ACCESS + EU

Newsletter 2 February, 2026

Focus Groups and Technical Visits

Albania

Within the ACCESS+ EU project, ACT Center organized:
• Online focus group with parents and young people with disabilities – 12 April 2025 (11 participants).
• Online focus group with professionals – 23 June 2025 (13 participants).
• Onsite technical visit – 19 September 2025 (15 participants).
The focus group indentified major challenges faced by parents and young people with disabilities, icluding difficulties in education, employment, social prejudice. The main proposed solutions are better inclusion in society, fulfillment of employment quotas for people with disabillities, and greater partipacion in activities and EU-funded projects.

Bosnia and Herzegovina

On 11–12 March 2025, Association Menssana organized a partner visit and workshop in Sarajevo within the ACCESS+EU project. Participants visited community mental health institutions and discussed deinstitutionalization, rehabilitation, and cross-sector cooperation.

On the second day, a workshop on Focus Group Methodology strengthened partners' skills in qualitative research, ethical considerations, and participant engagement. The activity enhanced cooperation, improved research capacity, and supported preparation for upcoming project activities.

Italy

During the Access+EU+ Focus Group in Italy, partners exchanged methodologies and practical resources to enhance inclusion and accessibility in youth mobility. The discussion highlighted learner-centred approaches, mentoring, peer support, and inclusive communication as key tools to foster independence and socialisation among young people.

Within the ACCESS+ EU project, YouNet Reggio-Emilia organized:
* Technical visit in Bologna, Italy – 24 October 2025 (8 participants).
* Technical visits in Bologna, Italy – 7–10 November 2025 (8 participants).
* Onsite focus group in Bologna, Italy – 3 November 2025 (15 participants).

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Poland

Most of the 22 young participants (16–19) felt included and supported, especially through peer support. Main challenges were stress, fear of new environments, and language/communication barriers. Participants highlighted the need for emotional, understanding, and empathetic support from coordinators. These insights will help improve inclusive mobility practices.

Within the ACCESS+ EU project, Educational Trip Foundation organized:
* Focus Group: Youth with Developmental and Learning Disabilities – 25 October 2025, Żmigród, Poland
(22 participants – two groups of 11).
* Parents' Meeting: Presentation of Survey Results and Discussion on Support and Mobility
– 12 November 2025, Żmigród, Poland (20 participants).

Spain

On 18 September 2025, three representatives from ELA Tenerife visited the fully accessible CPC Psychological Center in San Cristóbal de La Laguna as part of the Access+EU (KA220-YOU-044E40DB) project, gaining practical insights into its inclusive infrastructure, person-centred methodologies, multidisciplinary support and accessibility features, and highlighting the importance of continuous professional assistance, adaptability, language support and individualized care to ensure truly inclusive Erasmus+ experiences for people with disabilities, which can be both empowering and therapeutic.

What is next?

- Training of Trainers: our international Training Course happening in May 2026 with youth workers and experts from the field.
- Handbook creation: Access+EU Handbook is under creation, including insights and best practices from Focus Groups and Technical Visits and suggestions from our professionals.
- Dissemination events: our local dissemination events will take place in summer, to spread the word about the project and promote the outcomes, such as the Handbook, among youth workers and stakeholders.
- Final evaluation meeting: Our final partners meeting will happen in Tenerife, in summer, where we celebrate the project's success and prepare it's sustainable continuation.

Where to find us?

The website of Access+EU is already available for use!
Go and check it out for further information about the project:
https://accesseu.eu/

Follow us on social media: Instagram and Facebook

If you are interested in joining our project, contact us at info@you-net.eu

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