



Asia-Europe Meeting

4th ASEM CONFERENCE

on Global Ageing and Human Rights of Older Persons

- Active Ageing : a challenge for Europe and Asia -

1-2 October 2019 | The Westin Chosun Hotel, Seoul



National
Human Rights
Commission of Korea



European
Union

AGAC ASEM Global Ageing Center



Ministry of
Foreign Affairs

Website : www.2019asemhr.kr

Background

The world is experiencing rapid population ageing, especially in Europe and Asia. The UN World Population Prospects (2017) predicts that the world's population aged 60 or above will more than double by 2050 and more than triple by 2100, compared to the 2017 level. In Europe, people aged 60 and older accounted for 25% of the total population in 2017 and Asia is also aging at a rapid pace due to the continuing decline in birth rates.

Although population ageing is a global phenomenon that requires joint efforts, there have been insufficient national, international responses to address the issue. Against this backdrop, the National Human Rights Commission of Korea took the initiative to host ASEM Conferences on Global Ageing and Human Rights of Older Persons in Seoul, Republic of Korea, in accordance with the decision made at the ASEM Summit. The conference provides a forum to discuss major and diverse rights of older persons, including the right to freedom from violence and abuse, the right to health and the right to social security. The conference also monitors the implementation of MIPAA by ASEM partners and addresses specific policy measures such as long-term and palliative care. The outcomes of the conferences were set out in the 2018 ASEM Inventory. Furthermore, the ASEM Global Ageing Center was established in 2018, in accordance with the decision adopted at the conference and with the approval of the ASEM, and aims to function as an international hub to promote and protect human rights of older persons in the ASEM region.



Objectives

This year's ASEM Conference on Global Ageing and Human Rights of Older Persons is co-organised with the European Union and will provide an opportunity for ASEM partners to share their best practices and measures designed to address the impact of ageing on our societies and labour markets, as well as the human rights of older persons.

Promoting active ageing and human rights of older persons will also contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This year's ASEM conference is expected to support the cooperation between Asia and Europe in achieving the SDGs, including Goal 3 (good health and well-being), Goal 5 (gender equality), Goal 8 (decent work and economic growth) and Goal 10 (reduced inequalities).

During the conference, ASEM partners and international organisations will promote and strengthen cooperation at regional, cross-regional and international levels. Specifically, Asian and European partners will work together on measures to improve the engagement of senior citizens in economic and social activities by providing them with more opportunities and enhancing their capabilities. To this end, the conference will convene various stakeholders to build a collective understanding on, increase awareness about and enhance collaboration on the issues related to the rights of aged persons.

The outcomes of the conference will be distributed to diverse stakeholders including the UN, EU, ASEAN, GANHRI, as well as ASEM partners, with the aim to promote understating of the issue of active ageing and human rights of older persons across the world, as well as in Asia and Europe.

Topics

Session 1

Anti-discrimination of Older Workers

Meaningful employment is one of the key elements to maintaining a high quality of life at an old age. Work is an important part of older persons' lives as it maintains their connection with society and increases their motivation by giving them a sense of accomplishment and a source of income. The right to work of the elderly should thus be seen as a matter of significant importance. However, nearly 60% of Europeans consider "old age" an obstacle to finding work. Societies often

view older people as burdens. Too often we overlook the basic human rights of our older people. This session aims to discuss measures to establish a legal and institutional environment where workers can work without age-based discrimination, and to raise awareness regarding the issue. The EU and Asian partners also need to ensure that labour markets remain accessible for older workers, inter alia, through the provision of customized career counselling services.

Session 2

Lifelong Education and Up-skilling, Re-skilling of Workers

It is essential to provide lifelong education and up-skilling, re-skilling opportunities for older persons to ensure their continued participation in social and economic activities as well as to increase the efficiency of everyday activities. While continuous vocational training is crucial for the elderly to adapt to a changing work environment and to find a new job after retirement, lifelong education can help them find new opportunities and adapt to social changes. In this regard, this session aims to confirm whether various educational programs are adequately provided and accessible regardless of age within our society. Moreover, the session will examine the current status of lifelong education and vocational training for the elderly and discuss ways to improve educational programs.

