European Collaboration in Ageing Research
ERA-AGE And FUTURAGE

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European Forum on Ageing Policy and Research
in the New Member States,
Bucharest, 28 November 2011
THE EUROPEAN COLLABORATION IN AGEING RESEARCH

AGENDA

➢ ERA-AGE

➢ FUTURAGE

➢ Future of Ageing Research
## ERA-AGE 2

### Partner Countries:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Associate Partners</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td>Canada</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
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<td>Finland</td>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>Lithuania</td>
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<td>France</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>Saxony (Germany)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>United Kingdom (Coordinator)</td>
<td>Quebec (Canada)</td>
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<td>Italy</td>
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<td>Lower Silesia (Poland)</td>
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<td>Latvia</td>
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<td>Ireland</td>
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THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA IN AGEING
THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA IN AGEING (ERA-AGE)

OBJECTIVES

- To facilitate coordination of existing ageing research programmes
- To promote multidisciplinary research activities between countries
- To share good practice in coordination and management of ageing programmes
- To develop European ageing research programmes
- To help break down the barriers between ageing research and policy and practice
THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA IN AGEING (ERA-AGE)

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

- A Joint Post-Doctoral Fellowship Scheme
- A Unique Database of European Research Programmes on Ageing
- The Production of a Comprehensive Schedule of Key Research Priorities for Future Ageing Research
- Key Partner in FUTURAGE
- A Joint Programme of Ageing Research
Flare 1
- 2007-2010
- 18 Fellows
- Funded by:
  Austria, Finland, France, Germany, Luxembourg, Romania, Sweden and the UK

Flare 2
- 2011-2014,
- 9 Fellows and 6 Associate Fellows
- Funded by:
  Austria, Finland, France, Israel, Luxembourg, Romania, and Sweden.

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The Europe’s First Joint Programme of Ageing Research
Key Features

- Focus on EIPAHA goal of extending healthy life years
- High quality science
- Multi-disciplinarity
- Cross-national collaboration
- User/stakeholder engagement
- Knowledge transfer (the 3P’s)
- 9 countries, 12 funding agencies: in Canada, Finland, France, Sweden, Israel, Luxembourg, Latvia, Romania and the UK
- £4.2 million
THE FUTURAGE ROAD MAP FOR AGEING RESEARCH

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PARTICIPANTS

- 11 ERA-AGE partners
- University of Namur (Belgium)
- University of Heidelberg (Germany)
- Lund University (Sweden)
- Italian National Institute of Health and Science on Ageing
- Universities of Leicester, Sheffield, Newcastle (UK)
- University of Tampere (Finland)
- Research Users: AGE Platform Europe, Age UK
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EIGHT OVERARCHING PRINCIPLES

- An Holistic Person – environment Approach to Ageing (All Disciplines)
- A Life Course Perspective (Continuous Ageing)
- Multi-disciplinarity (The New Science of Ageing)
- User / Stakeholder Engagement (The Key Role of Older People)
- Knowledge Exchange (Impact on Policy, Practice, Product Development)
- Diversity, Cross-national, Cross-cultural (The European Research Area)
- Capacity Building (Following Generations, NMS)
- Maximising Technological Innovation (EU Priority)
DESIGNING THE ROAD MAP

All Disciplines

- Biogerontology: biology, biomedicine and genetics
- Social and economic resources (including social support and care provision)
- Environments of ageing focusing primarily on the physical environment
- Healthy ageing and well being (physical and mental)
- User / Stakeholder Engagement
MULTIDISCIPLINARY PROGRAMME MODEL

www.newdynamics.group.shef.ac.uk

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SEVEN MAJOR RESEARCH THEMES

Major Research Themes

➢ Healthy Ageing for More Life in Years
➢ Maintaining and Regaining Mental Capacity
➢ Inclusion and Participation in the Community and Labour Market
➢ Social Protection: Quality and Sustainability
➢ Ageing Well at Home and in Community Environments
➢ Unequal Ageing and Age-related Inequalities
➢ Biogerontology
FROM DISCIPLINES TO WORKING GROUPS

Disciplines
- Architecture
- Biology
- Biomedicine
- Biotechnology
- Demography
- Design
- Economics
- Education
- Engineering
- Epidemiology
- Genetics
- Geography
- Geriatric medicine
- Health sciences
- Law
- Management
- Occupational therapy
- Philosophy
- Physiology
- Psychology
- Public health
- Social policy
- Social work
- Sociology
- Technology & ICT
- Urban planning

Working Groups
- Biogerontology
- Social & Economic Resources
- Environments of Ageing
- Healthy Ageing

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FROM DISCIPLINES TO WORKING GROUPS
FROM WORKING GROUPS TO MAJOR THEMES

WORKING GROUPS
- Biogerontology
- Healthy Ageing
- Environments of Ageing
- Social and Economic Resources

MAJOR RESEARCH THEMES
- Healthy Ageing
- Biogerontology
- Unequal Ageing
- Social Participation
- Social Protection
- Mental Capacity
- Home and Community

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THE PRIORITY OF ACTIVE AGEING

Active Ageing Across the Life-course

- Mental Capital
- Healthy Ageing
- Inclusion and Social Participation
- Home and Community
- Bio-gerontology
- Social Protection
- Unequal Ageing

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FOUR IMPLEMENTATION PRIORITIES

- Framework Programme Priority for Ageing Research
- Infrastructure: A Virtual European Institute
- Capacity Building: Multi-disciplinarity, New Member States and the Next Generations
- Funding for User Engagement / Knowledge Exchange
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“Innovation contributes to tackling the most critical societal challenges we are facing. Europe’s expertise and resources must be mobilized in a coherent manner and synergies between the EU and the Member States must be fostered in order to ensure that innovations with a societal benefit get to the market quicker. The launch of the pilot Innovation Partnership on active and healthy ageing is an important step in that context.”

European Council, 4 Feb 2011
Ageing research is an area of great social, political and economic importance for the European Union... I want to re-focus research and innovation polices very clearly on developing a coherent strategic research agenda which will tackle the grand societal challenges, which include both the promotion of healthy living and healthy ageing... These challenges can only be confronted if innovative and multi-disciplinary approaches are taken.

Máire Geoghegan-Quinn
Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation
15 April 2010

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THE NEW LANDSCAPE OF EUROPEAN AGEING RESEARCH?

- More Multi-disciplinary
- More Diverse in Methods (e.g. Translational, Social and Biological, Longitudinal)
- More Holistic Approach to Ageing (Life Course, Diversity, Contextual)
- Closer Reference to End Users, Including Older People (from subjects to partners)
- Greater Emphasis on Impact (the 3p’s)
- Close Cooperation Between all Member States (European Institute)

More Responsive to the Grand Challenge

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REALISING THE AMBITION

Challenges to Stakeholders:

- Policy Makers and Research Funders (Regional, National, European)
- End Users (NGO’s, Practitioners, Business)
- Scientists
- Older People and Other Citizens

THE NEED FOR CONCERTED ACTION
EUROPEAN COLLABORATION IN AGEING RESEARCH ERA-AGE AND FUTURAGE

THANK YOU VA MULTUMESC !

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