

Contribution by the Republic of Albania to the work of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing, pursuant to the Resolution 67/139 of the General Assembly

The Republic of Albania remains fully committed to the human rights of older persons and acknowledges the serious challenges older persons face including as regards the enjoyment of their human rights.

The Republic of Albania acknowledges that protection and implementation gaps as well as age-related discrimination exist and it is committed to address the existing gaps through several policy measures.

The Republic of Albania has in addition constructively participated in the past sessions of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing and it is committed to continue its engagement during the 4th session, with the view of further discussing ways and means to promote and protect the rights and dignity of older persons. It further believes that the forthcoming meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing will provide a useful forum for States to discuss and consider steps which are required to ensure the implementation and protection of the rights and dignity of older persons, including by exploring how the implementation of existing standards could be improved.

The Republic of Albania however is of the opinion that, even though A/RES/67/139 was adopted by the General Assembly during its 60th plenary meeting, the voting result, including the high number of abstentions (118) and also votes against, clearly indicate that the membership of the United Nations is not ready to start negotiate on a new instrument on the rights of older persons. We strongly believe that the consensus is indispensable with a view of providing solid basis for any new instrument to become meaningful and effective.
