use the bus no. 12.

By car:

Vicenza is located on the **A4 Turin-Milan-Venice** motorway.

For those travelling from South to North, on the **A31 Valdastico**.

The Vicenza Convention Centre is located few minutes from the **Vicenza OVEST** exit.

Info at: www.autostrade.it.

Taxi in Vicenza

<https://www.taxivicenza.it>

Phone: +39 0444 920600

To download the taxi app:



Conference venue

[Vicenza Convention Centre](#) is a place for conferences.

This means the sessions will be easy to find and to get around the venue.



You can see more of the Vicenza city and the conference centre [in this video.](#)

Address: Via dell'Oreficeria 16, 36100 Vicenza, Italy

[How to get there.](#)

Accommodation

Participants book their own travel and accommodation.

Anffas arranged a dedicated offer from local hotels: **5% discount** on standard daily rate.

You can view participating hotels, check availability, and complete your booking here:

<https://www.vicenzabooking.com/en>

Use the code **EUROPEINACTION** to benefit from the 5% discount.

Please note: For accessibility features, contact your selected hotel directly to verify any requirements you may have.

Registration and fees

Participants need register and to pay a fee to take part in the conference:

Standard fee	€ 200.00
Family member	€ 150.00
Self-advocate	€ 80.00

After you register, you will receive information about how to pay the fee.

 [Register here now!](#) (for people outside of Italy)

 [Informazioni e registrazione in italiano.](#)

Register today to join us in Vicenza – places are limited!

- Networking with hundreds of participants from across Europe
- Tools and strategies for inclusion
- Opportunity to influence European inclusion policies

Conference sponsors



Co-funded by the
European Union

Inclusion Europe is co-funded by the European Union.

Views and opinions expressed are those of the authors only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Commission. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

[Up-to-date information about the conference.](#)

Photo source:

Title page: Unsplash – Stacy Ropati

Page 8: Unsplash – Edoardo Bortoli