

# Questionnaire for EAN Members & Partners

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## Executive Summary

The European Ageing Network (EAN) conducted a membership-wide questionnaire in spring 2025 to gather feedback on members' experiences, priorities, and expectations related to EAN activities, including the newsletter, General Assembly meetings, EU engagement, and the next EAN Congress. A total of **35 responses** were received, representing a broad and committed sample of EAN members across Europe.

To ensure transparency and openness, we are sharing the full results with members. All **open-ended responses are highlighted in red** for better visibility.

## General Impressions and Engagement

- The majority of respondents expressed **strong satisfaction** with the EAN network and a desire to be more actively involved.
- Several members emphasized the value of **networking, sharing best practices, and staying informed about EU-level developments**.
- A few respondents noted that they have not been able to follow EAN activities closely due to **personal or professional constraints**.

## EAN Newsletter

- The preferred frequency of the newsletter is **four times a year**, though a significant number of members would prefer **two issues annually**.
- A small portion of respondents mentioned they **struggle with reading newsletters due to the overall volume of incoming emails**.

## Congress Reflections and Expectations

- Feedback on the past EAN Congress was very positive, with praise for **networking opportunities, programme quality, and overall atmosphere**.
- Suggestions for future Congresses include:
  - A stronger focus on **EU policies, workforce solutions, and digitalisation**.
  - **Interactive formats** such as workshops, storytelling corners, and round tables.
  - A wish for **side visits** to innovative care facilities.
  - Ideas like a **Care Futures Lab** or **Matchmaking for Impact** space were mentioned as inspiration.

## Priorities for Online Meetings and EU Engagement

- The most popular topics for online meetings are:
  - **EU policy developments**

- **Current trends in long-term care**
- **Country-specific best practices**
- Members also voiced interest in EU-related activities such as:
  - **Workshops in Brussels**
  - **Visits to EU institutions**
  - **Meetings with EC/EP representatives**

### Thematic Focus and Content Preferences

- Key areas of interest include:
  - **Funding, digitalisation, workforce issues, and healthcare models.**
  - A few respondents emphasized the relevance of **climate protection** and **cybersecurity**.
  - One response suggested exploring **polypharmacy and prescription practices** in LTC facilities.
  - **Language accessibility** and translation services (e.g., Spanish) were also mentioned as a potential enabler for wider participation.

### Missing Services and Suggestions

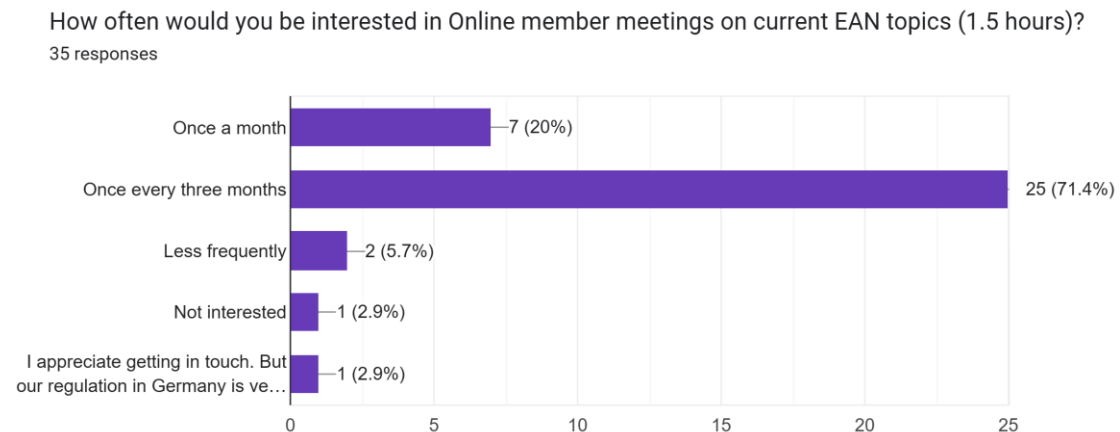
- Common suggestions for new or improved activities include:
  - **Study trips and project visits**
  - **Exchanges of both successful and unsuccessful practices**
  - A desire for **project planning sessions** to foster **joint EU-funded proposals**
- Individual proposals included ideas like a **Care Innovation Observatory**, an **international mentoring platform**, and initiatives to support **career mobility and wellbeing of care professionals**.

