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| **Easy to Read symbol** | **Report - The ERC DANCING Mid-Term Academic Conference**  **– Easy-to-Read Version** |
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| a large group of people sitting around a table having a discussion | On 4th September 2023, the DANCING project held a **conference and a concert.**  A **conference** is a big meeting where people come together to talk about important topics, share ideas, and learn from each other. |
| **What Is the Goal of this Report?** | |
|  | We want to tell you: |
| A man showing a report to others | 1. **What we discussed** at the conference. |
| Man giving advice | 1. **About the advice** that we received from experts on how to make the research better. |
| Accessibility Icon | 1. How we made the conference and the concert **accessible** for everyone. |
| **What Is the DANCING Project About?** | |
| a person with a disability painting a picture | The DANCING project started in September **2020** and will finish in August **2025**.  It is about helping **people with disabilities** take part in cultural activities (like music, art, and dance). |
| Hands holding up a scroll with Law as the title | It also looks at how European Union (EU) **laws** can support fairness and diversity. |
| **a group of people who are all different** | Diversity means **including** people from all backgrounds, abilities, and experiences so everyone feels welcome. |
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| **What Is the DANCING Project Trying to Do?** | |
|  | The project has three main goals: |
| A flight of stairs with a sign at the bottom saying 'no entry for people who uses wheelchairs' | 1. **Understand Challenges**: Learn what stops or helps people with disabilities join in cultural activities. |
|  | 1. **Link Culture and Law**: Study how EU laws protect the rights of people with disabilities and support **diversity**. |
| A cartoon of a person jumping over a gap between two signs, one saying 'old' and the other saying 'new' | 1. Thinking of **new ideas** about cultural diversity as an important rule for the EU. |
| **What Were the Goals of the Conference?** | |
| **a group making a presentation to another group of people** | 1. **Share Progress**: The team explained what they have done and learned so far. |
| **An abstract picture sugesting networking of people and ideas** | 1. **Link** our research with other studies, ideas and researchers. |
| **What Happened at the Conference?** | |
|  | **Morning Session**: |
| a gavel suggesting the Law with a European Union flag behind it. | * + Talked about **laws in the EU** that protect people with disabilities. |
| a group of researchers with laptop and clipboard | * + Talked about how different researchers can **work together** to make better research. |
| a group of people holding placards suggesting to improve disability law | * + Shared ways the project could help **improve laws** to help people with disabilities. |
|  | **Afternoon Session**: |
| a person in a wheelchair unable to access the museum because it is up a flight of stairs. | * + Shared early **findings** about what makes it easier or harder for people with disabilities to join in cultural activities. |
| a group of people having a discussion about the arts | * + Had a group discussion about **using arts in research**. Arts can include dance, music and art. |
| a woman making a presentation | * + Keynote Speech: The meeting ended with a talk by Professor Gráinne De Búrca, an **expert** in EU law. |
|  | **Accessible Concert**: The team held a concert that was designed to include everyone that included artists with disabilities. |
| **Why Was the Conference Important?** | |
|  | * The conference was a part of the project by using **different ways to share our work**.   We had academic talks, but also used art to find new ways to understand and solve problems. |
|  | * To **show the project’s ideas** and help others know about the DANCING project. |