

# Elderly services generated by Non-profit and Non Governmental Organisations (NGO)

*Turun kauppakorkeakoulu, Turku School of Economics, Finland*

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As part of a multi-disciplinary science community of the University of Turku, Turku School of Economics specialises in research and development activities within business competence related to the welfare sector. Our specialist areas within the welfare sector include, for example, geriatric services, alternative service production methods and social innovation. We implement multi-disciplinary, workplace-oriented projects in cooperation with municipalities, companies, organisations and educational institutions.

The ageing of the population and the resultant strong growth in demand for elderly services pose one of the most acute, changing challenges for the European welfare sector. The ageing of the population significantly increases social service and health care needs and costs, thus forcing public authorities to consider various forms of service production.

**We are currently planning an R&D project, which investigates the experiences and good practices in incorporating NGOs (called in Finland: the third sector) into elderly service production in different parts of Europe.**

The following factors will be examined during the project:

- a) the countries and regions where third-sector services are incorporated into elderly service production;
- b) the innovative, beneficial service solutions that have been developed; and
- c) the way these services are integrated into the supply of public elderly services.

We also intend to investigate the way the elderly services produced by the NGOs have been arranged in practice and the role of the public sector in service production. In addition, we want to find out the cost-benefit effects achieved through the activities.

A key objective is to identify the European regions with the best practices, and to create tools for transferring the practices to other European areas which express an interest.

We are now seeking partners within the European Union who would be interested in the aforementioned research cooperation. We are hoping to find partners in at least five EU member states. We are also interested in partnership, should a European actor already have similar projects underway. After establishing partnership, we would like to discuss European cooperation projects for joint implementation and how to proceed.

We look forward to being in contact and will gladly provide further information:

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