



The Policy Agenda – EU approach to long-term care

5th Senior Government Officials Meeting

Connecting the Dots: Formal and Informal Care
10 June 2014, HICC Hyderabad India

Dr Lieve Fransen

Director: Social Policies and Europe 2020

European Commission

DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

Approach to long-term care in the EU

- **Long-term care as well as health care are EU Member States' responsibility**
- **EU's role is to coordinate – Social Protection Committee**
- **Social investment approach**
- **Increasing importance on the policy agenda due to population ageing and budgetary constraints**
- **Going beyond social and economic considerations – also a human rights matter**

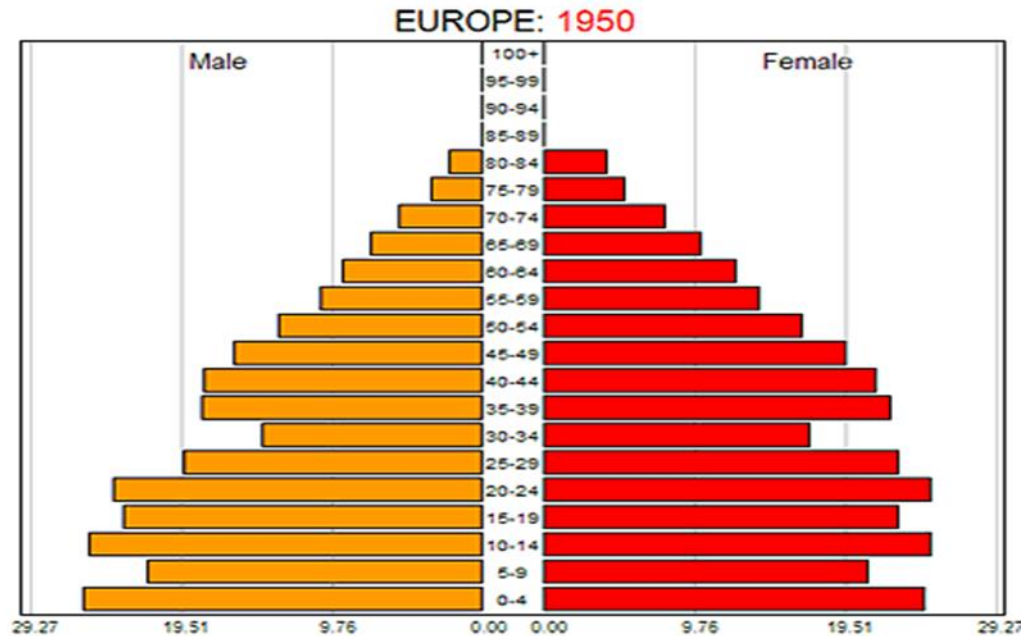
The Challenge:

- **Growing demand for care due to an ageing population**
- **Shortage of carers: formal and informal**
- **Lack of social protection against long-term care dependency**
 - Equity
 - Efficiency
 - Quality
 - Human rights

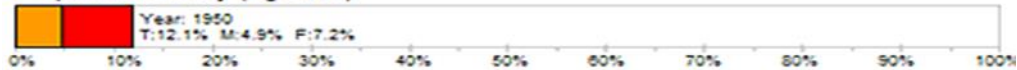


European Commission

Population by Age and Sex (1950 – 2050)



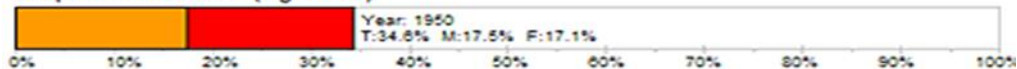
Proportion: Elderly (Age 60+)



Proportion: Working-age Population (Age 20-59)



Proportion: Children (Age 0-19)



