

Preface

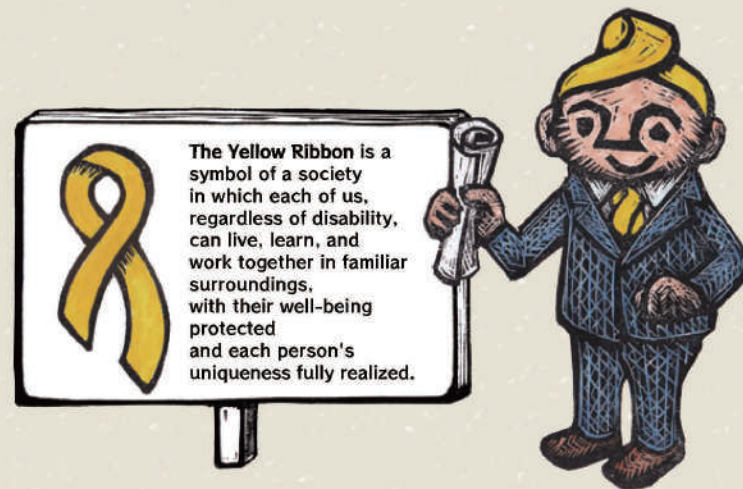
I wrote this picture book because I want as many people as possible to know about the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). The CRPD may seem difficult to understand, but it isn't. As you read through it, you will see how wonderful it is. And, I am sure you will encounter many "a-ha" moments as you ask yourself "what is disability," "what is equality," and "how can we cherish the uniqueness of every person." My hope is that you discover these ideas in line with the principles of the CRPD.

Do you know how many persons have disabilities in the world? According to the United Nations, one in every six persons has some kind of disability. Some may be born with a disability, while others may acquire a disability as children, during their school or working years, and especially in old age. Many have multiple disabilities. Anyone can have disabilities.

The CRPD equips persons with disabilities with the power to reach their full potential. But that's not all. It is, on the one hand, a "yellow card" or warning to our society at this moment, as well as the North Star that shows us the way to a society that all of us wish for. The Convention empowers us with silent courage.

You can read this book on your own. Perhaps you can have someone read it to you. You may also want to read it together with your friends, sometimes pausing to discuss about what you have just read.

Let's get started with "Picture Book: United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities."



How can we create a society
that values everyone
including those with
and without disabilities?

All around the world
we have thought about this question
for a long time.
But it wasn't easy to find an answer.

It was at this very moment when
the Assembly Hall of the United Nations
shone brightly.

There was much rejoicing
amid the clapping, whistling,
and feet-stomping.

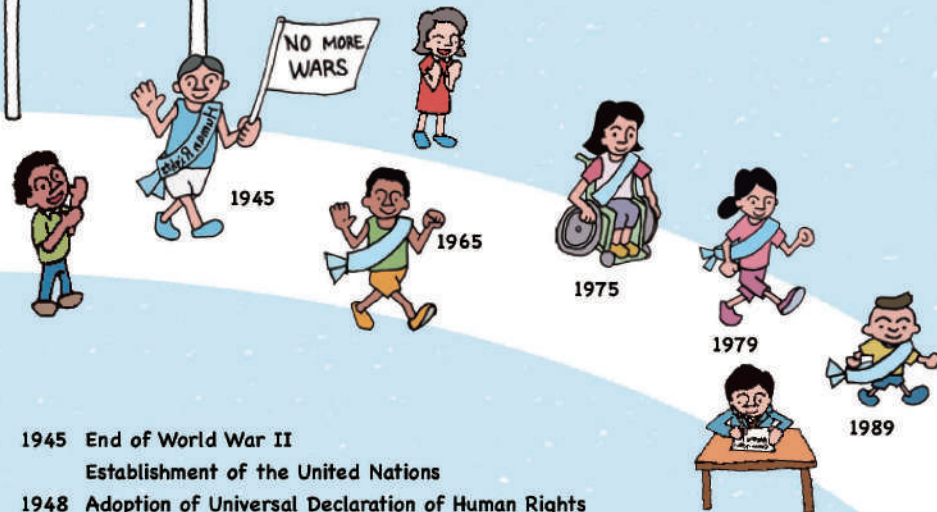
I, the Convention of the Rights of
Persons with Disabilities (CRPD),
was born.

My date of birth is December 13, 2006.





History of the CRPD



- 1945 End of World War II
Establishment of the United Nations
- 1948 Adoption of Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- 1965 Adoption of International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
- 1966 Adoption of International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,
International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- 1971 Adoption of Declaration on the Rights of Mentally Retarded Persons
- 1975 International Women's Year
- 1975 Adoption of Declaration on the Rights of Disabled Persons
- 1979 International Year of the Child
- 1979 Adoption of Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
- 1981 International Year for Disabled Persons
- 1983 Start of the United Nations Decade for Disabled Persons 1983~1992
- 1989 Adoption of Convention on the Rights of the Child
- 1990 Adoption of American with Disabilities Act
- 1993 1st Asian and Pacific Decades of Disabled Persons (~2002)
- 1993 Adoption of Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities
- 2001 CRPD proposed by Mexican President Vicente Fox Quesada

- 2002 First Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities
Adoption of the draft text of CRPD, including an optional protocol
- 2003 2nd Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons (~2012)
- 2006 The 61st United Nations General Assembly adopts the CRPD (December 13)
- 2008 CRPD entered into force
- 2008 Establishment of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- 2008 First Session of Conference of States Parties (Held twelve times until 2019)
- 2013 3rd Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities (~2022)
- 2014 Ratification of the CRPD by the Government of Japan
- 2016 10th Anniversary of the adoption of the CRPD
- 2020 Constructive Dialogue with Japan
(or later)

Our stories to be continued.....

