



**Doc. 12947**

06 June 2012

## Addressing age discrimination on the labour market

### Motion for a resolution

tabled by Ms Tina ACKETOFT and other members of the Assembly

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This motion has not been discussed in the Assembly and commits only those who have signed it

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People above a certain age face discrimination in staying, entering or re-entering the labour market in Europe. Their competencies are looked down and they are often the first ones made redundant when the number of staff members is being reduced. Age is also an important factor in the context of career and promotions, as well as working conditions.

According to research carried out in Italy, age is a more frequent ground of discrimination than sex. In the United Kingdom, workers aged 50 and over are the most affected by the recent job losses. According to the figures provided by the Office for National Statistics, unemployment for this age group has hit a 17-year peak of 432,000.

In the current context of the economic crisis, when losing their jobs, older workers have hardly any chances of finding another one, which undermines their capacity to provide for themselves and their families. Not only they are not yet entitled to a retirement pension but they will also be negatively affected by the decision of many governments to postpone retirement age. In addition, those who do not have previous work experience find it nearly impossible to enter the labour market for the first time.

While many Council of Europe member States are reforming their labour law and policy in order to cope with the consequences of the economic crisis, it is particularly timely for the Parliamentary Assembly to address the issue of age discrimination at work and on the labour market, so as to propose concrete solutions to be taken into account at national level.

*Signed (see overleaf)*



*Signed*<sup>1</sup>:

ACKETOFT Tina, Sweden, ALDE  
ALASTAL Najat, Palestinian National Council  
BİLGEHAN Gülsün, Turkey, SOC  
BOURZAI Bernadette, France, SOC  
BRAZ Félix, Luxembourg, NR  
DAVIES David, United Kingdom, EDG  
ERKAL KARA Tülin, Turkey, EPP/CD  
KONEČNÁ Kateřina, Czech Republic, UEL  
KYRIAKIDOU Athina, Cyprus, SOC  
MOGHERINI REBESANI Federica, Italy, SOC  
MYLLER Riitta, Finland, SOC  
OSBORNE Sandra, United Kingdom, SOC  
PANȚIRU Tudor, Romania, SOC  
PLOTNIKOV Oleksiy, Ukraine, SOC  
RIGONI Andrea, Italy, ALDE  
SAĪDI Fatiha, Belgium, SOC  
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SHAMKOV Yury, Russian Federation, EDG  
SHPIGEL Boris, Russian Federation, EDG  
TER-AVANESOV Alexander, Russian Federation, EDG  
WURM Gisela, Austria, SOC  
ZHIDKIKH Vladimir, Russian Federation, EDG

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1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe  
EDG: European Democrat Group  
EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party  
SOC: Socialist Group  
UEL: Group of the Unified European Left  
NR: Representatives not belonging to a Political Group