

Policy Brief No. 27 - issued in Feb 2022

Mainstreaming Ageing – revisited

- Available on UNECE homepage
- Language versions:
 - English & German
 - Russian (in preparation)





Aims:

- 1. Revisiting the **concept** of mainstreaming ageing
- Highlighting core enablers for advancing the integration of ageing into broader policy agendas





- Some key findings:
 - Importance of data & analysis
 - Importance of inclusion of multiple & diverse stakeholders
 - Importance of clear political mandate & strategy





Next Policy Brief No. 28 (to be issued 1st Q of 2023)

Background

- Topic agreed at 14th SWGA meeting in 2021
- Dedicated to theme of 2022 Ministerial Conference

Societal context

- Inequalities across income and access to health and services
- Discrimination based on age deep-rooted, intersecting with other forms of discrimination
- Covid-19 pandemic's differential impact on older people, e.g., mortality and social interactions



Focus

- Broadly: Joining forces for solidarity and equal opportunities throughout life
- Specifically: Older persons in vulnerable situations and intersectionality of factors that can prevent equal opportunities across the life course and need to be addressed in a whole-of-society approach



Aims

- Offer conceptual discussion of factors causing vulnerability in later life
- Review policy strategies from across the UNECE region to prevent vulnerability in later life, protect older persons in situations of vulnerability, mitigate the impact of adverse events and enhance resilience
- Formulate concrete policy recommendations

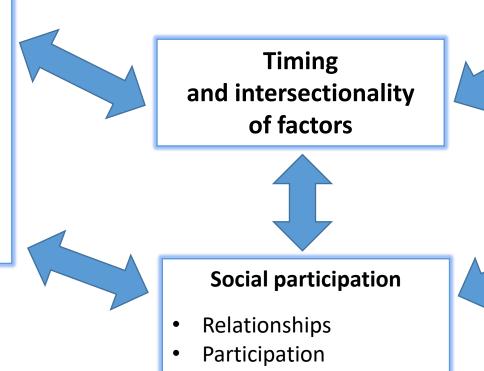


Situations of vulnerability among older adults

Personal and socio-economic factors

Including:

- Gender
- Marital status
- Material circumstances
- Physical health
- Psychological health



Family

Environmental and societal factors

Including:

- Physical (climate, built environment, rurality)
- Societal (discrimination by race, ethnicity, age, gender)
- Emergencies (COVID-19, conflict)

Adapted from **Levasseur et al., 2021**, Scoping study of definitions and instruments measuring vulnerability in older adults, Journal of the American Geriatrics Society, 70, 269-280



Examples of situations of vulnerability among older persons

- Older women experiencing age and gender discrimination
 - May be at risk of poorer access to services and lower social participation
- Older adults with low pensions
 - For instance, at risk of poorer access to basic services and necessities; more vulnerable to inflation /price shocks
- Older adults with dementia living in an institutional setting or at home
 - May not enjoy the full expression of their human rights; may be at risk of abuse or have unmet care needs.



Suggestions regarding specific situations of vulnerability to be included shared in the survey:

- Natural disasters caused by climate change
- Precariousness linked to the energy crisis
- Lack of access digital technologies
- Vulnerability to digital fraud & consumer protection
- Lack of social participation / inclusion
- Income poverty & social pensions
- Maltreatment of older individuals in long-term care homes