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Landsforbund

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Dear whom it may concern,

I would like to state that Danish Deaf Association fully supports the ENS proposal *“Measures for the removal of barriers of communication, for the recognition of LIS, the LIS tactile and for the promotion of social inclusion of deaf people and deaf-blind”*, which was submitted to the XII Social Affairs Commission.

It is our aim to achieve equality in public and private life for Deaf people all over Europe to ensure they can become full citizens. Its main objectives are the recognition of the right to use an indigenous sign language, empowerment through communication and information, and equality in education and employment.

Considering Italy has signed and ratified the ground-breaking UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) on 3rd March 2009, we urges the Italian government to follow the request of the Italian Deaf Association (ENS) to recognise Italian Sign Language (LIS) in national legislation and to develop policies and services that enable deaf citizens to participate fully in public and private life, including employment and education.

Danish Deaf Association urges the representatives of the Italian Council to co-operate with ENS to ensure the ratification of LIS and also support their forthcoming protests in order to achieve equality for all Deaf citizens in Italy.

Yours sincerely,

Janne Boye Niemelä
President
Danish Deaf Association