

THE FUTURE OF AGING AND ASSISTED LIVING TECHNOLOGIES (AALT) IN 2035

SUMMARY OF THE PILOT WORKSHOP (BERLIN - 19-20 MAY 2025)

2023-2026
18 PARTNERS



CONTEXT

EYE OF EUROPE OBJECTIVES

- Strengthen the integration of foresight practices into Research and Innovation (R&I) EU policy-making
- Support the Futures4Europe platform in nurturing an influential R&I foresight community

PILOT WORKSHOPS SERIES

- Address key topics relevant to the European Research Area (ERA)
- Experiment with innovative foresight methodologies and diverse groups of participants

KEY TAKEAWAYS

The workshop explored how Aging and Assisted Living Technologies (AALT) could reshape care, work, and inclusion in ageing societies by 2035. Across all pathways, AALT emerged as a key enabler of more personalized, efficient, and preventive systems, supporting older adults and people with special needs to live more independent and connected lives.

At the same time, participants emphasized that these transformations are not purely technological. The integration of AALT raises fundamental ethical, social, and political questions around privacy, equity, responsibility, and the role of human relationships in care and work. While technology can augment and support, it cannot replace the relational and emotional dimensions that remain central to well-being and inclusion.

A shared vision across the workshop pointed toward a systemic shift: from fragmented and institution-centred models of care and employment to more integrated, data-informed, and user-centred ecosystems. This includes a stronger focus on ageing in place, more inclusive workplaces, and the emergence of new hybrid roles combining care, technology, and coordination.

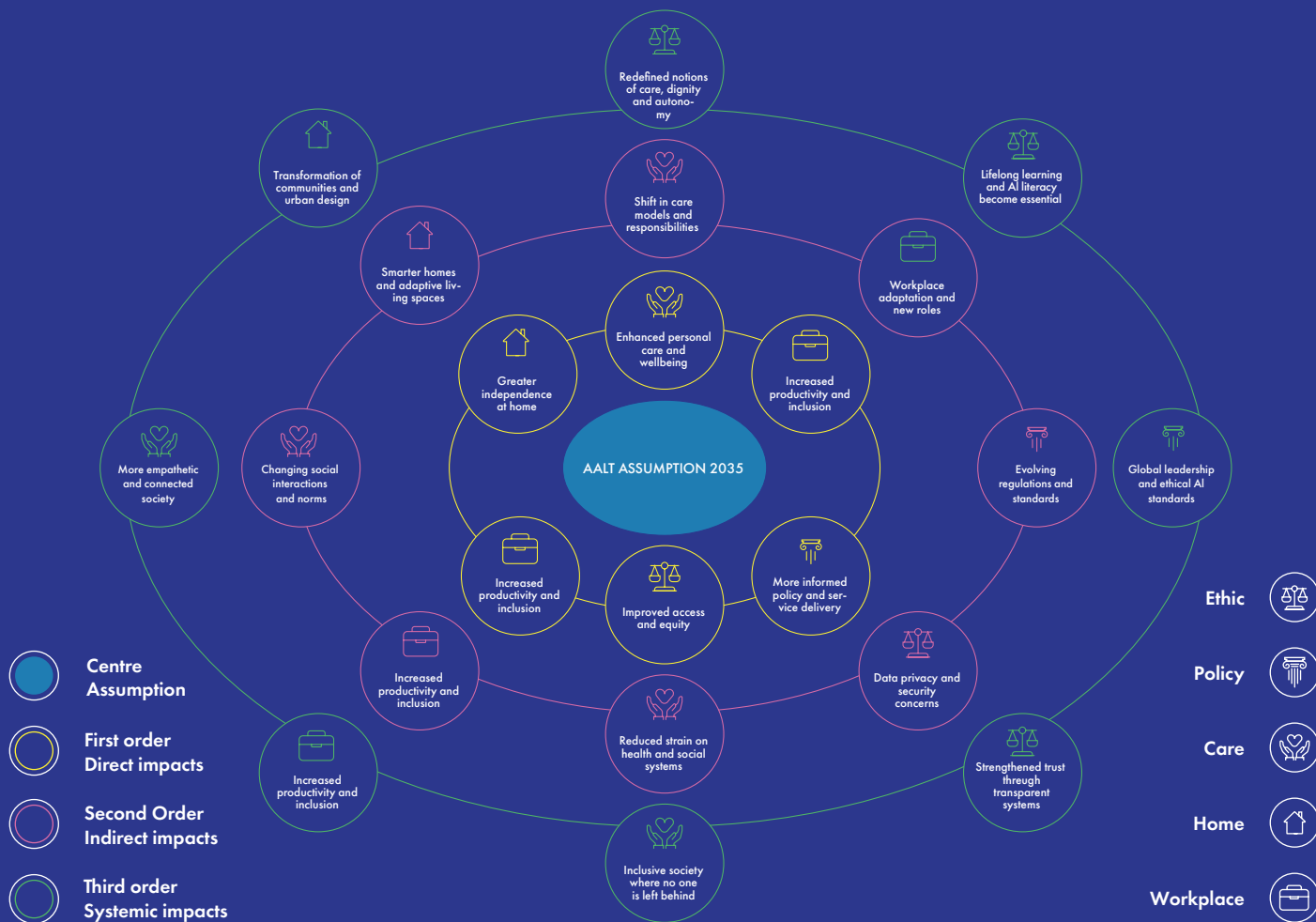
However, realizing this future depends on critical enabling conditions. These include equitable access to technologies, robust data governance, digital skills development, and new forms of collaboration across sectors. Without these, there is a risk that AALT could deepen existing inequalities or create new dependencies.

