



PRESS RELEASE

WOMEN'S CAREER FOR A LIFETIME IN PARTNERSHIP IN HUNGARY AND INTERNATIONALLY

SESSIONS OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN'S CAREER DEVELOPMENT IN HUNGARY AT THE GERONTOLOGY DAYS 2023 INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE on 12-13 October 2023

The Association for Women's Career Development in Hungary (AWCDH) as Partner of the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Debrecen has been organizing sessions at the annual Gerontology Days for 13 years. This year, we organized independent sessions on both days of the Conference, with 7 successful presentations on the Hungarian Day on 12 October, **and 7 successful presentations online on the second, International Day on 13 October 2023 with renowned Hungarian and international speakers:**

Ms Andrea Ferenczi, President of the AWCDH introduced the second day's program and spoke about **participation of an NGO in international scientific cooperations.**

The AWCDH has set itself the goal of recognizing, understanding, fostering and honoring the need for women's career development in the family and beyond. We help women find career opportunities by providing information, advice and training so that with their newfound knowledge, talent, and female values specific to them, they can make meaningful contributions to the business, academic and non-profit spheres. Demographic change affects almost all spheres of society, and so we consider it one of our priorities to deal with the situation of older women, the largest and fastest growing group within the world's population, including Hungary. Our task as an NGO in scientific cooperation to represent the gender dimension, the topic of aging, preparing country reports and comparisons, as well as dissemination through our Hungarian and international collaborations in the UN and EU, utilizing the research results.

AWCDH currently participates in 4 COST Actions, Andrea Ferenczi is MC member in 3 actions and representatives of AWCDH have several working group memberships.

Ms Mónika Modla, Researcher spoke about **Hungary's Country report on digitalization and international comparison within the frameworks of the CA21107 COST Action**

The Action title is "Work inequalities in later life redefined by digitalization (DIGI-net)". AWCDH members participate in research activities in all 5 Working Groups. AWCDH prepared the country report for Hungary. The reports outline how each Member State is doing regarding the Digital Decade cardinal points: Digital Skills, Digital Infrastructures, Digitalization of Businesses and Digitalization of Public Services. The country reports of the member countries are based on the same statistical criteria.

Ms Anne-Sophie Parent is ECB ERPB alternate member for AGE Platform Europe, Chair, OWN-Europe. The presentation was about **The gender face of digital financial exclusion in old age: a concern NGOs raise at the European Central Bank.**

She presented a concrete example of how civil society organisations cooperate to promote a more age-friendly society in Europe and - through their collective action - support active and healthy ageing. The example was about the need to fight financial exclusion which is affecting significant groups of citizens in today's digital financial services ecosystem, in particular women in older age. Although EU statistics show that women do slightly better than men in terms of internet banking in the younger adults group, they are lagging behind among the older group. We all know that women are over-represented in the oldest age group and too many are forced to hand over the control of their assets to a relative or carer, creating a higher risk of elder abuse and poverty.



Dr. Susan B. Somers, President of INPEA - International Network for the Prevention Elder Abuse spoke about the need and the value of a **New Convention on the rights of older persons**: she was addressing age discrimination, ageism and violence against older women.

Dr. Judy Triantafillou, Member of the Advisory Committee, 50plus Hellas NGO touched the important topic: **Women and Care**

Women's role as both informal and formal care providers, as well as recipients of care was examined from a Greek perspective. Focusing on care of older people as a human right, insights into the health and social care sectors was presented as they have developed over the past decades, with reference to public, NGO, charitable and private sector provision and with proposals for instituting a National Action Plan to uphold older people's rights to care.

Prof. Márta Fülöp, DSc

Head of Social and Cultural Psychology Department, Institute for Cognitive Neuroscience and Psychology, Research Centre of Natural Sciences, Professor of Social and Cultural Psychology, Institute of Psychology, Karoli Gaspar University of the Reformed Church

Competitive attitudes and psychological and somatic health in old age

For a long time, competition in old age has not been a focus of interest for researchers because none of the psychological theories of aging assumed that the motivation to compete persists in old age. The research presented aimed to explore the competitive attitudes of older people, their adaptive nature and their relationship with psychological and somatic well-being. Over 700 older people aged over 65 (average age 72) participated in the study. The results show that different patterns of competitiveness are present in the over-65 age group and older people are more likely to be competitive than not.

Dr. Heidrun Mollenkopf, President of AGE Platform Europe held a presentation titled: **About a current cultural lag**

Certain social developments, which are interrelated, can proceed at different speeds and behavioral or institutional framework conditions no longer fit in. If, for example, laws are not adapted to social or technical developments in a timely manner, i.e. if they lag behind developments, this creates a "cultural lag" which may lead to social conflicts. This old sociological theoretical approach was used to explain, understand and draw conclusions from current developments.

Further information:
Andrea Ferenczi president
ferenczi@womenscareer.org
www.womenscareer.org