

Abstract. "10 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A STRATEGY TO ERADICATE HOMELESSNESS".

Over the last two years a group of organizations in the Community of Madrid (Spain), has been working to complete a document entitled, "10 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A STRATEGY TO ERADICATE HOMELESSNESS". This document was publicly presented on 26 March, 2010. It hopes to become a starting point for debate for use by politicians and experts responsible for dealing with homelessness in the Community of Madrid. The aim is to eliminate homelessness in the area in conjunction with the 2010 European Campaign 'Ending Homelessness is possible' by pursuing an end to this phenomenon instead of just "managing" it. The 2010 European Campaign for eradicating homelessness is promoted by the European Federation of National Organisations working with the Homeless, (FEANTSA) within the activities of the European Year for fighting against poverty and social exclusion.

Each of the 10 points has a brief introduction, an objective, and some recommendations with a timeline for developing them. It also includes a page clarifying the concept of homelessness.

On the 26th May, a Working Conference will take place to debate the contents of the document and material of the European campaign. The objective is to monitor the commitments acquired through concrete actions and strategies.

The 10 points and their objectives are presented briefly below. It can be downloaded from this website: http://www.feantsa.es/IMG/pdf/10_Propuestas_para_erradicar_el_sin-hogarismo.pdf

1. **Rights:** Promotion of the effective application of article 47 of the C.E. in the Community of Madrid following best practices that consider housing as a public service of general interest.
2. **Social Policy:** Adoption by the different levels of government of a global focus that will allow for integrating social and housing policies and other perspectives (such as health, work and education) for the fight against homelessness.
3. **Prevention:** Prevention of social exclusion and homelessness by means of general and specific public policies.
4. **Work:** Development of an integrated employment policy that provides for the specificities and needs of homeless people.
5. **Accommodation Models:** Provision of sufficient alternative accommodation available in order to cover, in every way possible, the multiple needs of homeless people by considering individual circumstances and every individual process (life cycle).
6. **Quality:** Guarantee that the quality of services offered to homeless people complies with the Spanish Law 11/2002.
7. **Relational-Emotional field:** Promotion of psycho-educational programs within the resources offered to homeless people that will reinforce this dimension.
8. **Participation:** Creation of the necessary structures that allow for participatory dynamics and experiences.
9. **Gender:** Gender-focused homeless services, measuring the scope of the phenomenon amongst women in order to make policy into concrete acts.
10. **Coordination and Networks:** Creation of a team that includes the diverse actors who are implicated in homelessness in order to complement interventions, minimizing current limitations in the service networks and encouraging evaluation that permits continual improvement.