

Long-Term Care for the Elderly in the Czech Republic and European countries in the context of demographic ageing

Abstract

Long-term care refers to the range of services required by persons suffering from a reduced degree of functional capacity and who are dependent on help with activities of daily living. These services include personal care as well as medical and social services. LTC could be provided either in institutional settings or at home – by informal (unpaid) or formal providers. European Union has declared that LTC represents one of the main challenges connected with the current demographic changes. The main aim of this thesis is to provide a picture of LTC providing across European countries. Special attention was placed on ensuring care for the elderly in Czechia, where ambiguities about responsibilities (which are divided between The Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and and The Ministry of Health), financing or even defining the content of this care have recently become quite frequent subjects of public debates.

Keywords: demographic ageing, long-term care, health and social services, home care, Czechia, international comparison