

International Equal Care Day

Out of frustration over the lack of appreciation for care workers in Germany, we started the **Equal Care Day** initiative in 2016 in order to raise awareness of the value of care work. We intentionally picked Leap Day, February 29th, which only occurs every four years, for our event in order to symbolize the mostly "unseen" nature of care work (and to reflect the 4:1 gender ratio (women:men) of paid careworkers in Germany). In non-leap years, we still commemorate Equal Care Day on March 1st.

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Since 2016, our event has grown rapidly as a platform for networking and raising awareness of the need to elevate the role of caregiving, both paid and unpaid, in modern society. The COVID-19 pandemic greatly increased interest in our cause, and in 2021 over 40 Equal Care Day events were held across Germany. Our initiative has also expanded internationally, with ECD events being held in Turkey, Italy, Argentina, and Luxembourg.

Please help us to further expand 'Equal Care Day' internationally by joining our initiative! This could be as simple as introducing Equal Care Day during any of your events that occur on or around March 1, 2023 / 24 ff, or creating your own ECD event on that date itself if you wish.

An event could be a panel discussion, a reading, a march, an interview, or take any of a number of formats. You may use <u>our logo</u> (https://equalcareday.de/en/the-idea/ecd-logo/) to promote your own ECD event. And if you send us a link and the date, time, description, and registration information for your event, we will include your event listing, together with your logo and link in our Equal Care Day calendar. And on February 29th 2024 you could have your own stage in our digital care-landscape.

Please note that our organization is entirely not-for-profit and run by volunteers. We do not ask for any fees from participating organizations, although donations are of course always <u>welcome</u>.

Please contact us at post@equalcareday.de to discuss joining the Equal Care Day initiative!

Our annual event is an easy way to help build international unity for advancing care work around the globe. I look forward to talking with you soon.

In solidarity,

Your Equal Care Day-Team

