

Annual Report 2025

Full Version

English

AGE Platform Europe

www.age-platform.eu

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOREWORDS 2

By Heidrun Mollenkopf, President 2

By Maciej Kucharczyk, Secretary General 3

ABOUT AGE PLATFORM EUROPE 4

AGE IN NUMBERS 5

OUR WORK IN 2025

AGE EQUALITY 6

Historic Win for Older Persons' Rights: UN to draft a new Convention on the rights of older persons 6

AGE Proposal for an EU Action Plan to Combat Ageism 9

The launch of the Intergenerational Forum 14

Contribution to 3 key EU Equality Strategies 15

Victory for Equality: EU Keeps Anti-Discrimination Directive 17

The Promotion of Age Equality in Projects 18

EMPLOYMENT, PARTICIPATION AND SOCIAL INCLUSION 20

The launch of the edition 2025 of the AGE Barometer on employment 20

Tackling Old-Age Poverty - AGE Policy Paper 22

Significant actions in advocating for sustainable and quality working lives 23

DIGNIFIED & HEALTHY AGEING 25

Mental health should be a priority throughout the life-course – Position Paper 25

AGE contribution to the "Ageing is living" initiative by the WHO Europe 26

Strengthening partnerships & synergies for quality care & healthy ageing 27

AGE-FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENTS & ACCESSIBILITY 28

Participation in campaigns and events promoting digital inclusion for all ages 28

Relevant partnerships & synergies for age-friendly environments & accessibility 30

OUR NETWORK 32

FOREWORDS



Dr. Heidrun Mollenkopf

President of AGE Platform Europe

In 2025, AGE Platform Europe's work took place against a backdrop of growing geopolitical tensions, ongoing armed conflicts, financial crises and climate change. The declining political and financial support for institutions and organisations committed to the rule of law, democracy and equality – ranging from the United Nations to small local associations – is increasingly jeopardising the work of some of our members as well.

This made it all the more important for us to continue working hard towards our shared goal of a society for all ages. We are grateful that we can draw on the full range of support provided by older people and their organisations, and thereby also on the great diversity of our European cultures.

On this basis, **AGE has been able to make significant contributions to the adoption of key European and global measures**. These include the decision by the UN Human Rights Council to draft a legally binding instrument on the rights of older people through an Intergovernmental Working Group (IGWG). Furthermore, it was agreed that the European Commission would continue to work on the European Horizontal Equal Treatment Directive. AGE members also made significant contributions to the further development of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA) and its Regional Implementation Strategy in the UNECE region.

I would also like to highlight the Action Plan Against Ageism that we developed in 2025 and the new AGE Barometer on older workers in a digitalised world of work.

Last but not least, we are delighted by the interest shown by Members of the European Parliament in our work to promote intergenerational solidarity and fairness. The work in the Intergenerational Forum got off to a very promising start.

These positive developments allow us to confidently take the next steps towards a future in which all generations can live in peace and freedom, with equal rights and opportunities.



Maciej Kucharczyk

Secretary General of AGE Platform Europe

The year 2025 was once again marked by tireless efforts to promote ageing as an opportunity for our societies. Against this backdrop, we undertook an internal review of our strategic priorities, which led to the development of AGE's new strategy entitled 'Towards a Society for All Ages 2026–2030'. As Europe's largest network voicing the aspirations and needs of older people, and united by this positive vision, we will harness our collective strength to drive change in line with this vision and make a lasting impact on people's lives.

We have also continued our dialogue with the European Parliament, as part of its Intergenerational Forum. The commitment of a growing number of Members of the European Parliament has proved crucial given the lack of ambition in the Commission's proposal for an EU strategy on intergenerational equity. Although in 2025 we mobilised our members across the EU to contribute to the public consultation on this strategy, we are concerned that age equality remains largely invisible in this strategy that should have placed intergenerational equality at its heart.

At the international level, last year marked a historic milestone with the adoption by the United Nations of a resolution to establish an intergovernmental working group tasked with drafting a legally binding international instrument on the rights of older persons. **With this process now well under way, we will seize this historic opportunity to ensure that civil society and older people, in all their diversity, are fully involved in this process from the outset.**

We ended 2025 on another positive note in terms of funding, thanks to the renewal of support from the European Union and its CERV (Citizens, Equal Rights and Values) programme for the period 2026-2028. This EU support for civil society is crucial in these uncertain times, enabling us to exist and promote equality and solidarity across Europe and beyond.

With these various achievements of 2025, we are moving forward and working towards a more peaceful, equal, fairer and more prosperous **future for all generations**.

ABOUT AGE PLATFORM EUROPE

We are the voice of Older People in Europe



A society for all ages!

AGE Platform Europe (AGE) is the largest European network of non-profit organisations OF and FOR older people. We elevate older people's voice, bringing their experience and aspirations to the table to celebrate ageing and fight for equality at all ages.

Celebrating longevity

AGE celebrates longevity as one of the greatest achievements of humanity. Guided by the principles of dignity, solidarity and social justice, we seek to combat ageism and promote human rights throughout the life course, so we can all age with equal rights and opportunities and be valued for our contribution.

