



Position paper ENIEC

ENIEC is a non-profit European network of professionals and volunteers that seek to secure equal chances on good health, wellbeing and quality of life for older persons from ethnic minorities. ENIEC offers an informal platform for members working or volunteering in the field of elderly care, social work, public health and the public sector, or those who have a connection with these fields through teaching, science or policy making. By sharing experiences and knowledge ENIEC members develop new practices in elderly care, social work, public health and the public sector for older persons from ethnic minorities. Members across borders in Europe use the platform for mutual support, cooperation and new initiatives in an atmosphere of inclusion and understanding.

Mission

Within Europe there are inequalities in health and well-being. Also the quality and accessibility of health, social care and prevention activities differs significantly between groups. Healthcare and social work do not always fit the needs of older migrants.

ENIEC's mission is to contribute:

- to achieving an equal chance on good health, well-being and quality of life for older persons from ethnic minorities within Europe and
- to ensure that the strengths and valuable contribution of older persons from ethnic minorities to societies are visible and acknowledged

ENIEC focuses on the rights, better understanding and acceptance of older persons from ethnic minorities in Europe, so that they can live in an environment of understanding and respect.

How does ENIEC achieve these goals?

- ENIEC will – through its members – enhance the knowledge and positive image of intercultural work in elderly care, social work, public health and the public sector, teaching, science and policy making, as well as politically through facilitating and initiating (public) debates and discussion in their countries. Members make efforts to increase the focus of decision makers, the public and the media on health and well-being for older persons from ethnic minorities both at a national and a European level.
- ENIEC supports and empowers its members working in the different fields by sharing knowledge, experiences and good practices from different European countries.
- ENIEC facilitates this by organizing an Annual Meeting for all members once a year in a country of one of the members. Here members share ideas and new initiatives amongst each other and with local stakeholders.
- Throughout the year members are kept updated by the ENIEC website and regular newsletters where contributions from all members are welcomed.
- Joint initiatives, connections, cooperation and meetings between members within countries and across borders are highly encouraged.
- ENIEC promotes – through its members – research on European older persons from ethnic minorities that is done in an ethical and respectful manner based on equality. This requires communication and methods that are respectful and understandable for everyone.
- ENIEC works together with and supports local, national and European organizations that want to achieve an equal chance on good health and wellbeing for older persons from ethnic minorities.



- ENIEC stimulates these organizations to provide health, wellbeing and quality of life for all older persons from ethnic minorities through person-centered health and social care based on equity (fairness).

Topics for 2019

Every year ENIEC organizes an Annual meeting in one of the European countries. Together with a local organizing committee we make a program that is suitable for the local situation and at the same time take into account recent developments in the other European countries. The main aim is to learn from each other. ENIEC will therefore always focus on new themes in close cooperation with its members and local stakeholders. For 2019 these themes were:

- Dementia
- Family caregivers and carers