

# CURRICULUM VITAE

## IVANKA JOVANOVIC



**First name and family name:** Ivanka Jovanovic

**Date of birth:** 17 January 1969

**Nationality:** Serbian

### Current professional position :

Employed (full time job) in NOOIS - Executive Director of the National Organization of Persons with Disabilities of Serbia (NOOIS) from its foundation (2007), representing over 800,000 PWDs, and also working on inclusion of PWDs in the society. Key duties: advocacy for human rights, cooperation with different stakeholders – state institutions, DPOs and CSO and international organizations, organization development, program and project management, international cooperation.

### Education:

- University level degree - Faculty for political science, University of Belgrade, 1988-1993, Diploma - Graduated journalist
- Training for trainers, Tim Tri, Belgrade 2002, Diploma - Trainer in NGO Development

### Languages:

English (spoken and written) and French (basic level)

### Main professional activities and membership of professional bodies:

- Executive Director of the National Organization of Persons with Disabilities of Serbia (NOOIS)
- Research assistant in Muscular Dystrophy Association of Serbia
- Vice-president of the European Alliance of Neuromuscular Disorders Associations (EAMDA)
- Member in Serbian JCC (EU-Serbia Civil Society Joint Consultative Committee) for the field – social economic development
- Representative of EAMDA at EFNA Assembly (European Federation of Neurological Association)
- Representative of NOOIS at EDF Assembly (European Disability forum)
- Representative of NOOIS at DPI Assembly (Disability People International)
- As a part of civil society organizations, member of the Government Council for Monitoring UN Recommendations which is a key national mechanism in Serbia for monitoring ratified UN conventions on human rights and fulfilling the obligations arising from them
- Member of the Platform of Organizations for Cooperation with United Nations Human Rights Mechanisms, founded by civil society organizations, which have significant experience based on reporting to UN human rights mechanisms

## Background of main activities in the field of the rights of persons with disabilities:

- Disability movement activist since the age of 18
- Youth activist within EAMDA's (European Alliance of Neuromuscular Disorders Associations) Youth group of people with Muscular Dystrophy,
- Working engagement from 1993 in Muscular Dystrophy Association of Serbia – still engaged there as an expert associate
- Close cooperation with Handicap International and coordinator of Counseling center for psycho-social support to PWDs
- Currently very active in the Serbian disability movement as Executive Director of NOOIS with excellent knowledge of disability policy and human rights advocacy for PWDs
- Long term international experience and close cooperation with different international organizations – UN Mission in Serbia, UNICEF Serbia, OSCE Mission in Serbia, ILO Serbia, USAID, European Economic and Social Committee etc.

## Relevant expertise on the rights of persons with disabilities and expertise under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned):

- Cooperation with the UN from 2013 and especially with the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- In September 2013, was the only representative from the Region who participated in the High level meeting in New York, which was entirely dedicated to the position of persons with disabilities in the world
- Co-author of the first alternative report and 2015/2016 presentation of alternative and initial reports in Geneva;
- Coordinator and co-author of the project realized in 2018 and in 2020, conducted by NOOIS: "Analysis of the implementation of the recommendations of the CRPD in the RS"
- Coordinator of the project realized by NOOIS regarding translation and promotion of General Comments No. 5, 6 and 7
- Monitoring the UN Convention implementation and working on harmonizing Serbian regulations and practices
- Active participation in various activities related to the harmonization of Serbian regulations in the areas: abolishing guardianship and introduction of decision-making with support, in the field of deinstitutionalization; work and employment; in fields of systematic introduction of prohibition of disability-based discrimination in new legislation; in the process of amendments to Criminal Code criminalizing disability - based discrimination and increasing penalties for acts of sexual violence against persons with disabilities; in the process of recent ratification of the Marrakesh Treaty
- Very active role (as a part of the working group) in the process of writing the new National Disability Strategy of Serbia for the period 2020/2024, especially through systematic incorporation of recommendations from Committee's Concluding Observations to Serbia into the new National Disability Strategy

## Other skills and competencies:

- Many years of dealing with issues in the field of improving the position of persons with disabilities
- Excellent knowledge of the concept of human rights and policies in the field of human rights of persons with disabilities (at national and international level)

- Good knowledge of domestic and international regulations, especially the UN Convention
- Excellent communication skills
- Strong written and oral presentation skills
- Consultant skills
- Well developed organisational and interpersonal skills
- Ability to work as part of a team as well as independently

### **List of most relevant publications in the field of the rights of persons with disabilities:**

I One of the authors in manual "**Basic Principles of Psycho-social Support for People with Disabilities**" (chapter: Language of disabilities); Belgrade 2000

II One of the authors of research "**People with disabilities and environment**" (chapter with name: Theoretical overview, Prof. Viktorija Cucic and Ivanka Jovanovic); CIP Belgrade 2001

III Co-author of the book "**Human Resource Management**", OSCE, January 2003

IV One of the authors in manuals "**The Third Symposium of Neurology and Psychology for Children**", Institute for Neurology and Psychology for Children, April 2004

V One of the authors of the ILO manual "**What is already available**" (dedicated to employers and people with disabilities)

VI "**Guide through the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**" (NOOIS, several editions)

VII Coordinator of the research "**Situational Analysis of the Position of Children with Disabilities in Serbia**" (NOOIS-UNICEF-EDF, 2017)

VIII Coordinator of the research and one of the authors "**Analysis of the implementation of the recommendations of the CRPD in the RS**" (two editions – 2018 and 2020)

IX One of the authors of the manual "**Family Guide for Emergency Preparedness and Response**" (with basic information about the treatment of persons with disabilities in emergency situations, for the general public, Belgrade 2018)

X Author of the brochure "**Etiquette in Everyday Communication with People with Disabilities**" (Belgrade, 2019)

XI Translated and prepared a brochure "**Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**" (in **an easy-to-read format**, intended for people with intellectual disabilities), Belgrade 2020