



ESO

European Senior Organisation Newsletter 01 (Feb 25)

Dear Friends,

First of all, from ESO – PES seniors, our best wishes for 2025!

We are very pleased to submit the first edition of our ESO Newsletter, which we can realize thanks to our friend and comrade Philippe Martin, representative of the Belgian Seniors du PS.

With this newsletter we want to inform you at least four times a year about our activities, our publications and positions as a European umbrella organisation of socialist and social-

democratically inspired senior citizens' organisations as well as Seniors network from the PES, but also about interesting activities of our member organisations.

We deliver this newsletter primarily to our European network, but – via our member organisations – also to interested members of their organisations.

If you have any comments, suggestions, reactions, do not hesitate to forward them to our email address eso@socialistseniors.eu

Enjoy reading,

Jos Bertrand

President ESO – PES-seniors



1 - From left to right : Györgyi Némethné Jankovics, Jos Bertrand, Marianne Demestral, Frieda Ardies, Anthony DeGiovanni.

No Intergroup “Europe for all ages” in the European Parliament.

There will be no official intergroup “Europe for all ages” in the European Parliament! Nevertheless, this was one of the priorities of all European senior citizens’ organisations united in the AGE-Europe platform, strongly supported by our organisation ESO – PES-Seniors.

Idoia Mendia, Member of the European Parliament for the Spanish Socialists (PSOE) was the driving force behind the initiative for an intergroup “Europe for all ages” in our political family.

Instead of the intergroup proposed by AGE-Europe, an intergroup on Demography would now be set up, proposed by the European EPP group and supported by conservative and far-right groups.

ESO regrets this decision in the European Parliament. Indeed, we regret the very conservative approach to ageing and dealing with older persons that we find behind the proposal of the European conservatives. This proposal in no way addresses the emancipatory vision that we find in the vast majority of senior citizens’ organisations in

Europe. A vision which considers seniors as full, outspoken and active citizens, who want and can participate in decisions about the future. A rights-based approach when it comes to access to care and health, to housing, income, non-discrimination.

This decision of the European Parliament teaches us that there is still a lot of work to be done in this area... We will certainly come back to this!



2 - Idoia Mendia, MEP (PSOE)

Our European multinational programme 2024-2029 : the path to a European Seniors Policy based on solidarity between all generations

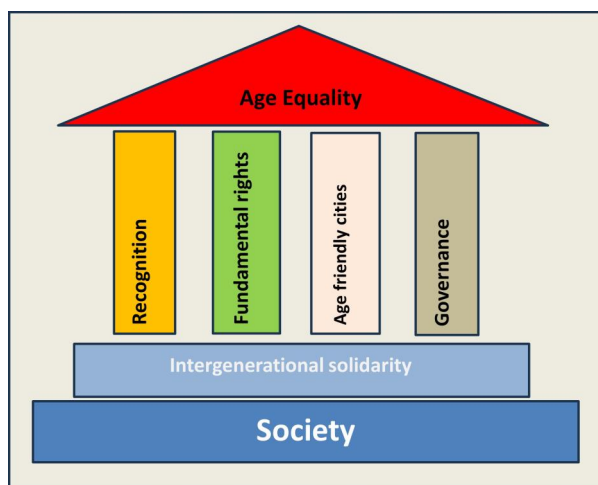
At our ESO seminar in Blankenberge, Belgium, in November 2024, delegates of our member organisations have finalised our multinational programme for the coming 2024-2029 legislature of the European Institutions. We identified four pillars and eight working areas :

- Recognition of older people as full citizens
- Fight against discrimination and ageism
- A UN Convention for older persons
- A full income for all
- Guaranteed access to care and health care
- Age-friendly cities and communities
- Fight against digital exclusion and exclusion from services
- Investing in age equality

We have already presented this multinational programme to a number of key figures of the S&D Group in the European Parliament and we will now also present it in other institutions and organisations. We will be happy to discuss it with you.

Please distribute it largely within your country and promote it in your activities and discussions as well as with your national delegations within the S&D group in the parliament.

https://socialistseniors.eu/wp-content/uploads/simple-file-list/ESO_Multiannual_program_2024_2029.pdf



Spain always advances on the left

The PSOE held its 41st Federal Congress on 29 and 30 November and 1 December 2024. At the closing ceremony, the President of the Government and Secretary General, Pedro Sánchez called on the militancy to win the elections in 2027.

The political resolution of this Congress states that the great social, economic, environmental and feminist advances that our country has achieved in democracy have always taken place under the political leadership of the PSOE.

With regard to the elderly, the PSOE in its Manifesto of October 1, on the occasion of the celebration of the International Day of Persons of Age, reaffirms its commitment to promote from Spain and from the European institutions a Convention and an International Framework on the Human Rights of Older Persons. Despite the fact that international human rights laws apply to people of all ages, it is rare to find a specific reference to the elderly.

The PSOE in the Government also promoted the recovery of the public pension system.

Juan Gabriel Martínez Arcas (PSOE)



Housing as a right : the fifth pillar of the welfare state (PSOE)

For the socialists, you cannot do business with housing. Therefore, our desire is that housing ceases to be a problem and becomes a real right, as well as the fifth pillar of the Welfare State.

At the 41st Federal Congress of the PSOE we reiterated that housing is first and foremost a constitutional right of all people to live in decent, adequate and affordable housing and must also be the fifth pillar of the Welfare State. It does not have to be a financial asset with which investment funds or large holders speculate.

This vision has been endorsed by the Congress.

Juan Gabriel Martínez Arcas (PSOE)



A Network of Central European Retired Universities

In Kecskemét (Hungary), Neumann János University hosted the "Universities in the service of active aging" international conference. As part of the program, a declaration of intent was signed on the creation of the Network of Central European Retired Universities.

The program included useful presentations on how higher education institutions can play a role in the service of active aging, and also on how active aging is related to the labor market situation and the pension system. At the conference, we heard a video message from the secretary of the international network of age-friendly universities from the University of Arizona, and information from the head of China's Shandong Women's University about how female helpers trained in the institution can cope with the care of the elderly.

At the conference, Györgyi Némethné Jankovics, lecturer at the Széchenyi University in Győr, vice president of the ESO, spoke about Good practices and methodologies in senior education. section, she talked about how important it is to get to know the target group of senior education better, and what topics the Széchenyi University's Active Aging course deals with.

Györgyi Némethné Jankovics

