

# The Disabled and Society: Research

## Introduction

This presentation was made with the collective knowledge of students from The Czech Republic, Germany, Great Britain and Poland. After close examination of the answers given to some of the questions asked we have come to some conclusions. Below you will find an outline of this presentation.

- The definition of a disabled person (Page 2)
- Forms of disability that can be classified (Page 3)
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# The definition of a disabled person

Germany



The definition of a disabled person is someone who is physically or mentally impaired, usually caused by a severe accident. They are not capable of handling everyday tasks easily like a healthy person and require special assistance.

The Czech Republic



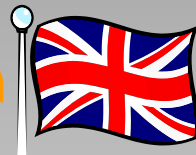
Any person that is unfourtunate enough to have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more essential life activities.

Poland



The most simple definition of a disabled person is someone who is unable to use his/her body properly due to an injury or disease.

Great Britain



Someone who has an imparment that causes them to have difficulties with everyday activities.

# Forms of disability that can be classified



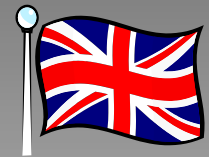
**Poland**

1. sensory (sensual) - these are people who have impaired visual and auditory perception.
2. intellectual-impairment of the mind, senile dementia.
3. social-imbalance of nervous, emotional and mental health
4. verbal-difficulties with communication (speech disorders, autism).
5. mobility- people with limited mobility abilities (congenital or acquired).
6. cerebral palsy by children-foetal brain damage
7. psychophysical- caused by somatic diseases e.g. cancer, brain tumour, diabetes.

**Germany**



There are several forms of disability. There are disabilities which are shown by either mental or physical deficits.



**Great Britain**

**Visual**

**Physical**

**Mental**

**The Czech Republic**



**Physically disabled**

**Visually disabled**

**Mentally disabled**

# The legal definition of the disabled in each country listed above



## Poland

The legal definition of the disabled in our country is based on the Act of August 27, 1997 which defines disability as the consequence of an impairment that may be physical, cognitive, mental, sensory, emotional, developmental, or a combination of these. A disability may be present from birth, or occur during a person's lifetime.



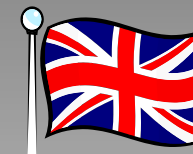
## The Czech Republic

A disabled person is an individual who acquire, on the basis of a medical opinion, status as a fully disabled person or a partially disabled person.

## Germany



A disabled person is someone who can't live a normal life due to mental or physical barriers. [Alexander]



## Great Britain

A physical or mental impairment that has a 'substantial' and 'long-term' negative effect on your ability to do normal daily activities

# The laws that protect/deal with the disabled in each country listed above

## Great Britain



The Equality Act 2010 protects you from discrimination. It provides legal rights for you in the areas of:

- Employment
- Education
- Access to goods, services and facilities
- Buying and renting land or property

The Equality Act 2010 also protects your rights if you have an association with a disabled person, eg a carer or parent.

## The Czech Republic



Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (ÚPOZP), Declaration on the Rights of Disabled Persons, The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, Anti-Discrimination Act. No. 198/2009 Coll., The Social Security law

## Germany



In 2009, 84.3 percent of all disabled youth's went to a special school for mentally handicapped. Only 15.7 percent attended a normal/general school. In 10 out of 16 federal states in Germany the disabled people who visit a school for mentally handicapped couldn't get a certificate from a normal secondary school. [Alexander]

## Poland



The disabled in Poland are protected in accordance with the constitution of the Republic of Poland from the 2nd April 1997.

# What the percentage of disabled people is in each country listed above



## Poland

There were 4,7million disabled people in 2011, which is 12, 2% of the population, 46, 1% men and 53, 9% women.



## The Czech Republic

There are 1022 people with a handicap – that is about 10% of the population in the Czech Republic.



## Great Britain

Almost 1 in 5 people in the UK have a disability.

## Germany



At the end of 2011, there were 7.3 million severely disabled people who were registered in Germany, so roughly 8.9 percent of the German population were disabled. 12.9 Million people with a disability lived in Germany in 2012.  
[Alexander]

# How the state supports the disabled



## Poland

Mostly our country uses money to support the disabled.

Our city, for instance, organizes events, invests in facilities for rehabilitation or offers transport with specially equipped vehicles. However, studying or going to an ordinary workplace seems to create a challenge for the disabled.



## The Czech Republic

State social support, Government Committee worked on the preparation of the National Plan to help disabled people, People with disabilities are provided with higher protection when looking for ordinary



## Great Britain

Quite well. We have the NHS which supports individuals, the Paralympics has helped raise awareness along with an increase of media portrayal on the subject.

## Germany



The state often offers tax advantages for disabled people in Germany, also the state offers benefits to the disabled people, so they can decide for themselves which services they would like to make use of. [Alexander]

# What the approach of society is towards the disabled



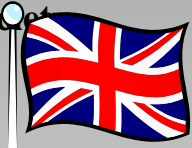
## Poland

The trend is to adapt public transport and public facilities to the needs of the disabled. Comfortable conditions for the disabled guests might be a benefit strategy for modern hotels and restaurants.



## The Czech Republic

Coexistence of disabled people and healthy people became normal for the Czech society.



## Great Britain

It has got better but there is room for improvement.

## Germany



The situation for disabled people in Germany is better than it was 10 years ago, because society accepts the disabled as people like themselves. For many disabled children it is better to grow up included in a community and together with other children. [Alexander]



# Is it possible for a disabled person to study at your school



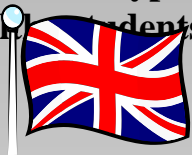
## Poland

Unfortunately in my school there are many stairs and narrow entrances. There are no elevators for people with disabilities but our school does offer individual classes and physical therapies in our swimming pool.



## The Czech Republic

It's not possible for the disabled to study at my school because we don't have wheelchair access and the type of education and future career requires healthy students.



## Great Britain

YES...



## Germany

At our Hermann-Gundert-School, a public professional school, disabled people (handicapped) can attend this school, too. For wheelchair users, we have an elevator to bring them to each floor. [Anna-Lena]

It is difficult to decide if disabled persons can pass their A-levels or study at university, it depends on their mental condition. It isn't possible for a mentally impaired person to become a lawyer or something like that. [Alexander]

# Conclusion

After this study we have been able to gather from the information the students have written, that even though each of the four countries have similar answers to the questions, each differs slightly.

The approach of each country is slightly different but we can assume that respect for the disabled has increased over the years and they are now accepted among the normal society.

Also the amount of support that disabled receive from the state or country has increased which I'm sure has made life easier and better for the disabled. Although, working in normal conditions will never be easy, it is good that each country is now giving the disabled the chance to attend normal public schools and normal jobs as well.

One of the important thing for disabled people is the International list of rights to protect the handicapped.

The disabled people are discriminated at work, in the social environment in Czech but this situation is better than 10 years ago.

Very interesting is that nobody of you didn't mention age from the point of view of a handicap.