Session 3

The Fourth Industrial Revolution and Human Rights of Older Persons

The fourth industrial revolution presented challenges as well as opportunities to the elderly, driving a new wave of changes in every aspect of our lives, from work to personal lives. Against this backdrop, this session aims to make sure that the elderly remain valuable members of our society and are not alienated from the benefits of the fourth industrial revolution, through the daily use of new technologies such as artificial intelligence in all spheres of life including healthcare and mobility.

Session 4

Toward Intergenerational Solidarity

Rapid social changes can generate intergenerational tensions and conflicts and widen the gap of information and experiences between generations. It is highly necessary to promote mutual understanding between the younger and older generations to reduce intergenerational conflicts and help the elderly live in harmony with other members of society. In this respect, the session

aims to discuss measures to establish intergenerational solidarity and to change negative perception toward the elderly, with the aim of building a society where everyone lives without fear of discrimination and prejudice. The session will examine whether the rights of the elderly are adequately respected within societies and seek solutions to improve their rights and reduce intergenerational conflicts across societies.

Programme

Day 1 : 10.1. (Tue)

Time	Contents
09:00-10:00	Registration
10:00-10:40	Opening Ceremony
10:40-11:00	Coffee Break
11:00-12:00	Keynote Speech
12:00-14:00	Luncheon
14:00-15:40	Session 1: Anti-discrimination of Older Workers
15:40-16:00	Coffee Break
16:00-18:00	Session 2: Lifelong Education and Up-skilling, Re-skilling of Workers
18:00-20:00	Welcome Dinner

Day 2 : 10.2. (Wed)

Time	Contents
09:30-10:20	Registration
10:20-12:00	Session 3: The Fourth Industrial Revolution and Human Rights of Older Persons
12:00-14:00	Luncheon
14:00-16:00	Session 4: Toward Intergenerational Solidarity
16:00-17:00	Closing Ceremony

※ The programme is subject to change.

Co-Hosts ●●●



European Union

Organisers ●●●

AGAC ASEM Global Ageing Center



European Union

Sponsor ●●●



Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Participants ●●●

ASEM Partners, International Organisations including the UN, Regional Institutions including the UN ESCAP, UN ECE, EU, ASEAN, GANHRI and NHRIs, International NGOs and Academic Experts.

Languages ●●●

The official language of the conference is Korean and English, and simultaneous interpretation will be provided.

Date and Venue ●●●

- **Date :** 1-2 October 2019
- **Venue :** Westin Chosun Hotel, Seoul, Republic of Korea
- **Address :** 106, Sogong-ro, Jung-gu, Seoul, Korea
- **Website :** twc.echosunhotel.com

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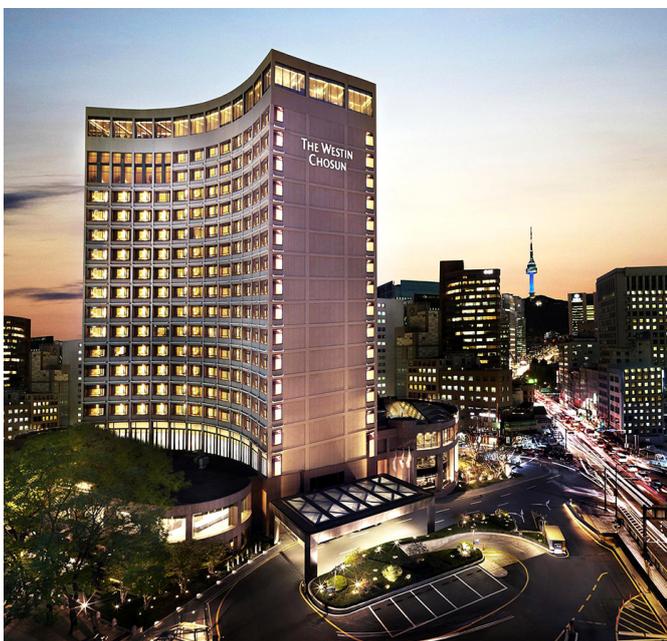
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