# Disability Pledge for European Elections

More than a quarter (27%) of the EU population aged 16 years and over has a disability. The Disability Federation of Ireland and our colleagues in the European Disability Forum call on all Irish candidates to the European Parliament to sign the disability **PLEDGE**. This is making a commitment to the disability community to prioritise disability; working in the European Parliament for disability equality and inclusion.

When I am elected to the European Parliament, I pledge to:

* Work together with the disability movement to ensure the **fulfilment of the European Union’s Strategy on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.**
* Re-establish, and join the **Disability Intergroup of the European Parliament.**
* Adopt measures to maximize the **accessibility of the electoral process** to facilitate people to vote independently and in secret.
* Promote the participation of disabled people and their representative organisations in the political and public life of the EU – including increasing the number of **persons with disabilities working in EU institutions**.
* Adopt measures to support the development of a range of **person-centred support services in communities for independent living.**
* Ensure preventative **measures against institutionalisation.**
* Introduce **policies and a new EU budget** aimed at a more social Europe, supporting inclusion and equal opportunities for persons with disabilities in all areas of life.
* Adopt further legislation ensuring accessibility for persons with disabilities and realising their **right of free movement** in the EU.
* **Strengthen the protection** of persons with disabilities in the EU and beyond, particularly in areas of conflict and by supporting the EU in becoming a stronger promoter of the implementation of the **United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, UN CRPD** worldwide.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Full Name: Political Party:

Email: Website:

Social Media Profile:

Please send the completed signed pledge form to brendadrumm@disability-federation.ie