Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)

January 2011

About the Convention (CRPD)

The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is an agreement by countries around the world to ensure people with disabilities are treated equally. Conventions, called treaties, tell governments what to do to make sure people can enjoy their rights. All adults and children with disabilities are included. The UN Convention was adopted on December 13, 2006.

Why care about the Convention?

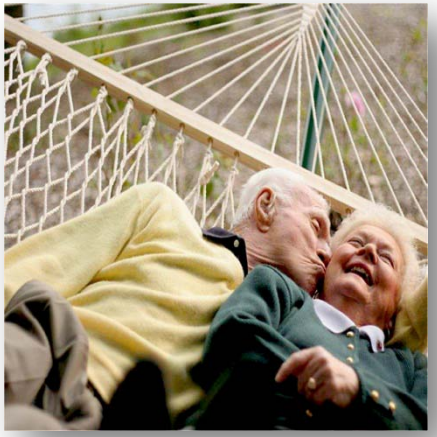
People with different disabilities from different countries worked together with their governments to develop the Convention. They got ideas by looking at good practices and laws that were helping people with disabilities go to school, get a job, live happily in their communities and have equal rights.

It is important to remember that the rights in the Convention are not new rights. They are the same human rights recognized in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and other international human rights treaties.

The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities guarantees these rights are respected for people with disabilities.

Human Rights

Rights we all have simply because we are human.



some basic rights are …

Think what you want, be to included in the community, work in safe conditions, be paid a wage you can live on

Human Rights

human rights are

UNIVERSAL	They belong to everyone.
INALIENABLE	Can not be taken away.
INDIVISIBLE	Cannot be divided from each other.
INTERRELATED	All human rights affect each other.

Why do we need a Treaty?

There are over 650 million people with disabilities worldwide.

People with disabilities were sometimes treated as “invisible” in many countries.

Many people experience human rights violations.

Countries want to improve the quality of life for their citizens.

Countries agreed that a human rights treaty specifically for people with disabilities was the best solution!

