

Towards an age-friendly EU

AGE work in
2013



Our mission

AGE Platform Europe is a European network which aims to voice and promote the interests of the 150 million senior citizens in the European Union and to raise awareness on the issues that concern them most. Through its membership, AGE represents directly more than 30 million senior citizens across the EU.

AGE's work focuses on a wide range of policy areas that impact on older and retired people: anti-discrimination, employment of older workers, social protection, social inclusion, health, accessibility issues, new technologies and solidarity between generations.

Our vision and objectives

A comprehensive approach of ageing

Demographic ageing is changing our societies in fundamental ways. A comprehensive assessment and a reworking of our economic and social policy framework is needed if we wish to make our European social model sustainable and fair for all generations. This requires the adoption of a multidimensional approach to ageing and the involvement of all relevant actors including older people themselves in the design of solutions that are good for all age groups.

Demographic change as an opportunity

AGE sees the current demographic change as an opportunity to create an age-friendly society across the EU where all citizens, whatever their age, can enjoy equal rights and opportunities and are empowered to contribute to the wellbeing of their communities. Demographic ageing is too often perceived negatively and older people described as a burden to society and public budgets. This negative image does not do justice to the huge contributions older people make to society as workers, tax payers, volunteers, informal carers and consumers. A change of attitudes is needed to achieve an inclusive society and support greater solidarity and cooperation between generations.

Older people as self-advocates

AGE believes that older people should be able to speak out on their own behalf, in order to better defend their interests and express their very diverse needs. AGE therefore places great importance on older people's leadership and active involvement in all AGE activities and policy work.

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Foreword

Marjan Sedmak
President



Looking back, as we do with each yearly report, it appears that again in 2013 AGE Platform Europe dealt with many dossiers. But if I had to choose the most outstanding one, my vote would go to active citizenship not only because the European Commission decided to celebrate 2013 as the European Year of citizens. 2013 was the fifth year of crisis that brought many unpleasant surprises to the European population and particularly to older generations, to those who with decades of hard work brought enormous wealth to Europe and who rightly expected to enjoy their old age in accordance with their contributions to the wealth of their nation.

The crisis is not something to be left exclusively in the hands of the politicians, of those who hold the power. Years ago the notion of democratic deficit was raised, and the European Parliament was established – in the spirit of representative democracy – to bring the European Union closer to its citizens. What we were vigorously looking for in 2013 was more participatory democracy – 2013 was a year that raised awareness of the importance of active citizenship that gives a voice to every European citizen, of the role of civil society where everybody is called to participate, of the community where citizens can do something for each other from their own good will and free of constraint and charge, of a dialogue society where solutions did not come from the top but from inside the society.

It's not yet the world we are living in. But it's worth striving for it even in older age. For, what is quality of life? Adequate income in old age, for sure. But not only: citizenship, inclusion, health, environment, dignity and more – and all these are the chapters of the present yearly report. Let's follow this path in the year(s) to come.

Foreword

Anne-Sophie Parent
Secretary General



Those of us who thought that after an extremely busy European Year 2012 on Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations, 2013 was going to be “back to normal business” for AGE were wrong. 2013 was the European Year of Citizens and as all active citizens, older people wanted to bring their contributions to the debates on citizenship and to actively participate in making the EU more inclusive.

So 2013 quickly turned into an exceptionally busy time as well for all AGE members and Secretariat with the preparation of the forthcoming European Parliament elections and our campaign toward an age-friendly EU by 2020.

2013 was a great year for the advancement of older people’s rights at EU and international level with various processes in which AGE could contribute significant input. This annual report presents an overview of our main actions and achievements in the fields of non-discrimination and gender equality, human rights, employment and volunteering, life-long-learning, adequate pensions, quality of health and long-term care, accessibility of the built environment, transport and ICT, support to independent living, research on ageing, etc.

2013 was also the last year of our Strategic Plan 2011-2013 funded by an operational grant of the PROGRESS programme. We spent significant efforts to ensure that our network would be able to continue to fulfil its mission, i.e. to voice and promote the interests of the 190 million citizens aged 50+ in the EU and promote our members’ vision of a society for all ages.

Now that 2014 has arrived, we are supporting our members in their efforts to ensure that the European elections will deliver a Parliament that reflects the needs and expectations of older citizens, and we are building on the work done in 2013 to prepare the policy recommendations we want to address to the new EU Commissioners.

2013 helped us prepare for this key year with our members and we all hope that we can look together toward a better future for all EU citizens regardless of their age, gender, disability, race or ethnic origin, sexual orientation or religion.

2013 in figures

In 2013 AGE...

- organised 14 external events, some of which in cooperation with the European Parliament Intergroup on Ageing and Solidarity between Generations, the Committee of the Regions, the European Commission or research project partners;
- took part in more than 100 key EU and national events as speaker, moderator or rapporteur and publicized its research projects in more than 50 external events;
- wrote articles for more than 15 EU and national media;
- sent 11 monthly newsletters, CoverAGE (in 2 languages), and 11 Special Briefings (in 3 languages) to 2534 direct recipients as well as 5 project newsletters
- issued 12 press releases on various EU and international key events or policy developments and 12 newsflashes;
- reached more than 700 followers on Twitter
- produced 22 policy papers and 4 printed and online publications and 13 deliverables in the framework of EU research projects;
- answered 7 EU and global consultations on diverse issues which have an impact on older people;
- contributed directly to 20 European Parliament reports
- was involved in 15 large EU ageing projects;
- In touch with 38 different consortia for submission of tenders and proposals
- organised 7 statutory meetings and 12 AGE expert group meetings
- participated in 22 various consultative groups or advisory boards set up by:

The European Commission:

DG Justice:

- Dialogue on the use of age and disability in financial products
- Forum on article 5 of Gender Directive 2004/113/EC
- Steering Group on 'Awareness raising in the areas of non-discrimination and equality targeted at civil society organisations'

DG Health and Consumer Affairs and DG Communications Networks, Content and Technology:

- Action Group D4 of the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing (DG SANCO and CONNECT)
- e-Health Stakeholders Group
- European Health Policy Forum (DG SANCO)

DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion:

- European Pensions Forum (DG EMPL)

DG Internal Market:

- Financial Services User Group (DG MARK)

DG Energy:

- Vulnerable Consumers Working Group (DG ENER)

DG Enterprise:

- Expert Group on Senior Tourism

DG Communications Networks, Content and Technology

- ICT Standardisation Platform

The European Economic and Social Committee

- Liaison group with NGOs

The European Fundamental Rights Agency

- Fundamental Rights Platform

The European Medicines Agency

- WG of Patients and Consumers Working Parties

The European Railway Agency

- WG on Technical Specification on Interoperability – Persons with Reduced Mobility

The European consumer voice in standardization - ANEC

- Strategic Advisory Group on Accessibility – Mandate 473 on Design for All

The Ambient Assisted Living Programme

- Member of the Advisory Board of AAL Programme

More Years Better Lives Joint Initiative Programme

- Member of the Societal Advisory Board

The United Nations – Economic Commission for Europe (UN-ECE)**Generations and Gender Programme**

- Member of the Advisory Group

The World Demography & Ageing Forum (WDA)

- Member of the Advisory Board

The Council of Europe

- Drafting group of the Recommendation on the Rights of Older People

The Global Alliance for the Rights of Older People

- Steering Group of the Alliance

Highlights of the year



TOWARDS
AN AGE-FRIENDLY EU

A step towards an age-friendly EU

In 2013, AGE built on the momentum created by the European Year 2012 on Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations and the European Year 2013 of Citizens to promote its objective of an age-friendly European Union by 2020, i.e. to create a society for all ages where everyone enjoys equal opportunities to participate as active citizens in their community and in the labour market.

AGE managed to establish a constructive dialogue with public authorities, NGOs, service providers, industry, researchers, interested in the promotion of age-friendly environments (AFE) and to get high level political support as AGE Annual Conference held in May demonstrated, notably with the participation of Neelie Kroes, Vice-President of the European Commission. Other initiatives supported our objective such as the conference organised by AGE in Poland on "Age-friendly environments in response to demographic change" with key Polish policy makers, the Dublin EU Summit on Active and Healthy Ageing, and a dedicated session during the AAL Forum 2013.

