

Social and Health Care Services Network Meeting

06 & 07 October 2022, Vienna, Austria

Eurodiaconia is pleased to invite you to our upcoming Social and Health Care Services Network Meeting hosted by our member, Diakonia Austria, on the 6th & 7th of October in Vienna, Austria!

The meeting will focus on demographic change and the carer's perspective on long-term care.

The COVID-19 crisis has highlighted existing challenges within the long-term care (LTC) sector due to chronic underfunding. As a result, problems such as staff shortages and insufficient availability of affordable and quality care services became even more visible. Moreover, Europe's population is ageing; people are living longer and healthier lives, so the demand for care is bound to increase. As a result, the European Commission has placed care as one of its top policy priorities. On the 7th of September, the Commission launched the first ever European Care Strategy with the goal of improving the situation for both carers and care receivers. The strategy calls for boosting access to quality, affordable and accessible care services and improving working conditions for caregivers.

Therefore, we will look at this new instrument from the care provider's perspective during the meeting. Also, we will discuss key measures that can be put in place to mitigate the impact of demographic change in Europe and what can be done to ensure that people in need of care get the help they need. It will also be an opportunity for members to exchange good practices in the area of care.

Who can participate?

The meeting is open to anyone working in Diaconia who is part of a network or organization that is a member of Eurodiaconia. Those who are likely to find it most interesting are those who work in the provision of long-term care. **Please register via [this online form](#) by 16 September 2022.** Please do not book any flights or accommodations before the final

confirmation from Eurodiaconia Secretariat. Travel and accommodation must be arranged by the participants.

Financial information:

Eurodiaconia members from Central and Eastern Europe and from minority churches are eligible to apply for financial support via the registration form (ex post compensation; read carefully the attached financial aid guidelines). **Due to limited financial capacity, if you would like to request financial support, we kindly ask you to let us know by Friday 16th September 2022.** For further information, please contact our Policy & Membership Development Officer Kewan Mildred at Kewan.Mildred@eurodiaconia.org

Programme:

Thursday, 06 October 2022 Conference Venue: Chapel (4 th Floor) Diakonie Österreich, Schwarzspanierstrabe 13	
08:30-09:00	Registration
09:00-09:20	Welcome Devotion by Pastor Dr. Maria Katharina Moser Presentation of agenda Introductions from participants
09:20-09:45	Presentation of the host with overview of long-term care projects <i>Anja Eberharter, Diakonie Österreich</i>
09:45-10:30	Policy Update by Eurodiaconia – Social Europe Academy European Care Strategy <i>Kewan Mildred, Eurodiaconia</i>
10:30-10:45	Coffee break
10:45-11:30	Keynote speech
11:30-11:45	Coffee break
11:45-12:45	Sharing experiences from the ground: The Perspective of Carers - Mag. Reinhold Medicus-Michetschläger, " Social Innovation – Community Nursing" <i>Diakoniewerk, Austria</i> Q&A

12:45-13:45	Lunch break
13:45-17:30	STUDY VISIT: Care Home (TBC) <i>Led by Heinrich Meder MA, Care Home Director</i>
19:00	Dinner at a local restaurant (to be defined) <i>(Offered by Eurodiaconia)</i>

Friday, 07 October 2022 Conference Venue: Chapel (4 th Floor) Diakonie Osterreich, Schwarzspanierstrabe 13	
09:00-09:15	Devotion by Pastor Prof. Dr. Lubomir Batka Welcome and Introduction, Eurodiaconia
09:15-10:15	Keynote speech – Mag. ^a Katharina Meichenitsch, Policy Officer <i>Austrian Federal Ministry of Social Affairs</i>
10:15-10:30	Coffee break
10:30-11:15	"Research on Demographic Change in Europe and the Future of Long-Term Care" <i>Discussion of Eurodiaconia Report facilitated by Kewan Mildred</i>
11:15-11:30	Coffee break
11:30-12:45	<p style="text-align: right;">Please be ready to share:</p> <p><u>Policy Development Workshop:</u></p> <p>Based on their work and the inputs of the meeting, participants work in groups on how to move forward on the topic of long-term care. Furthermore, a set of policy recommendations towards national and European decision-makers will be developed.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Facilitation: Eurodiaconia</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ What are the challenges and gaps at the policy level? ➤ What do you think can be done to tackle the challenges faced in long-term care at the national level? ➤ What do you think can be done to tackle challenges at the EU level?
12:45-13:00	Presentation of recommendations
13:00-13:15	Evaluation of the meeting
13:15-14:00	Farewell lunch & closing words by Diaconia Osterreich & Eurodiaconia