Everyone has the right to affordable long-term care services of good quality, in particular home-care and community-based services.

### 1. What are the demands of Social Platform & its Members?

- **Address the rising demand for care provision** in the EU through a strategic and coordinated approach in all Member States;
- **Consider investments in long-term care services** as necessity to enable people a life in dignity;
- **Apply a human rights-based approach** to long-term care services;
- **Put the individual needs of people receiving long-term care services at the core of the service provision**, and involve them in designing and improving the care they receive;
- **Improve the working conditions in the long-term care sector**, including the support for informal and family carers;
- **Ensure the highest quality of services**;
- **Reduce the overreliance on informal long-term care** and the overburdening of informal carers.

### 2. Why do we make these demands?

- Increasing life expectancy, low birth rates, and other factors put a strain on long-term care systems;
- Home-care and community-based care are underdeveloped and there is insufficient availability of residential care;
- Shortages of qualified professionals, also due to poor working conditions and low income;
- The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed existing structural problems.

### 3. How should they be implemented at EU level?

- **Ensure that long-term care is a priority in future funding instruments**;
- Introduce effective monitoring mechanisms with concrete indicators and targets, which allow for benchmarking;
- Effectively address the challenges in relation to access, affordability and quality of long-term care in the upcoming EU Green Paper on Ageing.

Read more about principle 18 in our [full paper](#).