DIGITAL ACCESSIBILITY: essential for some, useful for all
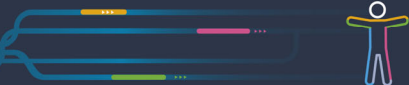
October 13, 2022 | Maria Jerez
Publications Office of the European Union

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Services of the Publications Office

- Consultancy services.

- Tutorials and trainings.

- Accessibility site: https://op.europa.eu/en/web/accessibility/accessibility
  - E-learning.
  - Documents.
  - External links.

- Production of accessible digital publishing
  - Web PDF.
  - Interactive HTML.
  - Mobile apps.
  - Audio-visual.

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Digital accessibility

Design and layout

Fonts

Specific writing:
easy-to-read, child-friendly

Colours

Alternative text

Captions

Subtitles

Transcripts

Dyslexia

Learning disabilities

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder

Cognitive disorders

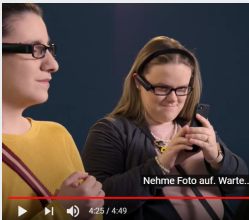Persons with other first language

[Children]

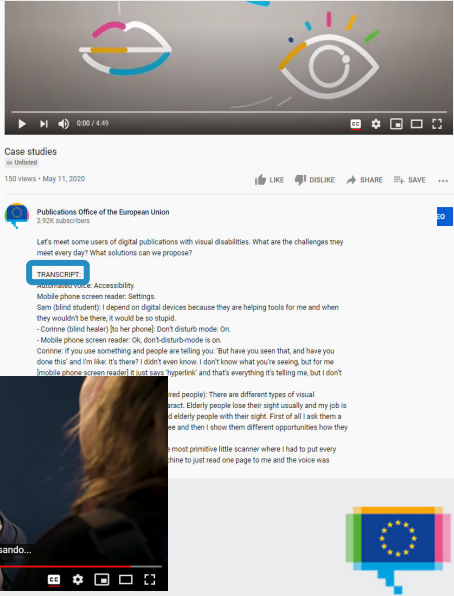Visual disabilities: blindness,
colour-blindness, and low vision

Auditory disabilities

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Captions, subtitles and text transcripts

5

6

Fonts

Serif

Sans-serif

- Sans-serif fonts recommended for digital publications.

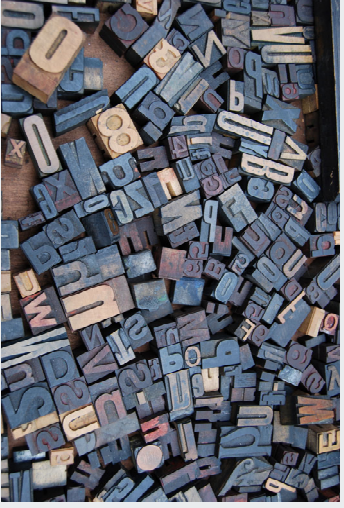Gill Sans

Verdana

7

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Easy-to-read text

- Many texts are very complex for some target groups.

- Some characteristics:
  - Simple and linear layout.
  - Short sentences.
  - With images to improve the understanding of the text.
  - Without abbreviations, technical terms and synonyms.

https://www.inclusion-europe.eu/category/etr/

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Information conveyed by colour

- To convey information do not use only colour:
  - Instead of 🔴 🟢
  - Use ✖ ✔

Number and categories of new psychoactive substances reported to the EU Early Warning System for the first time, 2011–21

Number and categories of new psychoactive substances reported to the EU Early Warning System for the first time, 2011–21

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Colour contrast

There has to be enough contrast between the background and the text both in the whole document and in the images.

