



Permanent Mission of Italy
UN - Geneva

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60th session of the Human Rights Council
Interactive Dialogue with the IE on older persons
17th September 2025

Delivered by Ambassador Vincenzo Grassi,
Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations in Geneva

Mr. President,

Italy reiterates its firm commitment to the promotion and protection of the rights of older persons. The Independent Expert's report rightly highlights the intersection between the right to social protection and the right to work—both essential to dignity, autonomy and inclusion.

Strengthening comprehensive social security systems and ensuring equal access to labour markets are key to preventing poverty, discrimination and marginalization. Equally important is the promotion of age-inclusive policies that enable older persons to participate fully in society, according to their abilities and choices.

Italy attaches great importance to non-discrimination, accessibility, meaningful participation and the full inclusion of older persons. We remain engaged in the Human Rights Council's work on this issue, as well as in advancing the 2030 Agenda, whose goals are crucial to the realization of the rights of older persons.

Italy has reinforced its commitment through the 2022 Rome Ministerial Declaration, supporting the UNECE Regional Strategy of the Madrid Plan of Action on Ageing. Since 2019, at a national level, we have also promoted active ageing policies through a participatory, multi-level coordination framework.

Ms Independent Expert, could you share some good practices of measures aimed at countering ageism and changing negative stereotypes about older persons in the labour market?

I thank you.