

DRPI Co-Directors

Dr. Bengt Lindqvist, UN Special Rapporteur on Disability 1994-2002
Dr. Marcia H. Rioux, Professor & Graduate Program Director (Critical Disability Studies) York University

International Advisory Committee

Dr. Lindqvist and Dr. Rioux draw on the expertise and guidance of an Advisory Committee composed of 16 experts in disability rights, human rights, legal advocacy and education from around the world.



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For More Information...

Visit DRPI's Resources and Publications page to read DRPI's progress and country monitoring reports:

www.yorku.ca/drpi/resources.html



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**Disability Rights
Promotion
International**

About DRPI

Disability Rights Promotion International (DRPI) is a *collaborative* project working to build global ability to monitor the human rights of people with disabilities. Using a *human rights approach* to disability, DRPI seeks to establish a *sustainable, holistic* monitoring system to address disability-based discrimination throughout the world.

- **Working with People with Disabilities:** DRPI monitoring is led by people with disabilities themselves. People with disabilities and their organizations play leading roles in project governance and implementation.
- **Human Rights Approach:** DRPI is grounded in a human rights approach to disability that recognizes that people with disabilities have the same rights as all other people. It highlights the ways that disability discrimination increases vulnerability to abuse, poverty, and other unjust social conditions.
- **Sustainable:** Through capacity-building and making results widely available, DRPI creates sustainable networks of individuals and organizations that will continue to call attention to disability rights issues in their communities beyond the life of the project.

Collaborations

DRPI is working in Australia, Bolivia, Cameroon, Canada, Croatia, India, Kenya, Sweden and the United States to develop and test disability rights monitoring tools and methods. We are partners with disabled peoples organizations, human rights organizations, universities, government agencies and the United Nations.

Holistic Disability Rights Monitoring

Disability rights monitoring is important for raising awareness about disability-based discrimination and the negative impact it has on the lives of people with disabilities. Knowing this encourages positive action to combat disability discrimination. DRPI has developed a holistic approach to monitoring disability rights, focusing on finding the facts in three key areas:

1. **individual experiences** of people with disabilities;
2. **systemic measures** taken to protect and promote disability rights (laws, policies, programs)
3. **media depictions** and coverage of disability.

The facts in each of these three key areas tell us one piece of the story but, when combined, they provide a more complete picture of disability discrimination.

By developing tools and methods to collect information in each of the three areas, DRPI is ensuring that a holistic view of the human rights situation of people with disabilities is presented and that measures taken by disability organizations, governments and other actors to improve this situation are fully informed.

History of DRPI

In November 2000, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Disability, Dr. Bengt Lindqvist, hosted an international seminar in Stockholm, Sweden. Twenty-seven experts from around the world discussed measures to strengthen the protection and monitoring of the human rights of people with disabilities. Among the seminar participants were representatives of all the major international disability organizations, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and the UN Secretariat, disability rights activists, and experts on human rights.

Seminar participants recommended the creation of a global system to monitor the human rights situation of people with disabilities. The DRPI project was started to meet this need.

