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NETWORK

Newsletter Spring 2022

EAN welcomes four new members



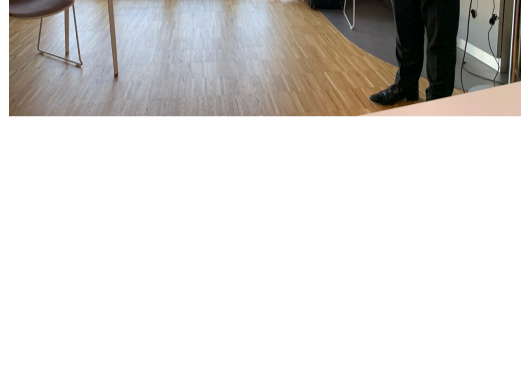
At its last General Assembly in Malmö, EAN has welcomed four new members: Metropolitan College Athens, KORIAN, APSS Bulgaria and Rosa Management from Czech Republic.

The General Assembly was hosted by EAN partner Arjo in its headquarters in Malmo, For EAN it was the first in-person GA since the outbreak of Covid.

At the GA, EAN welcomed four new members, from four different EU-member states. Representatives of Metropolitan College Athens, Korian, APSS Bulgaria and Rosa Management received a membership certificate from EAN-President Jiří Horecký.

EAN Workforce summit identifies common challenges in EU-member states

On 5 April, EAN organised its Workforce Summit, along its General Assembly the day before. The goal of the Workforce Summit was to learn and understand workforce and labour market challenges of the EAN membership in the European Union and to inspire and to draw conclusions on how to tackle the barriers to attract more people in the elderly care sector. It turned out that there are some differences in workforce problems and solutions across the EU.



In 12 presentations it became clear that the main topics are:

- Capacity of the care sector in the country
- Full time versus part-time jobs
- Average salaries in the care sector
- Salary and career development
- Living costs
- Working time
- Holidays
- Work bonuses for the employees
- Attractiveness of the sector (compared to other sectors)
- Work safety and qualification
- Social dialogue
- Migrant workers

All presentations from the different delegations can be found [here](#).

Helpdesk-project kicks-off

On 28 and 29 June, the members of the consortium will kick-off the SESK-project. The Helpdesk project or SESK is a two-years project funded by the European Union and aims to finance the building blocks for a Social Services Helpdesk. The project formally started on 1 May 2022.

The proposed Helpdesk will have two main priorities:

1. to support social services in better accessing and using EU funds.
2. to help Managing Authorities use EU funds (ESF+, ERDF and ReactEU in particular) to finance quality interventions in the field of social services.

EAN, together with 15 European social services organisations are making up the project consortium, which is lead by EASPD.

On the 28th and 29th of June, the project consortium will meet in Brussels for the project kick-off meeting. Partner organisations will have the opportunity to discuss about the implementation plans of the different project's activities and to lay the foundations for the next steps.

New study report on social services in the EU

The European Commission has published a new study on social services with particular focus on personal targeted social services for people in vulnerable situations.

The report analyses the current situation in the area of social services across the EU Member States and strives to establish a common understanding of key terms and approaches in line with the European Commission's emphasis on integrity, quality and equality with a view to supporting the European Pillar of Social Rights (EPSR) and its Action Plan in delivering on their objectives.

The report also aims to lay the foundations for a definition of social services that will support the European Commission in ensuring that social services can develop their full potential within the context of the European Pillar of Social Rights. The study offers an overview of the take up of the Voluntary European Framework for Quality Social services and how social services can contribute towards the targets of the EPSR and its Action Plan, including suggestions for future developments.

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

European Commission presents European Health Data Space for standards and data exchange in care

In order to unleash the full potential of health data, the European Commission has presented a Regulation to set up the European Health Data Space (EHDS).

This proposal supports individuals to take control of their own health data and supports the use of health data for better healthcare delivery, better research, innovation and policy making. The Commission also wants to make full use of the potential offered by a safe and secure exchange, use and reuse of health data.

The European Health Data Space is a health specific ecosystem comprised of rules, common standards and practices, infrastructures and a governance framework that aims at

- empowering individuals through increased digital access to and control of their electronic personal health data, at national level and EU-wide, and support to their free movement, as well as fostering a genuine single market for electronic health record systems, relevant medical devices and high risk AI systems
- providing a consistent, trustworthy and efficient set-up for the use of health data for research, innovation, policy-making and regulatory activities

As such, the European Health Data Space is a key pillar of the European Health and it is the first common EU data space in a specific area to emerge from the European Strategy for data.

More information about EHDS can be found [here](#).

EP publishes opinion 'Towards a common European action on care'



In March, the European Parliament's committees on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL) and Women's Rights and Gender Equality (FEMM) released its own-initiative report 'Towards a common European action on care'. MEP Sirpa Pietikäinen (EPP, Finland) and MEP Milan Brglez (S&D, Slovenia) are the co-rapporteurs of the draft report.

The report is in reaction to the Commission's initiative for a European Care Strategy and covers issues related to gender equality, health services, medical institutions and the elderly. It stresses the importance of an integrated approach to common European action on care that pays equal attention to people's physical, psychological and social needs.

The EP own-initiative report can be found [here](#).

EESC works on opinion on Health workforce and Care strategy for the future of Europe

The European Economic and Social Committee is preparing of an own-initiative opinion on "Health Workforce and Care Strategy for the future of Europe". The work is in the hands of rapporteurs Danko Relic (Croatia) and Zoe Tzotze-Lanara (Greece).

