

Care and caring in Europe: common challenges, common solutions?

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Stecy Yghemonos, Eurocarers Director

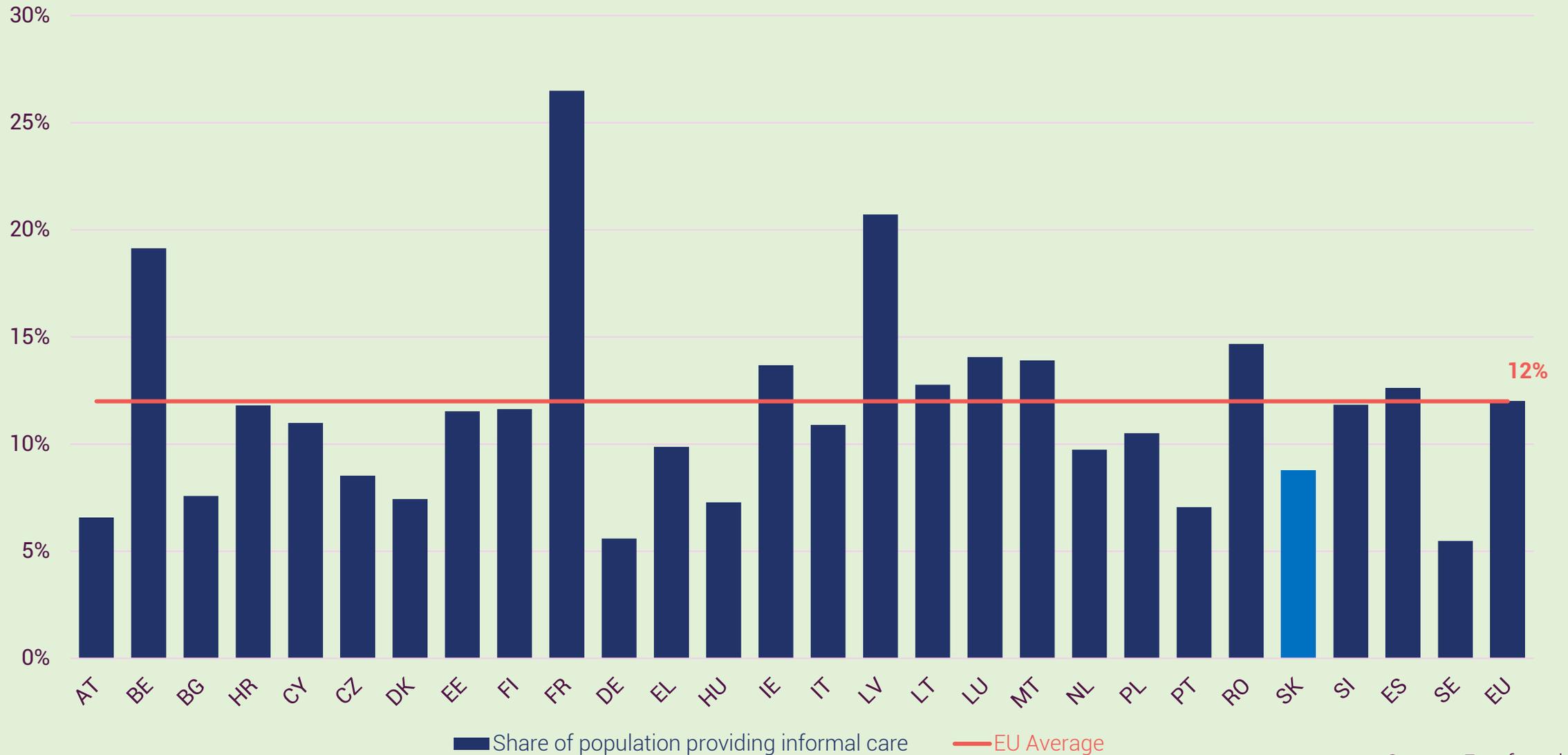


Who are informal carers?

A carer is any person who provides care - usually unpaid - to someone with a chronic illness, a disability or any other long-lasting care needs, outside a professional or formal framework.



How many carers are there?



The “economic” argument

- ▶ Value of unpaid informal care in the EU: **between €320 & €368 bn/yr** or **2.5% of the EU GDP**
- ▶ Shift from informal to formal care would require **increase of 109% in the share of GDP devoted to LTC**
- ▶ No universal long-term care without informal carers !



Impact of caring

Correlation between caregiving and :

- Work-life/care balance
- Social exclusion and poverty
- Health and well-being



What can ICT do for carers?



