



## Participatory urban development: age-friendly, community-orientated and future-orientated – A cross-border exchange

About the speakers

### **Ilka Borr**



Ilka Borr has been Head of the Office for Health, Prevention and Social Affairs at the City of Saarbrücken since 2019. She has worked for the state capital of Saarbrücken in various departments since 1989. Before taking over as Head of the Office for Health, Prevention and Social Affairs, she was in charge of the Department of Social Policy and Neighbourhood Work, which also includes the Senior Citizens Counselling and Policy Department and the Health Promotion Department of the City of Saarbrücken. She has been involved in the Healthy Cities Network since 2019 and was also a member of the Healthy Cities Network's

Speakers' Council from 2020 to 2024.

### **Susanne Dobner**



Susu Dobner studied sociology and urban studies in Vienna and Amsterdam and has been working as a research assistant at *queraum. cultural and social research* in Vienna since 2019. Over the past ten years, she has implemented, coordinated and developed projects at national and EU level. Her work focuses on age-friendly cities and neighbourhoods, social and digital participation, and health promotion for all generations.

<https://www.queraum.org/en>

## **Dr Regina Görner**



The trade unionist and social politician Dr Regina Görner has been Chairwoman of BAGSO since December 2021. Görner was Minister for Women, Labour, Health and Social Affairs in Saarland from 1999 to 2004. She was an executive board member of the German Trade Union Confederation (DGB) for ten years and later held the same position at IG Metall. From 2000 to 2016, she was a member of the Federal Executive Committee of the Christian Democratic

Union (CDU).

Regina Görner has been a member of the BAGSO Board since 2015. As Chairwoman of BAGSO, she heads the expert commission 'Current Issues in Senior Citizens' Policy' together with Jens-Peter Kruse.

## **Ute Hauser**



Ute Hauser is Managing Director of Alzheimer Gesellschaft Baden-Württemberg e.V. | Selbsthilfe Demenz and has been committed to supporting people with dementia and their relatives for more than 20 years. The development and expansion of dementia-friendly communities and neighbourhoods to improve the quality of life locally has been one of her main areas of work in the state association since 2016. With the 'Dementia in Neighbourhoods' project, the Alzheimer Society Baden-Württemberg is part

of the state strategy 'Neighbourhoods 2030 - Shaping Together' of the Ministry of Social Affairs, Health and Integration.

Ute Hauser is a nurse, qualified nursing economist and social economist with experience in inpatient and outpatient nursing and geriatric care as well as in quality management in Stuttgart, Dublin and Berlin. After working for the German Alzheimer Society for many years, she moved to Stuttgart in 2011 to join the state association in Baden-Württemberg, where she took over as head of the office in 2020.

[www.alzheimer-bw.de](http://www.alzheimer-bw.de) | [www.demenz-im-quartier-bw.de](http://www.demenz-im-quartier-bw.de)

## **Jens-Peter Kruse**



Educator and deacon Jens-Peter Kruse is Deputy Chairman of BAGSO. He has been a member of the BAGSO Board since 2018. Until his retirement, he worked for the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hanover, most recently as head of adult education. Jens-Peter Kruse is involved in a wide range of voluntary work, including on the NDR Broadcasting Council. From 2020 to May 2022, he was Chairman of the Senior Citizens' Advisory Council of the state capital of Hanover. From 2010 to 2018, he chaired the Protestant Working Group for Older Persons (Evangelische Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Altenarbeit, EAfA), which nominated him for the BAGSO Board. Together with Dr Regina Görner, he heads the BAGSO's expert commission 'Current Issues in Senior Citizens' Policy'. He represents BAGSO on the committees of the Federation of German Consumer Organisations (vzbv).

