



Eradicating poverty in the EU

May 2026



The **first-ever EU anti-poverty strategy** aims to prevent and address poverty in all its dimensions, **from birth to old age**. It sets out an ambitious social plan to **help eradicate poverty by 2050**. It puts a focus on **quality jobs**, which is the most effective way out of poverty for those who can work. The strategy comes together with new measures to **tackle housing exclusion and better support children** at risk of poverty and social exclusion.

1 in 5 Europeans, including 1 in 4 children,
are at risk of poverty or social exclusion

MAIN ACTIONS



Addressing poverty across people's lives

- Strengthening the European Child Guarantee
- Consulting social partners on a legal action to remove barriers to employment
- New guidance to address in-work poverty
- Supporting older people through adequate pensions and opportunities to stay in work



Tackling drivers of poverty

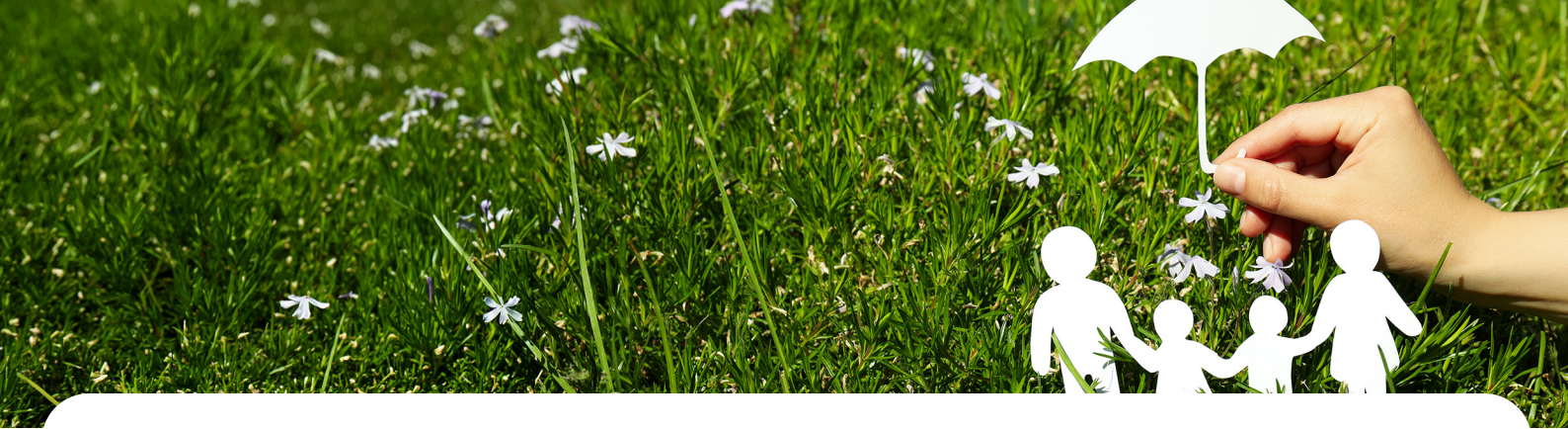
- Council Recommendation on fighting housing exclusion to expand social and affordable housing
- Easier access to social services
- Addressing discrimination and stigma around poverty



Joining efforts to combat poverty

- Principles for effective anti-poverty policies
- Ensuring people with lived experience of poverty help design solutions
- Coalition Against Poverty with businesses and philanthropic organisations





Combating child poverty

The **reinforced Child Guarantee** aims to meet the urgent needs of children in poverty, and **break the cycle of poverty** for good.



19.3 million children are at risk of poverty or social exclusion



75% of mothers with young children say care duties keep them out of work



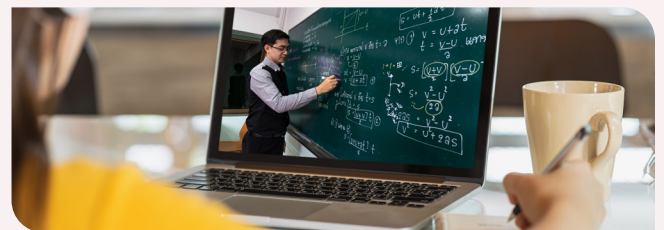
Growing up in poverty nearly **doubles the risk of remaining in poverty as an adult**

MAIN ACTIONS



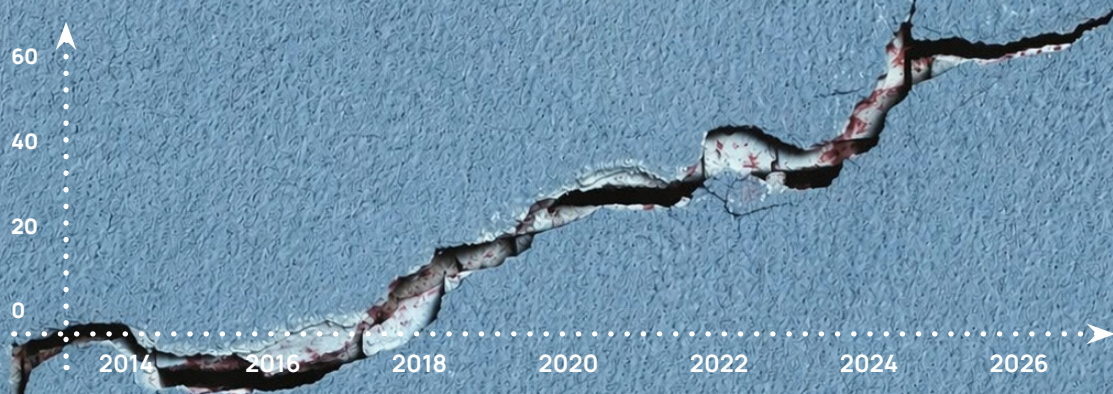
Better access to **quality childcare** and **more efficient child benefits**

Ensuring that all vulnerable children have access to the services they need to reach their full potential and **protecting them from growing threats**



Smoother transition to adulthood, with extended support





Fighting housing exclusion

The proposed **Council Recommendation on fighting housing exclusion** aims to ensure that everyone has a safe place to live, and to act early so that **no one is left sleeping on the streets**.



Approximately **1 million people** are affected by homelessness in the EU



40% of citizens identify lack of affordable housing as an **immediate and urgent problem** in the place where they live



House prices have **increased by 60%** since 2013

MAIN ACTIONS



Early **prevention of housing exclusion** through better monitoring and support



Stable housing solutions for homeless people



A housing-led approach centred on **people and their needs**



More availability of **social and affordable housing**