Older people as self-advocates

As 'experts' in their own lives, older people should be able to speak out on their own behalf and express their - very diverse - needs and aspirations. We empower older adults to assert their rights, make their voices heard, and actively participate in decisions that affect their lives. The leadership of older people and their active involvement is central to all AGE activities and work.

Read more on our vision & mission

Read more on AGE network in the last section of this report.

Short Version of the **Annual Report 2025**

Access the Short Version here

AGE IN NUMBERS



More than **275,000 people** were reached through our online and event activities



38 Public Events: AGE members and Staff took the stage to share expertise on key topics.



14 Task Force Meetings: Engaging **212** participants and producing **3** policy positions & **4** publications



1 Annual Conference: June 17, 2025: Intergenerational Solidarity in Europe - Multistakeholder Dialogue - **140 participants** on-site & online.



3 Webinars for AGE Members



8 contributions to European Commission consultations, **1** plea, **2** reports, **4** trainings and **16** deliverables



8133 Followers on Social Media



171.000 Website Views



102 Media Mentions and **7** interviews/articles accepted



11 EU Projects

AGE EQUALITY

In 2025, we achieved...

- Historic Win for Older Persons' Rights – UN to draft a new convention on the rights of older persons
- AGE Proposal for an EU Action Plan to Combat Ageism
- The launch of the European Parliament's Intergenerational Forum
- Contribution to 3 key EU Strategies
- Victory for Equality: EU Keeps Anti-Discrimination Directive
- Significant promotion of Age Equality in Projects

Historic Win for Older Persons' Rights: UN to draft a new Convention on the rights of older persons

For more than 15 years AGE Platform Europe alongside other civil society organisations have been calling for a **United Nations Convention on the Rights of Older People to ensure equal rights in old age**. In 2024, the UN Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing concluded its mandate and in 2025 our efforts shifted to the UN Human Rights Council (HRC), which met in Geneva for its 58th session from 24 February to 4 April 2025.

At the beginning of 2025, AGE Platform Europe launched a campaign calling on its audiences to mobilise at national level. Supporters were asked to request meetings with decision-makers and to seek their support for a resolution proposing a legally binding instrument on the rights of older people. These advocacy efforts were successful. **On 3 April 2025, the UN Human Rights Council adopted by consensus a decision to set up a working group to start drafting a UN Convention on the human rights of older persons**.

14 EU Member States co-sponsored the resolution - the highest level of European support recorded to date - underscoring growing regional commitment to strengthening the rights of older persons. This was a **historic milestone**, following many years of advocacy by AGE Platform Europe, older persons, civil society organisations, and allies worldwide.

Key Activities

- **Advancing the Convention Process:** Following this milestone, we have worked with our members and civil society partners to ensure that the lived realities of older people are reflected in the draft Convention text. With our members, we developed a strategy to support the negotiations at EU and national level and established an **Ad Hoc Task Force on the UN Convention on the Rights of Older People**, composed of 25 members. The Task Force held its first session in early 2026 and prepared the next steps for our advocacy.
- **Dedicated webpage**: "Making Way for a UN Convention on the Human Rights of Older Persons" This page provides regular updates and explains how people can get involved.

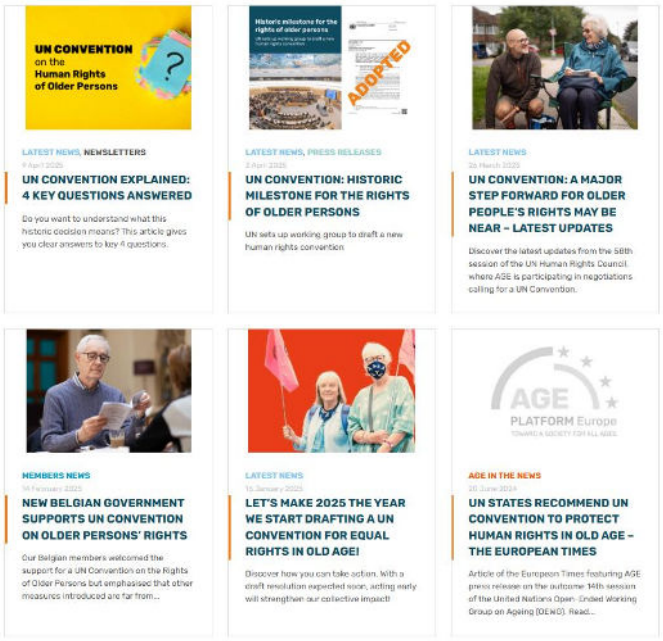








- **Animated video:** A dedicated illustrated video was produced to explain what a UN Convention is and why a UN Convention on the Human Rights of Older Persons is crucial to ensure that everyone can age with rights and dignity.
- **Widespread dissemination:** We shared articles and social media posts on our accounts, which were also distributed by AGE members at national level. We also issued a press release, which led to coverage in some media outlets, including highlights in El País and La Vanguardia.



