

IMPLEMENTING ARTICLE 11 OF THE CRPD IN ARMED CONFLICT: MAKING PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES MORE VISIBLE

ONLINE | THURSDAY 17 JUNE 2021 | 10:00 - 11:15, EASTERN TIME (US AND CANADA)



While it is generally estimated that they represent at least 15 percent of every population, the extent of the challenges faced by persons with disabilities in armed conflicts is currently not precisely known due to a lack of disability-aggregated data. What is known, however, is that armed conflict disproportionately affects persons with disabilities.

Persons with disabilities face increased existing or new barriers regarding access to services and support in terms of water, shelter, sanitation, food, healthcare, education, rehabilitation or transportation. They may also not be able to flee ongoing military operations occurring near them and might be left behind by family members or other support persons, putting them at a greater risk of attacks and violence, including sexual violence.

This is despite the fact that Article 11 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) obliges States parties to take all necessary measures for the protection and safety of persons with disabilities in armed conflict in accordance with their obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law.

This online side event during the 14th Session of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (COSP 14) will contribute to the discussion on COSP 14, complementing the roundtable discussion on ‘Protecting the rights of persons with disabilities in armed conflict and humanitarian emergencies’ by focusing on the necessary precautions in the conduct of hostilities, as exemplified lately in the Geneva Academy Working Paper *Military Briefing: Persons with Disabilities and Armed Conflict*.

MODERATION

- **Gloria Gaggioli**, Director, Geneva Academy and Associate/SNF Professor, Law Faculty of the University of Geneva

PANELISTS

- **Damlani Basharu**, Member of the CRPD Committee
- **Emina Cemirovic**, Senior Researcher, Disability Rights Division, Human Rights Watch
- **Michael Mwendwa**, Disability Inclusion Adviser, ICRC
- **Gerard Quinn**, UN Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities
- **Elham Youssefian**, Inclusive Humanitarian Adviser, International Disability Alliance

INTERPRETATION, CLOSED CAPTIONING AND SIGN LANGUAGE

English-Spanish interpretation will be provided, along with closed captioning (English only) and international sign language.

TO JOIN THE ONLINE SIDE EVENT

This event will take place online on our Zoom platform. To join the meeting, [use this link](#).