



Newsletter July 2019

European Parliament at new start

With the election of David Sassoli as President and 14 Vice-Presidents on 3 July, the European Parliament has started its new legislature after the EP elections of May.

EAN is looking forward to work together with the new MEPs to contributing to an active and healthy ageing in Europe. In the run to the EP elections in May, EAN has issued a Memorandum with policy recommendations and has published its LTC 2030 [Vision](#). Both documents provide state-of-the-art visions and ideas about high-quality elderly care.

Dedicated Intergroup

In its Manifesto, EAN also calls for the establishment of an EP intergroup for elderly care to discuss important transversal topics such as demographic change, active and healthy ageing, workforce, social protection, the emerging "silver economy", and age-friendly environments. An intergroup is an unofficial body of the European Parliament, bringing together MEPs from at least three political groups who want to build a common understanding of an issue of their interest. Such an intergroup would be a continuation of the intergroup on active ageing and solidarity between generations, which existed in 2014-2020 and previous intergroups reaching back until 1982. Currently, a few MEPs and AGE Platform are spearheading the campaign for an intergroup, the decision on its re-establishment will be taken this autumn.



751 MEPs form 7 political groups

Ever since the results of the European elections have been in, newly-elected MEPs have been organising themselves into political groups, which bring together representatives from different EU countries based on their political affinities.

A political group must be composed of at least 25 MEPs from at least one-quarter of member states (at the moment that would mean from at least seven countries). MEPs can belong to only one political group, but may choose not to belong to any; they are then called non-attached. Currently, 57 MEPs have opted not to join a political group.

Political groups can be formed at any time during the term. So far, seven have been recognised as fulfilling the necessary criteria.

Political groups enjoy certain advantages: they play an important role in setting the Parliament's agenda, are allocated more speaking time during debates and are also allocated more office space, staff and money. They also decide on the set up of parliamentary committees and delegations.

1 President, 14 Vice-Presidents

MEPs elected the Parliament President as well as vice-presidents and questors in July 2019.

David Sassoli has been elected as a President of the European Parliament.

As an Italian MEP since 2009, he was elected on a Partito Democratico list in Central Italy in May 2019 for a third term. He will lead the Parliament until January 2022.

The new vice-presidents are:

- Mairead McGuinness (EPP, IE)
- Pedro Silva Pereira (S&D, PT)
- Rainer Wieland (EPP, DE)
- Katarina Barley (S&D, DE)
- Othmar Karas (EPP, AT)
- Ewa Bożena Kopacz (EPP, PL)
- Klara Dobrev (S&D, HU)
- Dita Charanzová (Renew Europe, CZ)
- Nicola Beer (Renew Europe, DE)
- Livia Járóka (EPP, HU)
- Heidi Hautala (Greens/EFA, FI)
- Dimitris Kolaja (Greens/EFA, CZ)
- Dimitrios Papadimitriou (GUE/NGL, EL)
- Fabio Massimo Castaldo (NI, IT)

20 European Parliament committees

Committees are responsible for drafting Parliament's positions on legislative proposals. They also prepare own-initiative reports, appoint negotiating teams to conduct talks with the Council, organise hearings with experts and scrutinise other EU institutions and bodies. The Parliament has 20 standing committees and two subcommittees, covering various policy areas from the environment to international trade.

The European Parliament's committees elected their chairs and vice-chairs during their first meetings in July.

WHO'S WHO COMMITTEE CHAIRS	
Committees	
AFET FOREIGN AFFAIRS David MALLISTER (EPP)	TRAN TRANSPORT AND TOURISM Karima DELLI (Greens/EFA)
DEVE DEVELOPMENT Tomasz TOBE (EPP)	REGI REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT Younous OMARJEE (GUE/NGL)
INTA INTERNATIONAL TRADE Bernd LANGE (S&D)	AGRI AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT Norbert LINS (EPP)
BUDG BUDGETS Johan VAN OVERTVELDT (ECR)	PECH FISHERIES Chris DAVIES (Renew Europe)
CONT BUDGETARY CONTROL Monika HOHLMEIER (EPP)	CULT CULTURE AND EDUCATION Sabine VERHEYEN (EPP)
ECON ECONOMIC AND MONETARY AFFAIRS Roberto GUALTIERI (S&D)	JURI LEGAL AFFAIRS Lucy NETHSINGHA (Renew Europe)
EMPL EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS Lucia DURIŠ NICHOLSONOVÁ (ECR)	LIBE CIVIL LIBERTIES, JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS Juan Fernando LÓPEZ AGUILAR (S&D)
ENVI ENVIRONMENT, PUBLIC HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY Pascal CANFIN (Renew Europe)	AFCO CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS Antonio TAJANI (EPP)
ITRE INDUSTRY, RESEARCH AND ENERGY Adina-Ioana VĂLEAN (EPP)	FEMM WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND GENDER EQUALITY Evelyn REGEN (S&D)
IMCO INTERNAL MARKET AND CONSUMER PROTECTION Petra DE SUTTER (Greens/EFA)	PETI PETITIONS Dolores MONTSERRAT (EPP)
Subcommittees	
DROI HUMAN RIGHTS Maria ARENA (S&D)	SEDE SECURITY AND DEFENCE Nathalie LOISEAU (Renew Europe)

