

HOMeAGE

Advancing Research and Training on Ageing, Place and Home



— **HOMeAGE** —

*Advancing Research and Training on Ageing,
Place and Home*

1st Network-Wide Training Event Meeting and Training Programme

Tuesday 17th October – 20th October 2023

Institute for Lifecourse & Society,

University of Galway, Ireland

Eircode: H91 C7DK



OLLSCOIL NA GAILLIMHE
UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY



Funded by
the European Union

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About HOMeAGE

HOMeAGE involves a nine-country collaboration between leading research units, major intergovernmental organisations, international civil society actors and governmental and non-governmental organisations.

HOMeAGE aims to institute an interdisciplinary, intersectoral, and international programme of doctoral training and research that drives the development of new leaders in excellence for the advancement of evidence-based innovation on ageing in place.

HOMeAGE, tackles three interrelated challenges by pursuing three strategic objectives through the work of 12 Doctoral Researchers (DRs) and their individual research projects.



Challenge 1- Needs and Systems:

HOMeAGE will identify flexible and sustainable housing, community-care and mobility systems and critically assess their capacity to support community living needs, across various cultural and structural conditions.



Challenge 2 – Home and Belonging:

HOMeAGE will identify innovative place-based pathways for engagement as a means to create new channels for building a sense of home and belonging amongst diverse older populations, in diverse places.



Challenge 3 – Rights and Voice:

HOMeAGE will identify integrative frameworks, that are responsive to the diversity of older people and their places, to drive relevant and rights-based policy development on ageing in place.

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Ancillary Meetings

17th October

*Institute for Lifecourse & Society,
University of Galway, Ireland*

*Eircode:
H91C7DK*

14:00 Steering and Supervisory Board Meetings (Room 2015 – ILAS Boardroom)

15:30 ***Coffee Break***

15:45 Research Working Group (WG) Meetings

- WG 1 – Need and Systems – (Room G006 – Ground Floor)
- WG 2 – Home and Belonging – (Room G008 – Ground Floor)
- WG 3 – Rights and Voice – (Room G009 – Ground Floor)

16:15 Implementation Working Group (WG) Meetings and Ancillary Meetings

- WG 5 – Training and Supervision - (Room G008 – Ground Floor)
- WG 6 – Dissemination, Exploitation and Impact- (Room G009 – Ground Floor)
- International Panel of Policy & Research Experts
- HOMeAGE Reference Group – (Room G006 – Ground Floor)
- Doctoral Researcher (DR) Forum - (Room 2015 – ILAS Boardroom)

17:00 ***Reception (ILAS Foyer)***

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1st Network-Wide Training Event Programme 18-20th October

*Institute for Lifecourse & Society,
University of Galway, Ireland
Eircode:
H91C7DK*

Training Day 1 – October 18th

09:00 **Welcome Address** - LCI G018 - Auditorium

1. HOMeAGE MSCA Doctoral Network: Overview and mission

Presenter - Kieran Walsh, Co-ordinator, University of Galway, Ireland

09.50 **2. Interconnections & interrelationships: Exploring HOMeAGE challenges**

Chair and Presenter – An-Sofie Smetcoren (VUB, Belgium)

Presenters - Francesco Barbabella (INRCA IRCCS, Italy), Lucie Vidovicova (MU, Czechia), Liesbeth de Donder (VUB, Belgium) and all DRs

Needs & Systems – Francesco Barbabella

DR1 – Luise Stoisser

DR2 – Fatemeh Hatami

DR3 – Petra Zist

DR4 – Susan Thapa

Home & Belonging – Lucie Vidovicova

DR5 – Roua Shaban

DR6 – Petra Tamasova

DR7 – Preetha Joseph

Rights & Voice – *Liesbeth de Donder*

DR8 – Jianmei Zhou

DR9 – Nil Meral

DR10 – Pamela Suero

DR11 – Philippa Winship

DR12 – Fatima Salomoni

10:50 **Coffee Break**

11.10 **Exploring links across challenge projects. A speed dating approach**
Chair and Presenters – An-Sofie Smetcoren (VUB, Belgium)

12:00 **3. Research and innovation 1: Ethics and diversity**
Chair – Kieran Walsh (University of Galway, Ireland)

3.1 Gender, diversity and intersectionality

Presenter – Kevin Davison, University of Galway

3.2 Research ethics and research integrity in ageing in place research

Presenter – Heike Schmidt-Felzmann, University of Galway

13.30 **Lunch Break**

14:30 **4. Research and innovation 2: Engaging with Open Science for impact**
Chair – Matthias Drilling (FHNW, Switzerland)

4.1 Open Science: Guiding principles and key pillars

Presenter – Liesbeth de Donder, VUB, Belgium

4.2 Two case studies of engagement with stakeholders to promote Open Science

Presenter – Giovanni Lamura, INRCA IRCCS, Italy

16:00 **Coffee Break**

16:30 **5. Methods clinic: Harnessing interdisciplinary perspectives**
All Doctoral Researchers and supervisory teams

