

Hi! My name is Adrian and I'm 26 years old. I am from Romania, Arad and I'm a person with disability – locomotory disability and I use an electric wheelchair to move around.

I want to speak with you about a few things about my community.

Unfortunately my city it's not very very „friendly” with people with different types of disabilities. For example we have problems with the crossroads, we have problems with the side walks because the difference of the levels makes it very uncomfortable for everyone to move from point A to point B and to have a normal life. Unfortunately...that means because you have a disability that means that you need to stay inside because you don't have accessibility on the crossroad, on the sidewalk, on the public transportation. Even though the new tram has a ramp for disability, that doesn't mean that the driver can use it. Because many of them don't come out from the seat to take out the ramp, to install the ramp for you.

We don't have a social education for that and that means many people don't understand exactly what it means for somebody to have a disability and how important it is for everyone to be at the same level, to be accepted in the society and for yourself to feel part of the society.

That means that society sees you in a negative way. What means that? The society doesn't understand that because you have a disability you are a normal person. I have a disability, NOT a handicap. That means I'm fully functional in the social life. I'm not blocked in the house, but because society doesn't have the education to integrate people with different disabilities, they don't understand exactly why you are in the store, why do you move in the streets alone (like I do for my university and things like that).

So, we need to invest more in our education, in our social education because not many people understand that to be different it's normal. Not many people understand what is like to be with a disability – everyone has the right to have a normal life same like everyone. But we need more help from society to have a normal life. This is what I can say.