



## Alliance Autiste

Autistic persons' NGO for the freedom and defence of autistic persons  
and for the implementation of the CRPD in France

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# Oral statement for the UN CRPD Committee about deinstitutionalisation in France

in the framework of the online regional consultations  
with persons with disabilities and their representative organizations

- May 25, 2021 -

*Video of the live recording of this statement: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vOenzDYcd2U>*

*Video of the French version: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NWB8RyJ5RGM>*

Dear Members of the Committee, dear colleagues

In France, for persons with disabilities, the State outsources to private associations, distributing money to them and ignoring questions of ethics, rights and control.

These associations participated in the elaboration of the disability law, which presents them as representative organisations, and which therefore allows them to participate in decisions. Many of the government officials in disability come from that associative sector.

The word "deinstitutionalisation" is absent from official texts, but some measures give the illusion.

For example, institutionalised children are taken to mainstream schools and brought back to the institution in the evening.

"Inclusive housing" is created, but it depends on these associations.

There is no suppression of beds.

There is almost no accessibility for autistic people, given that we mostly need human and regulatory accommodations (which cost almost nothing) in the public socio-administrative system, which cannot do it because it only knows how to distribute money to private entities.

The State does not make efforts for accessibility, pretending to believe that the institutions are sufficient, and these cannot make efforts for the autonomy and liberation of their "human assets".

In the public services offered to 'ordinary' people, the State has obligations of means, rigour, and respect for human rights, but the level of those requirements is lower in the private sector.

In the institutions, the rule of silence prevails, and abuse is almost never punished, since the system is complicit.

So the State, by privatising the management of disability, discharges its responsibilities and creates a "disability market system" generating perverse effects and harmful conflicts of interests.

If everything were managed by the public sector, there would be no economic pressure from lobbies.

And then, instead of paying between €200 and €300 per day per person to these establishments or services, this money could go directly to the persons, with "assistance vouchers" allowing to choose assistants nearby.

The State should be forced to allocate funds only if there is no hosting, and to eliminate any possibility of interference by service providers.

Public socio-administrative assistance must be accessible remotely by any means and by any person with a disability.

Universal design and accessibility must be implemented for all types of disabilities, including psychosocial and autism-related disabilities.

To do this, public authorities must accept to listen to us in order to better understand autism.

International organisations and foreign countries should denounce this exploitation and apartheid.

Liberty is a sacred and non-negotiable right of every living being: free our people!