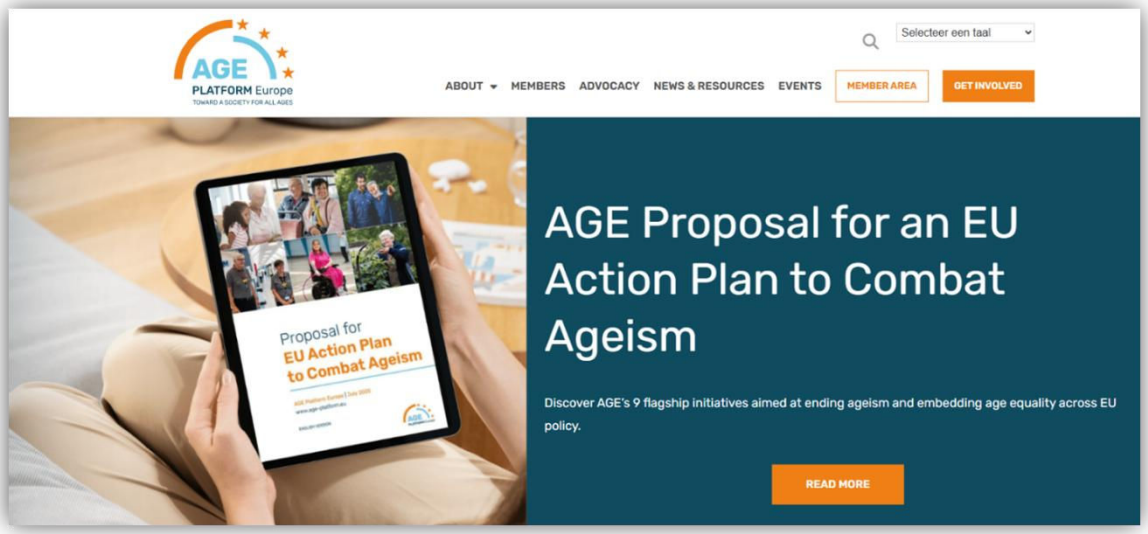
AGE Proposal for an EU Action Plan to Combat Ageism

Following the public consultation launched by Commissioner Glenn Micallef, inviting civil society to contribute with concrete actions to a future "*where generations unite for a flourishing society*", AGE actively engaged with its members to ensure that older people's perspectives and lived realities were well represented in the development of the **EU's Intergenerational Fairness Strategy**.

Our contribution, which was the most widely supported in the consultation, proposed the adoption of an **EU Action Plan to Combat Ageism**. It includes nine practical, high-impact flagship initiatives aimed at ending ageism and embedding age equality across EU policies.

We have widely disseminated this proposal through bilateral meetings at multiple levels of the European Commission, as well as by submitting contributions through the European Commission's Citizens Engagement Platform at different stages of the process. AGE also participated in meetings organised by the Joint Research Centre within the framework of the Intergenerational Fairness Strategy Insights Coalition.

In addition, AGE members across several EU countries have advocated for the proposal at national level.



Key Activities

- **Joint Policy Roundtable on Age Discrimination:** On 6 February 2025, we co-hosted the session *The missing piece in striving for equality in Europe: the case of age discrimination*, highlighting the urgent need to strengthen the protection of older persons' rights and address age-based discrimination in Europe. The event gathered civil society organisations, equality bodies, national human rights institutions, and European and international policymakers. Participants expressed broad consensus on the need for a strategic shift in the EU's approach to age discrimination, including the development of a dedicated EU Action Plan to Combat Ageism - one of the central recommendations reflected in the event's report.





- **14th German Senior Citizens' Day**: On 3 April 2025, AGE Platform Europe and its German member BAGSO brought together experts, policymakers, and advocates from across Europe to discuss ways to confront one of the most persistent and overlooked human rights issues in ageing societies: age discrimination. Held at the Congress Center Rosengarten, the European conference spotlighted growing concern over systemic ageism - and the urgency to respond with policy, practice, and global commitment.

- **AGE Annual Conference 2025**: On 17 June 2025, we organised our Annual Conference entitled *Intergenerational Solidarity in Europe - Multistakeholder Dialogue*. We gathered the testimonies from 9 individuals - both younger and older people - to talk about their perspectives and lived experiences of intergenerational solidarity. These testimonies were recorded as videos through a series of bilateral interviews with the individuals concerned and are available online here.





- **Campaigns**:
  - AGE has been actively working on raising awareness about the impact of fostering intergenerational solidarity in our society, as it is a powerful tool for combating ageism. The cornerstone of this work is the **European Day of Solidarity between Generations**, celebrated every year on April 29th since 2009. For 2025's campaign ***"Uniting Generations"***, we showcase AGE members joining forces with different generations in a visual campaign that highlights the importance of connecting across different age groups. This demonstrates that people of all ages share common goals, such as: Quality and accessible healthcare, Accessible housing, Gender equality, Combating ageism... plus much more.

