

11 - 14 OCT  
2021



19<sup>th</sup> EUROPEAN WEEK of  
REGIONS and CITIES

Together for Recovery

#EURegionsWeek



## HEALTHY AGEING IN THE EU

THE POTENTIAL OF DIGITAL INNOVATION  
FOR ELDERLY HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

12TH OCT 2021 | 9:30-11:00 CET

Europeans increasingly live longer lives. According to [the Report on the Impact of Demographic Change](#), today 20% of the population is above 65, and by 2070, it will be 30%. The share of people above 80 is expected to more than double, reaching 13% by 2070. This will have impact on growth and sustainability, employment, health and long-term care across all EU regions. In addition, COVID-19 has highlighted how vulnerable the elderly are and how urgent it is to tap into the potential of digital transformation to address social, economic, and health challenges.

**This digital transition** is a cornerstone of the Recovery and Resilience Facility and the new EU Financial Framework 2021-2027. Digitalisation has a great potential to enhance the quality of life of an ageing population and transform health and social care systems in line with a **'healthy ageing-oriented' approach**. For this reason, it is more than ever crucial to steer the political and public debate towards a long-term vision, with innovative and sustainable solutions at the centre.

A multilevel and constructive dialogue between regions and cities, European institutions, industry and civil society on digitalisation and its opportunities is needed to make this transition happen. The Committee of the Regions, the European Commission, the European Regional and Local Health Authorities (EUREGHA), and the Diputación Provincial de Lugo (ES) propose therefore this interactive debate with key EU stakeholders to explore the way forward.



European Committee  
of the Regions



## AGENDA

**Moderator: Giovanni Gorgoni**, Chair, European Regional and Local Health Authorities

### Welcome

9:30 **Birgitta Sacrédeus**, Chair, Interregional Group on Health and Well-being, European Committee of the Regions

### Panel one:

**“EU getting older: challenges and opportunities in the digitalisation era”**

9:35 **Dubravka Šuica**, Vice-President and European Commissioner for Democracy and Demography (video message)  
**Jarosław Duda**, MEP, EMPL Committee, European Parliament  
**Birgitta Sacrédeus**, Chair, Interregional Group on Health and Well-being, European Committee of the Regions

### Panel two:

**“Implementing innovation for elderly: digital solutions for active and healthy ageing”**

10:05 **Video Testimonial:** Example from the Diputación Provincial de Lugo  
**Marco Marsella**, Head of Unit, eHealth, Well-Being and Ageing, DG CONNECT, European Commission  
**Raluca Painter**, Head of Unit, Labour Market, Education, Health and Social Services, DG REFORM, European Commission  
**Piret Hirv**, Project Manager, IN-4-AHA - Innovation Networks for Scaling Active and Healthy Ageing

### Q&A

10:35/10:55

### Closing remarks

10:55/11:00 **Giovanni Gorgoni**, Chair, European Regional and Local Health Authorities (EUREGHA)