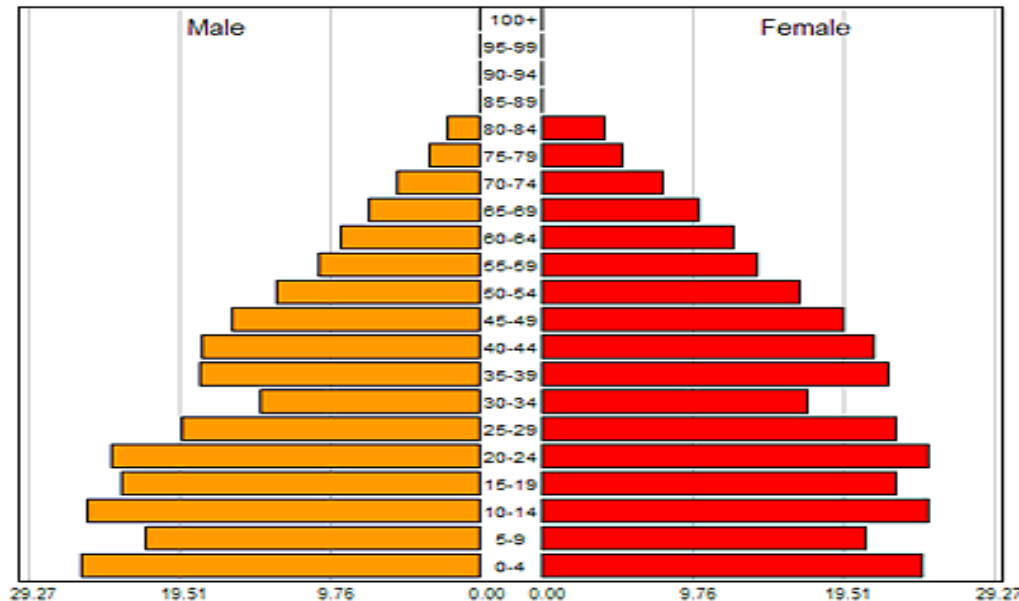
Source: United Nations Population Division



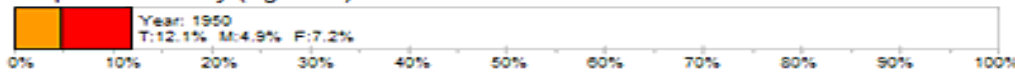
European
Commission

Population by Age and Sex (1950 – 2050)

EUROPE: 1950



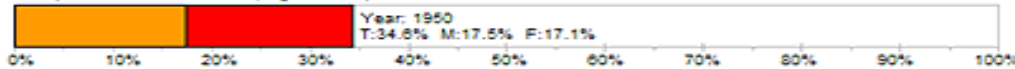
Proportion: Elderly (Age 60+)



Proportion: Working-age Population (Age 20-59)

