

"Towards a new care model for the elderly: learning from the Covid-19 pandemic"

- *PHS sector stakeholders perspective* -

EESC SOC section - Public hearing

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European Federation
for Services to Individuals

Overview of the PHS sector

- PHS workers provide both **direct** (care for elderly, persons with disabilities or children) **and indirect care** (cleaning, housekeeping) in households
- Key numbers on the PHS sector :
 - **9,5** million PHS workers in the EU 27
 - representing **5%** of EU-27 total employment
 - **91%** of PHS workers are women = **7,5%** of total female employment
- Various and complementary models of employment: **direct employment** (user is the employer), **service providers** (public or private)
- **Crucial role during the COVID-19 pandemic** in guaranteeing the continuity of care and support to the most vulnerable

Home: a central place of society's evolution

- At Home: new social practices and innovations brought about by civil society and citizens.
- **Place of new challenges : societal, economic, social & medico-social**
- **Place of new transformations**
- **Place owned and directed by citizen themselves**

PHS contribution to ageing society

- PHS workers provide **essential services enabling older persons to pursue a good and dignified life** in their own home.
 - PHS represent a **professional and qualitative alternative to unpaid care** and is organised in cooperation with family carers.
 - Older people **choice for care** remains **driven by the availability and affordability of home care service.**
- Crucial to put forward PHS as a supervised and structured alternative to institutionalisation in a logic of co-construction of the needs of supported persons.

Key recommendations

**Comprehensive strategy on LTC, giving priority
to home and community-based services**

Quality - Accessibility - Affordability - Free choice

Apprehend
the PHS
sector as a
whole and in
its diversity

Structuration
of PHS actors
& Social
dialogue

Care
occupations
valuation and
professionalis
ation

Improving
PHS
affordability,
easier access
to formal
provision

Thank you for
your attention

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