



FEANTSA NEWS

2014 FEANTSA Policy Conference – Save the Date

The FEANTSA policy [conference](#) "Confronting homelessness in the EU: Seeking out the next generation of best practices" will take place in Bergamo (Italy) on 24th-25th October 2014, and will provide space to discuss a wide range of challenges and solutions. It will be an opportunity for 300 practitioners from across Europe to exchange information on relevant policy and practice to prevent and reduce homelessness. Put the date in your diaries!

Call for Papers: 9th European Research Conference on Homelessness

The annual European Homelessness Research Conference has become globally important as the leading forum for discussion of homelessness research and policy across the European Union. The 9th Annual Research Conference on Homelessness in Europe entitled "Homelessness in Times of Crisis" will take place in Warsaw on September 19th, 2014. The conference will be organised by FEANTSA's European Observatory on Homelessness and hosted by the University of Warsaw. The call for papers is [out now](#).

Press Release: European Parliament Employment Committee Adopts "Support for Preventing Homelessness" Amendment to Report on Role of "Troika"

The European Parliament Employment Committee has adopted an amendment to the Parliament's report on the role of the Troika calling for urgent measures to prevent the increase of homelessness in programme countries and for the European Commission to support this through policy analysis and promotion of good practices. Read the FEANTSA press release on the issue in [English](#) and [French](#).

EU Structural and Investment Funds Must be Targeted in Order to Reach EU Poverty Target

From the €70 billion allocated to the European Social Fund between 2014 and 2020, at least 20% of the budget will be allocated to social inclusion. In addition, €3.5 billion have been allocated to the Fund for European Aid to the most Deprived. The European Regional Development Fund also has social inclusion as a thematic objective which should provide budgets for urban regeneration and housing construction, plus the development of community-based social and health services.

While this is a significant level of EU support for the fight against poverty, it is insufficient to reach out to all people at risk of poverty in the EU (more than 120 million people according to Eurostat) as it amounts to less than €20 per poor person per year, says FEANTSA in a statement, available in [English](#) and [French](#). The only way to ensure visible impact and genuinely lift people out of poverty is to target people in greatest need, the statement says.

Starter Packs Toolkit

A regulation on a new Fund for European Aid for the most Deprived (FEAD) has recently been adopted. This fund can be used for food assistance, material assistance and social inclusion measures (not eligible under the European Social Fund). In light of the new FEAD's material assistance mission, FEANTSA has published a [toolkit](#) "Fresh Start: Using the full potential of the Fund for European Aid to the most Deprived to support transitions out of homelessness through starter packs" on the use of starter packs of material goods to help in homeless people's resettlement.

FEANTSA Signs Joint Letter on Influencing Child Rights in Future EU Home Affairs Policy

Along with other NGOs, FEANTSA has signed a joint [letter](#) – an initiative led by PICUM – to European Commission President José Manuel Barroso asking the Commission to support a more coherent and rights-based policy approach towards migrant children, specifically asking it to ensure that future Home Affairs policy addresses existing shortcomings in meeting the EU's legal obligations towards migrant children, and that children's rights become a priority for EU Home Affairs policy.

Press Release Commemorating Investing in Children Recommendation

Eurochild has issued a [press release](#) to commemorate the anniversary of the adoption of the Investing in Children – breaking the Cycle of Disadvantage Recommendation and announce the establishment of the Joint Action on EU Alliance for Investing in Children, bringing together almost 20 European networks whose members are active in tackling child poverty and promoting children's well-being, of which FEANTSA is a member.

Press Release: Civil Society Organisations Welcome New FEAD

Civil society organisations, including FEANTSA, welcomed the European Parliament's [approval](#) of the new Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD) on the 25th February. This approval clearly shows that the European Union is committed to social cohesion and the fight against poverty they say in a [press release](#). However, there still is much to do before the promised help reaches the most vulnerable. The statement was also [published](#) in the Parliament Magazine.

Seminar on Participation

FEANTSA is co-organising a [seminar](#) on participation and homelessness. The seminar, hosted by Fonds Soziales Wien, will take place in Vienna on the 3rd April. It will look at what participation entails and the challenges to participation and feature speakers from Austria, Denmark, Finland, Ireland, Romania and Scotland and will include workshops for participants. The programme is [online](#), in English and German.

