

Resources

COVID-19 and older persons



Updated: 1 November 2020

Older persons have moved to the centre of attention during the current COVID-19 pandemic. In the last months of 2020, many countries in the UNECE region had entered a massive second wave. The Population Unit has created this overview of resources relating to the situation and needs of older persons during the current COVID-19 pandemic to facilitate access to relevant information.

The resources included have been developed by international organisations, research networks and civil society organisations working with and for older persons in the UNECE region. The list is not comprehensive, and we will regularly update this page. Do not hesitate to contact us at unece.ageing@un.org to share relevant resources for inclusion.

The following are links to external websites. Responsibility for their content lies with the authors.

Policy Briefs, Reports, Guidance & Expert Statements			
Published	Author	Document	Key Themes
28 October 2020	International Labour Organization	Issue paper on COVID-19 and fundamental principles and rights at work	Labour, rights at work
2020	Help Age International	COVID-19: Building back better	Pandemic recovery
n.d.	European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research	Socioeconomic condition of informal carers during the COVID-19 pandemic	Long-term care
9 October 2020	European Union council	Human Rights, Participation and Well-Being of Older Persons in the Era of Digitalisation	Digitalisation and autonomy
15 September 2020	European Commission	Employment and Social Developments in Europe Review: Leaving no one behind and striving for more: fairness and solidarity in the European social market economy.	Pandemic recovery
31 August 2020	UN DESA	Policy brief #84 Achieving SDGs in the wake of COVID-19: Scenarios for policymakers	Pandemic recovery
28 August 2020	EUROMOMO Bulletin	Low level of pooled excess mortality in Europe: Week 34 of COVID 19	Excess death
27 August 2020	WHO	Pulse survey on continuity of essential health services during the COVID-19 pandemic: interim report	Essential health services
24 August 2020	WHO	172 countries and multiple candidate vaccines engaged in COVID-19 vaccine Global Access Facility	Pandemic response
19 August 2020	International Long-Term Care Policy Network	Impact and mortality of Covid-19 on people living with dementia: Cross country report	Long-term care
18 August 2020	Cambridge University	Ageing heart cells offer clues to susceptibility of older people to severe COVID-19	Susceptibility
14 August 2020	JAMA Network	Comparison of Estimated Excess Deaths in New York City During the COVID-19 and 1918 Influenza Pandemics	Excess death
10 August 2020	Institute of Health Metrics and Evaluation	Digital public health and COVID-19	Pandemic recovery
31 July 2020	HelpAge International	Finding opportunities to make a case for older people's right and a UN convention during COVID-19	Human rights
31 July 2020	International Long-Term Care Policy Network	Updated findings: Living systematic review of emerging evidence on COVID-19 related mortality and spread of disease in Long-Term	Long-term care facilities
29 July 2020	Ageing Better	The experience of people approaching later life in lockdown: The impact of COVID-19 on 50-70-year olds in England	Pandemic response

29 July 2020	European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights	Coronavirus pandemic in the EU - Fundamental Rights Implications - Bulletin 4	Human rights
26 July 2020	WHO EU regional office	COVID-19: WHO European Region Operational Update	Pandemic update
24 July 2020	WHO	Preventing and managing COVID-19 across long-term care services: Policy brief	Long-term care services
21 July 2020	United Nations General Assembly	Impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons	Human rights
21 July 2020	HelpAge International	Rise of COVID cases in humanitarian contexts exposes more older people to risk	Pandemic response
17 July 2020	UN DESA	Policy Brief #83: Recovering from COVID-19: the importance of investing in global public goods for health	Pandemic recovery
11 July 2020	OCHA	Global humanitarian response plan covid 19: July update	Pandemic response; Disabilities
10 July 2020	OCHA	The cost of doing nothing: The price of inaction in response to the COVID-19 crisis	Pandemic response
30 June 2020	European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights	Coronavirus pandemic in the EU- fundamental rights implications: with a focus on older people	Human rights
26 June 2020	International Long-Term Care Policy Network	Mortality associated with COVID-19 outbreaks in care homes: early international evidence	Long-term care facilities
25 June 2020	EASPD	COVID-19 and Social Services: what role for the EU?	Pandemic recovery; Social protections
22 June 2020	OECD	Workforce and Safety in Long-Term Care during the COVID-19 pandemic	Labour; long term care
22 June 2020	OECD	Policy Brief: Who Cares? Attracting and Retaining Care Workers for the Elderly	Long-term care
17 June 2020	International Long-Term Care Policy Network	Report summarizing international examples of measures to support unpaid carers during the COVID-19 pandemic	Pandemic; support; carers
15 June 2020	OHCHR	Verbal and online abuse violating human rights of older persons must be stamped out – UN expert	Human rights; Ageism; Abuse
4 June 2020	ILO	COVID-19 and the World of Work: Ensuring the inclusion of persons with disabilities at all stages of the response	Pandemic response; workplace; Inclusion

