



IDA
International
Disability Alliance



Federal Ministry
for Economic Cooperation
and Development



The Global Disability Summit 2025

What happened and what we learned



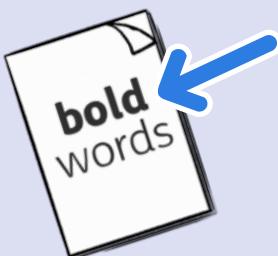
Easy Read



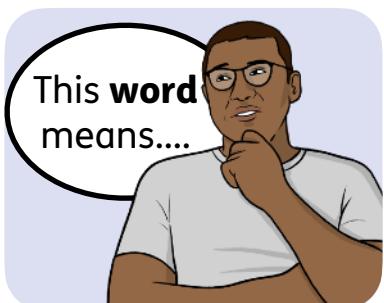
This is an Easy Read version of some information. It may not include all of the information but it will tell you about the important parts.



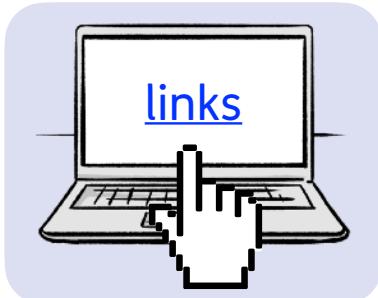
This Easy Read booklet uses easier words and pictures. Some people may still want help to read it.



Some words are in **bold** - this means the writing is thicker and darker. These are important words in the booklet.



Sometimes if a bold word is hard to understand, we will explain what it means.



[Blue and underlined](#) words show links to websites and email addresses. You can click on these links on a computer.

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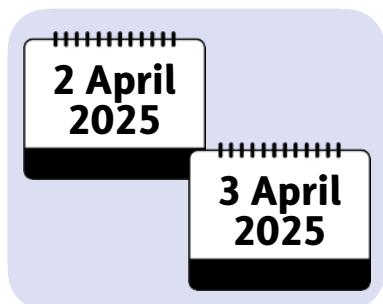


You can fill in a quick survey to say what you think about this Easy Read booklet:
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About this booklet



This booklet is from the International Disability Alliance.



The **Global Disability Summit (GDS)** took place on 2 and 3 April 2025.



The **Global Disability Summit (GDS)** is an event that asks countries around the world to do more to include persons with disabilities.

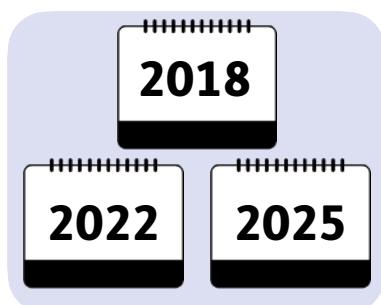


Please read this booklet to find out what happened at the GDS 2025, and what we learned.

About the Global Disability Summit (GDS)



The GDS happens every 3 years.



There have been 3 summits so far, in 2018, 2022 and 2025.



The GDS brings together many different people, organisations and governments from countries around the world.



Most importantly, it brings together persons with disabilities and organisations led by them with governments and other organisations.

Why do we need the GDS?



Most countries do not do enough to include persons with disabilities.



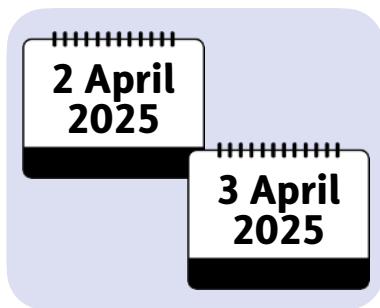
This needs to change.



The GDS is important because it helps countries include persons with disabilities more.

This makes the world better for everyone.

Global Disability Summit 2025



The Global Disability Summit (GDS) 2025 happened on 2 and 3 April 2025.



It happened in the city of Berlin, in Germany.



The GDS 2025 was hosted by:

- The Federal Republic of Germany.



- The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.



- The International Disability Alliance.



Before the GDS, we had another meeting, called the **Civil Society Forum**.

The **Civil Society Forum** helped persons with disabilities to meet each other and speak up at the GDS.



- Help persons with disabilities get their **rights**.

Rights are things that every person should have by law. Like the right to be safe and the right to education.



- Help countries include persons with disabilities more.



- Help different countries work together.



4,700 people from 160 countries came to the GDS 2025.



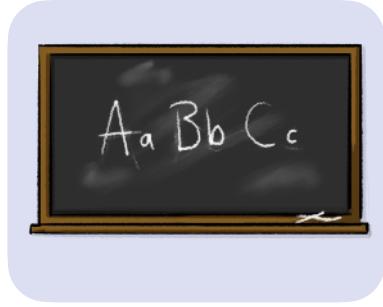
The GDS 2025 included 110 meetings about lots of different topics, like:



- Jobs.



- Health.



- Education.

The GDS also included meetings about:

- **Accessible technology.**

This includes accessible computers and computer programs, and accessible equipment, like electric wheelchairs.



- **Looking after the environment.**

The **environment** is where we live. It includes the land, the sea, the air and everything that lives in and on it.



- **Helping people when there is a big emergency, like a war or a flood.**



- **Funding** - this is the money that is needed to support programs that make life better for persons with disabilities.

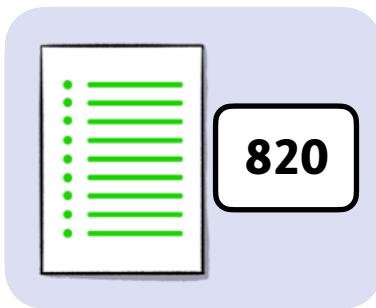


- **Politics** - this is about how a country is run and the decisions that are made in that country.