- Additionally, we marked the **International Day of Older Persons 2025**, celebrated on 1 October 2025, by launching our proposal for an EU Action Plan to Combat Ageism. The campaign ***"Celebrating Ageing Together"*** involved AGE members sharing personal testimonies, alongside policymakers who contributed video messages. These included **Hadja Lahbib, EU Commissioner for Equality, Preparedness and Crisis Management** and **Sirpa Rautio, Director of the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)**. For the first time, the European Parliament's Plenary also held a debate on International Day of Older Persons.

- **Animated video**: We also produced a video to engage policymakers, stakeholders and the wider public. It highlights the EU's historic opportunity to lead by example by developing a comprehensive EU Action Plan to Combat Ageism.
- **Joint Letter to Commissioner Lahbib**: Our call for an EU Action Plan has been strongly supported by key civil society partners, including ERGO Network, the EuroCentralAsian Lesbian Community (EL*C), the European Disability Forum (EDF), the European Network Against Racism (ENAR), the European Women's Lobby (EWL), ILGA Europe, OII Europe, and Equinet. Together, we addressed a joint letter to Commissioner Lahbib, urging her to propose an Action Plan and emphasising that combating ageism is a shared priority across all generations and population groups.





- **World Social Summit 2025:** From 4 to 6 November 2025, **our President, Heidrun Mollenkopf, represented AGE Platform Europe and BAGSO** in Qatar at this event organised by the United Nations. The Summit brought together around 14,000 participants, including 40 Heads of State and 170 Ministers from 173 governments, to help shape a more inclusive, resilient and sustainable future. Our President emphasised the importance of ensuring that older people's voices are heard, recognised and actively included in this global dialogue to build a society for all ages.
  Through her participation, President Heidrun Mollenkopf contributed to two key Solutions Sessions of the Summit: *Longevity Levers: Unlocking Strategies for a Healthier, Wealthier and More Sustainable Future* and *The Future of Work, Care and Intergenerational Solidarity in Ageing Societies*.









The launch of the Intergenerational Forum

The European Parliament Intergenerational Forum was launched on **7 October 2025** as part of the celebrations marking the International Day of Older Persons.

Led by Members of the European Parliament **Idoia Mendia Cueva** and **Michał Szczerba**, the Forum focuses on key topics such as ageing, longevity, healthy ageing, the rights and social inclusion of older people, and solidarity between generations. It serves as a platform for democratic and pro-European parties to discuss these issues, exchange ideas, and propose new actions and initiatives.

Building on the work of the former Interest Group "Europe for All Ages", the Forum aims to help shape the EU Strategy on Intergenerational Fairness. AGE Platform Europe continues to play an active role in this initiative.





Key Activities

- The Interest Group 'Europe for all ages' held two events in the first half of the year, one in March focussing on security and the programme of the Polish presidency of the EU Council and another one in June on employment and innovation
- Individual members, organised discussions on intergenerational fairness, a possible EU pensioners' card or legal capacity
- Ms Mendia and Mr Michał Szczerba - Co-Chairs of the Interest Group 'Europe for All Ages' officially launched the Forum in the presence of Commissioner Glenn Micallef, responsible for intergenerational fairness, and Commissioner Dubravka Šuica, responsible for demography, as well as representatives of AGE Platform Europe and the European Youth Forum.

Contribution to 3 key EU Equality Strategies

AGE has submitted input to consultations related to 3 key European Union strategies in 2025:

- The EU Gender Equality Strategy 2026-2030
- The EU LGBTIQ Equality Strategy 2026-2030
- The EU Anti-Racism Strategy, the first-ever comprehensive strategy to address racism, building on the Anti-Racism Action Plan, which will expire at the end of 2025

In each of these, we have highlighted the often-overlooked realities, lived experiences, and issues of older people, ensuring that ageism, as well as multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, are recognised and addressed. These 3 contributions underline that ageism intersects with other forms of discrimination and must be systematically addressed.

All of our contributions are available on our website.

Key Activities

- **Gender Inequality in Old Age – AGE advocacy tool:** AGE has prepared this 2-pager highlighting the state of older women's human rights in Europe across key areas: Employment and social protection, Long-term care, Gender-based violence, Digitalisation, Poverty and Social exclusion. This document is a powerful advocacy tool, providing key statistics and recommendations aligned with various equality strategies, notably the European Gender Equality Strategy.
  AGE shared it with Members of the European Parliament and the European Parliament Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality to raise awareness of these issues. Additionally, AGE launched the special article *"What if Older Women Enjoyed Equal Rights?"* on the occasion of International Women's Day 2025.

- **AGE Platform Europe has taken part in the EU Anti-Poverty Strategy Coalition**: Ahead of the milestone launch of the first-ever EU Anti-Poverty Strategy in 2026, a diverse group of EU-level civil society organisations has come together under the EU Anti-Poverty Strategy Coalition. The goal is to advocate for a strategy that is ambitious, comprehensive and rights-based through a range of coordinated communications. AGE is actively participating in the coalition to remind the need to tackle poverty at all ages, including in old age.

Victory for Equality: EU Keeps Anti-Discrimination Directive

In a significant development for equality in Europe, the European Commission has decided not to withdraw the long-stalled Horizontal Equal Treatment Directive from its 2025 Work Programme. This follows the unexpected mention in the Commission's February 2025 agenda that the directive would be withdrawn.

