



Fourth cycle Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Sweden 2025

RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

**Factsheet on the status of the human rights
situation in Sweden**



**SWEDISH
FOUNDATION
FOR
HUMAN RIGHTS**

FACT SHEET 3: CRPD AS NATIONAL LAW AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE

UPR Advocacy paper



UPR session 49

The Swedish Disability Rights Federation, established in 1942, is the united voice of the Swedish disability rights movement. We organize 53 member associations with a total of 400,000 members. We coordinated the civil society's report to the CRPD committee.

Legal Issues and Access to Justice

This document highlights critical issues concerning the rights of persons with disabilities in Sweden with focus on legal issues and access to justice. The paper draws on civil society organization (CSO) reports and concluding observations from the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) from April 2024.

Mentions in UPR key documents:

Despite ratifying the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in 2009, significant gaps remain. The implementation of the CRPD is inconsistent, particularly in areas such as accessibility and non-discrimination. The lack of a comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that explicitly includes all forms of disabilities is a major concern. Additionally, the legal provisions for reasonable accommodation are often inadequately enforced, leading to systemic barriers in employment, education, and public services.

- A critical issue is the failure in incorporating the CRPD into national law. [While the CRPD can be referenced in Swedish courts, it does not hold the same legal weight as national legislation, limiting its effectiveness in protecting the rights of persons with disabilities](#)
- Access to justice remains a significant challenge for persons with disabilities in Sweden. Legal aid services are not sufficiently equipped to support persons with disabilities. Moreover, the training of law enforcement and judicial personnel on disability rights is insufficient, leading to discriminatory practices and a lack of understanding of the specific needs and rights of persons with disabilities.

Recommendations

1. **Incorporate the CRPD into National Law:** Ensure that the CRPD is fully incorporated into Swedish national law to provide stronger legal protections for persons with disabilities.
2. **Strengthen Anti-Discrimination Legislation:** Enact comprehensive anti-discrimination laws that explicitly includes all forms of disabilities and ensure their rigorous enforcement.
3. **Improve Access to Justice:** Ensure that the legal system provides adequate conditions for persons with disabilities, including accessible information and communication, and **enhanced legal aid services**