Commitments



Commitments are promises that governments and other organisations make to support persons with disabilities.



There were 820 new commitments at the Global Disability Summit 2025.



Around half of the commitments were from governments.



- Charities.

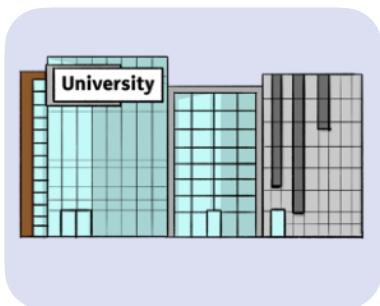


- Organisations run by persons with disabilities.

There were also commitments from:



- Businesses.

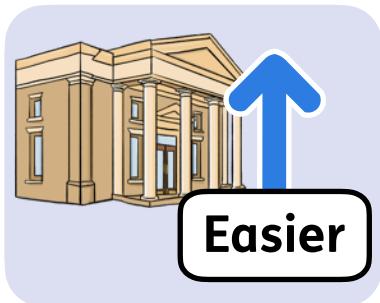


- Education organisations, like universities.



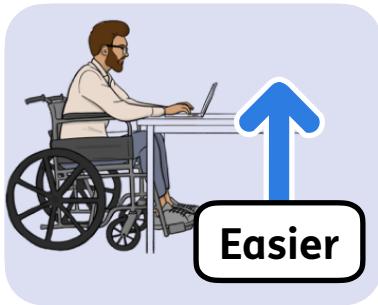
The commitments were about lots of different things, including:

- Making sure that education includes persons with disabilities.

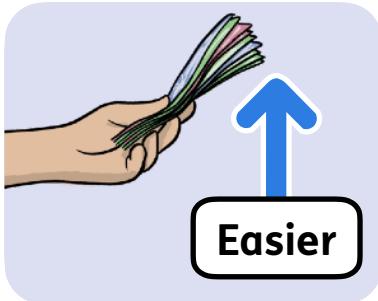


- Making buildings, roads and transport easier for persons with disabilities to use.

There were also commitments about:



- Making it easier for persons with disabilities to get and keep jobs.



- Making it easier for persons with disabilities to get money and support from governments.

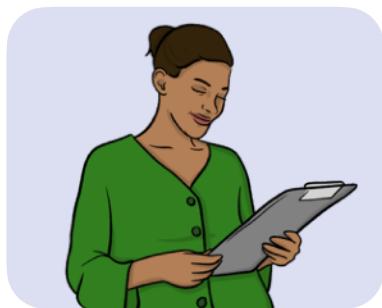


- Making sure persons with disabilities can get good healthcare.



- Supporting persons with disabilities when there are big emergencies.

What we learned



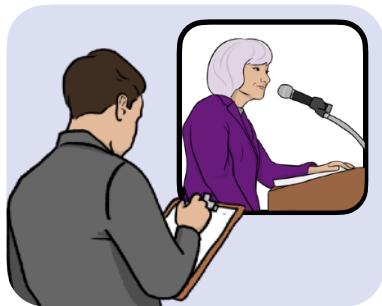
We looked into how the commitments made at the Global Disability Summit (GDS) have helped make a difference.



We learned that the GDS helps governments make laws and plans to include persons with disabilities.



Having laws and plans does not always make life better for persons with disabilities.

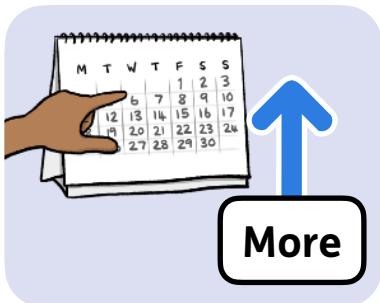


But they can help us check that governments are doing what they say they will do.



45 commitments at the Global Disability Summit 2025 were about **funding**.

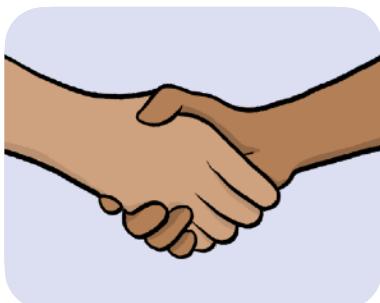
Remember, **funding** is the money that is needed to make life better for persons with disabilities.



We want to have even more commitments about funding in the future.



65 commitments were about organisations agreeing to work together.



This shows that GDS helps countries and organisations work together to make life better for persons with disabilities.

Supporting people from different groups



Some persons with disabilities are treated worse than other persons with disabilities.

This might be because of things like their disability, gender, age, race, religion, sexuality or where they live.



Lots of the commitments at the GDS were about supporting women and children with disabilities.



But not many commitments were about supporting persons with disabilities from other groups.

Co-hosts



Co-hosts are governments that run the Global Disability Summit with the International Disability Alliance.



Being a co-host shows that a government cares about supporting persons with disabilities in its country.



We learned that governments usually make more commitments when they are co-hosts.



This improves the rights of persons with disabilities in their country.

The next Global Disability Summit



The next Global Disability Summit (GDS) will take place in 2028.



At the next GDS, we will make a new plan about how to include persons with disabilities all around the world.

Find out more

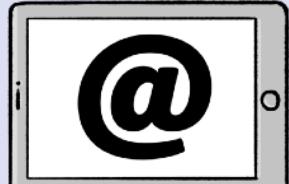


You can look at our website here:
www.globaldisabilitysummit.org

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