Our campaign moved a big step forward thanks to the **European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing**, in particular in the framework of the action group dedicated to age-friendly environments set up upon AGE request. In 2013, together with a large consortium of stakeholders representing regions, cities, research centres and civil society organisations, AGE applied for funding to set up an EU thematic network on age-friendly environments and the launch of EU Covenant of mayors and regions on Demographic Change. This project called **AFE-INNOVNET** (for age-friendly environments innovation network) started on 1st February 2014. This is a unique opportunity for AGE to formalize its collaboration with the different stakeholders willing to join forces to create an age-friendly EU.

Towards enhanced EU senior citizenship and participation



AGE welcomed the **European Year of Citizens 2013** (EY2013) as an important opportunity to help its members engage senior citizens in the debate around the European elections 2014, as well as promote a stronger civil dialogue. In line with the article 11 of the Lisbon Treaty, active participation of all citizens and their representatives should become a principle of good governance and complement representative democracy.

Towards a stronger civil dialogue



In 2013, AGE joined the EY2013 Alliance and supported its Manifesto 'Towards a Democratic European Citizenship'. In particular, AGE contributed to the Alliance's reflection on citizens' participation and civil dialogue by coordinating the **Active Senior Citizens for Europe Project** (ASCE). Co-funded by the Europe for Citizens Programme, the ASCE project was launched in September 2013. It aims at raising awareness among older citizens on the role of the European Union by providing trainings on the European Union and tools on how older people can influence EU decision-making.

The training material is based on our brochure '[Active Senior Citizens for Europe](#)' and our '[Guide for civil dialogue on Promoting Older people's social inclusion](#)' both developed with the support of the PROGRESS programme. In 2013, AGE also launched a leaflet on active senior citizenship to support the project and mark the EY2013. It presents AGE work and recommendations to foster older people's participation and highlights AGE's activities to promote civil dialogue and the involvement of older users in EU projects.

Towards an Age-Friendly European Parliament

AGE got actively involved in the campaign on two fronts: providing trainings to senior citizens via the ASCE project and advocating for an **Age-Friendly European Parliament**. On 5 November 2013 at an event organised at the European Parliament AGE launched its [Manifesto for the European elections 2014](#) which is disseminated among political parties and candidate MEPs by AGE members. AGE also developed a [blog 'Towards an Age-friendly European Parliament'](#) as a platform for discussion between MEPs and older EU citizens. The blog seeks to help senior citizens understand how the EU affects their daily life and vote in a meaningful way at the next European elections.

AGE work in 2013 to promote...

> Human rights and non-discrimination

Within the EU

Non-discrimination in the workplace

AGE continued to gather examples about the impact of the Employment Equality Directive at national level, and responded to the European Commission's consultation. Our response looked at the impact that this directive has had on preventing and combatting age discrimination before and since the current crisis started, and also addressed the development of case law, drawing from several national examples provided by our members.

Equal access to goods and services

In 2013 we continued lobbying for the adoption of the draft equality directive which would cover areas outside employment. Joining a group of NGOs, we met the European Parliament (EP)'s rapporteur on the draft directive and we addressed a letter to the Lithuanian Presidency and the Council working group in charge of the negotiations seeking to improve the proposed text regarding preferential treatment by commercial actors and to strengthen the consultation with civil society.

Building synergies between EU's internal and external action on older persons' rights

On the International Day of Older Persons, AGE reiterated its call for the establishment of a multi-stakeholder dialogue group on the rights of older people, following a letter sent to Vice-President Reding and EU Special representative on Human Rights, Mr. Lambrinidis, after our General Assembly in May. With these letters we called on the EU institutions and Member States to establish a more effective mechanism to promote and protect the rights of older persons, improve coherence and transparency of EU action and ensure civil society consultation regarding how the EU is represented in international fora. As a result, in 2014 AGE will be invited to attend a meeting of the Council Working Party on Human Rights (COHOM), where the EU's position in the

UN Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing (OEWG) is defined, whereas an informal exchange with the EU Commission and other relevant stakeholders will take place in spring 2014.

Besides, AGE suggested amendments to a number of relevant EP reports and spoke at an EP event on 'Strengthening the Rights of Older Persons in Europe: Which Tools?', where we presented our views on a UN convention on the rights of older persons and highlighted how our Manifesto for the European elections aims to make older persons full actors of society with equal access to their fundamental rights.

Improving the visibility of ageing issues within FRA

Through our participation in the Fundamental Rights Platform and organizing a joint event with ILGA Europe on the rights of older LGBTI, AGE aimed at drawing the attention of the Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) to the specific challenges older people face to enjoy their rights. Responding to the agency's consultation on their annual report and future work plan, we moreover sent a series of letters to FRA's director asking for age to be treated as a cross-cutting topic and for FRA to take a stand in the global discussions on the rights of older people.

Focus on older women

AGE participated in two meetings with the European Institute for Gender Equality organised for Social Platform members, where we discussed ways to improve collaboration of civil society with the EU's agency in charge of women's issues. In addition we developed a joint paper with the European Women's Lobby on discrimination and challenges faced by older women, in particular in terms of social protection and health.

Influencing the European Structural Funds Regulation

Joining a coalition of European NGOs, AGE called upon the European Institutions to ensure that the inclusion of persons at risk of discrimination, the fight against poverty and social exclusion are supported by the EU Structural and Investment Funds. Moreover, together with disability and children's rights organisations we asked the EP to improve the draft Structural Funds regulation to achieve community living for all.

Consumers' rights

We proposed amendments and influenced a number of EP reports related to consumers rights, e.g. on payment bank accounts, package travel and assisted travel assistance, the new agenda for European

Consumer Policy, and consumer product safety, highlighting equality and accessibility issues. We were also consulted as member of the Vulnerable Consumers' Working Group of DG Energy and the Financial Services Users Group of DG Internal Market.

At global level

In 2013 AGE contributed to the finalization of the **Council of Europe (CoE)** Recommendation on the rights of older persons. We improved the text on autonomy and care based on our European Charter on the Rights of Older People in Need of Long-term Care and Assistance and the WeDO project. We also included reference to social and economic rights and added a provision on older persons' consultation prior to the adoption of measures impacting their human rights. The Recommendation has been adopted by the Committee of Ministers in 2014 and AGE members are now able to use it as an important policy and advocacy tool.

To improve our involvement in the CoE we applied and received the participatory status and we are now also able to lodge complaints to the [European Committee of Social Rights](#), which rules on the conformity of Members States to the European Social Charter. We have furthermore strengthened our collaboration with organisations working at the CoE, taking part in the annual meeting of the Conference of International NGOs.

At the **United Nations** level we contributed to the ongoing debate on a convention on the rights of older persons. We responded to UN consultations to feed into the discussions of the UN Human Rights Council and define which principles and rights should be included in a new legal instrument. We also participated in the 4th session of the OEWG in New York, where we gave oral statements and contributed to the interactive dialogue with civil society asking to include older people in national and regional delegations. Besides, in 2013 we were elected member of the Steering Group of the [Global Alliance for the Rights of Older People](#) and we participated in an international event organised by Helpage International on the human rights of older persons, on 29th April in Madrid.

> Citizenship and volunteering

In 2013, we supported the [EY2013 Alliance](#)'s objectives to strengthen participative democracy mechanisms and encourage a high participation in the European elections in 2014. Together with the other members of the Alliance, we advocated for citizenship to become a transversal dimension of European policies.

As announced in the Manifesto of the EY2013 Alliance, «active citizenship means primarily the active involvement of citizens as participation in the life of their communities, and thus in democracy, in terms of activity and decision-making». Therefore, we also promoted volunteering activities of AGE members on AGE website as an important expression of civic participation based on the value of solidarity.

Promoting older people's participation in the European elections



Encouraging European citizens to take part in the upcoming European Parliament elections is key if we want to ensure that the elections' results in 2014 will reflect what citizens really want. In 2013, AGE helped its member organisations to engage senior citizens in the debate around the elections, explaining them the impact of the EU in their daily life to demonstrate the importance to vote in 2014 and to remain involved in a close dialogue with their representatives (MEPs) to influence EU policy-making.

In 2013, AGE developed a [blog 'Towards an Age-friendly European Parliament'](#) as a platform for discussion between MEPs and older EU citizens on [AGE Manifesto for the European Parliament elections 2014](#). In 2014, the blog will also be used as a channel for sharing information on on-going campaigns for the elections and issues of concern for older persons in Europe. The tool will help raise awareness about EU policies and the reasons why citizens need to participate in a meaningful way in the upcoming elections.