17:15 **Project Support Team (PST) Entry Meeting**

18:00 **Wrap up & close**

Training Day 2 – October 19th

- 09:00 **Welcome and opening address - LCI G018 - Auditorium**
Kieran Walsh, University of Galway, Ireland
- 09:10 **6. Research overview and approaches in ageing in place research**
Chair – Laura Christ, HOMeAGE Reference Group; Older Women’s Network, NL
- 6.1 Theorizing place and ageing: Models and concepts from an Environmental Gerontology perspective**
Presenter – Frank Oswald, Goethe University, Germany
- 6.2 The pre-conditions for ageing in place: A socio-economic perspective**
Presenters – Marco Arlotti and Micol Bronzini, Marche Polytechnic University, Italy
- 11:00 **Coffee Break**
- 11:30 **7. Ageing in place policy overview: Research informed perspectives**
Chair – Kieran Walsh, University of Galway, Ireland
- 7.1 Policy perspectives and agendas in ageing in place**
Presenter – Alana Officer, Demographic Change & Healthy Ageing, WHO
- 7.2 Spatial justice and the right to an age-friendly community**
Presenter – Tine Buffel, UoM, the UK
- 13:30 **Lunch Break**
- 14:15 **8. Critical thinking and policy and scholarly debates in ageing in place**
Chair – Patricia Conboy, International Panel of Policy and Research Experts (IPPRE)
- 8.1 Making research policy-relevant: Why place matters**
Presenter – Norah Keating, Global Social Initiative on Ageing, IAGG, (IPPRE), CA
- 15:15 **Coffee Break**
- 15:30 **8.2 Critical issues in research on ageing in place: A geographical gerontologist's perspective**
Presenter – Malcolm Cutchin, Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences, (IPPRE), US
- 17:00 **Doctoral Researcher (DR) Forum**
- 18:00 **Wrap up & close**
- 19:30 **Dinner ([The Hardiman Hotel](#))**

Training Day 3 – October 20th

09:00 **9. Lived experience perspectives on ageing in place: opportunities and dilemmas**
Chairs – Giovanni Lamura (IRCCS- INRCA), An-Sofie Smetcoren (VUB, Belgium)
Contributors – HOMeAGE Reference Panel:

1. Laura Christ, Older Women's Network, Netherlands
2. Rodd Bond, Active Retirement Ireland, Ireland
3. Soteris AVGOUSTIS, PASYDY, Cyprus
4. Amanda T. Warren, FATEC/Catalonia, Spain
5. Katalin Papp, Hungary

10:30 *Coffee Break*

10:45 **10. Career development: Understanding pathways and setting personal goals**
Chairs and presenters – Alexander Peine (OU, Netherlands) & Julia Wadoux (Age-Platform Europe)

12:45 *Lunch Break*

13:30 **11. Policy Impact - From research to advocacy: evidence informed policy**
Chair – Lucie Vidovicova, MUNI, Czechia
Presenter – Julia Wadoux, AGE Platform Europe

15:00 **DR Forum Feedback / HRG Feedback**

16:00 *Coffee Break*

16:15 **Project Support Team Exit Meeting**

16:45 **Wrap up & close**

Session Abstracts and Learning Outcomes

Training Day 1 – October 18th

1. HOMeAGE MSCA Doctoral Network: Overview and Mission

Presenter - Kieran Walsh, Co-Ordinator, UoG, Ireland

This introductory session will officially welcome all doctoral researchers, their supervisory teams, and all other members to the HOMeAGE Doctoral Network. It will present the mission of the Network, its strategic challenges and objectives and the Network's broad ageing in place conceptual frame. The session will also describe the HOMeAGE training curriculum, and will outline its components around project-centred, network-wide and policy impact training, and its timeline of core events. This will include a review of the key support roles available to doctoral researchers. Finally, the structure of this first network-wide training event will be outlined.

Following this session, Doctoral Researchers will:

- Understand the overall mission of the Network and the broad conceptual frame that forms a shared understanding of how ageing in place might be generally conceived;
- Understand the HOMeAGE training curriculum, and its related supports and expectations for an interdisciplinary, and intersectoral approach to training and development.

2 Interconnections and interrelationships: exploring links between challenges

[Interactive]

Chair and Presenter – An-Sofie Smetcoren (VUB, Belgium) and Kieran Walsh, (UoG, Ireland)

Presenters - Francesco Barbabella (INRCA IRCCS, Italy), Lucie Vidovicova (MU, Czechia), Liesbeth de Donder (VUB, Belgium) and all DRs

In this interactive session, Doctoral Researchers will be supported to explore the interrelations between the three main HOMeAGE challenges: needs and systems; home and belonging; rights and voice. The session is structured as follows. First, a critical appraisal of the multidimensionality of ageing in place will be presented, and why it is necessary to examine the underlying linkages across different dimensions. Second, each of the challenge working group leaders will introduce their challenges and some potential areas of cross-challenge connection. Third, Doctoral Researchers will give a short three-minute introduction to their work, highlighting its core research question, and how their work relates to the other challenges. Fourth, a speed dating 'getting to know you' approach will be employed to help each Doctoral Researcher and their supervisory team to explore cross-project, cross-method and cross-disciplinary links.

