

ESPON Conference Week on Ageing – opening session











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Agenda

10:00 -10:05	Welcome	David Regeczi, Ecorys (NL)/ Piera Petruzzi, ESPON EGTC
10:05 – 10:20	Keynote speech	Dubravka Šuica, Vice-President of the European Commission
10:20 – 10:45 (Q&A)	1. ESPON and the ACPA project	Dr. Wiktor Szydarowski, Paul McGarry and Erik van Ossenbruggen
10:45 – 11:05 (Q&A)	2. Urban ageing, what makes it different from ageing in other environments?	Prof. dr. Christopher Philipson
11:05 – 11:15	Coffee break	
11:15 – 11:35 (Q&A)	3. WHO Europe on Ageing policy and COVID-19	Dr. Manfred Huber
11:35 -11:55 (Q&A)	4. Ageing in times of digitalisation	Dr. Heidrun Mollenkopf
11:55 – 12:25 (Q&A)	Panel discussion	Tom van Benthem, Dr. Manfred Huber, Paul McGarry, Dr. Heidrun Mollenkopf, Prof. dr. Christopher Philipson, Anne Berit Rafoss, Dr. Wiktor Szydarowski
12:25-12:30	Concluding remarks	David Regeczi









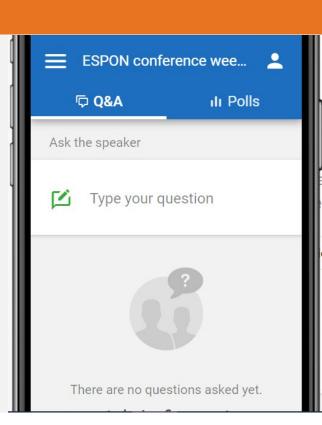


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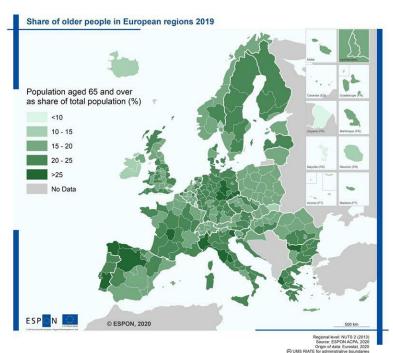


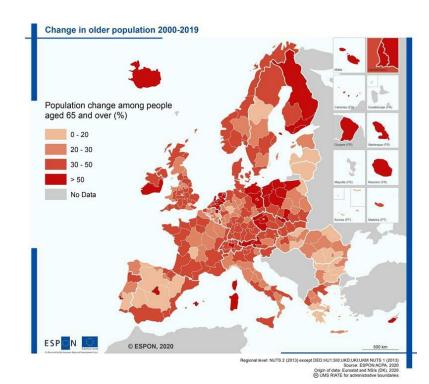






Europe's population is ageing







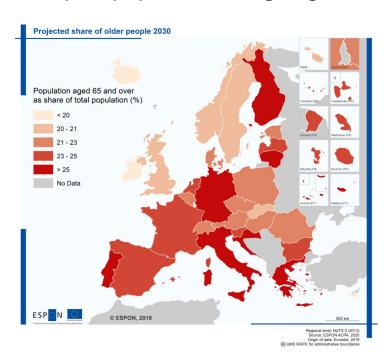








Europe's population is ageing



.... and in 2050:

- More than two-thirds of the EU Member States are projected to have an old-age dependency ratio above 50%
- 'Super ageing': number of people aged 85 years or more is projected to increase from 12.5 million in 2019 to 26.8 million by 2050



