

CRPD call for written submissions on the draft guidelines on addressing multiple and intersectional forms of discrimination against women and girls with disabilities.

Frequently Asked Questions

Prepared by Women Enabled International

The CRPD Committee has published a [call](#) for written submissions on the draft guidelines on addressing multiple and intersectional forms of discrimination against women and girls with disabilities. The purpose of the Guidelines is to further guide states parties and other duty bearers to address the implementation gaps and to collect a repository of good practices in addressing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination against women and girls with disabilities. The Guidelines are a document that should be practical and actionable instructions for the States on how to address intersectional discrimination. They will build on the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

This FAQ document is based on the Webinar hosted by Women Enabled International in August 2025 with CRPD Committee members and aims to support organizations of persons with disabilities and other civil society organizations to find answers to frequently asked questions about making written submissions. The full recording of the webinar can be found [here](#) passcode: 5HzV*#2R=

Please note that the Secretariat of the Committee will not respond to further questions about the process. It will also not acknowledge receipt of submissions. The submissions will be posted on the Committee's webpage by 31 October.

Procedural questions

- **What is the deadline for submissions?**
15 October 2025
- **Can I submit in my language?**
The Committee will accept submissions only in English, Spanish and French.
- **Where do I find the most up-to-date information?**
On the CRPD Committee webpage: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/calls-for-input/2025/call-written-submissions-draft-guidelines-addressing-multiple-and>

- **Is the call open only for written submissions or are there other options?**
Yes, the call is open only to written submissions.
- **Will there be any other way to contribute to the development of the guidelines?**
Yes, the CPRD Committee plans to publish draft guidelines in March 2026 and will welcome feedback from civil society organizations on this draft.
- **Are there any questions that I have to answer in my submission?**
The CRPD Committee does not require you to answer any specific questions as long as the submission is on the topic of addressing multiple and intersectional discrimination against women and girls with disabilities. However, the Committee has identified gaps and proposed questions that you can consider while writing your submission. You can find them here: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/calls-for-input/2025/call-written-submissions-draft-guidelines-addressing-multiple-and>
- **Is there any template I need to fill in?**
No there is no template. Your submission just cannot exceed the word limit of 3500 words / 10 pages.
- **Will my submission be publicly available?**
Yes, the submissions are being stored in a public repository, and anyone can access them.
- **Is there a possibility to make an anonymous submission due to security concerns?**
Yes, please write that explicitly in your communication with the Secretariat to jorge.araya@un.org when you send the submission.
- **Is there minimum / maximum word limit?**
There is no minimum word limit, but the submission cannot exceed 3500 words / 10 pages.
- **Can my organization endorse more than one submission?**
Yes, this is allowed.
- **Can there be more than one submission from one country?**
Yes, this is welcomed.
- **Can I submit as an individual or only as an organization? Can I submit if my organization is not legally registered?**
Yes, you can submit as an organization, as an individual, or as a non-registered or informal group.

- **Can a submission be made with focus on more than one country?**
Yes, the CRPD Committee welcomes submissions from the national, regional, and global levels. For instance, you can cover more than one country in your submission, or could you submit in coalition with organizations across countries.
- **Is there any place I can find earlier submissions to the CRPD Committee to get inspiration?**
Yes, for examples submissions received regarding General Comment no 3 on Article 6 – women and girls with disabilities are available here:
<https://www.ohchr.org/en/documents/general-comments-and-recommendations/general-comment-no3-article-6-women-and-girls>
- **Will submissions from organizations and individuals located in countries that are Member States of the UN be considered?**
Yes, your submission will be considered.

Thematic focus

- **Is there any specific focus (beyond the focus on women and girls with disabilities) that the CRPD Committee expects?**
No, the Committee welcomes a broad range of focus area, whatever you think the Committee should be informed about in relation to intersectional discrimination and the rights of women and girls with disabilities.
- **Is the CRPD Committee interested in experiences of women and girls with disabilities, or do they want policy-level good practice examples?**
Submissions can include different levels: experiences of diverse women and girls with disabilities, good practices, policy recommendations, suggestions on how to structure the guidelines, theoretical contributions as well as guidelines that you would like to see in the final document.
- **Can I go beyond gender and disability in my submission and focus also on, for instance, racial justice or refugee rights?**
Yes, the Committee welcomes submissions highlighting issues affecting women and girls with disabilities in all their diversity, including those who also experience further intersectional discrimination.
- **Can I write about experiences of trans and non-binary persons? Many of us are tackled by stereotypes and discrimination against women or similar processes, due to how society perceives us.**

Yes, submissions exploring experiences of trans and non-binary persons are welcomed.

- **Can I build on Concluding Observations that my country received previously within CRPD review process?**

Yes, this is very much welcomed, you can build on these.

- **Can I write a submission on the situation of women in general?**

This is not recommended. Please note that this call is specifically in relation to women and girls with disabilities and not women in general.

- **Can I provide specific information regarding my cultural background, country or region?**

Yes, please be specific and address issues that are relevant to your context. Please provide specific good practices from your communities too.

- **Is it ok to focus on a specific group of women with disabilities, for instance Deafblind women? Can I write a submission on women with psychosocial disabilities living in institutions, women with disabilities experiencing caste-based discrimination or women with disabilities who are refugees living in humanitarian setting?**

Yes, specific submissions are welcomed.

- **Can submissions focus on the situation of women and girls with disabilities in war, conflict, or colonial occupation? Will there be willingness to engage with such submissions?**

Yes, please submit on any of these aspects.

- **Will the Guidelines address the situation of girls with disabilities?**

Yes, the call for submissions explicitly mentions girls with disabilities. Moreover, age is another important angle of intersectionality to be addressed.

- **How will the CRPD Committee monitor how States implement these Guidelines? What are other ways the Guidelines can be used?**

There will be no additional monitoring mechanism created; however, the Guidelines will be used as reference point within the CRPD state review process. Moreover, civil society organizations including disabled people's organizations can use the Guidelines in local, national and regional advocacy.

Few tips for your submissions

- ☐ Think who is not at the table, whose perspective might not be heard, and how you can support their participation in this process.
- ☐ Address different angles of exclusion that women with disabilities are facing, for example:
 - Women and girls with disabilities living in rural or remote areas;
 - Women and girls with disabilities from ethnic or racial minorities;
 - Indigenous women and girls with disabilities;
 - Migrant, asylum-seeking, or refugee women and girls with disabilities;
 - Women and girls with intellectual or psychosocial disabilities;
 - Women and girls with disabilities living in institutions;
 - Being a woman with a disability and living with albinism;
 - Women with disabilities who are member of the LGBTIQ+ community.
- ☐ Use the data that you have gathered over the years. Remember, data doesn't only mean statistics! Feel free to use case studies from your communities.
- ☐ Focus not only on different experiences but also what you consider good practices, or what you would like to see States and others do to ensure rights.
- ☐ Consider inviting other organizations of women and gender diverse persons with disabilities to endorse your submission.
- ☐ Think about what you would like to see reflected in the Guidelines. You can be explicit and include these suggestions in your submission.