Karel Vostrý, EAN Executive Director  
June 2025

# RESULTS

## Online Members Meetings - New Activity

**How often would you be interested in Online member meetings on current EAN topics (1.5 hours)?**



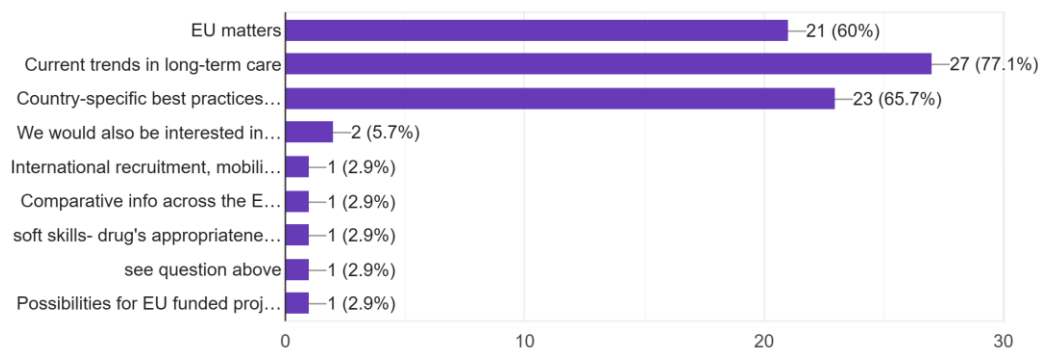
- I appreciate getting in touch. But our regulation in Germany is very specific and it find it difficult to identify a relevant topic

**Which topics would you prefer to discuss during online meetings?**

- Possibilities for EU funded projects
- We would also be interested in sessions focusing on innovative care models, intergenerational initiatives, and training strategies for LTC staff. Also, providing Spanish translation during these meetings would be highly valuable, as it would allow us to involve a wider range of professionals and profiles within our organization. It would also help Lares members feel more connected to EAN and better understand the value of being part of a European umbrella organization like EAN.
- International recruitment, mobility of foreign workers, labor shortages.
- Comparative info across the EU on funding, regulation and workforce
- soft skills – drug's appropriateness (prescription and administration) in polytherapy

Which topics would you prefer to discuss during online meetings?

35 responses

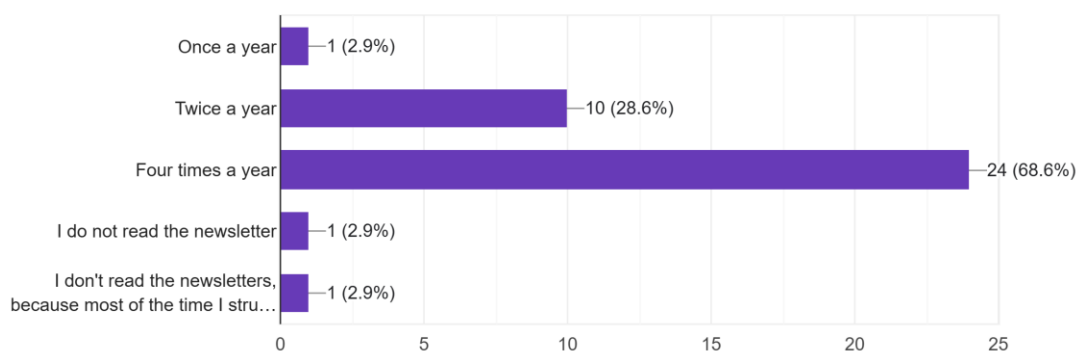


## EAN Newsletter

How often would you like to receive the EAN Newsletter?

