



CITIES Forum 2020

Together we shape
a sustainable urban future

Porto, 30-31 January 2020

#citiesforum2020

#SustainableUrbanDevelopment

Porto.

*Regional and
Urban Policy*





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URBAN AGENDA FOR THE EU – STATE OF PLAY OF THE ACTIONS

FREEK SPINNEWIJN
FEANTSA





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URBAN AGENDA

&

HOMELESSNESS

WHAT IS POSSIBLE & WHAT HAS BEEN DONE?





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PROPOSED ACTIONS

- Data on homelessness
 - Eurostat - EU-SILC and/or targeted
 - Other data collectors such as FRA
 - ETHOS *light* definition of homelessness
- EU target to end homelessness by 2030
 - In line with SDG Agenda (1,1 & 11,1)
 - Main tool = Semester
- Mobilisation of EU Funds to address homelessness
 - Focus on what works such as Housing First
 - Focus ESF & ERDF
 - Raising awareness
 - Training Managing Authorities



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POLICY CONTEXT (EU)

- **Council**
 - EPSCO Conclusions 2019 = Mandate for European Commission to work on homelessness
 - Social Protection Committee Report : List of possible EU actions
- **Commission**
 - Commissioner Schmit
 - Promise to make homelessness social policy priority
 - EU Action Plan for Implementation Pillar of Social Rights
 - Principle 19
- **European Parliament**
 - Strong supporter EU action on homelessness
 - Plenary debate on homelessness – focus on data, funding, and strategy
 - INI Report on housing & homelessness



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POLICY CONTEXT (OTHER)

- OECD
 - Policy brief on homelessness
 - Call (trans)national action – data, strategies, Housing First, etc.
- UN Commission for Social Development
 - Report on homelessness Sec Gen
 - Resolution – will be call for action with focus on data
- UN Special Rapporteur on Right to Housing
 - Guidelines for national housing rights strategies
- Council of Europe Commissioner Human Rights
 - Call for action on homelessness from human rights perspective



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WHAT HAS BEEN DONE?

- Data
 - EU-SILC module on material deprivation
 - Retrospective questions on homelessness
 - Statistical robustness?!
 - European Social Policy Network
 - First ever comprehensive report on homeless data and policies for 28 Members States
 - BUT
 - No breakdown to local level.



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WHAT HAS BEEN DONE?

- 2030 target
 - European Pillar of Social Rights integrated into the Semester
 - Employment Guidelines
 - Strong commitment VDL Commission to SDG Agenda
 - Promise to integrate in Semester
 - BUT
 - Inconsistent coverage homelessness in Country Reports & CSRs
 - Nothing specific on homelessness in AGS 2020



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WHAT HAS BEEN DONE?

- Funds
 - Regulations refer to homeless as target group
 - ESF & InvestEU
 - Ad hoc training for Managing Authorities
 - Award for best project on homelessness funded by ESF & FEAD
 - BUT
 - Take up remains limited



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WHAT CAN/WILL BE DONE?

- Data
 - ?!
 - No EC initiative planned
- Target
 - Potential of EU Action Plan for Social Rights Pillar
 - Justiciable EU right to shelter?!
 - Political pressure for EU strategy/framework on homelessness...
 - Framework > Target
- Funds
 - Training for Managing Authorities ESF in the pipeline!
 - Interest DG REGIO...
 - Link up with InvestEU complicated



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URBAN AGENDA

- Lack of support for Partnerships
- Unclear link with future EU Urban Agenda
- No link to financial resources
- Role European Commission unclear
- BUT
 - Some take up of homeless issue by URBACT & UIA
 - Insufficient to keep dynamic around homelessness in urban Agenda alive....



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CONCLUSION

- Driver EU action on homelessness
 - FEANTSA
 - Commission hesitant
 - Local authority networks absent= UNSUSTAINABLE
- Need for EU framework on homelessness
 - Led by DG EMPL
 - Involvement of all relevant DGs
 - Underpinned by strong data collection
 - Mobilisation through link with the funds



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@Urbact

@UIA_Initiative

@EUUrbanAgenda