Participative democracy mechanisms

Since elections are not the only way for citizens to influence decision-making processes, AGE also promoted civil dialogue as a tool to re-build the confidence of European citizens in the European project called Active Senior Citizens for Europe (ASCE).

Thanks to the ASCE project, in May 2013 AGE organised a European training workshop on the European Union. Inspired from the brochure '[Active Senior Citizens for Europe](#)', a first set of training tools was tested among the partners and other AGE members. The training presented the European legal framework, the European Institutions, the European policies which have an impact on older people, and provided tools on how to campaign for the European elections. The ASCE partners also visited the Parliamentarium to get a better understanding of the functioning of the European Parliament. After the workshop, the partners translated the brochure and the training material in their language and organised national and regional workshops on the European Union.

2014 will be a key year for the ASCE project, with more national trainings, a second European workshop and the final conference of the project in December. Beginning of 2014, to continue the work started in 2013, AGE launched a Task Force on "Active Citizenship and Participation" to support the project. It will help AGE members exchange examples of good practice and methods on how to involve older people in decision-making at local, regional, national and European levels. The Task Force will also support AGE's campaign for an age-friendly European Union, whose objectives are highlighted in the [Manifesto for the European Elections](#).

Promoting volunteering

Throughout the year, AGE promoted volunteering initiatives. In particular, we highlighted AGE members' initiatives to mark the European Day of Solidarity between Generations on the 29th of April and the International Day of Older People on the 1st of October. As highlighted in the EYV 2011 Alliance [Policy Agenda on Volunteering in Europe \(P.A.V.E\)](#) which AGE contributed to draft, volunteering is a demonstration of European values, providing a vehicle for active citizenship and contributing to economic and social-capital growth. The 29th of April and the 1st of October are two important annual occasions for AGE and its members to promote our campaign for an age-friendly European Union and raise awareness on our work and policy recommendations at national and local level.

> Age-friendly labour markets

AGE response to EC consultation on implementation of Employment Directive

With the support of its national members, AGE closely monitored the situation of older workers and identified the main obstacles they face to remain active, get new qualifications, maintain or find a job. Using our members' feedback AGE responded to the European Commission consultation on the implementation of the employment equality directive and our input was referred to in the Commission's report. More information can be found on our assessment in the section on fundamental rights.

Seminar on senior entrepreneurs on 30 May at the Committee of the Regions

Together with the Committee of the Regions (CoR) and our French member organisation Senior Entrepreneurs, AGE co-organised a seminar on the theme "Seniors entrepreneurs in support of youth employment". The seminar brought concrete examples of how retired entrepreneurs can support employment for younger cohorts, for instance through the creation of enterprises recruiting young graduates, peer-to-peer vocational training or transfer of knowledge and know-how. The seminar also made recommendations for local and regional authorities to support intergenerational job creation and for companies to manage age diversity.

Session on age-friendly labour markets at AGE annual conference.

Age-friendly labour markets and work places were among the main topics discussed at AGE's annual conference. Together with external guests and speakers, AGE members concentrated on possible measures to promote older workers' participation in employment while meeting their professional skills and physical capacities. Final recommendations on age-friendly working conditions at national and local level included: the promotion of health and safety at work; strengthening job security and fair compensation for those with informal caring obligations and corporate measures to help people back into labour market through occupational coaching. AGE members also insisted on the national and local authorities' responsibility to support employability in old age, job transitions and mobility from one job to another with a focus on active ageing.

> A genuine social dimension of the European Semester

Strengthen social dimension in Economic and Monetary Union

Responding to the EC Communication on the social dimension of the Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) we addressed a letter to President Barroso in October in which we welcomed the proposal to deepen social integration, including a key employment and social indicators scoreboard but called the Commission to go further and fully mainstream the social dimension into the EU economic policies through a binding mechanism.

To address properly the social dimension of Europe 2020, the Commission should mainstream all its social objectives in the economic processes of the European Semester. AGE members asked for common EU rules and procedures in the social field. The European Union is based on social rights and justice and, therefore, growth-friendly fiscal consolidation must be compatible with adequate social protection – both being equally necessary to achieve sustainable, smart and inclusive growth as set out in the Europe 2020 strategy.

Reflect social realities of older people in the Country-Specific Recommendations

Using grassroots-level evidence, AGE raised awareness of the social realities older people face across the EU by submitting to the European Commission recommendations to be considered in the Annual Growth Survey in anticipation to the 2014 European Semester on economic governance. In order to better illustrate our policy recommendations, AGE member organisations commented on their respective country's recommendations (CSRs) addressed by the Commission.

AGE highlighted that most Member States had failed in seizing the potential of older workers, combat effectively age-based discrimination in employment, facilitate reconciliation between family and working life, or improve older workers' employability. Many countries also miss to address the challenge of care provision for family members (including a constantly growing number of older dependents), which lies mostly on the shoulders of women aged 45+.

Regarding pension reforms, AGE questioned the Commission's approach, which focuses overwhelmingly on longer working lives and a closer link between the individual's contributions and pension benefits. We also warned against further increase in poverty rates among older people, mainly older women, if Member States are not encouraged to address gender inequalities in access to pensions.

We finally urged the Commission to use the European Semester to support national pension reforms so that they are not only financially sustainable or optimise labour supply over working life, but also guarantee an adequate income for current and future pensioners.

> **The right to adequate income and access to services in old age**

Age-friendly social protection systems to strengthen adequacy of old-age income

Monitoring Commission's and Member States' progress in implementing the agenda on pensions (White Paper), AGE continued calling for the creation of age-friendly social protection systems.

We reiterated our call for more ambitious initiatives at EU level to strengthen the safety of workers' savings and pensioners' entitlements in funded pension schemes. AGE also continued calling for more fairness in sharing the financial burden of state regulated pensions within and across generations and for a common European supervision of financial markets and institutions necessary to provide adequate protection of supplementary pensions systems and individual savings.

AGE took active part in a Peer Review on 'The right to retirement pension information' co-organised by the Commission and Spanish Ministry of Welfare in July at which we pledged for an improved financial literacy and guarantee of access to reliable information for both younger generations and pre-retirees. These are prerequisite for informed and forward-looking retirement planning and, in fine, for the safeguard of citizens' financial security and quality of life in old age.

AGE also insisted on a shared responsibility in providing information on pensions. Older people's organisations can help improve the understanding of pension reforms. More transparency and democratic scrutiny in pension reforms are key elements to raise citizens' awareness about pensions systems, as well as to build support for new approaches when reforming them.

Protect the most vulnerable and empower to participate in society

In the open letter addressed at the eve of the 3rd Annual Convention on Poverty, AGE called on policy makers at all levels to reconsider public spending as an investment for growth. To address the social consequences of the crisis, including on a growing number of older people, social spending, infrastructure and services must be maintained and improved, rather than dismantled.

Members representing AGE at the Convention recalled that the needs of most vulnerable older people (mainly older women and the so-called 'oldest old') must be addressed in line with the Europe 2020 objective on inclusive growth and for the benefit of all population and age groups. We asked national governments to reinforce their economic measures and reforms of public finances with genuine social measures which will aim at improving social conditions of all citizens at every stage of life.

AGE also pledged in favour of a direct voice of older people in policy making. The above mentioned EC communication on EMU had recognised the need to strengthen social dialogue, but contained no reference to the involvement of national parliaments, nor of the civil society in economic governance debate. At various occasions during 2013, AGE and its members expressed the request from many older citizens for more democratic scrutiny, in particular through the European semester and its National Reform Programmes - NRPs. A broad participation by older people and their organisations will indeed help reflect more accurately the needs and expectations of the rapidly growing ageing population and will in turn ensure that the measures adopted will deliver better social inclusion, social protection, and health and long-term care, as well as age-friendly labour markets.

AGE thematic seminar 'Age-friendly environments in response to demographic change – good practice in Poland and EU'

Building on the success of the 2012 European Year in Poland in raising public awareness about older people's rights and responsibilities, their place in ageing societies, but also in mobilising various actors into this debate, AGE and its Polish member organisations co-organised with the Warsaw School of Economics (SGH) a thematic seminar on 'Age-friendly environments in response to demographic change – good practice in Poland and EU' on 14 June 2013 in Warsaw, Poland.

