

**Guiding Questions for the focus areas of the IX Session of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing: Autonomy and independence**

1) In your country/region, how is the right to autonomy and independence of older persons defined in legal and policy frameworks?

the Constitution and the Charter of Human Rights

2) What other rights are essential for the enjoyment of the right to autonomy and independence by older persons, or affected by the non-enjoyment of this right?

Right to freedom of expression and information, European Ombudsman

3) What are the key issues and challenges facing older persons in your country/region regarding autonomy and independence? What studies and data are available?

A big problem is the lack of assertiveness of the older generation, who lived in the tooth system for 50 years.

4) What steps have been taken to ensure older persons' enjoyment of their right to autonomy and independence?

f.e. free legal counselling, different kinds of information campaigns promoting rights of older persons

5) What mechanisms are necessary, or already in place, for older persons to seek redress for the denial of autonomy and independence?

There exists antidiscrimination law in Czech Republic. They have an ombudsman who monitors discrimination against older people.

6) What are the responsibilities of other, non-State, actors in respecting and protecting the right to autonomy and independence of older persons?

Ombudsman, nongovernmental organizations.

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**Guiding Questions for the focus areas of the IX Session of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing: Long-term care and palliative care**

1) In your country/region, how is long-term care for older persons defined and provided for in legal and policy frameworks? What types of support and services are covered?

There is no legal standard for LTC in Czech Rep.

2) What are the specific challenges faced by older persons in accessing long-term care?

Bad legislation; incompatible legislative environment health and social care

3) What measures have been taken/are necessary to ensure high-quality and sustainable long-term care systems for older persons, including for example:

Sufficient availability, accessibility and affordability of services on a nondiscriminatory basis?

High quality of services provided?

Autonomy and free, prior and informed consent of older persons in relation to their long-term care and support?

Progressive elimination of all restrictive practices (such as detention, seclusion, chemical and physical restraint) in long-term care?

Sustainable financing of long-term care and support services?

In the Czech Republic, we have a law on social services. There is a so-called care allowance, a subsidy for social services. We have good legislation on health care.

But this is not enough because there is a lack of systematic support for health and social services.

Redress and remedy in case of abuse and violations?

Elder abuse occurs in residential care facilities, but also when providing home care. Defence against this phenomenon is very difficult. Life 90 shot videos of abuse. We placed these videos in virtual space, for example on facebook. Sharing reached two hundred thousand.

We hold a conference each year to alert the public to the danger of cruelty. We distribute prints, we have television, radio.

4) What other rights are essential for the enjoyment of the right to long-term care by older persons, or affected by the non-enjoyment of this right?

To know where to get information and have the opportunity to appeal to a particular instance

5) In your country/region, how is palliative care defined in legal and policy frameworks?

The palliative care is undergoing development in Czech Republic. I am afraid that this development will not be the place of real palliative care but only by economic medical reductionism. This means that the patient gets fewer drugs just because he is already in the terminal stage.

6) What are the specific needs and challenges facing older persons regarding end-of-life care? Are there studies, data and evidence available?

Unclear content of palliative care, permits economic reductionism of care

A lack of facilities providing this type of care, local availability, limited capacity of the device;

7) To what extent is palliative care available to all older persons on a non-discriminatory basis?

See above.

8) How is palliative care provided, in relation to long-term care as described above and other support services for older persons?

Long-term care is provided by mobile hospices. Long-term care is supported by some social services. Eg. Emergency care, relief stay, etc.

9) Are there good practices available in terms of long-term care and palliative care? What are lessons learned from human rights perspectives?

In Czech, there is the "Cesta domů" (Way Home) organization that provides mobile palliative care at an exemplary level; Mobile hospice care is covered by health insurance. The state supports the operation of hospices.

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8.5.2018