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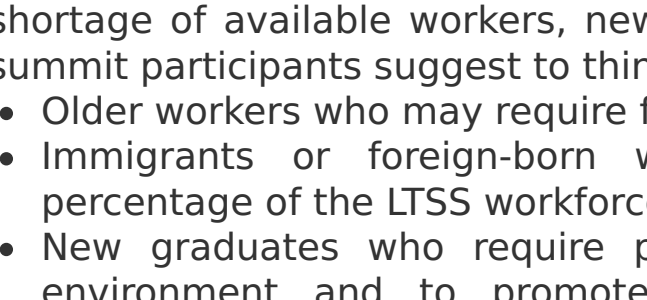


Newsletter January 2020

EAN wishes you a healthy and active 2020



Global Ageing Network presents Workforce Summit Summary



The Global Ageing Network, EAN's global partner, has presented the report of its 3rd Workforce summit and suggests to think about new pipelines of workers.

Ageing services providers cannot have a quality organisation without a quality workforce. Countries across the globe face significant challenges in the recruitment and retention of long-term services and supports (LTSS) workers. Given the shortage of available workers, new workers are needed to join the workforce. The summit participants suggest to think about new pipelines of workers such as:

- Older workers who may require flexible scheduling, ergonomics, and job sharing.
- Immigrants or foreign-born workers, who already make-up a significant percentage of the LTSS workforce.
- New graduates who require peer support to feel embedded in their work environment and to promote the development of peer and supervisory relationships.
- Informal caregivers who cared for a family member who passed away or no longer needs the service.
- Younger workers who may require rethinking of the job design as they want more freedom and flexibility.

During the 2019 Global Ageing Network Workforce Summit, providers and researchers shared their perspectives on the aging services workforce shortage as a global issue and discussed efforts underway to define the needs and develop solutions as well as best practices to improve the recruitment and retention of long-term services and supports workers. The presentations and discussions focused on recruitment strategies, models of training in home care and the residential setting, engagement with the workforce, retention strategies, and the role of technology and the workforce.

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

EC presents Semester Autumn Package

The von der Leyen Commission has launched a new European Semester cycle, the first of its mandate. It presents a growth strategy focused on promoting competitive sustainability to build an economy that works for people and the planet.

The Annual Sustainable Growth Strategy delivers on the vision set out in President Ursula von der Leyen's Political Guidelines. It sets out the economic and employment policy strategy for the EU, placing sustainability and social inclusion at the heart of the EU's economic policymaking, in line with the priorities enshrined in the European Green Deal, the Commission's new growth strategy. The European Council is invited to endorse the sustainable growth strategy presented. Member States should take account of the priorities identified by the Commission in its sustainable growth strategy in their national policies and strategies, as set out in their Stability or Convergence Programmes and their National Reform Programmes which they will submit next year.

On that basis, the Commission will propose Country-Specific Recommendations (CSRs) as part of the European Semester Spring Package. The CSRs will be adopted by the Member States in the Council. Member States are thus ultimately responsible for their content and implementation.

European Commission publishes Green Deal



The European Commission has presented the European Green Deal, a package of measures that should enable European citizens and businesses to benefit from sustainable green transition. Measures accompanied with an initial roadmap of key policies range from ambitiously cutting emissions, to investing in cutting-edge research and innovation, to preserving Europe's natural environment.

"The European Green Deal is our new growth strategy. It will help us cut emissions while creating jobs", said Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission. "We propose a green and inclusive transition to help improve people's well-being and secure a healthy planet for generations to come", stated Frans Timmermans, Executive Vice-President of the European Commission and responsible for the Green Deal.

Supported by investments in green technologies, sustainable solutions and new businesses, the Green Deal can be a new EU growth strategy. Involvement and commitment of the public and of all stakeholders is crucial to its success. The European Green Deal will improve the well-being and health of citizens and future generations through, a.o. cleaner air, water and soil, healthier food, renovated homes, schools and hospitals, and better health for current and future generations.

Meeting the objectives of the European Green Deal will require significant investment. Achieving the current 2030 climate and energy targets is estimated to require €260 billion of additional annual investment, representing about 1.5% of 2018 GDP. This investment will need the mobilisation of the public and private sectors. The Commission will present in early 2020 a Sustainable Europe Investment Plan to help meet investment needs. At least 25% of the EU's long-term budget should be dedicated to climate action, and the European Investment Bank, Europe's climate bank, will provide further support. For the private sector to contribute to financing the green transition, the Commission will present a Green Financing Strategy in 2020.

The communication on the Green Deal can be found [here](#).

Today's elderly feel less lonely than 20 years ago

Today's older people seem to feel less lonely than elderly did 20 years ago, a study of the Free University of Amsterdam (NL) found. Although loneliness in older persons is still a societal problem, there is not such thing as a presumed "loneliness epidemic".

The research, based on the Longitudinal Aging Study Amsterdam and in which nearly 5.000 older Dutch participate, found that older persons today feel to have more grip on their lives. They also say that their social network is more extended and more varied. Also, more respondents today do have a partner. Experts commenting the study state that there is no "loneliness epidemic". Today's older persons are better educated and trained, recover better from partner loss and illnesses. Loneliness today is not an outbreak but a phenomenon that persists ever since.

In the public debate and media, it has been suggested that there currently is a loneliness epidemic in Western societies. To shed light on this pressing issue the researchers investigated whether age-related changes in loneliness found in early studies also pertain to later-born cohorts, and whether mastery and self-efficacy have become increasingly important for explaining differences in loneliness.

An abstract of the research can be found [here](#).

Upcoming conferences and meetings

January 2020

- **28-29 Jan**
AgeingFit, the leading European event dedicated to innovation in the Healthy Ageing sector (Nice, FR)
- **30 Jan**
EAN Board meeting (Frankfurt, DE)

February 2020

- **20 Feb**
EAN Working group Nutrition in Elderly care (Prague, CZ)
- **21 Feb**
EAN Working group Dogmas & Prejudices (Prague, CZ)

April 2020

- **15-17 Apr**
8th Associations World Congress (Cascais, PT)
- **17 Apr**
EAN General Assembly (Lisbon, PT)

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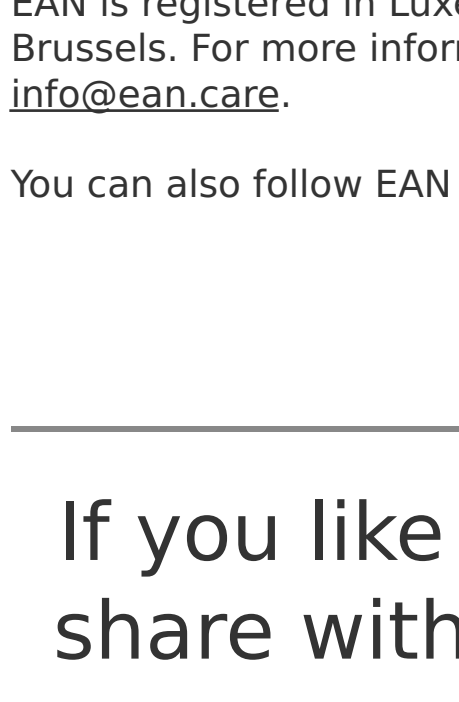
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European Ageing Network (EAN)

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.care.

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