



# HELLO!... ZDRASTI!



- 
- ◆ *“I COME FROM THE SAME PLACE AS ALL OF YOU”?*
  - ◆ *“the same place as everyone else”?*
  - ◆ *“the same place as people with disabilities come from”?*
  - ◆ *“the same place as people without disabilities come from”?*
  - ◆ *It’s a place called “SOCIETY”!*



# ***“OBSTACLES BECOME OPPORTUNITIES WHEN THE RIGHT PEOPLE COME TOGETHER”!***

- ◆ Ministry of Labour & Social Policy
- ◆ National Association of the Municipalities in the Republic of Bulgaria
- ◆ European Association of Service Providers for Persons with Disabilities
- ◆ National Alliance for Social Responsibility (NASO)
- ◆ National Federation of Employers of People with Disabilities (NFEPD)
- ◆ People with Disabilities
- ◆ People without Disabilities
- ◆ BITSE LDV Partnership Project (14 Partner organisations representing 10 EU Member states)



# “A Best Practice Example of How to Change the World”?





# BITSE

## BARRIERS WHICH INHIBIT THE TRANSITION FROM SCHOOL TO EMPLOYMENT



- ◆ EU Life Long Learning Programme: **Leonardo da Vinci Partnership Project.**
- ◆ 14 organizations representing 10 EU member states: **Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, France, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Malta, Netherlands.**
- ◆ Focus: “an examination of ‘**Barriers which Inhibit the Transition from School to Employment for Persons with Disabilities**’”.
- ◆ **Stakeholders: Students/Trainees with Disabilities, Teachers/Trainers, Service Providers, Employers, Parents (Personal Networks).**

# Some examples of Barriers!



- ◆ I have an **Intellectual** Disability! (I am borderline, mild, moderate, severe, profound)
- ◆ I have a **Physical** Disability! (I use a wheelchair, walking aid, other)
- ◆ I have a **Sensory** Disability (I am blind, deaf, dumb, other)
- ◆ I have a **Mental Health** Disability (I am unwell from time to time)

◆ I am...**DISABILITY!**





# Some examples of **Barriers!**



- ◆ “I have **no self-confidence!**”
- ◆ “I have **low self-esteem!**”
- ◆ “I am often **teased at school!**”
- ◆ “I am often **made fun of at work!**”
- ◆ “**I am** a son.. a daughter.. a student.. a trainee...a client...a service user...a worker
- ◆ with an... **Intellectual Disability!**



# Some examples of **Barriers!**



- ◆ “He is better off in a **sheltered** workshop!”
  - ◆ “She is safer using **special** transport!”
  - ◆ “He is **not** able... or ready for work!”
  - ◆ “We will **loose** her social and health benefits!”
- 
- ◆ I am a... **Parent!**



# Some examples of **Barriers!**



- ◆ “I do not have **sufficient skills or competencies** around disability?”
- ◆ “I have **too many students** to even consider work opportunities!”
- ◆ “There is a **lack of resources** for career guidance!”
- ◆ “I have **to choose** the better students/trainees for work experience!”
- ◆ I am a... **TEACHER!... a TRAINER!**





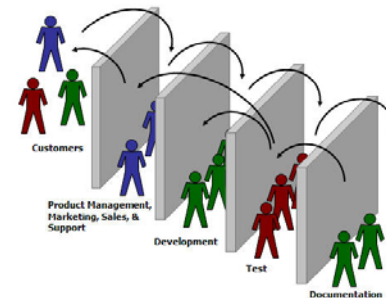
# Some examples of **Barriers!**



- ◆ “I don’t have **enough time** for persons with disabilities!”
- ◆ “There are no **suitable jobs** for persons with disabilities!”
- ◆ I don’t have **sufficient knowledge** of Disability issues!”
- ◆ “There are **no incentives** to employ persons with disabilities!”
- ◆ I am an... **EMPLOYER!**



# Some examples of Barriers!



- ◆ “**Workers with disabilities** are always the 1<sup>st</sup> victims of a recession!”
- ◆ “**Cutbacks** in funding for people with disabilities are a necessary evil!”
- ◆ “**Systems** are too bureaucratic... too rigid!”
- ◆ “There is **no progress** in terms of the Welfare Trap!”
- ◆ I am a... **POLITICAN...a CIVIL SERVANT!**



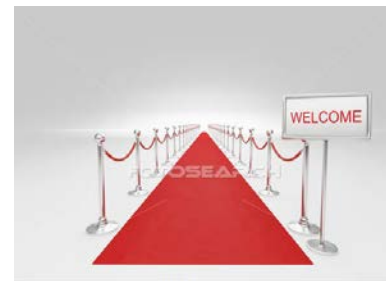
# Some examples of Barriers!



- ◆ “Who else uses this **Language...Terminology?**”
- ◆ “**Special** needs...**Special** Transport...**Special** Schools...**Special** Olympics...!”
- ◆ “**Sheltered** Workshops...**Supported** Employment...**Open** Employment!”
- ◆ “**Clients...Trainees...Service Users!**”
- ◆ “**Handicapped...Disabled!**”
- ◆ I am the **DISABILITY SECTOR!**

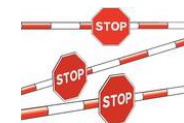


# Some examples of Barriers!



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- ◆ “**Stereotyping and Labelling** is always a problem!”
- ◆ “People have negative **Attitudes.. Perception..** and little **Awareness!**”
- ◆ “There is generally a lack of **Public Transport** to School...to Training!”
- ◆ “Difficulties in **Access and Egress** are common place!”
- ◆ “Integration **does not always** mean Inclusion!”
- ◆ I am... **SOCIETY!**





***“OBSTACLES BECOME OPPORTUNITIES WHEN THE RIGHT PEOPLE COME TOGETHER”!***

- ◆ *“Are you the Right Person?”*
- ◆ *“Are you the Right People?”*
- ◆ *“Let’s change the World for ever!”*
- ◆ *“Let’s change how we think about*



◆ ***DIS***  ***ABILITY!”***



# Thank You! Blagodaria!



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