The first aim of the project is to measure to what extent and how dependency is or is not recognised as a “social risk”, in the meaning of the social security law, by the social systems of the member States of the European Union. These countries run very diverse politics in the field of long-term care.

The question of the share between the part that falls to national solidarity and that which comes under other actors (mutuality, private institutions, insurance providers) is also at the centre of the debates. For most of the countries affected, resorting to a public device alone does not allow covering all the needs of long-term care and this lack opens the doors to different actors.

The social risk of dependency is a problem for the European law concerning the coordination of the social security system.