



To: Ministers and Delegations taking part in the Ministerial Conference 'MIPAA+20 – A sustainable World for All Ages', Rome, 15-17 June 2022

Brussels, 3 June 2022

Re: AGE assessment of the implementation of MIPAA 2017-2022: Time for a comprehensive framework on the human rights of older persons

Dear Ministers,

We are writing to you on behalf of AGE Platform Europe, the EU's largest network of organisations of and for older persons. Our vision is to build a society for all ages, giving voice to older persons. We have been actively contributing to the implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing in the last 20 years.

Five years after Lisbon, we are meeting in Rome at a crucial point for a renewed engagement on policies on ageing. The COVID-19 pandemic has brought about both an immense wave of solidarity, but also disease, suffering and thousands of preventable deaths among Europe's older population. It has revealed the marginalisation of older persons, particularly those in need for care and support. The pandemic demonstrated why goodwill is not enough to ensure dignity for people of all ages; rather, a binding international framework on the human rights of older persons is needed. As we are undergoing the continuous increase in longevity, we need to reaffirm that people of all ages are entitled to all human rights, and to adapt our policies in this aim.

Throughout the implementation period of the current Regional Implementation Strategy (RIS), we have been monitoring the implementation of all policy areas covered by the commitments in the MIPAA and included our findings in the three '[AGE Barometer](#)' reports. This analysis is complemented by our work to assess [the impact of COVID-19 on the human rights of older persons](#), to respond to the [EU Green Paper on Ageing](#) and on the [Employment](#)



[Equality Directive](#). With the present letter, we submit to you a forward-looking assessment of the MIPAA commitments 2017-2022.

Our analyses all bear the same conclusion: policies on ageing fail to respect, protect and promote all human rights for older persons. Policies on ageing are often disconnected, sometimes contradictory, and are lacking indicators to measure the quality of life of older persons in their diversity.

Dear Ministers, we call on the next Regional Implementation Strategy:

- to put older persons as rights-holders at the centre of the next Regional Implementation Strategy;
- to call on States to engage in the process actively and positively towards an international convention on the rights of older persons;
- to call for an EU level and national Age Equality Strategies;
- to call for investment into the quality, affordability and accessibility of long-term care and transform long-term care into a setting to live and thrive;
- to adapt statistical frameworks to the reality of increasing longevity and diversity in older age; and
- to call for the inclusion of older persons as users and co-creators of digital services, and for the offline availability of all essential services.

To make a tangible difference for older persons' lives, the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing must be a stepping-stone toward a society where people of all ages can live to the fullest based on their rights.

We look forward to engaging with you.

Yours sincerely,



Ebbe Johansen
President



Maciej Kucharczyk
Secretary-General



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