Following this session, Doctoral Researchers will:

- Gain insights into the cross-cutting factors that can drive the three challenges, and the ways in which these challenges can be mutually reinforcing;
 - Appreciate the potential links between Doctoral Researchers projects, across challenges, and a clear sense of where possible future complementarities may lay.
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3. Research and Innovation 1 – Ethics and Diversity

3.2 Gender, diversity and intersectionality

Presenter – Kevin Davison, University of Galway

In this session Doctoral Researchers will be presented within an introductory overview to gender, diversity and intersectional considerations in research. This will involve an in-depth discussion of the need for analytical sensitivity regarding the norms, identities, and relations related to gender and other social categorisations in research, and the interlocking nature of these three facets with respect to the position of people, and the inequalities they may encounter. Examples and cases specific to ageing in place research will be used to illustrate these considerations and the ways in which research designs and approaches need to account for such sensitivities.

Following this session, Doctoral Researchers will have:

- An enhanced understanding of gender, diversity and intersectional considerations with respect to ageing in place research, and their research projects;
- A greater capacity to apply these considerations to all stages of the research process, including at the stages of design, implementation and data collection, and analysis.

3.1 Research ethics and research integrity in ageing in place research

Presenter - Heike Schmidt-Felzmann, University of Galway

This interactive session will provide a critical overview of research ethics and integrity in contemporary interdisciplinary research environments. It will both present an overview of the traditional ethical concerns regarding harm, privacy, consent and data processing, and more contemporary debates regarding agency and consent, notions of vulnerability, and big data processing. The session will also examine HOMeAGE specific ethical considerations including conducting research in community-based and institutional settings, investment versus impact trade-offs for target groups, and the sharing and analysis of data across country boundaries. The final part of this session will examine principle of research integrity in the context of the HOMeAGE research programme and its multi-site research teams.

Following this session, Doctoral Researchers will have:

- Greater understanding of key ethical issues and debates related to ageing in place research;
- Greater awareness of principles of research integrity and their relevance to interdisciplinary and multi-site research environments.

4. Research and Innovation 2 – Engaging with Open Science for Impact

4.1 Open Science: Guiding Principles and Key Pillars

Presenter – Liesbeth de Donder, VUB, Belgium

Open science is a policy priority for the European Commission and the standard method of working under its research and innovation funding programmes as it improves the quality, efficiency and responsiveness of research. This session will give an introduction to the guiding principles (e.g. transparency, sustainability) and key pillars of open science (e.g. FAIR Data, Future of Scholarly Communication, the European Open Science Cloud). Building on the UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science and the EU's Open Science Policy, we will explore tools and methods for conducting our HOMeAGE-studies "as open as possible, as closed as necessary".

- Students will have an enhanced understanding of the main principles and key pillars of Open Science.
- Students will know which first steps they need to take into account when applying Open Science principles in their PhD-trajectories.

4.2 Two case studies of engagement with stakeholders to promote open science

Presenter – Giovanni Lamura, INRCA IRCCS, Italy

This presentation will illustrate two practical case studies of engagement with stakeholders to promote open science. The first will focus on the founding and development of Eurocarers, a European federation of organisations representing informal carers, comprising both carers' organisations and research institutions. The second case studies concerns a country-wide initiative adopted in Italy to promote the multilevel participatory coordination of active ageing policies. This initiative has focused on three main tasks: an analysis of existing policies at national and regional level; the adaptation of international recommendations to the needs of national and local stakeholders; and the identification of policy aims for the future.

- Students will have an enhanced understanding of how research can translate into and thus contribute to the promotion of the participatory design, development and implementation of policies in the field of ageing.

5. Methods Clinic – Harnessing interdisciplinary perspectives **[Interactive]**

All Doctoral Researchers and supervisory teams

In this interactive workshop, each Doctoral Researcher will be paired with two senior interdisciplinary researchers, from another beneficiary and partner organisation, to discuss their research topic and their proposed research approach and methodology. The session will focus specifically on interdisciplinary elements of the student's work, and how best to support and harness these aspects. The clinic offers students the opportunity to gather cross-disciplinary perspectives from international experts outside of their own team and context, and will help foster critical reflections regarding their own approach. In preparation for this session, Doctoral Researchers will be asked to consider their approach and its interdisciplinary aspects, the limitations in their approach and any concerns they may have in terms of implementing the methodology.

Training Day 2 – October 19th

6. Research overview and approaches in ageing in place research

6.1 Theorizing place and ageing: Models and concepts from an Environmental Gerontology perspective

Presenter – Frank Oswald, Goethe University, Germany

The aim of this contribution is to give an overview of selected theories addressing place and ageing interrelations, differentiating between first, second, and third generation models and emphasizing various fundamental concepts such as interaction, transaction, co-construction and co-constitution to understand person-environment inter-relations. Thus, the focus is on theorizing place and ageing from an environmental gerontology perspective. Moreover, it will be discussed if and how various theories can address enduring (e.g. interacting with the home environment) and novel challenges (e.g. increasingly digitalized world) of the place and ageing relationship.

