



**WORLD FEDERATION  
OF THE DEAF**



**INTERNATIONAL DAY  
OF SIGN LANGUAGES**

**#IDSL**

## **Concept Note Global Leaders Challenge**

On this 2025 edition of the International Day of Sign Languages, the world will sign up for the sign language rights. Deaf communities, governments, and civil society organisations continue their collective efforts - hand in hand - to foster, promote and recognise national sign languages as part of their countries' vibrant and diverse linguistic landscapes.

# **No Human Rights Without Sign Language Rights**

This celebration arises from Resolution A/RES/72/161 of the United Nations adopted in 2017, which recognises the 23rd of September as the International Day of Sign Languages.

Following the successes of the Global Leader Challenges for three years, the WFD is proud to announce its continuation to be achieved during the upcoming International Day of Sign Languages, on 23 September 2025. This challenge aims to promote the use of national sign languages by national and global leaders in partnership with their national associations of deaf people.

Your country leaders - might they be Prime Ministers, Presidents, other government officials, members of parliaments, or members of city council - should sign in your national sign language "A World Where Deaf People Everywhere Can Sign Anywhere!"

The Global Leaders Challenge is an opportunity for national associations of deaf people to establish and maintain sustainable collaborations with their national leaders through the use of their national sign languages.

### **WORLD FEDERATION OF THE DEAF**

An International Non-Governmental Organisation in official liaison with ECOSOC, UNESCO, ILO, WHO and the Council of Europe. WFD was established in Rome in 1951.

**PO Box 65, 00401 Helsinki, FINLAND**

[www.wfdeaf.org](http://www.wfdeaf.org)





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## Technical modalities

WFD encourages national associations of deaf people to contact their leaders to invite them to join this challenge. WFD recommends that the associations support their leaders in the execution of this challenge by giving an example of the theme “Sign up for the Sign Language Rights” in national sign language.

The videos should be published on social media with the hashtags [#IDSL](#) and [#GlobalLeadersChallenge](#) tagging [@Wfdeaf](#).

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