



MILLENNIUM OF MONTSERRAT

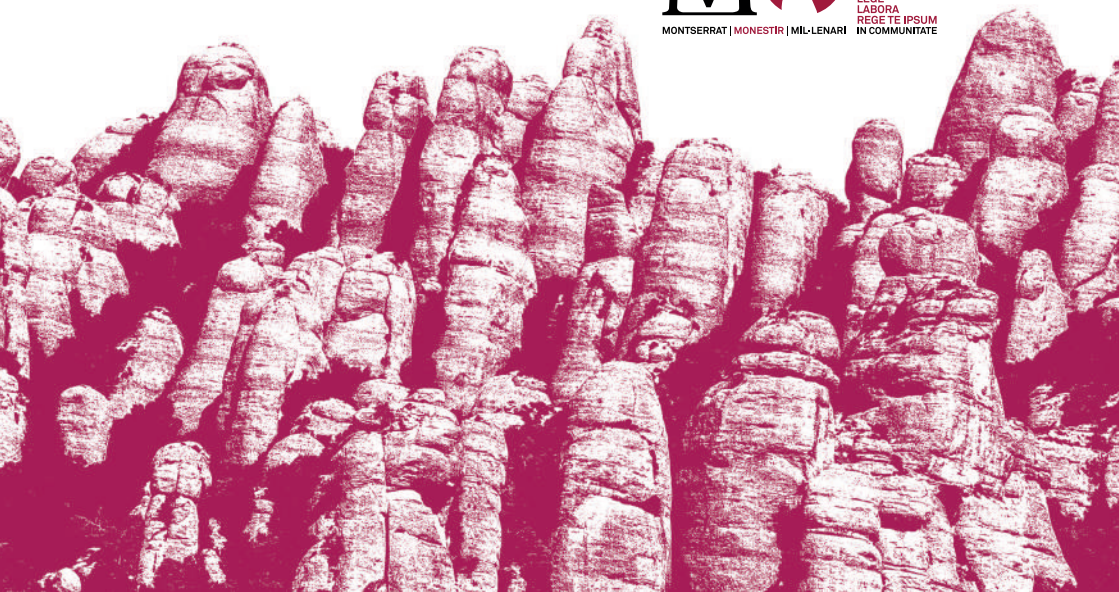
International Conference on Human Rights

