



# NEWS

THE EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION  
FOR DIRECTORS AND PROVIDERS  
OF LONG-TERM CARE SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY

THE EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION  
OF HOMES AND SERVICES FOR THE AGEING



MARCH - MAY 2018

## The European Ageing Network is a fact!

EAHSA and EDE are happy to inform about the creation of the **European Ageing Network (EAN)**. The European Ageing Network gathers 10.000 services providers from 30 European countries. Together they service more than 1 million older people. EAHSA and EDE established the one and only pan-European association for housing and services providers for older persons in Europe.

The EAHSA General Assembly of December 2017 unanimously voted for the creation of the European Ageing Network, EAN. This new association should formalise the informal co-operation with EDE, the international umbrella organisation representing national associations for directors and providers of long-term care services in Europe. At its General Assembly of last 13 April EDE also has approved the creation of EAN. The European Ageing Network is now a fact.

For EAHSA and EDE members this means that they will become a member of the European Ageing Network automatically. As a member of the European Ageing Network they will have access to the one and only pan-European network of housing and services providers for older people. The European Ageing Network has its Secretariat in Prague and a branche-office in Brussels.



EAHSA - E.D.E.  
Congress

## Is there a future of Long-term Care in Europe?

What can we learn  
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## CALENDAR

8-10 AUG 2018, Toronto/CAN/  
14<sup>th</sup> Global IFA conference

**13-14 SEP 2018, Prague /CZ/  
1<sup>st</sup> joint EDE & EAHSA Congress**

15 SEP 2018, Prague /CZ/  
EAN GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

29-31 OCT 2018, Barcelona /ESP/  
28<sup>th</sup> Alzheimer Europe Conference



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## EAN calls for fostering health and care workforce employability by tackling MSDs

The European Ageing Network (EAN) calls for fostering the employability of health and care workers by tackling Musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs). Health and elderly care workers have high rates of injuries and illnesses at the workplace, and both their absence from work due to illness (absenteeism) or working ill (presenteeism) can compromise the quality of care delivered and even patient safety.

Musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs) are one of the most common work-related ailments in the health and elderly care sectors. Keeping elderly care workers healthy has a direct and measurable positive impact on productivity, and contributes to improving the elderly care worker's employability. Preventing elderly care workers from suffering MSDs and promoting workers' health throughout their working life is key to allowing them to work for longer, and happier. Tackling MSDs helps improve the lives of workers, but it also makes good business sense.

### Position statement

In its newly published position statement, EAN calls Member States, all stakeholders and the aged care services and housing sectors to promote the implementation and adherence to existing regulations, norms and standards, e.g. ISOTR12296, for healthy workplaces; and to invest in communication, training and supportive environments of elderly care workers.

## French FNAQPA calls for a more social-centered elderly care

The French EAN member **Fédération Nationale Avenir et Qualité de Vie des Personnes Agées** (FNAQPA) calls for a more social and less medical centered approach in elderly care. A paradigm shift, co-creation and social care are key in response to future challenges, FNAQPA says in a statement following a round table discussion organised by the French Health Minister.

Elderly care facilities, in French known as EPHADs, are at a crossroad of medical and social concepts. Main challenges are posed by today's social and citizenship concepts, regulations, attractiveness, prevention and neurodegenerative diseases. According to FNAQPA elderly care facility residents have to be facilitated in developing a new social life concept for their end-of-life stage. Elderly care services providers therefore have to re-design their housing concepts and to review the elderly care home models.

### New name

FNAQPA also calls for changing the name of **EPHAD** (établissements d'hébergement pour personnes âgées dépendantes, or houses for older dependent people) as this acronym and its connotations are stigmatising and un-attractive. FNAQPA has organised a contest to select a more adapted name for the new concept and proposes "Elderly homes" instead.

## PARTNERS



Going further  
for health



*with people in mind*

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## EASPD publishes report about social care provision in remote rural areas

People in remote rural have relatively poor access to welfare services, education, employment, income and life chances. Obstacles to using and providing social care and support services in rural areas include not only increased costs in time and transport taken to provide and access services, but also a lack of alternative provision from the independent and voluntary sector, a lack of anonymity and poverty and homelessness, which make the possibility of accessing or receiving information about such services more difficult

The lack of social care and support services may drive people living in remote rural areas to leave their homes to seek services elsewhere, says EASPD. Conversely, the availability of quality social care and support services has the potential to improve the quality of life and economic well-being of people living in remote rural areas.

