



FEANTSA's MANIFESTO

TO END HOMELESSNESS

Homelessness is on the increase in Europe.
Millions of citizens are being left behind by inadequate policy responses,
with knock on effects on social cohesion and economic growth.
The EU has a crucial role to play in finding solutions.



COPENHAGEN:

+75%



youth homelessness
since 2009



LONDON:

+50%



families in temporary
accommodation
since 2010



WARSAW:

+37%



sleeping rough or
in emergency shelter
since 2013



PARIS:

+12%

NO FREE PLACES

12,846 people denied access
to emergency shelter
due to shortage of
places since 2015



ATHENS:



1 IN 70 PEOPLE
are now homeless, most
becoming homeless
since 2011

FEANTSA calls on EU policymakers to work with national governments, regions, cities and stakeholders to put an end to homelessness by:

1

Making more effective use of existing policy instruments



The EU has called on Member States to design and implement integrated strategies to tackle homelessness.



Most countries are not delivering, and EU policy instruments are not being used to their full potential.



The EU should set a target of ending homelessness as part of its 2030 agenda.

2

Supporting homeless people in all relevant sectoral policies



Many solutions lie in areas beyond specific “homelessness policies”



Unfortunately, these other policies are often blind to homelessness.



Responses to homelessness should be mainstreamed into the design and implementation of relevant EU sectoral policies including youth, gender, migration, health, disability, mobility, cohesion and urban development.

3

Monitoring homelessness and benchmarking progress at Member State level



The EU plays a key role in monitoring and benchmarking socio-economic indicators across Member States.



However, the EU statistical toolkit does not cover homelessness data, making it difficult to track and compare progress.



Homelessness should be an integral element of social analysis carried out by the European Commission.

4

Defending the rights of homeless people



Homeless people have the same basic human rights as everyone else.



However, these rights are frequently violated – and worse still, homeless is increasingly criminalized in different Member States.



The EU can and should act to enforce fundamental rights, social rights and the rights of all EU citizens.

5

Investing EU funds in ending homelessness



Homelessness has significant human, societal and economic costs. Tackling it is a good investment for the future.



Current resources at EU and national level are not enough to deliver lasting solutions.



EU instruments like the European Structural and Investment Funds and the European Fund for Strategic Investment should be used to help Member States deliver smart, sustainable solutions.

**Be Fair,
Europe –
Stand Up for
Homeless
People!**