For EAN, the most important committees are :

• EMPL - Employment and Social Affairs

The committee on Employment & Social Affairs is responsible for employment policy and all aspects of social policy such as working conditions, social security and social protection, health and safety measures at the workplace, the European Social Fund, vocational training policy, including professional qualifications, the free movement of workers and pensioners, Social dialogue, and all forms of discrimination.

Here you can find more information about the [Committee](#), its [members](#), [work in progress](#) and the [agenda of next meetings](#)

• ENVI - Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

The Environment, Public Health and Food Safety committee is responsible for environmental policy and environmental protection measures, food safety issues, public health and programmes and specific actions in the field of public health, pharmaceutical and cosmetic products, and the European Medicines Agency and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control.

Here you can find more information about the [Committee](#), its [members](#), [work in progress](#) and the [agenda of next meetings](#)

• IMCO - Internal Market and Consumer Protection

The committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO) is responsible for the legislative adoption and oversight of services in the internal market, a broad policy enabling the free movement of goods, persons, services and capital in the European Union. In this context, the IMCO committee works, among other things, on the harmonisation of technical standards, the right of establishment and the freedom to provide services (except in the financial and postal sectors). In addition, the committee is in charge of the promotion and protection of the economic interests of consumers in the context of the internal market.

Here you can find more information about the [Committee](#), its [members](#), [work in progress](#) and the [agenda of next meetings](#)

• ITRE - Industry, Research and Energy

The committee on Industry, Research and Energy's areas of responsibility relate to industry, especially technology-intensive manufacturing, information technology, and telecommunications. It is also responsible for research policy, including the dissemination and exploitation of research findings.

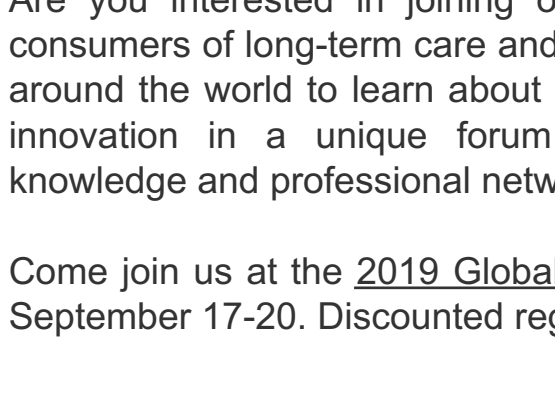
Here you can find more information about the [Committee](#), its [members](#), [work in progress](#) and the [agenda of next meetings](#)

• LIBE - Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

The Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs is responsible for protecting civil liberties and human rights, including those of minorities. Specifically, the committee deals with data protection issues.

Here you can find more information about the [Committee](#), its [members](#), [work in progress](#) and the [agenda of next meetings](#)

EP endorses Ursula von der Leyen as President of the European Commission



The new European Parliament have voted on 16 July 2019 to elect Ursula von der Leyen as president of the European Commission, the first woman to hold the post. She will put a team together based on nominees from national capitals - commissioners-designate - whose competence and abilities MEPs will examine in a series of parliamentary committee hearings in late September/October 2019.

Once this is done, MEPs will vote on the full College of Commissioners at the end of October. The legitimacy of the Commission and of its President therefore rests on the legitimacy of Parliament and the democratic election of its members.

Von der Leyen spent the first 12 years of her life in Brussels, where her father was serving as a commission official. She studied economics at the universities of Göttingen and Münster before attending the London School of Economics. Von der Leyen then read for a medical degree, becoming a gynaecologist, and entered politics at 42. A mother of seven, she has held government positions as Defence, Labour and Family Affairs minister, driving forward policies on gender quotas for company boards and improved maternity and paternity pay and rights.