ELOSH Kick Off

On the 17th and 18th of February, FEANTSA attended the kick off meeting of the ELOSH (European Core Learning Outcomes for the Integration of Support and Housing) project in London. The 2-year project is using innovative training materials developed by FEANTSA member SITRA (UK) as the basis for a common European training pack that will be translated and adapted to 7 different contexts by partners in 7 Member States. The aim is to develop training that supports the integration of support services with housing to deliver personalised, community-based services for homeless people, people with mental health problems and people with disabilities. The project will focus on the coproduction of training with service users. The steering group is composed of SITRA (lead organisation), European Association of Service Providers for People with Disabilities (coordinator), FEANTSA, Mental Health Europe and European Network for Independent Living. The national partner organisations are working with the different target groups in Greece, Finland, France, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands and Slovenia. For more information, please contact [Ruth Owen](#). A website and project leaflet will be available shortly.

EUROPEAN NEWS

European Parliament Report on Combating Violence Against Women

The European Parliament has adopted a [report](#) with recommendations to the European Commission on combating Violence Against Women which states that "women and children who experience violence need specific shelters where they would be offered adequate health care services, legal assistance and psychological counselling and therapy;" and that "women's shelters should be given adequate funding by the Member States;" and urges European Member States to "ensure that specialised shelters (conceived both as first contact assistance and as safe and empowering space for women) are available and equip them with facilities and properly trained staff, offering places for at least 1 woman per 10,000 inhabitants."

European Parliament Report on Human Rights Including Call to End Criminalisation of Homelessness

The European Parliament has adopted a [report](#) on human rights that, amongst other provisions, "recalls its resolution of 14 September 2011 on an EU Homelessness Strategy, urging the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) to enhance its work on the implications of extreme poverty and social exclusion in terms of access to and enjoyment of fundamental rights, bearing in mind that the exercise of the right to social and housing assistance is critical for the enjoyment of a full range of other rights, including political and social rights;" "calls on the Commission to closely monitor whether fundamental rights such as human dignity are being upheld in the Member States and to do its utmost to urgently end the criminalisation of homeless people;" "calls for stronger action to help homeless persons and provide them with shelter and support" and "condemns – notably at a time when the persistent economic and financial crisis is driving more and more people in vulnerable situations onto the streets – laws and policies at national or local level criminalising those persons, who are more in need, as this amounts to a striking and inhumane violation of fundamental rights".

European Parliament Calls for Homelessness Indicator

A European Parliament [report](#) on the social impact of the European Semester and the 2014 Annual Growth Survey "Considers it regrettable that the employment and social indicators proposed by the Commission are insufficient to cover the Member States' employment and social situations comprehensively;" and "calls for the scoreboard to include additional indicators, in particular child poverty levels, access to healthcare, homelessness, and a decent work index, in order to allow for proper assessment of the social situation in the Member States."

European Parliament Adopts Seasonal Workers Directive

After almost four years of negotiation, uniform and EU-wide regulations have been adopted for seasonal workers who are third country nationals. The new rules will grant foreign seasonal workers in the EU the same employment and social rights as EU nationals. The Directive will establish common entry and residence conditions and a set of rights for migrant seasonal workers. Under the new Directive, seasonal workers will enjoy equal treatment with EU nationals in terms of employment, including the minimum working age, and working conditions, including pay and dismissal, working hours, leave and holidays, as well as health and safety requirements in the workplace.

The new Directive allows Member States to consider their own labour market situation in order to establish whether a job could not be filled with domestic workers. Member States shall also be able to take the situation of their own labour market into account when deciding whether to extend stays or renew labour permits for seasonal workers.

In a [joint press release](#) FEANTSA, ENAR and PICUM warmly welcomed the new document agreed upon by the Parliament and the Council, but also expressed concern that some measures proposed by the civil society had not been taken into account, which in turn might lessen the impact of the Directive.

The new regulations have to be implemented by the Member States within two and a half years.

European Court of Justice Ruling on Financial Allowances for Asylum Seekers: Must Be Enough for Rent

A European Court of Justice ruling [states](#) that the financial allowances granted to asylum seekers must enable them to find, if necessary, accommodation on the private rental market.

European Mayors Conference on the Impact of Intra-EU Mobility

On February 11th, the European Commission and EU Committee of the Regions hosted a conference on the impact of intra-EU mobility. Amongst other things, participants discussed social inclusion challenges relating to implementing free movement rules. The conclusions of an independent study commissioned by the European Commission on the impact of the free movement of EU citizens at local level, which analyses the situation in six European cities: Barcelona, Dublin, Hamburg, Lille, Prague and Turin, were also presented during the conference.

