

## **Call for tenders for researcher / consultant**

Research on demographic change in Europe and the future of Long-Term Care (LTC)

Brussels, 23 March 2022

## (1) Background

Eurodiaconia is a dynamic, Europe wide community of organisations founded in the Christian faith and working in the tradition of Diaconia, who are committed to a Europe of solidarity, equality and justice. As the leading network of Diaconia in Europe, we connect organisations, institutions and churches providing social and health services and education on a Christian value base on over 32 European countries. We bring members together to share practices, impact social policy and reflect on Diaconia in Europe today.

The ongoing COVID-crisis has exacerbated already existing challenges which the long-term care sector was facing, due to chronic underfunding, making even more visible issues such as staff shortages and insufficient availability of long-term care services. Demographic change is furthermore expected to increase the need of long-term care significantly over the next years and decades.

In this context the European Commission has announced the publication of a European Care Strategy to address the shortcomings and ensure high quality accessible and affordable long-term care provision.

## (2) Research objectives, audience and use of findings

This research report aims at identifying the concrete challenges that demographic change is posing to not-for-profit long-term care providers, such as those in the Eurodiaconia network. Based on research among the membership, the report should also formulate policy messages regarding measures to strengthen long-term care provision and mitigate the impact of demographic change.

The final research report will be presented to external stakeholders, in particular representatives from the European Commission, in order to feed into the proposed European Care Strategy.

The report should gather the following elements in about 20 pages in total:

### Body framework

1. **Table of contents**
2. **Executive summary**
3. **About this publication**
  - Brief description of Eurodiaconia and its membership, Objective of the research report, how the report came about (interviews with various Eurodiaconia Members)
  - Target audience of report (European Commission, European Parliament, ED members, partner organisations, etc)
  - Demographic change in Europe: Brief overview of demographic change and related challenges in Europe
  - Long-term care in Europe: Brief overview of long-term care services in Europe
4. **What are the key (current and future) challenges in the delivery of long-term care?**
  - Discuss challenges posed and expected by demographic change and provide concrete examples from members
5. **How should a European Care Strategy respond to these challenges and pave the way for a new approach to long-term care in Europe?**
  - Which aspects have to be covered by the European Care Strategy to respond to the identified challenges?
  - Relate to other instruments such as EPSR and the European Semester
  - Additional points to support the evidence based on research and or/input from members.

- Concrete examples from a few ED members highlighted in a specific section of the report or throughout the report on the issues/challenges raised by experts

## 6. Main Policy Recommendations at EU and national level

## 7. Conclusions

### (3) Suggested research methods

- Interviews with selected staff of Eurodiaconia member organisations working on long-term care
- Desk review: Review of data from primary and secondary sources
- Analysis of policy changes needs and how they could be accomplished.

### (4) Timetable and deliverables

- Expression of interest deadline: **31 March 9 am CET**
- The contract will be awarded at the latest the **11 April 2022**
- Preliminary report to be submitted as agreed
- Final report to be submitted by **15 June 2022**.

The findings of the report will be discussed by the researcher-consultant with Eurodiaconia and the contributing member organisations. The final version of the report will require approval by Eurodiaconia.

### (5) Research Management

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### (6) Qualifications and experience required

- Proven research and/or consultancy record in the area of social services, particularly the not for profit sector
- Excellent reporting skills in English.
- Knowledge of qualitative and quantitative research methods

### (7) Payment

The maximum budget foreseen for carrying out the study is **EUR 5000 €** including all taxes and overheads.

Payments for the researcher's services will be transferred in two instalments following each deliverable (preliminary report and final version).

## **(8) Tenders/offer**

The tender should include at least:

- a note showing how your profile matches the requirements listed in point 6, including your CV and previous output/publications related to the topic.

There is no commitment on the part of Eurodiaconia to accept any tender or part thereof that is received in response to this call for tenders. Eurodiaconia reserves the right to accept tenders with non-substantial defects and to reject tenders received after the deadline for receipt of tenders, without indemnity or justification.

Eurodiaconia reserves the right to modify or cancel all or part of the call for tenders, should the need arise, without having to justify its actions and without such action conferring any right to compensation on applicants. Eurodiaconia reserves the right to extend the deadline for receipt of the tenders. In that case, all the applicants and applications will be subject to this new deadline. Tenders are not paid. No reimbursement of expenses related to the preparation of any tender will be made by Eurodiaconia. The call for tenders and any further information communicated to the applicant or which come to his knowledge in the course of the call for tenders and the performance of the work, are confidential and are strictly dedicated to the purpose of the call for tenders.