

REFERENCE: CRPD/2025/JA/ro

The Secretary-General (Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, present its compliment to the Permanent Representative of Hungary to the United Nations Office in Geneva and other international organizations, and wishes to refer to the below request of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Request pursuant to article 36, paragraph 1, of the Convention.

Pursuant to paragraph 1 of article 36 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which allows the Committee to request further information from States Parties relevant to the implementation of the Convention, the Committee respectfully request information about:

1. The measures adopted to ensure that the text of the proposed Bill on “Transparency of Public Life”, safeguards and protects the role of organizations of persons with disabilities, civil society organizations, and human rights defenders which promote and make advocacy for the implementation of the Convention.
2. The measures adopted to ensure that persons with disabilities and their representatives’ organizations are meaningfully consulted and actively involved in the drafting process of this proposed legislation.
3. The measures taken on recognizing the role of organizations of persons with disabilities and civil society organizations as human rights defenders; prohibiting any reprisals against individuals and organizations promoting the rights of persons with disabilities; and protecting the civic space.

Previous recommendations

In March 2022, the Committee considered the second and third period reports of the State Party, submitted under article 35 on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It adopted Concluding Observations (CRPD/C/HUN/CO/2-3), in which it recommended:

“9. The Committee recalls its general comment No. 7 (2018) and urges the State party to: (a) Strengthen mechanisms for the effective involvement of persons with disabilities through their representative organizations in public decision-making processes by adopting measures to safeguard their independence from public authorities and with the participation of the full range of organizations of persons with disabilities, including children with disabilities, persons with intellectual disabilities, persons with psychosocial disabilities, intersex persons, women with disabilities, persons with disabilities living in rural areas, autistic persons, Roma and gender diverse persons with disabilities, those requiring high levels of support and refugees and migrant persons with disabilities; (b) Provide organizations of persons with disabilities with accessible information, including information in Easy Read and other accessible formats, and with timetables of the consultation processes concerning any law and policy reforms related to persons with disabilities; (c) Recognize the role of civil society organizations as human rights defenders, prohibit any reprisals against individuals and organizations promoting the rights of persons with disabilities and take measures to protect the civic space”

Furthermore, the Committee drew the attention of the State Party to the above-mentioned paragraph 9 of the Concluding Observations and requested it to adopt urgent measures to implement the recommendations of the Committee.

Information available regarding the proposed Bill

The Committee has received credible information indicating that if approved, the Bill on Transparency of Public Life, proposed on 13 May 2025 by a member of Hungary's ruling Fidesz party, would result in the shrinking of civic space, by allowing for the inclusion of civil society organisations in a list established by a government decree as serving purported "foreign interests". Such designations would result in listed organisations being subjected to measures including the freezing of funds received from abroad, the obligation to seek prior approval to receive such funds, the possibility of having to surrender such funds to the state in case approval is withheld or denied, and the imposition of financial and legal penalties that could result in the rapid dissolution of organisations deemed to have infringed the rules.

Timeframe and further steps.

The Committee would appreciate receiving information to the above-referred questions by 11 August 2025, in Word format. The Committee will examine the responses and all credible information during its thirty-third session, to be held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 11 to 29 August 2025.

For any additional information, please kindly contact the Secretary of the Committee, Mr. Jorge Araya, at jorge.araya@un.org

The Secretary-General (Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights) reiterates to the Permanent Representative of Hungary to the United Nations Office at Geneva, the assurances of his highest consideration.



23 June 2025