



Ageing *in* Europe

Newsletter

Issue 35, October 2025

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Editorial Board

Newsletter of the ESA Research Network on Ageing in Europe (RN01)



Message from the Coordinator of the Network

Dear Colleagues,

We are living in turbulent times that affect the lives of both younger and older people across Europe and globally. Eco-social and political crises dominate the daily news, and many of us witness their impact in our everyday lives. In relation to these topics in societal discussions and media, older people are often portrayed in dualistic terms—either as powerless victims or as those who are at least partly responsible for these crises.

It is true that older people, particularly those in poor health or with lower socioeconomic status, are often more vulnerable than younger individuals to events such as heatwaves caused by climate change. They also tend to suffer more from the consequences of social and political crises, as escaping or relocating is more difficult for them than for younger people.

At the same time, older generations have contributed to building societies focused on economic growth and increasing national and individual wealth—often at the expense of nature and other species. In this sense, older and younger people share responsibility for the overconsumption of shared resources. Moreover, political crises are sometimes perpetuated by older individuals who cling to power at the expense of younger generations.

However, the current divided imagery of old age and older adults relies heavily on dualistic and even ageist views that overlook agency, heterogeneity, and diversity of older people. When talking about eco-social crises it is equally true that the roots of today's ecological movements were planted decades ago by pioneers, many of whom are now in their 70s and 80s. The problem is that our prevailing views of older people rarely allow us to see them as advocates for a better future.

As for the oldest old people—those well over 80s—few of them have truly participated in the frenzy of economic competition and consumption. Their lives have been shaped by major economic, political, and social upheavals, such as world wars, severe recessions, and environmental degradation. Their lifestyles are often marked by frugality, thrift, and a commitment to reusing materials and minimizing waste. In the context of political crises, older people often advocate moderate views and solidarity with younger generations.

The articles in the October Newsletter address some of these issues. Liat Ayalon discusses the relation between ageism and climate change, while Andrea Schmidt explores the effects of climate change on vulnerable older people and suggests policy measures to mitigate these impacts. Additionally, Lucie Galčanova Batistá contributes to these topics by introducing activities of the Center for Research on Ageing (CERA) at Masaryk University and discussing the meaning of climate change in the lives of people living and ageing in rural areas.

The Newsletter also includes a welcome message from RN01 co-coordinator Professor Marcos Bote, who invites attendees to the RN01 mid-term conference 'Old societies, new ageing' on November 6–7 in Murcia, Spain. At the conference, we will continue discussions on ageing in Europe during these turbulent times.

We also want to remind everyone about the upcoming 17th ESA Conference 'Strengthening Democracies: Social Action, Solidarity and Sustainable Futures', August 25-28, 2026, in Warsaw, Poland, which will focus especially on how academics and non-academics can work to create sustainable futures. The Call for Papers will be released soon. We hope to see many members of the RN01 Ageing in Europe next year in Warsaw—so please keep an eye on your emails and the website for the Call for Papers.

Kind regards,

Outi Jolanki, Faculty of Social Sciences, Tampere University, Finland

See you soon in Murcia!!!

ESA RN01 Mid-Term Conference (6-7 November 2025), Murcia, Spain

Old Societies, New Ageing?



The European Sociological Association's Research Network 01 (RN01) is getting ready to welcome you to its Mid-Term Conference, "Old Societies, New Ageing", which will take place on 6–7 November 2025 at the University of Murcia (Spain).

This international meeting will bring together scholars from across Europe and beyond to discuss the social, cultural, and political dimensions of ageing in contemporary societies. Over two days, participants will explore how transformations in welfare, family, and technology are reshaping what it means to age in the 21st century.

We are honoured to host three distinguished keynote speakers:

- **Dr. Justyna Stypińska** (WZB), who will open the conference with a lecture on AI, ageism, and the politics of exclusion in the era of algorithms;
- **Dr. Tine Buffel** (University of Manchester), addressing urban ageing and spatial justice;
- **and Dr. Axel Ågren** (Linköping University), who will close the conference with a reflection on loneliness, sociality, and dying in later life.

