



# Mainstreaming Ageing

Winter 2009

Supporting the UNECE Regional Implementation Strategy for the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing

Dear Reader,

The European Centre Vienna is proud to introduce its quarterly Mainstreaming Ageing newsletter, which is the only newsletter related to the monitoring of the implementation of the Madrid Plan. The first issue focuses on health and long-term care, the next issue will focus on women, work and pensions.

We would like to draw your attention to the [Monitoring RIS website](#) that had been relaunched in order to make information better accessible. You will find the Newsletter archive there as well.

Contributions to the newsletter are very welcome.

**Eszter Zólyomi**

Project Coordinator

## News in brief...

### **UK - Age equality in health and social care**

In April 2009, the Secretary of State for Health asked Sir Ian Carruthers OBE, Chief Executive of NHS South West, and Jan Ormondroyd, Chief Executive of Bristol City Council, to undertake a review of age discrimination and age equality in the health and social care sector. [More](#)

### **Europe - 2009 AGE Statement on Pensions Ensuring adequate pensions for all in the EU**

AGE member organisations are worried about the potential consequences of the current financial and economic crisis on the long-term sustainability of their national pension systems. To voice their concerns AGE is publishing this new statement on pensions reform. [More](#)

### **Europe - Experiences and expressions of Ageism in the European Social Survey**

In 2008, the ESS survey has included a special module on ageism. It covers indicators on intergenerational relationships, age related stereotypes, prejudice, status of age groups as well as age discrimination. [More](#)

### **World - Women and health: today's evidence tomorrow's agenda**

Despite considerable progress in the past decades, societies continue to fail to meet the health care needs of women at key moments of their lives, particularly in their adolescent years and in older age. [More](#)

## **New book examines long-term care needs and services across Europe and North America**

„Facts and Figures on Long-Term Care - Europe and North America“ displays new data on up to 56 countries of the UN-European region.

Despite growing concerns over ageing and its social and fiscal impact, surprisingly scarce information is available on basic indicators concerning long-term care for dependent older people. The present publication seeks to fill this gap of knowledge as it searches for answers to queries and puzzles such as...

What exactly do we mean by long-term care? Where to set the boundaries between family or informal and formal care, between home and residential / institutional care, between public and privately financed care?

Will demographic ageing further accelerate? What are the typical living arrangements of older people? Who provides care for dependent older people within the family? Is care provided mostly in institutions or at home? Which countries spend the most in long-term care? Are cash benefits one effective way to keep expenditure under control?

These and other questions are being answered.

For further information please visit the [website](#).



## Day Center program

### Caritas Serbia - Home care

Striving to upgrade the life quality of elderly and helpless people, sick, physically handicapped, without relatives and with very poor social communication, Caritas has initiated, with its donors a Home Care and Day Center Program in which nurses and household assistants can give basic medical help and help elders in their every day activities.

Program started in 1996, financed by Caritas Ialana in Belgrade, Zemun and Niš. According to good experience and with the rising number of elderly, in 2001, Program continues like National Program of Home Care in Serbia and Montenegro. It has been determined that services should be accessible for everyone, no matter of religious, ethnic and national views. Beside the better quality of life that elderly and sick live, the goal of this Program is to create more modern care and implementing new methods for helping them. Thanks to donors the services are free of charge.

Caritas is realising the Program in cooperation with local Centers for Social Work, Centers for Primary Health Care, Hospitals, Red Cross and every other government and non government organisations that are willing for cooperation. With this Program, criterions for elderly access to Home Care are also determined. Services are for:

- elderly and helpless people in need,
- people in bad health condition,
- people with bad psychological (mental) condition (depression),
- people with bad financial situation,
- lonely people, people without any relatives.

Working groups have 2 nurses and 2 household assistants. They are oriented to provide: 1. Health care inside the house (taking blood pressure, measuring temperature, sugar) 2. Help with household works (cleaning, smaller repairs, shopping) 3. Outside activities (transport for medical care, social contacts, etc)

Three to five volunteers support this team work. Volunteers who are included in the Program have at least one educational seminar a year. They have an important part of job, supporting psycho-social help. They visit lonely people, talk to them, read to

them, taking walks, organising their transport or a visit to the people which are closest to them.

Right now, the Program of Home Care and Daily Centers are realised in 20 municipalities of Serbia (and 1 in Montenegro). On the monthly level includes about 2823 users. It takes part in over 100 professionals and 120 volunteers. Until today it was financed by Caritas network, European Union, German Government (by Caritas Germany), some of the local parts and local donors. Financing by EU shall be completed on 31.12.2009. Caritas Home Care work is recognised as very qualified and on very high professional level.

