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Towards Inclusive Care: A Policy Dialogue on Diversity-Sensitive Approaches for Older People with Migrant Background

The DI.S.C.O.P.M.B. project, funded by Erasmus+, promotes inclusive, person-centred care for older people with migrant backgrounds. It develops training programmes, open educational resources, and policy recommendations to strengthen the skills of current and future care professionals across Europe.

As the dynamics of migration continue to reshape European societies, the project is firmly rooted in the EU's commitment to social inclusion and solidarity, aligning with the principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights.

EVENT OVERVIEW

On 2nd July 2025, the project organised a policy event at the European Parliament, supported by Member of European Parliament (MEP) Idoia Cueva Mendía. The event focused on policy briefs addressing diversity-sensitive care and its links to education and social policy.

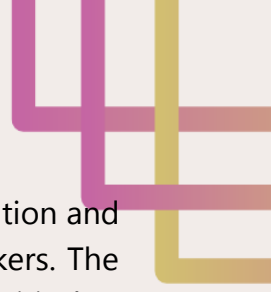
The programme began with a warm welcome by the hosting MEP, followed by insightful presentations from the project partners outlining the needs, challenges and policy recommendations for advancing diversity-sensitive care and a roundtable discussion with key stakeholders.

The policy briefs presented covered:

- Principles for improving care services and reducing inequalities;
- Concrete recommendations for enhancing health and social care systems at various levels;
- The importance of culturally competent education for professionals.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE EVENT

The roundtable discussion proved particularly fruitful, highlighting real-world experiences and effective approaches across Europe. Participants engaged in an open dialogue that deepened the understanding of the policy landscape and the practical steps needed to support older migrants through inclusive care models.



A key takeaway from the discussion was the importance of cross-sectoral collaboration and the active involvement of care professionals, managers, educators and policy makers. The exchange underlined how training, peer learning and leadership engagement are critical to embed diversity-sensitive practices in everyday care provision.

Many participants expressed strong appreciation for the event's relevance and the quality of presentations, by underlining how the engagement of the European Commission and national-level policy actors is essential for moving the topic further into the formal policy agenda.

CONCLUSIONS

The policy dialogue was a success thanks to the rich mix of expert perspectives and the high level of engagement from a wide range of stakeholders. The event helped clarify priority areas for future action, including the need to:

- Strengthen training for care providers on cultural competence;
- Facilitate structured exchanges among professionals across countries;
- Involve managerial and policy-making levels more actively in the dialogue;
- Ensure that ageing migrants are not overlooked in national and EU-level care strategies.

By equipping professionals and decision-makers with the right tools and knowledge, we move closer to a more inclusive, equitable and resilient care system for all.

All presentations and policy briefs highlights shared during the event are available for download [here](#) on the DI.S.C.O.P.M.B. project website.

Thank you to everyone who participated and contributed to this important conversation!

DO YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE?

To learn more about the project please visit our website www.diversitysensivitycare.eu or follow us on the most popular social networks with # DIVERSITYSENSITIVECARE and #DISCOP

