

AIACE





International Association of
Former Staff of the European
Union (« AIACE »)

Join us!

THE POPULATION OF RETIRED STAFF

Approximately 31000 retired personnel

The population is composed of beneficiaries of

- retirement pension,
- invalidity pension,
- early retirement pension
- « survivor's pension ».

NB: these are mainly non-officials (spouses, sometimes with children), about 4000 persons, rarely aware of the administrative procedures and in need of help.

THE POPULATION OF RETIRED STAFF

15% of the population is over 80 years old, and a third of them are living « alone »

5% of them are in a state of dependency.

Geographical distribution:

50% in BE, IT and LUX; 50% spread over 90 countries (as far as Columbia or Zimbabwe!), and composed of 89 nationalities

AIACE

- Founded June 1969, **more than 50 years ago ...**
- Is an international association under Belgian law (AISBL)
- over 14500 members (total retired staff approx.31000)
- 15 branches: Belgique/België – Danmark - Deutschland – Éire/Ireland - España - France – Ελλάς/Grèce - Italia – Luxembourg - Nederland – Österreich – Portugal – Suomi/Finland – Sverige - United Kingdom, and 2 in progress (Czech Republic and Poland)
- the Belgium branch has over **5500** members of 30 different nationalities, and is the biggest branch in numbers.
- The fee varies depending on the size of the section from 25 and 50€ (costs versus income)

AIACE

Structure:

- The central bodies and the local sections
- The General Assembly : yearly all members are invited to attend.

Nota bene: A Congress (Assises) is organised in a different member state of the EU each year (Sicily in 2024).

AIACE

The central board of management has a 3 year term of office:

- Composed of 2 members designated by each section and approved by the General Assembly,
- Elects within its members a president and a vice-president,
- Designates, based on the proposition of the president, a general secretary and a general treasurer

Regular meetings with representatives of the administrations of the institutions and an annual meeting with the high-level participation of all of the institutions.

AIACE

- In 2002, agreement for the participation in the meetings of the joint and interinstitutional committees.
- 29 February 2008: Partnership Agreement with the Commission
- In 2011, similar agreements with
 - the European Parliament,
 - the European Court of Justice,
 - the European Social and Economic Committee, the Committee of the Regions
 - the Court of Auditors
- 2015 the Council

All the institutions recognize AIACE as **the organization** representative of retired staff

WHAT DOES AIACE DO FOR YOU

- Contributes to the study of problems posed by European integration and public awareness, and collaborates with the EU institutions and bodies in these areas
- In close relation with the European Movement, important contribution to the document on “The future of Europe”
- Facilitates contacts between members and the Commission or the other institutions: pension, affiliation rights and JSIS.

DEFENCE OF PENSIONERS' LEGITIMATE INTERESTS

- The Staff Regulations (statute)
- JSIS: precarious balance income vs. expenses. Vigilance required
- Legal assistance and advice
- Helpdesk in BXL

Representatives of AIACE sit on the Committee on the Statute and on the Committee for the management of the JSIS.

They participate in the Technical Groups notably remunerations together with the Trade Unions and Professional Organisations

DEFENCE OF PENSIONERS' LEGITIMATE INTERESTS

Results of the negotiations in 2013-2014, catastrophic and irreversible for active staff:

- Increase in the retirement age
- Longer contribution period
- Longer working hours
- Reintroduction and increase of the special levy
- Reduction in a series of social rights and benefits
- Serious limitation of career prospects

DEFENCE OF PENSIONERS' LEGITIMATE INTERESTS

On the contrary, pensioners are not too badly off:

- Acquired rights safeguarded
- Payment of pensions secured thanks to « notional » fund.
- No special levy (already paid during the active career)

DEFENCE OF PENSIONERS' LEGITIMATE INTERESTS

New method:

- Automatic until 2023, entry into force 1 January 2014, but implementation postponed until 1 July 2015 (effective in December). Is continued unless one of the parties asks for a modification.
- **Guaranteed parallelism between salaries and pensions**
- Crucial role played by AIACE (the late Ludwig Schubert, Pierre Blanchard and Martin Clegg)

OTHER ACTIONS

Information for pensioners

- quarterly VOX bulletin sent to **all members**.
- national bulletins sent to their members only, including administrative info and local info; info via email to the 90% having given their address
- MyIntraComm (access via EU Login account)
- Team after EC, for pensioners
- RCAM/JSIS « on line » (mandatory: a browser, a scanner, a GSM n° , or new a smart phone with an app)

OTHER ACTIONS

Promote actions for solidarity and mutual aid

- Helping the Commission to identify the areas of difficulties and the need for help (opinion surveys). Organising meetings with professionals to find solutions (legal, fiscal helpdesk).
- Voluntary activities ,e.g. visits to elderly people in a state of dependency ,visits to homes for senior people, helpdesk, translations,.....
- member of the WG Asbestos (EC, medical service, Cancer Support Group and AIACE, both in partnership since 2013)

OTHER ACTIONS

Contacts between members depending on the size of the section

- Theatre outings, conferences, travelling (lot of 😊), museum visits, walks, lunch meetings....
- Many members participate in leisure clubs organised by the institutions in different countries: all are available to retired staff and relatives, i.e. bridge, gym, dance, and more...

MAIN BASIS OF OUR ACTION :

VOLUNTEERING

Need for new volunteers, lots of fields of activities

- Visits to members in a state of dependency,
- Help in dealing with the administrative authorities (pmo,jsis),
- **Translations,**
- Training in office automation (internet,tablet, smartphones)
- Presentations to the pre-retirement seminars

« Espace seniors » : avenue des Nerviens **105, 00/038**, an office, telephone, 4 PCs, meeting room

INSURANCES SPECIFICALLY INTENDED FOR RETIRED STAFF, PROPOSED BY AIACE

At retirement time, the insurance covering accidents and incapacity (article 72 § 3 of the Staff Regulations) IS NO LONGER VALID.

Therefore, already in 1994, AIACE signed, with the insurance company CIGNA a contract called "ACCIDENTS", and then, later on a contract "HOSPITALIZATION".

INSURANCES

To subscribe an insurance, you must:

- Be retired
- Be a member of AIACE
- The cover for accidents will be the same as for active personnel
- No waiting delay: the policy can start on the first day of retirement

For more information:

- Web site of AIACE international: aiace-europa-eu
- Meeting possible with CIGNA once a month on appointment either at the AIACE international Office or by video conference
- E mail address of the group of volunteers specialised in



AIACE INTERNATIONAL,

VM18 - 03/013

TEL. 02.2952960

aiace-int@ec.europa.eu

aiace-general@ec.europa.eu

[web site https://aiace-europa.eu](https://aiace-europa.eu)

AIACE BELGIUM,

VM18 - 03/058

TEL. 02.2953842

aiace-be@ec.europa.eu

Membership through the local branches

Rue Van Maerlant 18 – 3/013

Rue Van Maerlant 18 – 3/058