With parallel sessions, a symposium, and spaces for dialogue and collaboration, the RN01 Mid-Term promises to be a vibrant forum to exchange ideas and experiences.

To end on a truly special note, we will enjoy a **musical performance** where **flamenco and ageing** come together, celebrating emotion, culture, and the art of growing older.

We look forward to seeing you soon in Murcia!:

For more details, please visit: <http://eventos.um.es/go/esarn012025>



Project Overview

Liat Ayalon

Bar Ilan University, ISrael



Why is research on ageism relevant for the field of climate change? And- how can we transition into a society for all ages?

The present newsletter is devoted to the topic of climate change for many good reasons. According to the World Meteorological Organization, Europe is the fastest warming continent, facing extreme heat waves, storms, floodings, and wildfires. Europe is also the continent hosting the highest proportion of older persons, a population group which is particularly susceptible to the changing climate. This susceptibility of older persons to the changing climate has been attributed to physiological changes that co-occur with ageing, including premorbid physical conditions, and impaired functioning of various physiological systems and organs as well as to social susceptibility in the form of social isolation. In my own research, I have found that ageism, defined as stereotypes, prejudices, and discrimination towards people because of their age, could also put older persons at a greater risk in the face of the changing climate. Ageism at the macro, institutional level could possibly be responsible for the exclusion of older persons from climate policy, despite heightened vulnerability to the changing climate. At the meso, interpersonal level, the climate movement, which is characterized as a youth movement, tends to blame older persons for their carbon footprint, and inadequate climate policies over the years. Older persons also are blamed for depriving youth from its voice and power to influence policies. These messages can possibly be internalized by older persons, resulting in self-directed ageism, self-blame, and even active distancing of older persons from the climate movement.

These are just a few examples of how ageism plays a role in the context of climate change. Clearly, to ensure healthy climate, we must put all hands-on deck by encouraging intergenerational solidarity and collaboration. Hence, it is imperative to transition from studying the manifestations of ageism, which we know is extensive and hazardous to identifying effective ways to overcome ageism.

To date, research has mainly stressed the role of younger people as agents of ageism directed towards older persons. There is evidence to support the use of educational interventions and intergenerational contact as effective ways to change ageist stereotypes and prejudices among younger agents of ageism. However, we know that ageism can also be self-directed by older persons towards themselves or towards other older persons. Moreover, research has shown that the negative health effects of ageism directed by older persons towards themselves are particularly notorious. Likewise, ageism directed by older persons towards other older persons can increase sense of loneliness and sense of social disconnect among older persons. These may put older persons in a more vulnerable state to face various life challenges including the changing climate.

HalfLife is a recently funded project by the **European Research Council** to reduce ageism directed towards older persons by older persons. The rationale is that older persons are not solely the targets of ageism, but may also be the agents of ageism, directed towards themselves and/or towards other older persons. This requires a transition from an intergroup perspective to an intragroup perspective on ageism, which views ageism as also occurring within the same group of older persons.

Another unique aspect of HalfLife is its focus on ageism as a multidimensional component, composed of three dimensions: stereotypes, prejudices, and discrimination. Research to date has shown some success in changing ageist stereotypes and prejudices, but the distinction between the three components of ageism has not been theoretically grounded. It is important to develop a more comprehensive understanding of which intervention impacts which dimension of ageism and why. Such a refined understanding has not been developed yet not only in the field of ageism, but also in related fields, addressing other “isms,” such as racism and sexism. Apparently, we are better at changing attitudes or emotions than affecting actual behaviors.

The project will take place in three countries: the United Kingdom, Germany, and the Czech Republic. The three countries were selected to represent prototypes in terms of the distribution of ageism over the lifespan. As part of the project, we aim to gather data on current interventions which target older persons as potential agents of ageism. After careful review and co-design processes, we will pilot the interventions, first in the lab, under very strict conditions, and subsequently in the field by practitioners under real life conditions. Over the course of the project, the team will assist in the development of communities of practice both at the local level as well as at the global level. This will ensure that knowledge acquired by the research community becomes relevant to policy and practice organizations. As ageism is not only a theoretical problem, but rather a real-life threat to the wellbeing of society at large, it is important to ensure a smooth transition of knowledge and its applicability in real life. Although the project is not focused on climate change as a context in which ageism takes place but rather adopts a broad perspective on ageism in varied settings, it is expected that interventions that reduce ageism among older persons will strengthen society and will ensure more resilient coping strategies among older persons in the face of the changing climate.

