Reports from the EuroAgeism H2020 project events:
The 3rd EuroAgeism H2020 Training School (May 3-6, 2021) and Discussion Day on Inappropriate Geriatric Prescribing (May 7, 2021)

On May 3-7th 2021, the EuroAgeism H2020 project organized for Early Stage Researchers (ESRs) and other interested participants outside the EuroAgeism International Training Network (ITN) two educational and scientific events held online by the Faculty of Pharmacy in Hradec Králové, Charles University, Czech Republic.

The 3rd EuroAgeism Training School took place from May 3 to 6th and focused on “Perspectives of ageing in Europe and other countries and future ways to combat ageism”. Then followed the affiliated Discussion Day on "Inappropriate geriatric prescribing in Europe and developing countries and availability of clinical pharmacy services for older adults in different settings of care", held on May 7, 2021. The first event was organized mainly by the EuroAgeism H2020 project ITN and the Faculty of Pharmacy in Hradec Králové, Charles University. The second event was co-organized also by the European Society of Clinical Pharmacy (ESCP) and the research team of WP4 (Work package 4) of the INOMED project (for more information on both events please see the Abstract Book: Abstract-book-EuroAgeism-H2020_19052021.aspx (cuni.cz)).

Virtual “Welcome ceremony”, 1st Day of the 3rd EuroAgeism H2020 project Training School

At the beginning of the 1st Day of the Training School, all participants were cordially welcome by prof. Liat Ayalon (principal investigator of the EuroAgeism H2020 project), Assoc. Prof. Daniela Fialová (main organizer of the training events), prof. Tomáš Šimůnek (Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy in Hradec Králové, Charles University, Czech Republic) and Assoc. Prof. Jaroslav Roh (ViceDean for Science, Faculty of Pharmacy in Hradec Králové, Charles
University, Czech Republic). The professional program continued with expert lectures related to the current situation in the world population ageing, future challenges in the healthcare and socioeconomic areas and problems of older persons’ discrimination and ageist practices in various fields and sectors. Many European and international policy partners of the EuroAgeism H2020 project participated at the Training School during this 1st day and significantly contributed to very interesting and important discussions. From policy partners were actively involved mainly representatives of the World Health Organization (Dr. Vânia de la Fuente-Núñez), United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (Dr. Vitalija Gaucaite Wittich), AGE Platform Europe (Dr. Nena Georgantzi), Centre for Economic Analysis in Poland (Dr. Michal Myck) and European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research in Austria (Dr. Kai Leichsenring).
Other two days of the Training School were devoted mainly to the ESRs training on “how to write a dissertation thesis”, “how to prepare for discussion and defence of doctoral dissertations” and “how to write a postdoctoral fellowship grant”. Invited lectures and workshops during these days were led by prof. James Tufano (Charles University, Czech Republic), Dr. Ira Virtanen (Tampere University, Finland), Dr. Zuzana Čapková, MSc. (MSCA office, Technology Centre of the Czech Academy of Sciences, Czech Republic) and Dr. Andrea Principi (Italian National Institute of Ageing, IRCCS INRCA, Italy). On Wednesday afternoon, participants attended lectures of professionals experienced in H2020 grant proposal writing and submissions, particularly Prof. Hein van Hout (from the University Medical Center Amsterdam, Netherlands) and Dr. Laura Motta (from the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, Italy).

During the last Day of the Training School (Thursday, May 6, 2021), ESRs of the EuroAgeism H2020 project presented results of their research studies to invited experts from various European Universities and scientific fields. They summarized findings and implications of their doctoral dissertation works, mostly describing various aspects and problems related to ageism in different areas (in healthcare, medication use, social care, media etc.), focusing on national and cross-national EU problems and solutions. Opponents of ESRs’ presentations were invited experts from 15 EU and non-EU countries. Professional discussions to ESRs’ presentations were held in 3 breakout rooms and moderated by some supervisors of the EuroAgeism H2020 project: Prof. Jolanta Perek-Białas (Jagiellonian University, Poland), Prof. Angela Kydd (Robert Gordon University, United Kingdom) and Prof. Yvonne van Zaalen (Fontys University of Applied Sciences, the Netherlands). Discussion on ESRs’ scientific works and future scientific plans also continued during individual afternoon consultations of ESRs with invited experts in individual breakout rooms. The Training school finished with a short social event on Thursday evening, May 6, 2021.
Invited experts of the 3rd EuroAgeism H2020 Training School

Discussion Day on "Inappropriate prescribing in older adults in Europe and developing countries and availability of clinical pharmacy services for older patients in different settings of care" (May 7, 2021)

This affiliated event to the 3rd EuroAgeism Training School shortly called “Discussion Day on Inappropriate geriatric prescribing in Europe and other countries” was organized by the University Educational Centre in Clinical Pharmacy, Faculty of Pharmacy in Hradec Králové, Charles University with support of the ESCP- European Society of Clinical Pharmacy and researchers from WP4 of the INOMED project, co-financed by the European Commission.

The event focused mainly on problems related to polypharmacy in seniors, drug-related morbidity, mortality, aspects of inappropriate geriatric prescribing in Europe and other countries (mainly developing countries – India and Ethiopia) and also on ways how to improve medication safety in older adults in future decades. Particularly development of specific medication safety and medication management services, mainly clinical pharmacy services for older adults has been discussed, as well as the importance of reducing negative health, social and economic outcomes of inappropriate geriatric prescribing.

The event started by cordial invitation of participants by honourable guests from the ESCP – prof. Derek Stewart, President of the Society and Dr. Vibhu Paudyal, Ph.D., Chair of the Scientific and Research Committee of the ESCP. Both helped to moderate selected sessions of the Discussion Day and stimulated discussion on the important role of clinical pharmacy services, using examples from various studies and European countries.
Senior researchers from 11 countries (Czech Republic, Croatia, Serbia, Bulgaria, Estonia, Spain, Turkey, Belgium, Ireland, Ethiopia and India) prepared their presentations on national population ageing, results of current local studies on inappropriate geriatric prescribing and the stage of development of clinical pharmacy services in different settings of care. Young PhD fellows from country-specific research teams also presented their preliminary research findings from the EuroAgeism project (and collaboration on ESR7
international data collection) plus selected findings from the INOMED WP4 project. The Discussion Day ended the late afternoon with interesting discussions and by sharing various experiences.

The open sessions of both events – the EuroAgeism H2020 Training School and the Discussion Day were attended by 139 participants outside the EuroAgeism international training network from 5 different continents and 34 different EU and non-EU countries (24 EU countries: the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Belgium, Germany, United Kingdom, Ireland, Sweden, Finland, Spain, Bulgaria, Serbia, Romania, Portugal, Croatia, Norway, Lithuania, Estonia, Macedonia, Montenegro, Italy, Poland, Netherlands, Switzerland and Austria); 5 Asian countries (Israel, Turkey, India, China and South Korea), 3 North and Central American countries (United States, Mexico and Canada) and 2 African countries (Ghana and Ethiopia). Many e-mails with enthusiastic and positive feedbacks were sent to organizers after this training week and participants expressed the interest to attend also future events and activities organized by the EuroAgeism H2020 project.

We thank to the EuroAgeism H2020 International Training Network, organizing team, all collaborating institutions and all participants!

Team of local organizers (from the left): Assoc. Prof. Daniela Fialová, Jovana Brkić, MSc. (ESR7, the EuroAgeism project), Radek Matoušek, MSc. (IT), Ing. Andrea Vokálová (project manager), Ing. Josef Marek (photo not available)

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Main organizing subjects

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