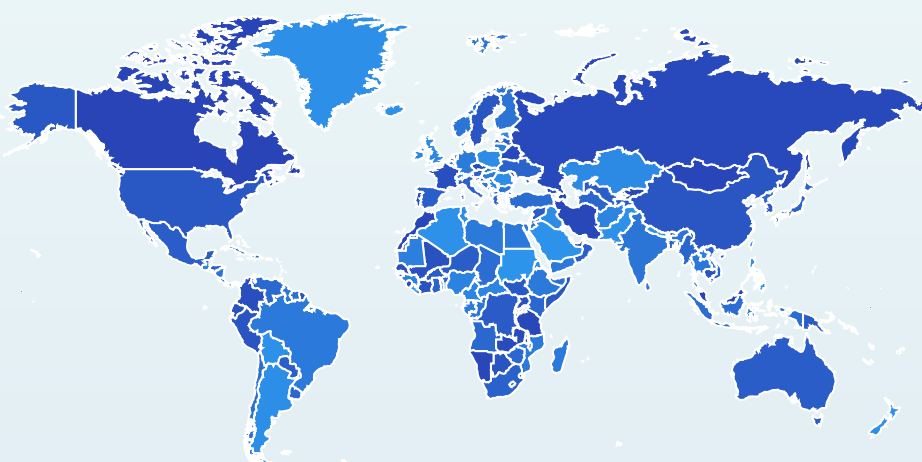
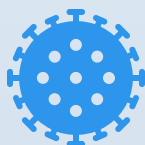


DRM wants countries to protect the rights of people with disabilities in institutions



DRM stands for Disability Rights Monitor. We are a team of disability rights groups from around the world.



DRM made a survey to check if countries are protecting people with disabilities during the COVID-19 crisis.



People from around the world answered the survey.



The survey found that countries are not protecting the rights of people with disabilities living in institutions.



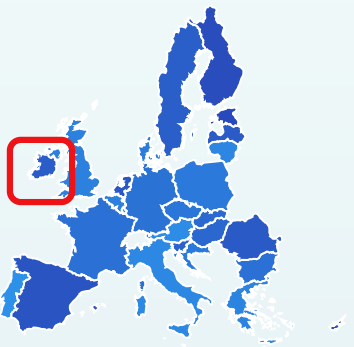
The survey shows why more people die of COVID-19 in institutions.



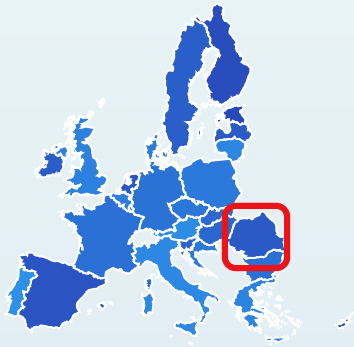
For example, the survey shows that people in institutions with COVID-19 had worse medical care than people in the community.



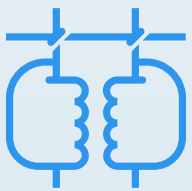
A hospital in Ghana did not want to treat a woman because she lived in an institution.



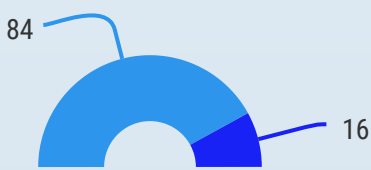
Some people who died in Irish institutions were not given a chance to go to the hospital for proper care.



When the staff at a Romanian institution got COVID-19, they went to the hospital.



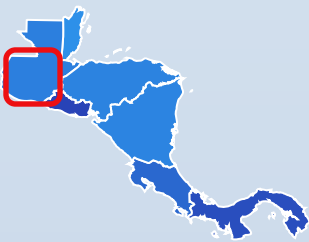
But, the people living in the institution with COVID-19 were locked up.



Most people who answered the survey said that the institutions in their countries were closed.



People locked inside these institutions have no contact with the outside world.



For example, in Guatemala, 300 people are locked inside an institution. They cannot social distance or get medical care.



In Indonesia, more than 2500 people are locked inside institutions without any protection from COVID-19.



In Canada, police entered an institution found people with no food or drink. They also found the bodies of people who had died of COVID-19.



These stories from around the world show that institutions are very dangerous places for people with disabilities.



DRM is calling on counties to take these steps to end human rights abuse in institutions:



Check what is happening inside institutions, and record the number of people who have died from COVID-19.



Make sure that people in institutions have enough food, and have space to social distance.



Make sure that people in institutions have the same medical care as people in the community.



Stop forcing people to live in institutions.



Make an emergency plan to get people out of institutions, and into the community.



Spend money on community living, instead of institutions.



Make sure that people with disabilities are involved in the plan to move people from institutions to the community.



The DRM survey is still online.

We would like to invite people to take the survey.



You can find the survey at www.covid-drm.org.