The seminar gathered some key representatives from Polish public institutions and authorities from ministerial and municipal level (National Ombudsman, Vice Minister of Social Affairs and Employment and Vice Mayor of Warsaw), academics from the SGH's Institute of Social Economy, the Polish Society of Gerontology and the National Bank of Poland. Other representatives of civil society active in social inclusion in Poland were also present.

The seminar was the opportunity to exchange on practical solutions to address the demographic challenge and promote rights of older people, in particular of the most vulnerable. A wide range of issues were raised: fight against elder abuse, employment opportunities for the generation 50+, adaptation of urban policy and the provision of social service for older people, role of the civil dialogue on ageing etc. Particular attention was paid to the financial education of older people and to provide them with financial services suiting their specific needs. The solutions discussed in Warsaw led to new recommendations on how to pursue AGE's campaign to create Age-Friendly Environments across the EU.

> Healthy Ageing

European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing

End of November 2010 with the release of the flagship initiative “Innovation Union”, the European Commission launched a pilot European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing (EIP AHA). The overarching target of this pilot partnership is to increase the average healthy lifespan by two years by 2020.

Since the beginning AGE has devoted a lot of energy to the **action group on age-friendly environments** to support the right of older people to independent living. New stakeholders have joined the group and their commitments were integrated into the action plan. 2013 was also the first stocktaking year for the EIP AHA with the presentation of the results during the stakeholders’ conference of November. New reflections were also elaborated to enhance synergies between the different action groups and envisage the creation of a common repository. Our effort to submit a proposal for a Thematic Network on Innovation for Age-Friendly Environments together with a large group of partners were successful and allowed to gather additional support (see above Highlights of the year).

A new breath was given to the partnership through the World Health Organisation –Regional Office for Europe Technical Proposal on Age-Friendly Environments for Europe supported by the European Commission. AGE is involved in this project whose aim is to review the WHO guidelines on age-friendly cities to adapt them to the EU context, taking also into account the long lasting experience of the WHO Europe network of healthy cities. The output of this project will very much complement the work to be carried out from 2014 and onwards by the **AFE-INNOVNET** Thematic Network on age-friendly environments.

Health Promotion

In addition to our contribution to the European Innovation Partnership for Active and Healthy Ageing where we promoted the importance of age-friendly environments (see article on EIP AHA), AGE contributed actively in EPHA’s (European Public Health Alliance) activities and supported EPHA’s advocacy work. EPHA Annual Conference (4-5 September) entitled “Brave New World: Inclusive

Growth and Well-Being or Vested Interests and Lost Generations?" addressed issues of importance for AGE members such as the impact of austerity on healthcare systems and health inequalities.

In line with EPHA positions, AGE continued all along 2013 to advocate for health promotion in different events such as the International Congress of the Galician Society of Gerontology and Geriatrics and the EUGMS Congress (European Geriatric Medicines Society). AGE also co-signed the call for an EU database on injury that would provide comparable data on falls of older people and their circumstances which could be used to set up prevention measures.

eHealth

AGE's work on eHealth is shared between the policy work and the projects. Our participation in the eHealth stakeholders group is mainly dedicated to the subgroup on eHealth and health inequalities – led by EPHA, and to which AGE emphasized specificities linked to ageing such as accessibility, informal carers or dementia.

AGE also participated in different events on eHealth to bring older people's perspective such as the eHealth Week in Dublin in May and the task force meeting held by Confrontation Europe in July.

Medicines for older people

Access to adequate and safe medicines is a key priority for older people across the EU. For that reason AGE calls for progress to be made in that area. The legislative process around the clinical trials regulation was a good opportunity for AGE to ask the support of Members of the European Parliament to table amendments in favor of clinical trials that are more representative of the population both in terms of gender and age. Such provisions have been added to the European Parliament's final position. In parallel, AGE joined a call launched by several public health actors asking MEPs to support strong transparency provisions in the regulation on clinical trials.

AGE involvement in the work of the *European Medicines Agency (EMA)* is also a very good opportunity to ensure that EMA takes on board the concerns of older people with regards to medicines. In 2013 EMA announced its intention to launch a reflection paper, an initiative supported by AGE.

> Dignified ageing

AGE continued to work on the topic of dignified ageing in 2013 through various activities. The experiences and feedback from a wide range of organisations involved in the WeDO project (2010-2012), were gathered through a survey, which concluded that the WeDO project was a very positive learning experience and the European Quality framework for long-term care services produced by the project a very useful document. Stakeholders are now expecting an implementation phase.

After the end of the project, the WeDO partnership continued to promote the European Quality framework, work on the improvement of the quality of long-term care services and share experiences and good practices with other Partnership members. In 2013, new countries joined in: Spain (including Catalonia), the UK, Bulgaria and Poland. Online meetings were held to ensure a good cooperation between the different partners. In September, a new EU-funded project called **WeDO2** was launched. Coordinated by the Vrije Universiteit Brussels and supported by AGE, it gathers new countries and previous countries represented in the WeDO project (the UK, Greece, Belgium, the Netherlands, Poland, Germany and Austria) with the aim of developing educational tools and learning areas in the different countries to facilitate implementation of the European Quality framework for long-term care services. A first meeting was held in Brussels in November, with very promising activities. (www.wedo-partnership.eu).

In parallel, AGE participated in different high-level activities at EU and global levels. AGE spoke at the UN OCHR / European Commission event on 17-18 June on elder abuse and violence, and highlighted that abuse and neglect is a human rights issue and long-term care practices need to comply with existing human rights standards. In September, AGE also participated in the peer review organised in Sweden on Dignity in care, in which, AGE explained the impact of the crisis in access to care services, highlighted the need for more preventive and rehabilitative activities to address care needs and informed about the challenges around the use of ICT in care.

Finally, AGE contributed to two main EP reports on [care for vulnerable people](#) and on [violence against women](#).

> Accessibility, mobility, new technologies and tourism

Accessibility

Ensuring access for all to transport, built environment and outdoor spaces, and ICT is a key objective for AGE. The forthcoming Accessibility Act was therefore at the heart of AGE priorities in 2013. Earlier in the year, a joint statement was issued by AGE, CER (The Community of European Railway and Infrastructure Companies), EDF (the European Disability Forum) and EPF (the European Passengers Forum) to contribute to the Accessibility Act as a key milestone to further improve the accessibility of goods and services to EU citizens, but also to contribute to the establishment of a level playing field between modes with regard to accessibility of transport services. AGE President participated in the high level meeting conveyed by Vice-President Reding in December to discuss some of the main elements of the Accessibility Act which is expected to be published in spring 2014.

AGE also continued to actively lobby on the draft directive for accessibility of public sectors' website, in particular to expand its scope and ensure a coherent approach. Our work with some members of the European Parliament gathered support and the report to be voted end of February 2014 in the EP is promising.

AGE was also actively involved in the fourth edition of the EU Access City Award through which the European Commission awarded "accessible" cities or cities committed to improving their accessibility level. For the 2013 edition, AGE was asked to join the EU jury and 15 AGE experts participated in the national juries. Göteborg (SE) was chosen as the winner, the second prize went to Grenoble (FR) and the third to Poznan (PL).

In the area of new technologies, AGE and EDF (European Disability Forum) joined Vodafone Foundation for the third year to launch the "**Mobile for Good Europe Awards**" promoting the development of smartphone applications to improve the lives of persons with disabilities and older people and enable them to be more actively involved in society. During the final ceremony 4 applications in the fields of health, education, accessibility and public services' mobilisation were rewarded. .

Last but not least, AGE was very active in different events to promote accessibility in relation with its campaign on age-friendly environments. For example AGE participated in the annual conferences of the European Lift Association and of the Housing Adaptation Scotland Conference.

Standardisation

Standardisation can facilitate the development of accessible goods and services within the EU. This is why AGE works on standardisation with ANEC (European Association representing Consumers in Standardisation) and the European Disability Forum.

