



European Association for Directors and Providers of Long-Term Care Services for the Elderly

Europäische Vereinigung der Leiter und Träger von Einrichtungen der Langzeitpflege

Association Européenne des Directeurs de Structures d'Accueil et de Services aux Personnes Agées

PREFACE / VORWORT / PRÉFACE

The E.D.E. was founded in 1989 as an international umbrella organisation. Its members, national associations for directors and providers of long-term care services, benefit from an exchange of information and experience and mutual knowledge transfer. It is my firm belief that together we can significantly improve the quality of care and assistance and set new standards in cross-border research projects. I would like to invite you to learn more about our Association, its work and its aims on the following pages!

L'E.D.E. est une organisation faîtière internationale fondée en 1989. Les associations membres de directeurs de structures d'accueil et de services aux personnes âgées peuvent - grâce à elle - profiter et échanger des informations, des expériences ainsi que des compétences. Ensemble, nous travaillons également à l'amélioration permanente de la qualité dans le domaine des soins et de l'assistance à la personne et la participation aux projets de recherche internationaux nous permet de définir des critères communs. Je vous invite à feuilleter les pages qui suivent et à vous informer sur le travail de notre association et sur ses buts.



Die E.D.E. wurde 1989 als internationaler Dachverband gegründet. Die Mitgliedsverbände der Leiterinnen und Leiter sowie der Träger von Langzeitpflegeeinrichtungen profitieren vom Informations- und Erfahrungsaustausch und dem gegenseitigen Wissenstransfer. Und wir können so gemeinsam die Qualität in der Pflege und Betreuung kontinuierlich steigern und in internationalen Forschungsprojekten weitere Maßstäbe setzen. Ich möchte Sie herzlich einladen, sich auf den folgenden Seiten über unseren Verband, seine Arbeit und Ziele zu informieren!

A handwritten signature in dark ink, which appears to read 'Bohler'. The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

Jean Bohler
President of the E.D.E.

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EXECUTIVE BOARD / GESCHÄFTSFÜHREN- DER VORSTAND / BUREAU EXÉCUTIF

The Executive Board was elected in 2012 and started its activities on 1 January 2013.



Left to right: Boris Koprivnikar (Vice-President), Angele Bajoriene, Franziska Rahmel (Secretary), Jean Bohler (President), Pascal Champvert, Jean-Louis Zufferey (Treasurer), Erika Lörinczy

PROFILE

One in every two children born in today's world has the chance to live one hundred years or longer. This development has far-reaching consequences for the health and care sector in the economies of Europe. Nursing homes and residential homes for the elderly in the various countries are all confronted with the same requirements for providing high-quality services at affordable costs.

To arrive at a better understanding of the mutual challenges that this objective implies, representatives of associations for directors and providers of European care services met for the first time in Hamburg in 1987. An important goal at this meeting was to build and strengthen cooperation, and to initiate a regular exchange of information and experience between the various national associations. In addition, much attention was focussed during the discussions on how the quality of care and assistance for elderly people living in care homes – as well as working conditions in care facilities in Europe – can be improved by means of joint initiatives.



The E.D.E.'s General Board on 21 April 2012 in Montreux (Switzerland)

“EXCHANGING EXPERIENCE ACROSS EUROPE ENRICHES THE WORK DONE IN EVERY SINGLE MEMBER COUNTRY.”

JEAN BOHLER, PRESIDENT

The European Association for Directors of Residential Care Homes for the Elderly was founded as an umbrella organisation in Luxembourg on 6 April 1989. Since its statute change in February 2011, the association is now called the European Association for Directors and Providers of Long-Term Care Services for the Elderly, in short “E.D.E.” The Association will celebrate its 25th anniversary in 2014.

The E.D.E. has been a member of the AGE Platform Europe ever since it was founded in 2001. The goal of AGE Platform Europe is to strengthen the cooperation between organisations which work to further the interests of elderly people in Europe. The tasks of this network focus on a broad range of political and social issues, including for example social integration, active ageing, pension reforms, violence against the elderly, intergenerational solidarity and gerontology.