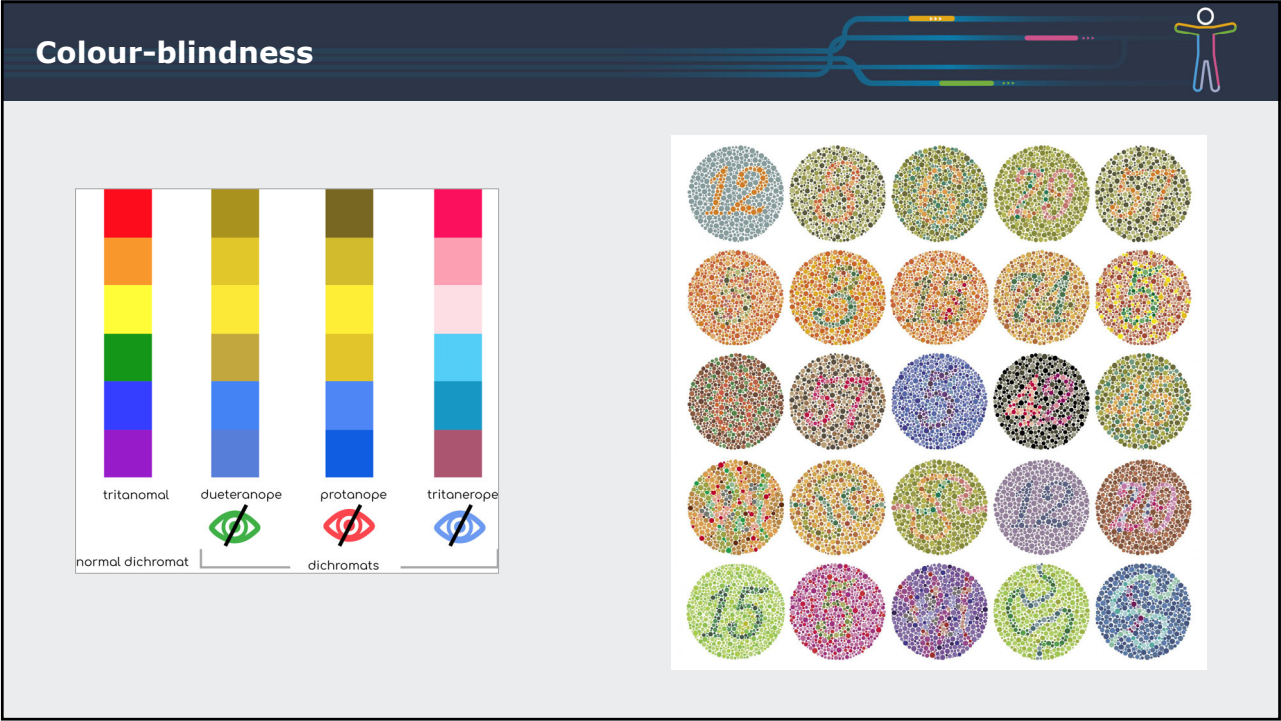| Good contrast	Good contrast	Good contrast
Bad contrast	Bad contrast	Bad contrast

✖ **NOT OK**   ✔ **OK**

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Colour-blindness

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Accessible publications
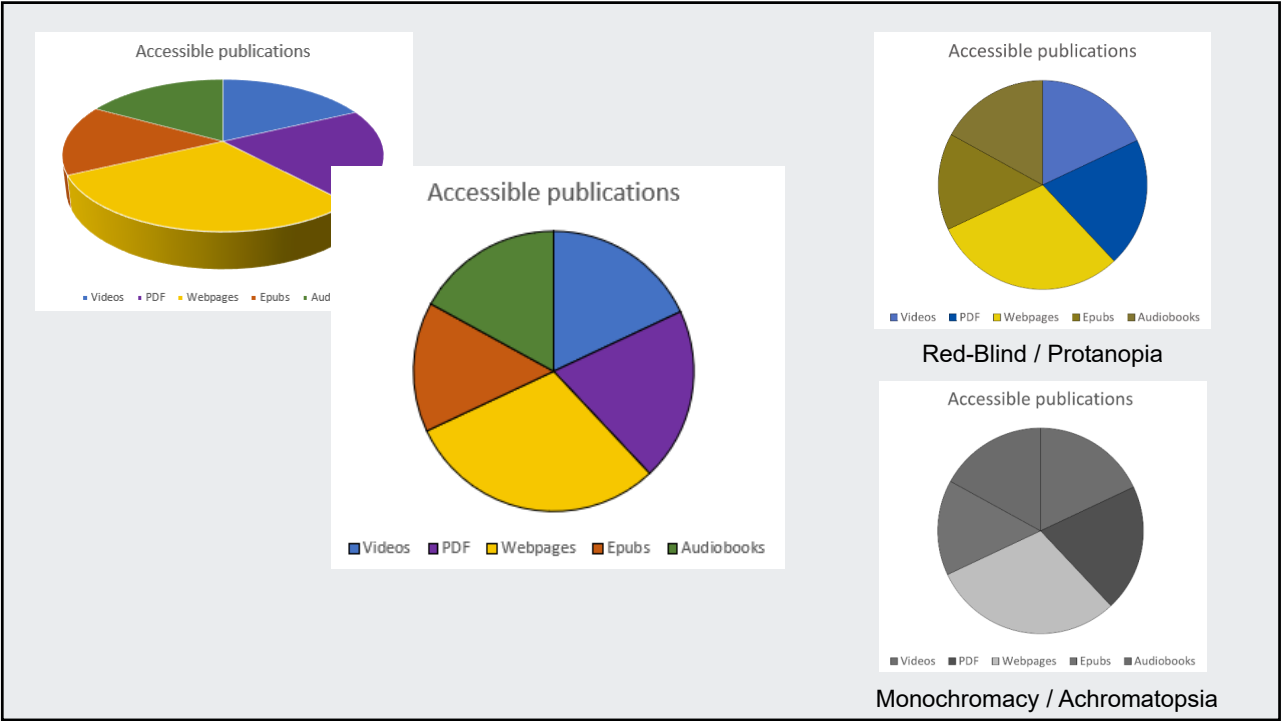
Red-Blind / Protanopia