How often would you like to receive the EAN Newsletter?

35 responses



- Twice a year, I do not read the newsletter, I don't read the newsletters, because most of the time I struggle with the timeconsuming amount of incoming E-Mails.

Which topics / information would you prefer to find in Newsletters?

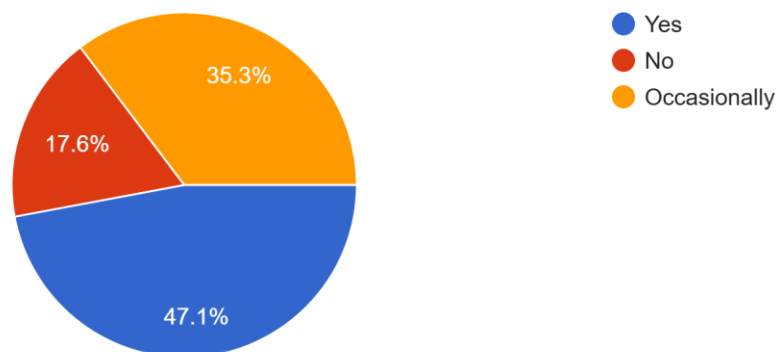
- EU policy news
- Information and Updates of network activities; Update on EU activities relevant to ltc, Best Practices Members
- Current Affairs LTC
- ltc in eu, funding for ltc in eu, european projects
- Latest current trends in long-term care and good practices
- New innovations (including welfare technology), the best practices in LTC, what is in preparation or planned in LTC, new homecare solutions
- News around EU on policies, Projects, Studies, Best practices, Inspo interviews and testimonials

- AI
- current trends, best practices, EAN news, interviews, recent updates about EAN members...
- Summary of events, Updates summary from the Organisation (GAN; FESE, AGE Platform, ...)
- offers of professional practice exchanges, internships, thematic seminars (ecology in establishments, loyalty of new employees, AI)
- EU matters, stories about good practices in LTC
- EU Matters and Best practices
- Current developments across EU in LTC. Focus on 1 country in each?
- Updates on EU policy and legislation relevant to long-term care
- EAN project results and upcoming opportunities
- Innovative practices and experiences from other member countries
- Calls for participation in research or pilot projects
- Funding opportunities and strategic partnerships
- Good practices and impact of EAN on policy change
- future perspectives, involvement of stakeholders, best practice
- Trends, new guidelines, best practice
- Cybersecurity, european polititicy, how to find the right budget
- Climate Protection
- News from EAN Working groups and projects, updates on mental health, disability, one health approach

## Do you forward the EAN Newsletter to your members?

Do you forward the EAN Newsletter to your members?

