

# What do you need to know?

## Why does the Netherlands have the treaty?

The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (hereinafter: the Convention), which entered into force in the Netherlands on 14 July 2016, aims to improve the position of people with disabilities. The convention is based on inclusion, personal autonomy and full participation.

## Who plays an important role?

- **People with disabilities**  
The convention requires that people with disabilities participate in policy-making, legislation and implementation.
- **The government**  
The government makes laws, implements policies and ensures that others also comply with the obligations of the treaty.
- **The Board of Human Rights**  
The college supervises the treaty in the Netherlands and investigates individual complaints about admission and adjustments.

## What does this mean for students with a disability?

The convention (Article 24) applies to all educational institutions. They are obliged to actively promote the inclusion of students with disabilities. This means that they have to make adjustments and ensure general accessibility of buildings and information systems.

In 5 steps towards more inclusive education:

## 1 Create commitment

Speak out in person that you support the treaty and what it means.

## 2 Set policies or adjust your policies

Policy 'Studying with a disability' helps implement the convention. Are you interested to know if your policy is adequate? Do the policy scan.

## 3 Be proactive

Everyone within the organisation has a responsibility to identify and address opportunities for improvement. Read more on the website.

## 4 Think social

Promote a shift in thinking from medical (based on individual diagnoses) to social (based on environmental factors).

## 5 Monitor what works

For example by asking their input or by analysing the data of the National Student Survey (NSE).