This decision followed months of sustained pressure from the European Parliament, and civil society, and marked a critical moment in the fight to strengthen legal protection against discrimination in Europe.
The Commission's reversal reflects the impact of sustained advocacy by equality networks, including AGE Platform Europe, alongside other civil society partners and Members of the European Parliament. Through joint statements, a citizens' petition, direct engagement, and coordinated pressure, together we ensured that this key equality legislative proposal remained in the EU political agenda.

Against this background, the European Parliamentary Research Service (EPRS) published assessing the potential impact of the proposed horizontal EU directive on equal treatment outside employment, including age as a protected ground, and citing AGE's work in this area.

The Promotion of Age Equality in Projects

AGE is involved in EU projects to bring age equality to a broader audience, sharing older people's perspectives and involving them in collaboration with researchers, industry, and NGOs. In 2025, raising awareness of multiple discrimination against older people remained one of our key objectives.

> Discover the main resources and outputs of our European projects

With Marvow 2.0, the gender dimension continued to be mainstreamed across our activities aimed at improving the coordinated response to address violence against older women. In 2025, we co-developed a training for civil society organisations. The project also allowed to further advocacy on the invisibleness of older women in data, namely the EU gender-based violence survey, and developed policy recommendations.

Through our work on "FutuRes – Towards a Resilient Future of Europe", we contributed to incorporate age equality and intergenerational fairness in research. In 2025, we co-organised the project's final stakeholder conference which provided an opportunity to present the project's research findings while reaffirming the need for an EU Action Plan to Combat Ageism in the presence of more than 100 stakeholders.

In 2025, we kicked off the StratAGEic project with our partners to build capacity for strategic litigation among civil society organisations representing and working with older persons. With the aim to equip older people and their organisations with practical tools to sustain age equality via litigation, the project offers a training on strategic litigation, a peer learning workshop, a training on the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, and tailored mentoring .



AGE continued to support an important study on age discrimination in the European Union, initiated by the European Commission's DG Justice & Consumers. In 2025, we reinforced the call for individuals and civil society organisations to contribute their input, and contributed to the mapping of civil society activities, analysis and recommendations. The resulting Study on discrimination on the grounds of age in the EU was published in November 2025 and echoes some of our calls including for a comprehensive strategy on age equality, supporting the UN Convention on the Rights of Older Persons and finding an agreement on the Horizontal Equal Treatment Directive.

In 2025, the **GOLD Project** - focused on improving the experiences of people getting older with a disability - moved forward significantly. Together with our project partners, we worked to identify inspiring practices from 7 countries in Europe and gather meaningful insights. We collected 23 good practices, conducted 45 qualitative interviews with people ageing with disabilities, professionals and caregivers, and analysed testimonies while mapping training needs for professionals. These efforts have helped shape three key outputs: a Desk Research Report, and a follow-up Synthesis Document which includes explanations of essential concepts related to ageing with disabilities, practical guidance, examples of inspiring practices, and testimonies that help better understand the challenges individuals face and highlight useful ideas and resources for professionals .

EMPLOYMENT, PARTICIPATION AND SOCIAL INCLUSION

In 2025, we achieved...

- The launch of the *AGE Barometer 2025*
- The publication of the policy paper *Tackling Old-Age Poverty*
- Significant actions in advocating for sustainable and quality working lives, with AGE at the heart of EU policy discussions

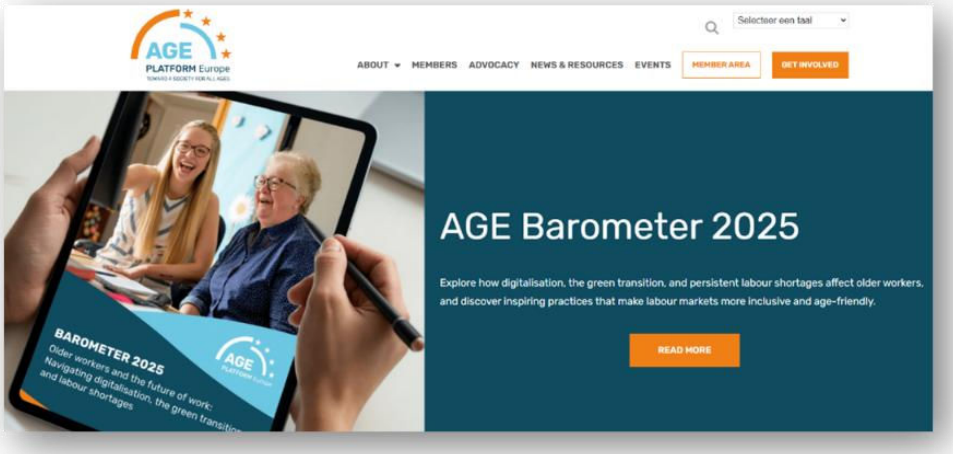
The launch of the edition 2025 of the AGE Barometer on employment

The edition 2025 of the **AGE Barometer on employment** was publicly released on 27 November 2025 on our website, social media and external newsletter, CoverAGE. This edition was focused on ***"Older workers and the future of work: Navigating digitalisation, the green transition, and labour shortages"***.

