The Contribution from a Network of the Associations to the Development of a Silver Economy

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The focus of the Zoom Meeting *Contribution from a Network of the Associations to the Development of a Silver Economy* on Wednesday, April 6, 2022, was to create a Network of all the Associations worldwide active to join emeriti, retired, senior researchers. This Project must consider the great dishomogeneity that characterizes these associations due to differences of feeling to the theme, of cultural interest (North Countries more looking at safety and environment, South Countries more at social aspects), of the demographic situation. Beside these differences, these associations have common activities related to their role in the lifelong learning, in the advancing functions to solve social and scientific problems, in acting as sentinels of the unity of culture. This unity was in the past threatened by particular interests of academic or politic nature and youngs due to their career needs cannot act as sentinels what on the contrary can do emeriti, retired, old cultured persons. The first question we have to put ourselves is why in some countries this kind of associations is less present if not absent and answers can be two: no feeling to the concern or adoption of a social policy able to respect all the components of the population undependently on their education and age level so that no specific attention must be paid to any component of the population. The right answer between the two clearly is related to the different social ethics levels in the different countries. But it must be observed too that during last 30 years many things changed starting from the continuous mean ageing of the population in the developed countries so that even advanced social policies need updating and new integrations. So the proposed Network can help toward the right direction. By it the exchange of experiments, of expertise, of projects will become possible so that intellectual capital can be shared in favor of a general increase of the levels of knowledge.

One of the focus of the rising Network could and should be the institution in all the countries of the Network of a Minister of Seniors, of Old Age, of Silver Economy. Only 6 countries in the world have such a Minister (Australia, Canada, Malta, New Zealand, Scotland, Wales). She/he represents the responsible for a policy approach in order to guarantee that the needs of specific services, of health protection, of safety are respected in a condition of progressive increase of the mean age of the population. On the other side, he/she as member of the Cabinet can interact with the other ministers so that the specificity of old age can be considered in the politic choices adopted by thè latter ones in the different branches of the Government activity such as health, industry, environment, education, transportation.

Related is the support that by this minister can be ensured to the Silver Economy. This looks holistic ally at the ageing of population and at the opportunities it presents starting from permanent education able to ensure citizens responsible choices in occasion of referendums and petitions, from new available technologies and new sectors of market, from the percentage (meanly 20%) of Gross Domestic Product dedicated to it, from health prevention and, last but not least from the disables policy due to the connection of it with the focal points of Silver Economy.