



## AGE Platform Europe

The voice of older persons at EU level



# Long-term care and support in the EU: The perspectives of older people

Social Platform flagship conference *Building social Europe*

17 September 2019

# About AGE Platform Europe

- **Created in 2001**
- **Non-profit organisation**
- **European network** with 106 Member organisations
- **Co-financed** by a grant of the EU and by its members

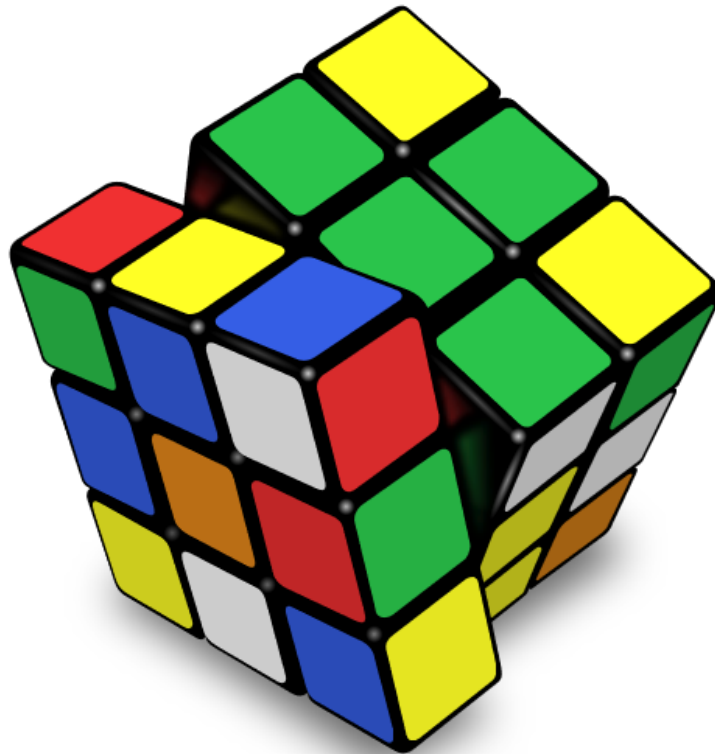


# AGE's mission

“The Europe we want is for all ages”

- **Voice** the views and concerns of older people
- **Advocate** for a life course approach to all policies
- **Encourage dialogue** and cooperation (1) between members and (2) with European institutions
- **Connect** with policy makers, other European NGOs, academics & other relevant stakeholders

# Long-term care, a multifaceted challenge



# Long-term care, a multifaceted challenge

**Inadequate access – unmet needs**

**Lack of funding – gap in investment**

**Growing demand**

**Weak social protection – unaffordable care**

**Uncoordinated services**

**Difficult working conditions**

# Long-term care, a multifaceted challenge

## **The quality challenge:**

**preventing maltreatment and abuse**

**[3% of older people in Europe,  
25% of older people with high care needs]**

**+**

**ensuring full rights and equality**

# Long-term care, a multifaceted challenge

*"What I miss is **the freedom to choose**, to choose when I get up, what to have for lunch, what to wear today"*

# Long-term care, a multifaceted challenge

***"I am afraid my daughters will decide suddenly to send me to a residential care home without talking about it to me beforehand. I like living alone and I would prefer to stay at home if possible"***



# Long-term care, a multifaceted challenge

*"We mix everything together: first dish, main dish and dessert. We all know that **older people lose their taste** when they age, and we don't have time to spend to help them eat the three dishes one after the other. It is much easier like this"*

# A shift in care: challenging ageism

## Ageist status quo

- **Protection and safety**
- **Best interests and lack of self-determination**
- **Denial of legal capacity and guardianship**
- **Fragmented services**

## Human rights approach

- **Autonomy and independent living**
- **Full and equal participation in society**
- **Supported decision-making**
- **Integrated, person-centred services**

# A shift in care: challenging ageism



# Towards better and more accessible care

- 1. VISION:** A more coherent and rights-based approach to care
- 2. INFLUENCE:** Contribution to national, European and international debates
- 3. COOPERATION:** between civil society/users – policymakers – service providers

