The expected, perceived, and valued social roles of older people: a secondary analysis of European surveys

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Figure 5: Population pyramids, EU27, 2008, 2060

Source: Eurostat, EUROPOP2008 convergence scenario
How much are you concerned about the raising number of people 65 +?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>EU15</th>
<th>NMS12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total 'Concerned'</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 'Unconcerned'</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Eurobarométr Active Ageing 2012
Active ageing

• **European Commission** = „AA means helping people stay in charge of their own lives for as long as possible as they age and, where possible, to contribute to the economy and society.“

• Active ageing refers to the situation where older and ageing persons continue to have an opportunity in participating in the formal labour market, as well as engaging in other unpaid productive activities, that may range from care provision for family members to volunteering, whilst living healthy, independent and secure lives as they age.
It is not easy to be old these days...

learn!

work!

care!

have fun!

contribute!

leave labour market!

be active!

volunteer!
2012 AAI

Overall

The extent to which the potential of older people is used and to which they are enabled to participate in the economy and the society.
Relative weight of indicators (in %)

- Employment, 36
- Health, 18
- Volunteering, 16
- Grandparenting, 9
- Caring, 9
- Leisure, 5
- Learning, 1
- Finances, 3
- Environment, 3
PREVALENT

VALUED

PERCEIVED

EXPECTED
- WORKER
- VOLUNTEER
- CARER

EVALUATED
- WORKER
- PATIENT
- VOLUNTEER
Perceived roles of 55+

Source: Eurobarometer 378 Active Ageing, 2012; N = 31280, own calculation.
Participation in politics | preference | perception | Major (more) role | Minor (same) role | No role (less)
--- | --- | --- | --- | --- | ---
in economy | 41 | 66 | 39 | 22 | 5
in local community | 43 | 68 | 38 | 18 | 4
in families | 43 | 48 | 15 | 16 | 7

Source: Eurobarometer 378 Active Ageing, 2012; N = 31280, own calculation.
Perceived contribution of people 55+

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Contribute greatly</th>
<th>Contribute a little</th>
<th>Do not contribute at all</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>grand-children care</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>financial support to family</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>family care</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>as consumers</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>as workers</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>as volunteers</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rank by SUM</td>
<td>Grand parent (%)</td>
<td>Financial support (%)</td>
<td>Worker (%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Cyprus</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Germany E</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Germany W</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Slovakia</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Croatia</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Czech Rep.</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The importance of ... in life – the Czech Republic - EVS
(average from scale: 4 = very important 1 = not at all important)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>family</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>work</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>3.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>friends</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>leisure</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Importance of ... in life by age

Source: European Value Study 2008
Importance of work by age groups

Source: European Value Study 2008
PREVALENT

VALUED
- GRAND/PARENT
- PARTNER
- FRIEND

PERCEIVED
- GRANDPARENT
- SUPPORTER
- CARER

EXPECTED
- WORKER
- VOLUNTEER
- CARER

EVALUATED
- WORKER
- PATIENT
- VOLUNTEER
Perceived & valued vs. AAI 2012 evaluated

- Contribution as grandparents: 0.30
- Financial support to family: -0.23
- Contribution as workers: -0.43
- Contribution as volunteers: -0.68
- Total contribution: -0.51
- Work-importance for 50-70: 0.33
- Leisure importance for 50-70: -0.38

Pearson corr.
contribution as grandparents
financial support to family
contribution as workers
contribution as volunteers
total contribution
work-importance for 50-70
leisure importance for 50-70

Pearson corr.
Note: Outliers (CZ & Cyprus) left out
Prevalent social roles of young old's

- Friend: 91
- Parent: 90
- Sibling: 79
- Partner: 69
- Grandparent: 62
- Worker: 56
- Learner: 54
- Leisure: 42
- Child: 41
- Patient: 41
- Child-in-law: 31

Source: Life roles survey; the Czech Rep. 2014, representative for aged 50 – 70
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION...