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YOUNG CARERS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

Many young people in the UK are not developing the skills they need for a successful future, with other 790,000 not in employment or education and employers reporting a mass disparity between the skills young people have to offer and the skills required in the work place. However, the Erasmus+ funded Care-2Work research reports that young carers face further barriers to gaining these skills due to limitations of accessing employment, training and further education. Since young carers in the UK have limited opportunities to improve their position in society, entrepreneurship represents a viable option for overcoming these hurdles, and can assist them in accomplishing several goals, such as increasing self-worth, developing transferable skills and overcoming obstacles in the labour market.

Young adult carers aged between 16 and 18 years are twice as likely to be not in education, employment, or

training (NEET) according to the Carers Trust. A study by Ecorys has suggested that by supporting young carers, there is a positive economic benefit to society. Support given to over 2,000 young carers in Surrey has generated an approximate £2,700,000 economic benefit through avoiding carer breakdown (becoming unable to support the person being cared for) and carers becoming a 'Child in Need' (requiring local authority intervention below the level of child protection). By supporting young carers, such as through employment training schemes such as Care 2 Entrepreneurship, we can reduce unemployment levels, increase self-esteem and aid in the development of skills required in the labour market.

Through their caring responsibilities, carers develop vital skills that aid them in a pursuit of entrepreneurship, such as ability to listen, ambition, perseverance, time management and courage. To understand the needs of their caring responsibility and coordinate with other caring professionals, they develop vital communication skills such as perception of non-verbal cues, compassion and willingness to help. Through balancing caring responsibilities and personal responsibilities such as employment and education, carers develop strong time management skills and perseverance, as well as ambition to improve their situation. By continuing to care and pursue their own personal responsibilities, they demonstrate courage to succeed. All these skills are vital in pursuing entrepreneurship, and with the right guidelines such as Care2Entrepreneurship, could unleash a new generation of compassionate and innovative entrepreneurs.





YOUNG CARERS IN ITALY

Young carers are young people that assume a significant care role towards a family member with different kinds of problems (physical disability, mental disability, addictions, diseases, etc.).

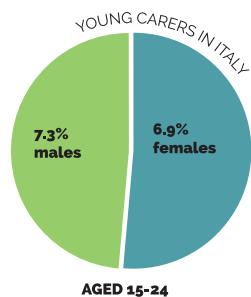
In Italy, 7.3% of males and 6.9% of females aged 15-24 (about 416,000 people) take care of frail adults or elderly people (Istat 2015) - 13,000 in Emilia Romagna Region (Istat, 2010).

Young carers take responsibilities that normally are in charge of an adult and that could have negative impact on their life: the lack of time could impact on social relationships and on economic and working condition. Responsibilities related to family care are the first reason of inactivity among young Italian people, aged 15-29, who do not study or work (Italia Lavoro, 2014).

Young caregivers have difficulties to find and manage a stable work

occupation, and entrepreneurship could be a concrete opportunity to overcome this obstacle. In addition, improving entrepreneurial skills in young people facilitates their economic, cultural and social development, increases employability and enhances the quality of their life. The entrepreneurial approach can also help young carers to empower the abilities already acquired thanks to the care work: problem solving, leadership, social competencies, communication skills, autonomy, responsibility, critical thinking.

C2E face-to-face training on entrepreneurial education for young caregiver and professionals working with them, will take place in Italy in January 2019 and will contribute to increase knowledge and expertise in Italian workers, and to strengthen competencies in young carers, contributing to reinforce their self-esteem.



ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN ROMANIA

Romanians trust their own potential, want to be their own masters, and want to start an entrepreneurial project, but they are afraid of the uncertain beginnings, and would like more encouraging policies in the field, entrepreneurial education included.

39% of the young Romanians under 35 want to start their own business, while **43% of the Romanians** say they would not give up their dream of starting a business, according to **Amway Global Entrepreneurship Report (AGER) 2018**. AGER report uses Amway Entrepreneurial Spirit Index (AESI) index which measures the desire to start one's own business, the feasibility of the prospect of being an entrepreneur, and the stability of the desire to be an entrepreneur, despite discouragement from the social environment. The report also reveals that the higher the age, the lower the appetite for the development of entrepreneurial projects. Thus, 25% of the 35-49 y.o. Romanians want to be entrepreneurs, while the percentage of the Romanians of 50+ is only of 12%. The education level of the respondents also makes a difference. 35% of the Romanians with higher education trust in the feasibility of a business start-up, while only 16% of them without higher education think so. Speaking of gender, 21% of women in Romania, and 26% of the men wish to become entrepreneurs. Romania ranks 9th according to the percentage of female entrepreneurs from 57 countries in 5 geographic regions, according to Mastercard Index of Women Entrepreneurs 2018. Thus, 28.9% of Romanian entrepreneurs are women, the percentage rising 27.5% compared to the previous year. Romania is, however, only on the 32nd position of 57 countries according to the conditions and opportunities for development for female entrepreneurs, three places lower than last year.

