Misson Israel Logo

## Older person’s fundamental rights to autonomy and independence are at higher risk of violation when a loss of capacity requires daily long-term care and support.

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Globally, 46 per cent of older persons – those aged 60 plus—have disabilities and over 250 million older people experience moderate to severe disability ([UN DESA Ageing and Disabilities](https://www.un.org/development/desa/disabilities/disability-and-ageing.html)**)** potentially requiring long term care and support.

WHO defines ‘Long-term care’ as: ‘the activities undertaken by others to ensure that people with a significant on-going loss of intrinsic capacity can maintain a level of functional ability consistent with their basic rights, fundamental freedoms and human dignity.’ (WHO10)

The fundamental principles of Autonomy and Independence are reflected in the Inter-American Convention on Protecting the Human Rights of Older Persons, (article 3), and as a detailed stand-alone right with encompassing State obligations (article 7). The Convention recognized the right of older persons to make decisions, to determine their life plans, to lead an autonomous and independent life, free from violence, in keeping with their traditions and beliefs on an equal basis, and to be afforded access to mechanisms enabling them to exercise their rights. (UN DESA)

Nearly all LTC is provided by family members. (UN DESA) However, in light of the shifting family situation and growing ageing demographics some Member States have taken necessary measures to ensure high-quality and sustainable long-term care systems for older persons.

In keeping with this is the growing awareness of the State’s responsibility to address the risk of violence, abuse, and neglect.

Older women comprise over half the more than 2 billion older people in the world. They often remain invisible, and as they age are at a heightened risk of abuse, a situation even more acute for those who may become disabled requiring care and support, who desperately need support to ensure justice and rights.

The side event to 9OEWGA organized by The International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA) initiates discussions about actual challenges and opportunities in preserving autonomy.

A presentation on violence against older women and research data about the situation will be shared. Also, examples will be shown concerning how we can help empower older women.

The short presentations followed by discussions give opportunity to participants to express their views and experiences and introduce promising practices from different countries.

**Sponsors:**

The Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations,

* International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse
* CARE RIGHTS, NGO Seoul.
* Older Women's Network, Eu.
* The NGO Committee on Ageing, New York
* Group of Friends for Older Persons, UN NY

**World Health Organization:
Elder Abuse Key facts DRAFT Flyer**

* Around 1 in 6 people 60 years and older experienced some form of abuse in community settings during the past year.
* Rates of elder abuse are high in institutions such as nursing homes and long-term care facilities, with 2 in 3 staff report having committed abuse in the past year.
* Elder abuse can lead to serious physical injuries and long-term psychological consequences.
* Elder abuse is predicted to increase as many countries are experiencing rapidly ageing populations.
* The global population of people aged 60 years and older will more than double, from 900 million in 2015 to about 2 billion in 2050.

**Chair:** Susan B. Somers, President,
INPEA, CoA NY Sub Comm,

**Discussant: (TBD)Possibly GoFOP Rep**

# Presentations:

* **Ariela Lowenstein,** Professor,
Haifa Univ., Israel, INPEA EU Reg Rep:
**‘Preserving Autonomy to Prevent EA
in LTC, The Israeli Experience’**
* **Sooyoun Han,** PhD., Co-Founder
CARE RIGHTS, Seoul, R. Korea:
**‘Promoting Older Persons End of Life Rights in the Asian Context’**
* **Lia Daichman, MD,** INPEA Past Pres, Ar.
**‘Violence Against Older Women in LTC in Latin America’**
* **Marie Beaulieu, Ph.D**., Research Chair Mistreatment of Older Adults, Univ. Sherbrooke, Quebec, Ca., INPEA NA Rep ‘Resident to Resident abuse in LTC.’
* **Elizabeth Sclater,** Older Women’s Ntwk, Eu. ‘Hearing our Voices”
* **Marvin Mutch**, Humane Prison Hospice Project, (HPHP) Calif, USA
* Navad Yesod, Permanent, Advisor 3rd Comm, Human Rights, Mission of Israel - Comments

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**Preserving Autonomy
to Prevent Violence
in Long Term Care:
A Global View of
Program & Policy**

**9th OEWGA
SIDE EVENT**

**Date /Time:**July 25, 2018 1:15 PM to 2:30 PM **Venue:** UN HQ NYC Conf Rm E