Have a look at the full [programme](#) and the [press release](#) about the event.

European Commission Launches New European Social Fund Programming Period

The European Commission and the Greek Presidency of the European Council organised a launch conference for the new programming period of the European Social Fund (ESF).

The objective of the conference was to promote more effective and efficient implementation of the ESF in the 2014-2020 programming period. The conference explored which policies the ESF could and should support under the new investment

priorities and how this could be best achieved.

The event focused on new ESF policy areas and tools. Mutual learning, sharing of expertise, and common understanding in these areas helped the participants work towards the achievement of the priorities identified in the Country Specific Recommendations and Commission services' Position Papers, thereby furthering the Europe 2020 targets. The Commission has also issued two new ESF thematic papers on [Promoting inclusive growth](#) and [Promoting good governance](#).

New "Social Agenda" Issue on Youth Employment

The [latest issue of Social Agenda](#), a quarterly publication by DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, highlights the need for a new approach to employment, social and inclusion policy to promote youth employment. It advocates a combination of urgent, highly targeted measures supporting young people directly and of longer term structural reforms. An adequate salary system, quality jobs, and appropriate employment support, adapted to individual needs and situations are crucial for preventing youth poverty and homelessness. The [Youth Guarantee](#), a new approach designed to tackle these issues and soon to be disseminated throughout the EU by the Heads of State, is thoroughly explained in the new issue of Social Agenda. The publication brings also alarming statistical data regarding youth unemployment:

- The youth unemployment rate is more than twice as high as the rate for adults (23.6 % in comparison to 9.5 %, in November 2013).
- 7.5 million people in the 15-24 age group are neither in employment nor in education or training (NEETs). In 2012, 13.1 % of youth were NEETs (provisional figure), 2.2 percentage points more than four years earlier, representing an increase of more than 20%.
- Long-term youth unemployment is on the rise: In 2012, more than 32% of unemployed people under 25 had been unemployed for more than 12 months.

ERASMUS+ Calls Now Open

Calls are now open for the [ERASMUS+ Programme](#), which replaces the LifeLongLearning programme and provides funding for projects, staff exchanges and study visits in the fields of Education, Training, Youth and Sport and includes three key branches: Learning mobility, Cooperation for innovation and exchange of best practice and Sport.

New EU Research and Innovation Programme

Horizon 2020, the New EU Research and Innovation programme has been launched. It will make nearly €80 billion available over seven years. One of its three pillars is the support for research to tackle "societal challenges". Negotiations between the European Parliament and Council secured support for research into seven broad challenges: health, demographic change and wellbeing; food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine, maritime and inland water research, bioeconomy; secure, clean and efficient energy; smart, green and integrated transport; climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials; inclusive, innovative and reflective societies and secure and innovative societies.

Population Below Poverty Line and Income Inequality – Health Indicators Updated

European Core Health Indicators (ECHI) related to population below poverty line and income inequality have been [updated](#).

European Economic and Social Committee Opinion on Fuel Poverty

The European Economic and Social Committee has issued an own-initiative [opinion](#) in favour of "coordinated European

measures to prevent and combat energy poverty".

Social Investment Package: One Year On

The European Commission has produced [press memo](#) taking stock of what has been achieved in the year following the adoption of the Social Investment Package and a [Roadmap](#) of all Social Investment measures undertaken and planned. The updated roadmap includes a commitment to revise the EU SILC in order to include data on homelessness, which would be a very useful development in terms of improving the monitoring of homelessness at EU level.

UNITED NATIONS NEWS

Special Rapporteur on the Right to Adequate Housing to Present Mission and Thematic Reports

On 10th March, during the 25th Session of the UN Human Rights Council, Raquel Rolnik, the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Adequate Housing will present her reports on her 2013 missions to [Indonesia](#) and the [United Kingdom](#), and a thematic [report](#) on [Security of Tenure](#).

MEMBER NEWS

Belgium: Make Housing Policy More Social and Respect the Right to Housing

FEANTSA member Vlaamshuudersplatform (Flemish Tenants' Platform) and other anti-poverty NGOs have issued a [statement](#) calling on the Belgian government to implement the right to housing that was enshrined in law twenty years ago. The organisations exhibited an ice statue in Brussels to symbolise the fragility of the right to housing in the country and to encourage politicians to put in place social housing policy that targets households with the lowest income.

