The World Network of Users and Survivors of Psychiatry is a democratic organization of users and survivors of psychiatry that represents this constituency at the global level.  In our Statutes, "users and survivors of psychiatry"  are self-defined as people who have experienced madness and/or mental  health problems, or who have used or survived mental health services.

WNUSP had its beginnings in 1991 and became a full-fledged organization  with a democratic global structure on adopting its statutes in 2001.  Currently we have members in over 50 countries, spanning every region  of the world.

WNUSP is a member of the International Disability Alliance (IDA), and is represented on the Panel of Experts of the UN Special Rapporteur on  Disability.

WNUSP was involved in the work on the Convention on the Rights of  Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) since the inter-regional  expert meeting convened by the Mexican government before the 1st  session of the Ad Hoc Committee (the UN forum in which the CRPD was  negotiated), and has been active and successful in  achieving our aims for the Convention, especially with regard to legal capacity, liberty, integrity and free and informed consent, as well as  principles of autonomy, human diversity and equality reflected not only in article 3 but throughout the Convention.  WNUSP brought over 20 users and survivors of psychiatry to the UN, from every region of the  world, in addition to representatives of other user/survivor organizations that worked closely with us, such as Mind Freedom International and People Who.

WNUSP was among the organizations that created the International  Disability Caucus, and served on its steering committee; it is also currently on the steering committee of the IDA CRPD Forum.  WNUSP was also one of the organizations represented in the 2004 working group that produced the first official draft text of the CRPD, and was represented as one of two civil society speakers at the adoption of the CRPD by the General Assembly.

Since the adoption of the CRPD, WNUSP has produced an Implementation Manual from a user/survivor perspective (available on our website), and continues to work with the  rest of the international disability community, especially through the Legal Capacity Task Force, a working group of the IDA CRPD Forum.

WNUSP has Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social  Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC).

Please see our website [www.wnusp.net](http://www.wnusp.net) for more information.