



EUROCITIES Social Affairs Forum

25-27 March 2019, Glasgow

Updates from WG Urban Ageing



1. Working group meeting in Frankfurt, 25-26 October

EUROCITIES Working Group Urban Ageing will meet in Frankfurt, on 25-26 October to discuss about the social inclusion of older people through cultural activities as well as the development of age-friendly strategies at local level. The participants had the chance to exchanges views on:

- social integration of elder people through culture. A depth understanding of Frankfurt's cultural initiatives like Silver Screen - European Film Festival for Generation and the possibilities of replicating the intergenerational dialogue and promote social inclusion of older people through a common project.
- implementing new strategies for older people at local. Two cases presented by Madrid ('City strategic plan - Madrid friendly city with older people') and Ljubljana ('Ljubljana's age-friendly strategy').
- updates and future plans. A WG meeting focused on updating the members on the latest EU developments, ESPON projects, on drafting the work plan for 2019.

Find more about the meeting [here](#).

2. Pledges to access elderly care in EURO CITIES 'Inclusive cities for all: Social Rights in My City' campaign

On 21 February, EURO CITIES kicked off this new political initiative to show the cities' contribution to a more cohesive and inclusive Europe starting from the local level. Mayors and deputy mayors pledged to act on the principles of European Pillar for Social Rights in line with your city's strategic objectives. Two cities have shown commitment to invest €14.5 million to improve access to elderly care. More about the campaign [here](#). Find all the cities pledges [here](#).

3. Definition of topics for the 5th call on Urban Innovative Actions available from April

The UIA 5th Call for proposals will open in September 2019. It is the last call planned in the current programming period. The topics have already been announced in January, but the full definitions will be available from April 2019:

- Air quality
- Circular economy
- Culture and cultural heritage
- **Demographic change**

Read more: <https://uia-initiative.eu/fr/call-proposals/5th-call-proposals>

4. Not finished at 50: Keeping older workers in work

In November 2018, Eurofound released a report denouncing the stereotypes that hinder older workers to find a job. They contribute to long-term unemployment for this age-group. The report regrets the rarity of initiatives specifically targeting older workers whose knowledge and sometimes skills become obsolete. A working paper on state initiatives supporting the labour market integration of older workers provides examples of public measures to tackle this, while drawing conclusions on the interventions that work best. These aim at a long-term approach, enabling older workers to benefit from reduced working time, training or networking system. Read more [here](#).

5. New EURO CITIES handbook on critical friend review

The report is based on a methodology developed and tested in the EURO CITIES Working group on Social Inclusion through Education. It aims at encouraging mutual learning between cities during study visits. Under this method, visiting city experts act as 'critical friend' and provide constructive feedback to the host city. The handbook is a practical manual to guide you through the steps of the process and maximise the learning process and outcomes from a study visit. Read the report [here](#) and watch a video on how to use a critical friend review [here](#).

2019-2020 WG priorities:

1. Continue to engage in policy dialogue concerning urban ageing in EU, through participation by WG members in EU projects and thematic conferences, workshops and debates. The WG will also contribute to relevant policy statements or press releases when necessary
2. Continue to strengthen the WG's existing and new members through relevant WG meeting, site visits, exchanges of good practices and project collaboration.
3. Continue collaboration with the World Health Organisation on urban ageing under the auspices of the global network of age-friendly cities and communities
4. Build capacity of cities to develop and improve municipal strategies for accessibility in line with the EU Accessibility Act
5. Increase the active ageing and the social inclusion for old people in the wities part of the WG
6. Continue to build capacity in cities on how to become age-friendly cities, potentially through a guide/module

Upcoming meetings and activities:

- **Glasgow, 27 March from 14:00-18:00 - EPSON project meeting open to WG urban ageing members**
The meeting will be organised after the [Social Innovation Lab](#), 26-27 March, and it will start with a visit and presentation of '[Generations Working Together](#)' - the approach of Glasgow to active ageing and inter-generational cohesion. The participants will can also assist the ESPON project and attend the WG urban ageing business meeting.
- **EIPonAHA Action Group meeting D4: Age-friendly buildings, cities and environments Krakow, 9-10 May 2019**
The meeting will focus on the recent developments in the field of active and healthy ageing and more specific on age-friendly environments, such as age-friendly environments policies and experiences in Poland, European age-friendly housing certification, smart healthy age-friendly environments, and the future of EIPonAHA beyond 2020. Participants who wants to present their own projects, are welcome to sign in. Registration and proposals for presentation [here](#).
- **Ljubljana, 12-14 June - Policy transfer 'Building cities accessible to all: improving accessibility in city development plan'**
The meeting is designed as a capacity-building activity for cities to transfer policies and replicate good practices on accessibility. The participants will learn from Ljubljana's practice of mainstreaming accessibility in the city's development plan and they will also a get the chance to learn more about the 'Access City Award'. The WG barrier free cities is also invited to attend the policy transfer event.
More information on the agenda and the registration will be send at the beginning of **April**.
- **Ghent, autumn - proposed topic: 'Tackling the issues of dementia and innovation'**
The meeting will tackle the issues of dementia and innovation and offer participants an interesting visit to Ghent's newest residential care center. The study visit will also include a presentation of local service center to give insights on how Ghent deal with assisted housing for old people, in an innovative way.
More information on the agenda and the registration will be send at the beginning of **August**.



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