- Students will be able to develop a critical understanding of theories and fundamental concepts in environmental gerontology.
- Students will be able to consider and appreciate theorizing place and ageing as a means to better understand enduring and novel empirical issues of person-environment exchange.

6.2 The pre-conditions for ageing in place: a socio-economic perspective

Presenters – Marco Arlotti and Micol Bronzini, Marche Polytechnic University, Italy

The impact of ageing in place cannot be taken for granted: not only is ageing in place not possible for everyone, but it may not even be necessarily a positive experience for someone. Specific contextual pre-conditions may strongly shape and mediate the relations between ageing in place and older people's well-being. Successful ageing in place depends on the accessibility of appropriate housing, on living in a safe neighbourhood, and on the possibility of social interaction. When older people are affected by functional limitations, the availability of care services or support provided from informal caregivers, may also be crucial. To understand the contextual limitations and pre-conditions of ageing in place this presentation

intends to illustrate and discuss two specific issues, by considering the structure of housing systems and national care regimes in Europe as key factors.

Following this session, students will be able to:

- Understand the differences in housing systems and care regimes across Europe (descriptive level)
- Critically understand of how these two dimensions impact ageing in place (interpretative level)

7. Ageing in Place policy Overview – Research informed perspectives

7.1 Spatial justice and the right to an age-friendly community

Presenter – Tine Buffel, UoM, the UK

This presentation provides an overview of the main challenges and opportunities associated with developing age-friendly cities and communities to support ageing in place. It sets out the importance of a focus on social and economic inequalities, and their consequences, for research and policy on ageing in place. The implications of such inequalities for age-friendly policy and practice will be discussed, arguing that unless attention is paid to questions of inequality and social justice, such programmes run the very real risk of amplifying inequalities. An overview of the key challenges for the future of the age-friendly movement will be presented, together with a manifesto to inspire progress for the movement.

Following this session, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the main challenges and opportunities associated with developing age-friendly cities and communities to support ageing in place;
- Critically evaluate research and policy debates on age-friendly cities and communities;
- Have an enhanced understanding of the limitations of ageing in place models and age-friendly policies.

8. Critical Thinking and Policy and Scholarly Debates in Ageing in Place

8.1 Making research policy-relevant: Why place matters

Presenter – Norah Keating, Global Social Initiative on Ageing, IAGG, Canada

Policy directives from the United Nations including the Sustainable Development Goals and the Decade of Healthy Ageing encourage governments to take action to improve wellbeing of people and of nations. These directives are aspirational. Governments must decide how or whether to act and in which policy domains. In this session we will discuss how regional and country contexts influence governments' understanding of global priorities, shape their public policy directions and highlight knowledge gaps that researchers can address. The Care

Economy is used as an example of a policy framework that is understood and applied differently in Europe, North America and Africa.

Following this session, students will have an enhanced understanding of:

- How global agendas about ageing are interpreted within regional and country contexts;
- How researchers can translate research findings in ways that policy makers may find useful.
- What we can learn from regional policy agendas arising from the same global imperatives.

8.2 Critical Issues in Research on Ageing in Place: A Geographical Gerontologist's Perspective

Presenter – Malcolm Cutchin, Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences, US

This presentation will provide a geographical understanding of aging and place and suggest a set of emerging directions and opportunities for future research on the subject. Beginning with some common themes in geographical thinking about place, I will expand the discussion into more novel ideas about place and aging, including relational theory and the place integration perspective, multi-scalar perspectives and spatial polygamy, participation and engagement in places, habits and embodiment of place, and the life course of people and places. These theories, concepts, and methodological issues provide excellent research prospects for new scholars in gerontology to contribute to the field.

Following this session, students should be able to:

- Learn some key features of geographical thinking on aging and place.
- Consider how their own projects may include geographical perspectives on aging and place to make novel contributions to the field.
- Find resources for further learning about the content of the presentation.

Training Day 3 – October 20th

9. Lived experience perspectives on ageing in place: opportunities and dilemmas

Chair – Kieran Walsh, UoG, Ireland

Contributors – HOMeAGE Reference Panel (names to be confirmed)

This session will focus on providing lived experience insights on key topics and issues related to ageing in place. As older adult representatives of regional and European-based advocacy groups, HOMeAGE Reference Panel members will present both personal and representative peer-group perspectives on ‘*on-the-ground*’ questions about how we should judge ageing in place as we grow older. The session will begin with short individual contributions from each panel member, focusing on questions related to such topics as age categorisations and identity, life transitions, family relations, and environmental and climate action within place.

This will be followed by a panel discussion with HOMeAGE Panel members on lived-experience opportunities and dilemmas regarding ageing in place.

Following this session, students will have an understanding of:

- Representative and personal views of the lived experience of ageing in place, across diverse country contexts.
- Significant areas of advocacy work related to ageing in place that are being pursued to affect positive on-the-ground change.

