

# Principle 14: Minimum Income

## An EU Framework Directive on Adequate Minimum Income



“ Everyone lacking sufficient resources has the right to adequate minimum income benefits ensuring a life in dignity at all stages of life, and effective access to enabling goods and services... ”

### 1 What are the demands of Social Platform & its Members?

**Adopt a Framework Directive to set minimum standards across the EU** for calculating adequate income support schemes to raise the living and working conditions of millions of people currently experiencing poverty or social exclusion;

**Set common methodologies** for adequate, accessible and enabling minimum income schemes at EU level **to achieve a level playing field**;

**Combine adequate minimum income with affordable quality services** and a **comprehensive labour market inclusion approach for those who can work**;

**Regularly update minimum income levels to the actual costs of living** for different household types and across different regions;

**Support Member States in the realisation of adequate minimum income schemes**, including through relevant EU-wide indicators, benchmarks and systematic monitoring.

### 2 Why do we make these demands?

More than 109 million people in the EU are living at risk of poverty or social exclusion (2018);

This amounts to 21.7% of the population;

The COVID-19 pandemic likely increased the number;

Only two Member States have minimum income levels at or above the national poverty threshold.

### 3 How should they be implemented at EU level?

**Adequacy:** only a MI at the level of the national poverty threshold is a starting point for defining adequacy;

**Access:** MI needs to be available to everyone in need and as long as needed for;

**Enabling aspects:** MI needs to be rooted in an active inclusion strategy and have people's empowerment, participation and well-being at its core.

Read more about principle 14 in our [full paper](#).



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