Dignified Lives, a Human Rights Issue

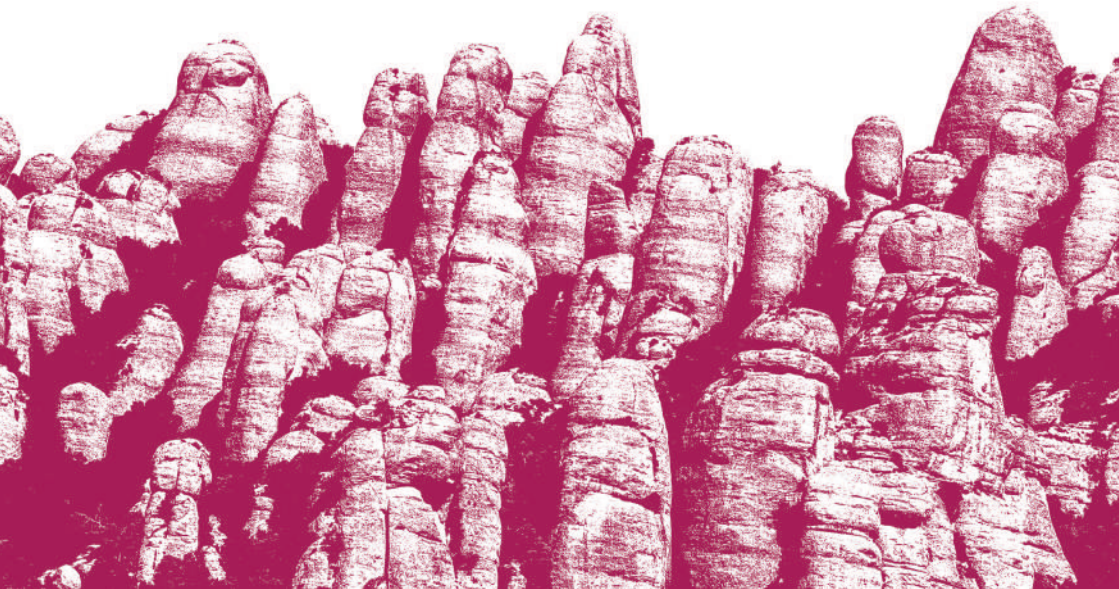
Monastery of Montserrat | Barcelona

March 13th and 14th, 2025

#DignifiedLivesHumanRights



Programme



Support-Girona welcomes you to the international conference "**Dignified Lives, a Human Rights Issue**", which we will hold on March 13th and 14th, as part of the Millenary of Montserrat, at the Abbey Monastery. This event will bring together national and international experts to discuss the human rights of people with disabilities and ways to guarantee them.

The main objectives of the conference will be:

- **Analyze the progress in respecting the Human Rights of people with disabilities**, highlighting achievements made and challenges still present.
- **Explore innovative models of care and personalized supports**, showcasing successful experiences and good practices at an international level.
- **Give voice to people with lived experiences**, to understand, firsthand, the barriers in daily life and propose appropriate and effective supports and safeguards.
- **Promote collaboration and knowledge exchange among institutions, organizations, professionals, and activists**, aiming to generate practical and viable recommendations for inclusive policies.
- **Highlight the transformative role of work, education, and culture**, addressing the use of inclusive language and social awareness as key tools to combat stigma and promote equality.
- **Foster a cultural and structural** change that ensures dignity, equality, and self-determination, with a focus on community inclusion.

With the participation of United Nations representatives, academics, activists with lived experience and leading professionals in the fields of human rights defense, health, social affairs, new models of care and support, and justice, these conferences will be a unique platform to share knowledge and reflect on the path we still have to travel.

This event will represent an opportunity to move towards a more just and inclusive society.

Welcome!

Josep Maria Solé i Chavero

General Manager
Support-Girona



March 13th, 2025

Self-determination for an inclusive life:

a matter of dignity

Ora, lege, labora. Rege te ipsum in communitate

07.30 a 8.00 h **Morning Prayer Laudes** (optional).

Location: Abbey Monastery.

Location: Montserrat Museum Building | Puig i Cadafalch Room.

08.30 a 09.15 h **Registration.**

9.30 a 10.00 h **Official Welcome.**

Father Manel Gasch i Hurios, Abbot of the Monastery of Santa Maria de Montserrat.

Mònica Martínez Bravo, cMinister of Social Rights and Inclusion, Government of Catalonia.

Pere Cornellà Valls, President of the Board of Trustees of the Support-Girona Foundation.

10.00 a 11.00 h **Keynote Speech:** *“The Evolution of Human Rights: From Violation to Recognition”*

Moderator: **Josep Maria Solé i Chavero**, General Director of the Support-Girona Foundation.

Facundo Chávez Penillas, Human Rights lawyer specializing in disability rights.

11.00 a 11.30 h **Coffee Break.** **Location:** Montserrat Museum shop.

11.30 a 12.45 h **Panel discussion:** *“Capacity and autonomy: a challenged right in Mental Health”*

Moderator: **Victor Aparicio Basauri**, Psychiatrist, MD, PhD.

Speakers:

Claudi Camps Garcia, Director of Mental Health and Addictions Network of Girona Counties, Institut d'Assistència Sanitària.

Cecilia Gómez-Salvago Sánchez, Member of the Spanish Bioethics Committee and Professor of Civil Law at the University of Seville.

Tina Minkowitz, Human rights lawyer with expertise on the CRPD, and a survivor of psychiatric institutionalization.

Natalia Kazah Soneyra, Clinical psychologist at the Specialized Hospitalization Unit for Intellectual Disability (UHEDI). Sant Joan de Déu Health Park.

