

### European Blind Union

### Press release

### Paris, 18/12/2014

**Minimum standards for low vision services in Europe.**

**10 recommendations**

The right to adequate rehabilitation and support services is fundamental for persons with sight loss to live independently as active members in society.

Low vision rehabilitation and support services vary significantly between EBU countries: from non-existent in some, to excellent in others. This calls for action to ensure that everyone with sight loss can enjoy their right to access the support and services they need, in compliance with UNCRPD article 26. One of the objectives in EBU´s strategic plan 2011-2015 is the development of minimum standards for low vision rehabilitation services.

Today, EBU presents a brochure with a set of 10 minimum standards for low vision services in Europe. Recommendations that are the result of the Basic project 2014 on low vision. The standards were developed on the basis of the conclusions from the survey held amongst EBU member organizations, on recommendations, papers and policy statements produced by those involved in low vision work within EBU over the past 20 years, on good-practice examples, and on the contributions from users and external low vision rehabilitation experts.

The brochure summarizes the most important recommendations in 10 minimum standards for low vision services in Europe. The publication is [available from the EBU website](http://www.euroblind.org/working-areas/low-vision#news) where you can also find the report on the EBU low vision survey and other background papers and information related to low vision.

For more information, you can also contact EBU office at ebu@euroblind.org

### 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 45 European countries.

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