

UNECE Online Policy Dialogue Older Persons in Vulnerable Situations

June 28

Kieran Walsh Irish Centre for Social Gerontology University of Galway

1. Multidimensionality & Research Funding

- Investigate diverse mechanisms (causes/drivers) (van Regenmortel et al. 2016)
- Construct disadvantaged position in tandem (Grenier et al. 2020)
- Design and fund research calls
- Investment in investigating vulnerable circumstances critically needed



2. Data

- Deficiencies in core data
- Official identifiers and disaggregation by age (Conboy, 2021)
- Siloed single identities (Kurcharczyk , 2021)
- Focused agenda on disaggregation needed to enable research



3. Later Life Circumstances

- Impacts intensified, pro -longed or overlooked (Walsh and Urbaniak, 2023)
- Life-course and later -life risk (Dannefer, 2020; Green Paper, 2020)
- Experiential based resilience (O'Carroll et al., forthcoming)
- Later life needs specific attention challenges and opportunities



4. Agency

- Agency in vulnerable circumstances
- Ageism muffles acknowledgement and support
- Older people as rights bearers, deserving humanity
- Investigate agency in vulnerability (Buffel 2018; Greenhalgh et al. 2019; Walsh et al. 2022)
- Invest in research (participatory, PPI, voice -led) that nurtures agency



Thank You

kieran.walsh@universityofgalway.ie