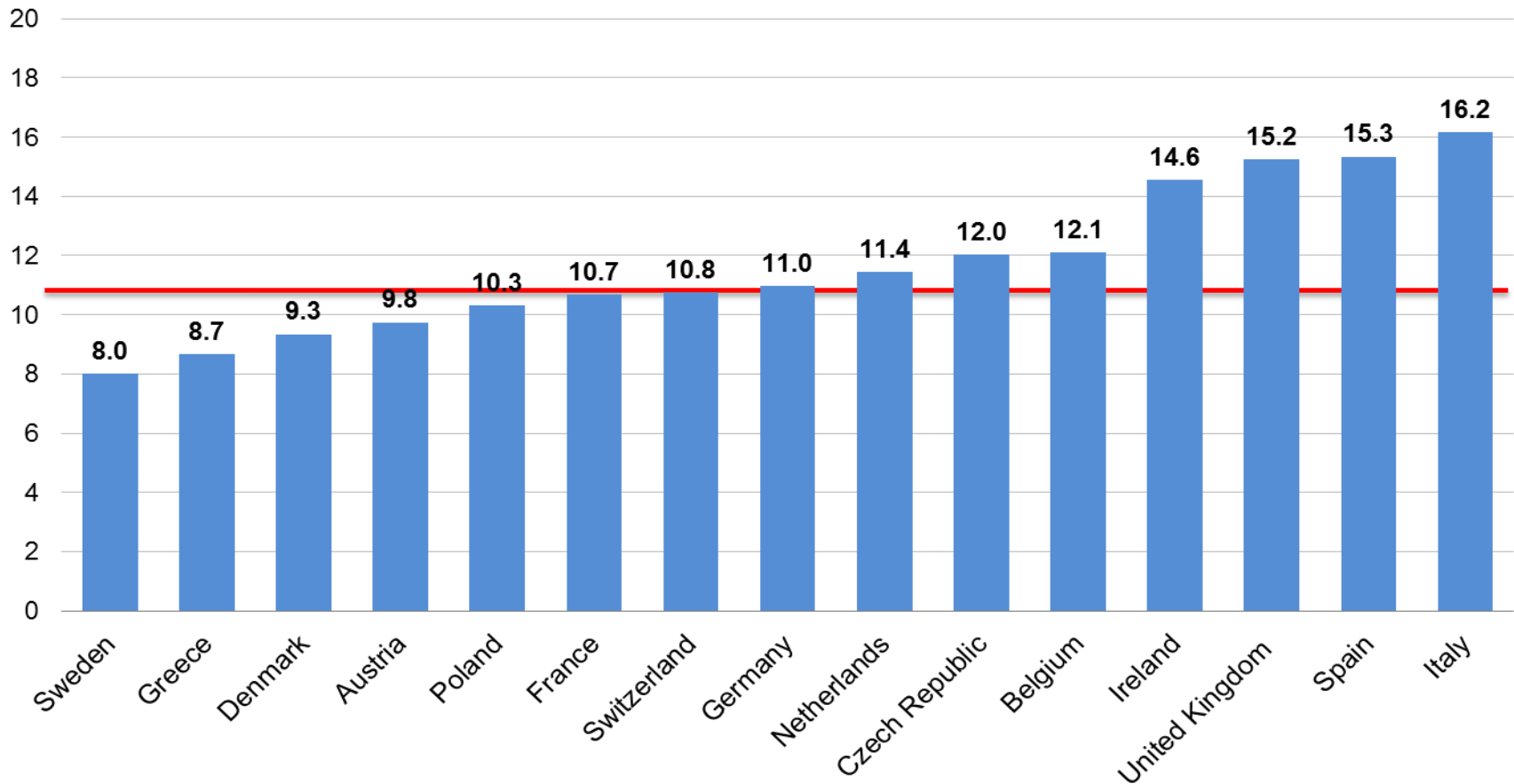


Proportion: Children (Age 0-19)