It explores older workers' perspectives, experiences, and the barriers they continue to face in a rapidly shifting world of work. **It also showcases inspiring practices and policy recommendations**, thanks to the expertise and dedication of our **Employment and Participation Task Force members**. They have indeed played an active role in the creation and publication of the Barometer, meeting in person in Brussels and online to discuss the structure, the content and the recommendations.



Before the public release, we organised a presentation exclusively for Task Force members to present the final version of the document and the advocacy and communication materials prepared for them. These materials were shared to support members' communication at national level and included one-pagers, ready-to-use visuals, text for social media and websites, and a PowerPoint template for public presentations. Further materials are due to be released in 2026.







Tackling Old-Age Poverty - AGE Policy Paper

In light of the European Commission's commitment to launching the first-ever EU Anti-Poverty Strategy in 2026, AGE Platform Europe released a policy paper in 2025 highlighting the urgent challenges faced by older people at risk of or already living in poverty, and presented recommendations to tackle old-age poverty.

Our policy paper calls for an Anti-Poverty Strategy that **recognises and tackles ageism as a major obstacle in the fight against poverty among older persons**, adopts a human rights-based approach, promotes decent work by guaranteeing fair wages, supports the implementation of universal health coverage, addresses the causes of energy poverty, and guarantees the **right to participate at all ages**. It also calls for particular attention to older women, addressing the significant gender pay gap, which affects pensions and contributes to a higher risk of poverty among older women, among other recommendations.

Significant actions in advocating for sustainable and quality working lives, with AGE at the heart of EU policy discussions

In 2025, we have been at the forefront of key dialogues with European institutions, advancing the case for more inclusive, age-friendly and sustainable working lives.

Key Activities

- **Tackling ageism and seizing digital opportunities - Polish Presidency Conference, Warsaw**
  At the Polish Presidency conference on *"Building the Digital Future in Occupational Safety and Health"*, held in Warsaw on 3-4 April 2025, AGE Policy Officer Sarah Loriato took part in a dedicated session titled "*The Potential of the Silver Economy*. She presented concrete recommendations from the AGE Barometer 2023 to ensure that older workers are not left behind in the digital transition.
- **AGE introduced its recommendations to the EPSCO Working Party on Age-Inclusive Employment**
  We shared findings from the AGE Barometer 2023, which highlight ageism, a lack of support in the labour market, and non-adapted workplaces as key barriers for older workers. These findings were referenced in the Council of the European Union Conclusions on supporting older people in reaching their full potential in the labour market and in society.
- **Engaging with the European Commission on key employment and social initiatives**
  AGE Secretary General Maciej Kucharczyk and Policy Officer on Employment Sarah Loriato met with the Cabinet of the Executive Vice-President for Social Rights and Skills, Quality Jobs and Preparedness, **Roxana Mînzatu**.

- **AGE joins the new PROMISE project to address challenges posed by an ageing workforce in the manufacturing sector in the EU**
  We will contribute with our policy work and insights from our Barometers, as well as lead a transnational training session in Brussels in 2026.
- **AGE participated in the "Healthy Workplaces Good Practice Exchange" event organised by EU-OSHA in Brussels at the end of May 2025.**
  AGE's involvement in the EU-OSHA campaign aimed to highlight the challenges and opportunities that the digital transition is bringing to the ageing workforce. AGE reminds the crucial need for a human rights-based and person-centred approach that values workers of all ages, including older workers, and ensures that the benefits of digital innovation are accessible to all.
- **AGE proposal to the new European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan**
  In June 2025, the European Commission launched a public consultation and call for evidence in June 2025, inviting civil society organisations, stakeholders, and citizens to contribute their views on the impact of the previous European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan and priorities for the future. We shared a comprehensive proposal for this upcoming revision in a document outlining a bold and inclusive vision to ensure that social rights are upheld for people of all ages, particularly older adults who are often overlooked in EU policymaking.

DIGNIFIED & HEALTHY AGEING

In 2025, we achieved...

- The publication of the position paper on Mental health
- AGE contribution to the "Ageing is living" initiative by the WHO Regional Office for Europe
- Relevant partnerships & synergies for Dignified & Healthy Ageing

Mental health should be a priority throughout the life-course - AGE Position Paper

AGE has discussed at length with its members of the **Task Force on Dignified and Healthy Ageing** the specific mental health challenges faced by older persons and has developed recommendations for European, national and local policy levels to ensure that older people are fully included in mental health policies being developed across Europe, as outlined in this position paper.

The contribution of the Task Force members has been key and instrumental in the development of this policy paper.

In a context where policy often focuses primarily on competitiveness, it is important to highlight that investment in mental health leads to better employment and career trajectories, reduces health and care costs, and enables everyone to participate fully in society.

Based on the paper, AGE can work with other partners in calling for an explicit EU policy promoting mental health for all.