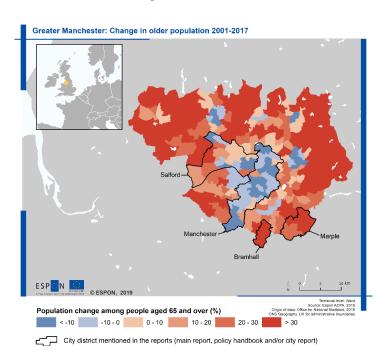


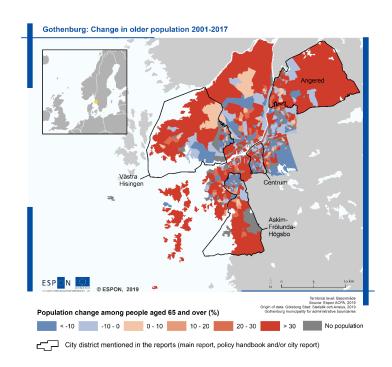






Substantial spatial differences within cities















Challenges caused by population ageing

- More public funding required
- Calibration of strategic focus areas
- Overcoming negativism and stereotypes
- Overcoming polarisation
 - Digitalisation
 - Cultural differences among older people
 - Risk of loneliness
- Age-friendly City policy:
 - Continuation of age-friendly policies
 - More and better learning from ageing policy
 - Involvement of the relevant European bodies











Now is the time to act

- · WHO: Decade of Healthy Ageing
- European Commission: Green Paper on Ageing
- 'Cities of the European Union, unite!'
- ESPON is supporting the Decade of Healthy Ageing











Success factors

Policy dom	ain	Good practice	Example (city)
	Outdoor spaces and buildings	Taking away barriers to visit outdoor spaces and buildings. Such barriers can have a physical and a social/cognitive dimension.	Age-friendly shopping (Zaragoza)
	2. Transportation	Tailored solutions that can bring older people to destinations where public transport is unavailable. Such solutions usually include personal assistance.	Rosa busser (Oslo)
	3. Housing	Optimal use of scarce residential real estate and stimulating intergenerational contact by letting seniors and students live in one building.	Viure i Conviure (Barcelona)
	4. Social participation	Platform for discussion of ageing – including sensitive topics – by older people without problematising it.	UP! – a new perspective on ageing (Amsterdam)











Success factors

Policy dom	ain	Good practice	Example (city)
Ann I	5. Respect and social inclusion	Cultural activities adapted to cultural backgrounds of older people	AVEM groups (Hengelo)
	6. Civic participation and employment	Active involvement of older people in the design and implementation of policies and activities	Older people as co- researchers (Greater Mancester)
•••	7. Communication and information	Combining multiple demands in one project: learning seniors to use digital technology, letting share personal experiences and reflecting on quality of life as well as giving them a voice towards the city council.	Life filming (Gothenburg)
%	8. Community support and health services	Don't forget about the people around the seniors . Especially informal caregivers tend to experience burden to perform their tasks and should be relieved where possible.	Maison des aidants (Nantes)



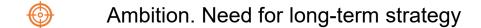








Strategic policy recommendations



Learning. More monitoring and evaluation

Flexibility. Keeping an eye of developments and demands

Positivity. Raising public awareness about ageing

Outreach. From the local to the European level











Want to know more? Check out the ACPA publications – now in your own language!

Main report and synthesis report - EN

- Policy handbook
 - EN / ES / FR / NL / NO / SE
- Case study reports
 - EN / ES / FR / NL / NO / SE

https://www.espon.eu/ACPA



















MANCHESTER

Urban Ageing: What Makes it Different from Ageing in other Environments

Paper to ESPON Conference Week on Ageing Adapting European Cities to Population Ageing

Professor Chris Phillipson

Manchester Institute for Collaborative Research on Ageing

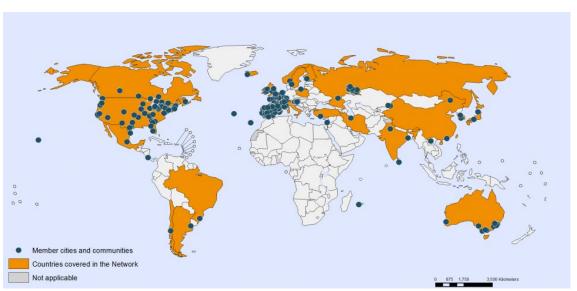
Manchester Urban Ageing Research Group (MUARG)