Denmark: Pamphlet on Homelessness

projekt UDENFOR has produced a [pamphlet](#) entitled 'On Homelessness: Reflections On and Criticism Of the Completed Homelessness Strategy and Its Subsequent Evaluation'. It provides professionals with a number of critical perspectives on the Danish Homelessness Strategy, which was completed last year. Amongst other things, UDENFOR find it strange that, despite an ambition to the contrary, an increase in the number of homeless people has been observed. They also question the major focus on a Housing First strategy, whilst there is a shortage of affordable housing in the big cities. The pamphlet also gives a historical perspective on the increasing number of young homeless people.

Estonia: Documentary on Homelessness in Tallinn

Tallinn Social Centre has produced a half-hour [documentary](#) "Homeless People in Tallinn," which explains the nature of homelessness, interviews people with experience of homelessness and discusses possible solutions to the issue. "The film aims to explain to new social workers and the general public that homelessness is a social problem, and show them that Tallinn can to alleviate the problem," said the Social Centre Director. A year and a half ago, the centre carried out a

comprehensive study of homelessness in the city. "Homelessness is a problem for the whole society, and needs more attention. We need to be able to know what causes it, why it continues homelessness and how to deal with it," said the Director.

France: FNARS Calls on Election Candidates to Create Solidarity Pact for the Poorest People

With the first term of local elections in France just a few weeks away, FNARS has [called](#) on electoral candidates and future mayors to commit to a local solidarity pact that focuses on 7 priorities for the poorest people: access to social rights, to basic necessities, to housing and accommodation, the participation of service users in the creation and evaluation of local policy, inclusion in the employment market for those furthest away from it, access to healthcare and development of community outreach.

Ireland: 'Time to Include the Right to a Home in the Constitution'

The Irish Constitutional Convention is to consider the issue of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Peter McVerry Trust believes this is the perfect opportunity for the right to a home to be included in the Constitution. The Trust points out that Ireland ratified the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights which covers areas such as decent income, employment, education, health care and housing in 1989, but it has yet to be given legal effect in Irish law. The majority of those who experience homelessness did so not by chance, but because of the failure of the State to protect their rights, says the Trust: the barriers which they faced in accessing education, employment, health care and adequate housing has led to many people experiencing homelessness. The Trust considers that if the right to a home were enshrined in the Constitution then the State would need to develop a national housing policy with a right to a home at its core, which would ensure those without other means would be provided with a home by the State. The policy would ensure that the State acted as the primary facilitator and enabler when it came to housing supply and would be responsible for filling the shortfall that voluntary housing bodies and the private market can't meet, says the Trust.

Italy: fio.PSD Summary of 2013 National Statistics on Social Cohesion

The Italian National Statistical Institute, Istat, published its fourth [report](#) on Social Cohesion on the 30th December 2013, which includes data on poverty in 2012. fio.PSD has produced a [summary](#) of the report which brings together the most relevant parts for homeless service providers. fio.PSD is keeping a close eye on the debate on social inclusion in the country and the fight against all forms of discrimination.

Poland: Camilian's Mission for Social Assistance Issues Open Letter

The employees and the service users of the Camilian's Mission for Social Assistance published an [open letter](#) following an article on homelessness featured in a recent issue of the "Polityka" magazine. The letter sheds light on the desperate situation of homeless people in Poland, while emphasising the importance of their participation and involvement in the process of getting out of homelessness. The signatories of the letter advocate sustainable and long-term solutions of the issue of homelessness and offer the protagonist of the "Polityka" article, a Polish MP, a meeting with a homelessness expert.

HEADLINES

France: More and More Women Contacting Homelessness Shelter Helpline

Monitoring by FNARS of calls to the French emergency shelter hotline shows an ever-increasing number of requests for accommodation (a 5% increase in January). What is striking is also the number of times people have to call. Three-quarters of callers are known to the operators. They are given shelter for a few nights but then they are put back out on the street, which FNARS does not regard as a sustainable solution. Large numbers of families make the call as well, and are most often disappointed. They are accommodated in hotel rooms when there is space. By far the most striking development, however, has been the increase in the number of single women seeking help. Nationally, their number grew by 11% in January, and 24% in Paris. Front-line workers have also noticed an increase in the number of women accessing homeless services such as soup kitchens. They are often young and unemployed, often having been kicked out by their partners. The *Samu social* adds that there is a lack of spaces for single women – the majority of emergency hostels having been designed for men.

