

## **Accessibility, infrastructure and habitat (transport, housing and access)**

1. *What are the national legal provisions and policy frameworks that recognize older persons' rights to accessibility, infrastructure and habitat (transport, housing and access)? This could include, but is not limited to:*
  - a) *The right of older persons to access and enjoy, on an equal basis with others, the physical environment, transportation, information and communications (including ICT,s), and other facilities and services open or provided to the public, both in urban and in rural areas (e.g. buildings, roads, transportation and other indoor and outdoor facilities, schools, housing, green spaces, medical facilities and workplaces; information, communication and other services, including electronic services and emergency services).*

In Spain, at national level, there is a common legal framework based on the competences distribution between Autonomous Communities (regions) and State that allows older persons the full enjoyment of their rights to accessibility, infrastructure and habitat.

Special lower rates in transports for people over 65, mandatory schemes in building legislation for availability of elevators and other accessibility measures in housing are the main elements that are put in place by State, regions and municipalities for shaping that age friendly scheme related to rights to accessibility, infrastructure and habitat.

*b) policies/programmes that enable older persons to live independently and to be included in their communities as they age*

The same framework shared between State and regions, and also managed with municipalities, is carried out in the System for Personal Autonomy and Support to Dependency (SAAD), which is available not only for older people, but for every person who could need support in their daily life activities. Nevertheless, older people are the population group that represents more than 72% of recipients of SAAD benefits.

*2. What are the challenges and barriers faced by older persons for the realization of their right to accessibility, infrastructure use and habitat (transport, housing and access) at the national and international levels?*

Physical barriers are the main elements that hinder older persons the enjoyment of their rights to accessibility, infrastructure use and habitat; for example, sidewalks, stairs and other elements that impair the use of wheelchairs. Also lack of income does not allow older people to afford technical items or architectural solutions to tackle with these physical impairments.

## **Data and research**

3. *What data, statistics and research are available at the national level regarding older person's rights to accessibility, infrastructure and habitat (public transport, housing and access)?*

There is available data provided by INE (National Institute of Statistics) in the field of housing (*household census*). Nevertheless, the data disaggregation doesn't show information on the accessibility of older persons in their home. All data on accessibility are provided by associations of people with disabilities and older people organizations.

Concerning transport, public providers (public transport companies, regional consortiums...) as well as other stakeholders offer data about use by older persons of different transports (railway, road, air and maritime).

At EU level, Eurostat also produces statistics on housing and transport.

## **Equality and non discrimination**

4. *What measures are being taken to eliminate ageism, ageist stereotypes, prejudices and behaviours that hinder older persons' rights to accessibility, infrastructure and habitat (transport, housing and access)?*

In Spain, at national, regional and local level, public administrations produce awareness raising campaigns in order to combating ageism, ageist stereotypes and other elements against the full enjoyment of older persons to these rights.

Such campaigns are issued through different ways: press, social networks, schools, health and care centers, etc.

## **Remedies and Redress**

5. *What mechanisms are necessary, or already in place, for older persons to submit complaints and seek redress for denial of their rights to accessibility, infrastructure and habitat (transport, housing and access)?*

Older persons, as the rest of citizens, have the right to complaint and seek redress through administrative procedures and, if it was the case, they can appeal to court.

Finally, Ombudsman, as High Commissioner of Parliament, could ask for accountability of public administration if any public service is not provide adequately.