

TWO YEARS AFTER LISBON: DEVELOPMENT OF EUROPEAN AND NATIONAL POLICIES TO COMBAT HOMELESSNESS

FRAMEWORK

At the high-level conference held in Lisbon and co-organized by the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the EU in June 2021, the Lisbon Declaration on the European Platform to Combat Homelessness was signed, putting it into operation. The signatories committed to working together under the umbrella of the Platform and carrying out actions within their respective competencies.

The Platform is part of the Action Plan of the European Pillar of Social Rights, to apply Principle 19 on Housing and assistance to the homeless. Currently, the Platform, given the challenges that lie ahead and the need to address decisively the commitments adopted in Lisbon, is at a turning point that requires analyzing its first impacts, as well as the challenges and work proposal for the next years. The Spanish presidency, committed to all this, promotes the event that will allow this reflection and debate to be carried out, offering a boost that is considered essential at this time.

In addition, this framework will allow us to highlight the importance of developing national policies to combat homelessness, in accordance with the objectives of the Lisbon Declaration, and learn about the advances promoted by the different countries. Specifically, the Spanish case involves making visible the recently approved National Strategy for the Fight against Homelessness 2023-2030 and implementing pilot projects developed within the framework of PRTR funds, as well as other successful European and international experiences. with models focused on housing.

The objective is also to ratify a Presidency Declaration document, which addresses the objectives and work plan of the Platform from a strategic point of view, contemplating the critical issues of the reality of homelessness in the EU, which will give continuity to the Belgian Presidency during the first half of 2024.

AGENDA

City: *Avilés (Asturias, Spain)*

Venue: **Niemeyer Centre**

September 13th, 2023

PROGRAM:

10:00-10:45. **Reception / Accreditation.**

10:45-12:00. **Opening session. Two years after Lisbon: progress and challenges.**

Presented and moderated by: *Patricia Bezunarte*, General Director for Family Diversity and Social Services, Spain.

- ***Ione Belarra***, Minister of Social Rights and Agenda 2030, Spain.
- ***Yves Leterme***, President of the European Platform on Combatting Homelessness (EPOCH) Steering Committee.
- ***Karine Lalieux***, Minister of Pensions and Social Inclusion, Belgium.
- ***Ana Mendez Godinho***, Minister of Labor, Solidarity and Social Security, Portugal.
- ***Katarina Ivanković Knežević***, Director, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion. European Commission.

12:00-12:30. **Presentation of the report “Overview of Homelessness & Housing Exclusion in Europe”.** Annual Report.

Presented and moderated by: *Ruth Owen*, Deputy Director of FEANTSA.

- ***Nicolas Horvat***, Coordinator and Researcher of the report “Overview of Homelessness & Housing Exclusion in Europe”.

12:30-14:00. **Break for Lunch.**

14:00-16:00. **Experiences in the definition of public policies to eradicate homelessness.**

Presented and Moderated by: *Ruth Owen* Deputy Director of FEANTSA.

- **Katarina Ivanković Knežević**, Deputy Director, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion. European Commission.
- **Laure Billoret**, **Project manager responsible for international Affairs.** Inter-ministerial Delegation for Housing and Access to Housing. France.
- **Alena Vachnová**, Chairwoman of the Board of Directors of the DEDO Foundation. Slovakia.
- **Melania Álvarez**, Councillor of Social Rights and Welfare of the Government of Asturias. Spain.
- **Renaud Payre**, Vice-President of Lyon Metropole City Council. France.
- **Sonia Fuertes Ledesma**, Social Action Commissioner of Barcelona City Council. Spain.

16:00–16:15 **Break.**

16:15-17:45. **Life in community: deinstitutionalization and community action as a focus of the policies of the fight against homelessness in Spain and in Europe.**

Presented and moderated by: *Alison Crabb*, Head of Unit, Disability and Inclusion at European Commission.

- **Edit Lakatos**, Senior Policy Officer. Housing Europe
- **Joseba Zalakain**, Researcher at SIIS Fundación Eguía-Careaga. País Vasco, Spain.
- **Miles Raguz**: Head of the European Relations Office. Council of Europe Development Bank.
- **José Manuel Caballol**, General Director of HOGAR SÍ.
- **Xavier Parra**, General Director of SERCADE. Vicepresident of FACIAM.

17:45. **Closing of the Seminar.**

- **Mariví Monteserín**, Mayoress of the City of Avilés. Spain.
- **Karine Lalieux**, Minister of Pensions and Social Inclusion, Belgium.
- **Ignacio Álvarez**, Secretary of State for Social Rights, Spain.

18:15. **End of the act.**