

EPSU's priorities for accessible, affordable and high-quality LTC

Brussels, 21 February

EUROPEAN PUBLIC SERVICE UNION

The current models are not sustainable

“If not addressed properly, current deficits in care work and its quality will create a severe and unsustainable global care crisis and further increase gender inequalities in the world of work.”

- ILO, 2018

“Social protection against the risk of long-term care dependence is needed for equity and efficiency reasons.”

- SPC/EC, 2014

“At present, wages in the LTC sector are low and working conditions not particularly attractive.”

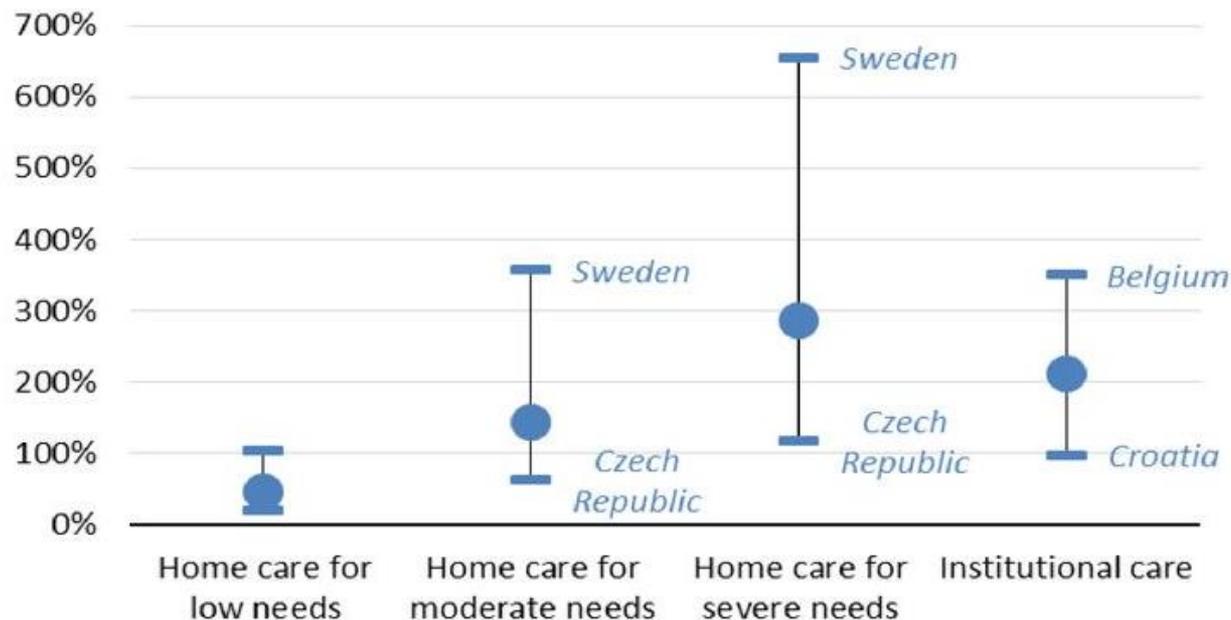
- SPC/EC, 2014

“Formal long-term care provision needs to be expanded greatly in most Member States, improving access to a range of flexible options.”

- Eurofound, 2019

In the absence of social protection, LTC quickly becomes unaffordable

The cost of care for different scenarios as a % of median disposable income among people aged over 65 (average of 15 OECD countries)