AGE contribution to the "Ageing is living" initiative by the WHO Regional Office for Europe

To close the gap between longevity and well-being, the WHO Regional Office for Europe is developing the **Ageing is Living Strategy to give everyone the opportunity to add life to years, wherever they live**. This proposed strategy builds on four core action areas: prioritising prevention, transforming health and care systems, creating enabling environments, and reimagining age and ageing by tackling ageism.

In 2025, AGE actively worked alongside the WHO Regional Office for Europe and Member States in preparing the strategy.

Key Activities

- AGE actively participated in the online consultations held during the first half of 2025
- AGE organised a meeting with WHO Europe and its Council member in Copenhagen on 2 October 2025. This meeting provided an opportunity to discuss the priority actions for the strategy
- AGE coordinated a written statement ahead of the 2025 Regional Committee, together with 11 public health organisations
- AGE supported the oral statement delivered by EuroHealthNet at the 2025 Regional Committee



Strengthening partnerships & synergies for dignity & healthy ageing

- **First-ever European Parliament Plenary debate on the International Day of Older Persons**: while AGE was not invited, the members of the EP Intergenerational Forum successfully called for an official session during the EP's Plenary session in Strasbourg debating the international day of older persons and intergenerational fairness. AGE aims to hold such a debate once per year.
- **EU Multiannual Financial Framework**: AGE responded to the public consultations on the 2028-2034 framework, calling for mainstreaming ageing in all relevant EU policies, including promoting and supporting longer working lives and healthy ageing for all, accessibility, support for civil society and for intergenerational dialogue. For AGE, these priorities should be reflected in the European Social Fund, Erasmus, the next civil society programme AgoraEU, innovation funding and cohesion policies. AGE also warned warning against cuts to essential services such as social services. For AGE, the EU's budget needs to meet people's needs and expectations, thereby maintaining trust in the EU.
- **International Heat Action Day**: On 2 June 2025, we marked International Heat Action Day with a special article highlighting the impact of extreme temperature events, particularly on older persons in vulnerable situations, as well as people with diabetes, neurodegenerative diseases and other conditions. Together with our members, we collected recommendations for solutions to address heatwaves from an ageing perspective and called on the EU to encourage the development of such heat plans through a legislative initiative.
- **EU Navigate:** On 5 November 2025, EU Navigate gathered AGE members active on dignified and healthy ageing. The meeting explored enablers and barriers to implementing navigation services for older people with cancer, supporting good care and good quality of life.

AGE-FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENTS & ACCESSIBILITY

In 2025, we achieved...

- Participation in campaigns and events promoting digital inclusion for all ages
- Relevant partnerships & synergies for age-friendly environments & accessibility

Participation in campaigns and events promoting digital inclusion for all ages

We have been engaged in several campaigns and events raising awareness of the importance of ensuring a smooth digital transition for everyone, at all ages, building on our policy paper developed with our members on digitalisation and ageing, which includes recommendations to achieve this goal.

Key activities:

- We joined the launch of the "Right to Offline" campaign at the European Parliament, in Brussels, on 30 January 2025 as a partner. Organised by Lire et Écrire, the event highlighted the importance of guaranteeing access to essential services without always relying on digital technology. It called for offline alternatives to ensure that no one is excluded by digitalisation.
- AGE participated in an event at the European Parliament to launch the "Why Choice Matters" report, part of the Keep Me Posted Campaign, of which we are a partner. The report highlights the importance of allowing people of all ages to choose how they receive essential communications -

such as bank statements, government correspondence or invoices - by keeping paper-based options available.

- AGE co-organised the multi-stakeholder event "Harnessing Artificial Intelligence for All Ages: Addressing Ageism", held in Brussels on 15 May 2025 with AnyAGE.AI and Dr Vânia de la Fuente-Núñez. The event brought together policymakers, industry leaders, researchers and civil society organisations, including our President, Heidrun Mollenkopf. Discussions focused on the impact of ageism in artificial intelligence on older people, including how generative and predictive AI can be problematic, gaps in AI design and regulation, existing inclusive practices, incentives for industry to develop more age-inclusive products, and the role of standards in guiding AI systems towards greater fairness.









Relevant partnerships & synergies for age-friendly environments & accessibility

In January 2025, Ilenia Gheno, AGE Project Manager, delivered a training session on ***Developing and implementing age-friendly environments*** as part of the **AFC Toolkit project**. She introduced the training to over 100 participants from around the world, connected by the International Federation on Ageing. The training is available online on PC and smartphone in English, Spanish, Danish, Italian and Dutch. It takes approximately 40 hours to complete, including reading the additional materials. It is a self-paced course organised into five modules.

On 29 and 30 May 2025, Apolline Parel - Human Rights and Project Officer - delivered a **training on the human rights of older people in digitalisation**, as part of the Advisory Board of the **St@ndbyMe European project**. The session brought together a diverse group of stakeholders, including civil society representatives of older persons, service providers, and educators from Sweden, Germany, Greece, Czech Republic, Belgium and Estonia, all committed to strengthening the inclusion and rights of older people in an increasingly digital world.