To learn more about intragroup approaches to ageism:

Ayalon L. Towards an intragroup approach to alleviate ageism in the second half of life. *Gerontologist*. 2025 Jul 28:gnaf169. doi: 10.1093/geront/gnaf169. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 40720236.

To learn more about ageism and intergenerational relations in the context of climate change:

Ayalon, L., Roy, S., Aloni, O., & Keating, N. (2023). A scoping review of research on older people and intergenerational relations in the context of climate change. *The Gerontologist*, 63(5), 945-958.

Liat Ayalon, PhD, is a Professor in the School of Social Work, at Bar Ilan University, Israel. Prof. Ayalon is currently funded by European Research Council (ERC-Advanced) to reduce ageism in the second half of life. She is also funded by the Israel Science Foundation to study intergenerational relations in the context of climate change and by the Volkswagen Foundation (in collaboration with Dr. von Kutzleben and Prof. Schweda) to study moral dilemmas in migrant home care arrangements. She is also funded by the Binational Science Foundation (in collaboration with Prof. Carr) to study social integration in the age of climate change and by the ISF-DFG funding mechanism (in collaboration with Prof. Rothermund) to study descriptive versus prescriptive age stereotypes. She was the coordinator of an international EU funded Ph.D. program on the topic of ageism (EuroAgeism.eu; 2017-2022). Between 2014 and 2018, Prof. Ayalon has led an international research network on the topic of ageism, funded through COST (Cooperation in Science and Technology; COST IS1402, notoageism.com). She consults both national and international organizations concerning the development and evaluation of programs and services for older adults. In recognition of her work, Prof. Ayalon was selected by the UN Decade of Healthy Ageing as one of 50 world leaders working to transform the world to be a better place in which to grow older.



Policy Overview

Long-Term Care and Climate Change: Policy Priorities for Resilience and Sustainability

By: Andrea E. Schmidt



Climate change presents an urgent and multifaceted challenge to health and social care systems across Europe. Older adults are central to this discussion: not only are they disproportionately affected by climate-related events such as heatwaves, floods, and storms, particularly when dependent on long-term care (LTC), but they also represent a vital resource for climate action and intergenerational solidarity. Also, older persons vary substantially with respect to their physical and cognitive health, their economic resources and social networks, calling for more attention to intersectionality and heterogeneity among older people to inform policy in the context of climate change more generally.

Despite their vulnerability, older people in need of LTC—whether in institutional settings or aging in place—remain largely invisible in climate adaptation and mitigation strategies. The LTC sector itself, meanwhile, contributes significantly to greenhouse gas emissions through energy-intensive infrastructure, transportation, and waste generation (Health Care Without Harm & ARUP, 2019). Policymakers face a dual imperative: building resilience in LTC systems to protect vulnerable populations and care workers, while reducing the sector’s environmental impact.

A climate-resilient and sustainable LTC system must therefore reflect the core values of gerontology—care, stewardship, and intergenerational justice—and actively include older adults, including people in need of care, and LTC workers as co-creators of change.

1 Why Climate Policy Must Address LTC

The high sensitivity of older persons in need of care to environmental stressors is well established. Many depend on daily care, medication, and assistive technologies, and often have limited mobility or cognitive capacity—factors that significantly increase their risk during extreme weather events. Failures in emergency preparedness have led to tragic outcomes in recent European floods and heatwaves, particularly among those people in need of care with less economic and social resources to prepare and support them.

Climate resilience in LTC must extend beyond physical infrastructure to encompass care continuity, robust communication systems, and support for the psychosocial and ethical dimensions of care during crises. Home-based LTC in particular remains under-examined. Many older adults—especially those living alone, in poor health, or without adequate cooling—face elevated mortality risks during heatwaves (Semenza et al., 1996; Joe et al., 2016; Cheng & Sha, 2024). Evacuation planning often fails to account for those with mobility impairments, dementia, or technology-dependent care needs (Bell et al., 2021). Resilience must therefore be built not only in facilities but also in community and home care systems.