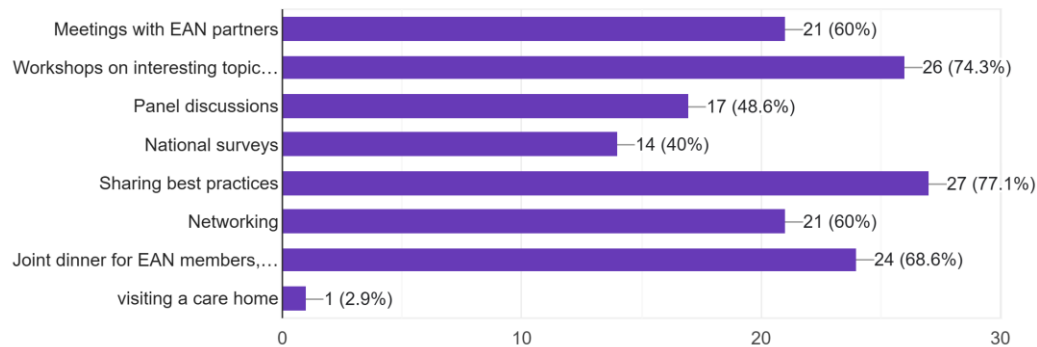
34 responses



## EAN General Assembly Meetings

### What type of activities would you find most interesting during the General Assembly Meeting?

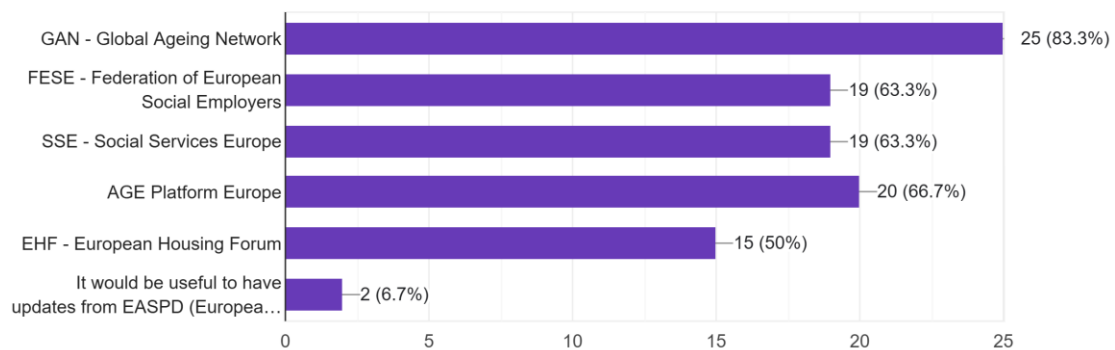
What type of activities would you find most interesting during the General Assembly Meeting?  
35 responses



- visiting a care home

### Would you like to receive updates from the following organizations during the GA meetings?

Would you like to receive updates from the following organizations during the GA meetings?  
30 responses



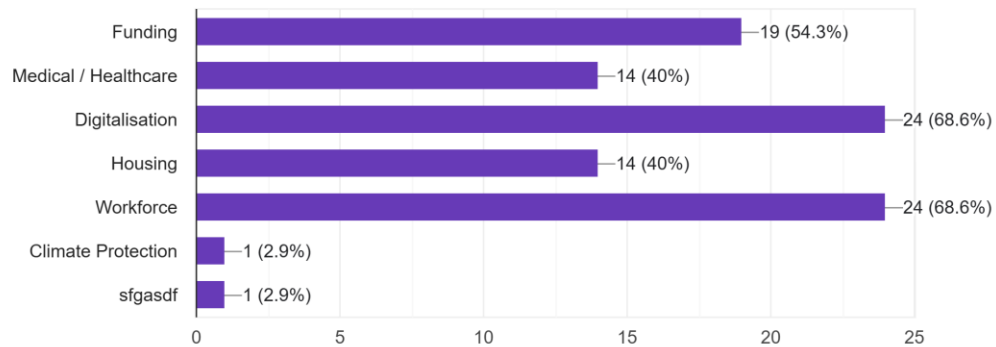
- It would be useful to have updates from EASPD (European Association of Service Providers for Persons with Disabilities) and Eurofound, where relevant.

## EU Matters

### Which topics related to EU matters interest you the most?

Which topics related to EU matters interest you the most?