France: Paris Mayoral Candidates Make Promises on Homelessness

Candidates for the position of Paris Mayor have agreed to pursue the new objective set by *Emmaüs* and *Samu social*: ending street homelessness in Paris by 2020. The two organisations have drawn up a six-point plan for getting the "15,000" people who are "currently" sleeping rough in Paris. The plan aims to provide housing for rough sleepers in less than 48 hours, set up measures for helping people into employment, ensure health monitoring, making it easier for companies to recruit people experiencing social exclusion, to try out new solutions and to invest rather than simply spend money.

Hungary/World: Being Homeless is Not A Crime – Worldwide Protests

Following a call to action by [The City is For All](#), local organisations and individuals in 14 cities, from New York to Bangkok and Dublin to Istanbul, staged protests against the criminalisation of homelessness in Hungary in front of Hungarian embassies and consulates between the 13th and the 15th February.

Hungary: Compensation for Homeless People Whose Huts and Possessions Unlawfully Destroyed

The Court of Budapest ruled on February 24th, 2014, that the City Hall of the 14th district of Budapest acted illegally when destroying the huts and possessions of homeless people on October 18th and 19th, 2011 (see photos [here](#) and [here](#)). 16 homeless people had lived in these huts, many of them for as long as 6-8 years. Even though the huts had been constructed illegally, the Hungarian Railway Company, the owner of the land on which they had stood, had never initiated any action against the homeless people living on their premises. However, the district had signed a rental contract with MÁV the day before the destruction of the huts began, "in order to carry out cleaning activities". The City Hall did not notify the inhabitants of the huts about the impending eviction, nor could they show any legal base for such action to civil rights activists protesting on the second day. [AVM](#), the City is for All, with the help of [NEKI](#) (National and Ethnical Minority Rights Office), took the City Hall of the 14th district of Budapest to Court, claiming it had no right to destroy the people's possessions and failed to follow legal proceedings in the case (the homeless people involved had not received any written notification about the action, therefore they had no possibility to prepare or make an appeal). [More information](#).

Ireland: 40% New Homeless People

New [figures](#) released by the Dublin Region Homeless Executive state that forty per cent of homeless people accessing services last year were looking for help for the first time. The number of people using homeless services in the capital last year was 4613, and of those 1958 were newly homeless. The number of families put up in hotels because no other accommodation was available was described as reaching "chronic proportions".

Italy: Housing First Italy Network to Be Launched

Social services in more than 30 cities will [launch](#) Housing First Italy, a network coordinated by fio.PSD, at the end of February, to work together and test the Housing First approach over the next two years.

UK: Government Plans to Reduce Homelessness in Wales

The Welsh Assembly is currently debating the Housing (Wales Bill) introduced in November 2013. The bill has four main parts: regulation of the private rented sector, homelessness, Traveller sites and standards for social housing. The Bill also aims to allow councils to charge more tax on empty properties and should enable housing associations to give assured tenancies. It has received criticism from some politicians for not going far enough.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Federatie Opvang Conference - Progress and Renewal in Dutch Women's Shelters

For the past six years, Vrouwenopvang, Federatie Opvang's Women's Shelter arm, has been working with local authorities, the government and partner organisations in order to improve the national response to domestic violence and child abuse. The results of this cooperation – renewal in the Women's Shelter sector, will be presented at an interactive conference, on the 13th May. Registration opens on the 13th March. More information is available from secretariaatfo.opvang.nl

First Comes Housing, Then Comes Ethics - BAWO Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Wohnungslosenhilfe Conference

14th-16th May 2014

Hotel Novapark, Fischeraustraße 22, Graz, Steiermark, Austria

Access to Housing, the Right to Housing (in the European context too), Different Aspects of Social Work and Networking are the main focal points for this [conference](#). The title defines the content of the conference: housing must be secured first, and then everything else can come after - a very clear order of priorities. Using the problem of making the housing market accessible to everyone in Austria as a starting point, the conference will demand that housing be a fundamental right and not a matter of charity. BAWO welcomes registrations from interested participants outside Austria. The conference will be in German,

with two presentations in English on the Friday. Early bird rates until 14th March. To book your place, please send an email to fachtagung.bawo.at

Website on Health Inequalities

The website <http://www.health-inequalities.eu/> contains information about health inequalities in the EU, Member States and regions, and on EU action to reduce inequalities in health.

