

Ergonomics in Design for All/ Newsletter

Dear Members and Friends of the International Ergonomics Association (IEA), Ergonomics in Design for All Technical Committee,

Welcome to our twenty third newsletter: it includes also a focus on the AccessibleEU Resource Centre

Have a look at it, enjoy it! With very best wishes, I wish you good luck with your work,

Isabella T. Steffan

IEA Ergonomics in Design for All TC
Past Chair

CONGRESSES

THE IEA2024 CONGRESS

By Erminia Attaianese, IEA TC EinDfA Chair

Dear EiDfA TC members,

As you know, the IEA 22nd Triennial Congress is now approaching. The Congress "Better life Ergonomics for future humans" will be held in Jeju, Korea, from 25th to 29th of August 2023.

Researchers, academics, practitioners, and professionals from around the world are invited to start preparing their proposals for submission.

To contribute to this important event, which can also be attended in hybrid mode, we have sketched a set of cutting-edge issues for EinDfA, that could be interesting to discuss during the congress and around which our contributions could converge.

They are, but not limited to, the following:

- Ageing society as workforce in contemporary organizations
- Inclusion demands in Interaction Design
- IoT and DfA/UD
- University research in DfA/UD
- Standards strategies and tools for DfA/UD
- Teaching in DfA/UD
- Inclusive design, products, and behaviour.

If you would like to propose others issues, please write us, by the end of October: attaierm@unina.it; info@studiosteffan.it

Around them, or integrating two or more of them, we could organize special sessions (e.g., workshops, symposia, panel discussions) to submit to the Congress.

Members who are interested to chair that special sessions are welcomed.

For oral presentations and posters, there are two proposal submission periods, Round 1 and Round 2, during which proposals can be submitted.

The deadline for Round 1 is Oct 31, 2023.

The deadline for Round 2 is Feb 29, 2024.

Particularly, special submission proposals are due by Feb 29, 2024.

More info about special session proposals at the page: https://www.iea2024.com/program/02.html?sMenu=02

I do hope for your quick feedback, so that we can plan with you the contribution of our TC to this important moment of discussion at international level which the IEA triennial congress is.



FOCUS

THE ACCESSIBLE EU RESOURCE CENTRE: A EUROPEAN COMMISSION INITIATIVE FOR IMPLEMENTING ACCESSIBILITY IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

By Katerina Papamichail, AccessibleEU National Expert, Greece

The AccessibleEU Resource Centre, a vital component of the European Commission's Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030, is dedicated to fostering accessibility coherence throughout the European Union. This 4-year initiative offers a range of strategic tools, including training, raising awareness, and sharing best practices. Its primary objective is to promote accessibility standards and unite public, private, and civil society Disabled Persons' Organizations (DPOs) to make the European Union accessible for all citizens.

AccessibleEU promotes a 'Design for All' approach, emphasising accessibility as a means to achieve greater inclusivity, social integration and an improved quality of life for European citizens. It serves as a one-stop shop providing resources for policymakers, legislators, accessibility advocates, professionals in all sectors, as well as seniors and individuals with disabilities.

One of its key functions is to bring together fragmented knowledge to assist in transposing EU legislation into the laws and regulations of Member States, and fostering collaboration to address unique national needs. This collaborative approach is consistent with the European Accessibility Act (EAA) 2019, which highlights the importance of building a Community of Practice and implementing national coordination structures.

To achieve these objectives, AccessibleEU relies on the expertise of its network of over 30 National Experts. This network seeks to strengthen connections among key players from the public, private, and non-profit sectors. The goal is to ensure that resources are effectively allocated to meet new accessibility regulations and growing customer demand.

Several networking events take place in all EU Member States each year, playing a vital role in connecting stakeholders, promoting public-private partnerships that drive actions supporting accessibility in environments, products, and services. Accessibility professionals in institutions and business are encouraged to participate by sharing successful experiences and methodologies for addressing common challenges.

Identifying and promoting good practices is a key objective. The Centre supports the adoption and development of these practices and aims to foster uptake of successful solutions across all countries. The Centre is strengthened by civil society representatives, particularly those representing people with disabilities, seniors, and European consumers and individual citizens.

The Resource Centre is reaching out to professional associations, such as those representing accessibility experts, architects and designers, ergonomists, engineers, specialists in technology, IT and telecommunications and others. The Centre also aims to collaborate with universities and trainers involved in preparing future accessibility professionals in Europe, service providers, organisations and groups offering services to individuals with disabilities, as well as foundations dedicated to research and innovation in accessibility.

Participating in the AccessibleEU Resource Centre's activities offers numerous benefits, including building alliances with a wide range of professionals, engaging with the Community of Practice, actively contributing to the development of the Centre and taking advantage of learning opportunities based on best practices and innovative solutions.

What does AccessibleEU offer?



Awareness-raising

Annually, there is 1 European-level awarenessraising event, 2 in big EU countries and 1 in medium and small EU countries.



Training

AccessibleEU offers annually 2 workshops and mutual learning events at a European level, 2 in big EU countries and 1 in EU medium and small countries. Topics include but are not limited to

accessibility of the built environment, transport, ICT and policies. Additionally, a series of online trainings on targeted accessibility topics are also offered once a year.



Networking events

There is 1 EU level networking event, and 1 in each Member State.



Accessibility monitoring and surveillance Annual reports on accessibility policies and achievements in all EU Member States

In a nutshell, the purpose of AccessibleEU is to:

- Build the capacity on accessibility in EU countries
- Support the implementation of the European Union legislation on accessibility
- Connect stakeholders responsible for implementing accessibility rules in the EU
- Create a common European one-stop-shop on accessibility
- Train excellent professionals on accessibility

Events

AccessibleEU organises more than 85 events per year, held at European and national levels in online, in-person and hybrid formats, playing a vital role in connecting stakeholders, promoting public-private partnerships that drive actions supporting accessibility in environments, products, and services. Accessibility professionals in institutions and business are encouraged to participate by sharing successful experiences and methodologies for addressing common challenges. Events dates and places are announced in AccessibleEU website and quarterly newsletter.



Upcoming AccessibleEU European event: Building Community, Connecting Stakeholders

When: Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Where: Fundación ONCE, C/ Sebastián Herrera, 15, Madrid Target audience: Policymakers and public officials in charge of the development and execution of strategies, Organizations linked to the world of industry, communications technology companies, organizations from the world of economics and finance, and the broad spectrum of construction, Representatives of members of civil society, Professional associations, All organizations and groups providing services to people with disabilities.

Link for registration:

https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/47258b54-fa38-d7d2-a6a2-a8dc1a0508fa

Link to The AccessibleEU Resource Centre: https://accessible-eu-centre.ec.europa.eu

Join the Community of Practice in LinkedIn https://www.linkedin.com/groups/9350023/

Contact: Accessible EU@fundaciononce.es

Promoting Ergonomics in Design for All is a core activity of our EinDfA TC. You can find information about objectives, domains of interest, members of the TC here:

https://iea.cc/member/ergonomics-in-design-for-all-eindfa/

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