10. Career development: Understanding pathways and setting personal goals

[Interactive]

Chairs and presenters – Alexander Peine (OU, Netherlands) & Julia Wadoux (Age-Platform Europe)

In this interactive workshop, early-career-researchers will gain an enhanced understanding of the variety of academic and non-academic careers and how a PhD fits into such pathways. In a mentorship session with experienced members of the HOMeAGE consortium, they will reflect on their personal strength but also relevant skill gaps. Based on this, they work towards formulating specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and meaningful careers goals (short-term, medium-term and long-term). This will be the basis for drafting a personal career development plan after this first HOMeAGE training session.

Following this session, students will have an enhanced:

- Understanding of different pathways for academic and non-academic careers;
- Capability to define and reflect on career goals to formulate an efficient and effective strategy in the form of a career development plan;
- Understanding of their strengths/skills and the skill gaps they still need to address.

11. Policy Impact - From research to advocacy: evidence informed policy

Presenter – Julia Wadoux, AGE Platform Europe

HOMeAGE institutes an interdisciplinary, intersectoral and international programme of doctoral training and research that drives the development of new leaders in excellence for the advancement of evidence-based innovation on ageing in place. To further equip students with knowledge and skills that will allow them to produce policy-oriented research and seize career opportunities within and beyond the traditional field of academia, this session will: explore how an advocacy organisation of older people works; look at the EU and UN policy landscape that frames ageing policies, from the EU Green Paper on Ageing to the Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing and UN Decade of Healthy Ageing; discuss some concrete examples of collaboration between researchers; and share practical tools to support the development of evidence-based policy brief.



Following this session, students will have an enhanced understanding of:

- The broad policy landscape in ageing at EU level and UN level;
 - How to engage with policy makers.
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About the Doctoral Researcher Forum

A Doctoral Researcher (DR) Forum will be established as a peer-support network and will provide a collegial space for knowledge exchange and methodological discussion. The Forum will comprise of all Doctoral Researchers. The Forum will convene once a quarter virtually (using Zoom/Blackboard collaborative classrooms) and in person once every 6-months during training events.

About the Project Support Teams

A Project Support Team (PST) will be established for each DR (12 PSTs in all), with the aim of ensuring a match between network-wide training and DR needs through entry and exit meetings at each training event. The PSTs will also ensure IRP alignment with HOMeAGE objectives, and will provide an additional research quality and student welfare check. PSTs will comprise two academic, one non-academic and one HRG (see below) member and will meet at least twice a year.

About the HOMeAGE Reference Group (HRG)

The HOMeAGE Reference Group (HRG) will provide insight on ‘on-the-ground’ advocacy issues and a critical ‘lived experience’ perspective within network-wide training and project supervision. As civil society actors, the HRG is not meant to be representative of older populations in Europe or internationally, but will assist in embedding critical ‘lived experience’ perspectives within HOMeAGE research and network-wide training. HRG members will sit on Project Support Teams, the Steering Board, and Network working groups.

Objectives:

1. To embed a ‘lived experience’ perspective within network-wide training and project supervision.
2. To provide insight and guidance on key topics related to ageing in place from a grass-roots perspective.
3. To facilitate the participation of older adult advocates and policy stakeholder experts in HOMeAGE activities and events.

HOMeAGE Reference Panel Members are:

1. Laura Christ, Older Women’s Network, Netherlands
2. Rodd Bond, Active Retirement Ireland, Ireland
3. Vassilis Louziotis, 50+Hellas, Greece
4. Soteris AVGOUSTIS, PASYDY, Cyprus
5. Amanda T. Warren, FATEC/Catalonia, Spain
6. Katalin Papp, Hungary

About the International Panel of Policy and Research Experts

The International Panel of Policy and Research Experts (IPPRE) will lead a peer-review process providing a critique of learning materials and the learning outcomes for network-wide training. Comprising of academic and non-academic experts, five panel members will support HOMeAGE to deliver gold-standard transferable training that fosters cross-sector innovation. It will comprise of: Patricia Conboy, formerly of HelpAge International; Norah Keating, Global Social Initiative on Ageing; Malcolm Cutchin, Pacific North West University; Vanessa Burholt, University of Auckland; Susanne Iwarsson, Lund University.

Speakers, Chairs and Panellists

Training Day 1 – October 18th Biographies



Kieran Walsh is Professor of Ageing & Public Policy in the Discipline of Economics, and Director of the Irish Centre for Social Gerontology (ICSG) at the University of Galway, Ireland. His research focuses on social exclusion in later life, life-course transitions and trajectories, and place, community belonging and a sense of home. Kieran is focused on translating research into real-world impact and integrating lived experience of those experiencing entrenched exclusion in the design of impactful research, services and teaching programmes. Kieran was the Chair of the former ROSEnet COST Action network on ‘Reducing old-age social exclusion’ (2016-2020), and is currently Scientific Coordinator of the Marie-Sklodowska Curie doctoral training network on ‘Advancing research and training on ageing, place and home ‘ - HOMeAGE.



