

Ariela Lowenstein: Candidate INPEA Vice President 2009

Declaration of intent and short statement - -June 3, 2009

I wish to notify you that I was honored to be nominated for Vice-President of INPEA and I accept this nomination.

My vision is to expand the work of INPEA to become the leading organization which is not only raising awareness but advancing policy and innovative services, creates a broad conceptual base for understanding the complex and multidimensional phenomenon of elder abuse and neglect; forms interdisciplinary and cross-national groups working together on knowledge development, knowledge transfer and dissemination tuned to the needs of different cultural and ethnic groups, as well as to the developing world. INPEA should be called upon to participate in any discussion related to elder abuse and neglect by governments, international bodies, major NGO's and others. Elder abuse should be put on a broader agenda of age discrimination, human rights and human dignity. If elected I would try to work to pursue these goals together with all INPEA members and will try to harmonize the work of the network.

Below is a short statement outlining what are the qualifications that I bring to such a job, should I be elected.

I am a Full Professor, Dept. of Gerontology and **Director, Center for Research and Study of Aging**, Faculty of Welfare and Health Sciences, University of Haifa, Israel. Within the Center I have close research collaboration with scholars from Israel as well as wide international collaboration with colleagues from Europe, US, Canada, Japan and Latin America. I work with many of them on various issues related to elder abuse and neglect. Such work was reflected, for example, in the following article: Kosberg, J., Lowenstein, A., Garcia, J., & Biggs, S. (2005). Study of elder abuse within diverse cultures. *Journal of Elder Abuse and Neglect*, 15(3/4), 71-90.

I have been involved in research and education in gerontology and in elder abuse over the past 30 years, acknowledged as a national and international leading expert. I bring a broad active involvement in various international roles like being the **past chair** of the *European Behavioral, Social Science and Research Section* of the International Association of Gerontology – European Region. Currently and for the last four years I am a board member of the International Federation on Aging (IFA) and member of its management committee. For the past three years I have been a Board Member, as an International Fellow, of the National Initiative for the Care of the Elderly (NICE) University of Toronto, Canada and am co-chairing a working group there on elder abuse and neglect. During that period the group developed and validated several screening tools and is involved in knowledge translation on issues of elder abuse and neglect globally. I hold a nomination as Visiting Professor at King's College London, Institute of Gerontology, England. During March-June 2009 I am a visiting scholar and researcher at the Institute of Gerontology at UMASS Boston in the US. I had an appointment as a Visiting Professor at McMaster University, Ontario, Canada in 2005, and as a Visiting Scholar at Baycrest Geriatric Center, Toronto, Canada in 2007.

Most important, for the last several years I serve as **European Regional representative of INPEA**, impacting on expanding the work of scholars and practitioners on issues of elder abuse and neglect and creating a large network in Europe. During last year's WEAAD I received from INPEA the prestigious Rosalie Wolf International Award for outstanding scholarship. The work in Europe was also reflected in me being part of an expert group which at the EU planned the large Brussels conference last year, where I was the first key note lecturer. Also, being on the program committee for the recent Czech conference on

Dignity and Hazard for the elderly and part of the group that wrote the recommendations, to be added to the declaration on elder abuse and neglect, submitted to the EU.

My international work includes also being an Honorary Fellow of the Gerontological Society of America and a Fellow of the World Demographic Association.

I served for five years as **chair** of the Israeli Gerontological Society, from whom I received a prize for *life achievement*. I conducted with colleagues the first National Survey on Elder Abuse and Neglect which impacted on policy and service developments and am chairing a national forum on the topic.

I am an active researcher in the area of intergenerational family relations and within it on elder abuse and neglect. Below is an example some of my recent publications on the topic:
Lowenstein, A., & Doron, I. (2008). Intergenerational justice. *Indian Journal of Gerontology*, 22(3&4), 356-372.

Lowenstein, A. (2008). Elder Abuse and Neglect--'Old Phenomenon', New Directions for Research, Legislation and Service Developments". *Journal of Elder Abuse and Neglect* 21(3).

Lowenstein, A. & Doron, I. (2008). Times of transitions: Elder abuse and neglect in Israel. *Journal of Elder Abuse and Neglect*, 20(2), 181-206.

Lowenstein, A., Eisikovits, Z., Band-Winterstein, T., & Enosh, G. (forthcoming). Is Elder Abuse and Neglect a Social Phenomenon? Data from the First National Prevalence Survey in Israel. *Journal of Elder Abuse and Neglect*

I am the recipient of numerous competitive research grants from the EU, the US-Israel Bi National Foundation as well as prestigious scholarships and awards. I serve on various editorial boards of journals on aging, including the Journal of Elder Abuse and Neglect.

I lectured at the UN Committee on Aging on elder abuse and neglect – advancing policy, and had been invited by the EU Commission on Social Exclusion for an expert hearing on elder abuse and by the UN Social Policy Division to an international expert group on ‘intergenerational solidarity’ where I was actively engaged in formulating policy recommendations.

In addition to research which entails knowledge development, I am working on advancing policy, knowledge dissemination, education and training. I wrote with colleagues a learning module on elder abuse for the WHO:

Lowenstein, A., Doron, I., & Winterstein, T. (2003). *A learning module on elder abuse: International and cross-cultural perspectives*. Geneva, Switzerland: World Health Organization.

Ariela Lowenstein can be reached at: ariela@research.haifa.ac.il