

INTERNATIONAL NETWORK FOR THE PREVENTION OF ELDER ABUSE

International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA) Statement at the Virtual conversation of the HRC with the High Commissioner for Human Rights, 9 April 2020

Delivered by Silvia Perel-Levin, INPEA main representative to UNOG

Thank you, Madam President, we thank you for the opportunity to contribute to this important discussion. I am speaking on behalf of 12 organizations working with older people (see list below).

While we appreciate the recognition by the High Commissioner that older persons are at particular risk in the COVID-19 pandemic both in terms of morbidity and mortality, they also face particular threats to, and abuses, of their human rights.

We are extremely concerned that the current crisis is highlighting existing ageism and age-based discrimination that are a daily reality for many older persons and are reflected in policies and actions across different sectors. We would like to ask Madam High Commissioner:

How is the OHCHR including the rights of older persons in the guidance it provides and in the capacity building and training activities by its field offices? How does your office ensure that the rights of older people are consistently and systematically addressed throughout all UN responses?

We are committed to work with your office to ensure that the voices and experiences of older people around the world are included.

With many thanks for your attention,

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