

Dear colleagues,  
It is my pleasure to invite you to

**AAC2022 - 4th International Conference on  
Augmentative and Alternative Communication  
11-13 November 2022  
Online  
<https://en.aac2022.assistfoundation.eu>**

**Topic of the conference: AAC during the Lifespan**

The Conference presents contemporary approaches and technologies for children and adults with communication difficulties – cerebral palsy, autism, multiple disabilities, intellectual disabilities, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis and others.

Among the speakers are:

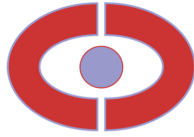
- Prof. Stephen von Tetzchner (Oslo University, Norway)
- Prof. Susan Ballandin (Deakin University, Australia)
- Prof. Martine Smith (Trinity College, Ireland)
- Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kristine Stadskleiv (Oslo University, Norway)
- Assoc. Prof. Amy S. Nordness (University of Nebraska, USA )
- Dr. Jessica Gormley (University of Nebraska, USA)
- Dr. Emma Smith (Maynooth University, Ireland)
- Dr. Lorenzo Desideri (AIAS Bologna, Italy)
- Evert-Jan Hoogerwerf (AAATE, Italy)
- Nora Shabani (UNICEF ECARO)
- Dr. Maria Yankova-Mladenova (UNICEF Bulgaria)
- Dr. Evgeniya Hristova (ASSIST – Assistive Technologies, Bulgaria)
- Dr. Oksana Kryvonogova, Hanna Usatenko (DivoGra, Ukraine)
- Anna Dincheva (RCSPIE Sofia, Bulgaria)
- Biser Borisov (RCSPIE Tarvovishte, Bulgaria)
- Velina Mitreva, Dimiter Kozarev (CSES Plovdiv, Bulgaria)
- Pavlina Deskova, Christina Davcheva (CSES Pleven, Bulgaria)

**Symposium: The role of AAC in prevention of violence against people with communication impairments**

Children and adults with complex communication needs are at heightened risk of abuse and violence. The symposium will cover topics on using AAC to prevent violence and abuse, in the process of investigation and prosecution of acts of violence, in testifying in court.

Among the speakers are:

- Prof. Maurice Grinberg (ASSIST – Assistive Technologies, Bulgaria)
- Prof. Juan Bornman (University of Pretoria, South Africa)
- Dani Koleva (UNICEF Bulgaria)
- Charlotte Orrell (Advocate's Gateway, UK)
- Caitlin Buchel (Communication Access to Justice, Canada)
- Prof. Ingeborg Thümmel (Oldenburg University, Germany)



- Dr. Roby White (Oldenburg University, Germany)
- Netta Ben Zeev (Israel)

### **Preliminary program**

Preliminary program of AAC2022 is available here:

<https://en.aac2022.assistfoundation.eu/daily-agenda/>

All times are in Sofia local time, EET (UTC+2)

### **Participation**

Participation in the conference is **free**. However, **registration is required** to participate:

<https://en.aac2022.assistfoundation.eu/registration/>

The conference will be held online using ZOOM. Registered participants are going to receive links for attending the conference.

The working languages of the conference are English and Bulgarian. Simultaneous translation is provided.

### **Organizers**

“ASSIST – Assistive Technologies” Foundation organizes **AAC2022** with the financial and the organizational support by UNICEF Bulgaria and with the organizational support by Ministry of Education and Science (Bulgaria), State Agency for Child Protection (Bulgaria) and ISAAC – International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication.

### **For more information:**

website: <https://en.aac2022.assistfoundation.eu>

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prof. Maurice Grinberg

Head of the managing committee

ASSIST – Assistive Technologies

<http://assistfoundation.eu>