The University of Manchester

TOPICS COVERED

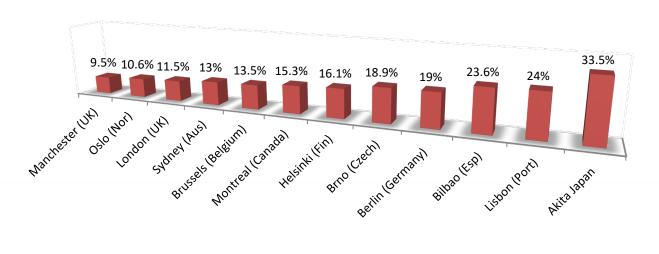
- Background to debate on age-friendly communities
- Policy debates influencing urban agenda on age-friendly issues
- Urban environments: advantages for building age-friendly communities
- Urban environments: disadvantages for building age-friendly communities
- Areas for intervention
- Questions for the age-friendly movement





WHY THE DEBATE ON AGE-FRIENDLY CITIES?

Proportion of people aged 65 and over in selected cities





Policy debates influencing urban agenda on agefriendly issues

- 'Sustainable Cities'
 How can urban development meet the needs of current and future generations?
- 'Harmonious Cities' (UN-Habitat)
 How can we achieve social justice in the city?
- 'Unequal Cities'

How can we reduce the *health and income* gap between neighbourhoods?

Lifetime homes and neighbourhoods
 How can we best support 'ageing in place'?

Urban environments: advantages for building agefriendly communities

- Infrastructure of public facilities 'social infrastructure' libraries, leisure centres, museums (Klinenberg, 2018)
- Specialist resources for minority groups may be of particular importance in later life (Buffel et al., 2018).
- Broader range of social networks
 'weak' as well as 'strong' ties (Yarker, 2019)
- More advanced digital infrastructure to support ageing populations (Marston et al., 2020)

Urban environments: disadvantages for building age-friendly communities

- Development of 'world' or global cities with commanding economic and political influence but issues facing older people may be seen as marginal
- Emergence of cities and regions with declining populations – impact of de-industrialisation
- Cities characterised by extremes of wealth and poverty – especially over the past two decades (Piketty, 2020)
- Impact of gentrification high income groups moving into low income areas – resulting population churn can de-stabilise neighbourhoods (Buffel & Phillipson, 2019)



Urban Ageing: challenges to developing agefriendly strategies

- Many communities lack structural capacity to support ageing populations – age-friendly initiatives not a panacea
- 'Ageing in place' may be unattractive where the places in which people are ageing are facing economic and social decline
- Lack of influence of age-friendly strategies on private developers who dominate financing of urban development
- Communities are changing greater inequality within older cohorts; growth of single-person households; ethnic diversity in cities

Age-Friendly Work in Urban Environments: Areas for Intervention

Developing policies for diverse urban populations

Encouraging collaboration

 Co-producing age-friendly urban communities

Age-friendly work and Covid-19

Responding to diversity

Urban populations bring greater diversity than rural populations

- Need to understand different cultural interpretations of what 'age-friendly' might mean
- Shape policies around groups with different migration and life histories
- Greater acknowledgement needed of impact of racism and interaction with ageism, and sexism.

is vital in complex urban environments

- Age-friendly strategies may have been weakened by detachment from movements around 'smart cities', 'healthy cities' & 'sustainable cities'
- Ideas from 'smart' &
 'sustainable cities' important in
 bringing new issues into the
 AFCC movement such as
 campaigns around reducing
 pollution, increasing energy
 efficiency & responding to the
 impact of climate change
- Strengthen inter-generational dimension of age-friendly work.