2 June 2020	AGE Platform Europe	Recovery from the COVID-19 crisis: Do not repeat the errors of the 2008 Great Depression	Pandemic recovery
21 May 2020	WHO Europe	Strengthening the Health Systems Response to COVID-19; Technical Guidance #6: Preventing and managing the COVID-19 pandemic across long-term care services in the WHO European Region	Pandemic Response: Long-term care;
May 2020	ILO	Policy Brief: A policy Framework for tackling the economic and social impact of COVID-19	Pandemic Response; Pandemic Recovery
18 May 2020	AGE Platform Europe	COVID-19 and human rights concerns for older persons (Updated 18 May)	Human rights; Digital exclusion;
14 May 2020	OHCHR	Press Conference with ACANU Geneva, 14 May 2020, Opening remarks by High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet	Human rights; Pandemic response; Long-term care facilities
13 May 2020	SG	Policy Brief: COVID-19 and the Need for Action on Mental Health	Pandemic response; Mental health; healthy ageing
13 May 2020	UNODC, WHO, UNAIDS, OHCHR	UNODC, WHO, UNAIDS and OHCHR joint statement on COVID-19 in prisons and other closed settings*	Pandemic response; Prisons; Human rights; Access to healthcare
12 May 2020	ILO	Social Protection Monitor: Social protection responses to the COVID-19 crisis around the world	Pandemic response; Social protections
12 May 2020	OHCHR	Statement by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet	Human rights of older persons
11 May 2020	OCHA	Global Humanitarian Response Plan: May Update	Pandemic response; Disabilities
11 May 2020	International Long-Term Care Policy Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mortality associated with COVID-19 outbreaks in care homes: early international evidence • End-of-life support for people in care homes in the context of COVID-19: international report • The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on people living with dementia in India • The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on people living with dementia in Spain • The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on people living with dementia in the UK • Supporting people living with dementia and their carers in low- and-middle-income countries during COVID-19 • International measures to prevent and manage COVID-19 infections in care homes • Note on asymptomatic transmission in care homes 	Long-term care facilities; Palliative care; Dementia

08 May 2020	UN DESA	Policy Brief: COVID-19 and Older Persons: A Defining Moment for an Informed, Inclusive and Targeted Response	Pandemic Response
07 May 2020	ILO	COVID-19 and the World of Work: Global Impact and Policy Recommendations	Workplace; Labour markets
07 May 2020	Population Europe	Demography and the Coronavirus Pandemic	Demographic trends
07 May 2020	International Long-Term Care Policy Network	Country Reports: COVID-19 and Long-Term Care	Long-term care facilities; Palliative care; Dementia
06 May 2020	SG	Policy Brief: A Disability-Inclusive Response to COVID-19	Pandemic response; Disabilities
05 May 2020	IFRC, WHO, UNICEF	Community-based health care, including outreach and campaigns in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic	Pandemic response; community-based health care
04 May 2020	European Commission	COVID-19 Cases and Case Fatality Rate by age	Surveillance
01 May 2020	SG	Policy Brief: The Impact of COVID-19 on Older Persons	Pandemic response
29 Apr 2020	WHO	Presentation from the WHO Working Group On COVID-19 and NCDs	NCDs; Pandemic Response
29 Apr 2020	OHCHR	COVID-19 and the rights of persons with disabilities: guidance	Pandemic response; Disabilities
29 Apr 2020	ILO	ILO Monitor: COVID-19 and the world of work. Third Edition. Updated estimates and analysis	Pandemic response; Workplace
24 Apr 2020	UNFPA	UNFPA Global Technical Brief: Implications of COVID-19 for Older Persons: Responding to the Pandemic	Pandemic response
24 Apr 2020	IFRC, WHO, OCHA	Update #1: COVID-19: How to include marginalized and vulnerable people in risk communication and community engagement	Pandemic response; Inclusion; Solidarity
20 April 2020	GOARN, IFRC, UNICEF, WHO	Tips for Engaging Communities during COVID-19 in Low-Resource Settings, Remotely and In-Person	Pandemic Response; Communication; Community Engagement
06 Apr 2020	WHO	Conceptual framework for the WHO Working Group on COVID-19 and NCDs	NCDs; Healthy Ageing
06 Apr 2020	WHO	Advice on the use of masks in the context of COVID-19	Health care workers; Home care; PPE
06 Apr 2020	UN DESA	Issue Brief: Older Persons and COVID-19: A Defining Moment for Informed, Inclusive and Targeted Response	Pandemic response; Inclusion
01 Apr 2020	AGE Platform Europe	COVID-19 and human rights concerns for older persons	Human rights; Good practices
April 2020	OXFAM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Guide for Community-Facing Staff • Community Engagement During COVID-19: 13 Practical Tips • Community Engagement During COVID-19: Checklist 	Pandemic Response; Community Engagement; Communication
27 Mar 2020	UNICEF, ILO, UN Women	Family-Friendly Policies and Other Good Workplace Practices in the Context of COVID-19: key steps employers can take	Workplace; Pandemic response
27 Mar 2020	OHCHR	"Unacceptable" - UN expert urges better protection of older persons facing the highest risk of the COVID-19 pandemic	Social protection

