

## Secretariat

All administrative tasks forwarded by the representatives of the "Austrian Disability Council" are fulfilled by the secretariat. It is the point of call for all questions and problems, brought to its attention by the member associations, public authorities and by the general public. Its task is the coordination of board activities, implementation of projects in the field of accessibility as well as PR and media work.

### Österreichischer Behindertenrat

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### Treasurer Deputy

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Mag. Roman Pöschl (BBRZ)

### Secretary Deputy

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(Forum Selbstvertreter)

### Head of Auditing

Mag. Klaus Höckner  
(Hilfsgemeinschaft der Blinden und  
Sehgeschwachen)



## **The „Österreichischer Behindertenrat“ – Austrian Disability Council – Umbrella Organisation of the Austrian Disability Associations**

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- Members** More than 80 Member Associations representing approximately 1,4 mio. persons with disabilities in Austria
- Goals** As a political lobby and advocacy organization we coordinate various interests of our member organizations and measures to implement these interests
- Tasks** Legal statements, lobbying, collaboration in numerous panels and commissions, as well as many other activities
- Secretariat** Administration, Legal Department, EU and International Department, Media and Public Relations

# The Austrian Disability Council is a political lobby organisation

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The Austrian Disability Council is politically independent and non-religious. We are offering a wide range of services to member organizations, individual members and partners.

## **Legal Department**

The main tasks of the Legal Department of the Austrian Disability Council are among others the appraisal of amendments to legislative acts, while taking the interests of our member organisations into consideration, initiating legal provisions, active participation during drafting of legal acts, negotiations with public authorities and finally transfer the pertinent information to our member organizations.

## **European & International Department**

The topic disability is politically highly relevant on the European as well as on the International level. The European law and the International conventions strongly influence the Austrian disability policies and Austrian law. Therefore, it is the opportune time for networking, lobbying and for pursuing common goals on a Supranational level.

## **Public Relations & Media**

the "monat", a socio-political magazine, which is published four times a year, the Website of the Austrian Disability Council, the Facebook and Twitter page, as well as regular press releases on political subjects are the main work priorities, a monthly E-Mail-Newsletter is a regular service for our Member Organizations

# Functions of the Austrian Disability Council

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- Development and upkeep of various documentations (technical aids, specialised literature, social services and institutions) in connection with the existing documentations of various institutions.
- The preparation of political proposals and demands of persons with disabilities and the attempt to realise these proposals and demands on National and International level; especially in the areas of building and engineering, justice, labour market, social affairs, education and vocational training.
- Collaboration in numerous panels and commissions: for instance, Standards Committees, the Vienna School Authority, various panels in Federal Ministries (education, social affairs etc.), panels on long term care, panels of the Federal Disability Authorities, the Independent Monitoring Body for the Implementation of the UN-Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the European Disability Forum (EDF) in Brussels, etc.
- Contact to all scientifically active institutions in the area of disability relevant issues.
- Thematic work on National, European and International level, for example: Non-Discrimination, Bioethics, Barrier-Free Design, Transport, Accessibility of buildings, workplace, living, Accessibility of products and services and much more.
- Barrier-free environment: includes, inter alia, the constant development of all Austrian building regulations, promoting accessibility of historical buildings, pavement chamfer, orientation aids for blind persons as well as communicative assistance, etc.