The new EASPD report aims to provide a better understanding of the state of play on the availability of social care and support services in remote rural areas in Europe and to explore ways in which service provision can be improved.

You can find the EASPD report [here](#).

## European Commission proposes new Multi-annual Financial Framework (MMF) 2021-2027

The European Commission has presented its proposal for a **multi-annual Financial Framework** (MFF), called *A modern budget for a Union that protects, empowers and defends*. The long-term EU budget provides a framework for implementing the EU's annual budget and translates the Union's political priorities into financial terms. Overall, the Commission proposes a long-term budget of €1,135 billion.

The new Multi-annual Financial Framework proposes two new instruments. A new Reform Support Programme of €25 billion will offer financial and technical support to all Member States for the pursuit of priority reforms, especially in the context of the European Semester. A European Investment Stabilisation Function (€30 billion) will help to maintain investment levels in the event of large asymmetric shocks.

### Social fund

The MFF 2021-2027 also has a new approach to social and healthcare issues. Health and social actions are clustered within linked funds and programmes headed 'Investing in People'. The Commission will consolidate its €420 mln Health Programme with several other programmes into an enlarged Social Fund, aimed at improving society overall. More information [here](#).

## European Commission publishes communication on enabling the digital transformation of health and care in the Digital Single Market

In line with the Commission's **Digital Single Market** (DSM) strategy and after analysing the results of an Open Public Consultation, the European Commission published a Staff Working Document and a Communication on Digital Transformation of Health and Care in the Digital Single Market, empowering citizens and building a healthier society.

The Communication on Digital Transformation of Health and Care in the Digital Single Market identifies three priorities. A first priority is securing citizens' access to their health data, also across borders, enabling citizens to access their health data across the EU. A second priority is to foster personalised medicine through shared European data infrastructure, allowing researchers and other professionals to pool resources (data, expertise, computing processing and storage capacities) across the EU. A third priority is to empower citizen with digital tools for user feedback and person-centred care by using digital tools to empower people to look after their health, stimulate prevention and enable feedback and interaction between users and healthcare providers.

The communication can be found [here](#).



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## Silver economy as world's third largest economy

In 2015, it is estimated that the Silver Economy contributed over €4.2 trillion in GDP and sustained over 78 million jobs across the overall EU economy. This would be equivalent to 29% of EU GDP and 35% of the Union's employment. If ranked among sovereign nations, the European Silver Economy would be the third largest economy in the world, behind only the USA and China. These findings are published in a new report commissioned by the European Commission to support the development of Silver Economy in Europe. Technopolis Group in partnership with Oxford Economics conducted the study.

The study estimates a baseline value of €3.7 trillion (2015) for Europe's Silver Economy, primarily comprising private expenditure by older people (50 plus) on various goods and services, from housing to recreation. Official population projections suggest the Silver Economy will expand steadily over the next 10 years, across the EU. Based on the study's assumptions, it has the potential to expand by approximately 5% per year up to 2025, to €5.7 trillion. The study experts forecast the contribution of the European Silver Economy to GDP to reach €6.4 trillion and 88 million jobs by 2025. This would be equivalent to 32% of EU GDP and 38% of the Union's employment.

The so-called Silver Economy is a concept that has caught the attention of policy makers and economic operators alike, and this promise of more growth and jobs is a powerful rejoinder to the more typical anxieties about worsening dependency ratios. The Silver Economy is a balancing factor, and one that will be profitable to businesses as well as connected to a positive and socially inclusive identity for older adults in Europe.

The report can be found [here](#).

## Discussions launched between the Social Employers and EPSU

Despite employing over 10 million workers in Europe, with 2 million new jobs created in only a decade, the social services sector is not yet adequately representing in European Social Dialogue. This limits both the voice of the sector at EU level and the ability for the sector's social partners to be able to collectively assess challenges and opportunities in social service provision, work together in a structured and recognized framework at EU level and jointly influence EU legislation. The Social Employers have a clear objective to set-up a sectoral social dialogue committee for social services at EU level.

[PRESS RELEASE](#)

## The Role of Social Services in implementing the European Pillar of Social Rights

On the 24th of April, Social Services Europe presented its position paper on the key role social services play in the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights in the European Parliament. In a productive discussion with MEPs and EP staff, Commission representatives, the Social Protection Committee and civil society, Social Services Europe explained how social services contribute to upholding at least 10 of the social rights in the EPSR and presented recommendations on how services should be supported to play this role.

[POSITION PAPER](#)



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