



The voice of blind and partially sighted people in Europe

European Blind Union

Press release

Paris, 20/02/2018

STATEMENT ON EUROPEAN ELECTIONS 2019 **EBU campaigns for better disability policies**

In a [statement](#) on the occasion of the UN World Day of Social Justice, the European Blind Union (EBU) calls on political leaders to pay attention, in the campaign for the European elections of 2019, to 10 key concerns of some 30 million blind and partially sighted persons in Europe.

“The European Union is already pushing many Member States in the right direction, but it can and must do better to fully respect the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities”, says Wolfgang Angermann, EBU President. “Together with our national members, we will engage with political parties at EU and national level to ensure that our demands are on their maps for the electoral campaign and for the next five years.”

EBU calls on political parties to make these elections a standard on accessible voting. Other issues addressed in the statement include anti-discrimination, accessibility, mobility and culture. The importance for informed policy-making of useful statistics at EU level and of MEP participation in the Disability Intergroup is also highlighted.

Along with its statement on the European elections, EBU aims to inform visually impaired citizens of the European Union prior to their vote, and, in the future, to hold political parties and MEPs accountable for their electoral commitments.

Ends

About EBU

EBU is a non-governmental, non-profit making European organisation founded in 1984. It is one of the six regional bodies of the World Blind

Union. It protects and promotes the interests of blind and partially sighted people in Europe. It currently operates within a network of national organisations of the visually impaired in 42 European countries.

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