



## Statement in the frame of interactive discussion on follow-up to resolution 70/164

AGE Platform Europe welcomes the proposal made by the European Union to revisit the UN principles on the rights of older persons. This suggestion is in line with what was discussed in the conference that took place in Slovenia, but also several State and NGO statements during this session, which point to having a more 'substantive discussion' on the challenges faced by older people. Such a discussion on principles will contribute to the ongoing debate and it will provide the foundation for necessary further action.

We would like therefore to ask the EU and its Member States to follow the Slovenian example by opening up a dialogue at regional level on the rights of older persons, in preparation of the next OEWG. In the context of this substantive discussion, the following elements could be a starting point for the elaboration of a new international instrument:

- Enshrining a prohibition of age discrimination that covers all areas of life of older people; addresses structural discrimination; and pays close attention to various forms of multiple discrimination;
- The right to full and effective participation of older persons in all spheres of life and the recognition of the various contributions they bring to society;
- The rights of older people in need of care and assistance, in order to explore links and differences with disability but also gaps in their protection and clarify how existing standards could be complemented and strengthened in a new instrument;
- The definition of older persons, which should not be based only on chronological age.

