

Danube Region Policy Collaboration Platform for Urban and Rural Actors in the Field of Homecare and Community-based Services invites you to

## Workshop VI: Where People, Technology and Innovation meet in care Inspirations from Austria-

23 September 2025 | 10 - 13:00 CET | Online on Zoom

Explore Austria's care landscape - from caring robots to community-led solutions including people with dementia.

### Agenda

**10:00 - 10:15 | Welcome and Opening Remarks**

**10:15 - 10:50 | Speakers: Laura Vogel & Astrid Weiss, TU Wien → Caring Robots**

Laura Vogel and Astrid Weiss are researchers at TU Wien specializing in labor sociology and human-robot interaction. Within Caring Robots // Robotic Care, they develop new robotic technologies for aged care using participatory design with early stakeholder involvement.

**10:50 - 11:20 | Speaker: Caroline Leitner Caritas Vienna → Caretakers and Dementia**

Caroline Leitner *Head of "Family Work and Dementia" department*, presents services supporting informal caregivers and enhancing participation of people living with dementia.

**11:20 - 11:30 | Break**

**11:30 - 12:00 | Speaker: Ilse Simma-Boyd Caritas Vienna → Austria's Care System**

Ilse Simma-Boyd *Head of Care Department Caritas Vienna*, provides an overview of the care system in Vienna and Austria, including current challenges and potential solutions.

**12:00 - 12:45 | Speaker: Klaus Wegleitner, University Graz, Verein Sorgenetz → Philosophy, models and ambivalences of caring communities**

Klaus Wegleitner *Associate Professor University Graz, Chair SORGENETZ Vienna, Vice Director CIRAC, Leader "Public Care" unit Institute of Pastoral Theology*, discusses caring communities, highlights initiatives like "ACHTSAMER 8." in Vienna and addresses global care challenges.

**12:45 - 13:00 | Conclusion and Wrap-Up**

**REGISTER HERE!**

Let's keep building caring communities **across borders.**

## Background information

**CARING COMMUNITIES** is an Interreg funded project with 25 partners in nine countries of the Danube Region. The project partnership is broadly composed of public actors, universities, NGOs, and associations. The objective is to improve home care in the Danube Region by building innovation capacities and transnational cooperation structures.

**The third workshop is organised by TÖÖSZ.** By being an active partner in the Caring Communities Project TÖÖSZ intends to create synergies and to support to diminish the divide between urban and rural areas. This activity will be capitalizing from experiences of TÖÖSZ, who implemented an Elderly Care Network in Hungary. .

The Policy Collaboration Platform for Urban and Rural Actors in the Field of Homecare and Community-based Services is part of the Caring Communities project and aims to:

- connect local service providers and care workers,
- involve policy & decision makers,
- attract local and national authorities in a collaborative and informative manner.

**The goal is to build a platform for providing knowledge, experiences and exchanges** in the field of homecare and community-based services for urban and rural actors from the Danube Region.



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