

UNECE Standing Working Group on Ageing

Policy Dialogue on

**Peaceful societies for all ages:
preventing and addressing violence against older persons**

14 March 2024, 13h30 – 15h00 | Online



SPEAKER BIOS

Marie Beaulieu

Marie Beaulieu Ph. D., U. of Sherbrooke (Canada) and Research Centre on Aging (Sherbrooke, Canada), has been a researcher in the field of countering mistreatment of older persons for the past 35+ years. Her work informs policy makers and contributes to enriching the practice. She is involved with WHO in several initiatives including the development of the 5 priorities to counter mistreatment of older people that are integrated in the Decade of Healthy Aging. In October 2022, she was recognized as one of the 50 world leaders of the Decade of Healthy Aging (2021-2030) by the United Nations.

Minna-Liisa Luoma

Minna-Liisa Luoma, PhD in Psychology (2004), is Associate Professor at the [University of Jyväskylä](#) (2016) and Chief Specialist on ageing at the [National Institute for Health and Welfare](#). Her work focuses on the welfare, health, and functional capacity of older people, ageing policy, and research on elderly abuse and disability issues. She has worked with international collaborative projects for 15+ years, including studies in the Nordic countries and funded by the European Union. Her research focus has been quality of life among cancer patients and older persons, end of life and palliative care, functional capacity of older people, age technology, elder abuse, violence against people with disabilities as well as elderly and disability services.



REGIONAL FORUM

ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE UNECE REGION

13 – 14 MARCH 2024 | HYBRID EVENT | GENEVA & ONLINE

Cynthia Formosa

Cynthia Formosa is Senior Manager Policy Implementation at the Active Ageing and Community Care Department in Malta. She is the National Focal Point on Ageing for Malta as part of the Standing Working Group on Ageing, UNECE.

Milutin Vracevic

Milutin Vracevic graduated from Belgrade University Medical School and is member of the Serbian Chamber of Medicine. He is a Master of Public Health and current PhD candidate at Belgrade University Medical School. His work focuses on the impacts of population ageing, in particular on elder abuse and different aspects of care. He is national representative of the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA) and member of The Global Alliance – For the Rights of Older People (GAROP). He is supervisory board member of the Gerontological society of Serbia and was member of the Governmental Council of Aging from 2006 to 2013. In 2018 he was awarded the International Rosalie S. Wolf Award in Elder Abuse Prevention by INPEA.

Natasa Todorovic

Natasa Todorovic graduated from Belgrade University (Psychology). She is a Master of Public Health and a PhD candidate at Belgrade University Medical School. Her work focuses on the impacts of population ageing, in particular on elder abuse and different aspects of care. She is regional representative for Europe of the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA), President of the Gerontological society of Serbia, member of GAROP Steering Group and was member of the HelpAge International network governance task force advising the HAI governing board. In 2018 she was awarded the International Rosalie S. Wolf Award in Elder Abuse Prevention by INPEA. The same year she was awarded a “Hrast” award for supporting lifelong learning and active ageing by the Gerontological Centre Belgrade.

Amalija Šiftar

Amalija Šiftar is representative of the Slovenian Federation of Pensioners' Associations (ZDUS), where she works on the 20-year-old programme “Seniors for Seniors”. She is a member of the programme council, an adult educator, and a provincial coordinator of volunteers for the programme for the Central Slovenian region. She is a lawyer by profession with additional training in HRM and Finance for non-financial professionals. She has been trained in various forms of communication (such as Sensitivity training, NLP, Dale Carnegie training and others) and most recently as a family carer. She was elected to the Government Council for the Development of Volunteering, Voluntary and NGOs.

Yongjie Yon

Dr. Yongjie Yon is a Technical Lead on Ageing and Health at the WHO Regional Office for Europe in Copenhagen, Denmark. Dr. Yon was a Doctoral Fellow with the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada and received his PhD in Gerontology from the University of Southern California, United States. He has published in leading academic journals on a number of research topics relating to public health including ageism and abuse of older persons. Prior to WHO, Dr. Yon worked for the Federal Government of Canada as a Policy Analyst on ageing policies.