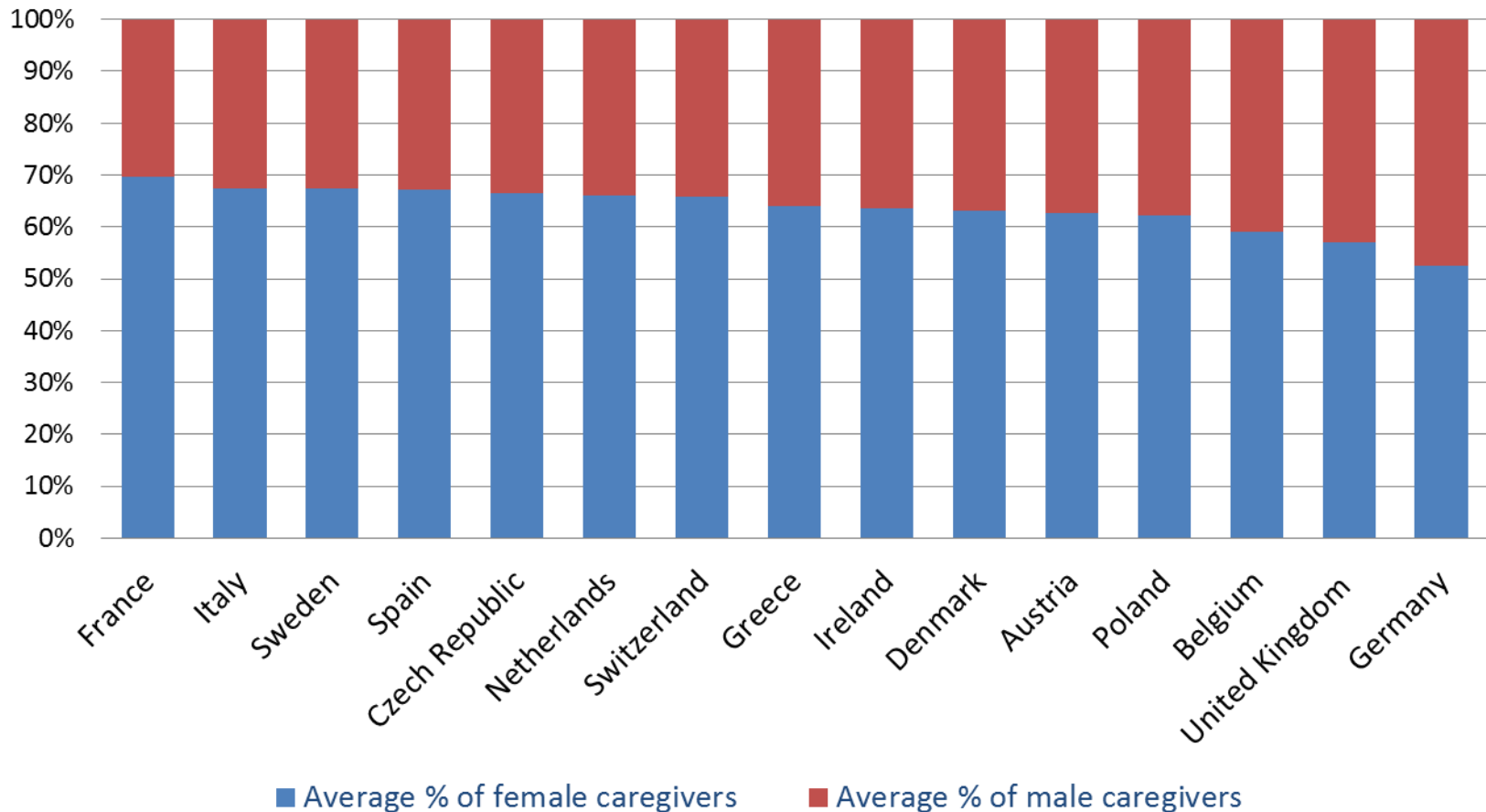
Source: United Nations Population Division

