

# Principle 19: Housing and Assistance for the Homeless

## European Platform on Homelessness



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

**Launch a European Platform on Homelessness in 2021**, establishing a shared goal of ending homelessness in the EU and supporting Member States to make substantive progress by 2030;

#### **Actions under the Platform should include:**

the monitoring of homelessness and homelessness policies, the support to develop national homelessness strategies, mutual learning and transnational exchange on the scaling up of good practices like Housing First, and capacity building to mobilise the EU budget to end homelessness;

**The importance of social housing to fight housing exclusion should be reaffirmed;**

#### **Use the European Semester and the general escape clause of the Stability and Growth Pact**

to urge Member States to invest in social housing and expand the percentage of social rental housing.

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a. Access to social housing or housing assistance of good quality shall be provided for those in need. b. Vulnerable people have the right to appropriate assistance...

”

### 2 Why do we make these demands?

Increasing numbers of people are having difficulties in accessing decent and affordable accommodation;

Key concerns are housing cost overburden (10% of households), overcrowding (17% of EU population) and energy poverty (7.3%);

At least 700,000 people sleep rough or in homeless accommodation any night - a trend to increase due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

Prioritise the fight against housing exclusion and investment in social housing in using European Structural Funds and in national recovery plans;

Reduce the co-financing requirements (for EIB loans and European Structural and Investment Funds) for housing-related projects;

Fully implement the housing Pillar of the EU Strategic Framework for Roma Equality and Inclusion.

Read more about principle 19 in our [full paper](#).



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