AGE continued being involved in **AccessibleEU**, the European resource Centre on accessibility. Among the many activities carried out in 2025, AGE co-organised two major events: one related to the accessibility of banking services and one on the European Accessibility Act. Now a number of products and services have to comply with requirements outlined in the European Accessibility Act. For example, payment terminals, ticketing machines, smartphones, tablets, computers, as well as

electronic communication services, consumer banking services or specific elements of transport services related to information and ticketing.

On 18–19 September 2025, the consortium of the **"The Climate We Speak"** project, in which AGE Platform Europe is a partner, gathered in Wrocław (Poland) to define new ways to engage older people in the communication (and action) for the climate. The aim of the project is to break the climate silence and encourage older people to recognise the links between climate change and their lives.

OUR NETWORK

AGE MEMBERS



In 2025, AGE members demonstrated their strong commitment to building a Europe for all Ages.

OUR MEMBERSHIP

In 2025, our membership was composed of 110 organisations covering 30 countries in Europe. Among them, 71 organisations OF older people and 39 organisations working FOR older people, all non-profit organisations advocating for older people's rights, raising awareness on ageism and fighting against age discrimination, providing services to older people or active in the ageing field, established in Europe.

Meet our members on our website

OUR GOVERNING BODIES

General Assembly: gathering all AGE members which are all represented, the General Assembly meets annually to ratify the work programme, budget and applications for membership.

Administrative Council: meets twice a year and is responsible for the overall running of the organisation and the implementation of work programmes.

Executive Committee: meets four/five times a year and provides strategic guidance on advocacy work and ensures the smooth running of the organisation in accordance with the statutes and internal rules.

Accreditation Committee: is responsible for examining applications to membership.

Find more on our governance

TASK FORCES

A dedicated working group composed of members and AGE staff who collaborate on a specific thematic area or strategic issues, shaping AGE's positions.

- Dignified and Healthy Ageing
- Employment, Participation and Citizenship
- Age-Friendly Environments
- Adequate income and social inclusion
- Ad Hoc Task Force on a UN Convention on the Rights of Older Persons

OUR STAFF

Based in Brussels, **AGE Staff** is responsible for the day-to-day management of the association, the implementation of work programmes and for liaising with the EU institutions.

Meet our staff

OUR FUNDING

AGE's policy activities are co-funded by the internal incomes (membership fees and donations, 20%) and the support of the European Union (operating grant of the EU Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme, 80%). In 2025, we also received corporate donations from MED-EL, ESSITY and CAREIUM.

We also thank EU Institutions, including the Commission, the Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee, as well as the EU Presidencies, National governments and AGE members for their support in co-organising and co-hosting our advocacy events and governing body meetings.

AGE continued partnering on European projects. In 2025, we joined 11 European projects covering the topics of ageism, digital technologies, health and care, age-friendly environments, among others: AFC Toolkit, EU Navigate, EU Accessible, FUTURES, GOLD, Laurel, Mentoring Across Borders – MAB, Marvow 2.0, See U, Stand By Me, The Climate We Speak. AGE moreover contributed to a European Commission's tender on ageism and a CERV Project grant – StratAGEic: the power of strategic litigation to tackle discrimination in old age. AGE participation in EU-funded projects is mainly 100% covered by EU funding.

View all our projects here

MEMBERSHIP TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

AGE is a member of...

The Platform of European Social NGOs (Social Platform) is the alliance of representative European federations and networks of non-governmental organisations active in the social sector at European level. AGE's role in Social Platform is to voice older citizens' concerns and defend their rights.

The European Anti-poverty Network (EAPN), is an independent network of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and groups involved in the fight against poverty and social exclusion in the Member States of the European Union. AGE aims to bring the older people's perspective in EAPN's work and help develop solutions to prevent and address poverty and social exclusion in old age.

The WHO Global Network for Age-friendly Cities (WHO GNAFCC) and Communities was established in 2010 to connect cities, communities and organizations worldwide with the common vision of making their community a great place to grow old in. As a response to global population ageing and rapid urbanisation, it focuses on action at the local level that fosters the full participation of older people in community life and promotes healthy and active ageing.

The Global Alliance for the Rights of Older People (GAROP) is a network of over 400 members worldwide, united to strengthen and promote the rights of older persons. Its mission is to support and enhance civil society engagement with Member States and National Human Rights Institutions at national, regional and international levels around a convention on the rights of older persons, in which AGE is an active Member.

JOIN OUR NETWORK AND MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD FOR AGE EQUALITY!

AGE is a network of both organisations of older people and/or organisations working for them. Our primary objective is to promote the active involvement of older people. Given the great diversity present in older age, we want our network to be as inclusive and representative as possible!

WHY become a Member of AGE?

By joining our network, you will express your support and be able to:



Interested in becoming a member of AGE?

Become a Member

AGE PLATFORM Europe

Av de Tervueren, Tervurenlaan 168,
box 2 - 1150 Brussels, Belgium
Tel: +32.2.280.14.
Email the Secretariat

WWW.AGE-PLATFORM.EU

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