



**MIPAA+20**

A Sustainable World For All Ages

Joining forces for solidarity  
and equal opportunities throughout life

— Rome 15-17 June 2022

## **UNECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing**

### **Side events**

#### **Thursday, 16 June 2022**

11:10 – 11:25 **Opening of Poster exhibition (for the duration of the Conference)**

*Opened by Ms. Elena Bonetti, Minister for Equal Opportunities and Family of Italy*

13:15 – 14:15 **Towards age-responsive crisis management: what we have learned from the COVID pandemic**

*Organised by Austria*

*Location: POLA room (floor -1)*

Over the past two years, older persons have been put into the public spotlight due to their higher risk of developing serious illness from COVID-19. Most countries across the world introduced containment strategies that affected all groups of society but especially older persons who were often stigmatized as a highly vulnerable risk group.

This side event will:

- Look into the broad range of impacts of COVID-19 on older persons such as ageism, impacts on their physical and mental health, well-being, social participation, loneliness, anxiety, isolation, personal relationships, physical activity, or solidarity among generations;
- Offer space for discussion on recommendations and lessons learned towards age-responsive crisis management in different UNECE Member States.

**Welcome address:**

**Mr. Johannes Rauch**, Federal Minister of Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection, Austria

**Moderator:**

**Ms. Juliet Relihan**, UNECE National Focal Point on Ageing, Ireland

**Panellists:**

**Ms. Annette Gibbons**, Associate Deputy Minister at Employment and Social Development Canada

**Dr. Hans Dubois**, European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions

**Dr. Sabine Pleschberger**, Austrian Public Health Institute, Austria



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13:15 – 14:15

**Rights, health and dignity: Strengthening demographic resilience by harnessing the opportunities that come with population ageing**

*Organised by Bulgaria, Georgia and UNFPA*

*Location: ORANGE room (floor -1)*

In follow-up to the Ministerial Conference on Demographic Resilience held in Sofia in December 2021, this side event will discuss the shifts that are necessary to allow societies to thrive amid rapid demographic change. Speakers will focus on the importance of rights, health and dignity in responses to population ageing, and will explore how harnessing the opportunities that come with population ageing can strengthen societies' demographic resilience.

**Welcome address and moderator:**

**Ms. Giulia Vallese**, Regional Director a.i., UNFPA Regional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia, United Nations Population Fund

**Opening remarks:**

**Dr. Velislava Petrova**, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Bulgaria

**Mr. Zurab Azarashvili**, Minister of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs, Georgia

**Dr. Diene Keita**, Deputy Executive Director (Programme), United Nations Population Fund

**Setting the stage:**

**Mr. Stuart Gietel-Basten**, Professor of Social Science and Public Policy, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

**Panellists:**

**Mr. Marcel Spatari**, Minister of Labor and Social Protection, Moldova

**Ms. Jovanka Trenchevska**, Minister of Labour and Social Policy, North Macedonia

**Mr. Narek Mkrtchyan**, Minister of Labor and Social Affairs, Armenia

**Mr. Guy Opperman**, Minister For Pensions And Financial Inclusion, United Kingdom

**Closing remarks:**

**Ms. Giulia Vallese**, Regional Director a.i., UNFPA Regional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia, United Nations Population Fund



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**Preventing the loss of autonomy: for a better cooperation on the issue of falls of senior citizens**

*Organised by France, Italy and Switzerland*

*Location: SPALATO room (floor -1)*

Early prevention of the onset of frailty is a key variable in promoting the autonomy and improving the quality of life of older people. Preventing an early decline in physical and mental capacities as well as the risk of social isolation and encouraging the shift towards homecare make it possible to overcome the risks of loss of autonomy and accidents, such as falls, and their consequences on the health and dependency of the elderly.

The side event will explore:

- The risk factors for falls and how they contribute to or result from the loss of autonomy;
- The role of research for a better understanding and response to loss of autonomy;
- The means of action and actors to be involved in public policies aiming at preventing the loss of autonomy and associated risks, such as falls, in particular: support for age-friendly environment adaptations; improved access to assistive technologies; and awareness-raising for carers and caregivers.

**Moderator:**

**Mr. Alfredo FERRANTE**, Head of Unit, Family national policies and international relations, Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Italy (*tbc*)

**Panellists:**

**Ms. Yuka Sumi**, Responsible for Integrated Care for Older People (ICOPE), Medical officer– Ageing and Health (AAH), Department of Maternal, Newborn, Child & Adolescent Health & Ageing (MCA), WHO

**Mr. Christian Leorin**, Adjunct Professor, University of Padua, Italy

**Mr. Alexis Rinckenbach**, Head of European and International Affairs Office, General Directorate for Social Cohesion, Ministry for Solidarity and Health, France

**Mr. Lorenzo Chiari**, Professor of Ageing and Rehabilitation Engineering, University of Bologna, Italy

**Mr. Thomas Vollmer**, Head of the Sector for Ageing, Generations and Society, Federal Social Insurance Office, Switzerland



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15:50 – 16:10

## **Implementation of the United Nations Decade of Healthy Ageing**

*Organised by WHO*

*Location: POLA room (floor -1)*

The WHO-led United Nations Decade of Healthy Ageing (2021-2030) is a global collaboration, aligned with the last ten years of implementing the Sustainable Development Goals. The Decade brings together governments, civil society, international agencies, professionals, academia, the media, and the private sector for ten years of concerted, catalytic, and collaborative action to improve the lives of older people, their families, and the communities in which they live.