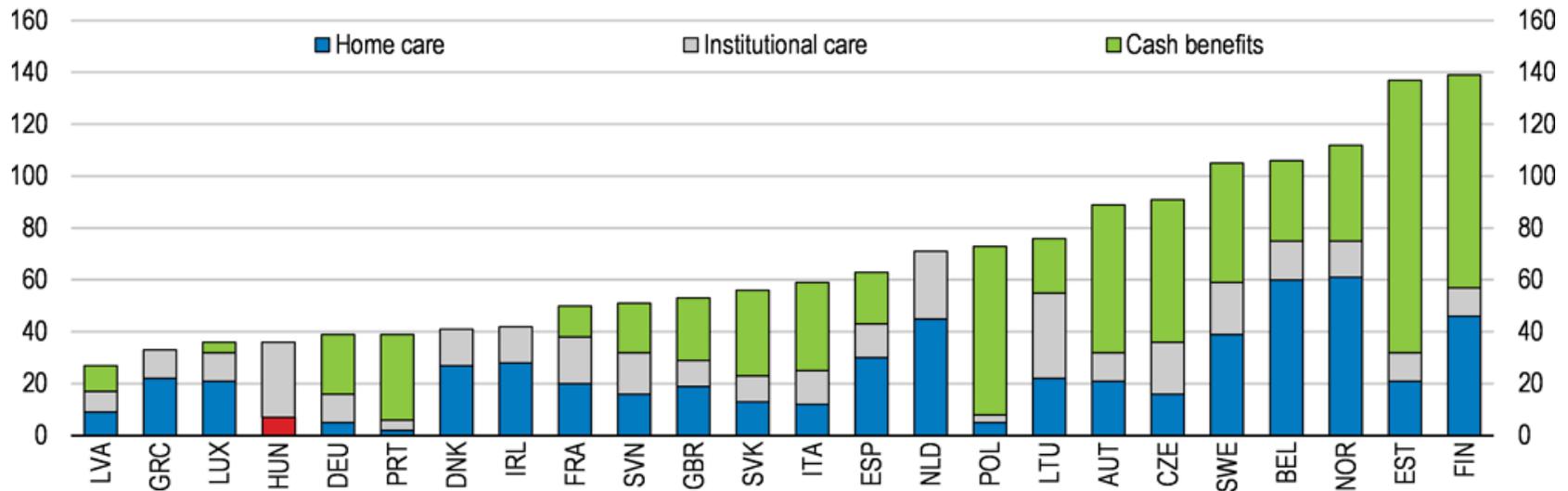


Source: OECD Social Protection for LTC Dataset, provisional figures

Source: OECD, 2016

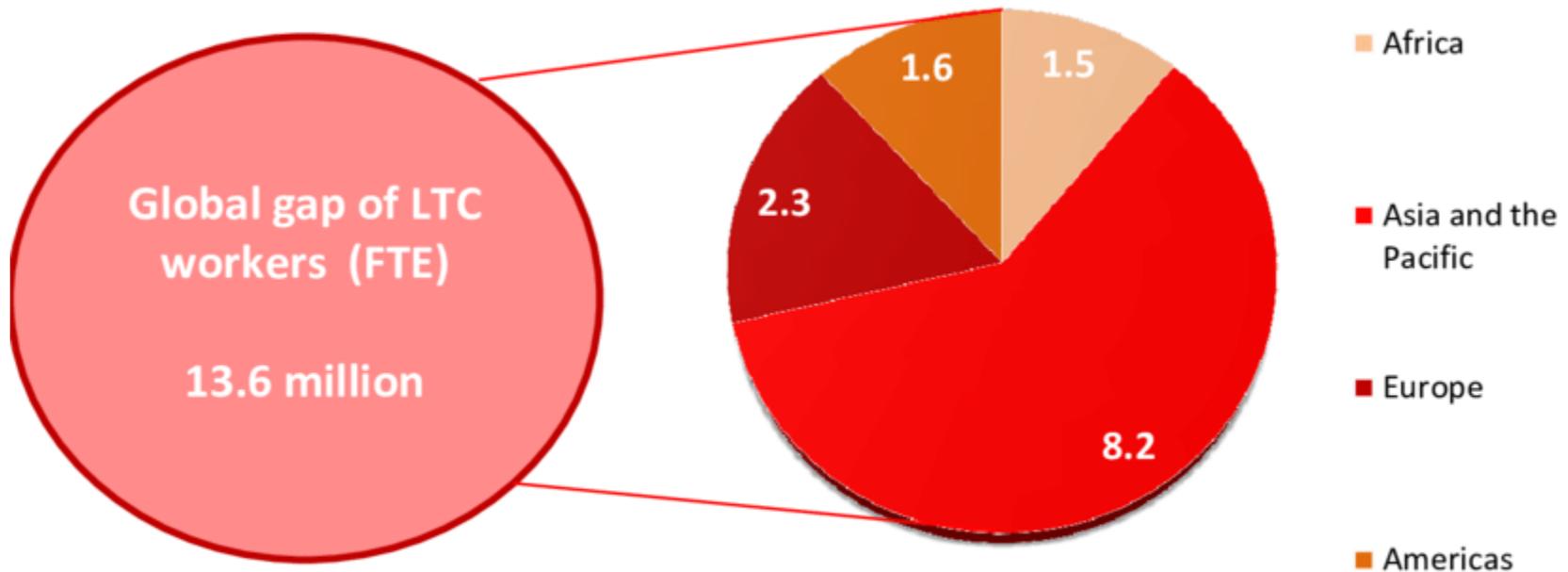
But coverage rates are low in many countries