Beatriz Pérez Pérez, Research Officer at ActivaMent Catalunya Associació, Ph.D. in Person and Society from the Autonomous University of Barcelona.

Bernabé Robles del Olmo, Neurologist. Coordinator of the Bioethics Unit at Parc Sanitari Sant Joan de Déu. Member of the Standing Committee of the Bioethics Committee of Catalonia.

13.00 a 13.30 h **Salve and Virolai Prayer**

Location: Abbey Monastery.

13.30 a 15.00 h **Lunch.** *Location: Mirador dels Apòstols building | Montserrat Restaurant.*

15.00 a 17.00 h **Workshops:**

1. **Work (labora).** Led by: **Núria Martínez Barberi**, Director of the Drissa Foundation. *Location: Abat Cisneros Hotel | Deàs Room.*

2. **Language (lege et ora).** Led by: **Inma Gómez Sánchez**, Technical Director of COCARMÍ (Catalonia). Social Worker. Postgraduate in Conflict Resolution. Postgraduate in Couple and Family Studies.

Location: Abat Cisneros Hotel | Venerable Room.

3. **Community (rege et communitate).** Led by: **Josep Tresserras Basela**, Executive Director of Som-Fundació. Postgraduate in Management and Direction of Social Services. Degree in Geography and History. Ph.D. in Theology.

Location: Montserrat Museum Building | Puig i Cadafalch Room.

Evening Activities (optional).

Meeting point: *Pastoral Coordination Center building.*

17.15 h **Hike to Montserrat Mountain - Degotalls Path.**

Visit to the Virgin of Montserrat (Moreneta): 17.30 h: 1st group // 17.45 h: 2nd group

18.45 h **Vespers Oratory**

Location: Abbey Monsatery.

March 14th, 2025

Living with dignity in the community:

challenges and perspectives

Rege te ipsum in communitate

7.30 a 8.00 h **Morning Prayer Laudes** (optional).

Location: Abbey Monsatery.

Location: Montserrat Museum Building | Puig i Cadafalch Room.

08.30 a 09.15 h **Registration.**

9.30 a 11.00 h **Keynote Speech “Enabling supports for Lives Worth Living”**

Moderator: **Josep Maria Solé Chavero**, General Director of the Support-Girona Foundation.

Speakers:

Thomas Bignal, Secretary General of EASPD (European Association of Service Providers for Persons with Disabilities).

Naomi Brickel, Project Director for Supported Decision-Making New York (SDMNY).

Antoni Galiano Barajas, General Director of Personal Autonomy and Disability at the Department of Social Rights of the Generalitat of Catalonia.

Victòria Monell Renart, Managing Director of FMMC and President of the Encaix Association.

F. Torcuato Recover Balboa, Lawyer and Legal Advisor of Plena Inclusión Andalucía and the LIBER association.

11.00 a 11.30 h **Coffee Break.** *Location: Montserrat Museum shop.*

11.30 a 13.00 h **Panel Discussion: “*Personal Experiences in Community Support.*”**

Moderator: Margarida Saiz Lloret, spokesperson for the Independent Living Movement of Garraf.

Speakers:

Xevi Benzal Ventura, communication Team Professional at the Drissa Foundation.

Xavier Orno Latre, evaluator and Quality Certificate Consultant for Disability Organizations at Plena Inclusión. Trainer at Dincat.

Thierry Noël, expert by experience at UDAF 82 Montauban in Occitania. Departmental Union for Family Support. Member of Capdroits.

Stephanie Wooley, member of the EDF Council (European Disability Forum). Alternate Member of the ENUSP Council (European Network of (Ex-) Users and Survivors of Psychiatry). Director of the Advocacy-France Association's International Relations Council.

13.00 a 13.30 h **Closing Remarks of the Sessions.**

Josep Maria Solé i Chavero, General Director of the Support-Girona Foundation.

13.30 h **Closing Ceremony.**

Josep Rull i Andreu, President of the Parliament of Catalonia.

All attendees will be able to access the Montserrat Museum free of charge with the event accreditation.



