



52nd Regular Session of the Human Rights Council, 27 February–31 March 2023

Item 3: ID with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities

Oral statement delivered by: Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII (APG23)

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Mr. President,

APG23 thanks the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities for the report “Transformation of the services for persons with disabilities”.

APG23 would like to emphasize:

- 1) the key role of self-determination in the life of persons with disabilities, which allows people to make autonomous choices for themselves, taking responsibility for their own life project, including the right to choose with whom to live, work and socialize;
- 2) the importance of the family as the reference context for the person with disabilities. Families should be supported in understanding and coping with the needs of relatives with disabilities in everyday life;
- 3) the fundamental importance of the local services in understanding the needs and developing effective integrated responses so that persons with disabilities and their families can improve their quality of life.

Among other things, there is a need for testing new kinds of support and intervention with a view to promoting the quality of life of people with disabilities: for instance, interventions that are characterized by innovation and flexibility, with the perspective of greater customization, and wider integration in the public/private network of territorial services with experimentation of alternative forms, direct and indirect, of service delivery.

We believe that funding for disability must be more significant and the life projects of people with disabilities must be considered: there is an urgency to invest in people’s own specific needs and desires.

Mr Special Rapporteur, how can we foster a shift from a care and assistance attitude to one that includes and values the full and crucial participation of persons with disabilities as a resource?

Thank you!