In 2013, AGE work focused on three areas: Design for All, ICT and transport:

- AGE participated in the Strategic Advisory Group on Accessibility, in charge of the execution of the Mandate 473. This standardisation mandate aims at addressing accessibility in relevant standardisation initiatives following a 'Design for all' perspective. In January 2014, the European Standardisation Organisations CEN-CENELEC launched a call to recruit ten experts who will contribute to the activities related to the mandate. AGE is supporting a few of its experts to apply and contribute to the development of the standard which will provide a mechanism to address accessibility from the drafting of a standard to its publication.
- AGE participated in the working group of the European Railway Agency (ERA) which revised the Technical Specifications for Interoperability - Persons with reduced mobility (TSI PRM). After three years of work, the TSI-PRM were adopted by Member States on 30 January 2014. In 2014, AGE will continue its participation in the group which will develop an application guide for the Member States and a tool to identify the existing obstacles to rail accessibility.
- AGE participated in the meetings of the Multi-Stakeholder Platform on ICT Standardisation, which advises the European Commission on the European ICT standardisation policy and other initiatives that may be taken at European level to address barriers to ICT interoperability. In particular, AGE contributed to the Rolling plan on ICT Standardisation adopted on 19 December 2013. The document provides an overview of the needs for ICT standardisation activities to be undertaken in support of the European ICT standardisation policy.

Standards are useful tools to protect consumers and enhance quality and safety of goods and services. This is why AGE was pleased to be consulted by CEN-CENELEC (European Standardisation Body) in the framework of an open reflection on standardisation in healthcare which gave us the opportunity to promote the work done in the WeDO project on quality of long-term care.

Tourism

This important topic for older people has gained visibility at EU level with new initiatives launched by the European Commission. For instance, a survey was circulated to assess the demand for accessible tourism. The European Commission also seeks to enhance low season tourism for older people to fight seasonality that affects growth and employment in some touristic areas. AGE participated in a consultation and was asked to be part of an expert group set up by DG Enterprise that is analyzing the current situation and drafting recommendations for future EU initiatives.

> Older people's involvement in research

Throughout 2013, AGE Platform has been involved in various European projects to support industrial and academic partners in research activities, and to raise awareness about specific needs, concerns and wills of older people. Participation in European projects is an integral and essential part of our advocacy work to influence policy at EU and national level. Through our projects, we contribute to research to improve the health and wellbeing of older people and support, at various levels, the campaign for an Age-Friendly European Union by 2020.

Our role varies widely from project to project, but our mission is always to make older people's perspectives heard, to effectively involve end-users, possibly at all stages of activities, and to ensure that the main ethical and legal issues are addressed correctly.

New technology for better quality of life

Technology plays a key role for the autonomy and the quality of life in old age. AGE works actively to foster innovation in information and communications technology and smart environments. We have been partners in many projects that have dealt with supporting older people to keep pace with technological developments. Besides digital inclusion and technological literacy, we are also involved in standardisation activities.



[Aaliance2](#) upgraded the Strategic Research Agenda for Europe, building on the achievements of the first Aaliance project. AGE contributed to the Road Map for Ambient Assisted Living, which offers the most recent development of standardisation in ambient assisted living. We supported the network of contacts in the field and the revision of the ambient assisted living market in Europe and internationally.



To help mainstream accessible technology, AGE collaborated to the [Atis4All](#) project, which provided European citizens with the [Atis4all collaborative portal](#) – a practical tool containing updated information on assistive technologies built and sold in Europe. The portal allows the user to analyse, compare and choose the best and most up-to-date solutions for one's needs.



To support initiatives taken to ensure that all citizens have equal access to information society services, AGE became a partner of the [eAccess+](#) thematic network. We contributed to the [hub on e-accessibility](#), a structured and extensive wiki-page that describes and links resources on web accessibility, accessible digital television, and self-service terminals. We worked on the guidelines on user involvement and ethical issues, while constantly calling on members and stakeholders to contribute to the wiki, disseminate it and benefit from it.



In 2013, the [VERITAS](#) project tested the accessibility of assistive technologies and product design by simulating their use in a virtual environment. Products for the workplace and personal healthcare, as well as for the automotive and infotainment sectors, have been adapted according to the needs of older people and people with disabilities, since their design. AGE strengthened the focus on the early involvement of the final beneficiaries, which together with a comprehensive simulation before prototypes of products and services are actually built, ensures that future goods and services are systematically designed for all.

Involving older people in the core of research activities

AGE pays great attention to the engagement of senior citizens in relevant research activities. For instance, through the establishment and management of advisory boards, AGE experts are called to provide expertise and direction to projects, to suggest improvements, to assess the evolution of some actions, to review documents, to wider disseminate project outcomes, as well as to discuss projects' exploitation and sustainability plans together with a wide range of stakeholders.



Under the initiative and supervision of the project's advisory board, AGE issued a qualitative study on the results of the pilot sites' activities in the [Home Sweet Home](#) project. This work provided health and care professionals with older people's reflections and perspectives on the factual implementation of the project and highlighted older people's views on both methodologies and practices of care for independent living in old age. We finally released useful recommendations and lessons learnt, which were fed into AGE policy activities.



Health and social care in Europe is often delivered in an uncoordinated way. The [SmartCare](#) project specifies, implements and pilots ICT supported care pathways to overcome current boundaries between health and social care. AGE is in charge of managing the Users Advisory Board, which besides AGE also includes Eurocarers, the European Patients Forum and the European Federation of Nurses. The board provides inputs to relevant project activities and deliverables and organises pilot site visits throughout the project.

Exploring cross-generational links

Demographic ageing is strongly affecting the relationships between generations and the shapes of European societies. Family life courses are becoming more complex and diverse, individuals' lives are interdependent – linked within and across generations – as well as shaped by social contexts and policies.



The [Families and Societies](#) project tackles this challenge, as it integrates the important family dimension in the debate for active and healthy ageing. The project investigates the diversity of family forms, relationships and life courses in Europe, to assess the compatibility of existing policies with changes in family patterns, and to contribute to evidence-based policy-making.



[GoACT](#) project raised awareness on the importance of the dialogue between generations and intergenerational learning. It called and involved a broad set of stakeholders, and gathered insights from experts and citizens on intergenerational education. GoACT elaborated policy suggestions and initiated an information campaign aiming at developing a strategy for intergenerational learning.

Fuelling social innovation for an ageing society

When our members join projects' advisory boards and user fora, they have their say, contributing to consultations and providing feedback to AGE activities. AGE makes sure that older people's needs and wishes are taken on board, and supports the active participation of older persons, helping convey a positive attitude to ageing, where seniors' input is relevant and welcome.



INNOVAGE develops and test four social innovations aiming at improving the quality of life and well-being of older people. Thanks to the involvement of researchers, users and other stakeholders, INNOVAGE wants to produce major innovative approaches to better quality of life and well-being as people age. With that regard, AGE works on guidelines for the involvement of users in social innovation process

Social Innovation in Ageing: Undoubtedly, social innovation is increasingly higher up on the European political agenda. Its roots are, however, grounded in grassroots engagement. Together with the European Center for Social Innovation and the King Baudouin Foundation, AGE has received funding for contributing to the selection of European case studies promoting and implementing social innovation. After having launched a call for innovations, a thorough analysis has identified 20 European case studies, awarded by Her Majesty the Queen of Belgium.

Taking concrete steps towards active and healthy ageing

Being literate allows us to gain better understanding, to take decisions and action. Increasing literacy rates is an effective way to improve quality of life. When our health is at stake, literacy becomes even more important. Health literacy of older adults can improve by empowering them and giving them more knowledge, skills and self-confidence in making decisions about their own health.



Health literacy is a key component of the strategy towards healthy ageing. **IROHLA** (*Intervention Research on Health Literacy among the Ageing Population*) focuses on improving health literacy for older people in Europe. The project takes stock of on-going health literacy programmes and projects in order to identify, validate and present a set of max 20 interventions, with the aim of empowering the ageing population and improving health literacy communication in the health sector across Europe. The interventions will also be part of an evidence-based guideline for policy and practice for local, regional and national government authorities.



Besides health literacy, older people's awareness about their mental and physical health is crucial. Through the [Hello Brain](#) campaign, [ASAPS](#) (*A Sharing Approach for Promoting Science*) communicates the benefits of European health research in an impactful, interactive and innovative way. With a set of short videos, a documentary and a mobile app, Hello Brain provides easy-to-understand scientific information about brain health, which explains how lifestyle choices may help protect brain function and offers practical advice about brain health.

