

## Green Paper "Confronting demographic change: a new solidarity between the generations"

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Do you consent to the publication of your personal data/data relating to your organisation with the publication of your replies to the consultation?	No, references to the personal data should remain anonymous
Name	****
E-mail address	****
Are you replying as an individual or an organisation?	Individual
Gender	Male
Age	25-39
Country of residence	Other
Do you take the view that the discussion of demographic trends and managing their impact should take place at European level? If so, what should be the objectives, and which policy areas are concerned?	I think it should be country specific due to differences in economic systems, demographic conditions and social challenges, with common European goals. Some of these may include human rights and citizens responsibilities, economic and demographic equity of contributions for financing public services, pension portability, worldwide environmental, trade and development agreements.
Over many years, the Union has been making considerable efforts to achieve equality between men and women and has coordinated national social protection policies. How can a better work/life balance help to tackle the problems associated with demographic ageing? How can a more balanced distribution of household and family tasks between men and women be encouraged? Should the award of certain benefits or advantages (leave, etc.) be linked to an equal distribution of tasks between the sexes? How best to ensure an adequate income for both parents on parental leave? How can the availability of child care structures (crèches, nursery schools, etc.) and elderly care structures be improved by the public and private sectors? Can a reduced rate of VAT contribute to the development of care services? How can parents, in particular young parents, be encouraged to enter the labour market, have the career that they want and the number of children they want?	In the same order: Allowing/including people into paid/voluntary workin schemes until they can/want. If only women can breast feed, men must prepare food. Balancing pregnancy/delivery/feeding with a at least a year of home tasks for men. Public/private balance must have a common basis of quality and access and pension schemes should include a chapter on financing care structures. An increase in income and compulsory retiring/financing care scheme. With school programs orientated to creativity/self-responsibility/science and life understanding.

<p>The Thessaloniki European Council in June 2003 declared that an EU integration policy for immigrants should help to meet the new demographic and economic challenges currently facing the EU. This is the debate initiated by the Green Paper adopted last January.</p> <p>To what extent can immigration mitigate certain negative effects of demographic ageing?  What policies should be developed for better integrating these migrants, in particular young people?  How could Community instruments, in particular the legislative framework to combat discrimination, the structural funds and the Employment Strategy, contribute?</p>	<p>To the extent that legalised and registered migrants are at most as old and at least as qualified as country citizens. Multilingual education, universal health coverage and human rights/responsibilities enforcement. Allowing for legal employment and equitable fiscal contributions.</p>
<p>European objectives have been laid down for the prevention of long-term youth unemployment, combating early school leaving and raising the level of initial training. The structural funds help to attain them at grass roots level. How can initial training and adult training schemes be improved? What can non-formal education and voluntary activities contribute? How can the structural funds and the instruments for achieving better access to the knowledge society contribute? How can the bridges between school and working life and the quality of young people's employment be improved? What role should social dialogue play? What can dialogue with civil society, in particular youth organisations, contribute</p>	<p>Systematic assessment of training schemes. Inviting parents to schools for sharing experiences and knowledge. Extending school schedules and infrastructure. Combining vacations with young student practices, incentivating students contributions to different economic sectors.</p>
<p>How can Community policies contribute more to combating child poverty and poverty among single-parent families and to reducing the risk of poverty and exclusion among young people?  What forms of solidarity can be fostered between young people and elderly people?</p>	<p>Ensuring nutrition, health and education services to all; treating single-parent children as all the rest; listening youth needs. Respect for age and flexible relations.</p>

<p>In order to foster the transition to a knowledge society, EU policies promote the modernisation of work organisation, the definition of lifelong learning strategies, the quality of the working environment and “active ageing”, in particular raising the average retirement age. Demographic changes reinforce the importance of these policies, whilst raising new questions: How can the organisation of work be modernised, to take into account the specific needs of each age group? How can young couples’ integration in working life be facilitated and how can we help them to find a balance between flexibility and security to bring up their children, to train and update their skills to meet the demands of the labour market? How can we enable older people to work more?</p>	<p>With basic comfortable infrastructure and systematic joining events. Alternative school schedules and courses with common fields like history, natural sciences, humanity studies. Facilitating transportation and adequate infrastructure.</p>
<p>How can work organisation best be adapted to a new distribution between the generations, with fewer young people and more older workers? How can the various stakeholders in the Union contribute, in particular by way of social dialogue and civil society?</p>	<p>With working groups and transfers between old people and young parents. Compromising themselves with their future lives actual responsibilities for sharing.</p>
<p>The European coordination of retirement scheme reforms is promoting more flexible bridges between work and retirement. Should there be a statutory retirement age, or should flexible, gradual retirement be permitted? How can elderly people participate in economic and social life, e.g. through a combination of wages and pensions, new forms of employment (part-time, temporary) or other forms of financial incentive? How can activities employing elderly people in the voluntary sector and the social economy be developed? What should be the response to pensioner mobility between Member States, in particular with regard to social protection and health care? How should we be investing in health promotion and prevention so that the people of Europe continue to benefit from longer healthy life expectancy?</p>	<p>Statutory retirement with flexible conditions. With more spaces for participation and considering their perspectives. With strong and efficient local governments. Toll payment when crossing countries, portable rights with common assessment benchmarks. An increasing proportion as army, security, communications and environmental protection.</p>

<p>The coordination of national social protection policies is due to be extended to long-term care for the elderly in 2006. How can this help to manage demographic change? The coordination of national social protection policies is due to be extended to long-term care for the elderly in 2006. How can this help to manage demographic change? In particular, should a distinction be drawn between retirement pensions and dependency allowances? How do we train the human resources needed and provide them with good quality jobs in a sector which is often characterised by low salaries and low qualifications? How do we arrive at a balanced distribution of care for the very old between families, social services and institutions? What can be done to help families? What can be done to support local care networks? And what can be done to reduce inequality between men and women when they reach retirement age? How can new technologies support older people?</p>	<p>Standardising care services. Depending in the reason of retirement. Inter and intra country mobility alternatives. Systematic needs assessment and community participation. Enforcing equal life conditions and individual children growing compensations. Involve older people in their design.</p>
<p>Should the European Union be promoting exchanges and regular (e.g. annual) analysis of demographic change and its impact on societies and all the policies concerned? Should the Union's financial instruments – particularly the structural funds – take better account of these changes? If so, how? How could European coordination of employment and social protection policies better take on board demographic change? How can European social dialogue contribute to the better management of demographic change? What role can civil society and civil dialogue with young people play? How can demographic change be made an integral part of all the Union's internal and external policies?</p>	<p>Yes. Including demographic-epidemiological factors for adjusting rates. Compensating for migration costs and charging for extended family reubication. With a human perspective of economics and social perspective of politics. With democracy.</p>
<p>How did you perceive this questionnaire?</p>	<p>Expectations met</p>