*News provided by the National Focal Points on Ageing from Serbia, Ms. Lydia Kozarcanin*

More information is available on the [website](#)  
For personal contact mail to [Katarina Crnjanski](#)  
or call: 00381-11-3616940

## Who Cares?

### Conference on Healthy and Dignified Ageing

Long-term care is arguably the area of social policy where European Union Member States differ the most as to how care needs of dependent older people are to be addressed. And yet, because of this underlying diversity, Member States could greatly benefit from each other's experiences.

Building on the expertise of the Health and Care team, as well as on the comparative nature of the research undertaken by the European Centre, Bernd Marin, Kai Leichsenring, Ricardo Rodrigues and Manfred Huber prepared a background paper to the keynote speech provided by Bernd Marin at the "Conference on Healthy and Dignified Ageing" – at the initiative and invitation of the Swedish Minister for Elderly Care and Public Health, Maria Larsson, and with the active participation of Her Majesty Queen Silvia.

Based on the publication "Facts and Figures on Long-Term Care – Europe and North America", the paper explores the diversity and common trends in long-term care in Europe, pointing out

to findings such as: while most people are cared for at home, most public resources in Europe are still devoted to institutional care; or to the role that informal care-giving continues to play in the delivery of care.

The paper then proceeds to develop key policy challenges such as the need to enhance coordination between health and social care services; to improve access of older people to mainstream health care; the role of choice in publicly provided care; the challenges associated with Alzheimer and other dementias; the workforce issues that revolve around the provision of long-term care, from labour shortages to use of migrant care workers; or the improvement and assurance of quality in care services.

The paper also draws on examples and lessons from good practices in EU countries on local and national level.

The paper can be retrieved [here](#).

Information on the Conference on Health and Dignified Ageing can be found [here](#).

---

## HealthQUEST

### *Quality in and Equality of Access to Healthcare Services*

4 September 2009, Brussels (Belgium): Barriers to Healthcare Services Faced by Older People with Functional Limitations

This seminar was the third and final one in a series of policy seminars aimed at engaging key stakeholders in a fruitful exchange of strategies and results of the recently published study “Quality in and Equality of Access to Healthcare Services” (HealthQUEST).

Manfred Huber gave a presentation on “Barriers to Healthcare Services for Older People with Functional Limitations” which is available [here](#).

You can find general information on the project HealthQUEST [here](#).

---

## Monitoring Long-Term Care for the Elderly

### *Expert meeting in Jerusalem*

On September 7 till 8, the Ministry of Social Affairs and Services of Israel, the Association for Planning and Development of Services for the Elderly in Israel (JDC-ESHEL) and the European Centre jointly organised an expert meeting on „Monitoring Long-Term Care for the Elderly“, in Jerusalem, Israel.

The meeting, attended by experts on long-term care and ageing from the European Centre, the UNECE, several European countries and Israel, discussed some of the main trends and challenges facing long-term care today, such as, the issue of quality assurance in long-term care, workforce and the role of foreign workers, or continuity within care services provided for older people. The meeting and subsequent field visits to some community services in Ashdod and Ashkelon allowed experts and policy makers to exchange views and best practices on common challenges facing long-term care services.

Full meeting program, as well as access to the presentations delivered in the workshop is now available [online](#).

---

## INTERLINKS

Health Systems and Long-term Care for Older People in Europe – Modelling the INTERfaces and LINKS between Prevention, Rehabilitation, Quality of Services and Informal Care

The rising demand for long-term care calls for policy approaches to long-term care allowing for holistic and inclusive views that integrate the role of different public programmes, sectors of society, and private initiatives. Moreover, there is growing evidence about discrimination of dependent older people with respect to their access to mainstream health care and to prevention and rehabilitation, that needs to be addressed by health and

long-term care reforms.

The objective of this 3-year project is therefore to construct and validate a general model to describe and analyse long-term care (LTC) systems for older people from a European perspective.

The particular aspects of the different emerging national models that currently address long-term care needs in Europe will be used to show how the links to health care services, the quality of LTC services, the incentives for prevention and rehabilitation, and the support for informal carers can be governed and financed to enhance structures, processes and outcomes of LTC systems.