## **Dr Heidrun Mollenkopf**



President of AGE Platform Europe and Board Member of BAGSO. Since 2016, she represents BAGSO regularly at the Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing at the UN in New York, where she has since then campaigned for a UN convention for the rights of older persons. In 2019, she has been appointed to the Bureau of the Standing Working Group on Ageing (SWGA) at the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) in Geneva as the representative of civil society. In this role, she constantly advocates for the rights of older people to be considered in the implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing in the UNECE region.

Heidrun Mollenkopf is a sociologist and gerontologist. Before she retired, she was Senior Researcher at the German Centre for Research on Ageing (DZFA) at the University of Heidelberg.

<https://www.bagso.de/> | <https://www.age-platform.eu/>

## **Manuel Montero Rey**



Manuel Montero Rey has been the Head of the International Unit and Secretary General of Imsero, the Institute for Older People and Social Services - Ministry of Social Rights and the 2030 Agenda - since 2007. He graduated in Law from the Complutense University of Madrid. He also serves as National Focal Point in the Standing Working Group on Ageing (SWGA) at the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and as National Liaison Officer in the Board of Directors of the European Centre for Social Welfare and Research, affiliated to the United Nations in Vienna. He also represents Spain in the Working Group on Long-Term Care of the Social Protection Committee of the European Union and in the Working Group on Incapable Adults of the Committee of Experts on Family Law of the Council of Europe.

## **Ana Ramovs**



Ana Ramovs is medical doctor, specialized in Emergency Medicine, and gerontologist. She works in Community Health Centre Ljubljana and at Anton Trstenjak Institute of Gerontology and Intergenerational Relations, Slovenian national gerontological institute. At the Institute she works as researcher and developer in the fields of long-term care (LTC), healthy and quality ageing, preventive medicine and ethics. She is coordinating Slovenian network of age-friendly cities and communities and helps to lead Slovenian association of informal carers, represents the Institute in international networks and is in charge of international projects. She has experiences with group work and is developing and conducting trainings in the field of ageing and LTC. On this subject she published Frontiers methodological article Informal Carers Training: 'In-group Social Learning as an Effective Method for Quality Care Empowerment'. She is co-author of Towards Alpine Age-Friendly Environment toolkit, author of Healthy old age manual, one of the co-authors of the Falls prevention manual and other Slovenian and foreign publications.

<https://www.inst-antontrstenjaka.si/institut/>

## Gabriele Reichhardt



Gabriele Reichhardt heads the Strategic Social Planning department in Stuttgart. The department is organisationally affiliated to the Mayor for Social Affairs, Health and Integration. She is responsible for the coordination and management of complex social problems such as loneliness, poverty and the development of an age-friendly city.

Gabriele Reichhardt is a social scientist. She has worked in the city administration for 14 years and previously worked in the social economy, in social projects and in nationwide association work. She is also the first chairwoman of the Alliance for participation (Allianz für Beteiligung e.V.) in Baden-Württemberg, as strengthening civil society and citizen participation are very important to her.

[www.stuttgart.de/gemeinsam](http://www.stuttgart.de/gemeinsam) | <https://allianz-fuer-beteiligung.de/>

## Thorsten Riehle



Mayor of the City of Mannheim for Economic Affairs, Labor, Social Affairs and Culture.

He is responsible for senior citizens in Mannheim and, together with the municipal council and the Department of Labour and Social Affairs, wants to promote the “Mannheim model” and thus the further development of senior citizens' meeting places into intergenerational meeting places.

Thorsten Riehle has been Head of Department of the City of Mannheim since March 2024. Before he was Managing Director of Capitol, a cultural institution in Mannheim, and parliamentary group leader in Mannheim's municipal council. He is trained as daily newspaper editor.

### **Dr Tina Schmid**



Dr Tina Schmid is Head of the City of Winterthur's Department of Ageing and Health (Switzerland). She is responsible for care, health and ageing policy in Winterthur and is currently working on a new ageing strategy for the city.

Tina Schmid studied sociology and economics. In her dissertation, she compared the care policies of fourteen European countries.