Moreover, LTC services—whether delivered in residential facilities or at home—are embedded in systems that generate carbon emissions. These include heating and cooling in buildings, staff transport, single-use medical products, and food systems (Pichler et al., 2023).

Yet, LTC is often absent from national climate action plans. Health ministries and environmental agencies tend to work in silos, leaving care systems overlooked in adaptation frameworks. This gap undermines both climate justice and the goals of policy commitments such as the European Green Deal and the EU Care Strategy.

2 Policy Pathways for Climate-Resilient LTC

1. Integrate LTC into Climate Adaptation Strategies

The forthcoming EU Climate Adaptation Strategy offers a key opportunity to integrate LTC explicitly. National governments should develop technical guidelines, invest in climate-proof infrastructure, and require preparedness plans for care facilities. Special attention is needed for populations with cognitive impairments—such as people living with dementia—for whom evacuation poses distinct risks (Brown et al., 2012). For older adults living at home, targeted interventions such as "heat buddy" programmes, community-based early warning systems, and improvements to housing insulation and ventilation are essential. Municipalities can play a critical role by integrating age-friendly and climate-conscious urban planning. EU recovery and cohesion funds could be mobilised to support such initiatives.

2. Strengthen Workforce Preparedness and Protection

LTC workers (and informal caregivers) often act as de facto first responders during climate events, yet they are rarely acknowledged or supported as such. Investment is needed in climate literacy, psychological support, and, for formal LTC workers, in decent working conditions to ensure staff resilience and retention. In fact, operational disruptions during extreme weather—such as absenteeism, increased care complexity, or infrastructure breakdown—can overwhelm already stretched systems (Young & Bergseng, 2020; Tsakonas et al., 2024). Risk stratification tools can help prioritise vulnerable clients during emergencies and allocate resources efficiently.

3. Promote Sustainable and Inclusive Care Models

Innovative models such as cohousing, dementia villages, and green care farms offer promising pathways toward low-carbon, socially integrated LTC. These approaches reduce emissions through shared resources and compact, walkable environments while enhancing autonomy and quality of life for older people. Policy frameworks should also support sustainable procurement, energy efficiency, and waste reduction in LTC services. Regulations can promote the use of reusable and recyclable materials and embed circular economy principles. Nutrition is another area with significant climate and health co-benefits: reducing food waste and shifting toward sustainable diets in care settings can contribute meaningfully to mitigation efforts.

4. Leverage within EU Policy Instruments

Several EU-level instruments can be mobilised to advance a climate-resilient LTC agenda:

- The European Green Deal could expand its social dimension to explicitly include LTC in its objectives.
- The EU Care Strategy can integrate climate adaptation and workforce resilience measures into its quality and access goals.
- Cohesion and Recovery Funds could earmark investments for retrofitting LTC infrastructure and supporting community-based care innovations.
- Horizon Europe should prioritise research into sustainable LTC models, with attention to their environmental, health, and social outcomes.

At national and regional levels, governments can mandate climate adaptation in care licensing, support innovation in age-friendly housing and transport, and ensure the inclusion of LTC users in local disaster risk planning.

Conclusion: A Call for Integrated Action

Europe's ageing societies and the climate crisis are converging realities that demand integrated policy responses. Long-term care systems must become both more resilient to climate risks and more sustainable in their practices, while accounting for heterogeneity and intersectionality, also among people in need of care. This also requires a shift in thinking: from seeing older people solely as vulnerable populations to recognising their potential as contributors to climate action, and from viewing LTC as a siloed service sector to understanding it as a key part of Europe's green and just transition while acknowledging the importance of social inequalities and ethical dimensions.

A review of the extant literature within our forthcoming book chapter* (Schmidt & Aigner, forthcoming) confirms the importance to embed LTC in climate strategies—at EU, national, and local levels—to ensure that care systems – and older people - are not only prepared for the challenges ahead, but are actively part of building a more equitable, resilient, and sustainable future for all generations.

