



Rights in Focus:

Addressing Inclusion of Hard of Hearing Europeans

Hosted by MEP Katrin Langensiepen

With the co-organisation of the European Federation of Hard of Hearing People and the European Association of Hearing Aid Professionals.

Date: 02 October 2025

Time: 9:30am – 12:00pm

Format: On site

Location: European Parliament, Brussels

Room: SPINELLI, 5E1

Accessibility: Real-Time Human Captioning; Audio Induction Loop.

Background

Hearing loss impacts an increasing number of Europeans – yet the policy discussions do not address the communication barriers to participation in society, from access to rehabilitation, inclusive employment practices and social policies.

The event "Rights in Focus: Addressing Inclusion of Hard of Hearing Europeans" brings together policy makers, civil society and experts to discuss meeting the needs of Hard of Hearing Europeans through policy actions.



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Programme

- 09:30 – 10:00** **Welcome and Breakfast**
- 10:00 – 10:10** **Opening remarks**
MEP Katrin Langensiepen
- 10:10 – 10:20** **Achieving equality for hard of hearing people**
Lidia Best, President, EFHOH
- 10:20 – 10:30** **Supporting deafblind people in Europe**
Ricard López, Chair, EdbN
- 10:30 – 10:40** **Inclusive practices: a key to closing employment gap**
Monika Chaba, Policy Officer of Disability and Inclusion, DGM EMPL, European Commission
- 10:40 – 10:50** **The role of hearing care professionals in occupational health**
Mark Laureyns, President, AEA
- 10:50 – 11:00** ***Hear Again, Work Again: a research project on hearing, work participation and wellbeing***
Laure Jacquemin, Professor at University of Antwerp, Audiologist at Antwerp University Hospital
- 11:00 – 11:10** **Accessibility and assistive technologies as precondition to participation**
Alejandro Moledo, Deputy Director and Head of Policy, EDF
- 11:10 – 11:30** **Questions & Answers**
Moderation: Henrique Raskin, Head of Secretariat, EFHOH
- 11:30 – 11:40** **Conclusion**