Speakers



Víctor Aparicio Basauri

Psychiatrist, MD, PhD. Trained at the psychiatric hospitals of Salt (Girona) and Valladolid, as well as at the Professional School of Psychiatry in Barcelona. Psychoanalysis with Marta Lázaro. Professor of Community and Preventive Psychology (University of the Basque Country). Professor of Psychiatry (University of Oviedo). Visiting professor at the University of Cambridge (United Kingdom). Research stays in Paris, Lyon, Ghent, and Geneva. Former Director of the Psychiatric Hospital of Oviedo. Former Regional Director of Mental Health in Asturias. Former Mental Health Advisor for the PAHO/WHO in Central America, the Latin Caribbean, and Mexico. Humanitarian emergency missions with WHO in Haiti, Mexico, Guinea Conakry, Kosovo, Colombia, and Honduras.

Thomas Bignal

Secretary General of EASPD (European Association of Service Providers for Persons with Disabilities), the largest European NGO active in the field of disability services, bringing together over 20,000 organisations from more than 40 countries. Thomas Bignal is also Vice President of Social Services in Europe and has served as Director of the Federation of European Social Employers. Master's degree in International Law.



Naomi Brickel

Director of the Supported Decision-Making New York (SDMNY) project at Hunter College CUNY, where she leads New York's efforts to develop infrastructure and raise awareness of Supported Decision-Making (SDM) as a legally recognised alternative to guardianship. She is a nationally recognised leader in disability services and advocacy, working to build more inclusive communities, advance rights, and promote self-determination and empowerment for people with disabilities. She is also an author, a mother of six, and a captivating speaker. She holds an MEd in Special Education and Transition from the University of Kansas.

Claudi Camps García

Director of the Mental Health and Addictions Network of the Girona region (Institute of Health Assistance, IAS). Recipient of the 2016 Medal of Merit in Healthcare and the CatSalut award for the most innovative mental health initiative for the development of this network.

In 2013, following the "Refinement" study, the Girona network was recognised as one of the most efficient mental health networks in Europe. In 2022, WHO Europe highlighted this network as an example of the "effective participation of users and caregivers in the organisation of mental health care at the local level." In 2023, the IAS, together with the Support-Girona Foundation, was awarded the Zero Project prizes, endorsed by the United Nations, for the creation of innovative solutions such as Espai Obert.





Facundo Chávez Penillas

Human rights lawyer and advocate specializing in disabilities the rights. He has worked extensively with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), focusing on ensuring the inclusion of people with disabilities within international human rights frameworks. His work emphasises the need for states and organisations to adopt inclusive policies that respect the dignity and autonomy of people with disabilities, promoting their right to fully participate in society. He is known for his expertise in the intersection between disability and international human rights law and has contributed to the development of policy recommendations and guidelines supporting the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). His advocacy work often highlights the importance of the right to live independently and in the community, as well as the need for broad social transformations towards inclusion and equality.

Antoni Galiano Barajas

Director General of Personal Autonomy and Disability at the Department of Social Rights of the Generalitat of Catalonia since February 14, 2025. He holds a Law degree from the Autonomous University of Barcelona and a master's degree in Disability, Personal Autonomy, and Dependency Care from the International University Menéndez Pelayo. Before his appointment, he served as the legal head of the Municipal Institute for People with Disabilities of the Barcelona City Council, where he played a key role in developing models for early intervention, personal assistance, independent living, and universal accessibility.



Cecilia Gómez-Salvago Sánchez

Member of the Spanish Bioethics Committee and Professor of Civil Law at the University of Seville. Judge at the Civil Chamber of the Provincial Court of Seville (1999-2003).

Publications: The Administrator Appointed by Will for the Minor's Assets; Political Parties and Private Autonomy. Jurisprudence; Open and Closed Information in Adoption and Assisted Human Reproduction Techniques; The Principle of Purpose and Secondary Uses of Human Biological Material in Research Activities; The Protection of the Person in the Field of Biomedical Research. Principles of Spanish Regulation; Law 5/2003 of 9 October on the Advance Declaration of Will in Andalusia.

