



AGE Annual Conference
under the patronage of
the Czech Presidency of the Council of the European Union

'A Europe that cares, is a Europe that empowers'

18 November 2022, 09:30-16:00 (online)

Interpretation to/from: English, French, Czech



EU2022.CZ

Czech Presidency of the Council
of the European Union

[Registration](#) / [Live stream](#)

Rationale

In September 2022, the European Commission released the EU Care Strategy, setting out for the first time a European approach to long-term care. This follows President von der Leyen's announcement in her 2021 State of the Union speech and has been identified as a single outcome of the broad reflection process around the Green Paper on Ageing.

AGE set out its vision of long-term care that "[must empower us throughout our lives](#)" and built on this vision [by calling for the EU Care Strategy](#) to be based on the rights of persons in need for care to autonomy and independence, their participation and inclusion. AGE also called for investment, extension of access, improved quality and working conditions in formal long-term care services and support for informal carers.

Europe should be pioneers and leaders in supporting and ensuring the rights and dignity of older people. Following the ambitious consultation on the Green Paper on Ageing, a far-reaching call by the European Parliament in the [resolution 'Old-continent growing older'](#), and the historic Council Conclusions targeting older people and ageing policies reached under the [German](#) and [Portuguese Presidencies](#), the EU Care Strategy is, hopefully, only a first step to the mainstreaming of ageing into policy making. Despite these recent positive developments, and given the terrible toll taken by many older people during the COVID-19 pandemic, the rights of older people require increased attention and policy response; AGE Platform Europe would like the EU to contribute and participate more in international processes on ageing, such as the [UN Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing](#).

AGE's Annual Conference will discuss the proposed the EU Care Strategy with representatives of the Commission and the Council Presidency; but it will also aim to look beyond and identify opportunities for the EU to rise to the challenge of guaranteeing the rights of all generations in the context of economic upheaval and demographic change.



AGE Platform Europe | A society for ALL ages

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Programme

Opening

09:30-09:35: Welcome by Maciej Kucharczyk, AGE Secretary-General

09:35-09:55: Opening speeches

- **Zdislava Odstrčilová**, Czech Deputy Minister for Social Services and Family Policy
- **Ana Carla Pereira**, Cabinet Expert for Nicolas Schmit, Commissioner for Jobs, and Social Rights

09:55-10:05: Keynote speech

- **Ann Peuteman**, Journalist, Knack Magazine

Part 1: Building a rights-based approach to long-term care in the EU

10:05-11:30 Panel 1: Quality of care: guaranteeing independence for persons in need for care

Moderation: Dr Anthony DeGiovanni, AGE Vice-President; National Council for the Elderly, Malta

- **Dr Natasha Azzopardi-Muscat**, Director of the Division of Country Health Policies and Systems, World Health Organisation Europe
- **Katerina Ivanković-Knezević**, Director for Social Rights and Inclusion, Commission DG for Employment and Social Affairs
- **Dr Jiří Horecký**, President of European Ageing Network
- **Caroline Costongs**, Director, EuroHealthNet
- **Sergio Murillo**, Minister for Social Affairs, Biscay Provincial Council

Q&A

11:30-11:45 Coffee break

11:45-13:15 Panel 2: Equity in care: ensuring universal access to care

Moderation: Elena Weber, AGE Vice President; European Ageing Network

- **Prof Agnieszka Chłoń-Domińczak**, Member of the EU High-Level Group on the Future of Social Protection and of the Welfare State in the EU
- **Santiago Calvo Ramos**, Policy Analyst for Sustainability of public finances in the Commission DG for Economic and Financial Affairs
- **Stecy Yghemonos**, Director, Eurocarers

- **Dr Nadezhda Todorovska**, Bulgarian Red Cross
- **Dr Liz Mestheneos**, 50+Hellas, Greece

Q&A

13:15-14:15 *Lunch break*

Part 2: Europe and the human rights of older persons

Moderation: **José-Luis Tejedor**, AGE Vice-President; ASPUR, Spain

14:15-14:30: Keynote speech 'Building a Union of equality'

- **Irena Moozová**, Director, Commission DG Justice and Consumers for Equality and Union Citizenship

14:30-15:45 Panel 3: The global dimension of human rights of older persons

- **Amal Abou Rafeh**, Chief of the Programme on Ageing Section, United Nations Division for Economic and Social Affairs
- **Heidrun Mollenkopf**, NGO representative to the UNECE Standing Working Group on Ageing
- **Alexandre Sidorenko**, European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research

Q&A

Closing

15:45-15:55 Member of the European Parliament, **Milan Brglez**

15:55-16:00 Closing words by **Ebbe Johansen**, AGE President

END



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