Mobilising the potential of active and healthy ageing in Europe

One of the ways that AGE contributes to the development of the [EIP AHA](#) (European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing) is through our involvement in different projects. In particular two of them revolve around the various [action groups](#) on the Innovation Partnership.



AGE feeds the [Mopact](#) Consortium with the outcomes of the debates around the Action Group D4 of the EIP AHA. The project aims at conducting the most comprehensive review to date of the social and economic challenges of ageing. Mopact establishes and consults research communities around nine key topics, such as health, pensions, citizenship and age-friendly built environments.

Mopact also engages stakeholders in ad hoc forums for allow information to be broadly shared and exchanges to be potentiated



With the aim of consolidating a European community for active and healthy ageing, the [ENGAGED](#) thematic network gathers various stakeholders to contribute to the EIP AHA. AGE works for “engaging the unengaged”, to bring the news of the EIP AHA outside the EC buildings and reach out to wider communities, together with the help of European regions, research centres and NGOs actors.

Thinking sooner about later

To think soon about our later life has undoubted benefits not only for individuals but also for the whole society. Preparing for the last stages of our lives procures better family and social relations, and is also beneficial for our communities, e.g. with regard to both the planning of services and the savings that can be made.



In the frame of the project *“Penser plus tôt à plus tard”* (Think sooner about later), AGE worked together with some of its members to think about what it means to prepare for our later lives. Issues such as preparation to retirement age, to end of life, the role of relatives in that process, as well as dignified ageing, the image of older persons, and the preparation for the end of life have been discussed among

members and conveyed in a report delivered to the King Baudouin Foundation.

In 2014, the Foundation will launch the dissemination activities for this project, after having collected good practice examples. The goal is to raise awareness on the importance to start *“thinking sooner about later”*.

Through its involvement in a broad set of European projects, AGE

- helps the European Union mainstream the fundamental rights of older people through the promotion of an age-friendly environments in all relevant EU policy processes and funding programmes to support concrete action at all levels;
- builds synergies to ensure that these processes will deliver better outcomes in the promotion of active ageing and solidarity between generations; and
- strengthens research to evaluate and promote solutions in response to the needs of our ageing population – in ways that are fair for all generations while contributing to sustainable, accessible and inclusive growth in a Europe free of discrimination and poverty.

About AGE network

AGE structure

The internal structure of AGE is organised in such a way as to reflect its main mission which is to represent older people's interests and needs across the EU and build their capacity to speak on their own behalf and influence EU policy developments.

Regular meetings with our members and experts are held throughout the year to advance AGE's work priorities and implement our work programme, provide input on specific dossiers and address management and organizational issues.

General Assembly

The General Assembly is the governing body. All full Member organisations have voting rights. The General Assembly meets annually to adopt the work programme, budget and applications for membership. It elects the President who must come from an organisation "of" older people.

Council

AGE member organisations elect their national representative(s) at the Council, which also includes representatives of the European networks. It meets at least twice a year and is responsible for the overall implementation of the work programme and for policy decisions.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is composed of the President, four Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer and a Secretary. It is responsible for providing policy guidance and ensuring that the statutes and internal rules are adhered to. The Executive Committee meets at least 4 times a year.

Accreditation Committee

The role of the Accreditation Committee is to deal with all issues around membership, including new applications for membership and to forward its recommendations to the Council and the General Assembly.

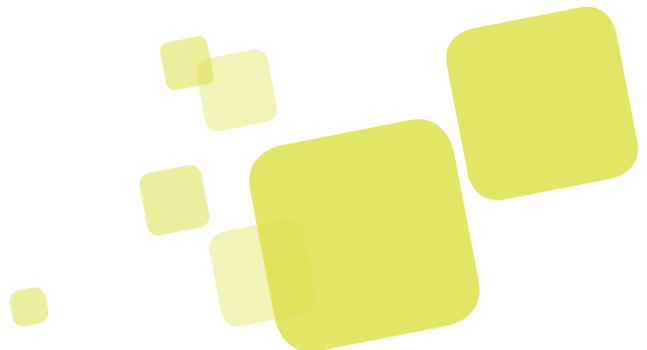
Expert groups

Expert groups are set up to inform AGE's work in specific policy areas. The experts are nominated by the Council members. They meet twice a year and work in-between through e-mail exchange. Our experts are divided into six expert groups:

- Anti-Discrimination Expert Group (ADEG) which deals with age discrimination in employment and in access to goods and services;
- Employment Expert Group (EEG) which covers issues around active ageing, employment of older workers, lifelong learning and volunteering, ,
- Health and Social Services Expert Group (HEG) which addresses issues around healthy and dignified ageing;
- Social Inclusion Expert Group (SIEG) which deals with poverty and social exclusion of older people
- Social Protection Expert Group (SPEG) which tackles mainly pensions reforms;
- Universal Accessibility and Independent Living Expert Group (UAIL) which covers new technologies, accessibility of the built environment and transport.

Secretariat

The Secretariat is responsible for the day-to-day management of the association and for liaising with the EU institutions.



Communication and Information

Media Coverage

AGE is regularly interviewed by written and audiovisual media on ageing related issues. In 2013 a higher focus was drawn on issues such as the EP elections and AGE Manifesto, access to financial and banking services, ageing and new technologies, senior entrepreneurship, intergenerational solidarity,...

Some of these articles can be found on AGE website at:

www.age-platform.eu/en/age-a-the-media/age-in-the-news

Communication tools

AGE's three main communication tools are its website, monthly newsletter, and printed publications.

Website:

AGE's website (www.age-platform.eu) provides updated information on AGE's policy work in the field of ageing (according to 6 main policy areas), current EU policy development, events, funding opportunities, useful materials, good practice, and useful links. AGE website is available in English and French. In 2013 the website has been updated (Joomla version 2.5.10) following a hacking attempt.

Newsletter:

11 editions of our monthly on-line newsletter, CoverAGE, were published in English and French (RapportAGE). The Special Briefing is translated into German, Italian, Spanish and Polish.

CoverAge is distributed on line to our member organisations representing around 30 million older people in Europe, but also to a wide and growing range of other stakeholders interested in ageing issues: public authorities, EU officials, NGOs, services providers, researchers, industry, etc.

www.age-platform.eu/en/coverage

Publications:

In 2013 AGE printed the following publications (this Annual Report non included)

- Towards an Age-Friendly European Union by 2020 / [EN](#) - [FR](#)
- In Support of Active Senior Citizenship across Europe / available in [EN](#) - [FR](#)
- Towards an Age-Friendly European Union by 2020 – From theory to local practice (in EN and FR)

Membership of other European organizations

EAPN



AGE is member of 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.

EPHA



[European Public Health Alliance](#) (EPHA) represents around 100 organisations active in the public health sector (patients organisation, health professional, national or European association working on specific public health thematic, etc.). EPHA aims to promote and protect the health interests of all people living in Europe and to strengthen the dialogue between the European institutions, citizens and NGOs in support of healthy public policies.

AGE joined EPHA in 2008 and has since then been closely cooperating on health issues of interest to older people.

Social Platform



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 within this EU social network.

Financial information

As in previous years, AGE's main activities in 2013 were financed partly by membership fees and donations (20%) and partly by a grant from the European Community Programme for Employment and Social Solidarity (PROGRESS) managed by DG Justice (80%).

In addition to this core funding, AGE received a grant for the Active Senior Citizens for Europe (ASCE) project. It is a European project cofinanced by European Commission Directorate General for Education and Culture (70%) and by its partners (30%). It is coordinated by AGE Platform Europe, and gathers 10 partners from 8 EU member states.

AGE has continued its work on European Research Projects throughout 2013, besides being involved in new proposals.

AGE was partner of 15 projects dedicated to the well-being of older people when dealing with new technologies, health, accessibility and sustainable mobility. Those projects, financed mainly by FP7 and CIP PSP, are: Alliance2, ASAPS, ATIS4All, e-Access+, Engaged, Families & Societies, Goact, Home Sweet Home, Innovage, Irohla, Mopact, Smart Care and Veritas + Think sooner about later and Social Innovation in ageing (supported by the Belgian *Fondation Roi Baudouin*).

AGE participation in EU research projects is most often covered at 100% by EU funding.

Depending on the number of projects we are involved in and the resulting volume of work, AGE income and expenses vary from one year to the next.