# Towards better and more accessible care

## **1. VISION:** A more coherent and rights-based approach to care

- AGE's Task Force on Dignified Ageing, internal discussions, consultation with members.
- Human Rights fora

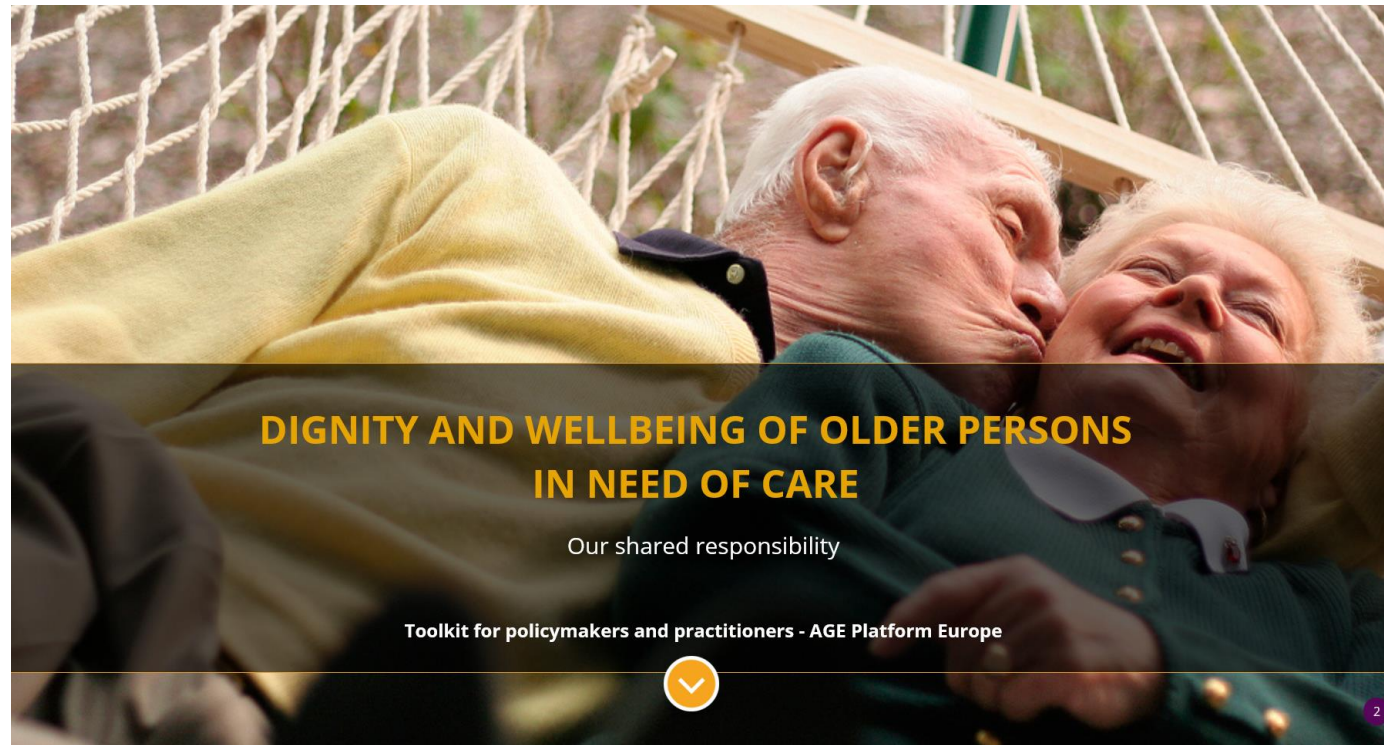
## **2. INFLUENCE:** Contribution to national, European and international debates

- AGE's participation to EU's consultations around the European Pillar of Social Rights, support to members at national level, UN OEWG

## **3. COOPERATION:** between civil society/users – policymakers – service providers - workers

- AGE's cooperation with local authorities for LTC reforms, dialogue with other NGOs, trade unions and providers of services

# Towards better and more accessible care



<http://publications.age-platform.eu/opcare-toolkit/>



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