Dear Members of the Eurocarers network,

We hope this message finds you well. The Secretariat is busy preparing activities for the network and we are happy to share with you the list of events planned for this year. We look forward to seeing you at our events over the year and ask you to already pencil your calendar and confirm your interest in the activities listed here below. We sincerely hope that this overview will help you plan ahead and that the programme will meet your interest.

As always, your contribution is essential to successfully implement our activities, and we welcome any ideas and suggestions you may have with regards to the programme. Please do contact us (rl@eurocarers.org) if you would like to comment on the programme, or play an active role during any one of the meetings (by hosting, moderating, showcasing your work or presenting research on the topic at hand). Most notably the program for the Eurocarers Study Visit planned to take place later this year is still open and your ideas on the program and location are very welcome.

Planned events:

(Postponed to September 2020 – A doodle will be circulated soon)

Eurocarers Research Working Group meeting in Brussels
The meeting will address the topic of the definition of informal care from a research perspective. In addition the meeting will, as always, discuss new funding opportunities for research on care and caring and present some latest news on our ongoing research programs. Detailed agenda and more information on how to register will be sent later on.

24 March
European Parliament Interest Group on Carers in Brussels
The meeting will focus on the progress made regarding the implementation of our European Strategy on Carers and will present testimonials from carers in different countries, followed by a presentation and discussion on recent/planned national and regional policy developments.
29 April

**In-country Policy Dialogue on Young Carers with Family Carers Ireland, Dublin, Ireland**

More details will be sent closer to the event.

27-28 May

**Eurocarers’ AGM 2020 and Policy Working Group, in Vila Nova de Gaia, Portugal**

This year’s AGM is co-hosted by our colleagues from [Cuidadores Portuga](#) and it will take place on Wednesday 27 May (afternoon) and Thursday 28 May (full day). The programme is developed to provide you with opportunities to share and build knowledge on issues relevant to your work, and we hope to welcome you in large numbers. The AGM will be followed by an **In-country Policy Dialogue on Developing a policy environment suitable to Carers’ needs on Friday 29 May**. Detailed agenda and more information on how to register will be sent later on.

September

**Eurocarers delegation to the Scottish Carers Parliament, Edinburgh, UK**

More details will be sent closer to the event.

6 October

**First celebration of the European Carers Day**

The Eurocarers Secretariat is actively preparing the first instance of the European Carers Day. The information about this important milestone will be circulated end of March.
Eurocarers also has the pleasure to co-organise with the Swedish Family Care Competence Centre and Linnaeus University the **3rd International Young Carers Conference in Brussels on 16-17 November 2020** (Note that separate registration fees will apply to all participants to this conference). The Conference will reflect on the concrete actions required to enable young carers to reach their full potential. The need to “Identify, Support, and Listen to young carers” were the main recommendations identified by young carers themselves during the previous conference in Malmö in 2017 and this entails the participation of a multiplicity of stakeholders. Research, practices, policies and experiences around these main themes will therefore be shared in order to reinforce mutual learning among stakeholders and countries. More information on the conference website at [https://eurocarers.org/2020-iycc/](https://eurocarers.org/2020-iycc/)

As always, we will be able to cover the travel and subsistence costs of a limited number of participants on a first come, first served basis, and in general for one person per organisation. Please note however that we are still expecting the Commission’s detailed comments regarding our proposed work programme 2020 and, this programme is subject to their approval of our budget.

With best regards,

The Eurocarers Secretariat
The Eurocarers Secretariat has put together a series of country profiles. They provide a state of play on the country; demographic background, current Long-Term Care provision, carer-friendly policy environment, number of carers and their recognition and definition, access to information and respite care as well as information on the national and regional measures in place. We hope that you will find them useful and invite you to get in touch with us should you have any comment or suggestion.

The Eurocarers Secretariat invited the Members of the European Parliament to fill in a short questionnaire with the aim to:

- explore the personal involvement of MEPs in care provision, and
- raise awareness of the need to support informal carers

We have had a good response so far but if you have direct contacts with your local MEPs, do not hesitate to send it directly to them and invite them to take part: https://eurocarers.org/do-you-care/

EU POLICY DEVELOPMENT

Eurocarers’ ongoing advocacy work in favour of informal carers of people affected by cancer

On Feb 20, 2020
Policy

In the follow up of our previous cooperation with patients’ and professionals’ organisations in the area of
cancer, Eurocarers is supporting a campaign to prioritise cancer-related complications and comorbidities, coordinated by the European Cancer Patient Coalition...

Read more »

Eurocarers’ participation in AgeingFit Conference last 28 January in Nice

On Feb 20, 2020
Policy, digital health, eHealth

AgeingFit is a European annual event fostering innovation in the healthy ageing sector, offering stakeholders a space for discussion and networking. The event focuses on innovation in the fields of prevention...

Read more »

Eurocarers now a member of the renewed eHealth Stakeholder Group (2019-2022)

On Feb 10, 2020
Policy, digital health, eHealth

On the 7th February 2020, the European Commission published the names of the new member organisations of the eHealth Stakeholder Group (eHSG). The call for applications, to which Eurocarers submitted its application, closed in September 2019. A first meeting of...
Informal care and volunteering assistance in Europe; a comparison between countries in the North Sea region

On Feb 06, 2020
News, repository

Countries with plentiful publically-funded care and services are increasingly shifting the focus towards family or social responsibility and promoting informal care. This transition in the social care systems is not without risk; it may cause increasing (health)care inequality, problems combining...