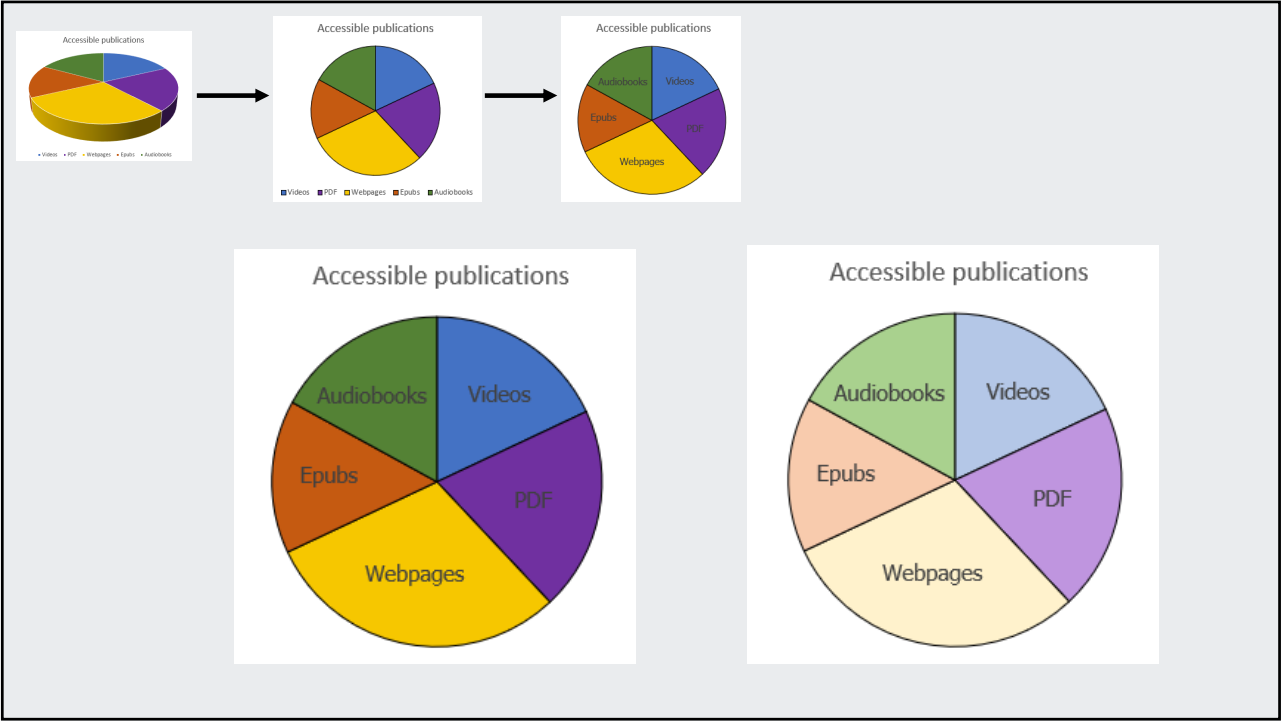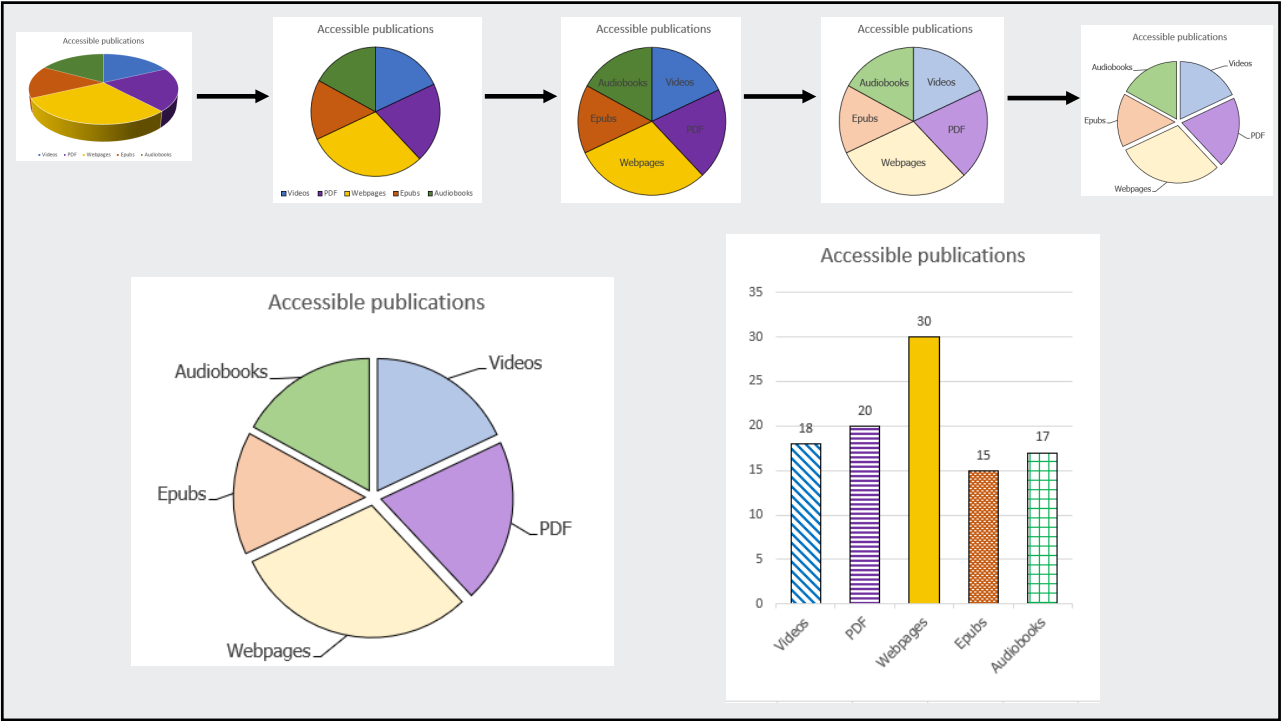Monochromacy / Achromatopsia

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Images and charts

Alternative text
- Provide alternative text to describe meaningful images and charts.
- Do not duplicate the text in the caption.

Artifacts
- Indicate which images are decorative and must be excluded from the reading order.

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Alternative texts

- Meaningful images contain a caption for the people who can see. Therefore, the alt text have to include other type of complementary information depending on the context.

  – For simple images, describe the image, focusing on what is important in the current context.

  – For complex images, such as graphs, maps or math formulas, a more extensive description is needed.

$$\Delta \ln MFP_t \equiv \Delta \ln V_t - \ \bar{v}_{K,t} \Delta \ln K_t - \ \bar{v}_{L,t} \Delta \ln H_t$$

Accessible publications

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Questions?

OP-ACCESSIBLE-PUBLICATIONS@publications.europa.eu

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