### **Friederike Scholz**



Friederike Scholz is a fully qualified lawyer. Since 2014, she has worked as a consultant at the German City Council and in the Department of Labour, Youth, Health and Social Affairs at the City Council of North Rhine-Westphalia.

Among other things, she is responsible for the areas of old-age and senior citizens policy and care policy for the German City Council and other social policy issues in North Rhine-Westphalia. She is in regular contact with the German cities and represents their interests before the German federal government, the regional government of

North Rhine-Westphalia and many other organisations. She is a member of the Expert Committee on Ageing and Care of the German Association for Public and Private Welfare (Deutscher Verein für öffentliche und private Fürsorge e.V.) and the Care Quality Committee.

### **Natalie Turner**



Natalie Turner is Deputy Director of Localities at the Centre for Ageing Better in the UK. Her goal is to create more places where people can live a good later life. Her team works through strategic partnerships with Greater Manchester, Leeds and Lincolnshire. It also supports the UK network of Age-friendly Communities, which is affiliated to the Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities of the World Health Organization (WHO). The UK network has a membership of over 80 cities, regions, towns and

counties all working to ensure more of their residents can age well.

BAGSO conference, 6th November 2024

Natalie Turner has been working on ageing issues locally, nationally, and internationally since 2010. Prior to joining the Centre for Ageing Better, she was a senior strategic policy advisor at the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) focusing on liveable communities, care and health, and Head of Programmes at Age UK London.

## Ina Voelcker



Ina Voelcker is the Head of the Secretariat for International Policy on Ageing at BAGSO, the German National Association of Senior Citizens' Organisations. She coordinates BAGSO's international work which involves representing older persons' interests in international debates and fostering the exchange of civil society organisations from various countries. Ina Voelcker is co-chair of the *Global Alliance for the Rights of Older People* (GAROP).

She holds a bachelor's degree in Gerontology and a master's degree in Public Policy and Ageing from King's College London. Previously Ina worked with HelpAge International in London and the International Longevity Centre Brazil in Rio de Janeiro.

<https://www.bagso.de/> | <https://rightsofolderpeople.org/>

## Dr Maren Wittek



Dr Maren Wittek is advisor for neighbourhood development and senior citizen policy at the Baden-Württemberg Ministry of Social Affairs, Health and Integration. Her work focuses on implementing the state strategy 'Quartier 2030 - Gemeinsam.Gestalten.', which aims to support and accompany local authorities and civil society in Baden-Württemberg in the development of age- and generation-friendly neighbourhoods. To create vibrant neighbourhoods for all generations - i.e. neighbourhoods, districts and villages in which people get involved, take responsibility and support each other, the state strategy offers a wide range of services in the areas of support, advice, training, information and exchange of experience. A good life in old age, intergenerational exchange and the strengthening of social cohesion are at the centre of its activities.

BAGSO conference, 6th November 2024

Maren Wittek holds a doctorate in gerontology and previously worked at the Institute of Gerontology at the University of Heidelberg, among other places.

<https://www.quartier2030-bw.de/>

<https://sozialministerium.baden-wuerttemberg.de/de/soziales/aeltere-menschen>

### **Nicole Zündorf-Hinte, M.A.**



Nicole Zündorf-Hinte has been Head of the International Policy for Older People, Inclusion Division at the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (BMFSFJ) since May 2020. From 2019 to 2020, she held the Evaluation, International Affairs and Research on Democracy and Diversity Division. Between 1994 and 2019, she held various positions within the BMFSFJ. Among other things, she was a policy officer for fundamental issues of family policy as well as a policy officer for the protection of

women against violence, coordination of international policy against gender-based violence and human trafficking, including lead negotiation of the Palermo Protocol, the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings and representation of Germany in the relevant EU bodies, Council of Europe bodies and UN bodies, negotiation of the Istanbul Convention for Germany.

<https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/themen/aeltere-menschen/internationale-politik-fuer-aeltere-menschen>

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