B. Coverage rates of long-term care recipients by type of coverage
As a percentage of dependent population, 2016 or latest available¹



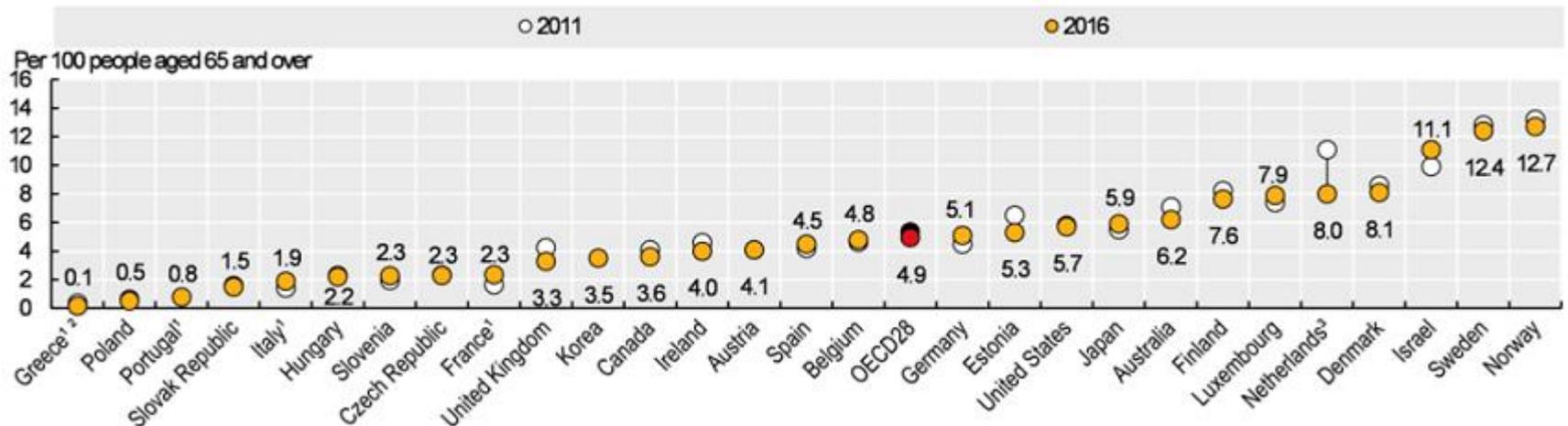
Source: OECD, 2016

Europe lacks 2.3 million carers



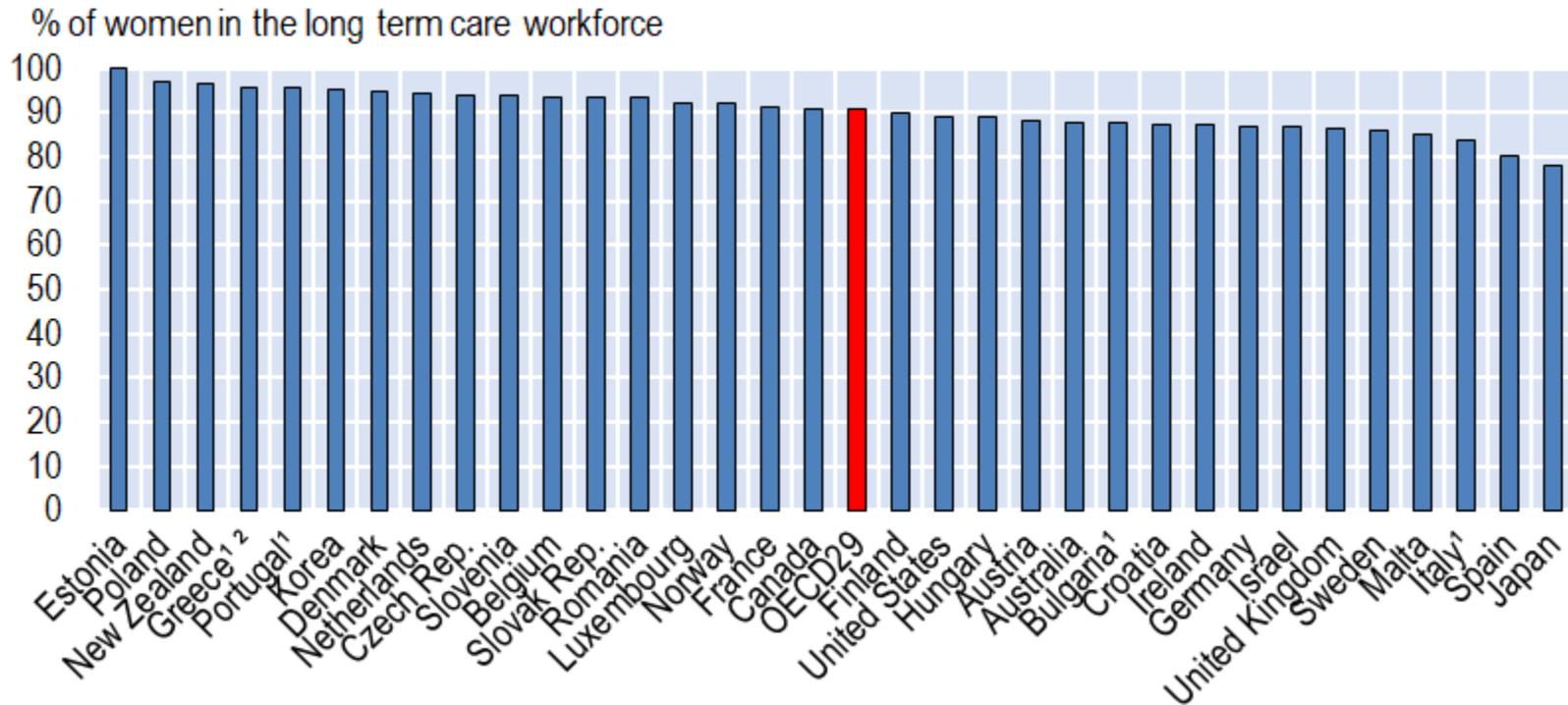
Source: ILO, 2015

The lack of carers is growing in many states



Number of LTC workers per 100 people aged 65 and over, in 2011 and 2016 (or nearest year), Source: EU-LFS and OECD Health Statistics, 2018

The care workforce is overwhelmingly female



Share of women in the long-term care workforce (OECD, 2016 or nearest year)

EPSU's Priorities

- Support collective bargaining in the sector to improve working conditions as well as remuneration and render work in the LTC sector more attractive.
- Set up a sectoral social dialogue structure on European level to find common approaches to topics like DI, diversity, migration etc.
- Eradicate gender-based stereotypes and rebalance the workforce as well as management levels.
- Create a right to care by investing in public social protection systems to ensure access, affordability and quality of LTC.
- Prevent the marketisation and commercialization of LTC services, which lead to inequalities in access and underinvestment in quality facilities or trained staff.
- Ensure that informal carers are supported by well-funded LTC services wherever needed.



Thank you!

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