Co-producing age-friendly urban environment

- Developing a co-production approach to urban regeneration (Lewis et al., 2020)
- Developing co-research with older people to study social isolation and social exclusion (Buffel, 2015)
- Promote Ageing in Place: Developing the Village model/ NORCs (Goff et al., 2020)

Age-friendly work & Covid-19

01

Target **public health** interventions in lowincome communities, with a particular focus on minority

02

Use age-friendly model to challenge rise of ageism which has run alongside emergence of Covid-19

03

residential & nursing homes where up to

Focus on community centred approaches i recovery planning fro Covid-19

Questions for the age-friendly movement

- Questions raised by the age-friendly debate:
- ➤ Cities are viewed as **key drivers for economic success** but can they integrate ageing populations as well?
- ➤ Can the age-friendly movement be part of the drive to address issues of inequalities in social justice and rights affecting urban life?
- ➤ What forms of **governance** are best suited to develop age-friendly cities and communities?
- ➤ Post-Covid: can older people play a bigger role in the **future planning of cities** and the communities within them?

SELECTED REFERENCES

Developing age-friendly approaches in urban regeneration (Lewis et al., 2020)

http://documents.manchester.ac.uk/display.aspx?DocID=46848

 Social infrastructure: how shared spaces make communities work (Yarker, 2019)

https://www.ambitionforageing.org.uk/sites/default/files/Social %20Infrastructure%20Report.pdf

 Community interventions to promote 'ageing in place'. Goff, M. et al, (2020)

http://documents.manchester.ac.uk/display.aspx?DocID=48721

SELECTED REFERENCES

Buffel, T (2018) Older co-researchers exploring age-friendly communities

https://academic.oup.com/gerontologist/articleabstract/59/3/538/4833573?redirectedFrom=fulltext

Buffel. T, Handler, S and Phillipson, C (eds) (2018) *Age-Friendly Communities*, Policy Press

Buffel, T & Phillipson, C (2016) Can Global Cities be Age-Friendly Cities? Urban Development and Ageing Populations *Cities*, 55: 94-100

Buffel, T. & Phillipson, C (2018) A Manifesto for the Age-Friendly Movement: Developing a New Urban Agenda. *Journal of Ageing & Social Policy* 30 (2) 173-192

Klinenberg, E (2018) *Palaces for the People: How to build a more equal and united society*, Bodley Head.





Age-friendly environments in Europe in the context of Covid-19 and the Decade of Health Ageing

Manfred Huber, Coordinator, WHO Regional Office for Europe

ESPON conference week on Ageing Opening session 30 November 2020











Decade of Healthy Ageing, 2020-2030

- A WHO-led UN Decade of concerted action
- The Decade's four action areas are:
 - 1. changing how we think, feel and act towards age and ageing;
 - 2. developing communities in ways that foster the abilities of older people; (→ age-friendly cities and communities)
 - 3. delivering person-centred, integrated care and primary health services that are responsive to older people; and
 - providing older people access to long-term care when they need it.

What is healthy ageing?

WHO defines it as "the process of developing and maintaining the functional ability that enables wellbeing in older age"

Functional ability: the capabilities that enable people to be and do what they have reason to value.

- This refers to people's ability to: meet their basic needs
- learn, grow and make decisions
- be mobile
- build and maintain relationships; and
- contribute to society.

Covid-19 and the Decade of Healthy Ageing

- COVID-19 is an international public health emergency of unprecedented spread and impact that is attacking societies and economies at their core
- The COVID-19 pandemic is exposing dysfunction and fragility in many systems
- People in the second half of their lives are bearing the brunt of COVID-19
- The 194 Member States of WHO had already called for a Decade of Heathy Ageing before the pandemic
- The vision and multistakeholder collaboration of the Decade are even more crucial in the time of COVID-19

Four enablers will support the Decade

- 1. Listening to diverse voices and enabling meaningful engagement of older people, family members, care givers and communities
- Nurturing leadership and building capacity at all levels to take appropriate action that is integrated across sectors
- 3. Connecting diverse stakeholders around the world to share and learn from the experience of others
- 4. Strengthening data, research and innovation to accelerate implementation

Action area 2: Developing communities in ways that foster the abilities of older people

- Age-friendly communities enable older people to age safely in a place that is right for them while retaining their autonomy, dignity, health and wellbeing.
- COVID-19 affects individuals, families, communities and societies profoundly. It disproportionately affects older men and women.
- Loss of a job and opportunities for social interaction can increase fear, social isolation, depression, loneliness, abuse and neglect.