An-Sofie Smetcoren is a lecturer and postdoctoral researcher in the Department of Educational Sciences at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel. Her main research interests focus on how urban environments affect the daily lives of their older residents (e.g. with a specific focus on housing and the public space) and how processes of social inclusion and exclusion take place in communities. In addition, she has a particular interest in the experiences of and giving voice to older people in vulnerable situations through the use of co-creative and participatory research approaches. As senior researcher within the Society & Ageing Research Lab, she leads the research line "Housing and living environment". Currently she is a VUB promotor for the interuniversity Strategic Basic Research (FWO-SBO) project HOUSE 'Innovating housing for older adults and subjective wellbeing'. In the past, she coordinated the research of several national and European projects such as Care & Living in Community (CALICO), RenoLab-C, Entour-Age Noord, etc. As a researcher she worked on several projects on (co)housing and caring neighbourhoods.



Francesco Barbabella, Ph.D is: a Researcher at the Swedish Family Care Competence Centre (NKA) in Kalmar (Sweden); Associate Researcher at the Centre for Ageing and Life-Course Studies of the Linnaeus University in Växjö (Sweden); and Research Fellow at the Centre for Socio-Economic Research on Ageing of the National Institute of Health and Science on Aging (INRCA) in Ancona (Italy). He is also co-founder of the Tech4Care start-up company in Ancona (Italy). His main research interests: health, digital health, care, ageing, active ageing.



Mgr. Lucie Vidovičová, PhD. is a sociologist and social gerontologist. Her research interests include sociology of ageing, gerotechnology, active ageing, ageism and social exclusion. She is also involved in research projects in the field of environmental gerontology, social policy, labour market, and family. She conducts research for national as well as European bodies and works as a consultant on several implementation projects. Lucie also cooperates with different governmental and NGO bodies in the field of senior advocacy. She serves as a Vice-president on the Executive Committee of RC 11 Sociology of Aging at the International Sociological Association. Recent projects she has been involved in as a principal investigator include those on age discrimination, ageing in big cities and in rural areas, the issue of role overload in later life, social exclusion from social relationships, the use of humanoid robots for the active ageing community programmes and elder abuse and neglect.



Liesbeth De Donder is Professor Adult Educational Sciences at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel, where she teaches the courses “Community Development and Participation”, “Care, ethics and inclusion” and Master Thesis Seminar. Liesbeth is director of the Society and Ageing Research Lab, where she leads the research programme "Care and caring neighbourhoods". Liesbeth was coordinator of several national and European projects such as Wellbeing and Dignity of Older People (WeDO), Detection, Support and Care of Older people: Prevention and Empowerment (D-SCOPE), and the European Social Fund project on Culturally Sensitive Care Ambassadors. In Flanders, she has been pioneering research on Caring Neighbourhoods since 2014. She received the VUB Excellent PhD Supervision Award in 2021 and published more than 100 papers in leading peer-reviewed journals in the fields of gerontology, care, education and social work.



Kevin G. Davison is a Lecturer in Education with the School of Education, at University of Galway. Kevin was previously a lecturer with the Faculty of Education at Mount Saint Vincent University, in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, for 7 years, and was Senior Lecturer at the School of Education at The Australian Catholic University in Melbourne, for 2 years. He contributes to the MED programme as well as the BA and PME initial teacher education programmes in the following areas: sociology of education; gender and education; boys, masculinities, and academic underachievement; science outreach; and qualitative research methodologies.



Heike Schmidt-Felzmann is a Senior Lecturer in Philosophy in the School of History and Philosophy at University of Galway. Her research addresses ethical issues in health care, research and the development and use of information technologies, especially AI and robots. She has been involved in a number of European research projects in relation to care for older persons and persons with disabilities, including the ERASMUS+ project PROSPERO on education for the use of robots in the caring professions (2018-2021), the COST Action on Wearable Robotics (CA16116) (2017-2021), the COST Action RANCARE (CA14208) on Rationing in Nursing Care (2016-2019) and H2020 MARIO on assistive robotics for older persons with dementia (2015-2018).



Matthias Drilling studied Geography and Economics at the universities of Freiburg (Germany) and Accra (Ghana), and later pursued Urban Planning at ETH Zurich (Switzerland). As a research associate at institutes of Geography, Psychology, and Philosophy, he has developed a strong interdisciplinary research understanding. Currently, he leads the Institute of Social Planning and Urban Development at the University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland. His research focuses on Aging in Place / caring communities, homelessness and extreme poverty, sustainable

neighborhoods, and frontline social work. He serves as an advisor to foundations, national and international organizations in the fields of poverty, forced migration, and urban development. He also acts as a reviewer for national and international research agencies. Additionally, he is an editorial board member for the journals *Urban Planning / cogitato press* and *European Social Work Research / policy press*. Moreover, he is a Co-Editor for the "Neighborhood Research" series published by Springer Verlag.



Giovanni Lamura leads the Centre for Socio-Economic Research on Ageing at IRCCS INRCA (Italy's National Institute of Health and Science on Ageing). He graduated in economics, achieved a PhD in Life course and social policy (University of Bremen, Germany), and was visiting fellow at the University of Hamburg-Eppendorf (Germany) and the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy & Research (Austria). His interests focus on international research on family and long-term care; migrant care work; interdisciplinary research on ageing. He has led several European projects on long-term care issues, including the use of new technologies to support care delivery and reduce the burden of family carers.