□ Informal carers as % of population



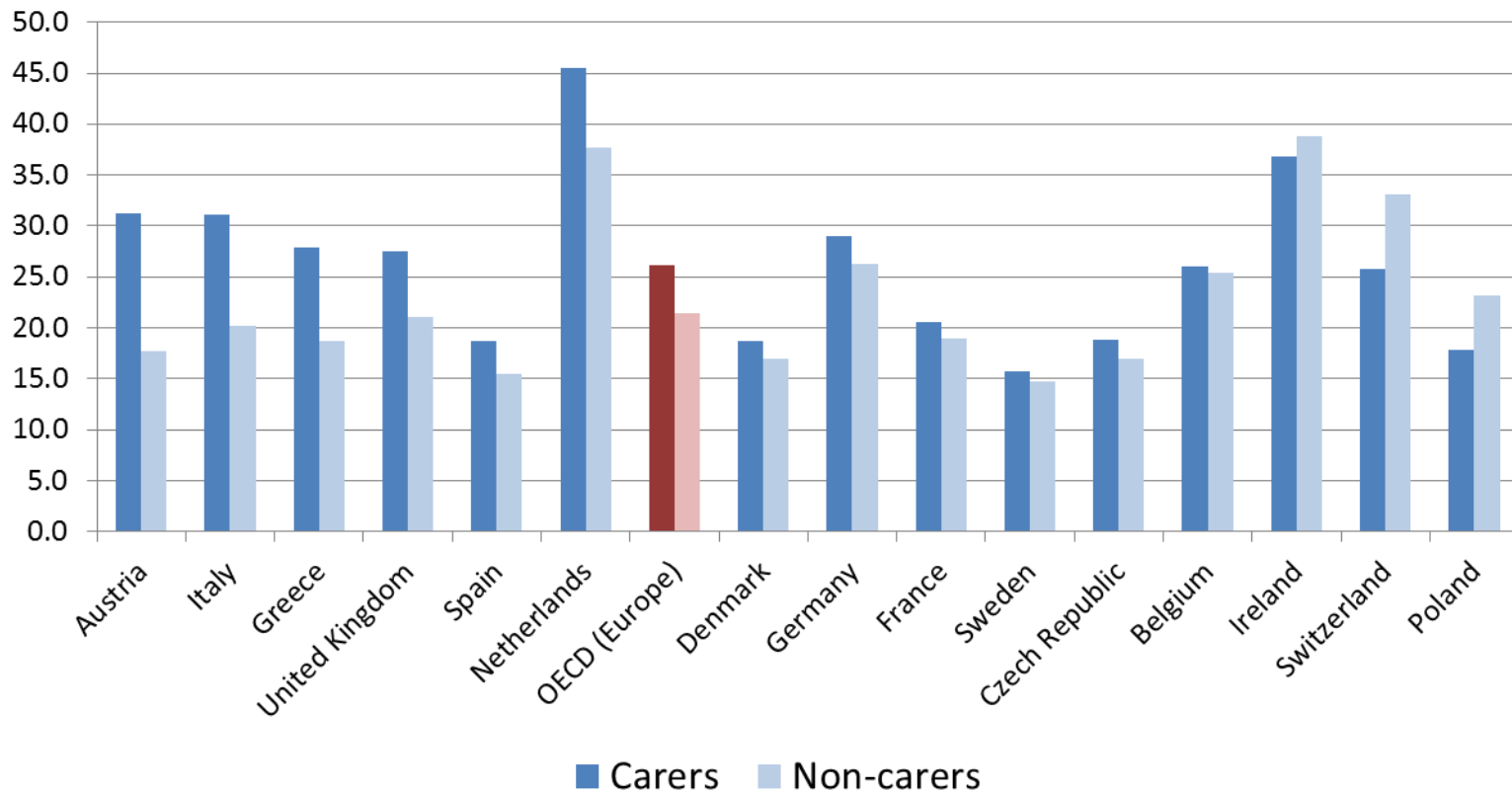
Source: OECD (2011)

