

Promoting civil and political participation of older persons

18th of April 2024, 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm, online

About the speakers

Martin Amberger



Government Director, Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth. He studied social sciences and political science at the University of Koblenz-Landau, Stellenbosch University and the University of the Western Cape (Cape Town), graduating with a degree in social sciences. Since 2008, he has held various positions at the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, since 2017 as advisor and deputy head of division in Division 314 (International Policy for Older People, Inclusion). He is the National Focal Point on Ageing at the UNECE since November 2017. Since 2019, he is member of the Standing Working Group on Ageing (SWGGA) Bureau and acts as Vice-Chair since 2023. He leads the task force to develop a new Regional Implementation Strategy (RIS) in the UNECE region. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/themen/aeltere-menschen/internationale-politik-fuer-aeltere-menschen>

Esther Klein



Born in Israel in 1949, educated in Kibbutz Sarid. She has a bachelor's degree in sociology and anthropology from Bar Ilan University and a master's degree in political science from Tel Aviv University. She worked as a social worker, CEO of a local council and later of a regional council. She managed a non-profit organisation for group facilitation in the community and is a personal coach. She is mother of three children and grandmother of eight grandchildren and a great-grandson. Today she is a retired activist and likes to travel around the world.

Sarah Loriato



Sarah is in charge of AGE Platform Europe's policy activities in the fields of employment and participation in old age. She also monitors EU initiatives on volunteering for older people and lifelong learning. Sarah also coordinates AGE's relations with the European Parliament (EP) and the EP Interest Group on Intergenerational Solidarity.

Sarah joined AGE in 2022 after gaining experience in the European Commission and with Amnesty International. She holds Master degrees in political science and in international law.

<https://www.age-platform.eu/>

Dr Heidrun Mollenkopf



President of AGE Platform Europe and Board Member of BAGSO, the German National Association of Senior Citizens' Organisations. Since 2016, she represents BAGSO regularly at the Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing at the UN in New York, where she has since then campaigned resolutely for a UN convention for the rights of older persons. In 2019, she has been appointed to the Bureau of the Standing Working Group on Ageing (SWGA) at the UNECE in Geneva as the representative of civil society. In this role, she

constantly advocates for the rights of older people to be considered in the implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing in the UNECE region.

Heidrun Mollenkopf is a sociologist and gerontologist. Before she retired, she was Senior Researcher at the German Centre for Research on Ageing (DZFA) at the University of Heidelberg.

<https://www.bagso.de/> | <https://www.age-platform.eu/>

Piotr Nakonieczny



Piotr Nakonieczny is Chairman of the Board of the Foundation for Senior Citizens "BONUM VITAE", a member organisation of AGE Platform Europe. As an expert of the European Commission, he participates in the work of the Financial Services Users Group (FSUG), founded in 2010 to involve users of financial services in policy-making.

Since 2013, he has participated in the work of the competition commissions appointed by the President of the City of Lublin and the Board of the Province of Lubelskie to evaluate offers for the implementation of public tasks. From 2014 to 2016 he was a member of the Council for Public Benefit Activities of the Province of Lubelskie. He is a member of the Monitoring Committee of the Regional Operational Programme of the Province of Lubelskie, where he participates in the work of the European Social Fund Working Group and the Financial Instruments Working Group.

<https://bonumvitae.org.pl/>

Silvia Perel-Levin



Silvia Perel-Levin is an advocate for the human rights of older persons and an independent consultant. She has been working with international organizations in the fields of human rights, ageing, and health for 25 years.

In Geneva, Silvia represents the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA) and the International Longevity Centre Global Alliance (ILC GA), advocating for the adequate inclusion of older persons at the Human Rights Council and the UN, and promoting a UN Convention on the human rights of older persons. She leads the subcommittee on Human Rights of the NGO Committee on Ageing in Geneva, which she chaired for eight years until April 2022.

Silvia edited the book "Ageing of the Oppressed: A Pandemic of Intersecting Injustice" recently published. She also chairs the Programme Committee for the conference "Independent Ageing". She was born in Argentina and has also lived, studied, and worked in England, Israel, Hungary, and Switzerland. She currently lives in Tel Aviv.

<http://www.inpea.net/> | <https://www.ilc-alliance.org/> | <https://ageingcommitteegeneva.org/>

Uta Saenger



Uta Saenger is the former head of the preparatory college for foreign university applicants of Lower Saxony at Hanover University of Applied Sciences and Arts. As an activist of the "OMAS GEGEN RECHTS" (GRANNIES AGAINST THE RIGHT WING) Deutschland-Bündnis in Hanover, the dialogue between the generations is particularly important to her.

For Uta Saenger, future challenges are not only the commitment against the right, against racism and anti-Semitism and in favour of democracy, but also the topics of sustainability and climate protection, with the aim of a viable future for the next generations.

Jose-Luis Tejedor



Jose-Luis Tejedor holds a Master in Business Administration and in Marketing of Industrial Products. As Aeronautical, he worked for Boeing Commercial Airplane Co in Seattle (USA), Construcciones Aeronáuticas SA in Spain and for Airbus Industrie in Toulouse (France). At Airbus Industrie, he was Vice President and Head of the A300/A310 programme until his departure in 2007.

Before his retirement in 2015, he was responsible for the marketing of the A400M aircraft (The largest military transport aircraft ever built in Europe) and, until November 2023, he was Vice-President of AGE Platform Europe. He is Head of International Relations of the Spanish Association of Retired University Professors.

Ina Voelcker



Ina Voelcker is the Head of the Secretariat for International Policy on Ageing at BAGSO, the German National Association of Senior Citizens' Organisations. She coordinates BAGSO's international work which involves representing older persons' interests in international debates and fostering the exchange of civil society organisations from various countries. Since 2022, Ina is vice chair of the Global Alliance for the Rights of Older People (GAROP).

She holds a Bachelor's degree in Gerontology and a Master's degree in Public Policy and Ageing from King's College London. Previously Ina worked with HelpAge International in London and the International Longevity Centre Brazil in Rio de Janeiro.

<https://www.bagso.de/> | <https://rightsofolderpeople.org/>

Dr Lisa Warth



Lisa Warth is Chief of Population Unit at the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) whose work contributes to promoting policy dialogue on various facets of demographic change across the UNECE region. Through the inter-governmental Standing Working Group on Ageing, UNECE supports member States across Europe, Central Asia and North America in the implementation, monitoring, and appraisal of progress in implementing international policy frameworks on ageing, such as the Madrid International

Plan of Action on Ageing. Through technical advisory services, capacity building and various knowledge products including guidelines, policy briefs and seminars, UNECE promotes experience exchange and guidance on mainstreaming ageing.

Prior to joining UNECE in 2017, Lisa Warth coordinated and developed the Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities and Age-friendly World platform at the World Health Organization (WHO). Lisa Warth has a background in comparative policy analysis and holds a doctorate in Social Policy from the London School of Economics.

www.unece.org/population

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