35 responses

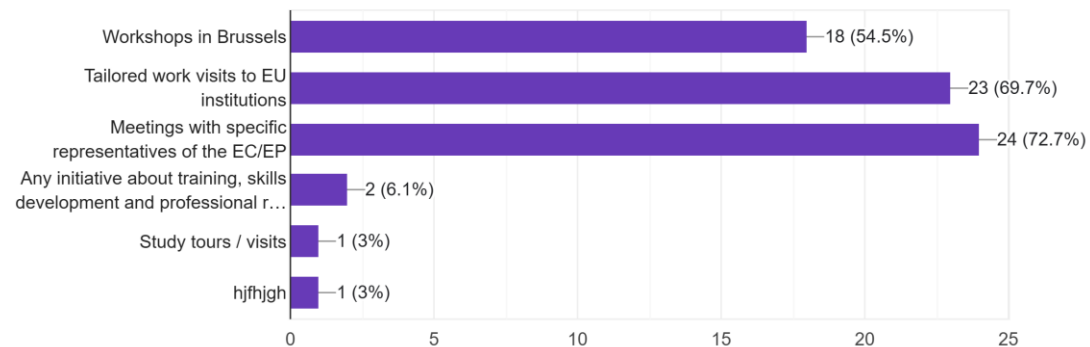


- Climate Protection

### Which EU activities would you be interested in?

Which EU activities would you be interested in?

33 responses



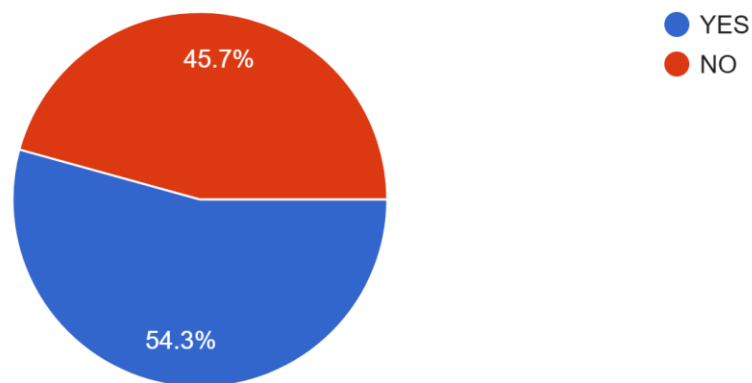
- Any initiative about training, skills development and professional recognition in the care sector.
- Study tours / visits

## EAN Congress

### Did you attend the last EAN congress in Athens / Vienna?

Did you attend the last EAN congress in Athens / Vienna?

35 responses

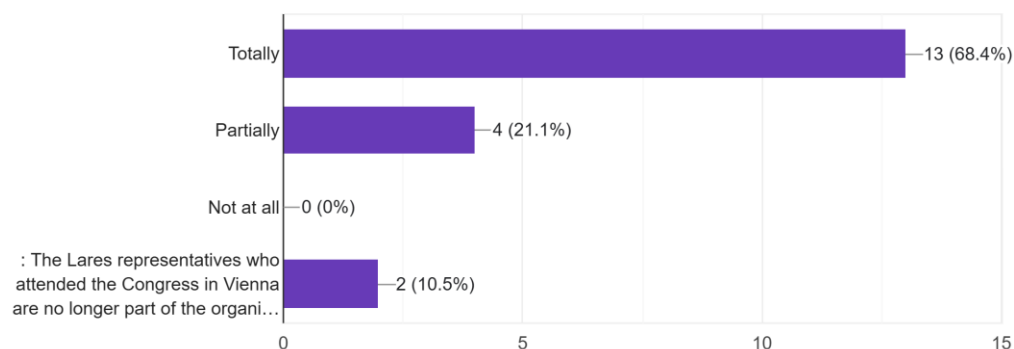


## Congress in Athens / Vienna - Satisfaction

### Were you satisfied?

Were you satisfied?

19 responses



### Why?

- Some good content and sessions. Could have been more focused on European policy and what, if anything, we can do together on EU wide policy.
- A visit to a local care organisation was missing.



- Interesting.
- I was attend in Vienna. The topics was good, the programme well prepared.
- Very interesting congress, great people. You're awesome!
- Best Conference ever :)
- Because it provided valuable insights and connections around the 21st century skills needed in long-term care, especially in areas such as professionalisation, digitalisation, and workforce sustainability.
- Good place, program and opportunity for networking.