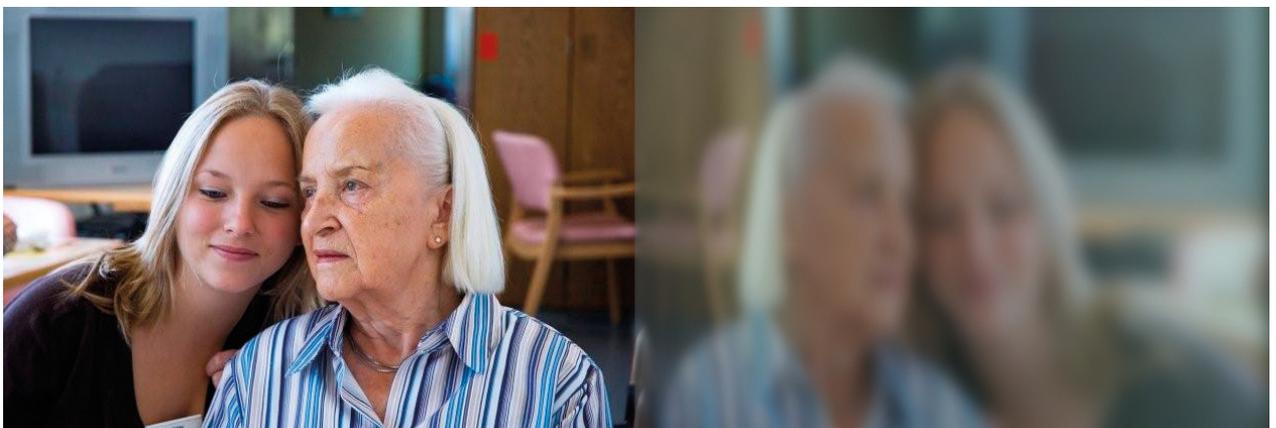
Care home directors from Vojvodina (Serbia) on the study trip through Germany, Austria and Italy in September 2012, here in the residential care home in Girlan/Eppan (South Tyrol)

EUROPEAN CHARTER AND CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

In view of the ongoing demographic changes in the states of Europe, elderly care faces major socio-economic challenges that the individual countries can only surmount together through concerted action. Apart from new innovative cross-border initiatives, strategies also include the future work with the elderly and the impaired, with an eye to improving their quality of life by highlighting their dignity as individuals.

The E.D.E. has developed value standards as well as standards of professional conduct for its member associations, thus providing them with a framework for effective action. One of the most important principles of the *European Charter of the rights and freedoms of elderly people* accommodated in homes includes the obligation that the fundamental principle of human rights will be heeded without limitation and applied to all people regardless of their age, their mental or physical state, their level of income, their social situation or their level of education. The *E.D.E.'s code of professional conduct* further stipulates that exemplary employment conditions must be worked out for professional care-givers and voluntary helpers.

You will find the full text of both documents on our website www.ede-eu.org.



Primary nursing in Fondation Mont-Calme in Lausanne (Switzerland)

PURPOSE AND TASKS

The purpose of the *European Association for Directors and Providers of Long-Term Care Services for the Elderly* is to promote cooperation between national associations for directors of residential care homes and to represent them on a European level.

The tasks of the E.D.E. include in particular:

1. working in and counselling organisations and committees that are active in the area of the social and health care of the elderly on a European level
2. counselling national associations for directors and providers of long-term care services as well as their members on questions of residential and day-patient care of the elderly
3. promoting the exchange of information concerning national developments in the area of social and health care of the elderly
4. organising international congresses, conferences, training programmes and study trips
5. initiating cross-border research projects in the area of care for elderly people in need of assistance
6. developing standard guidelines for the professional training of directors of long-term care services and raising the qualification standards for directors of long-term care services
7. improving the social status of the profession of director of long-term care services
8. coordinating the aims and work of national associations
9. carrying out public relations work and influencing politicians' and law-makers' decisions in the area of long-term care.

KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER

The E.D.E. considers it one of its main tasks to supply its members and interested caregivers with extensive information on developments and current trends in the care sector. An important forum in this respect is provided by the E.D.E. Congresses, which take place every two years in various European cities. During each event presentations and workshops deal with the idea in focus, whose relevance is underlined with reference to current topics, problems and questions.

The 13th European Congress of the E.D.E. in Tallinn (26 – 28 September 2013) will take place under the motto **“Let’s Network our Care”**, and will address topics dealing with the compatibility of dignified elderly care and technological solutions for care services. Where are the opportunities and where are the limits to the use of technology in long-term care? Which approaches for solutions now exist, and how helpful are they? And what ethical and legal issues must be addressed in the context of the use of technical assistance systems in long-term care?



12th European E.D.E. Congress in Prague (29 September – 1 October 2011)

The 12th European E.D.E. Congress in Prague (29 September – 1 October 2011) had as its focus the theme of **“The big taboos in long-term care”**. Experts from the areas of elderly care, ethics, psychology, philosophy and management presented their findings on dignity in elderly care, ways of dealing with death and dying, violence and sexuality in care homes. In addition they addressed the thorny issue of long-term care financing, and created the framework for stimulating discussions.

“TIME OUT!” was the motto of the 11th European E.D.E. Congress in Luxembourg (24 – 26 September 2009). Economic crisis, demographic changes, social cuts – pressured by growing structural problems and the daily search for short-term solutions, residential care home directors hardly have the time or energy so essential for finding new solutions. Speeches and presentations dealing with working conditions, decision-making autonomy, effective organisation and quality improvement identified the problems to be addressed and pinpointed solutions.

The 10th European Congress of the E.D.E. (14 – 17 November 2007) took place in Berlin. This was also the Association’s first World Congress. The event focused on **“Overcoming Borders, Shaping the future”**. Experts from Japan, Canada, the US, Cameroon, South Africa, Australia and nine European countries addressed issues like future perspectives for elderly care, living environments for people with Alzheimer’s, international quality management systems, financing strategies, innovative technologies and alternative forms of living for those in need of care, with workshops providing a lively forum for exchange of ideas and experience.

In September 2012, the E.D.E.’s General Board approved the Swiss association ARO-DEMS’ candidacy to organise the 14th European Congress of the E.D.E., which will take place from 24 – 26 September 2015 in Montreux (Switzerland). The E.D.E. would like to invite you to save these dates on your calendar. Information on the programme will follow in due course.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND ADVANCED TRAINING

The E.D.E. promotes and supports the continual development and optimisation of vocational education and advanced training possibilities for staff members charged with care and assistance. In particular, the Association undertakes to further harmonise national qualification standards.

In addition the E.D.E. has as its aim to help the profession of residential care home director / nursing manager benefit from higher qualification standards, and to raise the esteem for these qualifications across Europe.

The E.D.E.'s framework guidelines for the vocational education and advanced training of care



Participants of an E.D.E.-certified course for care home directors in 2012 at the Institut für Bildung im Gesundheitsdienst GmbH (Austria)

home directors highlight the importance of sector-specific training for the care of the elderly and those in need of assistance. European training institutes that educate directors of residential care homes according to the E.D.E.'s guidelines receive accreditation from the E.D.E. Successful participants at accredited courses of study or training programmes are awarded the E.D.E. certificate for directors of residential care homes for the elderly. The E.D.E. also increasingly accredits academic courses in the areas of health care management and social services management.

In addition the E.D.E. offers cooperation for obtaining academic qualification as residential care home manager. The corresponding course of study can be carried out on an extra-occupational basis, full-time, as a graduate student or as a university degree.

Furthermore, the quality management system E-Qalin[®] has been developed in the context of a European Leonardo-da-Vinci project. E-Qalin[®] is based on self-assessment and promotes learning within the organisation, supporting in this way improvement and development processes.