WORKSHOP METHODOLOGY

1. THE FUTURES WHEEL

The workshop applied a foresight methodology using the Futures Wheel, a structured approach to explore the ripple effects of emerging developments. Starting from three future assumptions for 2035, participants identified first-, second-, and third-order consequences across interconnected systems. This method enabled a shift from linear thinking toward systemic exploration, uncovering not only direct impacts of AALT but also broader societal, economic, and ethical implications.



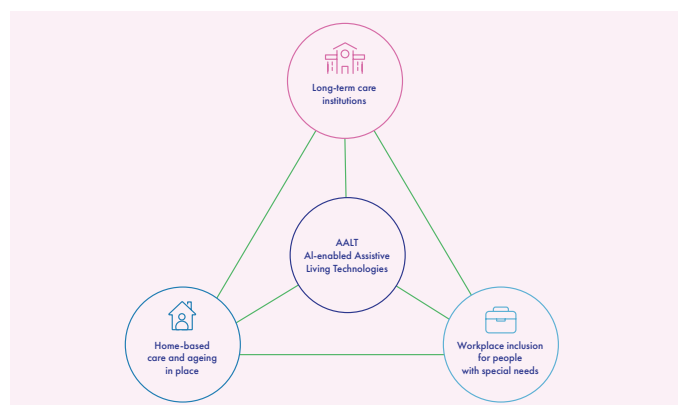


2. KEY SYSTEMIC INSIGHTS: OPPORTUNITIES AND TENSIONS

Across all groups, the Futures Wheel identified systemic dynamics in AALT that present both opportunities and challenges, including improved care quality, workforce inclusion, and innovation ecosystems, alongside tensions between privacy and monitoring, efficiency and human connection, and innovation and equity. Overall, AALT adoption emerges as an ongoing balance between competing societal values rather than a purely technical shift.

3. MULTI-DOMAIN PERSPECTIVE: THREE PATHWAYS OF TRANSFORMATION

The workshop explored AALT across three interconnected domains:



This multi-domain approach highlighted how AALT is not confined to a single sector but acts as a cross-cutting driver of change, reshaping care systems, labour markets, and everyday living environments simultaneously. Impacts in one domain (e.g. home care) directly influence others (e.g. reduced institutional demand, extended working lives).

READ THE WORKSHOP REPORT

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