Specifically, this project will

- Develop a concept and methodology to describe and analyse long-term care
- and its links with the health system. This methodology is to facilitate crossnational
- comparisons and to enable individual Member States to compare their
- developmental status and to identify future areas for national development.
- Identify a set of practical tools that measure and support progress against
- evidence-based good practice, and can be used to guide the future in individual
- Member States.
- Identify acknowledged and established good practice that may help to inform
- the policy and practice of other Member States, particularly with respect to
- assessing and monitoring quality of care, promoting prevention and rehabilitation
- and supporting informal carers as well as addressing respective governance and
- financing issues.

More information about INTERLINKS can be found [here](#)

---

## Lost in Transition

### *Meeting the Challenge through Integrated Care*

---

This year the 9th International Conference on Integrated Care took place in Vienna. The international scientific programme lasted from 5th to 6th of November and focused on the following sub-topics:

- making effective the co-ordination and continuity of care across the patient pathway;
- making care more personal to the individual;
- supporting self care amongst users, carers and families;
- evaluating and measuring the cost effectiveness of integrated and personalised care.

The overall aim of the conference was to bring together researchers, policy makers and practitioners interested in transnational cooperation and coordination between health and social care and to stimulate an exchange of knowledge, experiences and new ideas on integrated care. Researchers, practitioners and policy makers presented their current or latest research results and projects.

In the session „Growing Old – Staying mobile. How to organise integrated care for elderly.“ Georg Ruppe, researcher at the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, spoke about “Towards preventive long-term care pathways for older people – INTERLINKS and the case of Austria” and also presented a poster based on related findings and research in the project INTERLINKS.

Read more about integrated care [here](#).

For further information please contact [Georg Ruppe](#)

## Upcoming events



- ▶ **Long-term care in Europe  
Discussing trends and relevant issues**  
SZMI (Institute for Social Policy and Labour, Hungary) and the European Centre Vienna National Consultation/Technical Workshop, 22-23 February 2010, Budapest, Hungary  
The workshop will address long-term care for dependent older people. It will seek to discuss several trends and issues that are relevant both for Western/Central and Eastern European countries. [More](#)
  
- ▶ **Regional Social Security Forum for Europe**  
ISSA, 3-5 March 2010, Warsaw, Poland  
This Forum will provide a key platform for information and exchange on the most important regional social security trends and priority issues in Europe. [More](#)
  
- ▶ **Climate for Change: Ageing into the future**  
10th Global Conference on Ageing of the International Federation on Ageing, 3-6 May 2010, Melbourne, Australia  
The conference is focusing on: Climate Change, Social Inclusion, Human Rights, Resourcing Change and Healthy Ageing. [More](#)
  
- ▶ **Older workers in a sustainable society - great needs and great potentials**  
9-11 June 2010, Oslo, Norway.  
The international research conference is organised by the Norwegian Centre for Senior Policy in cooperation with the Research Council of Norway and in agreement with The Norwegian Ministry of Labour and Social Inclusion.  
The main topic at the conference is the potentials of older workers, both individually and as an important part of society's work force. [More](#)

The [European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research](#), an intergovernmental organisation affiliated to the United Nations, has been mandated to undertake various follow-up activities of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing since 2002.

The [Mainstreaming Ageing: Indicators to Monitor Implementation \(MA:IMI\)](#) project is an institutionalised collaboration between the European Centre and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). Eszter Zólyomi is the Project Coordinator. For further information please visit the [Monitoring RIS website](#)

### Contact information:

Annette Hexelschneider  
Head of Knowledge and Information Management Support Unit  
European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research  
Berggasse 17  
A-1090 Vienna (Austria)  
Tel: +43-1-319 45 05-23  
Fax: +43-1-319 45 05-19  
[hexelschneider@euro.centre.org](mailto:hexelschneider@euro.centre.org)

Contact for general research questions:  
[ec@euro.centre.org](mailto:ec@euro.centre.org)

Financed by:



Please feel welcome to forward the newsletter to others.

If you wish to reproduce any information please contact [hexelschneider@euro.centre.org](mailto:hexelschneider@euro.centre.org)

If you wish to unsubscribe please answer this mail with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line.

Every reasonable effort has been made to ensure that the information provided is accurate. The European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research does not warrant its accuracy and disclaims any liability to any third party anywhere in the world for any injury, damage, direct or indirect loss, consequential or economic loss or any other loss suffered as a result of the use or reliance upon the information contained in the newsletter and our web pages to the maximum extent permitted by law.

The newsletter contains links to external sites over which the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research has no control and accepts no responsibility, as long as the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research has no information about the illegality of the information. Should you have information about such content on pages where we link to please send immediately a mail to [ec@euro.centre.org](mailto:ec@euro.centre.org).