26 Mar 2020	WHO	Disability considerations during the COVID-19 outbreak	Disabilities; Pandemic response
26 Mar 2020	OHCHR	No Exceptions with COVID-19: "Everyone has the right to life-saving interventions"- UN expert says	Human rights; Access to healthcare
23 Mar 2020	WHO	Information note on COVID-19 and NCDs	NCDs; Healthy ageing
21 Mar 2020	UNHCR	Risk Communication and Community Engagement -- COVID-19	Pandemic Response; Communication
21 Mar 2020	WHO	Infection Prevention and Control guidance for Long-term Care Facilities in the context of COVID-19	Long-term care facilities; Pandemic response
21 Mar 2020	UNHCR	Age, Gender and Diversity Considerations - COVID-19	Human rights; Gender; Disabilities; Access to care; Access to services
18 Mar 2020	WHO	Mental health and psychosocial considerations during the COVID-19 outbreak	Mental health; healthy ageing
17 Mar 2020	WHO	Home care for patients with COVID-19 presenting with mild symptoms and management of their contacts	Home care; quarantine;
March 2020	ICRC	COVID-19: Inclusive Programming - Ensuring Assistance And Protection Addresses the Needs of Marginalized and At-risk People	Pandemic Response; Inclusion; Participation
March 2020	WHO Europe	Stay physically active during self-quarantine	Quarantine; Healthy ageing; Physical activity
March 2020	Translators Without Borders	Do You Speak COVID-19? The importance of language for effective communication across the response	Pandemic Response; Communication
March 2020	Social Science in Humanitarian Action	Key Considerations: online information, mis- and disinformation in the context of COVID-19	Pandemic Response; Communication
March 2020	Regional Risk Communication and Community Engagement Working Group	COVID-19: How to include marginalized and vulnerable people in risk communication and community engagement	Pandemic Response; Communication; Community engagement
24 Feb 2020	IFRC, UNICEF, WHO	A guide to preventing and addressing social stigma	Human rights; Stigma
	ITU	ITU Guidelines on how to ensure that digital information, services, and products are accessible by all people, including Persons with Disabilities during COVID-19	Digital inclusion; Access to services; Technology

Additional Resources		
Author	Resource	Key Themes
UNESCAP, UNFPA, HelpAge	Webinar: COVID-19, communities and older persons	Pandemic response and recovery;

International, AGAC, AGES		Community action; Participation of older persons
NGO Committee on Ageing Geneva	Webinar: Impact of COVID-19 on violence, abuse & neglect of older persons	Human rights; Ageism; Abuse; Webinar
RightOn - The Wednesday Webchat	Webinar: Protecting the rights of older persons during the COVID-19 pandemic	Pandemic response; Human rights; Webinar
Inter-Agency Standing Committee	COVID-19 Resources Relating to Accountability and Inclusion	Publications, tools, statements, videos; guidance; Inclusion
OCHA	COVID-19: Older people at risk but resilient	Participation; Positive Imaging; Inclusion
NGO Committee on Ageing Geneva	Webinar: The Human Rights of Older Persons in the age of COVID-19 and beyond: Virtual conversation with the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Independent Expert on the Enjoyment of all Human Rights by Older Persons	Human rights; Long-term care facilities; Inclusion; Pandemic response
WHO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Older people & COVID-19 • Resources on NCDs and COVID-19 • Health care considerations for older people during the COVID-19 pandemic • Q&A: Older people and COVID-19 	NCDs; Pandemic response; Healthy ageing; Public advice
HelpAge International	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 and pension payments • Guidance and advice for communities and older peoples' associations 	Pension; Access to services; Solidarity
EuroAgeism	Useful Resources on Ageism, Older Persons, and COVID-19	Pandemic response
AGE Platform Europe	Useful Resources	Guidance; Solidarity
ILO	Social Protection Response to the COVID-19 Crisis	Publications, tools, statements, videos, events, links, ILO news
Euro Carers	COVID-19 Practical support to informal carers	Home care; Informal carers; Mental health; Quarantine; Isolation
UNFPA	Webinar: COVID-19 and Older Persons	Pandemic response; Solidarity; Long-term care facilities ; Webinar
International Federation on Ageing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 Resource Library • Virtual Town Hall Resources 	Publications, tools, statements, videos
International Institute on Ageing	Call for good practices in protecting older persons during the COVID-19 pandemic	Pandemic response
Population Europe	Demography & COVID-19	Demography; Research