



ESO Newsletter 03 (June 2025)

Intergenerational fairness strategy

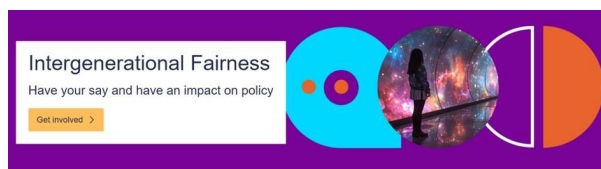
A European senior-strategy and a European Care guarantee : ESO asks for a third cornerstone for the European intergenerational solidarity/fairness strategy.

This European senior-strategy and Care Guarantee should be the (missing) third cornerstone underpinning an effective strategy for intergenerational solidarity and fairness in addition to the (already existing) European Child Guarantee and European Youth Strategy and Guarantee.

You can find our proposal in our first contribution in the Commission's consultation:
[European Senior Organisation – Welcome to the European Senior Organisation \(ESO\)](#)

“Nothing about us without us !” You can react on our contribution, add your comment or your own contribution on the Commission’s

website: <https://citizens.ec.europa.eu/participation/processes/intergenerational-fairness/f/298/proposals/22738>



EU Budget for the future

ESO calls for priority attention to ageing and solidarity between generations in the multiannual-financial framework (MFF).

Ageing and solidarity between generations must receive sufficient attention in the financial planning of the European Union.

At the start of a new 5-year mandate, the European Commission presents a financial plan for the implementation of its policies. This financial framework is negotiated with and approved by the Member States, which are the main financiers of the European Union.

In preparation of its proposal, the European Commission has conducted a consultation with civil society. ESO has put on paper its concerns regarding ageing and solidarity between generations.

Read our concerns : [European Senior Organisation – Welcome to the European Senior Organisation \(ESO\)](#)



29 April – European day on intergenerational solidarity

On 29 april, Young and Older Socialists celebrated the European day for intergenerational solidarity.

We visit the Calico <https://cltb.be/en/projet/calico-3/> in Forest, where older persons and youngster live together, a project from the Community Landtrust Brussels that provides affordable housing for young and older persons.

We were happy to have with us Commissioner Glenn Micallef, responsible for the European intergenerational fairness strategy.

We hold very interesting discussions with Idoia Mendia (MEP – PSOE), Andreas Scheider (MEP-SPÖ), Pascal Smet (CORMember-Vooruit), Yonnec Polet (deputy-secgen PES and CORMember PS(B), Charles Spapens (mayor from Forest) and Geert Depauw (CLTB)

Older militant socialists and young socialists will work together for affordable and adapted housing and habitats. Common challenges need common actions.

Not only in Brussels, but also in Malta, in Switzerland, in Spain, our member organisations were active on this day dedicated to intergenerational solidarity.



ESO – 8 May declaration “Nationalism means war !”

During its General Assembly on 5 May 2025 in Vienna, ESO adopted a statement on 8 May 2025, 80th anniversary of the end of World War II.

“Nationalism means war! War is not only our past, it could also be our future! And it is us, who will henceforth be the guardians of our peace, our security and our future!”

With our friends from our Austrian member organisation [Pensionistenverband Österreichs](#) PVÖ we made a video with testimonies of our members : Hilde Hawlicek, PVÖ, co-founder of ESO, former-Member of the European Parliament and former-Minister of Education and Culture of Austria; Jan Kavan, SDS (Czech Republic), active in the 1968 Prague student uprising and former Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic, [Mariqueta Vázquez Albertino](#) of the Spanish PSOE-Mayores and [Jos Bertrand](#), [S-Plus vzw](#) (Belgium) and President of ESO – PES-seniors. PVÖ interim-President Helmut Bieler introduced the statements.

You can find our statement on our ESO website : [European Senior Organisation – Welcome to the European Senior Organisation \(ESO\)](#)



40th anniversary of the signing of the Spain's accession agreement to the EU

On June 12, 1985, the then Prime Minister and Secretary General of the PSOE (Spanish Socialist Workers' Party), Felipe González, signed the agreement to join the European Economic Community, describing what that day meant for Spain and Europe: *"This act is an act of European affirmation. May it also be an act of hope for a more just, more supportive and more united Europe, to whose construction we are all called."*

Forty years later, the intergenerational Group of European Activists (PES City Group of Madrid) from the PSOE has taken to the streets to demand that gesture, which marked the beginning of a profound change in Spain's politics, economy, and international projection, and a milestone in the collective history of Europe.

Juan Gabriel Martínez Arcas

Mayores Socialistas / PSOE

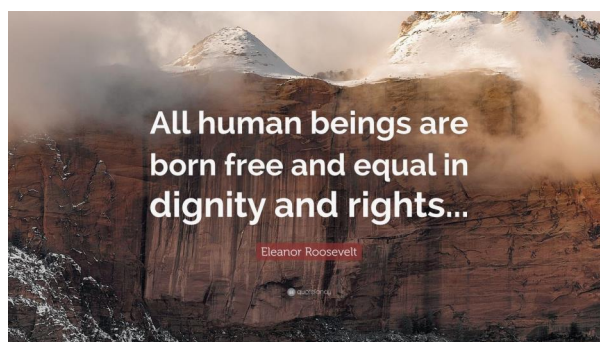


“Human dignity: a question of money ? ”

The solemn declaration of the German Fundamental Law states that: ‘Human dignity is inviolable’. But is this true in everyday life?

There are many situations where dignity seems to be compromised: a woman who cannot go to the theatre for lack of money, inequalities in access to care or institutions based on wealth, the struggle of disabled persons to maintain their independence, the questioning of the right to asylum based on origin rather than on the individual reasons for fleeing.

Human dignity in Germany has been undermined, in particular by undignified living conditions that society tolerates and even perpetuates. Anatole France said: ‘The law, in its sublime equality, forbids rich and poor alike to sleep under bridges, to beg in the streets and to steal bread’.



Let's not forget that abusing the dignity of others is also abusing our own. Human dignity, which is based on the recognition of each person's uniqueness and their right to a social life free from humiliation, also depends on material conditions.

Lothar Binding

SPD 60 Plus

SP60+ Membership Conference / June 13. 2025

More than a hundred members attended the annual conference. Statutory business was discussed and decided, but the main focus was on the extremely complex Swiss healthcare system. We have excellent healthcare, but at the same time one of the most expensive systems in the world.

The «out of pocket» quota is very high in Switzerland (more than 20% of the general expenses); therefore many people (about 20%) renounce any form of healthcare despite the costly long-term consequences. Another cost driver is the fact that each of the 26 cantons has its own healthcare law. Consequently, SP60+ will focus on improvements in the healthcare system in the coming years, considering the following points:

- Health policy must be discussed democratically at the federal level in order to ensure equal access to health services.
- Healthcare services are public services that must not be profit-oriented. The healthcare system must be financed on the basis of solidarity and redistribution.
- The organization and costs of care services, including nursing care, must therefore function according to the logic of a public service.
- In order to maintain the health of individuals and the population, it is essential to address all factors that determine health and not to forget that people's financial capacity plays a significant role.

Marianne de Mestral / Carlo Lepori

SP60+CH