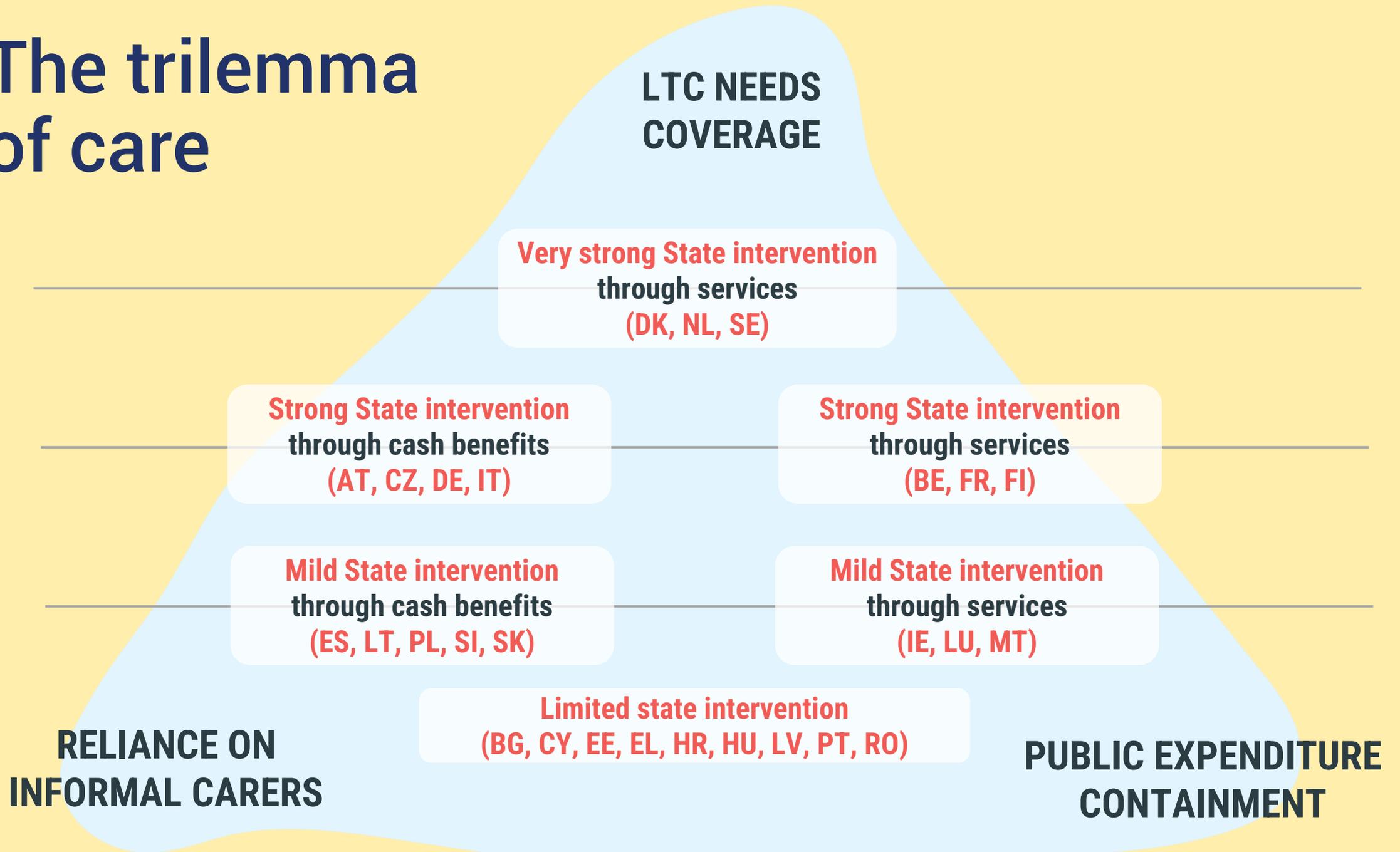
What do carers want?

- **Financial support:** income based on a minimum wage
- **Employment:** flexible working, paid and/or unpaid leave
- **Pension credits** for care time
- **Regular breaks** from caring
- **Training**

Still UNequal
Partners in Care !



The trilemma of care



EUROPEAN CARE STRATEGY

European Pillar
of Social Rights
Principle 18:
Long-term care



#EUCareStrategy



European
Commission

Implementation of the strategy

Proposal for a Council Recommendation on access to affordable and high-quality LTC:

Framework for policy reforms and focus on improving working conditions in the LTC sector and identification + support of informal carers via:

- better interface between informal carers and LTC workers
- training, counselling, healthcare, psychological support and respite care
- adequate financial support



Thank you for your attention!

Stecy Yghemonos, Eurocarers Director

stecy@eurocarers.org

www.eurocarers.org



**EURO
CARERS**

European Association Working for Carers