At the end of 2016, in Romania there were active about 720,000 companies (Eurostat), with a cumulated turnover of about 300 billions euro, Romania ranking second at European level as a growth rate in terms of the number of active companies registered in 2016 compared to 2008. However, Romania ranks last in terms of the number of companies per one thousand inhabitants, business people saying financial education and fiscal stability can boost the Romanian business appetite.

According to the official data of the National Trade Register Office (ONRC), between 1.01-30.06.2018 the number of newly established companies in Romania was 71,473, 9.81% lower than the same period of 2017.

Compared to the same period (1.01-30.06.2017), in 2017, the number of new start-ups was on an upward trend, reaching 79,251, with 31.23%



In Romania there are active two major grants programmes for business start-ups – Start-Up Nation, and Start-Up Plus. The Start-Up Nation programme offers up to 200,000 lei (about 43,000 euro) for each winning firm. In the Start-Up Plus programme, a maximum of 40,000 euro can be awarded. Start-Up Nation can be accessed throughout Romania, villages and towns. Start-Up Plus can only be accessed by businesses launched in the cities, except for Bucharest and Ilfov County.

more than in the same period of 2016.

The causes that led to a significant difference in the number of registrations in the first 6 months of 2018 compared to 2017 were diverse, the most important being the marked instability of tax legislation recorded in the first quarter of 2018, as well as the huge volume of normative acts adopted. The counties that registered the highest number of newly established companies were, in 2017, as well as in 2018, Bucharest, Cluj and Timis counties.



LOOKING AHEAD: ONLINE COURSES

The next step of the C2E project is the development of two online courses, one addressed to young carers and the other to professionals working directly with young carers. Based on the training curriculum developed for the face to face pilot training, the online courses will be built on innovative, interactive platforms and will be stimulating and informative taking into consideration the needs and constraints of the target audiences.

The online modules will give the opportunity to young carers and anyone involved in informal caring activities to learn about entrepreneurship, social enterprises, best practices on the field and basic business planning. Through useful information, guidelines, case studies and interactive tools, the online courses aspire to provide the necessary elements and skills to young carers, in order to come up with their own ideas and develop their own social enterprise. Lastly, the self-assessment tools for trainees will be delivered online without the intervention of a trainer.



PHS IN EUROPE

Reducing the final price for households has been the first goal of many public policies. A key element in households' behaviour is the difference between the average price of declared services and undeclared services. However, if prices and service affordability obviously play a major role in the decision to outsource services to external providers, non-economic parameters, like prevailing social norms regarding the role of women and the distribution of tasks within families, psychological barriers or attitudes towards domestic work, are also of paramount importance.

Reducing the price can be achieved through several mechanisms.

- first, through a reduction of the VAT rate;
- second, via the reduction of the cost of labour by means of exemptions from social contributions.

Third, the price can also be reduced if a third party (other than the State) pays part of the price – this can be done by companies for instance who offer their employees access to personal services, but also by insurance companies or local authorities.

Finally, the main tool used to diminish prices has been to introduce tax incentives. Tax deduction schemes have been introduced in some countries, mainly linked with a voucher system.

The regulation of employment and occasional work can either be carried out through the implementation of vouchers, specific programmes like Mini-Jobs, or specific status for workers in housework activities.

This approach is developed in countries that favour direct employment by households rather than triangular forms of employment by provider organisations. Employers are encouraged to rely on these new regulation which offer them some flexibility and financial advantages, which are sometimes linked to the employment of former jobseekers in the context of activation programmes. Through this specific regulation, households benefit from simplified administrative procedures for registering workers and the labour cost is reduced by means of social contribution exemptions.

This can result in weaker rights for workers and an increase in precariousness.

All the above-mentioned tools act upon the demand side.

More rarely, public policies might also try to foster the emergence of a formal supply side. On the one hand, this can mean encouraging entrepreneurship and the development of companies (for-profit or not-for-profit), and also improving the structure of the market.

On the other hand, this can also take the form of supporting the emergence of an individual formal supply side by immigration measures. Regularisation measures can result in an improvement in their working conditions, compared to an illegal situation.

With regard to the sector perspective, it can be said that, even if the situation varies considerably from country to country, a series of relatively common trends can be identified:

- Increase in life expectancy: all European Union countries have been undergoing a process of increased life expectancy for many years now. Some of the countries of the European Union have among the highest life expectancies in the world.
- Changes in the structure of households: the traditional structure of households has changed in recent decades, and it will continue to change in the future. The reduction in household size, the increase in households composed of a single person, single-parent families with children, etc., represent a source of new needs and demand for services to households and people, catering, maintenance of the home and related spaces, etc.
- A higher presence of women into the labour market. The progressive presence of women into the labour market has meant a radical change in the demand for services in this sector, as traditionally they have attended to the family's needs for these types of services.
- New management concepts connected to higher flexibility in terms of time and roles within the companies.



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