

## 2012 to be the “European Year for Active Ageing”

The Commission proposed that 2012 be designated as the “European Year for Active Ageing”. The European Parliament and Council are expected to endorse the initiative by the beginning of next year.

The initiative aims to help create better job opportunities and working conditions for the growing number of older people in Europe, help them take an active role in society and encourage healthy ageing.

The proposed “European Year for

Active Ageing” is designed to serve as a framework for raising awareness, for identifying and disseminating good practice and, most importantly, for encouraging policymakers and stakeholders at all levels to promote active ageing. The aim is to invite these players to commit to specific action and goals in the run-up year 2011 so that tangible achievements can be presented during the European Year itself in 2012.



**Proposal for a Decision on the European Year for Active Ageing (2012):**

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:52010PC0462:EN:NOT>

## European Innovation Union: Pilot Partnership “Active and Healthy Ageing”

The Commission’s “European Innovation Union” sets out a strategic approach to innovation – driven by the highest level. The Innovation Union is a “flagship” on the Europe 2020 Strategy. One of its key elements is the “European Innovation Partnership”, which will mobilise stakeholders – European, national and regional, public and private – behind well-defined goals. The Partnerships will step up R&D, coordinate investment, speed up standards and mobilise demand. A pilot Partnership on active and healthy ageing will be launched by early 2011. John DALLI, European Commissioner responsible for health, explained at the European Health Forum in Bad Gastein: “One of the key tools is the creation of so-called Innovation Partnerships. I am very pleased that the very first of these Partnerships is on active and healthy ageing. Our objective is ambitious: we want to increase within two years the num-

ber of years that Europeans can live an active and healthy life beyond today’s level.”



<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/10/1288&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=fr>

**John Dalli: The future policy options in healthcare for the European Union:**  
[http://ec.europa.eu/commission\\_2010-2014/dalli/docs/101012\\_ep\\_e\\_health\\_governance\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/commission_2010-2014/dalli/docs/101012_ep_e_health_governance_en.pdf)

## EMPL Committee: Report on the demographic challenge and solidarity between generations

The Committee on Employment and Social Affairs of the European Parliament adopted (29-09-2010) the above mentioned report of MEP Thomas Mann. With regard to older people, the Committee agreed a “50-plus pact”. It contains the objective to increase the employment rate of people aged over 50 to above 55% as well as the gradual elimination of early retirement and also incentives for over 60s to remain in work. The pact will be accompanied by specific measures, such as the development of mixed-aged teams, as well as steps to review and remove age limits for working. The final version of the report is not yet available.

## European Parliament resolution on the role of women in an ageing society



The European Parliament adopted a resolution (07-09-2010) on the role of women in an ageing society and calls on Member States to take special positive discrimination measures to improve the lives of older women, including paid leave for carers, and more generally to run campaigns to raise awareness of the fundamental role older people play in society.

Women live longer than men and face a greater risk of ending up in poverty. Innovative policies are needed to support “informal carers” (most of whom are women) with benefits and social security rights. Governments

should also ensure that workers whose income is temporarily lower owing to their caring duties can continue acquiring pension rights.

The headings of the resolution are: “Tackling age discrimination”, “Reconciling work and care”, “Health, care and social services” and “Moving ahead”. The Parliament asks the Member States and the Commission for basic services for everyone. Every man and woman in the EU must have a right to adequate, affordable and quality social and health services of general interest. The Commission should propose a directive on basic services and also consider a system whereby all men and women in the EU are granted the right to a basic income. The MEPs also called for the anti-discrimination directive to be adopted as soon as possible. Finally, the Parliament asked the Commission to come up with an action plan, by the end of 2011, providing inter alia, yearly reporting on violation of older people’s rights, measures to ensure the quality of care and the quality of carers’ working conditions’, more coherent social security measures, etc.

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+TA+P7-TA-2010-0306+0+DOC+XML+V0//EN&language=EN>

## European Parliament resolution on long-term care for older people

The European Parliament adopted a resolution (09-09-2010) on long-term care for older people. The resolution calls on Member States and the Commission to consider 23 different policy requirements related to long-term care.

These requirements affect all important issues of long-term care like: the fight against social exclusion and any type of discrimination based on age; quality and continuity of care; specialist training, education and professional qualification; “e-health”; needs of informal carers; quality cri-

teria for service provision; ... can manage by themselves in their own homes; regulate qualification requirements; specialist geriatric medicine; home palliative care units; collect data; minimum standards; more research; dietary choices ... risk of dehydration; in-home welfare and health care; Green Paper ... on elder abuse and safeguarding; study on ...

increasing requirements for the care ... anticipated specialist provision for the period until 2020; Open Method of Cooperation for an exchange of information, policy ideas and best practice between Member States ... on the provision of long-term care ... measures and minimum professional standards; integrated active ageing strategy; etc.

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+TA+P7-TA-2010-0313+0+DOC+XML+V0//EN&language=EN>



**Commission:  
Third European  
Demographic Forum  
22. / 23. November 2010  
in Brussels,  
Charlemagne building**

Within the framework of the Demographic Change in the EU the European Commission Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities will organize the “Third European

Demographic Forum: The Demographic Dimension of the Europe 2020 Strategy”.

“Europe 2020”, The European Union’s strategy for jobs and smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, can only succeed if it takes into account a rapidly changing demographic context.

**The 2010 Demographic Forum will provide policy makers and stakeholders with an opportunity to:**

- explore how to promote active ageing, notably in view of the European Year for Active Ageing envisaged for 2012
- examine how families can be supported so that they can ensure solidarity between generations
- debate how to tackle the crisis and consolidation public finances without jeopardizing investment Europe’s demographic future.

To register click on the following link:

[https://secure.destree.be/ei/getdemo.ei?id=283&s=\\_OVS0MDOX6](https://secure.destree.be/ei/getdemo.ei?id=283&s=_OVS0MDOX6).



Keep the date !

**AGE Platform Europe is delighted to invite you to the final conference of the EUSTaCEA project – a European Strategy to fight elder abuse**

On Wednesday, 17th November 2010 in the European Parliament in Brussels  
From 15.30 to 18.00 - Room: PHS 5 B 001

The conference is hosted by Liz Lynne MEP, Rapporteur for the European Parliament on the resolution recently adopted in plenary on ‘Long-term care for older people’. It will be introduced by a presentation by different European Institutions of the European action on elder abuse, followed by the presentation of the project and a panel of speakers on “How can the EU face elder abuse and ensure quality care for older people all over the EU?” The two outputs of the Daphne programme-funded project, the European Charter of the rights and responsibilities of older people in need of long-term care and assistance and its accompanying guide will be disseminated during the conference.

To register, please send back an e-mail to Maude Luherne, project coordinator, at [maude.luherne@age-platform.eu](mailto:maude.luherne@age-platform.eu) with :

- Your name
- Your organization
- Your e-mail address
- If you need a pass to enter the European Parliament, your passport number, the date and place of birth.

The conference will be translated in English, French and German. Further details on the program will follow. More information on the EUSTaCEA project is available here:

<http://www.age-platform.eu/en/daphne>

Thank you for participating and disseminating this message,

With kind regards,  
*Maude Luherne*,  
European Parliament Liaison Officer and Project Coordinator.