Conference on Homelessness in the Basque Country – European Observatory on Homelessness Representative Speaking

Last October, the cities of Bilbao, Donostia-San Sebastián and Vitoria-Gasteiz, with the cooperation of the Basque Government Department for Labour and Social Policy and the three provincial governments of Álava, Vizcaya and Guipúzcoa presented a joint report on the situation of homeless people in the Basque Country, drawn up following a point-in-time count in the three capitals, which will be repeated in October this year. The results of this count will be announced at a [Conference](#), on the 18th March, on Homelessness in the Basque Country, at which a representative of the European Observatory on Homelessness will be speaking, which also aims to discuss homelessness in general and the best ways to prevent and end it through: exploring homelessness policy in other European countries and especially Scotland, as well as the concept of Housing First; studying the services available in other Spanish cities and analyzing their success rate; reflecting on policy in the health, housing, social services and minimum-income sectors and enabling a debate between social workers and other third-sector stakeholders around resources and responding to the needs of the homelessness population.

PUBLICATIONS

Effectiveness of Case Management for Homeless Persons: A Systematic Review

The Netherlands Centre for Social Care Research (Radboud University Medical Centre) and partners have written a systematic review with the goal of examining the evidence for the effectiveness of various models of case management for homeless adults and the applicability of these models in a variety of homeless subgroups and settings. The article provides a complete overview of the existing literature on the effectiveness of four case management models: standard case management (SCM), intensive case management (ICM), assertive community treatment (ACT), and critical time intervention (CTI). The findings show that, in order to establish which case management models or which specific components of these models are most suitable for specific homeless subgroups, more research is needed. This review was published by the American Journal of Public Health (AJPH) in October 2013 and is available on the [AJPH website](#).

Identifying and Serving LGBTQ Youth

This [study](#) examines services for LGBTQ runaway and homeless youth. Challenges in the effort to improve services for these youth include: (1) lack of local resources that focus on LGBTQ youth; (2) difficulty of overcoming social stigma, especially toward LGBTQ youth of color and transgender or gender-nonconforming youth; and (3) staff concerns about singling out a specific population of runaway and homeless youth, while continuing to help all youth who need an agency's services. Staff generally felt that homeless youth face similar types of risks, regardless of sexual orientation and gender identity. Nevertheless, some types of risks—emotional distress and poor mental health, substance abuse and sexual risk behavior, and problems with family and personal relationships—were perceived to be particularly salient or frequent among LGBTQ youth.

Living with Mental Illness Without a Home

People who experience mental illness often have difficulties accessing stable accommodation. For others, maintaining that accommodation and sustaining a tenancy can be extremely challenging. As a result, people with mental illness make up a high proportion of the homeless population, and are often vulnerable to becoming homeless. People with mental illness are also significantly over-represented among those who come into contact with the criminal justice system. In 2013, the Homeless Persons' Legal Service (HPLS) in Australia commenced a [series](#) of projects looking at the difficulties experienced by homeless people living with mental illness in applying for and sustaining accommodation. These projects also consider the over-representation in the criminal justice system of people who are homeless and live with mental illness. The project involves a careful study of HPLS casework as well as direct consultations with homeless people and those in unstable accommodation living with mental illness.

No Fixed Abode: The Implications for Homeless People in the Criminal Justice System

This [research](#) by Vickie Cooper, of Liverpool John Moores University, aims to unpack experiences of homeless people in the criminal justice system and critically explore the extent to which homelessness impacts upon the processes of punishment. The research also considers homeless peoples' experiences of semi-penal accommodation and how this impacts on their propensity for reoffending and perhaps being recalled to custody. The first part of the study highlights the scale of the problem of homelessness and imprisonment, and further explores the role of accommodation for reducing reoffending. The second part of this study presents the main research findings, and provides further information about the experiences of men and women who have stayed in, and practitioners who have worked within semi-penal institutions.



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This programme was established to financially support the implementation of the objectives of the European Union in the employment and social affairs area, as set out in the Social Agenda, and thereby contribute to the achievement of the Lisbon Strategy goals in these fields.

The seven-year Programme targets all stakeholders who can help shape the development of appropriate and effective employment and social legislation and policies, across the EU-27, EFTA and EU candidate and pre-candidate countries.

To that effect, PROGRESS purports at:

- providing analysis and policy advice on employment, social solidarity and gender equality policy areas;
- monitoring and reporting on the implementation of EU legislation and policies in employment, social solidarity and gender equality policy areas;
- promoting policy transfer, learning and support among Member States on EU objectives and priorities; and
 - relaying the views of the stakeholders and society at large.

For more information see:

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=327&langId=en>

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