Political guidelines

In her speech for the new European Parliament, Von der Leyen set out the guidelines for her new Commission. The Political Guidelines focus on six headline ambitions for Europe over the next five years are "A European Green Deal", "An economy that works for people", "A Europe fit for the digital age", "Protecting our European way of life", and "A stronger Europe in the world".

The full text of Von der Leyen's Political guidelines for the European Commission 2019-2024 can be found [here](#).

"Von der Leyen's medical background has a huge potential", European patient, academic and public health NGOs say

Medical associations, health managers and the wider European public health community, welcome the positive vote for Ursula von der Leyen as the new President-elect of the European Commission. The support of the European Parliament is a huge responsibility and a concrete set of actions are needed to regain citizens' trust, they state.

Commissioner for Health

Achieving the strong coordination required for a coherent and robust health policy requires political leadership, drive and dedicated Commission resources to meet citizens' expectations. The alliance calls on von der Leyen to include a senior level health commissioner in her team, with a strong mandate, and to ensure that one of the Vice-Presidents of the Commission has overall responsibility for mainstreaming health across the whole of the Commission.

The NGOs' call can be found [here](#).

Nurses claim their role in healthcare innovation



Nurses, who are at the frontline of care, spend the most time at the bedside with the patient and are the largest professional group in the healthcare sector, yet they are often not taken seriously into account by doctors and other colleagues when it comes to driving innovation in the healthcare systems. However, nurses are by far the most innovative healthcare professionals in a highly inefficient healthcare ecosystem, says the European Federation of Nurses, EFN.

The EFN, as a strong advocate of engaging frontline nurses in healthcare innovation, is involved in two EU-funded projects on Electronic Health Records: InteropEHRate and Smart4Health. In both projects, end-user co-design and co-creation is at the heart of all deliverables, ensuring deployment at the end of the projects, supporting the implementation of cross border care in the EU.

Ms Rebecca Love, a registered nurse, gave her insights on this topic in a TED Talk. She started by talking about Florence Nightingale, who revolutionised healthcare during the Crimean War by pointing out to doctors that infection was killing as many soldiers as bullets, and that hygiene in the healthcare practice had to be improved. In a similar line, nurses are, most of the time, the end-user of most medical devices. However, they are very rarely involved in these devices design - resulting in tools that are not fit-for-purpose and that increase nurses' workload rather than decreasing it. Despite their key role for the well-functioning of healthcare systems, nurses' shortages are acute and persisting both in the EU and in the US. This and other key insights into nursing are expressed by Rebecca in her TED talk, which is available [here](#). (Source: EFN)

Who will live and work in the EU in 2060?

The Commission's Joint Research Centre and the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis launch a joint report on the future demographics of the EU. By looking at factors such as migration, education levels and labour force participation, the report moves beyond traditional demographic analysis to provide a set of scenarios which reveal how these factors can shape the EU's future population and labour market.

Thanks to advances in medicine and quality of life, Europeans can look forward to longer, healthier and more active lives. The average life expectancy at birth in the EU is now about 81 years - 9 years more than the global average, and it's expected to grow by two years every decade. This trend also means that by 2060, more than 30% of the EU's population will be over age 65, compared to 19% today.

Though better educated, the EU's future labour force will be smaller. This means that European workers will need to support more dependants in the future, putting EU social systems under increased pressure. The report analyses possible scenarios to improve the dependency ratio and thus the sustainability of EU welfare states.

The authors of the report highlight that while these changes may seem daunting, they do not pose unsolvable problems to our societies. Population ageing comes with a healthier, more active population that is able to lead productive, active and enjoyable lives beyond the age of 65. Increasing labour force participation overall, also of those over 65 and of immigrants from third countries, can stabilise the labour force size and lower the dependency burden.

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

EAN welcomes SYNERPA as a member

The European Ageing Network is happy to welcome French SYNERPA as a new member. The Syndicat National des Établissements et Résidences Privés pour Personnes Agées (SYNERPA) was created in 2001 to represent the service providers at a national level. As a trade association of elderly care facilities of the private sector, it represents about 2,000 facilities. SYNERPA's EAN contact person is Florence Amaiz-Maumé. More information can be found at [SYNERPA's website](#).