Supporting age-friendly environments in Europe: 2007 – 2030

Age-friendly initatives provide examples of community resilience in times of crisis

- Voluntary support groups: support with shopping; combatting loneliness
- Fostering of digital literacy
- Initiatives to foster physical activity
- Sound, age-friendly communication is key





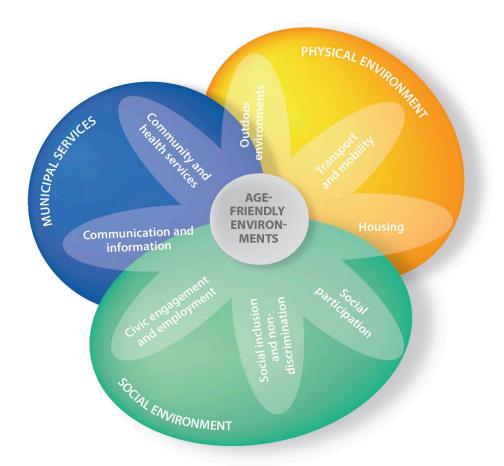




Age-friendly environments in Europe A handbook of domains for policy action



- A handbook of domains for policy action
- Synthesis of evidence from practice
- & Literature scans



- 3 clusters
- 8 areas of local action to support healthy ageing



- An implementation tool for policy makers and planners
- Examples from cities cooperating with WHO in European & global networks







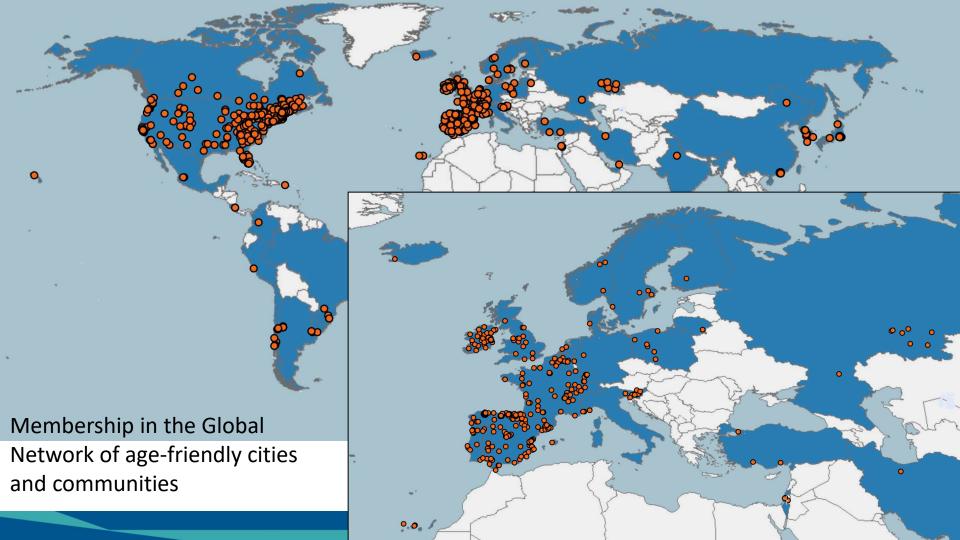
Age-friendly environments in Europe: Indicators, monitoring and assessments



- A tool for monitoring progress with implementation
- Synthesis of agefriendly assessments from various approaches used in practice

Two WHO networks in Europe

- WHO European Healthy Cities: 100 cities;
 National Networks (around 1500 cities)
- Ageing a priority topic of many (since 2004)
- Healthy ageing task force (since 2011)
- Global age-friendly cities and communities (web community) (since 2010)



Conclusions

- Important to draw the lessons from the disproportionately negative effects of COVID-19 on older people
- In the context of COVID-19, the Decade of Healthy Ageing provides the world with a timely opportunity
- COVID-19 shows that solidarity and collaboration among all stakeholders are necessary as never before
- Local initiatives for age-friendly environments play an important, supportive role in this respect

Acknowledgements:

Geoff Green Alana Officer

Thank you! euageing@who.int













ESPON Conference Week on Ageing

Adapting European Cities to Population Ageing

Monday 30 November 2020

Ageing in Times of Digitalisation



Dr. Heidrun Mollenkopf AGE Platform Europe, Vice President BAGSO - German National Association of Senior Citizens' Organisations



Digitalisation ...