## Congress in Athens / Vienna - Why Not?

**If you did not attend, what were the reasons?**

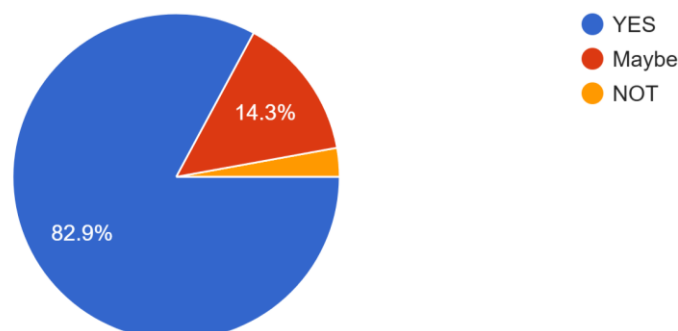
- no time / parallel network meetings
- there were some issues in my previous jobplace
- I am new to the 'EAN'.
- Unfortunately, I was unable to attend due to personal family matters.
- I was on vacation
- We are a member of EAN since 01.01.2025
- it was not possible for personal reasons
- I was not yet officially designated as a representative of my organization at that time.
- I even don't take part in national congresses because I have to focus on daily work.
- Unable to travel due to work commitments and clash of dates
- work load
- Lack of Time
- I couldn't organize myself in time. I attended the general assembly in Nantes

## Next EAN Congress

**Do you intend to attend the EAN congress in the future?**

Do you intend to attend the EAN congress in the future?

35 responses



## What are your expectations for the next EAN Congress?

Please feel free to share your ideas regarding the main topic, programme, side events, or any other suggestions:

- EU policy and EU workforce solutions are HCCI priorities
- Get to know activities and members of European Ageing Network. Maybe find interested member to organise study visits for care staff and Erasmus+ internship of nursing trainees/students
- Innovations for the provision of social services, Examples of good practice
- Itc in eu, funding for Itc, european projects
- new trends in long care and the practical implementation of them
- Dutch
- to take part the congress is quite expensive and the financial situation of association is not good today
- I would welcome a main topic that embraces the evolving identity of long-term care—not just in terms of care models, but as a societal challenge requiring interdisciplinary solutions, stronger partnerships between public and private sectors, and a renewed focus on human dignity, community inclusion, and workforce sustainability.
- In terms of programme, I'd love to see:
- Concrete case studies on innovative care models and how they've been financed, implemented, and scaled
- A dedicated track for leadership and change management, especially in contexts of demographic transition and system reform
- A session exploring the role of real estate and infrastructure in shaping the future of elderly living, including examples of partnerships between operators and investors
- Side events or formats that encourage interactive exchange: round tables, workshops, storytelling corners
- A "Care Futures Lab"—a curated space to explore bold ideas, prototypes, and cross-sector visions shaping the future of care
- A "Matchmaking for Impact" area for care providers, innovators, funders, and policymakers
- A structured legacy framework with follow-ups like position papers and transnational initiatives
- Bringing our topic of geriatric care on a European level. Talk to other organisations from Europe about geriatric care. Network on EAN level to do more EU funded projects in the field of healthcare and geriatric care
- thematic exchanges, presentations of innovations, visits to interesting and innovative or original sites
- New trends in LTC
- If I travel into a foreign country to attend a congress, I prefer a pre- or post-congress tour to facilities for the aged
- Varied panel of speakers from EU and abroad, best practices, networking
- We would welcome a focus on:
- Innovation in care models for older adults, with meaningful involvement of older people themselves
- Use of digital tools for quality and person-centred care
- Cross-national strategies for workforce development and retention
- Interactive formats—workshops, roundtables, co-creation spaces
- Side events promoting peer exchange, intergenerational dialogue, and cultural inclusion
- Shaping the workforce of the future