☐ Informal carers are predominantly women



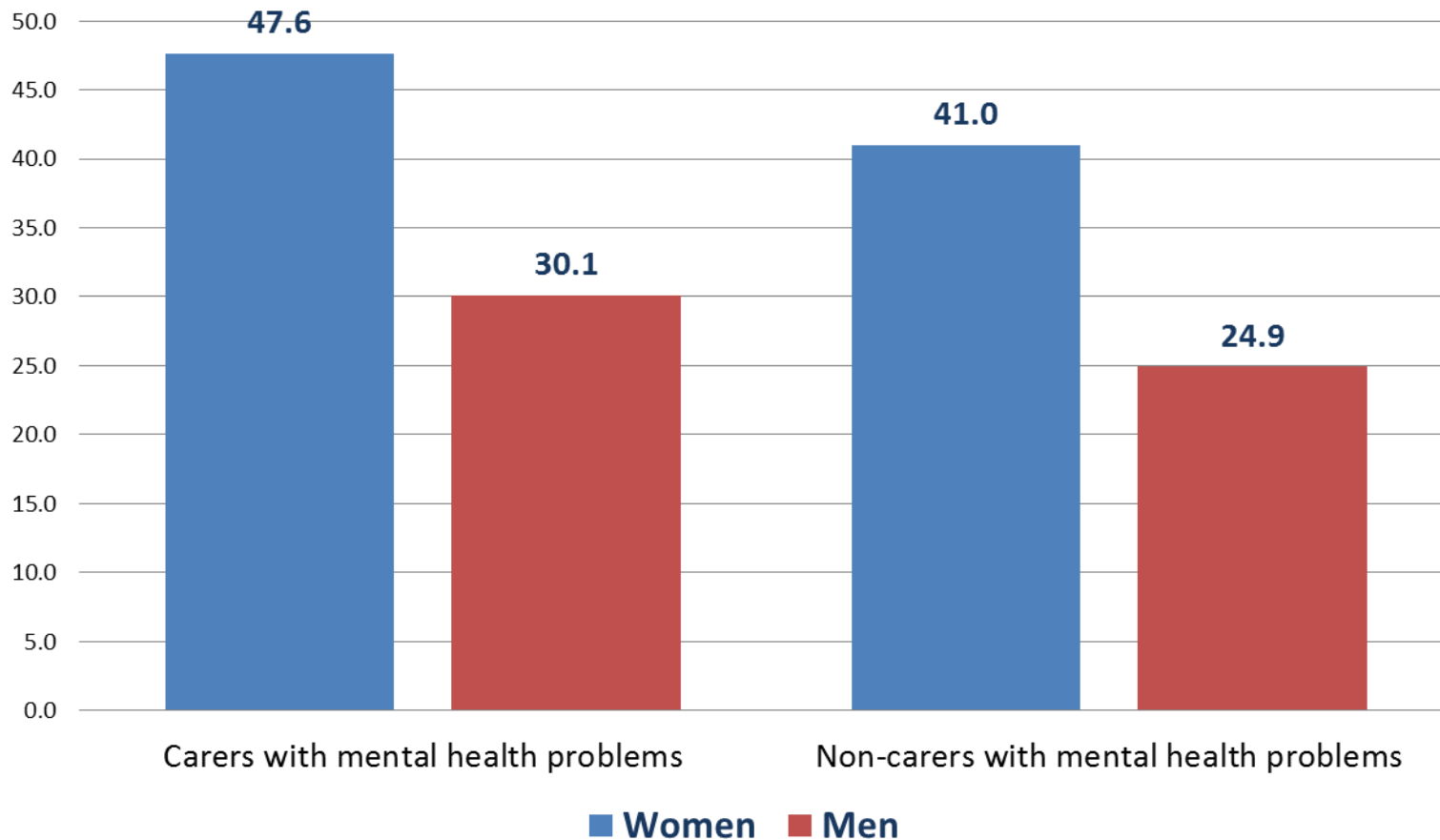
Source: OECD (2011)

