

Advocacy Fact Sheet:

Article 11 and Emergencies

What is Article 11 ?

Article 11 is part of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

It is about the rights of people with disabilities during emergencies.

Article 11 says that people with disabilities must be protected when there are emergency situations. For example, when natural disasters like earthquakes happen, when there are wars.

Article 11 is important because people with disabilities are more at risk when there is a disaster, emergency or conflict.

More than half a billion people with disabilities live in countries that are often affected by disasters, emergencies or conflicts.



Why are people with disabilities *more* at risk in emergencies?

People with disabilities are more at risk in a crisis because:

- We usually lose access to our services, support, medicine, and health care in a crisis
- We may be left behind if we are not able to evacuate
- Shelters and camps may be inaccessible
- We don't have accessible information about the crisis
- When there are not enough resources, people discriminate against us

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What does following Article 11 look like?

Governments must:

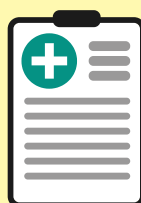
- Update emergency laws to match what the CRPD says. Not just Article 11, but the whole CRPD – like making sure that in a crisis schools still include everyone (Article 24)
- Include people with disabilities and their organisations when planning for emergencies to make sure emergency response works for everyone
- Give information about risks and emergencies in easy to understand formats
- Train emergency workers how to help people with disabilities, then check back to make sure they are being included



Why must organisations of people with disabilities be part of work on emergencies?

Governments and aid organisations usually do not understand the needs of people with intellectual disabilities, the barriers we face, or how to include us. We are the experts, so it is important Governments work with our organisations (OPDs) to understand what we need.

Useful links



[This report talks about what girls with intellectual disabilities in crisis situations think needs to change.](#)