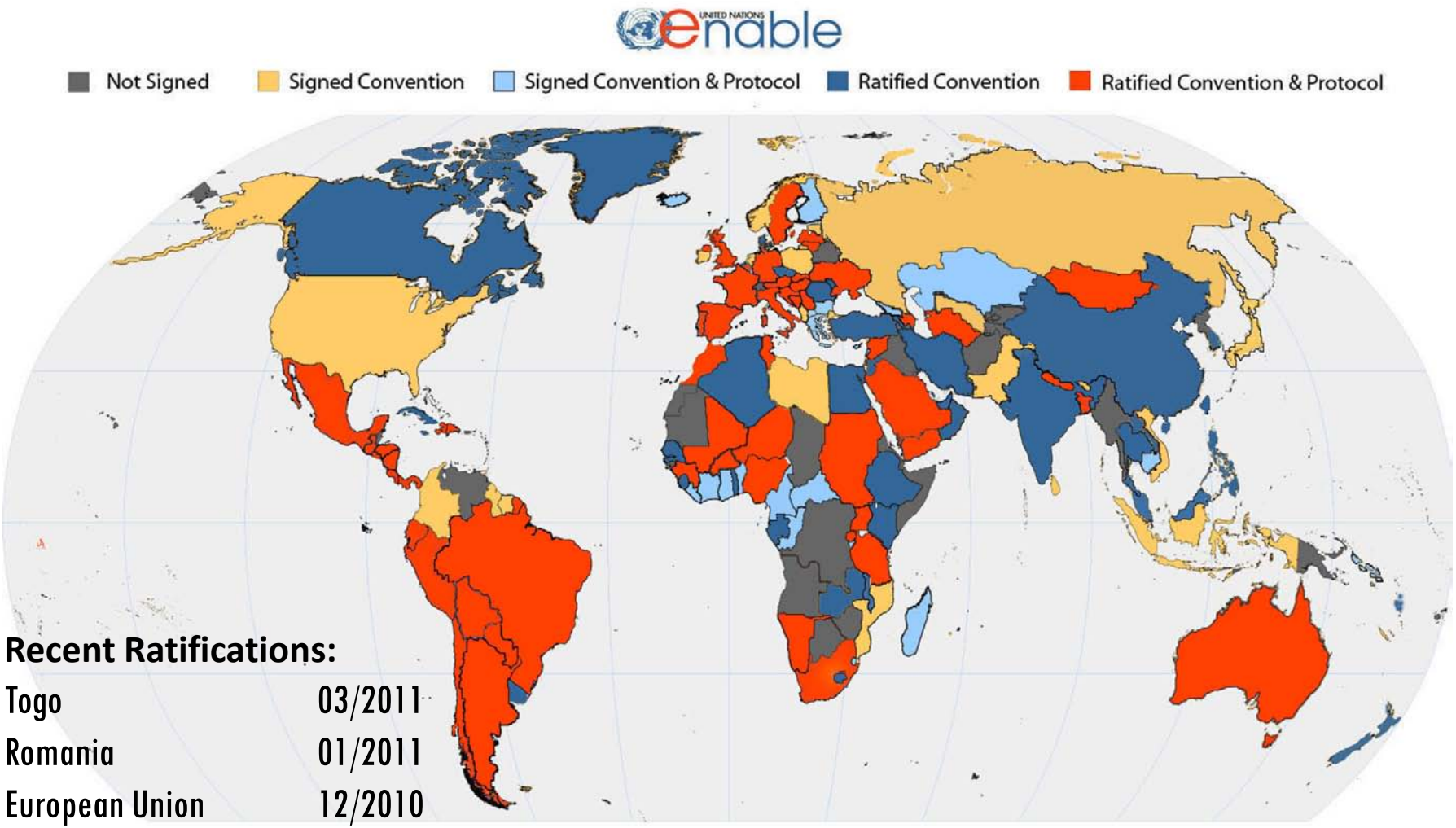
CRPD Principles

- Freedom to make their own choices and independence
- Non-discrimination
- Full participation and inclusion in society
- Accept people with disabilities as part of human diversity
- Equal opportunity
- Accessibility (transportation, places, information)
- Respect children with disabilities (respected for abilities)

CRPD Status

147 signatories

99 ratifications



Recent Ratifications:

Togo	03/2011
Romania	01/2011
European Union	12/2010

US Status

"**SIGNATORY**"

President Obama ordered the treaty to be signed, July 2009.

United States agrees with the ideas in the treaty.

United States is interested in joining the treaty.

US Next Steps

"**RATIFICATION**"

UNITED STATES SENATE

To become law, the Senate votes to accept the treaty.

There needs to be a two-thirds majority vote for approval.

US Next Step

"**STATES PARTY**"

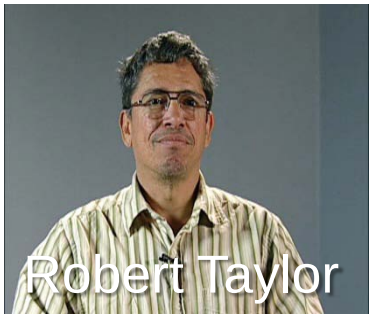
When the United States ratifies the treaty
it must follow what the treaty says to do.

Living the Treaty

Focus on CRPD articles important to self and peer advocates in California.

View video online at:
http://www.scddadvocacy.org

Living the Treaty



"This video shows people living the treaty successfully everyday. This treaty will help us teach other people in our communities how we live our lives."

Everyday, people with disabilities are living the treaty.

They are making decisions in their life to live independently and being respected for their choices.

Living the Treaty - Focus

7

Children with disabilities treated equally

12

People have the same rights to make their own decisions

9

Accessibility - access to information,
New technology

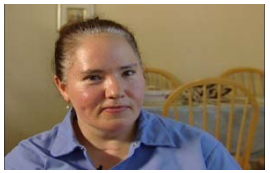
19

Independent living and being part of the community

11

People are properly protected when there are risky situations

27



People have a right to work, equal job rights, rules and pay

Article 7: Children with Disabilities

Countries agree to take action so children with disabilities can enjoy human rights and freedoms equally with other children.

- Children with disabilities have the same rights and freedoms as other children.
- Children with disabilities have the right to be heard about things that can affect them.
- Support will be given to help make this happen.

Article : Accessibility

Countries agree to make it possible for people with disabilities to have better access to participate in their communities.

- Better access to public buildings and schools and transport
- Signs in easy-read and Braille.
- Guides and sign language interpreters in public buildings.
- Access to new technology.
- People get support they need to important information.

Article 11: Risk and Emergencies

11

People are properly protected when there are risky situations.

