



DEDICATION KNOWS NO AGE

SUPPORT FOR ACTIVE AGING



This data was taken from the research "The position of older persons in Serbia – social context, data review and research results", that was conducted by the Commissioner for the Protection of Equality with the support of the United Nations Population Fund .

Every person has the right to feel satisfied, fulfilled and accepted. Involving older members of society and their active participation in all of life's processes is an investment in a better future for all of us.

The Republic of Serbia is one of the countries in which the demographic aging of the population is heavily pronounced.

Due to the change in the number and structure of the population and the accelerated aging, the state and society face new challenges: to prevent possible poverty growth, alleviate incomplete coverage of social and health services protection, overcome the physical distance of health, social and cultural institutions, reduce discrimination, and inform and digitally educate all citizens.

Society can solve these challenges through help from the experts and professionals by creating **integrated policies** for active and healthy aging, and by establishing an action plan for their implementation.

By creating an active aging program, we support the development of all generations.

POLICY PRIORITIES FOR ACTIVE AND HEALTHY AGING

ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT OF OLDER PERSONS In creating and implementing measures and activities for active aging is the best way to understand their needs and support their well-being. Active aging improves health and the personal satisfaction of each individual and all generations.

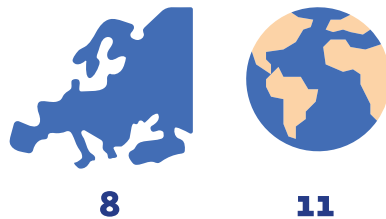
SUPPORT FOR FINANCIAL STABILITY IN OLD AGE.

With the increase in the number of pension and disability insurance beneficiaries and the decrease in the number of the working population, the pension system is facing challenges that point to the necessity of reforming the pension system, the system of financial social assistance, and also the labor market.

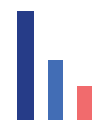
These challenges can be overcome by fine-tuning the pension system by incorporating flexible work engagements and partial and gradual retirement, adjusting jobs and working hours to a more diverse workforce, and hiring older workers and developing supplementary pension funds and savings.

IMPROVEMENT AND INTEGRATION OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES.

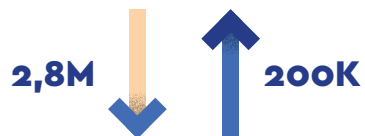
With demographic transformations, the need for social and health services will continue to grow, which requires the adjustment of these systems through intersectoral and cross-departmental cooperation.



According to the data of the Global Platform for Research "Statista", Serbia is the eighth country in Europe in terms of the percentage of older population, while it is at the eleventh place in the world with 20.7% of the total population over 65 years of age.



According to SILC (EU Statistics on Income and Living Conditions) data from 2016, 38.7% of the population of the Republic of Serbia (2.72 million) are at risk of poverty or social exclusion (average of 28 EU countries is 23.5%)



According to the "Statistical Annual Bulletin" of the Republic Pension and Disability Insurance Fund from 2019, the number of insured persons from 2000 dropped from almost 2,800,000 to 2,200,000 in 2019, while the number of pensioners in the same period increased by about 200,000.

The need for residential services is growing, daily community services are more developed in urban areas, but generally insufficient, and financial allowance intended to enable older persons to live with more dignity is insufficient.

There are no specific palliative care institutions in the Republic of Serbia, except for institution for home treatment, care and palliative care of older persons in Belgrade.

THE INTEGRATION OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES is one of the preconditions for the successful reform of these systems so that they can respond to the needs of older persons.. It is necessary to form teams for assessment and coordination in the local community, to improve geriatric care, but also to improve the cooperation of the social and health systems with other organizations relevant for care and support to older persons, such as civil society, local self-government and volunteers. It is necessary to ensure equal use of health services throughout the country, especially in rural areas, in terms of appropriate scope, content and quality.

AGE WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION AND VIOLENCE.

Prejudices and stereotypes about older persons as the passive recipients of assistance and a burden on society, among other things, lead to violence, abuse and neglect of older persons.

Timely reactions of authorized institutions, better coordination of all services in the protection system, more efficient recognition of violence against older persons, education of young people, and the change in the perception of older people, are prerequisites for safe and active aging. Educational systems, as well as the media, can greatly contribute to changing the culture of aging.

LIFELONG LEARNING, AWARENESS AND SOCIAL INCLUSION.

Adequate information to older persons about issues important to their lives, and especially **digital literacy**, contributes to older people becoming more involved in social circles and gaining the opportunity for a better quality of life. Older population has significant knowledge and potential for volunteer activism, and many of them are interested in lifelong learning, but have not had the support of institutions and society.

By promoting active and healthy aging through new opportunities and intergenerational cooperation, we encourage the personal responsibility of each member of the society to actively participate and contribute to it.

Let us support a society in which each of us has the opportunity to lead a good quality life.



83% of older persons do not use support services. Only 9% use mobile services or home medical care, and 4% use help at home services.



62% of older respondents think that they are exposed to neglect, while only 16% think the opposite.

RAVNOPRAVNOST ZA SVE GENERACIJE