- implementation status of digitalization in the care sector, strategies of governments in comparison, impact of EC decisions
- Specific input on staff shortages and how to solve that
- Climate protection with an overall view – also how to ensure good climate in working conditions
- Meet people, develop network...
- Quality of LTC
- Outside looking in views: the views of e.g. historians or philosophers on the challenges of LTC. Social design: how changes in society attribute to solutions in LTC
- I would like a section on polypharmacy and the appropriateness of prescription and administration of drugs in LTCFs residents; a symposium on Intrinsic Capacity Assessment and Integrated Care for Older People guidelines

## Other Activities & Final Notes

### What activities or services do you feel are missing from EAN?

- Studytrips
- Community social work, integrated model (social and health care), financing model
- Exchange of good practice examples, as well as those were unsuccessful, and having an open discussion about them. Addressing ethnic topics such as cross-border behavior.
- "Unfortunately, due to various personal and professional reasons, I haven't been able to follow EAN's recent activities as closely as I would have liked—so I may not be fully up to date with everything the network currently offers. Please take my suggestions with that in mind, as contributions aimed at enriching an already valuable ecosystem.

While EAN plays a vital role in connecting professionals across Europe, I believe there's untapped potential in expanding its ecosystem through more structured tools for collaboration, visibility, and innovation.

Here are a few suggestions:

A "Care Innovation Observatory"

A permanent platform to collect and showcase promising practices, emerging models, and sectoral trends—curated with input from members. It could include short video case studies, market insights, and policy comparisons.

A "Bridge Platform" between care providers and investors

A safe, transparent space for building trust and facilitating dialogue between long-term care operators and real estate or impact investors. EAN could play a neutral, enabling role in fostering partnerships aligned with social value and sustainability.

Stronger support for international career mobility

A digital service or mentoring programme for young professionals and middle managers looking to grow within the European care sector. This could include leadership training, job matching, and cross-border exchange opportunities.

Care for the carers: a focus on professionals' wellbeing

Dedicated initiatives focused on the emotional and professional well-being of those who work in care—sharing strategies for resilience, work-life balance, and leadership with purpose.

Finally, I would love to see EAN take a more visible role in shaping the European narrative on ageing and care—through public campaigns, thought leadership,

and alliances with actors from adjacent sectors (housing, design, tech, academia, civic movements)."

- "A once a year ""project planning session"" (online or face to face) would be a great option for all the EAM member who would be interested to work together on EU funded projects. We could do it in a way that every partner who joins has to bring min. one project idea (in a 5 page concept note), then quickly pitch the idea and then we could talk about it and see if other EAN member organisations would be intered to join the project.  
We do this in other EU umbrella organisations (Youth, VET etc.) and I can explain the concept details if you like.
- I don't know EAN yet, but I hope to find partners there with whom to exchange ideas, best practices and share humanist and solidarity values.
- Study tours to EAN members countries
- Repository of evidenced based info on each country - factsheets on each country on funding/ workforce and regulation
- "1) A mentorship/exchange programme between members for staff and leadership.  
2) Multilingual resource hub for sharing best practices, project toolkits, and policy briefs.  
3) We encourage EAN to explore tailored ways of supporting third-sector and non-profit organisations like Lares Asociación in Spain, which play a vital role in long-term care for older adults. Despite their deep social roots and person-centred approach, many of these organisations face structural and managerial challenges—often operating with limited resources, outdated systems, and complex governance linked to their associative model. This can hinder agility, innovation, and responsiveness to the changing needs of society and their members. To address this, EAN could provide targeted capacity-building through training, mentoring, and practical tools focused on modernising management, improving access to funding, and navigating EU programmes. Empowering these organisations to evolve while preserving their social mission would significantly enhance their impact and contribution to inclusive, sustainable care systems in Europe."
- Focus on labor mobility, international recruitment and the outlook of national policies in this regard. Room for wider cooperation for a global workforce.
- EAN is a very well-structured organization and is highly focused on the sector. I would like to see it develop more care-related issues to promote specific multidisciplinary guidelines that integrate and coordinate all the professionals working in residential facilities.