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*Schmidt, A.E. & Aigner, E. (forthcoming), Long-Term Care and Climate Change (Chapter 11), in: Pillemer, K. and Ayalon, L. (eds.) Aging and climate change. Policy Press.

Short bio:

Andrea E. Schmidt is senior researcher and head of department at the Austrian National Public Health Institute. She is also affiliated with the Medical University of Graz and a research associate with the UN-affiliated European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research. She has a PhD degree in social sciences and economics from Vienna University of Business and Economics, and a MSc in Public Policy and Human Development at Maastricht University. She looks back on research stays at LSE Health, Stockholm University and University of British Columbia, among others, and has authored and co-authored several peer-reviewed publications, policy briefs and book chapters in the field of long-term care and health economics and social policy analysis. She is also a consultant and technical expert for the World Health Organization on health information systems, long-term care as well as in the WHO-hosted network "Alliance for Transformative Action on Climate and Health" (ATACH).



Climate change in the spotlight

By: Lucie Galčanová Batista



The intersection of climate change and ageing became a ‘hot’ issue in gerontology surprisingly late (Zhang & Chen, 2024). In 2007, Garry Haq and others called for deeper interest in climate change, later labelling the emerging field as ‘climate gerontology’ (Haq et al., 2014). In 2011, Karl Pillemer, among others, stressed the importance of broadening the meaning of ‘the environment’ in gerontology. Not only human-made, built environments, homes and neighbourhoods, but also environmental issues, ecological decline, or sustainability challenges older people face, should be covered by gerontological research. Most sources that use this broader concept of the environment or that focus on climate change were published around 2020 and after. Despite this relative boom, the multifaceted relationship between population ageing and environmental change remains under-researched. In retrospect, we might, along with other recent ‘turns’ in gerontology or the sociology of ageing (e.g., post-colonial, post-humanist, or new materialist), label this broader shift in focus and reconceptualisation as a ‘new environmental turn’.

From 2020 to 2024, I led a research project,1 empirically based on interviewing (mostly) rural older people in climatically challenged Czech regions and contextualising the local data within international debates (Pelikán & Galčanová Batista, 2025). The project was part of the wider gerontological research agenda of the Centre for Research on Ageing (CERA), presented below. Here, I would like to highlight some tensions or paradoxes in the relationship between ageing, climate change, and environmental decline that we have encountered in our research, which have provided useful research questions to be answered by future research.

As is known from other studies (Norgaard, 2011), encompassing the topic of climate change in research interviews can be a difficult task, both in terms of research design and the formulation of questions; from the perspective of participants, it presents an epistemological challenge. In our fieldwork, we touched upon the complex relationship between lifelong personal experiences rooted in local cultures and (lack of) trust in scientific explanations of the causes and impacts of climate change. Most of the participants described various climate-related changes in the nature spaces surrounding them; however, they were mostly hesitant to interpret them as such. Czechia is one of the most climate-sceptic countries in Europe, and our results were no exception. At the same time, we saw what has been described in previous research: many daily practices of older people living in the Central European region can be seen as what Petr Jehlička and others have coined quiet sustainability (Jehlička & Sovová, 2025). Most practiced food self-supply via gardening or small-scale farming, employing water-saving solutions, or forage, incorporated into local networks of sharing and exchange of their products. The gap between the climate concerns and environmentally friendly behaviours was often quite deep, which leaves us with the question: To what extent is it possible and necessary to convince older people to accept and trust the scientific narrative to enhance climate-friendly behaviours? Is the acceptance of the scientific explanation a necessary prerequisite for change in attitudes and practices?

Another phenomenon we encountered was a strong tendency to resist age-based vulnerabilisation, employing strong resilience narratives in the context of climate change impacts, such as drought or heat waves. This finding can be interpreted in at least two ways. Firstly, we can see it as a consequence of internalised ageism that complicates self-identification as members of a group seen as fragile, vulnerable, or of a lower symbolic status. Paradoxically, older people who refuse to self-identify as vulnerable and present themselves as resilient might actually be more prone to the negative impacts of climate change, as they might not focus on adaptation or preparation. Secondly, we can read it as an attempt to maintain emotional stability rooted in life-long experiences. They have encountered and coped with many crises: some remembered WWII, many rural families were impacted by the collectivisation at the onset of the communist regime, the Soviet occupation, many lived their formative years in the 1970s, when the state socialist regime pushed people toward private lives and rewarded compliance. Climate change could thus be seen as yet another alarmist discourse that will fade away with time or will be somehow solved, like many others they have encountered before. However, we can also interpret their perceived resilience as a source of real resilience; while resisting scientific explanations for the changes, their practical adaptations might play a protective role.