This opinion would provide an opportunity for the EESC to contribute to the current discussion on the future of care and health across Europe and to creating a common European vision for the health sector, care, along with a comprehensive EU Strategy on Care to realise this in all Member States. The opinion will make recommendations regarding common minimum standards to ensure that every one living in the EU has access to quality care, that there is proper investment in care services, that the health sector, care providers and health care workers are properly recognised and valued, including through investment in skills and the creation of quality jobs. It is an important opportunity for the EESC to actively contribute to EU policy on Care and to guide the development of the strategy which will establish the future of the EU in this area.

The opinion will focus on the crucial role of the health workforce and caregivers (including workers and informal carers – i.e. care delivered by family members or other unpaid caregivers) and health and care providers (public services, as well as for profit and not for profit organisations) in delivering health and care, as well as care recipients and patients. It will also address the related topic of active ageing and challenges related to demographic changes in Europe. It will focus on the conditions needed to provide quality care services, covering workforce needs and the improvement of recruitment and retention conditions. It will also consider the challenges and opportunities linked to a shift from institutional to community-based care services, in order to facilitate and support the right to self-determination and autonomy of those needed care or support.

Upcoming conferences and meetings

June 2022

- 21 Jun

[UNIC Project First Belgian Transferability Workshop \(Digital\)](#)

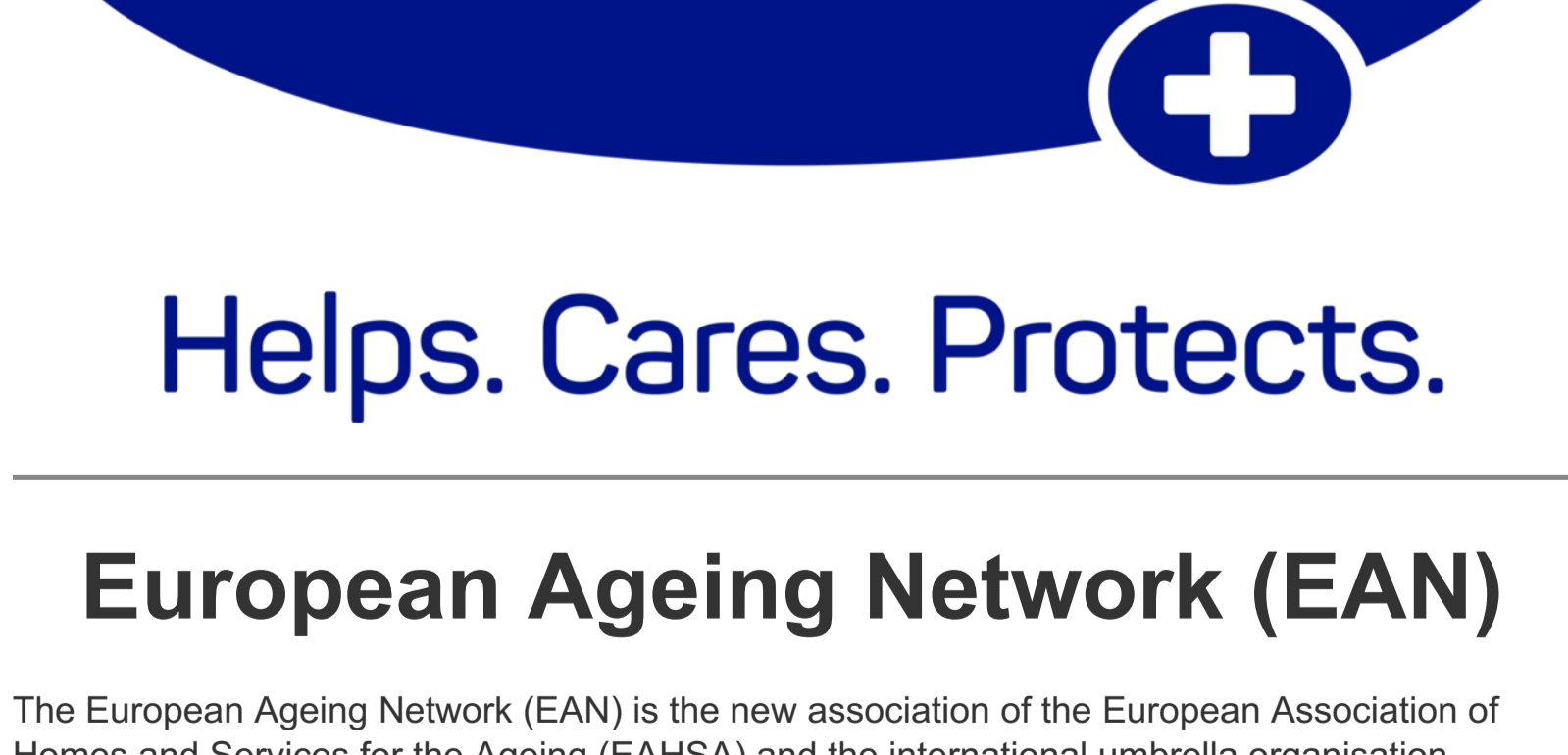
September 2022

- 28-30 Sept
Care 4.0 - Change in competence, organised by EAN's Austrian member Lebenswelt Heim (Vienna, AT)
- 30 Sept
EAN General Assembly (Vienna, AT)

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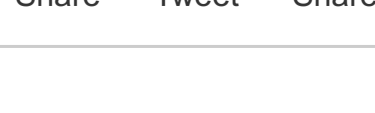
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European Ageing Network (EAN)

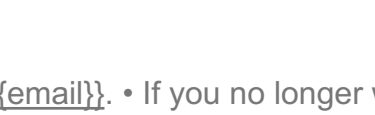
The European Ageing Network (EAN) is the new association of the European Association of Homes and Services for the Ageing (EAHSA) and the international umbrella organisation representing national associations for directors and providers of long-term care services in Europe. The European Ageing Network groups more than 10.000 care providers, is present in 25 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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