

Preface

Increased life expectancy is an achievement of modern societies in the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, OECD Countries (and recently in developing Countries) thanks to the technological progress in health, living places, and quality of food. An aggregate consequence of the prolongation of the life span is the growth of an ageing society, as testified by several demographic studies. The study of the consequences of an aging society on the future of social living had recently been considered by large world institutions (WHO, UN, EU, etc), which addressed and designed programs for social and technological development taking into account the impact of the aging society in the future of the world. The incidence of chronic diseases during aging imposes the need for innovative approaches to assistance, including the ability of self-management, which has become an increasingly important requirement of healthcare in Europe and beyond. Novel assistive solutions and technologies are especially necessary to deal with the increasing demand for personalized assistance and to support multiple users in different scenarios. In this context, the workshop on “sociAL roboTs for peRsonalized, continUous and adaptIve aSsisTance” (ALTRUIST - <http://altruist.istc.cnr.it>) aims at pushing the synergetic contribution of different research areas e.g., Artificial Intelligence (AI), Internet-of-Things (IoT), Robotics, and Social Science to develop innovative and effective research and technologies for the aging society and assistance in general. The workshop aims at bridging the gap between the health needs of users and (potentially conflicting) clinical/social requirements of different stakeholders (e.g., patients, roboticists, engineers, and healthcare professionals).

This CEUR-WS volume contains the proceedings of the 2nd edition of ALTRUIST (ALTRUIST 2022). The workshop was held on December 16th, 2022 in Florence (Italy) during the 14th edition of the International Conference of Social Robotics (ICSR 2022 - <https://www.icsr2022.it>). It receives contributions from authors in different countries (e.g., Italy, France, Japan, Spain, USA) for a total of 11 accepted papers (10 included in the proceedings). The topics of the papers are perfect examples of the pursued multidisciplinary and joint efforts of Artificial Intelligence, Robotics, ICT, and Healthcare Assistance. Three keynote talks from Dr. Oliver Korn (title: “*Designing an Emotion-Sensitive Companion Robot for the Elderly*”), Prof. Kristiina Jokinen (title: “*Conversational AI meets Social Robots. Towards Virtual Coaches for Wellbeing and Smart Aging*”), and Prof. Alessandro Di Nuovo (title: “*Social Applications of Multimodal Cognitive Robots*”) enriched the program. ALTRUIST 2022 had a good number of participants (between 15 and 25 people counting both online and in-person attendees) leading to interesting discussions. We thank all the people who made this event possible: the authors of the papers, the reviewers, the PC members, and the invited speaker. We also thank the organizers of ICSR 2022 for kindly hosting the workshop.

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