



European  
Commission

# Agenda

# Loneliness in The European Union: Policies at work

6th June 2023

nhow Hotel Bloom - rue Royale 250 - Brussels

*Event organised by European Commission's Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion  
in collaboration with European Commission's Joint Research Centre.  
Moderated by Mr. Ali Al-Jaberi.*



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08.30-09.30	ARRIVAL AT THE VENUE AND REGISTRATION		
09.30-09.45	<b>Welcome and introductory words by:</b> <b>Ms Dubravka Šuica</b> , Vice-President for Democracy and Demography, European Commission		
09.45-10.00	<b>Keynote speech by:</b> <b>Ms Evelyn Regner</b> , Vice-President, European Parliament		
10.00-10.10	<b>Grounding policy in evidence by:</b> <b>Mr Stephen Quest</b> , Director-General, Joint Research Centre, European Commission		
10.10-10.40	<b>Presentation of the project “Loneliness in the European Union” by:</b> <b>JRC researchers*</b>		
10.40-11.00	COFFEE BREAK		
11.00-12.15	<b>Plenary discussion: Understanding and addressing loneliness</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Ms Katarina Ivanković Knežević</b>, Director, Social Rights and Inclusion, European Commission’s Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs &amp; Inclusion</li><li>• <b>Dr Christopher Mikton</b>, Technical Officer, Department of Social Determinants of Health, World Health Organisation</li><li>• <b>Professor Maike Luhmann</b>, Ruhr University Bochum</li><li>• <b>Dr Marlies Maes</b>, Utrecht University</li></ul>		
12.15-13.45	LUNCH		
13.45-14.45	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Parallel session: LONELINESS AND HEALTH</b> <p>Presentation of the findings by JRC researchers*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Ms Véronique Wasbauer</b>, Principal Adviser for non-communicable diseases, European Commission’s Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety</li><li>• <b>Professor Pamela Qualter</b>, University of Manchester</li></ul>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Parallel session: LONELINESS IN THE SOCIETY</b> <p>Presentation of the findings by JRC researchers*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Professor Manuela Barreto</b>, University of Exeter</li><li>• <b>Professor Alexander Langenkamp</b>, Goethe University Frankfurt</li></ul>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Parallel session: LONELINESS AND THE ROLE OF SOCIAL MEDIA</b> <p>Presentation of the findings by JRC researchers*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Dr Rebecca Nowland</b>, University of Central Lancashire</li><li>• <b>Dr Hannes-Vincent Krause</b>, Weizenbaum Institute, Berlin</li></ul>

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14.45-15.05	COFFEE BREAK
15.05-16.20	<b>Plenary discussion: Policy interventions, effectiveness and challenges</b> Presentation of the findings by JRC researchers* <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Mr Edward Garcia</b>, Co-Director. Coalition to End Social Isolation and Loneliness</li><li>• <b>Ms Katherine Scrivens</b>, Policy Analyst, Centre for Well-being, Inclusion, Sustainability and Equal Opportunity, OECD</li><li>• <b>Professor Roger O'Sullivan</b>, Institute of Public Health Ireland</li><li>• <b>Dr Anu Jansson</b>, Director of Development and Participation, The Finnish Association for the Welfare of Older Adults and Research Coordinator, RECETAS</li><li>• <b>Ms Kyra Haerkens</b>, Quality Coach, Join US</li></ul>
16.20-17.00	<b>High level panel discussion on strategic directions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Ms Dubravka Šuica</b>, Vice-President for Democracy and Demography, European Commission</li><li>• <b>Ms Petra Noreback</b>, State Secretary to Minister for Social Affairs and Public Health, Sweden</li><li>• <b>Mr Ogura Masanobu</b>, Minister for Loneliness and Isolation, Government of Japan (recorded message)</li></ul>
17.00-17.05	CLOSING
17.05-18.00	COCKTAIL RECEPTION

\*JRC researchers presenting at the conference:

- Francesco Berlingieri
- Elizabeth Casabianca
- Marco Colagrossi
- Béatrice d'Hombres
- Matija Kovacic
- Caterina Mauri
- Minna Nurminen
- Sylke Schnepf
- Elena Stepanova

More information about the JRC's work on loneliness [here](#)

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