



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union

# The development of the rights in education of children with disabilities in Russia

Elena Shinkareva  
European Association for Education Law and Policy  
Institute of Open Education

# Education Act of 1992

- For citizens with a developmental deficiency the state creates conditions for education, correction of the developmental deficiency, and social adaptation by means of special pedagogical methods (Art.5 (6))
- For students with deficiencies in their development, agencies of educational administration set up special educational institutions (classrooms, groups), assuring the treatment, education and instruction of these students, as well as improving their social adaptation and integration in society. The norms for financing such institutions are higher than the average ones....

# Education Act of 2012

- In order to realize the right of everyone to education federal authorities, authorities of subjects of the Russian Federation and local governments:
- 1) create the necessary conditions for quality education for persons with disabilities without discrimination, for the correction of developmental disorders and social adaptation, provision of early correctional assistance on the basis of special pedagogical approaches and the most suitable for these persons languages, methods and means of communication and conditions most conducive to education at a certain level and a certain direction, and social development of these persons, in particular by means of organization of inclusive education of persons with disabilities; (Art. 5 (5))
- Special conditions for education of ChWD include... (Art. 79)

# Strategic points

- financial support for regular schools educating ChWD (3,4 in AO)
- hold and support the system of special schools and educational institutions (kindergartens, professional institutions, boarding institutions), particularly as resource centers
- enrolment model - the right of parents to choose between regular or special school for the child
- professional support for teachers (systemic in-service training including knowledge on psychology and pedagogics of educating ChWD)

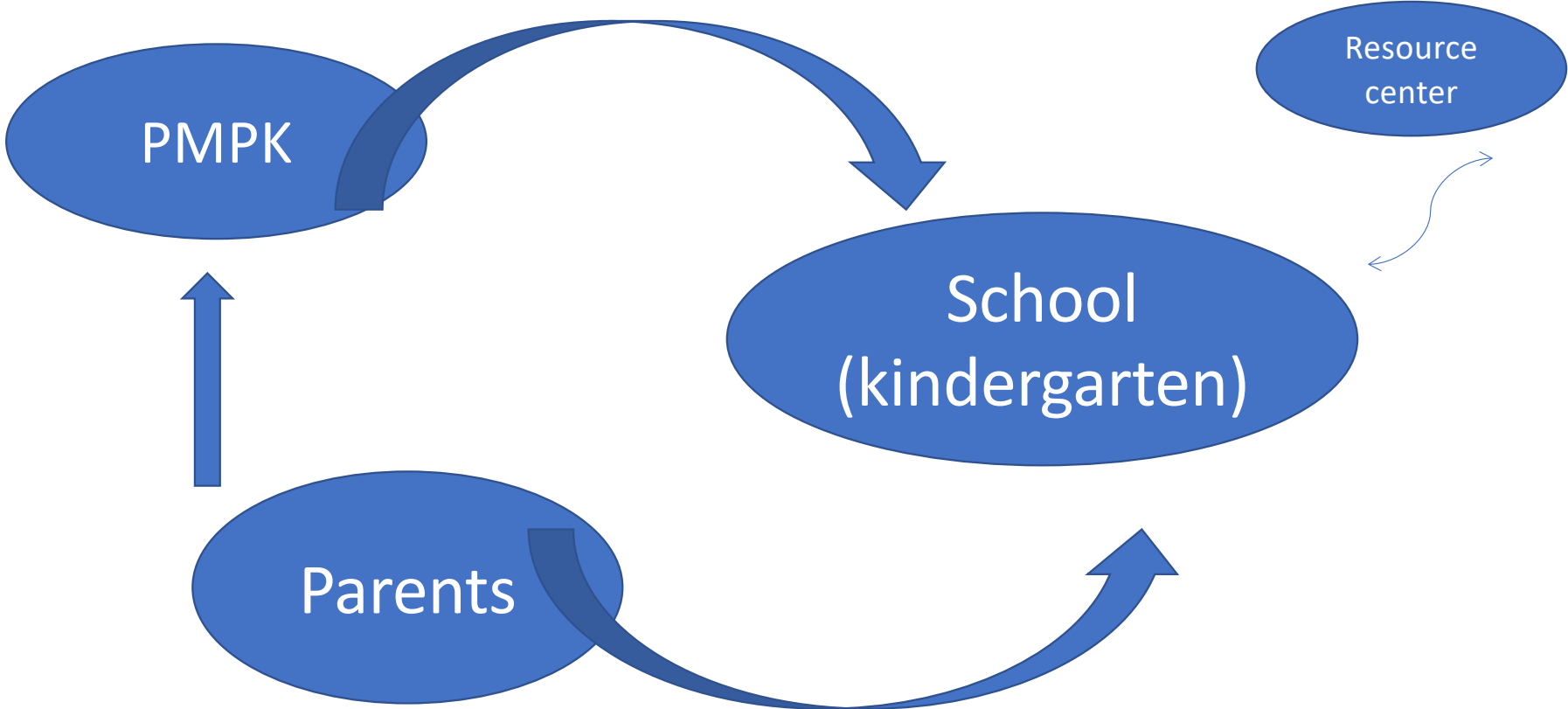
## Rights of ChWD in education:

- right to measures of special support:
- 2) providing conditions for training, taking into account the peculiarities of their mental and physical development and health, including the provision of social, educational and psychological assistance, free psychological, medical and pedagogical correction; (Art. 34)

# Rights of ChWD in education:

- special conditions for education of students with disabilities include:
- special educational programs and methods of training,
- special textbooks, tutorials and teaching materials,
- special technical means of training,
- assistant services (assistant), providing the necessary technical assistance,
- group and individual correctional lessons,
- access to buildings, and other conditions, without which it is impossible or difficult to master the educational program (Art. 79)

# Model of provision of “special conditions”



## Rights of ChWD in education:

- Sign language (right to use SL as a language of communication, right to sign-language interpreter and interpretation for blind-deaf students)
- Access to Brail books and literature, special libraries to be run by the regional authorities
- Training and vocational education of teachers and interpreters of sign language and language for deaf-blind students

# What is missing (in law and in practice)

- The right to participate equally in afterschool activities and supplementary education (extra education designed to develop creativity, individual talents)
- Accessible school transport
- Status of assistants in educational institutions is unclear
- Interagency cooperation (education, health, social welfare)

# Discussion

- “Best interests of the child” principle in education
- The right of the child to be heard and participation rights
- Monitoring of the process of making decisions and the adequate fulfilment of recommendations on special measures