The official data shows that the total number of persons with disabilities in the Republic of Moldova in 2016[[1]](#footnote-1) constituted 184,5 thousand persons which represent 5,2% of the total number of the population of the country. Also women constitute 48% of the total number of persons with disabilities.

The field of sexual and reproductive rights of people with disabilities is least explored in Moldova, including the respect for the sexual and reproductive rights of girls and women with locomotor disabilities.

The problems that girls and women with disabilities are faced with in rejoicing their sexual and reproductive rights were mentioned in the Reproductive Health Training Center’s report: „Situation analysis of problems faced by women and girls with locomotor disabilities in exercising their sexual and reproductive rights”. This report was used as a source for the Ombudsman’s Office Annual Report for 2016.

On the national level there are no statistics or established systems of collection, monitoring, report and assessment of data on the access of family planning services, use of contraception methods, abortions, infections with sexual transmission, number of births through the persons/women with disabilities. The lack of gynecological chairs in the medical institutions which are adapted for the needs of this category of women constitutes a barrier in exertion of sexual and reproductive rights.

The report denotes the fact that the persons with disabilities face significant problems which are related to the respect and guarantee on the national level of the sexual and reproductive rights. This fact produces consequences both, by direct discrimination and the incapacity to be adapted to needs of persons with disabilities. The regulatory and policy framework is not sufficiently adjusted for guaranteeing and ensuring the respect for sexual and reproductive rights of persons with disabilities. The accessibility is a major obstacle when speaking about the respect for sexual and reproductive right and participation of persons with disabilities in all the fields of social life. The access problems aggravated by bias and direct discrimination limits the access to qualitative medical services. Despite of the progresses in particular fields, the sexual-reproductive rights as specific rights of persons with disabilities are not expressly regulated in the national legislation in the context in which the sexual and reproductive rights are a part of the category of fundamental human rights. They enframe in the general concept of human rights which is already recognized and embedded in the international, regional and national standards of some states.

1. National Bureau of Statistics. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)