

First Online Policy Lab

Care Sector Challenges & EU Policy Context

13 May 2026,

14:00-15:30 (CET)

Registration link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/LIb1SYWrSeGkw2RUFYaaEA>

The Caregivers Advancing Regulatory Environment and Skills (CARES) project focuses on upskilling and empowering care sector professionals, promoting their mental health and well-being, and improving their working conditions. The project aims to improve self-care practices, digital and sustainability competences in the social care sector through building a comprehensive capacity-building training program, and by providing mentoring, and self-learning handbooks.

This first Policy Lab will focus on providing a broader policy context, highlighting challenges in the social sector, relevant EU strategies, and presenting the initial findings of our benchmark study.

The project is funded by Erasmus+ and co-founded by the European Union.

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PRIMĂRIA SECTORULUI 6
DIRECȚIA GENERALĂ DE ASISTENȚĂ
SOCIALĂ ȘI PROTECȚIA COPILULUI



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AGENDA

14:00 - 14:10	INTRODUCTION	• Opening remarks • Introduction to the objectives and structure of the Policy Lab Chair: Luca Koltai, HÉTFA Research Institute
14:10 - 14:40	KEYNOTE PRESENTATION: EU POLICY CONTEXT	Overview of current challenges in the care sector, and strategies and policy responses Presenter: Martin Lichte, Senior Policy Officer, European Social Network (ESN)
14:40 - 15:00	CARES PROJECT PRESENTATION: BENCHMARK TRANSNATIONAL REPORT	Presentation by the CARES Project's Lead Partner Center for Not-for-profit Law (CLNR) Presenters: Loreta Isac & Claudia Petrescu
15:00 - 15:20	GROUP DISCUSSIONS	Moderated group discussions on challenges, experiences, and policy recommendations
15:20 - 15:30	WRAP-UP & CONCLUSIONS	• Summary of the group discussion by moderators • Closing remarks



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