For further information, please go to our website www.ede-eu.org.



E-Qalin[®] - Workshop in the Czech Republic, 2011

PROJECTS

The E.D.E. is committed to a wide range of different European projects aimed at improving and developing the quality of care and life in residential homes for the elderly and people in need of assistance. The most important projects from 2004 to 2013 are listed in this publication.



The SAVE AGE project (2010 – 2013) was the first European initiative to develop and implement measures for limiting energy consumption specifically in residential care homes. In the context of the SAVE AGE project, energy consumption was analysed in homes for the elderly. On the basis of the results obtained in 100 care homes in 10 countries, case studies and reports were developed giving each home valuable stimuli for energy saving measures, which will simultaneously enhance living conditions and comfort. As partner, the E.D.E. was responsible for the communication and dissemination of the project's results.



The E.D.E. participated actively in WeDO, Wellbeing and Dignity of Older people. Between 2010 and 2012, the project was aimed at developing an enduring and growing European partnership of organisations committed to working to promote the wellbeing and dignity of elderly people and the quality of long-term care. As a project partner, the Association had the task of disseminating the project results.

“MUTUALLY AGREED STANDARDS ALLOW FOR A HIGH LEVEL OF CARE AND ASSISTANCE ACROSS NATIONAL BORDERS.”

BORIS KOPRIVNIKAR, VICE-PRESIDENT



The main objective of the DAPHNE Eustacea project (2008 – 2010) was to develop a European strategy to combat elder abuse. Important results of the project are a “European Charter of the rights and responsibilities of older people in need of long-term care and assistance” and a handbook accompanying this Charter. Our Association played a significant role in developing the charter and handbook.



In the context of the Leonardo da Vinci project “E-Qalin[®]” (2004 – 2008), a practical and user-friendly quality management model, was developed in special sector-specific versions for institutions of long-term care services for the elderly, homes and services for the impaired as well as day-patient/mobile services. E-Qalin[®] examines the services provided in the institutions and their effectiveness

in regard to the satisfaction of all those involved. E-Qalin[®] encourages and emphasises learning within organisations through self-evaluation, freeing up innovative potential for improvement and development. As project partner, the E.D.E. has done pivotal work in developing a resource-compatible quality management system specifically for care homes which is accepted across Europe, and in breathing life into the abstract term of quality management.

The E.D.E. endeavours to supply its members as well as other interested people with information on current developments, projects and initiatives in the residential care sector.

“E.D.E. VISION”, the electronic newsletter of the E.D.E., appears four times a year. It provides reports on European institutions of long-term care services for the elderly as well as information on projects in which the E.D.E. and its member associations take part. “E.D.E. VISION” also serves all member associations as a tool for the exchange of information and experience. In addition, the E.D.E. presents itself on its website www.ede-eu.org, providing extensive information on the Association and its activities.

The AGE Platform Europe and its projects are presented on the website www.age-platform.eu.



“THE IDEA OF EUROPE HAS BEEN PART AND PARCEL OF OUR ASSOCIATION’S WORK FOR MORE THAN 25 YEARS.”

FRANZISKA RAHMELE, SECRETARY

MEMBERSHIP

The E.D.E. currently comprises 26 members (June 2013), and is continually growing.

Any incorporated or non-incorporated national association representing directors and providers of long-term care services may become a regular member.

Directors and providers of residential care services from countries in which no national association exists for directors or providers of long-term care services may join the E.D.E upon request as co-opted members.

Any person or legal entity willing to support the objectives of the E.D.E. may become a supporting member.

Co-opted and supporting members have no voting rights.

“THE CONTINUAL GROWTH IN OUR MEMBERSHIP STRENGTHENS
OUR COMMITMENT TO THE RIGHTS OF ELDERLY PEOPLE.”

JEAN-LOUIS ZUFFEREY“, TREASURER

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