EAN projects ELDICare and SecureHospitals on track

The EU funded projects that EAN is participating in, are on track. Currently, EAN is involved in two EU funded projects: ELDICare and SecureHospitals. Work packages and deliverables are on schedule and new phases have been entered.

The SecureHospitals project will now create a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC). This distant training and education tool aims at unlimited participation and open access via the web. MOOCs also provide interactive courses with user forums to support community interactions among students and trainers. The ELDICare project enters a new phase with the completion of the WP2 report, with key findings and themes, which will be available by the end of August.

SecureHospitals seeks to aggregate knowledge on existing cybersecurity practices across healthcare organisations, analyse, elaborate and disseminate the information as a means of achieving common understanding among practitioners on best practices and strategies.

Cybersecurity needs to become an integral part of the organisation's strategic and policy documents, not as a formality but as good practice. The surveyed sample shows that hospitals might be a small step ahead of the social care organisations in understanding the potential impacts.

Cybersecurity is an ongoing and fluid effort, as new risks and threats emerge relative to the exponential growth and reach of the technology, processing power. Moore's laws suggest that the processing power doubles every 18 months, however the cycle is much faster and accelerating now, and innovative approaches, such as artificial intelligence. More information about the project can be found [here](#).

Eldicare: Matching skills in a growing European Silver Economy emerges from the latest CEDEFOP Skills Panorama findings (12/2016) on the Skills mismatch in the Elderly Care Sector. Adaptation to an ageing society requires enhanced efforts from all to maintain older peoples' sustained social inclusion. It also requires creating age friendly environments, including the mainstreaming of accessibility, and products and services that can be used by all. ICT is also essential as it enables integrated person-centered care, with more focus on prevention, early detection and independent living. Our project aims to offer a pathway out of the grey market for atypical/uneducated elderly care givers, through education and training in ICT & health applications, modernizing the way elderly care is provided by designing two fresh market-driven Curricula responding to the needs of this special demographics group and their families and closed ones. More information can be found [here](#).

ANSDIPP announces Matera conference

EAN member ANSDIPP, the Italian association of managers in the social and health care sector, has announced the Matera conference, themed "Evolution of personal care models and health and social care integration in the third millennium: scenarios, prospects, sustainability and uncertainties". The conference will be organised 23-25 October in Matera, Italy.

With high level speakers from all over the world, the three-day conference will provide expert insights in the developments and best-practices in modern elderly care. More information about the Matera conference can be found [here](#). The conference leaflet can be downloaded [here](#).

EAN Meetings

EAN will organise its Board and General Assembly meetings along the ANSDIPP conference in Matera. The Board will meet on 22 in the afternoon and 23 October in the morning. The General Assembly is planned for 23 October between 11h and 14h. EAN members will receive a more detailed program, soon.

Join us at the 2019 Global Ageing Network Conference!

Are you interested in joining other professionals and consumers of long-term care and ageing services from all around the world to learn about emerging research and innovation in a unique forum dedicated to shared knowledge and professional networking?

Come join us at the 2019 Global Ageing Network/OLTCA conference in Toronto, Canada from September 17-20. Discounted registration ends on 31 May 2019.

Upcoming conferences and meetings

September 2019

- **Sep 11-19**
ECREAS Study tour to Canada (including 2019 Global Ageing Conference)
- **Sep 17**
2019 Global Ageing Conference (Toronto, CAN)

October 2019

- **23 Oct**
EAN General Meeting and Board (Matera, IT)
- **23-24-25 Oct**
Matera Conference (Matera, IT)
- **23-25 Oct**
29th Alzheimer Europe Conference Making valuable connections (The Hague, NL)

November 2019

- **14-15 Nov**
ECREAS Training "Living environments" (The Hague, NL)
- **21-22 Nov**
EAN Board and Conference (Brussels, BE)
- **28-29 Nov**
ECREAS Masterclass Quality (Maribor, SL)

Sponsors of the European Ageing Network

Going further for health

European Ageing Network (EAN)

The European Ageing Network (EAN) is the new association of the European Association of Homes and Services for the Ageing (EAHSA) and the international umbrella organisation representing national associations for directors and providers of long-term care services in Europe. The European Ageing Network groups more than 10,000 care providers, is present in 28 European countries, and is servicing millions of older people in Europe.

EAN is registered in Luxembourg, has its Secretariat in Prague and a branch office in Brussels. For more information, or for a membership application, contact info@ean.eare.

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