**Guiding Questions for the focus areas of the X Session of the Open-ended**

**Working Group on Ageing: Education, training, life-long learning and capacitybuilding**

 **National Legal Framework**

1. In your country/region, how is the right to education, training, life-long learning and

capacity building in older age guaranteed in legal and policy frameworks? Everyone’s right to education (pre-school, school, higher) is guaranteed by the Constitution of the Russian Federation (Article 43), the Federal Law “On Education in the Russian Federation” (2012), one of the basic principles of which is education at any age (<http://zakon-ob-obrazovanii.ru/>); according to experts, the Law allows for continuous education throughout life (<http://zakonobobrazovanii.ru/glava-2/statya-10>).

**Availability, Accessibility and Adaptability**

2. What are the key issues and challenges faced by older persons in your country/region

with regard to the enjoyment of all levels of quality education, training, life-long

learning, and capacity building services?

According to experts, the development of the system of lifelong education has just begun in Russia, in which, mainly for professional reasons, up to 30% of the population aged 25-64 participates; at the same time, at the age of 55-64, only 8% (<https://newtonew.com/culture/kak-uchatsya-v-rossii-te-komu-za-50>). Experts attribute the main problems to them: lack of intrinsic motivation for learning from the elderly, paternalistic stereotypes, unformed government policy, also include the lack of trained specialists in the field of training for the elderly; retraining courses are mainly focused on young people, there are psychological problems of older people themselves to retraining (<http://www.forbes.ru/finansy-i-investicii/365075-terpenie-i-trud-gde-budut-rabotat-vcherashnie-pensionery-posle-reformy>), only 1.1% of older workers attended vocational training courses; Older workers who were not covered by additional training included the reasons for non-participation: lack of need (up to 97%), lack of funds and time (up to 2%), being in search (1%). Forms of commercial higher education and degrees of business administration (<https://hbr-russia.ru/marketing/marketingovaya-strategiya/a23071>) for people 50+ have emerged, but they are targeted at the wealthy elderly.

According to experts, the inclusion of older people in the Internet remains low - at the age of 60-72 it ranges from 5.9-13% in 2015-2016 (<https://scienceforum.ru/2017/article/2017036649>,

<http://psyjournals.ru/files/93807/sps_2018_n2_Alekseeva_et_al.pdf>); among the problems, experts note visual impairment in 60% of citizens over 50, 1/5 suffer from glaucoma (<https://moluch.ru/archive/131/36675/>), low levels of MS (in the group of 55-74 years, respondents performed only 2 out of 10 basic operations (<https://sibac.info/studconf/science/xxii/78171>),

Entertainment and community programs, including volunteering, are developed mainly in large cities (<https://mguu.ru/obrazovanie-dlya-pozhilyh-eto-pohozhe-na-printsip-obucheniya-top-menedzherov/>; <https://www.molnet.ru/mos/ru/higher_and_special_education/o_539292>).

3. What steps have been taken to ensure that education, training, life-long learning, and

capacity building services are available and accessible to all older persons, adapted to

their needs, suited to their preferences and motivations, and of high quality?

In 2017, the State Program «Development of Education for 2018-2025» was adopted, it implies, in particular, vocational education and training for people under 65 years old and new jobs - at least 37% of all people employed annually

([http://pstu.ru/files/2/file/fpkp/gos/2018/ Gosudarstvennaya\_programma\_RF\_%C2%ABRazvitie\_obrazovaniya%C2%BB.pdf](http://pstu.ru/files/2/file/fpkp/gos/2018/%20Gosudarstvennaya_programma_RF_%C2%ABRazvitie_obrazovaniya%C2%BB.pdf)); the development of online courses (to train up to 11 million people by 2025) and centers of competence (according to the Worldskills type) in the field of vocational education (the number of people trained is up to 50,000 people by 2020). Within the framework of this Program, a Concept for the Development of Continuing Adult Education in the Russian Federation for the period up to 2025 has been developed (<http://www.dpo-edu.ru/?page_id=13095>).

The Ministry of Labor proposes the launch of educational professional programs for pre-pensioners for the period 2019-2034 and allocates for these purposes 5 billion rubles, 3 ministries and regional authorities will take part in the implementation of the programs (<https://www.rbc.ru/newspaper/2018/07/26/5b5863869a7947e84fcc29a1>). A good example of vocational education for retirees, in general, 50+ people, is the work of the State Center "Professional" (Moscow), which promotes qualification and employment (<https://eduprof.mos.ru/>) - here older people can get an education for working professions , accounting, other office professions (tourism manager, personnel, personnel), as well as computer skills; there are free training courses, as well as paid ones; another example is the Sphere Business Training Center, which provides training sites for retirees to new professions, advanced training, including computers (<http://xn--80ahd9alevm.xn--p1ai/about_us/putevoditel/pensioneram.php>); in the regions of Russia, vocational education and training centers for pensioners are opened at the offices of the Employment Service within the framework of regional State employment assistance programs; training is free with compensation for possible transportation costs (<https://trudkirov.ru/content/%D0%BE%D0%B1%D1%83%D1%87%D0%B5%D0%BD%D0%B8%D0%B5%20%20%D0%BD%D0%B5%D1%80%D0%B0%D0%B1%D0%BE%D1%82%D0%B0%D1%8E%D1%89%D0%B8%D1%85%20%D0%BF%D0%B5%D0%BD%D1%81%D0%B8%D0%BE%D0%BD%D0%B5%D1%80%D0%BE%D0%B2>).

