

United Nations Human Rights Council
39th session (10-28 September 2018)
Side-Event:
Social Exclusion of Older Persons:
impact & solutions

Tuesday, 11 September 2018 - 12h30-13h30
Geneva, *Palais des Nations*, Conference Room XXV

GoF-HROP
Group of Friends of the Human Rights of Older Persons



Ministerio de
Relaciones Exteriores y Culto
República Argentina



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
PERMANENT MISSION OF THE
REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA TO THE
UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AND OTHER
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN
GENEVA

1. Background

Social Exclusion of Older Persons – impact & solutions

Social exclusion of older persons is a complex process that involves the lack or denial of resources, rights, goods and services as people age, and the inability to participate in the societal relationships and activities, available to the majority of people across the varied and multiple domains of society. It affects both the quality of life of older persons and the equity and cohesion of an ageing society as a whole, with significant implications for the enjoyment by older persons of their human rights.

By 2050, there will be, for the first time, more older persons than children under the age of 15 worldwide. This unprecedented demographic shift has far-reaching implications for society at all levels. As the world population continues to age, notably the human rights dimension of ageing becomes an ever-growing concern.

The Independent Expert emphasizes in her recent report (A/HRC/39/50) the imperative need to adopt a human rights-based approach to ageing. This entails active measures against ageism and reconceptualising the way in which societies view older persons, from passive receivers of care and assistance and an impending burden on welfare systems and economies, to active contributors to society

To foster social inclusion of older persons there is a need to mainstream older persons' rights in development, urban policies and poverty reduction strategies, including by installing processes that allow to scrupulously scrutinizing policies and plans that promote or reinforce discrimination against older persons in ultimately all fields.

Finally, the Independent Expert stresses that the lack of a comprehensive and integrated international legal instrument to promote and protect the rights and dignity of older persons has significant negative practical implications.

The event is organized by the UN Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons – Ms. Rosa Kornfeld-Matte, Argentina and Slovenia as well as the Geneva Group of Friends on human rights of older persons (GoF-HROP).

2. Panel discussion

The event will take place on Tuesday, 11 September 2018 - 12h30-13h30 - Geneva, *Palais des Nations*, Conference Room **XXV**.

This side event will discuss the impact of social exclusion of older persons – a key issue in addressing existing protection gaps, thereby focusing on concrete rights-based solutions. Based on the Independent Expert's report (A/HRC/39/50) that provides an overview of the global policy framework and analyses social exclusion concepts and various forms of appearances, gaps and good practices will be discussed – *in an informal interactive way with a wide variety of discussants from the civil society, international organizations, state representatives and other stakeholders* - in light of the need for a consistent application of a human rights-based lens to ageing as well as solutions such as the formulation of global minimum standards.

3. Panelists:

- Ms. Rosa Kornfeld-Matte, Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons
- H.E. Mr. Carlos Mario Foradori, Ambassador/Permanent Representative of Argentina
- H.E. Mr. Victor Dolidze, Ambassador/Permanent Representative of Georgia
- H.E. Mr. Milorad Šćepanović, Ambassador/Permanent Representative of Montenegro

Moderation – Mr. Khaled Hassine, OHCHR

Followed by interventions from key discussants from civil society, international organizations, state representatives and other stakeholders