- > is transforming our living environments
- > can efficiently support older people
 - in their autonomy
 - in their everyday life, mobility and social contacts
 - in access to health and care services -
- > and by this, ensure their full participation in society.
- > Challenges concern
 - safety and privacy
 - autonomy
 - equal treatment
- The existing human rights framework is not adequately equipped to address issues arising from technological innovation.





Why is this an issue at this conference?

- Circumstances and preconditions of communication change
- > Technologies and media for communication change
- > The significance of adequate information and communication technology
 - for getting essential information,
 - for accessing vital healthcare or
 - for maintaining meaningful social relations does not change.





In today's digitalised world ...

- > adequate, accessible ICT is more significant than ever
- for everybody = also for older persons

But it cannot be taken for granted:

- > Digital divide
 - regional
 - social
- However, the right to information, to healthcare and to social participation must be applicable to all older persons without limitations.
- The problem will not change with younger generations.





To close the gaps ...

Improvements are necessary at social, technical and structural levels:

- ➤ At the **social level**, it is crucial to ensure that those who need it get the **financial and technical support** to acquire or make use of the necessary prerequisites
- ➤ At the **technical level**, designers and manufacturers must provide barrier-free, well operating and **trustworthy devices and applications**.
- Legal protection is needed against the risk of intrusion and fraud, and of age discrimination especially regarding automated decision making.





To close the gaps ...

At the **structural level**,

- governments at national, regional and municipality levels must guarantee their citizens access to digital services and offers.
- ➤ **Learning opportunities** and low-threshold centres to experience new technologies need to be created.
- ➤ Educational offers must consider older persons' different levels of knowledge, their learning biographies, and cultural and individual diversity.





Conclusions

Digitalisation of all areas of life ...

> is creating new **opportunities** and new **risks** for older persons.

Under these conditions of digitalised societies,

- **governments** be they national, regional or urban must take responsibility for their older fellow citizens.
- ➤ Older persons' rights to information, to health and care, to education, social integration and societal participation are not yet sufficiently covered by law.
- ➤ The **EU Council Conclusions** (adapted October 2020) on "Human Rights, Participation and Well-Being of Older Persons in the Era of Digitalisation" can be used as **a guide on this path**.





Conclusions

Thank you for listening!

For further information see





EU Council Conclusion under the German EU Presidency:

https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/10/12/improving-the-well-being-of-older-persons-in-the-era-of-digitalisation-council-adopts-conclusions/



Concluding Remarks

- Cities have both advantages and disadvantages for healthy ageing policies should take those factors into account
- COVID-19 acts as severe impediment to healthy and active ageing
- Digitalisation creates both risks and opportunities for older people governments and other stakeholders should create the right circumstances so that the risks are mitigated and older people can benefit from the opportunities
- Panel discussion
- ESPON ACPA offers cities (and regions) insight in ways to mitigate these challenges and achieve agefriendly territories











Registrations for the case study sessions are still open, visit: https://www.espon.eu/ageing

Case Study Session Norway

Tuesday 1 December 13:30 - 14:30 CET Language: Norwegian / Norsk (NO) > Register

Case Study Session The Netherlands

Wednesday 2 December 10:00 - 11:00 CET Language: Dutch / Nederlands (NL) > Register

Case Study Session United Kingdom

Wednesday 2 December 13:30 - 14:30 UK time Language: English (EN)> Register

Case Study Session Spain

Thursday 3 December 10:00 - 11:00 CET Language: Spanish / Español (ES) > Register

Case Study Session Sweden

Thursday 3 December 13:30 - 14:30 CET Language: Swedish / Svenska (SV) > Register

Case Study Session France

Friday 4 December 10:00 - 11:00 CET Language: French / Français (FR) > Register











Thank you for your attention!

In case of any further questions, please contact:

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