

# Special Olympics and Easy to Read Language



**United  
Nations**

Department of  
Economic and  
Social Affairs

***Special Olympics***









# SPORT

TOTAL PARTICIPANTS  
(ATHLETES & UNIFIED PARTNERS)

3,724,760

2020-2021 CHANGE  
-4% ↓

## ATHLETES

3,131,611

-5% ↓

PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES (ID)

ATHLETE GENDER

40.5%	59.3%	0.1%
FEMALE	MALE	OTHER

## UNIFIED SPORTS

UNIFIED ATHLETES  
(PEOPLE WITH ID)

535,223

2020-2021 CHANGE -9% ↓

UNIFIED PARTNERS  
(PEOPLE WITHOUT ID)

593,149

2020-2021 CHANGE -2% ↓



## MATP MOTOR ACTIVITY TRAINING PROGRAM

52,117

2020-2021 CHANGE  
-14% ↓

## COMPETITIONS

33,742

2020-2021 CHANGE  
+12% ↑

UNIFIED 10,154

2020-2021 CHANGE +15% ↑



## COACHES

297,995

2020-2021 CHANGE  
+2% ↑

CERTIFIED 184,672

2020-2021 CHANGE -3% ↓

CERTIFIED COACH TO ATHLETE RATIO  
1:17

COACH GENDER

44%	56%
FEMALE	MALE

## PARTNERSHIPS

SPORTS PARTNERSHIPS 1,050

2020-2021 CHANGE -14% ↓

# LEADERSHIP & COMMUNITY



ATHLETE LEADERS

47,997

2020-2021 CHANGE  
-6% ↓



VOLUNTEERS

527,001

2020-2021 CHANGE  
-13% ↓

PROGRAMS WITH PAID LEADERSHIP

148

2020-2021 CHANGE  
+2% ↑

NUMBER OF PAID STAFF WITH ID

203

2020-2021 CHANGE  
+13% ↑

# HEALTH



ATHLETES PARTICIPATING IN FITNESS

