

Disabilities and work debate European perspectives

June 21th – 22th 2018, inBrest (France)



Press release, January 09th 2018

For a few years now, in Brittany, the population has adopted the mark of a local authenticity: "Everything starts in Finistère". This windswept territory, witness of the great maritime adventures of the millennium, is a gateway to the world. And a window wide open on Europe. Its economic, cultural and associative actors defend transversal and horizontal projects. They do not wait for them to fall from the sky. They roll up their sleeves to create, innovate, federate.

The first European conference "Disabilities and work, European perspectives"

The first European conference "Disabilities and work, European perspectives" will be organised in the Finistère Region, and held in Brest on June 21 and 22, 2018. Behind this idea are seven associations from Finistère. All of them manage ESAT or adapted enterprises. Independent of each other, their common goal is the integration through work of people with disabilities. **The audience of the conference?** Professionals, stakeholders, but also people with disabilities. **4 themes** will be declined during these 2 days: Who? Why work? Where to work? How to work? **The aim** is to show a wide panorama of the situations in Europe.

The signature of the conference, its organising committee

The organising committee is composed of: Les Génêts d'Or, Les Papillons Blancs du Finistère, KanarMor, Mutualité 29-56, APF, ADAPT, Sevel Services, in collaboration with ARFIE Network (European association for research and training on integration in Europe) that brings together 57 associations in 16 European countries. *"We want to organise this conference to help the recognition of disability at work, to make our associations known, but also to share our practices on a European scale".*

European perspectives: Latin, Scandinavian, Balkan, Anglo-Saxon countries ...

For two days, European experts will share their work and their experience with the public. Around the table will intervene professors, sociologists, researchers, directors of institutions, actors with disabilities (...) invited by the organising committee for their ability to innovate in the field of disability at work.

Against the single thought

The organisers underline that *"It will not be a symposium of scholars looking at people with disabilities. There are different looks and different handicaps. It is not right to say that not all people with disabilities can enter mainstream system. For each person, there is a solution to be found. In a classical company, adapted company or ESAT. And it can move on, throughout life"*.