Income Statement - In Euro	31/12/2013	31/12/2012
Income		
European Commission grant	986.359,75	1.163.795,68
Membership fees	131.566,73	137.753,87
Members contribution to GA costs	20.025,00	16.550,00
Financial income	4.987,59	4.548,10
Co financing projects		79.198,35
Other income and donations	52.868,63	42.577,62
	1.195.807,70	1.444.423,92
Expenses		
Staff expenses	780.193,27	846.303,55
Travel and accommodation	136.867,28	230.108,21
Services	145.167,47	213.387,31
Administration	118.242,46	154.079,58
	1.180.470,48	1.443.605,64
Surplus/(Deficit)	15.337,22	818,27
BALANCE SHEET	31/12/2013	31/12/2012
Assets		
Fixed Assets		
Tangible fixed assets	395,10	817,40
Financial fixed assets	36.059,75	38.640,57
	36.454,85	39.457,97
Current Assets		
Account receivable	175.796,66	425.736,14
Cash	375.251,88	139.626,50
Prepaid expenses	3.051,34	6.394,20
	554.099,88	571.756,84
Total Assets	590.554,73	611.214,81
Liabilities		
Equity		
Reserves	10.618,10	10.618,10
Profit carried forward	54.233,46	53.415,19
Profit of the year	15.337,22	818,27
	80.188,78	64.851,56
Debts		
Accounts payable	143.153,82	366.067,93
Social debts	118.638,78	123.380,65
Deferred revenues	248.573,35	56.914,67
	510.365,95	546.363,25
Total Liabilities	590.554,73	611.214,81

AGE governing bodies and secretariat

Executive Committee



Mr **Marjan Sedmak**
President
Slovenia



Ms **Halina Potocka**
Vice-President
Poland



Mr **Jean-Pierre Bultez**
Vice-President
France



Ms **Louise Richardson**
Vice-President
(until Oct. 2013) Ireland



Mr **Willy Peirens**
Vice President
(until Oct. 2013)
Belgium



Mr **Kees Geveke**,
Treasurer
Netherlands



Ms. **Helen Campbell**
Vice-President
(since Oct. 2013) Ireland



Mr. **Ebbe Johansen**
Vice President
(since Oct.2013),
Denmark



Ms **Maria Petkova**
Secretary
Bulgaria

Secretariat



Anne-Sophie Parent, Secretary General
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Maciej Kucharczyk, Managing Director
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Hanan Soussi, Office Manager
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Rachel Buchanan, Policy Officer for non-discrimination and employment
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Julia Wadoux, Policy Officer for Health, ICT and Accessibility

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Anne Melard, Information and Communication Officer -

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Nena Georgantzi, Research Project Coordinator and Legal Officer
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Alice Sinigaglia, Logistic and Campaign Officer
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Maude Luherne, European Parliament Officer & Project coordinator
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Ophélie Durand, EP Liaison Officer and Project Officer,
ophelie.durand@age-platform.eu

AGE Council Members

President: Marjan Sedmak (Slovenia)

Full Members

- Austria** Hilde Hawlicek (Pensionisten Verband)
- Belgium** Willy Peirens (OKRA, trefpunt 55+), until May 2013
Jean Gengler (ENEO), since May 2013
- Bulgaria** Maria Petkova (Charity Association Hospice Miloserdie)
- Cyprus** Androulla Paschalidou (Pancyprian Federation for the Welfare of the Elderly)
- Czech Republic** Jan Lorman (Zivot 90), until May 2013
Oldrich Stanek (Zivot 90), since May 2013
- Denmark** Lis Leadbetter (DaneAge/ Aeldresagen), until May 2013
Ebbe Johansen (DaneAge/ Aeldresagen), since May 2013
- Finland** Ole Norrback (Association of Swedish-Speaking Pensioners in Finland)
- France** Jean-Pierre Bultez (Les Petits Frères des Pauvres)
Etienne Goulley (FNAR), until May 2013
Jean-Michel Hôte (FNG), since May 2013
- Germany** Ruth Brand (Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft der Senioren-Organisationen (BAGSO) e.V.)
Ute Borchers-Siebrecht (Senioren Union der CDU in Niedersachsen)

- Greece** Liz Mestheneos (50+ Hellas)
- Hungary** Imre Semsei (Gerontology Science Coordination Center)
- Ireland** Louise Richardson (Age and Opportunities- Ireland), until May 2013
Helen Campbell, (Age and Opportunities- Ireland), since May 2013
- Italy** Elio D’Orazio (ANCESCAO)
Perricone Ottaviano (Sindacato Nazionale Pensionati Della Confagricoltura)
- Lithuania** Satas Juozas (Lithuanian Pensioners’ Union “BOCIA”)
- Malta** Azzopardi Moses (National Association of Pensioners)
- Netherlands** Kees Geveke (ANBO)
- Poland** Halina Potocka (Forum 50+)
Ewa Kominek (Foundation Samaritanu)
- Portugal** Ivone Ferreira (Vencer o Tempo)
- Slovenia** Marjan Sedmak (Mestna zveza upokojenecv Ljubljana)
- Spain** Eduard Garcia Freixedes (FOCAGG), Mercè Mas Quintana (FATEC)
- Sweden** Karl Erik Olsson (Swedish Association of Senior Citizens)
- United Kingdom** Clint Elliott (National Association of Retired Police Officers - NARPO)
Irene Kingston (Age Concern Northern Ireland), until May 2013
Sonia Mangan (AGE UK), since May 2013

EU Federations Alain Koskas (FIAPA Europe)
An Hermans (ESU)
Curt Persson (NOPO - Nordic
Older People's Organisation)
Dirk Jarré (EURAG)

EU organisations Boris Koprivnikar (E.D.E.)
Joke De Ruiter (OWN
Europe)

Substitute Members

Austria Sabine Wlazny (Pensionisten
Verband)

Belgium Jean Hallet (UCP - Mouvement
Social des Aînés), until May 2013
Willy Peirens (OKRA, trefpunt
55+), since May 2013

Czech Republic Oldrich Stanek (Zivot 90), until
May 2013
Jan Lorman (Zivot 90), since May
2013

Denmark Ebbe Johansen (DaneAge/
Aeldresagen), until May 2013

Finland Pirkko Karjalainen (The Central
Union for the Welfare of the
Aged), until May 2013
Jussila Terhi (The Central Union
for the Welfare of the Aged),
since May 2013

France Marie-Claire Galibert
(Confédération Française des
Retraités)
Jean-Christophe Merle (Action
de Coordination de Lieux et
d'Accueil aux Personnes Âgées -
ACLAP)

Germany Annette Scholl (Kuratorium
Deutsche Altershilfe, Wilhelmine-

Lübke-Stiftung e.V.)
Claudia Kaiser (BAGSO -
Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft der
Senioren-Organisationen)

Ireland Helen Campbell (Age and
Opportunity), until May 2013
Maurice O'Connel (Age and
Opportunity), since May 2013

Italy Claudio D'Antonangelo (CNA
Pensionati)

Giuseppe Torrente (Sindicato
Autonomo Pensionati S.a.pens.)

Malta Carmel Mallia (National Council
for the Elderly)

Netherlands Régine Mathijssen (NVOG)

Portugal Susana Santos (Associação
Valorização Intergeracional e
Desenvolvimento Activo - VIDA)

Spain Antoni Segura Farré (FOCAGG)

Sweden Carlsson Stickan (Swedish
Association of Senior Citizens)

United Kingdom Syd Ashby (Civil Service
Pensioners Alliance), until May
2013

Mike Duggan (Civil Service
Pensioners Alliance), since May
2013

Kate Davidson (British Society of
Gerontology), until May 2013
Walsh Chris (Wise Owls
Employment Agency), since May
2013

EU Sonia Guaragna (FIAPA Europe)

Federation Elisabeth Dispaux (ESU)

Ralf Friberg (NOPO)

Dana Steinove (EURAG)

EU Wilfried Schlüter (E.D.E.)

organisations

AGE Members - 2013

Full Members

Austria: Pensionisten Verband

Belgium: CD&V Senioren • Coordination des associations de Seniors • Courant d'Âges • Enéo (ex UCP) • Federatie Onafhankelijke Senioren • Institut Européen Interuniversitaire de l'Action Sociale • Les Aînés du CdH • OKRA, trefpunt 55+ • Respect Seniors • S-Plus vzw • Vlaams Ouderen Overleg Komitee vzw