Inma Gómez Sánchez

Technical Director of COCARMÍ (Catalonia). Social worker. Postgraduate studies in Conflict Resolution and in Couple and Family Therapy. Her professional career has been linked for 20 years to the social third sector and the social and solidarity economy. Among other roles, she has advised organisations for people with disabilities on their management and political advocacy at the local level, organised events, and facilitated various working groups and participatory spaces.

She has coordinated and authored reports on rights violations and materials on rights advocacy in the field of disability. She is a member of various political and third-sector participation bodies. She has extensive experience as a trainer in the associative sector, citizen participation, rights advocacy, mutual aid groups, and social support groups.





Natalia Kazah Soneyra

Clinical psychologist at the Specialized Hospitalization Unit for Intellectual Disability (UHEDI) at Parc Sanitari Sant Joan de Déu.

Specialist in Clinical Psychology accredited by the Government of the City of Buenos Aires and a postgraduate in Humanities from the University of Barcelona. She has been part of the Carlos III Health Institute's project "POMO-NA-SPAIN: Health Indicators for the Population with Intellectual Disability," as well as four lifelong learning programmes of the European Union: Grundtvig (2008-2009 and 2010-2011) and Erasmus Plus (2015-2017 and 2019-2020) for people with intellectual disabilities. For the past 19 years, she has worked in an inpatient unit specialising in people with Intellectual Disabilities and associated Mental Health issues. Since 2023, she has coordinated the Ethics and Intellectual Disability Commission, which operates under the Clinical Ethics Committee of Parc Sanitari Sant Joan de Déu.

Núria Martínez Bardeni



Director of the Drissa Foundation, an organisation based in Girona dedicated to employment inclusion and improving the quality of life of people with mental health conditions. Under her leadership, the foundation has developed innovative projects in the fields of mental health, social economy, and sustainability, collaborating with public and private entities to promote the social and professional inclusion of people with mental health conditions. In addition to leading local projects, the Drissa Foundation is also actively involved in international networks such as Social Firms Europe, advocating for mental health at a European level.



Tina Minkowitz

Human Rights lawyer specialising in the CRPD and a survivor of psychiatric institutionalisation. She actively participated in drafting the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and continues to contribute to its interpretation and implementation.

She is the founder and president of the Centre for the Human Rights of Users and Survivors of Psychiatry (www.chrusp.org). In 2024, she received the Ketil Njaa Solberg Human Rights Award for her fight against violations, abuses, and coercion in mental health care. Her book *Reimagining Crisis Support: Matrix, Roadmap and Policy* is available in English and Spanish at www.reimaginingcrisisupport.org

Victòria Monell Renart



Managing Director of the Fundació Malalts Mentals de Catalunya and President of Associació Encaix. She holds a degree in Business Administration and Management and an MBA from ESADE.

With 15 years of experience in financial and economic management in business, in 2009 she redirected her professional career towards the disability sector and non-profit organisations. She is a member of the Social Sector Committee of the Coordinadora Catalana de Fundacions, board member of the FUTUPEMA association, a member of the International Guardianship Network, and board member of Fòrum Salut Mental i Addiccions. In the field of advocating for the rights of people with mental health disorders, she is a speaker in various forums and a lecturer in the Master's in Community Mental Health at the University of Barcelona.



Thierry Noël

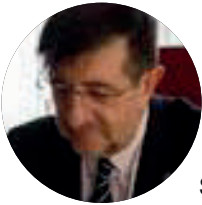
Expert by experience at UDAF 82 Montauban, Occitania. Departmental Union for Family Assistance. Member of Capdroits, a group from the southwest of France.

Collaborator at Cap'lab, a mixed research community integrating first-hand experiences, university research professionals, and support professionals.

Beatriz Pérez Pérez

Research Board Member at ActivaMent Catalunya Association. PhD in Person and Society from the Autonomous University of Barcelona.

