



# España

Amigos de la Gente de Edad

## ITS FOUR BASIC CONCEPTS

Age Concern Organisations or Groups are expected to follow 4 basic concepts in relation to older people and are a condition of use of the name 'Age Concern'.

1. To provide services and support.
2. To foster public education on the needs and aspirations of older people and to provide an advocacy role in respect of local and national government, health services, institutions, voluntary bodies, private and commercial organisations and individuals.
3. To encourage innovation for problem solving on matters relating to age and to support research into such matters.
4. To develop partnership and cooperation with statutory bodies, commercial and voluntary organisations, etc., for developing innovative schemes for social benefit and Age Concern work.

**Note 1:** Membership of the Age Concern Movement carries the right to use the 'Age Concern' name. That right shall be forfeited when membership is terminated, or when the Board of the *Federación de Age Concern España* decides that a member organisation or group is bringing the name into disrepute by its actions, or by persistent failure to meet minimum conditions of membership.

**Note 2:** Age Concern Organisations are the larger Age Concern bodies whilst Groups are the smaller ones often working under an Organisation.

## ITS CHARTER

1. To gain public recognition of Age Concern España's aims.
2. To chart the way forward for the over 50s and to secure a positive role in society for the older generation.
3. To provide help.
4. To foster inter-generational cooperation and understanding.
5. To rationalise benefits/subventions for expatriates.

6. To work with like-minded organisations.
7. To encourage integration and to develop rapport with the Spanish authorities.

## ITS ACTIVITIES

Age Concern España is primarily concerned with the expatriate community and its well-being. It favours integration with the Spanish way of life as befits foreigners living in a host country.

Most importantly, because of its close relationship with Age Concern England, and its membership of the overall Movement, it has effective listening posts in the United Kingdom and the European Union (EU) on matters likely to affect older expatriates. This feature is enhanced by its own membership of EuroLink Age, an important body looking after the upper age groups throughout the European Union of which Spain, for instance, is represented by *Cáritas* and the *Federación de Asociaciones de la Gente Mayor (Tercera Edad)*.

Age Concern England operates a Research Unit of Gerontology in collaboration with King's College, London, a Parliamentary office for briefing British Members of Parliament on matters of the moment and in a wider field, an International Office for liaising with EU Institutions in Brussels and Strasbourg. Age Concern España is in continuous contact with these activities and is thus fully abreast of developments that could affect people in Spain.

At local level, Age Concern Organisations and Groups may engage in activities that meet the needs of older people in their area but they should operate within Spanish law and within guidelines defined by the Federation in conjunction with Age Concern England.

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