



“Towards a European strategy to promote living in the community”.

JAN PFEIFFER  
LUMOS  
/CHILDREN`S HIGH LEVEL  
GROUP/

Why reform of institutional care matter

- Millions of human being are locked in “care” institutions.
- There is still strong believe when we invest to the institutions everything will be OK.
- There are argument against reform based on failures.
- Existence of strong groups lobbying for “institutions”.
- Few Governments had DI policy and practice .
- EU Structural Fund are used for renovation of the institutions



## Valdimír Špidla



- **Report on Transition from Institutional to Community Care**
- **Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities**

## Target group



- Children,
- Persons with disabilities
- Persons with mental health problems
- Elderly



## Expert group



- **CHLG** Children's High Level Group (Lumos)
- **AGE** (European Older People's Platform)
- **COFACE** (Confederation of Family Organisations in the EU)
- **EASPD** (European Association of Service Providers)
- **ECCL** (European Coalition for Community Living)
- **EDF** (European Disability Forum)
- **Inclusion Europe**
- **Mental Health Europe**

## Article 19 UN CRD



### **Living independently and being included in the community**

- ◆ live in the community- with needed assistance
- ◆ full inclusion and participation – accessibility of the services for general public
- ◆ choices equal to others:
  - with whom to live
  - where to live



## UN Relevant documents

- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- Declaration on the Rights of Disabled Persons
- Standards Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities
- Declaration on the Rights of Mentally Retarded Persons
- Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children
- UN Principles for Older Persons
- CM/Rec(2010) on deinstitutionalization and community living of children with disabilities

## Guiding principles for care

- **Respect for inherent dignity**
- **Individual autonomy**
- **Equality of opportunity**
- **Non-discrimination**
- **Full effective participation and inclusion in society**
- **Accessibility**
- **Equality between men and women**
- **Rights / of children/ preserved their identity**



## Size of the institution

- Size is indicator of difficulties in guarantee individualized, needs tailored services as well as participation and inclusion in the community.

## Main indicator:

○ Institutional  
Culture



## Differences in the “cultures”

### In Institutional care

- Isolation from broader community
- Clients have not sufficient control over their live
- Paternalistic relationship
- Rigidity of routine
- Block treatment
- Rules of the institution are more important the needs of the clients

### In Community care

- Inclusion to the community
- Involvements of the clients to all decisions
- Partnership
- Flexibility
- Individual approach
- Client in the centre

## Institutional x Community care

- Community services shove higher level of satisfaction of clients and their family members
- Community-based models of care are not more costly then institutional care if comparison is made on comparable quality of care.
- Extra cost needed for transition period



## Risky scenarios of the transition process

- Over-investment in current institutions
- Maintaining parallel services
- Alternatives with institutional culture
- Closure of institutions without community alternatives

## Principles of transition process

- Involvement of users
- Prevention of institutionalization
- Restriction of investment to institutions
- Development of community services
- Closure of institutions
- Effective use of all resources
- Development of human resources
- Control of quality
- Holistic coordination
- Continual awareness



## Recommendation to member states

- Active involvement of users
- Resolving of legislative and administrative barriers
- Adopt strategies and action plans
- Use of SF for deinstitutionalization
- Establish systems of mandatory quality monitoring
- Improved working conditions of professionals
- Systematic support to informal carers
- Coordination of all relevant bodies

## I. Recommendations to EC

- **Communication on the transition from institutional to community-based care**
- **Build the Common Basic Principles into all the relevant EU Policies**
- **Guidelines on the use of the SF and other EU funding instruments for deinstitutionalization.**
- **Promote and facilitate exchange of models of good practice, training modules for first line staff and management**
- **Establish a pool of independent experts on deinstitutionalization**



## II. Recommendations to EC

- **Improve the knowledge base**
- **Involvement of Fundamental Rights Agency**
- **Fund research that will facilitate the transition from institutions to community-based services.**
- **Raise awareness within the European Commission**
- **Topic to the Cohesion Policy after 2013.**
- **Address the issue of institutional care and its reform in the context of enlargement, neighborhood and development policies.**

## Follow up of the Report-actions held 1.:

- Set up of European Expert group on Transition of institutional to community care/ NGO, EU Commission Service ,UN bodies/.
- Training for desk officers DG Regio and DG Employment
- Regular Interagency meeting DG Regio-DG Empl on topic of coordination of the use of Structural Funds .
- Start of involvement of cabinets of Commissioner Andor and Commission Reding.
- Consultations to EU Disability Strategy 2010-2020- thematic area "independent living and deinstitutionalization".



### Bulgarian exercise:



- BBC film about Children social care home in Mogilevo.
- DG Regio- Bulgarian desk active involvement into negotiation of the use of regional development structural funds for renovation of buildings.
- Step in Ad-Hoc Expert group- use of funds for deinstitutionalization.
- Coordination DG Region and DG Empl
- Advising Bulgarian Government in Policy and Action plane- supporting implementation

### Follow up of the Report-actions planed:



- Development of "Guidelines and check lists" for all stakeholders/ UE, National , Regional level/ to indicate deinstitutionalization is going right way.
- Clear policy on use of SF and other EU funding instruments
- Administration of the questioner on use of structural funds to all relevant desk officers DG Region and DG Empl.
- Replication of Bulgarian exercise
- Framework for exchange of experiences
- Involvement of National Governments representatives- seminar in November
- Communication on deinstitutionalization



● **Thanks you  
for attention**