Addressing Homelessness in the European Union

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Homelessness in the EU

Around 4.1 million (street and shelter) homeless over a year in the European Union + many more at-risk

Increase in most Member States during the last decades
Except in FI, UK (Scotland)

Significant increase observed in a number of countries
For example in AT, DE, DK, ES, FR, IE, SI, UK (England)

Lack of reliable, comparable data
Homeless profiles

Homelessness risk has been expanding

The majority are **men** (75-85%), between 30-49 years*

Women (36% SE, 38% FR) – hidden homelessness

Families (almost 80% increase in IE in 2015-2016)

Young people between 18-29 y.(20-30% average, 25% in FR, NL, 33% DK)

Elderly above 50 y. (PL 52%, HU 55%)

**Migrants** (46% ES, 52% FR, 60% IT)

EU mobile workers (35% London, 40% Paris- typically from CEE)
Disadvantaged Roma and other minorities

* Percentage of the total homeless population
Policy framework

Member State competence – EU provides support

Europe 2020 Strategy
Social Investment Package:
C SWD(2013)42 on Confronting Homelessness in the European Union

Sectorial social policies (Roma, disability, migration, active inclusion...)

Other EU policies (housing, human rights, credit, urban development...)

European Pillar of Social Rights initiative

European Semester

EU Urban Agenda – Poverty/Housing Partnerships
Financial support

EU Funds

- European Social Fund (ESF)
- Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD)
- European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
- European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI)
- Other funds (AMIF, EARDF, EaSI, EIB grants...)

Policy action

- Testing social innovation
- Studies, building data
- Supporting EU social networks dealing with the homeless
European Pillar of Social Rights
A new start for social Europe
Spring 2017

Public consultation (8 March 2016 - 3 January 2017)
Around 1000 responses on survey, 200 position papers sent

In a planned proposal the draft chapters include areas such as:

- Equal opportunities and access to the labour market
- Flexible and secure employment
- Integrated social benefits and services
- Quality education
- Active support for employment
- Work-life balance, investing in children, long-term care
- **Access to essential services such as housing**
Thank you for your attention.