



**EUROCARERS**

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION  
WORKING FOR CARERS



# Caring is about loving



and  
Equality, Justice & Solidarity

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# **ADVANCING INTEGRATION FOR DIGNIFIED AGEING (AIDA)**

**Eurocarers values the AIDA  
project and being part of it.**

**Integrated services are an  
essential key to quality service  
delivery and support to carers**



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# EURO Value of Carers work

**€4 Billion+ a year = < €11 million a day**

**Example: Ireland**

**Population > 4 million: <200,000 informal  
Carers**

**Based on Census 2011 statistics**

**Multiplied by 28 member sta**

# INFORMAL / FAMILY CARERS

## Who are we ?

Women, Men & Children  
All ages: Children to Old Age  
providing essential  
long term care  
unpaid

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# INFORMAL / FAMILY CARERS

**To whom do we provide care:**

Women, Men & Children

All ages: Children to Old Age

Who require long term support

due to serious illnesses &

disabilities



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# EUROCARERS

- ❖ ASSOCIATION FOR CARERS
- ❖ 60 MEMBERS: IN 26 EU STATES
- ❖ CARERS' and RESEARCH ORGANISATIONS

## PURPOSE

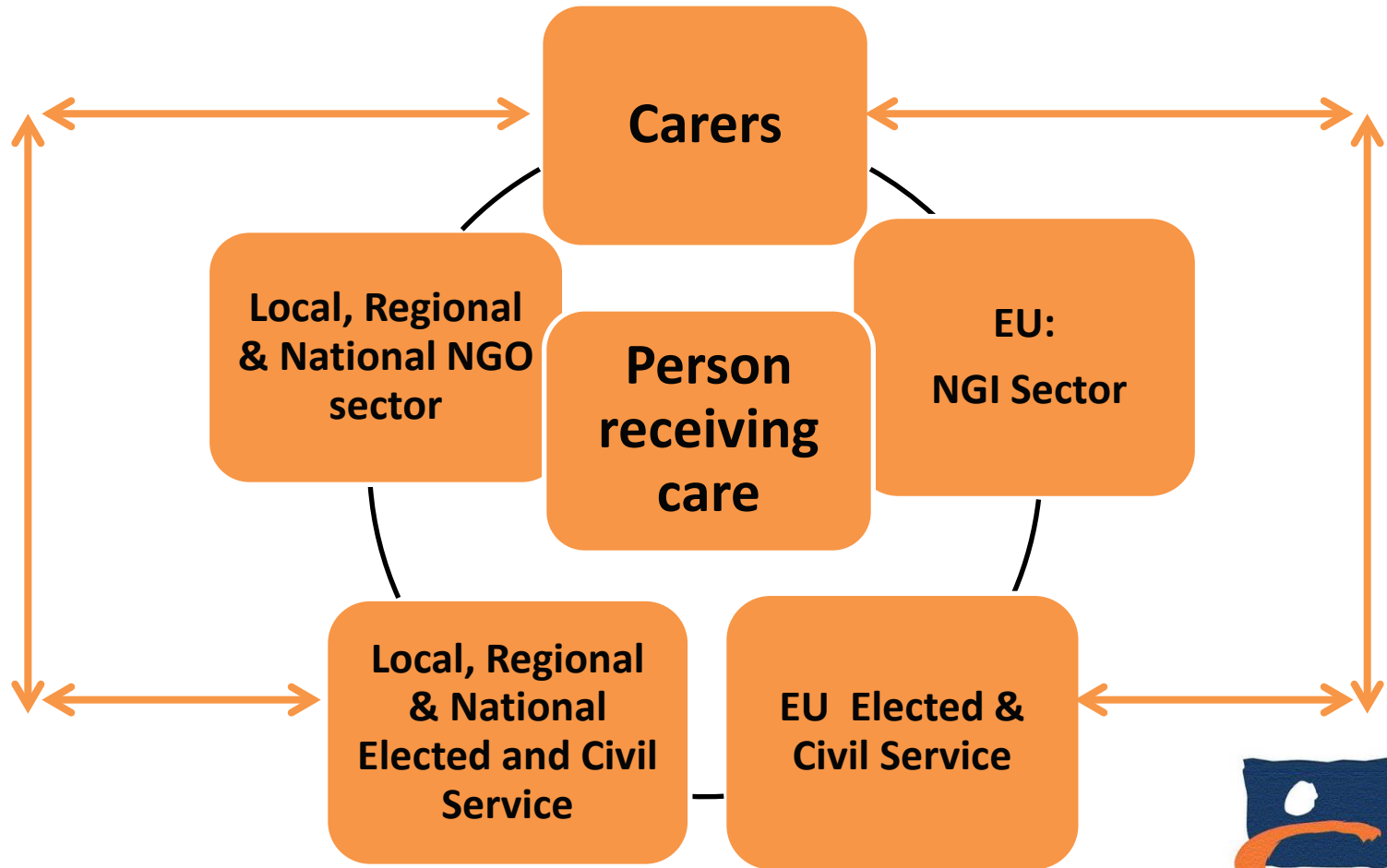
**TO ADVANCE ISSUES OF INFORMAL CARE**



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# The cycle of influence



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# EUROCARERS CORE TASK

- ❖ To work with Members to gain recognition for carers within States and at EU level, based on
  - ❖ Factual information and data
  - ❖ Listening to carers



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# JOIN EUROCARERS?

- 1. We promote awareness of carers issues**
- 2. We provide a united voice of carers at EU level**
- 3. We shape EU policy relevant to carers**
- 4. We advocate for a Carers Strategy**
- 5. We support the development of carers organisations**
- 6. We disseminate good practice**
- 7. We develop research agenda**



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# EUROCARERS Achievements

- ❖ Working to develop national alliances of carers
- ❖ Parliament Interest Group of MEPs
