

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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