People with disabilities have the right to be protected and safe during a war, an emergency or a natural disaster.

- Cannot legally be excluded from a shelter.
- Cannot be left alone while others are rescued due to disability.

INTERRELATED ARTICLES

9 **ACCESSIBILITY**

19 **INCLUSION**

Article 12: Equal Recognition/Law

People with disabilities have the right to enjoy 'legal capacity' in the same way as other people.

- People are respected by the law like everyone else.
- People have the same right to make their own decisions.
- People have the support they need when making decisions.
- If a person needs someone to speak for them there are rules to make sure it is done properly.

Article 19: Living Independent

People have the right to make choices about where they live - like everyone else. The right to live independently and to be included in the community.

Access to support services if needed to live in the community.

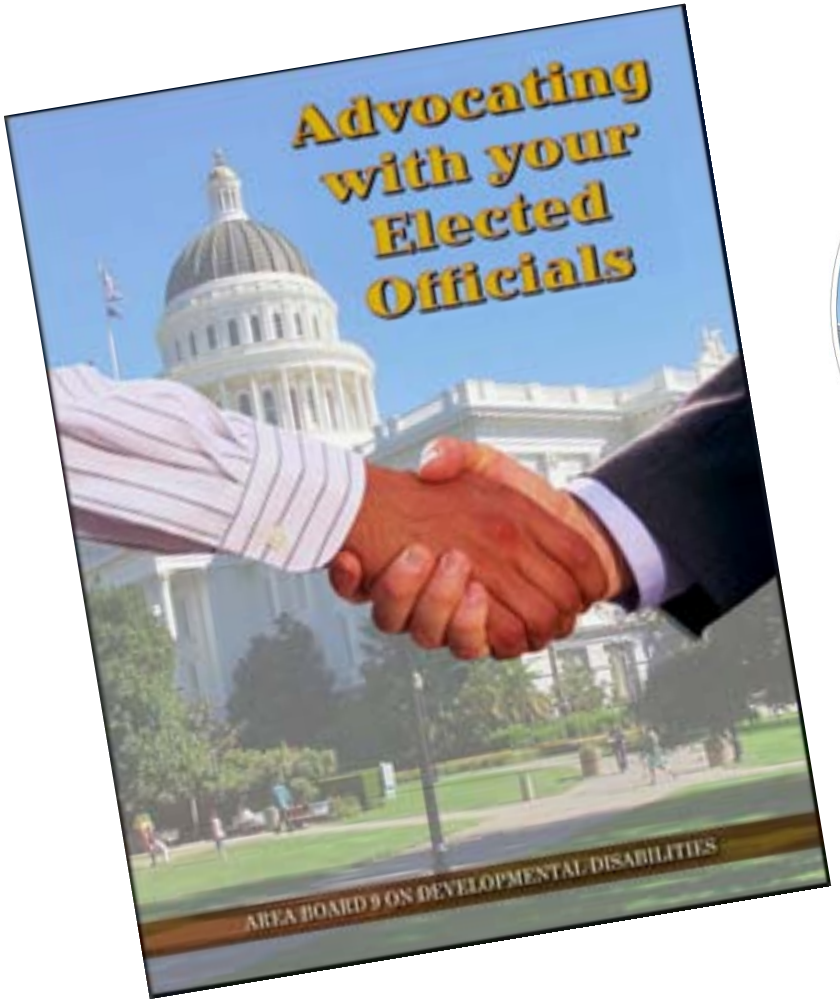
- People have choices about how they live, where they live, who they live with and to be part of their community.
- Not have to live in a place they don’t want to.

Article 21: Paid Equal Work

The right of persons with disabilities to work at a freely chosen job without discrimination, equal with others, that is open, inclusive and accessible.

- People have equal job rights, rules and pay.
- People have access to work training.
- Help provided if people want to set up their own businesses.
- Jobs with government and other suitable places.
- People are not forced to do unpaid work.

Advocate for the CRPD



Learn how to:

- Write a support letter
- Send an email
- Meet with elected officials

View and Download: http://www.scddadvocacy.org

FILL IN THE MISSING WORD

One of the principles of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is full participation and _____ in society.

Many rules, attitudes and buildings need to be _____ to make sure a person with a disability can take part in community life.

Every person has _____ rights.

Laws should not _____ against people with disabilities.

Live the Treaty!