

MEP HEINZ K. BECKER  
INVITES TO A CONFERENCE

## LONG-TERM CARE IN EUROPE

**The way forward:  
Innovation by coordination and integration**

Brussels | 28 November 2013

12:00 - 15:00

Room A3G - 2

European Parliament



Supported by the Interest Group Carers at the European Parliament. Organised in co-operation with the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research and INTERLINKS

Please send an email to [heinzk.becker@europarl.europa.eu](mailto:heinzk.becker@europarl.europa.eu) to register for this event no later than by November 5<sup>th</sup> 2013

# Programme

- 11:00** Access and Registration
- 12:00** Heinz K. BECKER, MEP  
Welcome and Introduction
- 12:10** László ANDOR, Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (tbc)  
European Strategies to improve the quality of care for older people
- 12:25** Kai LEICHSENRING, European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research (Coordinator of the FP7 project INTERLINKS)  
The role of long- term care in Europe – Challenges and approaches
- 13:00** Waltraud KLASNIC, Austrian Member of the European Economic and Social Committee and President of Hospice Austria  
Ralf JACOB, European Commission, DG Employment, Head of Unit for Active Ageing, Pensions, Healthcare (tbc)  
Frank GOODWIN, President of European Association working for Carers, EUROCARERS  
Introductory Statements
- 13:30** Jenny BILLINGS, University of Kent, UK  
Susanne KÜMPERS, Fulda University, Germany  
Sabina MAK, Quality and Innovations in Elderly Care, Netherlands  
Michel NAIDITCH, Irdes -Research and Documentation Institute in Health Economy - France  
Henk NIES, Vilans and VU University of Amsterdam, Netherlands  
Leena PELTTARI, CEO of Hospice Austria, Austria  
From preventative approaches to palliative care at the end of life – An interactive journey through specific stages in long-term care and adequate responses across Europe
- 14:30** Discussion
- 15:00** End of session and farewell reception

## **Background Information**

In the context of ageing societies and financial crises, long-term care for older people has gained an important place on the political agendas of individual Member States and EU institutions. For instance, the latest Commission Staff Working Document on 'Long-term care in ageing societies' stated that 'even late in life there are strong arguments for a social investment approach to social protection'.

It is clear that services and institutions that are tackling the health and social care needs of older people remain fragmented, and long-term care as a system is only just emerging in most Member States. As a consequence there are a wide range of challenges that still remain to be addressed. These range from governance and funding to improved coordination between social and health care and the need for a better link between formal and informal care. Leadership and quality development initiatives that are moving towards more integrated, more preventative and rehabilitative approaches to long-term care are therefore necessary to improve the identity of long-term care as a discrete area of social risk. Examples of innovative approaches which show solidarity can be identified across Europe. These should inspire practitioners and policy-makers to invest in wider dissemination, expansion and implementation of good practice.

These issues will be at the centre of this briefing session organised by the Interest group Carers at the European Parliament in cooperation with the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research (Vienna) and participants of the FP7 project INTERLINKS. International experts will address the following questions:

- What is the status of long-term care policies in EU Member States?
- Which innovations have the potential to improve the quality of long-term care across different settings and pathways from prevention to the end of life?
- What European strategies should be designed to better support older people with care needs at the end of life?

## **Target Group**

The briefing session is designed to inform Members of the European Parliament, national and European stakeholder organisations as well as the general public.

Chair: **Heinz K. Becker, MEP**

Venue: **Room A3G - 2 European Parliament, Brussels**

Date: **28 November 2013**

Time: **12.00 – 15.00**

## **Biographical notes of contributors**

**Heinz K. Becker (Austria)** has taken up his mandate as Member of the European Parliament in April 2011. Heinz K. Becker's political commitments are especially directed towards social policy. He is Member in the Committee on Employment and co-chair of the Intergroup on 'Ageing and Inter-generational Solidarity' as well as co-chair of the Interest Group Carers. Further, he is active as Secretary-General of the Austrian Senior Citizens' Association (ÖSB).

**Frank Goodwin (Ireland)** had worked in the psychiatric services for six years and then with Dublin City Council for twenty five years and retired in 2004. He was founder member of The Carers Association in 1987 and has been chairperson for most years since, up to 2010. He was elected to Eurocarers Executive Board in 2008 and served as Secretary until 2013 in Dublin, when he was elected President, to hold office until 2014.

**Waltraud Klasnic (Austria)** is President of Hospice Austria since 2008. Hospice is a non-party and non-confessional umbrella organisation of about 250 Hospice- and palliative care facilities.

**Kai Leichsenring (Austria)** is Associate Senior Researcher at the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, Vienna. He has coordinated a range of EU research and development projects in the area of health and social care.

**Ralf Jacob (Germany)** is Head of Unit in the Directorate General for Employment and Social Affairs, European Commission in charge of 'Social and Demographic Analysis'.

**Jenny Billings (UK)** is a Reader in Applied Health Research in the Centre for Health Service Studies at the University of Kent. Her strength lies in methodological design and she has an interest in health and social care improvement of older people. She has been involved in many EU projects and related publications.

**Susanne Kümpers (Germany)** is Professor for Qualitative Health Research, Social Health Inequalities and Public Health Strategies at the University of Applied Sciences in Fulda. Before that she worked as Senior Researcher at the Social Science Research Centre in Berlin and coordinated research projects on old age, integrated care, inequality and health.

**Sabina Mak (The Netherlands)** is a Project Manager for the programme 'Quality and Innovations in Elderly Care' at Vilans, Centre of Expertise for Long-Term-Care, Utrecht. Her main focus is on optimising care for older people with dementia and on quality measurement in nursing homes.

**Michel Naiditch (France)** is a Statistician, Mathematician, Medical Doctor and Public Health expert and works as an Associate Researcher at IRDES (Research and Documentation Institute in Health Economy) in Paris. He has conducted research linked to home care, the assessment and implementation of health and social networks for chronic diseases, and the conditions for facilitating coordination and cooperation.

**Henk Nies (The Netherlands)** is CEO of Vilans, the Netherlands Centre of Expertise for Long-Term Care. He is Professor of Organisation and Policy Development in Long-term Care at the VU Free University of Amsterdam. Throughout his career he has worked between the boundaries of policy, practice and research.

**Leena Pelttari (Austria)** is the General Manager of Hospiz Austria. Hospice is a non-party and non-confessional umbrella organisation of about 250 Hospice- and palliative care facilities.