Percentage of carers and non-carers working part-time



Source: OECD (2011)

Percentage of mental health problems



Source: OECD (2011)

Policy response: closing the gap between need and supply of long term care

Reducing the need for care:

- Promoting **active and healthy ageing**
 - **European Year for Active Ageing and solidarity between generations (EY2012) and Active Ageing Index**
- Efforts to improve the capacity for **independent living**, including support for home adaptations
 - **European Innovation Partnership for Active and Healthy Ageing**
- Successful **rehabilitation** as early as possible
 - **Fredericia project in Denmark**
- The use of **ICT** in drives for higher productivity
 - **Health Technology Assessment**

Overall Index

Active Ageing Index

Domains

**Contribution through paid activities:
Employment**

**Contribution through unpaid activities:
Participation in society**

Independent and autonomous living

**Capacity for active and healthy ageing /
enabling environment**

Indicators

Employment rate 55-59

Voluntary activities

Physical exercise

Remaining life expectancy at age 55

Employment rate 60-64

Care to children

Access to health and dental care

Share of healthy life expectancy at age 55

Employment rate 65-69

Care to older adults

Independent living

Mental well-being

Employment rate 70-74

Political participation

Financial security (three indicators) *

Use of ICT

Physical safety

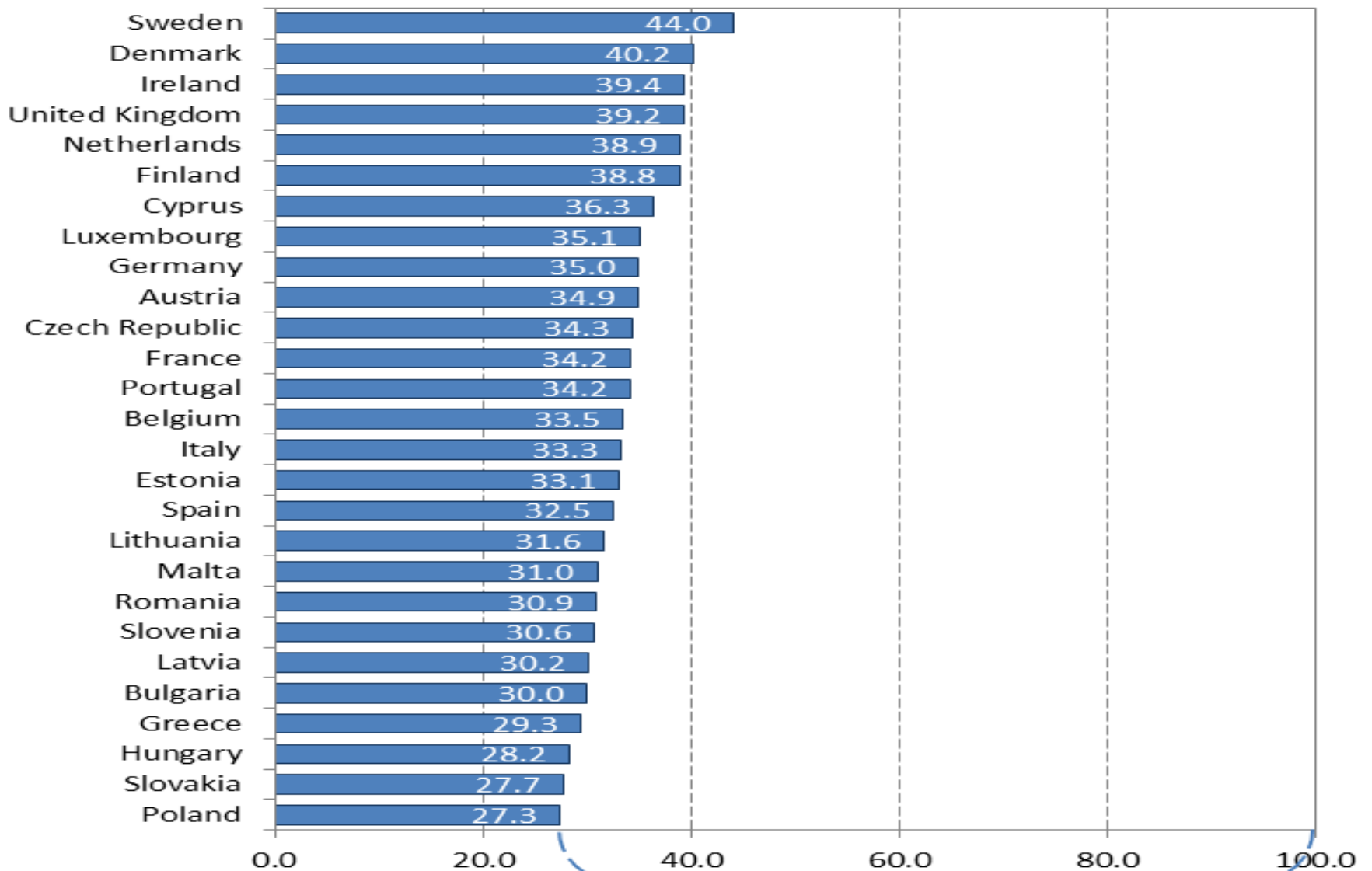
Social connectedness

Lifelong learning

Educational attainment

Actual experiences of active ageing

Capability to actively age



Distance to achieving the theoretical full active ageing potential

Policy response – supply of long-term care

- Support for family members who are **informal carers**
- Efforts to raise **quality** in formal and informal care provision
- Social innovation and social entrepreneurship
- Social protection against the need of long term care:
 - **Pensions credit**
 - **Replacement income**
 - **Rewarding relatives/professional carers**

Policy response – supply of long –term care

- Support for family members who are **informal carers**
- Efforts to raise **quality** in formal and informal care provision
- Social innovation and social entrepreneurship
- Social protection against the need of long term care:
 - **Pensions credit**
 - **Replacement income**
 - **Rewarding relatives/professional carers**
- *More reliable and regular **data collection** needed!*

Multi-stakeholder action

- European Parliament's **Interest Group on Carers** (since 2008)
- Funding for a pan-European network "**Eurocarers**" (since 2013)
 - **Lobbying for an EU-level carers strategy and an EU Directive on carers leave**
- Promoting social innovation and social entrepreneurship
 - **Ensemble2générations**