Training Day 2 – October 19th Biographies



Laura Christ is a social gerontologist (MA). She worked as coordinator of the Working Group Sociology-Social Gerontology at Netherlands Institute for Social Sciences/SISWO, was director of the National Office to combat Age Discrimination (LBL), coordinator of the Center for Ageing Issues (CVO/VU), head of the Knowledge Center Older People (Netherlands Institute Care and Welfare, NIZW). From 2002 until her retirement in 2020 she participated in Grundtvig - and Erasmus+ partnerships with a focus on the contributions and participation of older people in society. Laura is member of Netherlands Association of Social Gerontology, board member of Older Women's Network Netherlands and member of Older Women Network Europe. She participates in AGE Platform Europe Taskforces with a focus on

human rights, ageism, advocacy, gender equality and age-friendly environments. Themes that have been a common thread in her career. Laura is mother of three children, grandmother of nine grandchildren. She lives with her husband in Amsterdam (NL).



Frank Oswald, PhD, is Professor for Interdisciplinary Ageing Research (IAW), Chair of the Frankfurt Forum for interdisciplinary Ageing Research (FFIA) at the Goethe University, Germany and Director of the Center AGING for Early Career Researcher at the Goethe Graduate Academy (GRADE). He is a psychologist by training and author / co-author of several articles in the area of Gerontology and Psychology. His research interests are contexts of adult development, issues of person-environment transaction and transitions in old age, housing, ageing in place, relocation and the role of technologies in later life. He has conducted research in the field of environmental gerontology on the local, national and European levels.



Marco Arlotti (PhD in Economic Sociology) is researcher at the Department of Economics and Social Sciences, Marche Polytechnic University, where he teaches “Welfare and comparative social policies” and “Sociology of Entrepreneurship” (MA level). His research focuses on population ageing, long-term care policies and anti-poverty schemes. Over the years, he has been involved in several international and national collaborative projects dealing with social policies and welfare systems. From 2015 to 2020 he has been secretary and treasurer of ESPAnet-Italy, the Italian research network for social policy analysis. Since 2014 he is editorial assistant of “Politiche Sociali/Social policies”, published by Il Mulino on behalf of ESPAnet-Italy.



Micol Bronzini is an Associate Professor in Economic Sociology at the Department of Economic and Social Sciences at the Marche Polytechnic University. She is on the board of the Italian Association of Sociology. She is also affiliated with the University of Florence for the project “Age-It. Ageing well in an ageing society”, financed by the National Recovery and Resilience Plan, where she is responsible for the stream of research on new housing needs connected with the ageing population. Her main research areas concern health, healthcare and housing policy and she develops mainly qualitative methodologies.



Tine Buffel is a Professor of Sociology and Social Gerontology at the University of Manchester, where she directs the Manchester Urban Ageing Research Group (MUARG). Tine has published widely in the field of ageing, with a particular focus on social and environmental issues associated with ageing populations. Her research career has been distinguished by a commitment to working with community groups to study and address equity and social justice issues. She is particularly interested in studying questions related to neighbourhood and local community in later life, social inequality and exclusion, urban development, and how to create ‘age-friendly’ cities and communities.



Alana Officer holds a degree in Health Science (Podiatric Medicine) and Master's degrees in Applied Science – Exercise and Sports Science (research) and Public Health. Alana started her career as a clinician in Australia and England before holding a number of technical and managerial positions working on disability, health and development in West and Central Africa, Europe, South Asia, the Middle East and the Western Pacific. Alana joined WHO in 2006 and was the Coordinator for the Disability and Rehabilitation Team (DAR) until 2014. Alana joined the Department of Ageing and Life Course in July 2014, responsible for the Organization's work on age-friendly environments. In January 2020, Alana became the head of a new unit in WHO on Demographic Change and Healthy Ageing (DHA). In this role she coordinates the Secretariat for the United Nations Decade of Healthy Ageing. Alana continues to oversee the Organization's work on age-friendly physical and social environments, including the Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities and the Global Campaign to Combat Ageism.



Patricia Conboy is an adjunct lecturer with the Irish Centre for Social Gerontology (ICSG). Previously Interim Director of Global Ageing, Advocacy, and Campaigns at HelpAge International (London), Patricia has extensive professional experience in international and national policy on ageing and older people. In her role with the ICSG, Patricia advises on strategic areas of research development with a view to informing policy change in the area of ageing, human rights and the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Patricia is also a key contributor to ICSG's MSc in Ageing and Public Policy.



Norah Keating Norah Keating holds academic appointments at University of Alberta, Canada; Stirling University, UK; and North-West University, South Africa and is director of the IAGG Global Social Issues on Ageing. Her research interests are in families and ageing and in the physical and social contexts that can include or exclude older persons. She has longstanding relationships with the World Health Organization and the Pan American Health Organization and has recently written a [research agenda](#) to frame the action items on the United Nations Decade of Healthy Ageing (2022). She is advisor to research programmes on social aspects of ageing in Indonesia, UK, Netherlands and South Africa.