453,337

2020-2021 CHANGE +6% ↑

HEALTHY ATHLETES SCREENINGS

18,496

2020-2021 CHANGE +22% ↑

INCLUSIVE HEALTH PARTNERSHIPS

1,030

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

97



YOUNG ATHLETES

189,626

2020-2021 CHANGE  
-14% ↓

# EDUCATION & YOUTH



UNIFIED SCHOOLS

15,008

2020-2021 CHANGE -67% ↓

UNIFIED CHAMPION SCHOOLS

7,539

2020-2021 CHANGE -5% ↓

YOUTH LEADERS

80,951

2020-2021 CHANGE +9% ↑



# GLOBAL FOOTPRINT

NATIONAL & STATE PROGRAMS

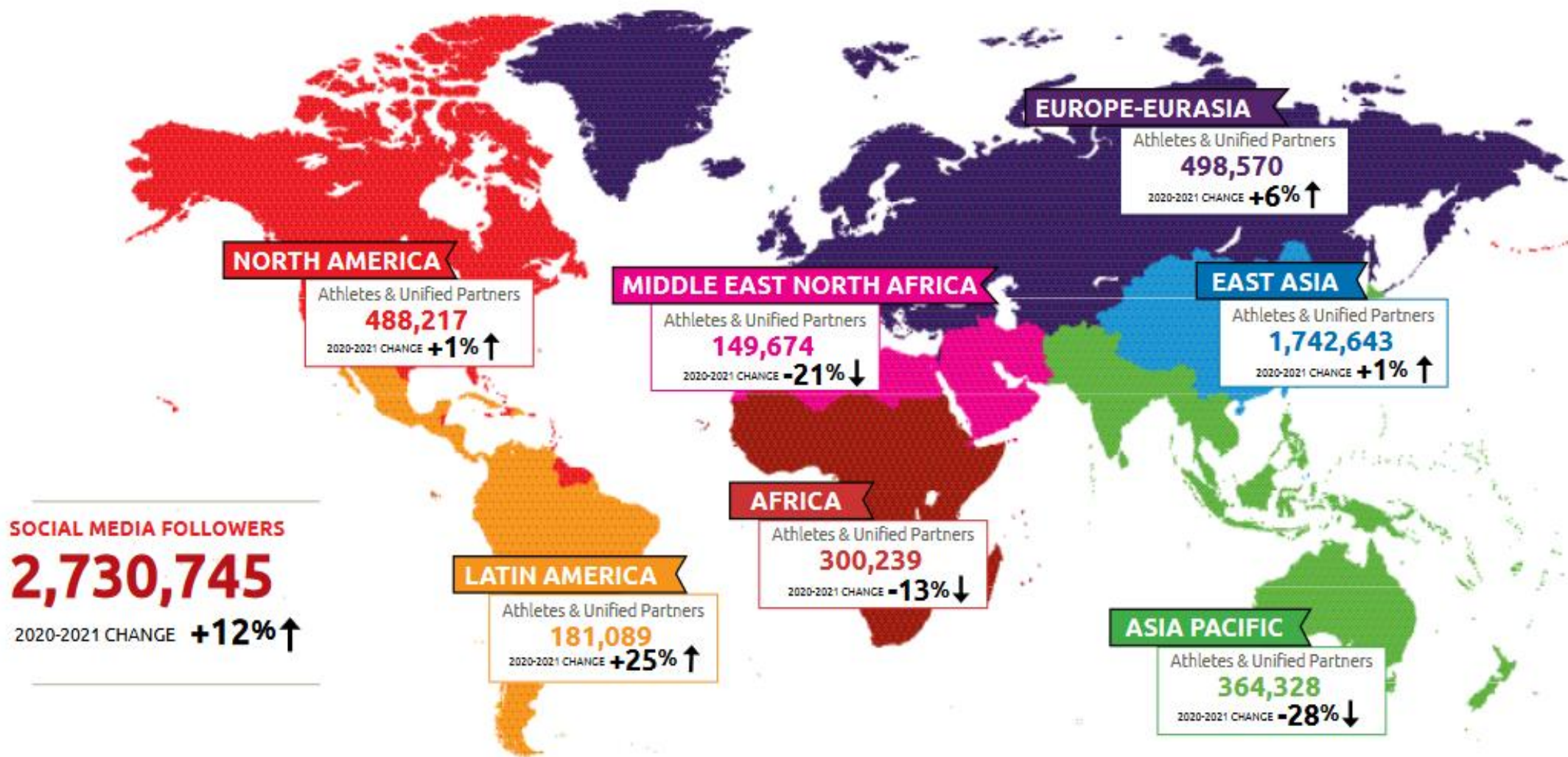
**251** 2020-2021 CHANGE **+0%**

COUNTRIES & JURISDICTIONS

**201** 2020-2021 CHANGE **+1% ↑**

LOCAL CLUBS / SUB-PROGRAMS

**19,991** 2020-2021 CHANGE **-7% ↓**

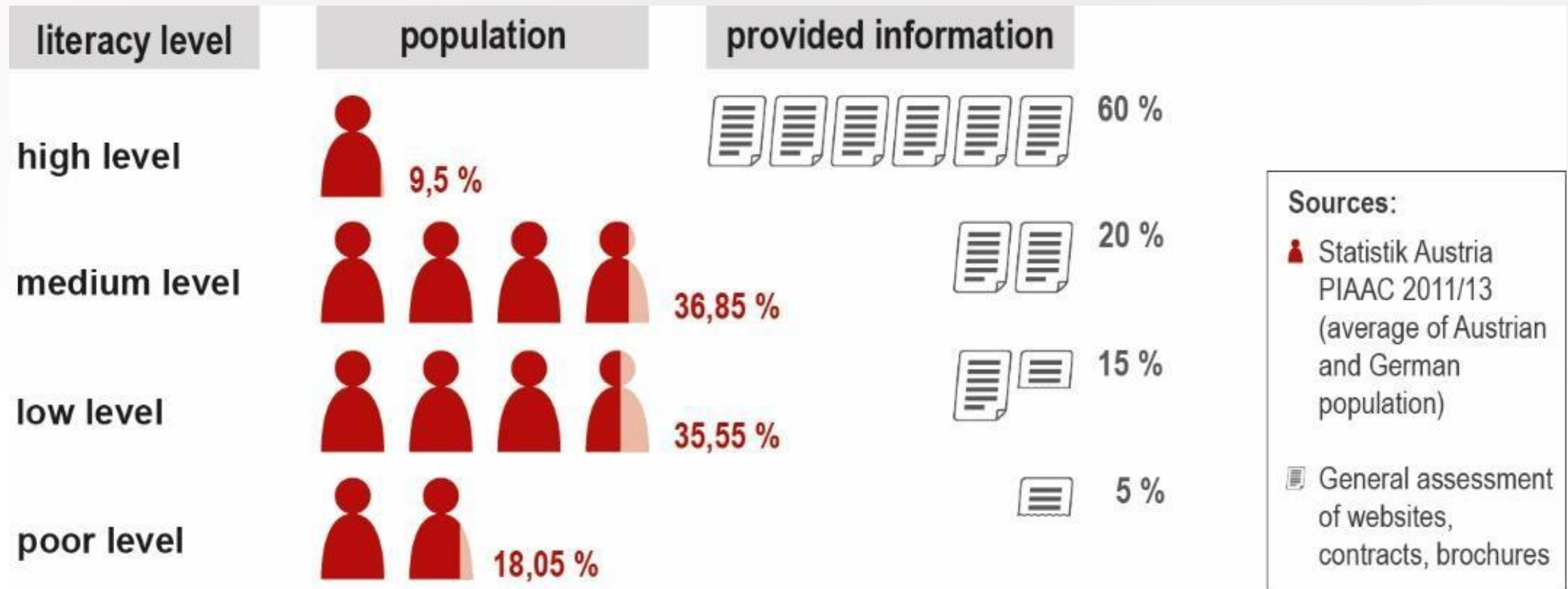


SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS

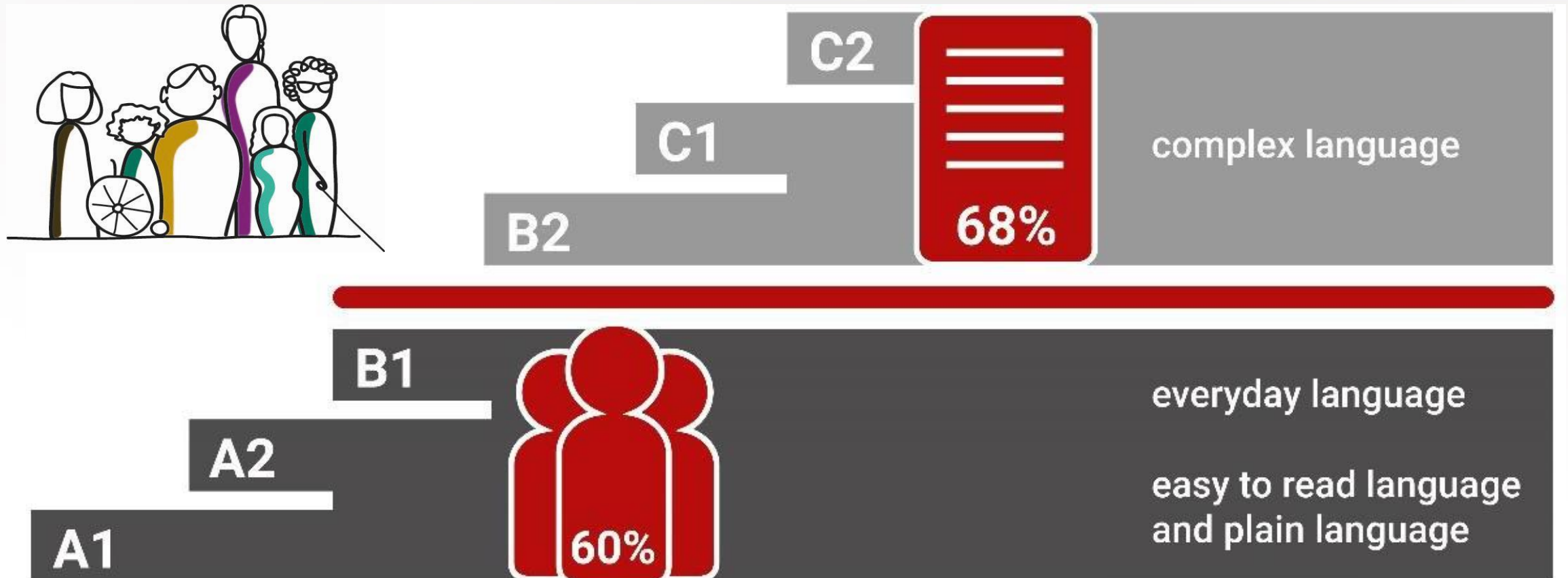
**2,730,745**

2020-2021 CHANGE **+12% ↑**

# Why easy to read language?



# Why easy to read language





# Barrier-free Information – Easy Language



- For 10% of the Population it is indispensable
- For 40% of the Population it is necessary
- For 100% of the Population it is comfortable and a quality feature

**Access for all!**



# Why do you need to access information?



- To make (good) decisions
- To exercise your rights
- To know your duties
- To get orientation

**➔** Autonomous life vs. depending on others

# Easy Language and Core values of Special Olympics



Easy Language helps people/athletes to:

- learn new things, understand the rules of competition and self management of personal fitness and health
- know the rights and stand up for them
- make their own decisions
- take part in sports and everyday life opportunities
- Greater independence from others

**Inclusion starts with Easy Language!**

# Special Olympics International



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# Global SOI strategy in Easy Language



## SUMMARY: WHAT IS CHANGING IN THE NEXT 4 YEARS?



1. Focus more on sports and fitness at the local level.
2. Be more inclusive in hiring.
3. Reach out to communities that have less inclusive opportunities.
4. Use technology to reach more people and create more activities.
5. Become an athlete-led movement through the **Unified Leadership** approach.
6. Provide more training and tools for volunteers and staff.
7. Focus more on results. We will evaluate and measure the results of our programs to see how we are progressing towards our vision.
8. Share our stories and show our impact in a way that inspires donors and supports fundraising.