- ❖ Advocacy, sharing good practice
- ❖ Research partnerships



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# What do we need to do?

- ❖ **Active policy monitoring, analysis and response**
- ❖ **Engage with elected representatives & civil service**
- ❖ **Communication (website, newsletter, programmes)**
- ❖ **Be creative and seek points of entry**
- ❖ **Develop clear and focused policy messages**
- ❖ **Develop stakeholder links and cooperation**
- ❖ **Make use of the MEP Interest Group**



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# ROLE OF INFORMAL CARERS IN SOCIETY

- ❖ Providing essential home care supports to people with long term illnesses & disabilities
- ❖ EU – **80%** of all care hours are provided by Informal Carers



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# CENSUS OF POPULATION

**Do you provide regular unpaid personal help for a friend or family member with a long-term illness, health problem or disability?**

*Include problems which are due to old age.*

*Personal help includes help with basic tasks such as feeding or dressing.*

1  Yes

2  No

**If 'Yes', for how many hours per week?**

Write in hours.



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# HOW MANY CARERS ARE THERE IN THE EU?

Estimated over 19 million with >9.6 million providing 35 hours plus per week.

**THERE IS A SERIOUS LACK OF HARD DATA**



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# **FACTORS INCREASING THE SIZE AND COMPLEXITY OF INFORMAL CARING WORK**

- 1. Transition from institutional to home care**
- 2. Transition from acute hospital to home care**
- 3. Transition from nursing home to home care**
- 4. Technology \* Cut Backs \***

**Individualisation**



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# **ISSUES TO CONSIDER**

- ❖ Reconciling paid work & Caring role**
- ❖ Research on Carers and the type of care provided**
- ❖ Promote public debate on societal significance of care**

# Election 2014

- ❖ Lobbying of candidates
- ❖ Eurocarers EU position paper
- ❖ EU Carers Strategy
- ❖ MEP Interest Group
- ❖ Carers in poverty



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THANK YOU

FRANK GOODWIN

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