Climate change also implies stretching the boundaries of imagination and solidarity. Due to its complexity and global nature, our participants also interpreted climate change as caused by others, as something happening elsewhere. Embracing scientific explanations means believing in a certain temporality and spatiality of the climate narrative and framing it as a moral issue. Its acceptance leads to the affirmation of the influence of the past on the present and of the present on the future, as well as explaining the impacts that occur here and now, with causes elsewhere, and vice versa. This state of affairs brings us to the question of inter- and intra-generational responsibility and solidarity: how do older people (and all generations) relate to the distant past, how do they claim their own contributions to the decline, and how do they see their relation to people to come in the future that they will not see themselves? How do they relate to people living 'far away', people who do not belong to their relevant imagined communities or networks of those entitled to their solidarity? And how can the more-than-human entities be included in this solidarity and responsibility?

This leaves us with another paradox, the one connected with the im/possibility of translating climate awareness and suffering into political attitudes and agendas. Broadly speaking, those who contribute the most also have the best opportunities to protect themselves from the impacts of climate-related adversities. Older people, especially those living in disadvantaged areas, living with frailty and in social isolation, are among those who might suffer the most, but at the same time, they may not be willing to accept these problems as something they should address politically. In other words, older people, who are disproportionately more affected by the negative impacts of climate change, are also among those least willing to support climate and environmentally oriented policies. In our Czech interviews, this issue connects the (lack) of trust in the climate change narrative, intergenerational tensions, in which older people tend to resist the responsibility narrative that would make them feel guilty for the current state, and a clear dismissal of the political activities of younger people, such as active engagement in the Fridays for Future movement. Can we read these findings as an attempt to protect their emotional security and generational identity rooted in political obedience under state socialism and belief in industrial progress?

Mgr. Lucie Galčanová Batista, Ph.D.

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Presenting the CENTRE FOR RESEARCH ON AGEING (CERA)

Faculty of Social Studies, Masaryk University

Age and ageing from a sociological perspective: Bridging research, education, and policy

The Centre for Research on Ageing was established in 2018 as a working group in the Department of Sociology at the Faculty of Social Studies at Masaryk University in Brno. Its founder and a leading scholar in the field of ageing studies, Dr Lucie Vidovičová, has combined a number of scientific and popularisation activities, scholars, and doctoral students under one umbrella. Based on the long-term tradition of research in the sociology of the family at the Department of Sociology, she has established what can be labelled as a Brno school of ageing studies. It stands on three major pillars: scientific research, teaching and student supervision, and age-mainstreaming and consultancy.

Mission and Scope

The major focus of CERA lies in basic and applied research activities and publications, and its research agenda is organised around four core themes:

1. **Ageing and Environment** — exploring various themes from the accessibility of urban public spaces to reactions to systemic risks, such as climate change, rural and urban ageing experiences, etc.
2. **Ageism and Discrimination** — examining forms of structural and interpersonal discrimination, abuse, and restorative justice in relation to older adults.
3. **Technologies and Robotics** — addressing digitalisation, robotics, biometrics, and how technological innovation can assist, support or exclude older people.
4. **Ageing and Everyday Life** — studying food practices, care regimes, gendered experiences, institutions of everyday life, and how older people navigate daily challenges.

All of these areas are or have been supported by various local and international grants that also enable the integration of students and young scholars and are connected via international networks, such as the current PAAR net COST Action. The centre also focuses on teaching social gerontology courses and student supervision at the undergraduate and graduate levels, including several doctoral students. Teaching is based on transferring research results into the classroom, theoretical as well as hands-on approaches, sensitising students in terms of gerontological imagination, and methodological specifics in ageing research.