Bulgaria: Association for Social Support • Bulgarian Red Cross • Charity Association Hospice Miloserdie • Third Age Foundation

Croatia: The National Pensioners Convention of Croatia (NPCC)

Cyprus: Pancyprrian Welfare of the Elderly

Czech Republic: Zivot 90

Denmark: DaneAge/Aeldresagen

Estonia: The Estonian Association of Pensioners' Societies

Finland: The Association of Swedish-Speaking Pensioners in Finland • The Central Union for the Welfare of the Aged

France: A. C. S. Bull • ACLAP (Action de Coordination de Lieux et d'Accueil aux Personnes Agées) • Amicale des Anciens d'Alstom • Association des Retraités d'Air France • Association des Retraités ESSO • Confédération Française des Retraités • Fédération des anciens du groupe Rhône-Poulenc • Fédération Nationale des Associations de Retraités • FIDES - Fédération Interrégionale pour le Développement de l'Emploi des Seniors • Fondation Nationale de Gérontologie • Générations Mouvement - Fédération nationale • Information Défense Action Retraite

• Les Petits Frères des Pauvres • * Old Up • Seniors Entrepreneurs • Union Confédérale des Retraités (UNIR) • Union des Anciens du Groupe BP • Union Fédérale des Retraités des Banques • Union Française des Retraités • Union Nationale des Retraités (UNAR-CFTC) • Union Nationale Retraités Personnes Agées

Germany: Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft der Senioren-Organisationen (BAGSO) e.V • Kuratorium Deutsche Altershilfe, Wilhelmine-Lübke-Stiftung e.V. • Sozialverband VdK Deutschland e.V

GREECE: 50+ Hellas • AGSSE: Highest level Confederation of Greek retirees • Open Centre for the Protection of the Elderly (K.A.P.I.)

Hungary: Gerontology Science Coordination Center

Ireland: Active Retirement Ireland • Age Action Ireland Ltd • Age and Opportunity • Irish Association of Older People • The Senior Help Line

Italy : 50&Piu • ADA - Associazione diritti anziani • ANAP - Associazione Nazionale Anziani e Pensionati • ANCESCAO - Associazione Nazionale Centri Sociali, Comitati Anziani e Orti • ANCESCAO Coordinamento Provinciale di Latina • ANP-CIA Associazione Nazionale Pensionati - CIA • Anpecomit - Associazione Nazionale fra Pensionati ed Esodati della Banca Commerciale Italiana • Associazione ATDAL Over 40 • Associazione Lavoro Over 40 • Associazione Nazionale delle Università della Terza Età – Unitre • CNA Pensionati • Eta Libera – Associazione Di Volontariato • FAP ACLI • FAP-CREDITO - Federazione Nazionale Sindacale delle Associazioni dei Pensionati del Credito • Federanziani • FIPAC - Federazione Italiana Pensionati Attività Commerciali

• Federpensionati – Coldiretti • Fondazione Sviluppo Europa • Italian Institute for the Quality of Life • Over 50 Della Confeuro • Progetto Italia Duemila • S.a.pens. Sindacato Autonomo Pensionati • Sindacato Nazionale Pensionati Della Confagricoltura • Università dei 50&piu

Latvia: Association Balta Maja

Lithuania: Lithuanian Pensioners Union, "Bociai"

Malta: National Association of Pensioners • National Council for the Elderly

Netherlands: ANBO • Nederlandse Vereniging van Organisaties van Gepensioneerden (NVOG) • Oudere Vrouwen Netwerk – Nederland • Philips Vereniging van gepensioneerden Eindhoven en omstreken (PVGE vereniging voor senioren) • Protestants Christelijke Ouderen Bond • UniekBO •

Poland: Fundacja na Rzecz Kobiet JA KOBIEȚA (Foundation for Women's Issues)

Portugal: Vencer O Tempo • Envelhecer com Prazer • UNIFAI- Unidade de Investigação e Formação sobre Adultos e Idosos

Slovakia: Forum pre pomoc starsim - narodna sie
Slovenia: Anton Trstenjak Institute of gerontology and intergenerational relations • Mestna zveza upokojencev Ljubljana

Spain: Age Concern Spain • Asociación de Profesores Universitarios Jubilados • CEOMA - Confederación Española De Organizaciones De Mayores • FATEC - Catalanian Federation of Elder Associations • Federacion Territorial de Asociaciones provinciales de pensionistas y jubilados de alava, Guipuzcoa y Vizcaya • FOCAGG - Federació d'Organitzacions Catalanes de Gent Gran, Dones i Família • Spanish Red Cross

Sweden: Swedish Association of Senior Citizens • Sveriges Pensionärers Riksförbund

United Kingdom: Age UK • Age Northern Ireland • Age Concern Slough & Berdshire East • Age Sector Platform • British Society of Gerontology • Civil Service Pensioners Alliance • Homeshare International • National Association of Retired Police Officer (NARPO) • National Federation of Occupational Pensioners • National Institute of Adult Continuing Education - NIACE • National Pensioners Convention • Older People's Commission for Wales • Public Service Pensioner's Council • The Beth Johnson Foundation • Wise Owls Employment Agency • UnLtd: Foundation for Social Entrepreneurs

European Federations

FIAPA Europe (Fédération Internationale des Associations de Personnes Agées) • European Senior Organisation – ESO • European Senior Citizens Union - ESU • NOPO - Nordic Older People's Organisation • EURAG • Europäisches Zentrum für Arbeitnehmerfragen *

European Organisations

Europäisches Zentrum für Arbeitnehmerfragen – EZA • European Association for Directors and Providers of Long-Term Care Services for the Elderly (EDE) • European Association of Homes and Services for the Ageing (EAHSA) • Groupement Européen de Retraités des Caisses d'Epargne, Banques et Institutions Similaires • Older Women's Network – Europe • Seniors of the European Public Service •

Observer Members

Belgium: ABW - Senioren

France: EGEE Entente des Générations pour l'Emploi et l'Entreprise • Fondation de l'Armée du Salut **Germany:** Sozialverband Vdk Deutschland e.V

Italy: Consorzio Anziani e Non Solo • Solimai - Società Cooperativa Sociale a r.l

Japan: Japan Productive Ageing Research Centre

Netherlands: Nationaal Ouderenfonds (NFE)

Norway: The Norwegian Center of Senior Policy

Portugal: CO (OP)RAÇÃO • Instituto de Beneficencia Maria Conceição Ferrao Pimentel (Instituto Da Saozinha)

Spain: Design for All Foundation • Union Democratica de Pensionistas

Switzerland: Age Stiftung /The Age Foundation • CURAVIVA

Turkey: Türkiye Emekliler Derneği / TIED - Turkey Retired Worker Association • Turkish geriatrics Society

United Kingdom: Action for Ageing • Fairpensions • Institute of Lifelong Learning - Leicester University • International Longevity Centre Uk (ILC-UK) •

United States: AARP (Global Aging Programme)

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**« Rassembler, Représenter,
Défendre, Promouvoir »**

La Confédération Nationale des Retraités
regroupe 4 Fédérations :

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- *Fédération Nationale des Associations de Retraités*
- *Les Aînés Ruraux. Fédération Nationale*
- *Union Française des Retraités*

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SE 103 65 Stockholm



National Association of Retired
Police Officers - NARPO



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By joining AGE Platform Europe, you are doing more than expressing support for AGE's work.

AGE members also gain the possibility to:

- Participate in an organisation with a strong and effective voice at EU level;
- Make their voice heard in the network's work and help AGE bring forward the point of view of older people on EU issues that concern them;
- Receive regular information on relevant developments relating to older and retired people;
- Receive up-to-date information in relation to EU funding opportunities, proposals to participate in EU-wide projects and support for the drafting of your own projects;
- The opportunity to share and exchange information with other AGE members.

AGE Platform Europe is a European network of organisations of and for people aged 50+ which aims to voice and promote the interests of the 150 million senior citizens in the European Union and to raise awareness on the issues that concern them most.

AGE is involved in a range of policy and information activities to put older people's issues on the EU agenda and to support networking among older people's groups. Our guiding principles hold that a change of attitudes is needed to achieve a European society for all ages and that there is a need to promote solidarity between generations in a way that recognises older people's contributions to society.



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