

Autism-Europe
Council of Administration
Meeting
Turin, Italy
May 29, 2014

*Autism-Europe Activity Report 2014



*Engagement with potential members



Autism Parents Association, Malta



Leo Kannerhuis Autism Centre, The Netherlands



Luxembourg

*Member meetings & study visits

*Advocacy with European institutions













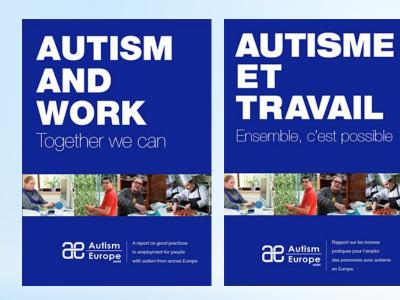


*Autism and work. Together we can campaign

Common World Autism Awareness Day 2014 campaign across Europe

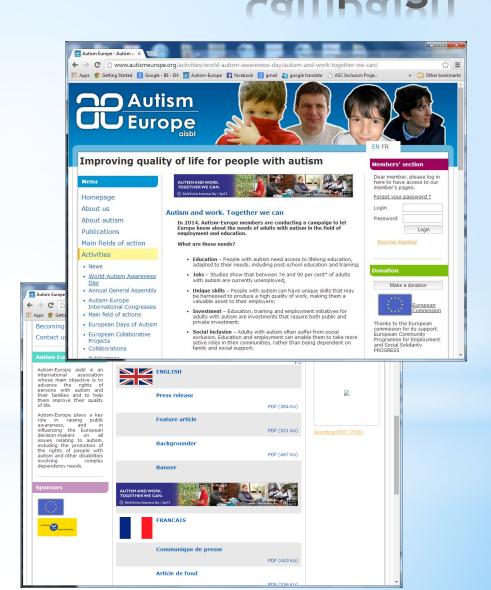


*Autism and work. Together we ca



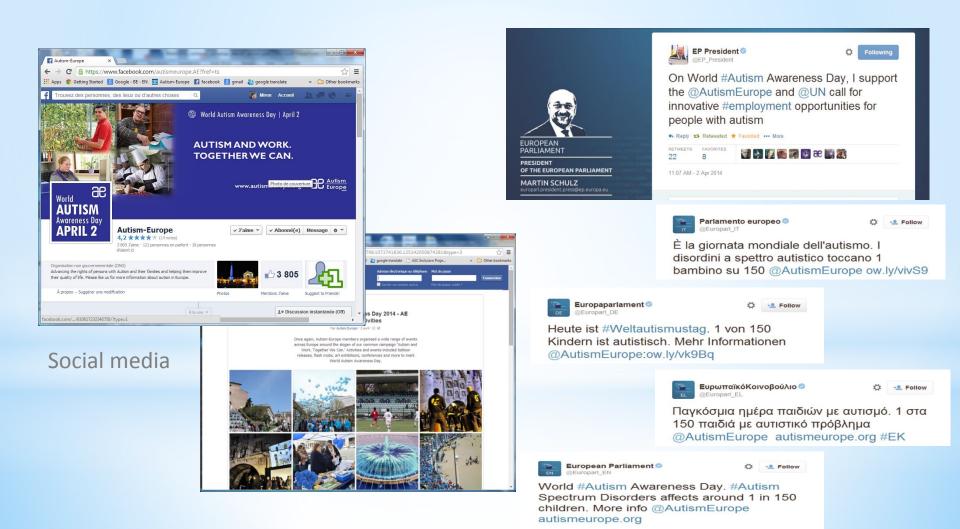
Good practices report in English and French

Online content



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Autism and work. Together we cancampaign





LINK magazine

Online newsletters







News and information about autism



socialplatform

The Platform of European Social NGOs







*Cooperation with other European NGOs











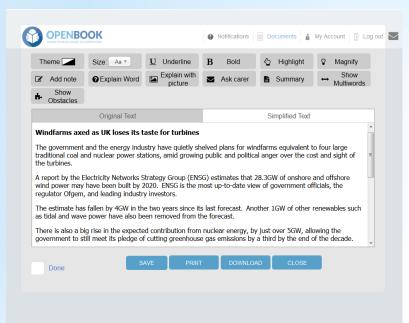












Open Book is now available in EN, ES & BG

An online tool for people with autism to simplify text

Reading difficulties for people with autism

s a result of their condition, people with autism can

- Comprehending speech and writing:
- Interpreting figurative / non-literal langu
- Understanding complex instructions;
- Deriving the meaning or gist of written documents.

 These difficulties can present a significant barrier to their

These difficulties can present a significant barrier to their participation and inclusion in all aspects of society, including education, employment, health care and social activities.

Making reading easier

Open Book aims to reduce these barriers by empowering people with autism to read a broad range of documents with confidence and autonomy.

The tool is designed for people with autism who experience difficulties in understanding written texts, but do not have an intellectual disability.

As autism encompasses a spectrum of symptoms that vary in severity among individuals, the software is personalisable, enabling users to adapt documents to match their own reading and comprehension abilities.

OPENBOOK

How Open Book works

Open Book utilises language technology to adapt the languagused in written documents by reducing complexity, removing ambiguity and improving readability.

This process includes: Replacement of...

- long complex sentences with several short, simple sentences:
- informal expressions with regular language.

 Provision of definitions for words and expressions the second se
- long/technical;
 ambiguous;
- non-literal (eg. metaphors);

related to emotion

- images;
- Concise summaries,





Developed with people who have autism

Open Book is not just being developed for people who have autism, it is being developed with people who have autism. The team developing the tool is working with a large group of people who have autism across three countries to ensure that the tool will meet their diverse requirements and to evaluate the tool's effectiveness in improving reading comprehensions.

Increasing social inclusion

By assisting people with autism to access written information, Open Book aims to increase their access to educational, vocational, cultural and social opportunities in Europe, and thereby increase their social inclusion and quality of life.

Open Book can also be helpful for people with low literacy or learning difficulties, as well as people who are learning a foreign language.



Open Book leaflet and video







Publication of good practice examples of vocational training for people with disabilities in cultural organisations

The Count Me In project is providing education and training to include people with special needs in the arts and cultural sector.

The project has produced:

- a publication of good practices
- an e-learning course
- a live training course
- a conference







Project meeting in Linz, Austria

The JoTraDi
(Job Trainers for people with intellectual Disabilities and autism spectrum disorders) project is a collaborative

in the open labour market in

initiative for social inclusion

Europe.

The project will develop a programme to coach 'Job trainers'; i.e. teachers and other relevant professionals who will be able to assist people with autism to gain employment in the labour market.





'Hajime' gaming marathon fundraiser,



The work of Autism Europe is supported by the European Commission through the PROGRESS Programme

*Thank you



