

**OPEN LETTER FROM THE INTERNATIONAL NETWORK FOR STUDIES AND RESEARCH IN
CARE AND AGEING SYSTEMS (REDE GERONTO) TO THE PRESIDENTS OF THE BRICS
NATIONS**

Rio de Janeiro, July 6, 2025

Your Excellencies, Presidents of the BRICS Nations,

On the occasion of the BRICS Summit held in the city of Rio de Janeiro on July 6 and 7, 2025, the *International Network for Studies and Research in Care and Ageing Systems – Rede Geronto*, an organization committed to advancing knowledge, innovation, and public policies focused on population ageing, publicly expresses its concern over the lack of a more structured and cross-cutting approach to demographic transition and global population ageing in the debates shaping the future of nations by 2030.

It is well known that the BRICS – Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa – represent not only strategic blocs in the economic and geopolitical scenario but also realities marked by profound demographic changes, with a rapidly growing elderly population in their territories. With the addition of six new members – Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Ethiopia, Indonesia, and Iran – the bloc's participation in global GDP (in PPP, current prices) increased to approximately 39% in 2023, representing 48.5% of the world's population, with a projected above-average growth for the next decade. This context must be studied through research and actions carried out by educational institutions, healthcare services, and non-governmental organizations working with older adults in Brazil and abroad — a field of operation of Rede Geronto.

The ageing phenomenon brings about a silent transformation with major impacts on health systems, social protection models, the productive structure, and patterns of consumption and sustainability. In this regard, Rede Geronto emphasizes the urgent need for multilateral agreements in the areas of health, climate, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, and digital transformation to explicitly take into account the impacts of population ageing and the particularities of a society in which a significant portion of citizens still remains on the margins of the digital environment and new forms of consumption and economic participation.

It is urgent to recognize that current models of digital inclusion, labor market dynamics, and technological innovation do not equitably include older age groups, who face technical, cultural, and structural barriers in accessing goods, services, and opportunities in the digital world. At the same time, sustainability and ecological transition policies have failed to incorporate the potential contributions of active and productive longevity to both local and global economies.

Thus, we propose that the BRICS nations:

1. Integrate the topic of population ageing as a strategic axis in their action plans through 2030, promoting intergenerational dialogue, digital equity, and valuing

maturity as a driver of social and economic innovation through the stimulation of silver economy projects;

2. Promote in each nation a culture of respect for older people by valuing senior knowledge, with special policies that encourage lifelong learning and positive cognitive stimulation to prevent dementia and Alzheimer's disease;
3. Strengthen cooperation among member countries in the formulation of inclusive public policies, focusing on continued care, digital literacy, and labor inclusion for people aged 60+, while respecting each nation's cultural and social diversity;
4. Create multilateral mechanisms for monitoring and financing initiatives aimed at longevity and care, aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda and the United Nations Decade of Healthy Ageing (2021–2030);
5. Recognize the strategic role of research networks, civil society, and universities in formulating and implementing innovative and sustainable solutions that consider the impacts of ageing on health, labor, urban mobility, and social justice policies.

Rede Geronto reaffirms its commitment to human development at all stages of life and calls upon the leaders of the BRICS nations to prioritize ageing in the agreements made, ensuring that no generation is left behind in the pursuit of a more just, inclusive, and sustainable future.

Respectfully,

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