Her trajectory as an activist and human rights advocate of the “mad movement” includes, among other things, coordinating various collective initiatives for the defence of human rights based on the CRPD from the organisations of psychiatrised people themselves, particularly in legislative amendments and political representation in governmental spaces. As an academic, she has worked at the intersection of human rights regimes, madness, disability, mental health, and welfare policies, from a genealogical perspective with Foucauldian and feminist influences, as well as qualitative and participatory approaches. Senior Lecturer at the University of Vic-Central University of Catalonia.



F. Torcuato Recover Balboa

Lawyer and legal advisor for Plena Inclusión Andalucía and the LIBER association. Author and contributor to various books on psychology and law, related to intellectual disability.

He has been a member of the Executive Committee of CERMI and the Spanish Disability Council, a consultative body of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. He was the drafter of the Proposal for the Reform of the Civil Code and the Civil Procedure Law to align them with Article 12 of the CRPD and other legislative initiatives. Director and lecturer in courses and seminars organized by the General Council of the Judiciary and the Office of the Attorney General, as well as a professor in a Master's program on Civil Liability, among others. His participation as an expert in Eurosocial stands out, particularly in the report on access to justice for persons with disabilities in Paraguay.

Bernabé Robles del Olmo

Neurologist. Coordinator of the Bioethics Unit at Parc Sanitari Sant Joan de Déu. Member of the Permanent Commission of the Bioethics Committee of Catalonia. Consultant in Neurology at Parc Sanitari Sant Joan de Déu. Master's degree in cerebrovascular diseases (University of Santiago de Compostela), Master's in Bioethics (Ramon Llull University). Associate Professor of Bioethics and Neurology at the Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Vic-UCC. Associate Professor at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Vic-UCC. Vice President of the Research Ethics Committee (Sant Joan de Déu Foundation). President of the Clinical Ethics Committee (Parc Sanitari Sant Joan de Déu). Member of the Bioethics Committee of Catalonia. Member of the Ethics Committee (Polytechnic University of Catalonia). Member of the Deontological Commission (Barcelona Medical Association)





Margarida Saiz Lloret

Spokesperson for the Independent Living Movement of Garraf. Social Worker.

Head of the municipal support service for women who are experiencing or have experienced gender-based violence, along with their children and affected family members (Barcelona City Council). Head of the Independent Living Services Department at the Municipal Institute for People with Disabilities (IMPD) of Barcelona City Council. Mother of a son with an intellectual disability. Founder of the Citizens' Platform for an Inclusive School in Catalonia and the Citizens' Platform of Garraf for an Inclusive Business. Currently retired (since 1 March 2021), spokesperson for the Independent Living Movement of Garraf, and president of the Inclusive Society Association of Garraf.

Josep Maria Solé i Chavero



Lawyer. Director of Support-Girona and president of iSocial. Activist and international consultant in human rights and disability.

An expert in strategic change in social services organisation management, he is a member of several boards: trustee of the Guttman Institute Foundation, Drissa Foundation, Arnau d'Escala Campus Foundation, and board member of the Institute of Health Assistance (IAS). Internationally, he is a board member of EASPD, overseeing Policy Impact, and a member of the Advisory Board of IGN. He has been participating in the World Congress on Adult Capacity (formerly known as the World Congress on Adult Guardianship) since 2014.



Josep Tresserras Basela

Managing Director of Som-Fundació. Postgraduate degree in Social Services Management and Administration. Degree in Geography and History. PhD in Theology.

Member of the Advisory and Supervision Commission for non-profit legal entities responsible for the guardianship of minors and/or support measures for people with disabilities in the exercise of their legal capacity. Vice President of the Liber association and member of the Board of Directors and Secretary of Dincat Federation, Plena Inclusió Catalunya, and AEES Dincat. Member of the Board of Directors of CCF. President of ERAESS (Espai Ètica) Dincat. Member of the "Ethics Network" of Plena Inclusió.

Stephanie Wooley

Deputy Board Member ENUSP (European Network of (Ex-)Users and Survivors of Psychiatry). Board Member EDF (European Disability Forum) and Board Director in charge of International relations for Advocacy-France.






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Donations to Support-Girona:

Bizum número: 02782

Thank you very much!



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