



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

# NEWS



DECEMBER 2017

## EAHSA sets light on green for merger with E.D.E.

The EAHSA General Assembly has given its approval for a merger with E.D.E., the international umbrella organisation representing national associations for directors and providers of long-term care services in Europe. It is the ambition to create the European Ageing Network (EAN) by mid-2018.

EAHSA and E.D.E. have been discussing the creation of EAN since early 2017. The aim was to merge both interest representatives and to create an efficient and effective voice of the ageing industry in Europe. In several joint working groups EAHSA and E.D.E. have discussed the final concept. In practice, the separate secretariats and the EU intelligence and communication functions already went up in one organisation in April 2017.

### European Ageing Network

Aad Koster, EAHSA President and advocate of the merger, is happy to get the membership's green light. "The General Assembly has endorsed our strive to create a strong voice in Europe. We now have to fine-tune some issues and settle an agreement on terms and conditions. I'm confident that we can present a more concise proposal to the membership within some months."

The European Ageing Network will unite various service providers in the elderly care sector. The combined membership of EAHSA and E.D.E. and its spread within the EU stand for a truly representative organisation that works on high quality care services for older persons in the European Union.

Season's Greetings  
&  
Happy New Year



EAHSA - E.D.E.  
Congress

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

What can we learn  
from each other...

See you next year in

Prague, Czech Republic  
September 13-14, 2018



## CALENDAR

26-27 JAN 2018, Prague /CZ/  
EDE & EAHSA Board, WG LTC 2030

13- 14 APR 2018, Bucharest /RO/  
General Assembly of the E.D.E.

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

13-14 SEPT 2018, Prague /CZ/  
EDE & EAHSA Congress



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## Sodexo and the University of Ottawa make Sense of Seniors' Quality of Life

Sodexo, world leader in quality of life services, and the University of Ottawa Life Research Institute today released the first comprehensive study of how the five senses impact quality of life for those living in long-term care communities. All five senses can diminish as we age, and "How and Why the Five Senses Matter for Quality of Life: A Guide for Long-Term Care Communities" reveals the importance of understanding sensory impairments when creating environments for seniors, whether at-home or in a long-term care community.

Research in the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society shows that the rapid growth of the world's senior population, minimal awareness exists regarding the negative effects sensory impairments have on seniors living in long-term care communities. In fact, 94 percent of people will experience diminishment of at least one of their senses as they age.

With this reality in mind, the Sodexo-uOttawa study presented strategies for creating "sense-sensitive" environments that will facilitate person-centered care for seniors. For example:

- Seniors with low vision may have difficulty distinguishing between similar colors, so long-term care communities might use high-contrast colors to help them see different items and areas.
- Sense of smell can diminish with age and impact the ability to taste. Creating an open kitchen area helps residents better smell food—which can stimulate appetite.
- Hearing impairment can make participating in conversations difficult. Minimizing background noise from heating and cooling systems, equipment and cleaning services to may make it easier for seniors to hear others.

To download the study "How and Why the Five Senses Matter for Quality of Life: A Guide for Long-Term Care Communities" visit [www.sodexo.com/fivesenses](http://www.sodexo.com/fivesenses).

## Commission to issue the 2018 Ageing Report

The European Commission has published the 2018 Ageing Report, estimating the long-term economic and budgetary impact of a population ageing in the European Union. The report, the sixth edition, is envisaged to be presented to the ECOFIN Council in Spring 2018.

The 2018 Ageing Report provides a description of the underlying macroeconomic assumptions and methodologies of the age-related expenditure projections for all Member States. On the basis of these assumptions and methodologies, age-related expenditures covering pensions, health care, long-term care, education and also unemployment benefits will be calculated and presented in the sixth Ageing Report to the ECOFIN Council in spring 2018.

The report projects significant changes in the distribution of the EU population. The overall size of the population is projected to be slightly larger by 2070 than in 2016. While the total EU population will increase by 1.8% over 2016-70, there are wide differences in population trends across Member States, with the population increasing in half of the EU countries and falling in the other half.

Download [here](#).

## PARTNERS



Going further  
for health



*with people in mind*

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## Capacity building funded by Erasmus+

With EU Erasmus+ funding, national organisations working with and for people of 50 years of age and over, can send staff and volunteers to high quality and relevant training courses in other European countries. Also, staff and volunteers can job-shadow an organisation in another country, to learn from the way they do their work. This can be almost fully funded under the Erasmus + sub-programme KA1 education and training, of the EU. Part of the work senior citizens' organisations do, make them qualify as adult education organisations, as they provide trainings to adults, information sessions, guidance, etc. around topics of lifelong learning, active aging, citizenship, equal rights.

The Erasmus+ sub-programme KA1 education and training offers funding opportunities for professional competence development of individuals and capacity building of educational institutions from the EU, Norway, Turkey, Iceland, Liechtenstein and FYROM. Associations and organisations working with Roma and providing training and guidance are seen as adult education providers and thus are eligible for KA1 funding under Erasmus+. With Erasmus+ KA1 an organisation applies for a set of so-called mobilities. Each mobility can be used for European training courses for professional after education, for Job-shadowing to learn from best practice abroad and/or for Conferences with structured training elements.

More information can be found via [www.in-dialogue.org](http://www.in-dialogue.org)

## Increase in the number of care homes in nearly all EU countries

Over the last decade the number and share of residential places have increased in private care homes to a greater extent than in public care homes, the EUROFOUND says in its recent report *Care homes for older Europeans: Public, for-profit and non-profit providers*.

EUROFOUND's report provides an overview of how public and private (both for-profit and non-profit) provision of care homes for older people has changed over the last decade. Even though there has been considerable change in the size and ownership of care homes, there are no EU-wide harmonised data disaggregated by type of ownership and/or the economic purpose of service providers. The report draws together the available data and also provides information from studies, evaluations and surveys about the differences between the accessibility, quality and efficiency of services provided in public and private care homes for older people.

The European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions (EUROFOUND) says that most of the debate and policy initiatives at the EU level on long-term care do not make specific reference to public or private provision. In the 2017 Annual Growth Survey, which kick-starts the European Semester process, the European Commission called for further investment in long-term care in order to decrease the burden on informal carers. It also highlighted the need to increase the efficiency and accessibility of long-term care, given the expected rise in expenditure due to the ageing of the population and technological advancements.

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

## Social Services Europe presents new report: Recruitment & Retention in social services: Unlocking the Sector's Job Creation Potential!

22 November 2017, Social Services Europe presented their research report [Recruitment & Retention in Social Services: Unlocking the Sector's Job Creation Potential](#), at a European Parliament Debate hosted by MEPs Romana Tomc (EEP), and Brando Benifei (S&D). The debate took basis in a Europe-wide challenge: recruiting and retaining sufficient staff to meet the needs of the social services sector, now and in the future.

Read the full Press Release [here](#).