### UNIFIED LEADERSHIP

Leadership where people without intellectual disabilities can learn from and empower people with intellectual disabilities.



## WHAT IS OUR VISION AND MISSION THAT GUIDES THIS PLAN?

### OUR VISION

Our **VISION** is an inclusive world for all, driven by the power of sport, through which people with intellectual disabilities **live active, healthy and fulfilling lives.**

### OUR MISSION

Our **MISSION** is to provide year-round sports training and competition. Both children and adults with intellectual disabilities can:

- improve physical fitness
- show courage
- experience joy

This gives athletes the chance to share their gifts, skills, and friendship with the community.

# Special Olympics Israel

“We believe that people with ID should have the same rights and choices as everyone else in society.”



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## Important Information

### I Want My Doctors To Know

#### About Me

Things you should know about me  
to give me an accessible medical care



Hello,

In this questionnaire, there are questions about:  
things you want doctors and nurses to know about you.

When you answer the questions,  
please try to tell us about yourself as much as you can.

That way, the medical team (for example: doctors, nurses) can get to  
know you better.

That way, the medical team can give you better medical care.

You can answer the questions by yourself.

You can answer the questions with a person who knows you.

For example: a family member, your caregiver, or your regular doctor.

You can answer some of the questions by yourself,  
and some of the questions with another person.

You can go back and forth between questions to change your answers,  
if needed.

After you answer all the questions,

you will receive a letter with the information that you gave.

You can give this letter to the medical team who takes care of you.

The letter will tell the medical team what you need to get accessible  
(right for you, suitable) medical care.

Good luck.



<u>What are the Questions About?</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Personal Information: Who am I?</li></ul>	A black silhouette of a person with a question mark above their head.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Things you should know about my health.</li></ul>	A black icon of a document with a star and an exclamation mark.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>How you can give me accessible medical care.</li></ul>	A black icon of a person in a wheelchair with a stethoscope around their neck.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Things I want you to know about me.</li></ul>	A black silhouette of a person with a red 'X' on their left side and a green checkmark on their right side.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Why do I need a doctor or a nurse?</li></ul>	A black icon of a house with a stethoscope and a pill bottle inside.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The end of the questions.</li></ul>	A green checkmark inside a black square.

# Special Olympics Germany

## Barrier free Health Information



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# Online platform: „Understanding Health Easily“



The screenshot shows the homepage of the 'Understanding Health Easily' website. At the top left is the Special Olympics Deutschland logo. To its right is a search bar with the text 'Suche' and a magnifying glass icon. The main heading reads 'Gesundheit leicht verstehen' (Health easy to understand), followed by the subtitle 'Informationen zur Gesundheit in Leichter Sprache' (Information about health in Easy German). Below this is a small icon of a person with a speech bubble. The background features a photograph of a young boy with blonde hair smiling while a healthcare professional with blonde hair uses a stethoscope on his arm. On the left side, there is a vertical navigation menu with buttons for 'Über Uns', 'Gesundheit', 'Körper', 'Medizinische Leistungen', 'Gesetz', 'Kontakt', and 'Wörterbuch'. On the right side, there is a vertical utility menu with icons for volume, text size (A), contrast, and home. At the bottom left, there is a logo for the 'Bundesministerium für Gesundheit' (Federal Ministry of Health) with the text 'aufgrund eines Beschlusses des Deutschen Bundestages'. At the bottom center, the copyright notice reads '© Special Olympics Deutschland e.V. | Impressum | Sitemap'. At the bottom right, there are social media icons for Facebook and Instagram.

# Special Olympics World Games Berlin 2023



SPECIAL OLYMPICS  
**WORLD GAMES**  
BERLIN 2023

***Special Olympics***



# The 5 pillars of Easy Language at the organizational level of the World Games



- **Accessibility**

- translate different types of documents into Easy German and Easy English.
- develop tools (e. g. glossaries) to enable everybody to use Easy Language

- **Involvement**

- involve athletes in different kinds of projects, e. g. in our review groups

- **Raise awareness**

- offer trainings and workshops on Easy German and Easy English, take part in special actions, like the National Reading (Aloud) Day (today 😊)

# The 5 pillars of Easy Language at the organizational level of the World Games



- **Network**

- aim to create a network with other SO programs and, in a more general way, with different organizations that use Easy German / Easy English, in order to exchange information and / or documents and to create a broader network.

- **Science**

- We take part / conduct scientific studies on Easy German / Easy English (Easy Italian “linguaggio facile” is also possible)

# Thank you



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