Malcolm Cutchin is the director of Research, School of Occupational Therapy in Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences. He holds a B.A. in Psychology from the University of Texas at Austin and an M.A. and Ph.D. in Geography from the University of Kentucky. He has nearly 30 years of teaching, research, and administrative experience at four previous academic institutions: Middlebury College, University of Texas Medical Branch, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and Wayne State University. He has been the Principal Investigator or Co Investigator on 10 NIH research awards and has published over 100 peer reviewed articles, book chapters, and edited volumes. In addition to occupational science and occupational therapy, he has research interests in health geography, environmental gerontology, population health and health disparities, and social determinants of health.

Training Day 3 – October 20th Biographies



Rodd Bond was founder and director of the Netwell Centre, within the School of Health and Science at Dundalk Institute of Technology. Rodd graduated in architecture from Oxford Brookes University in 1982 launching a career that spanned from hospital master planning in the USA and Pakistan, to ageing-and-place research and innovation in Europe. Rodd's core interest is 'design as systematics', and the interrelationship between environmental structure and peoples' health and wellbeing. Rodd supported the formative stages of the WHO's age-friendly cities movement, and is committed to human development through place-making, and social innovation. Rodd supported the European Commission in the development of the first Action Plan for Innovations in Age-Friendly Buildings, Cities and Environments, within the European Innovation Partnership on Active & Healthy Ageing. Since 2019, Rodd has been working independently across architectural practice, policy and research, taking inspiration from people, place and planet.



Soteris Avgoustis is general secretary of PA.SY.D.Y. Pensioners Union since 2010. His degree is in political sciences from Pantion University of Athens, Greece. The main goals of the union is to safeguard and promote the interests of its members, to organize excursions, dinners and other recreational activities for its members, to organize lectures and other informative activities, and to cooperate with European and International organisations promoting the interests of the pensioners. It also cooperates with similar organizations from other countries.



Amanda T. Warren -FATEC – Federation of Seniors Associations of Catalunya, volunteer, Barcelona, Spain

At FATEC for 3 years, I participate in projects to reducing the digital divide and those involving international collaboration. I am also a volunteer at Amics de la Gent Gran (Friends of the Elderly) where we work to reduce loneliness in older people via personal companionship and activities. Professionally, I am a project manager in Urban Mobility and have two decades of experience in Germany and Spain in marketing communication. Furloughed from the Volkswagen Group during the Covid-19 pandemic I started Vidalii which offers remote tech help to older adults to resolve any challenge requested. Recently, I have invested in VERMUT, an app which has created a space for people with years of life experience to make new friends and enjoy endless activities they can also offer themselves. In a next career step I hope to do project management in the senior sector, perhaps around urban mobility.

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/amandatwarren/>

<https://www.vermutapp.com/es/barcelona>



Katalin Papp graduated as a paediatric nurse and worked in the paediatric unit. After a few years she went back to a secondary school to teach nursing students. When the BSc nurse program started in Hungary – in 1993 – she applied for the University of Debrecen Faculty of Health. Her qualifications are: paediatric nurse, nurse-teacher BA, pedagogy MA and education organizer MA. In 2010 she received her PhD degree in Health Science. She participated in the teamwork – in the developing and redeveloping the curricula for BSc health workers as well as for the MSc nurse education. She presented oral or poster presentations. She takes part in international conferences or congresses five or six times a year. She is often a member of international research projects. She organizes local and international meetings, seminars and conferences. She has been on business trips in many European countries. She is an editor of a national professional journal and three international journals. She is a reviewer of four international journals. She wrote 89 articles. She wrote textbooks for health care students. She is a member of ETNA and ENNE international associations. She is a board member of the Chamber of Hungarian Health Care Professionals and her responses for international relationships.



Alexander Peine is Full Professor of Culture, Innovation and Communication at the Open Universiteit. His research links two pertinent societal developments (i) population ageing, including the challenges it allegedly poses for care and health systems, and (ii) technological change, including the push towards more interactive and 'smarter' technologies. In simple terms, Alex studies what population ageing means for the way we organise and direct technology and innovation, and, vice versa, how technology and innovation have come to shape how we age and how we imagine the future of health and care. In this research, he likes to combine the theories and methods of Science and Technology Studies (STS) and Social Gerontology or Age Studies. Alex is the founding chair of the Socio-gerontechnology Network and the Chair of the societal advisory board of the EU's Joint Programming Initiative "More Years, Better Lives" (JPI-MYBL). Before joining the Open University, Alex was an Associate Professor at Utrecht University, the laureate of a prestigious Max Weber post-doctoral fellowship at the European University Institute in Florence, and a Principal Investigator at Berlin University of Technology.



Julia Wadoux leads policy work in the areas of public health, accessibility, including age-friendly environments, and new technologies at AGE Platform Europe. She is responsible for the Task Force on Age-Friendly Environments. Julia represents AGE in the European Public Health Alliance (EPHA) and is the liaison person for their work with the WHO - WHO Europe and the WHO Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. Julia also supports the Secretary General on the implementation of work programmes including coordination with project team, and on statutory matters. Julia joined AGE in 2010 after having gained experience on social protection policy issues at European level. She holds a Master degree in political science.