Read more »

Bringing all stakeholders active in the social economy together in Mannheim

On Feb 04, 2020
members only

The European Commission and the City of Mannheim (DE) will jointly hold a European Summit on Social Economy on 26 -27 November 2020. The #EUSES2020 is an opportunity to bring all stakeholders active in the social economy together. The aim...

Read more »

Brexit, how do we take it from here?

On Jan 31, 2020
members only
The United Kingdom has finally left the European Union on January 31. This is however only the first step of the Brexit process as the transition phase now begins and it is time to talk about the future. This purgatorial...

Read more »

ESA - Patient Safety Policy Summit: Improving Outcomes, Preventing Harm

On Jan 23, 2020

The European Society of Anaesthesiology (ESA) and its partners are organising an event "Patient Safety Policy Summit: Improving Outcomes, Preventing Harm", under the patronage of the Croatian Presidency of the EU, which will take place from 3-4 March in Brussels...

Read more »
How to enhance the integration of primary care and public health?

On Jan 21, 2020

This policy brief explores how primary care and public health can be brought together to improve the health of patients and populations. It describes the types of initiatives that have been undertaken; provides examples of such initiatives in Europe and beyond; and summarizes the factors that can help to enhance or hinder the integration of primary care and public health....

Read more »

Council Presidency - Technology can build wellbeing and sustainable growth

On Jan 18, 2020

Finland’s Presidency of the Council of the European Union wanted to generate dialogue on the interaction of people’s wellbeing and economic growth. The Council of the European Union adopted conclusions on the economy of wellbeing at the second Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council (EPSCO) under Finland’s Presidency on 24 October 2019....

Read more »
Commission presents first reflections on building a strong social Europe for just transitions

On Jan 16, 2020
members only

The Commission today presents a Communication on building a strong social Europe for just transitions. It sets out how social policy will help deliver on the challenges and opportunities of today, proposing action at EU level for the months to come, and seeking feedback on further action....

Read more »

How many carers may also be undiagnosed for osteoporosis?

On Jan 31, 2020
News, osteoporosis, policy toolkit
Bones weaken naturally as people age, but factors such as menopause, taking certain medications and poor nutrition can hasten this process and lead to osteoporosis. Osteoporosis is a chronic disease that weakens bones, leaving people – especially older women –... 

Course dedicated to Patients and Caregivers interested in Cancer Clinical Research

On Jan 22, 2020

The European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer organises a course dedicated to Patients and Caregivers on February 28-29, 2020 in Brussels....

NEWS FROM THE NETWORK

Edy-Care Final Conference

On Feb 20, 2020

EdyCare, events
Young carers who provide care to another family member often experience high levels of worry, depression, anxiety, stress and other mental ill-health problems...

In Flanders, young carers gathered on February 4 to start a movement for Young Carers: ZoJong! Vzw ('So Young')...

“Bridge” – an intergenerational approach with prototypes games for young people and people with dementia
People with dementia (PwD) are often excluded from intergenerational social activities due to stigmatization. The generation gap is constantly widening while young people are losing their interest to participate in volunteering actions concerning elderly people. The Erasmus+ funded “Bridge” program...

Informal care on the rise in Estonia

On Feb 17, 2020

In recent years social policy field has been focusing more on the long term care provision in Estonia. Alongside the wider framework informal care and the possibilities to value and support the informal carers receive special attention in 2020. Ministry...

Reducing the burden of carers – the Swiss promotion plan

On Feb 13, 2020

Members
The promotion program of the Federal Office of Public Health aims to study the situation and needs of family caregivers. It must make it possible to develop offers of support and discharge adapted to needs so that family caregivers can,...

**Support in the UK: Evaluation of the Hampshire Young Carers Alliance**

*On Feb 13, 2020*

The Hampshire Young Carers Alliance (HYCA) is an alliance of ten young carer services or ‘projects’ within Hampshire (UK), with the common aim of supporting young carers within the county...

**Dutch informal carers in focus**

*On Feb 10, 2020*

Members
Around one third of Dutch citizens aged over 16 are informal carers. Informal care (regarded here as all help provided to a sick, disabled or frail person by someone in their immediate social setting) is indispensable. Many informal carers are...

Launch of the cosmic project on informal carers from migrant backgrounds

On Jan 30, 2020

The Erasmus+ funded "COSMIC" is an European initiative aiming to support the migrant carers a target group which is at double risk of exclusion, discrimination and stigmatization: that of informal carers of migrant background. Migrant carers in common with carers...

Read more »
Greek workshop on “Supporting people with heart disease and their carers”

On Feb 10, 2020

Members

Greek Carers Network EPIONI advocates on behalf of informal carers of people with illness or disability and promotes the recognition of their role in the Greek health system. EPIONI is a member of Eurocarers and other European networks with the aim of exchanging good practices to support informal carers who are often families...

Read more »

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