## Do you have any additional suggestions or ideas?

- If some of my ideas are already in place and I've simply missed them—please take it as a sign that I really need to reconnect with EAN! Either way, I'd be happy to contribute wherever I can, especially when it comes to bridging perspectives, sparking new collaborations, and building a care culture that's both human and forward-looking.
- I never practice English in my daily life and hope to be able to follow the meetings
- thanks for your initiative to ask for our motivation.
- Best director in EU :)

- Lares Asociación values its membership in EAN and believes in the importance of building strong European alliances to advance the quality, dignity, and sustainability of long-term care. We look forward to contributing actively and strengthening our cooperation within the network!
- Thank you for all efforts
- I will try to expand EAN in my country and within my professional network

**Note:** Please note that this document is intended exclusively for EAN members and partners. It has not undergone professional language editing, and in one instance, duplicate responses may have caused minor variations in the percentage data presented.



# Questionnaire for EAN Members & Partners

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Dear Members, Colleagues, Friends,

We kindly ask you to complete a short questionnaire to help us better understand your expectations and needs. Your feedback will serve as a valuable resource for planning activities and developing our organization. The results will be presented at the upcoming General Assembly in Lisbon.

## Identification

First name:

Country:

Last name:

Email:

Organisation:

## Online Members Meetings - New Activity

**How often would you be interested in Online member meetings on current EAN topics (1.5 hours)?**

☐ Once a month

☐ Not interested

☐ Once every three months

☐ Other:

☐ Less frequently

**Which topics would you prefer to discuss during online meetings?**

☐ EU matters

☐ Country-specific best practices in LTC

☐ Current trends in long-term care

☐ Other:

## **EAN Newsletter**

**How often would you like to receive the EAN Newsletter?**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Once a year       | <input type="checkbox"/> I do not read the newsletter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Twice a year      | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Four times a year |   |

**Which topics / information would you prefer to find in Newsletters?**

**Do you forward the EAN Newsletter to your members?**

- |                              |                             |                                       |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Occasionally |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|

**Email address of your communication officer:**

## **EAN General Assembly Meetings**

**What type of activities would you find most interesting during the General Assembly Meeting?**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Meetings with EAN partners                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sharing best practices |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Workshops on interesting topics (incl. project results) | <input type="checkbox"/> Networking             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Panel discussions                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Joint dinner           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> National surveys  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other:                 |

**Would you like to receive updates from the following organizations during the GA meetings?**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> GAN - Global Ageing Network                    | <input type="checkbox"/> SSE - Social Services Europe |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FESE - Federation of European Social Employers | <input type="checkbox"/> AGE Platform Europe          |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> EHF - European Housing       |

Forum

☐ Other:

## EU Matters

**Which topics related to EU matters interest you the most?**

☐ Funding

☐ Housing

☐ Medical / Healthcare

☐ Workforce

☐ Digitalisation

☐ Other:

**Which EU activities would you be interested in?**

☐ Workshops in Brussels

☐ Meetings with EC/EP

☐ Tailored work visits to EU  
institutions

representatives

☐ Other:

## EAN Congress

**Did you attend the last EAN congress in Athens / Vienna?**

☐ YES

☐ NO

## Congress in Athens / Vienna - Satisfaction

**Were you satisfied?**

☐ Totally

☐ Not at all

☐ Partially

☐ Other:

**Why?**

## Congress in Athens / Vienna - Why Not?

**If you did not attend, what were the reasons?**



## Next EAN Congress

**Do you intend to attend the EAN congress in the future?**

☐ YES

☐ Maybe

☐ NOT

**What are your expectations for the next EAN Congress?**

Please feel free to share your ideas regarding the main topic, programme, side events, or any other suggestions:

**If you do not plan to attend future congresses, could you please share the reasons for your decision?**

## Other Activities & Final Notes

**What activities or services do you feel are missing from EAN?**

**Do you have any additional suggestions or ideas?**

**Would you like to fill it in online? Here is the link:**