This side event will:

- Give a rapid overview of major achievements since the United Nations General Assembly declared 2021-2030 the Decade of Healthy Ageing;
- Briefly introduce some of the main tools of the Decade, such as the online knowledge exchange Platform of the Decade;
- Discuss synergies with the Regional Implementation Strategy of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA);
- Engage all participants in identifying key opportunities going forward;
- Listen to some key leaders on what global and regional actions are planned for 2022-2023.



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## **Friday, 17 June 2022**

13:30 – 14:45     **The coordination of ageing policies in Italy**

*Organised by Italy*

*Location: ORANGE room (floor -1)*

The side event is aimed at discussing current issues concerning the development of a national ageing strategy in Italy in the following years. The discussion will highlight the opportunity to implement a whole-of-government and a whole-of-society approach, in order to successfully mainstream ageing issues in all public policies, both at national and local level. The experience of the project “National multilevel co-managed coordination of active ageing policies in Italy” and the proposals from the “Pact for a new Welfare” will represent interesting cases in this regard.

**Moderator:**

**Mr. Alfredo Ferrante**, Department for Family Policies, Presidency of the Council of Ministers of Italy

**Introduction:**

**Ms. Fabrizia Lattanzio**, Scientific Director of the National Institute of Health and Sciences on Ageing (INRCA), Italy (*tbc*)

**Mr. Sebastiano Fadda**, President of the National Institute for Public Policy Analysis (INAPP), Italy (*tbc*)

**Panellists:**

**Mr. Pietro Checcucci**, National Institute for Public Policy Analysis (INAPP), Italy

**Mr. Andrea Principi**, National Institute of Health and Sciences on Ageing (INRCA), Italy

**Mr. Cristiano Gori**, University of Trento

**Conclusions:**

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**13:30 – 14:45 MIPAA policies and human rights mechanisms**

*Organised by Germany, BAGSO and AGE Platform Europe*

*Location: SPALATO room (floor -1)*

The adoption of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA) was an important milestone for ageing policy worldwide. Soon after, however, it was recognised that a non-binding instrument does not sufficiently protect the human rights of older persons. Within this context, the General Assembly decided in Resolution 65/182 in December 2010 to establish an open-ended working group “for the purpose of strengthening the protection of the human rights of older persons (...)”. In parallel to the work of the Open-Ended Working Group, which met for the twelfth session in April 2022, other international processes also address the wellbeing and human rights of older persons.

This side event will explore:

- How can these processes better build on each other?
- Which achievements can be celebrated so far?
- What are the biggest challenges at international level to advance the human rights in older age?
- How can older persons' participation be given more value and how can the understanding of the need to protect human rights of older persons be increased?

**Moderator:**

**Ms. Ina Voelcker**, BAGSO

**Introduction:**

**Ms. Amal Abou Rafeh**, Chief of the Programme on Ageing Section, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

**Ms. Lisa Warth**, Population Unit, UNECE

**Panellists:**

**Ms. Lisa Paus**, Minister of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth of Germany

**Mr. Marcel Spatari**, Minister of Labor and Social Protection of the Republic of Moldova

**Mr. Benedetto Della Vedova**, Undersecretary of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy

**Mr. Maciej Kucharczyk**, Secretary General, AGE Platform Europe

**Mr. Kiran Rabheru**, Chair of the Steering Group of the Global Alliance for the Rights of Older People (GAROP)



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13:30 – 14:45 **Combatting Elder Abuse: What's next? Five priorities for the Decade**

*Organised by INPEA*

*Location: POLA room (floor -1)*

The World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD), designated as 15 June, was initiated by the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA) in 2006, and recognized as a United Nations Day by the General Assembly in its resolution A/RES/66/127 adopted in 2011.

According to WHO estimates, 1 in 6 people over 60 years of age suffers from abuse. That means nearly 141 million people globally. This number may be much higher as neglect, abuse and violence against older people are among the most hidden and underrepresented violations of human rights.

The side event will present overall trends of violence against older persons, and highlight continuing gaps in, and challenges to, the implementation of relevant objectives in MIPAA. It will explore the need for a new international legal instrument to address these gaps and challenges, to ensure that investing in social policies with a view to facilitating the full realization of the right to development will advance not only the implementation MIPAA, but also the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. Expert panellists will also present five priorities to combat violence against older persons in the Decade of Healthy Ageing (2021-2030), which have been selected on the basis of extensive consultations with experts and stakeholder in the field and a careful review of the evidence.

**Moderator:**

**Mr. Alexandre Sidorenko**, Senior Advisor at the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research International Tutor, International Institute on Ageing

**Opening remarks:**

**Ms. Susan Somers**, President of INPEA

**Panellists:**

**Mr. Yongjie Yon**, Technical Officer, WHO Regional Office for Europe

**Ms. Natasa Todorovic**, Health and Care Program Manager, Red Cross of Serbia and INPEA representative

**Ms. Amal Abou Rafeh**, Chief of the Programme on Ageing Section, UN DESA

**Mr. Christopher Mikton**, Technical Officer, Demographic Change and Healthy Ageing, WHO

**Closing remarks:**

**Ms. Claudia Mahler**, Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons (*tbc*)