



December 2017

Code of ethics for donations from external stakeholders

Who we are:

AGE Platform Europe (AGE) is an international non-profit association established under the Belgian law in 2001.

AGE is the largest independent network of seniors' organisations, and civil society organisations working with and for older and/or retired people in Europe. It brings together more than 120 organisations of people aged 50+ representing directly more than 40 million older citizens in Europe.

AGE believes that older people should be able to speak out on their own behalf. To this end, AGE places great importance on the leadership and active involvement of older people in all its activities. This is achieved through members' elected or mandated representatives at the General Assembly, Council of Administrators and Executive Committee. AGE work is informed by a large pool of some 300 experts nominated by AGE members and gathered in 7 tasks forces and 2 Policy Coordination Groups.

AGE is supported by a professional secretariat established in Brussels and led by the Secretary General.

What is our mission:

AGE Platform Europe aims to voice and defend the interests of older and retired people in the European Union and to raise awareness of the issues that concern them. AGE is involved in a range of policy, information and project activities to put ageing and older people's issues on the EU agenda and to support networking among older people's groups.



AGE work is co-funded by the **Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme** of the European Union.

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How is AGE funded:

In order to protect the independence and image of AGE as the voice of older people in Europe, AGE's regular policy work programme is mainly funded by membership fees, subscriptions and donations from members, and grants from public authorities (European, national or local), or other non-for-profit sources (at least 90%).

For selected projects or to support our general work, AGE may however receive both long-term and ad-hoc donations from other suitable external stakeholders provided the following principles are respected:

- it would not pose a threat to the independence or image of AGE as the independent voice of older people;
- from profit-donors AGE can only accept unrestricted grants;
- it would not jeopardise AGE's regular sources of income, present and future (EU grants and membership fees);
- it would not pose a threat to AGE members nor jeopardise their own fundraising activities;
- the donation is addressed to AGE and it does not bind AGE members,
- it complies both with EU and Belgian legislation,
- it is fully transparent. For that purpose, AGE will publish the list of donors on its dedicated "Donors" page which is publicly available on AGE website at <http://www.age-platform.eu/donors>
- the funds are clearly identified in AGE internal and public accounting documents,
- it does not create a monopoly of an external donor (donations should be diversified),
- AGE has the right to refuse a donation at any time if one of the above conditions is no longer fulfilled.



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How are decisions taken regarding external donations:

After having received from the Secretariat full information on the donation proposal, AGE Executive Committee decides on the recommendation to make to the Council who votes to take the final decision in accordance with the Statutes and Internal Rules.

The Secretariat is then asked to implement the Council decision and the Secretary General is mandated to accept the donation on behalf of AGE.



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