Besides research and pedagogy, the centre's agenda-setting and awareness goals are no less important – CERA provides consultancy and cooperates with local NGOs, Lucie Vidovičová serves as a Chair of the Committee on the Rights of Older Persons of the Czech Government Council for Human Rights, and she and other colleagues are active in communication with the media and involved in various policy-oriented activities on the municipal, regional, and state levels.

More info:

<https://starnuti.fss.muni.cz/en>

MUNI CERA
FSS





Network

We are an association of researchers who are interested in ageing. We aim to facilitate contacts and collaboration among these researchers, and to provide them with up-to-date information. To reach these goals, we organize conferences and workshops, produce a newsletter, and maintain an email list. Because we are part of the European Sociological Association (ESA), many of our members work in sociology. However, we also have members who work in, for example, social policy or psychology.

Visit our homepage, where you can find information on all of our activities. If you have any questions or you want to contribute to the Newsletter, do not hesitate to **CONTACT US!**

www.europeansociology.org/research-networks/rn01-ageing-europe

Email: ageingineurope@gmail.com



Outi Jolanki

My background is in sociology and social gerontology. Currently I work at the Tampere University, Faculty of Social Sciences (Health Sciences Unit). My central tasks are linked to the activities of the multidisciplinary Centre of Excellence in Research on Ageing and Care (CoE AgeCare 2018-225) led by University of Jyväskylä and joined by Tampere University and University of Helsinki. In the CoE AgeCare I act as the leader of the Tampere University group. I have a longstanding interest towards agency of older adults and decision-making in daily life in relation to health, living environment, housing and care. Recently my research has focused on linkages between social wellbeing, living environment and new models of senior housing including collaborative housing models, and inspired by ideas coming from geographical gerontology. I joined the board 2019 and will act as the RN01 Coordinator two-year period 2025-2026.



Marcos Bote

D. Marcos Bote holds a PhD in Sociology from the University of Murcia and a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and Sociology from the University of Granada. He is an Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology and the Director of the Social Assistance Office at the University of Murcia, where he teaches since 2010. He is also a member of the University Institute of Aging Research at the same institution. He is Co-coordinator of the Executive Committee of the Research Network on Aging of the European Sociological Association. His main research interests include health, disability, and aging, as well as the body and sexuality. He joined the board in 2021.



Sunwoo Lee

Sunwoo is currently working at the Faculty of Physical Culture, Palacký University Olomouc, Czech Republic. Her research focuses on the social and behavioral aspects of aging, with a particular interest in applying a life-course approach to promote positive and healthy aging. Her current work involves developing a longitudinal model that theorizes the development of resilience across different life stages. Sunwoo joined the Board in 2021.



Oana Ciobanu

Oana is professor at the University of Applied Sciences and Arts Western Switzerland, Faculty of Social Work (HETSL | HES-SO). She focuses mainly on the population of older migrants. Using qualitative and mixed-methods, Oana studies aspects like transnational migration, social networks, access and use of welfare services and vulnerability. Oana has become a member of the Research Network and of the Board in 2019. Since then she is co-editor of the newsletter.



Otto Gerdina

Otto Gerdina, PhD, is a researcher at Public Opinion and Mass Communication Research Centre in the field of sociology at the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana (UL). His main research focus is on social aspects of old-age and ageing, including old-age exclusion, ageism, psychosocial development in old age and media representations of old age. He is currently involved with several research projects including Everyday life and life course of older people living in poverty; A secure and solidary future for all: assessing the prevalence of violence against older adults and Youthism, ageism and intergenerational integration. He joined the board in 2024.



Ricardo Rodrigues

Ricardo is currently an Assistant Professor at the Lisbon School of Economics and Management (ISEG) – University of Lisbon. He is currently a member of the Board of the Research Centre for Economic and Organisational Sociology – SOCIUS and leads the research group on Economic Sociology and Work at ISEG. He has a background in Economics and a PhD in Social Policy and Social Work from the University of York (UK). His research interests include inequalities in health and use of care, the impact of caregiving on health and labour market outcomes, long-term care policies from a comparative perspective, care markets and care as a commodity. He joined the board in 2024.