The Chamber of Commerce of Russia intends to promote such a direction as a family business for retirees <https://informatio.ru/news/society/kuda_poyti_uchitsya_i_rabotat_lyudyam_starshego_vozrasta/>

4. In your country/region, are there studies and/or data available on the access of older

persons to the right to education, training, life-long learning and capacity building in older age?

The study “The Elderly Population of Russia: Problems and Prospects” (Analytical Center for the Government of Russia, 2016 (<http://ac.gov.ru/files/publication/a/8485.pdf>).

Research of the Higher School of Economics "12 solutions for a new education"

**Equality and non-discrimination**

5. In your country, is age one of the prohibited grounds for discrimination in relation to

education in older age?

The Constitution of the Russian Federation enshrines the right of everyone to education, according to the Law of the Russian Federation On Education, education is approved for all, discrimination in the field of education is unacceptable (<http://www.ya-roditel.ru/parents/i-have-the-right/>).

There is no age limit for the second higher education (<https://www.ucheba.ru/article/5731>). A resident of one of the Russian cities became a master in 75 years (<http://www.aif.ru/dontknows/1224946>). Creative grant competitions, except for children and youth, do not set age limits (<http://magtu.ru/nauchnaya-deyatelnost/konkursy-granty-stipendii-olimpiady/9166-konkurs-nachinayushchikh-perevodchikov-imeni-e-l-linetskoj-2018.html?tp=1&templateStyle=12>). The grant program of the President of the Russian Federation to support leading scientific schools limited the age of participants to 50 years old, which met with objections from a number of scientists (<http://www.poisknews.ru/theme/science-politic/31967/?print>).

A significant problem is the education of the elderly in rural areas: there are very few or not at all non-profit organizations, and in this case, the sites of the Territorial Public Self-Government (<https://www.eduherald.ru/ru/article/view?id=18058>), branches of the Union, help. Russian pensioners, district veterans' councils, rural libraries (<http://iskrazaural.ru/news/glavnaya/glavnaya-cel-povyshenie-kachestva-zhizni-pozhilyh-lyudey-na-sele>). Another form of education for rural seniors is Universities of the Third Age, which are established in regional cities / capitals of the republics and have branches in municipalities, including rural ones, implementing non-profit education programs there ([http://www.sprrt.ru/soyuz-pensionerov/universitet- tretego-vozrasta/](http://www.sprrt.ru/soyuz-pensionerov/universitet-%20tretego-vozrasta/)).

**Accountability**

6. What mechanisms are necessary, or already in place, for older persons to lodge

complaints and seek redress for denial of their right to education, training, lifelong

learning and capacity building?

There are the following mechanisms for filing a complaint: appeal to the prosecutor's office, the department of education, the Federal Service for Supervision in Education and Science (<http://www.garant.ru/actual/registraciya/instrukciya/obrazovanie/>), to the Ombudsman, appeal to court. The RF Code of Administrative Offenses provides for financial fines, disqualification of officials for denying the right to education (<http://www.buhgalteria.ru/administrativniy-kodeks/glava5/stat5.57/>, <http://www.riznica-solovky.ru/?page&id=nadzor_administr>).

An overview of available judicial practice in the field of education shows an exceptional concentration of cases on the field of school and young student education (<https://www.sovremennoepravo.ru/m/articles/view/%D0%9E%D0%B1%D0%B5%D1%81%D0%BF%D0%B5%D1%87%D0%B5%D0%BD%D0%B8%D0%B5-%D0%B7%D0%B0%D1%89%D0%B8%D1%82%D1%8B-%D0%BF%D1%80%D0%B0%D0%B2-%D0%B3%D1%80%D0%B0%D0%B6%D0%B4%D0%B0%D0%BD-%D0%B2-%D1%81%D1%84%D0%B5%D1%80%D0%B5-%D0%BE%D0%B1%D1%80%D0%B0%D0%B7%D0%BE%D0%B2%D0%B0%D0%BD%D0%B8%D1%8F>).

There is a case of protection by a district court at the request of the prosecutor of the right of persons with disabilities to access information posted on the state website

(<https://genproc.gov.ru/upload/iblock/60d/%D0%A1%D0%B1%D0%BE%D1%80%D0%BD%D0%B8%D0%BA%20%D0%98%D0%B3%D0%BE%D0%BD%D0%B8%D0%BD%D0%B0%20%D0%B2%20%D0%BF%D0%B5%D1%87%D0%B0%D1%82%D1%8C.pdf>).

No on the Internet references to the complaints of older people about access to education. Rather, the problem is the opposite, experts say, that would increasingly involve the elderly in education - only 8% of older people in Russia are involved in lifelong education; аccording to experts, pre-pensioners and retirees lose interest in learning and career (<https://www.pencioner.ru/news/ucheba/zachem-pozhilym-uchitsya-ili-mne-eto-nado/>).