



## FEANTSA NEWS

### Call for Papers: European Journal of Homelessness Vol. 9, No. 2. 2015: Special Section on the Implementation of Homeless Strategies at the Local Level

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The Editorial team of the European Journal of Homelessness, as a contribution to enhancing knowledge on aspects of homelessness and housing exclusion in Europe, [seeks submissions](#) that provide case studies of the context and challenges in implementing national level homeless strategies at a city or regional level. It is envisaged that these contributions will form a special section in the European Journal of Homelessness. To be considered for inclusion in the Journal, papers must be submitted to the lead editor, [Prof. Eoin O'Sullivan](#) before the 5th of June 2015. Informal contact with the editor in relation to potential submissions is welcomed.

### Call for Papers: Vol. 9, No. 2 of the European Journal of Homelessness

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The [Call for Papers](#) for Volume 9, Number 2 of the European Journal of Homelessness (Open Edition) is now open. Deadline: 8th May 2015

### Policy Statement: "The EU Needs Stable and Inclusive Housing Markets"

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Our new [Policy Statement](#): "The EU Needs Stable and Inclusive Housing Markets" is now online. This document, prepared with the FEANTSA Housing Working Group, is FEANTSA's response to analysis of housing markets in the Macroeconomic Imbalances Procedure.

### FEANTSA 2015 Policy Conference – Registration Open

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[Registration](#) is open for the FEANTSA [policy conference 2015](#): "*Homelessness, a Local Phenomenon with a European Dimension – Key Steps to Connect Communities to Europe*", taking place in Paris, from the 18-20 June 2015. This year, the FEANTSA annual policy conference will bring together 300 homelessness practitioners to:

1. Support policy and practice in the field of homelessness, with a focus on social service/policy innovation, helping practitioners to learn from other EU countries.
  2. Link local realities to different European policy/legal frameworks, demonstrating where synergies exist already and reflect on potential synergies.
  3. Provide space for the emergence of new transnational dynamics through organised networking hotspots.
- #feantsa2015

### Helping the Homeless is Not a Political Choice

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The Greek parliament recently passed a law named the "Humanitarian Crisis Bill", aimed at providing basic electricity to the

poorest and to address the worst forms of social exclusion among pensioners and homeless people. The European Commission's Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs wrote a letter at the very last moment to warn the Greek government that adopting the law would be a breach of the Eurogroup's agreement of February 2015. FEANTSA Director Freek Spinnewijn and Fondation Abbé Pierre Europe representative Marc Uhry [argue](#) that denying Greek citizens their fundamental right to housing assistance would be a breach of EU law.

## Friends of Europe Recommendations for a More Caring EU

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FEANTSA took part in the Friends of Europe think tank High-Level Group on 'Social Union' and contributed to the group's [report](#) on "Unequal Europe: Recommendations for a more caring EU". The report includes recommendations on homelessness, including a European quality framework for homeless services; a guaranteed right to shelter for all EU-citizens who become destitute, whatever their status; developing a Care Guarantee for young people who leave state care and a European Action Plan against Homelessness.

## Housing First Guide Advisory Panel Meeting

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The Advisory panel on the [Online Guide to Housing First](#) being developed by FEANTSA met in Brussels this month to discuss implementing the Guide. During the meeting, the panel continued working on the Housing First Guide in Europe with Nicholas Pleace of the University of York and the input of all the advisory board members. Policy Officer María Aldanas updated the members about progress on the visual identity design: mainly the logo and the website. A first proposal on the overall structure of the guide, including Learning objectives and Activities was discussed. It is expected that there will be a mock-up version of the guide (in English) by October 2015. Policy Coordinator Ruth Owen facilitated a debate about how to use this resource and how sustainable it will be over the next few years.

## FEANTSA Speaks at Fighting Homelessness - A Way Towards More Social Cohesion in Europe

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FutureLab Europe and the European Policy Centre hosted the [launch event](#) of the [documentary](#) "The Hidden", on hidden homelessness, at the end of March. The documentary screening was followed by a policy dialogue on social cohesion and homelessness in which Liz Gosme, FEANTSA Senior Policy Officer participated, along with Marian Cramers, Film Producer, Elly Schlein, Member of the European Parliament, Michael Ralph, Adviser to the Deputy Director General for Implementation, Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission, and Paulina Banas, Policy Coordinator at Eurocities.

## EUROPE NEWS

### HABITACT Peer Review 2015 – Full Discussion Paper Available

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The discussion paper for the peer review taking place on 9-10 April 2015 in Odense, Denmark is now [online](#). The discussion paper (prepared by the peer review independent expert, Dr Volker Busch-Geertsema, begins by setting the context of responses to homelessness and social exclusion at the European level. It then examines homelessness in relation to the Danish national context, before providing an overview of key elements of homelessness policy and wider urban policies to create an inclusive city with a view to characterising the Odense approach. The detailed case study of homelessness and urban policy in Odense is then compared with the wider research evidence base across other European countries in order to identify potential for transferability of elements of the Odense model to other local contexts. The discussion paper concludes by formulating key questions about the Odense approach for consideration in the peer review meeting.

## HABITACT e-bulletin 22 Online

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The HABITACT e-bulletin aims to provide regular updates on news, initiatives, projects and trends relating to homelessness at local level in Europe and in other parts of the world, where relevant. [Click here](#) to read Issue 22 of the e-bulletin.

## Social Protection Committee Annual Report on Social Situation in the EU

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Increasing homelessness and housing exclusion are major concerns expressed in the Social Protection Committee 2014 [Annual report on the social situation in the EU](#), "Social Europe: Aiming for inclusive growth". The Council of the European Union (EPSCO) endorsed the key messages of the report at a recent meeting, stressing the fact that the key for achieving the Europe 2020 objectives for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth is working toward coherence between the economic and social objectives of the Union.

## Social Services Europe Breakfast Event

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Social Services Europe, a network aiming to strengthen the profile and position of social services and to promote the role of not-for-profit social service providers in Europe, of which FEANTSA is a member, held a [breakfast event](#) with MEPs and EESC representatives on "Job Creation and Economic Growth in the Health and Social Sector" on the 26th March 2015.

## Tackling Long-Term Unemployment – Public Consultation

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The European Commission recently launched a [public consultation](#) on tackling long-term unemployment. It will run until 15th May 2015. The aim is to contribute to an impact assessment in preparation for a proposal for a Council Recommendation on the integration in the labour market of long-term unemployed people.

## FEAD Annual Meeting with Representatives of EU Level Partner Organisations

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Representatives of 10+ European organisations and European Commission staff met to discuss the implementation of the new FEAD programme (Fund for European Aid to the most Deprived). [All FEAD operational programmes](#) have been [adopted](#). This was a first meeting in order for the European Commission to present the state of play and also to receive feedback on any challenges in relation to FEAD implementation.

Around a third of the countries have highlighted homelessness or homeless people as specific targets in their operational programmes. Most countries have opted for food/material assistance programmes but four countries (The Netherlands, Germany, Denmark and Sweden) have opted for social inclusion programmes. In the operational programmes, accompanying measures for material/food assistance include temporary shelter and psychological support and empowerment.

## European Social Innovation Competition

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The 2015 European Social Innovation Competition has launched, with €50 000 in prize money for the top three projects. Based around the theme 'New Ways to Grow' the competition aims to support individuals and organisations with entrepreneurial, game changing ideas for social innovation projects. [Apply here](#). Deadline for submission: 8 May 2015 at 12:00 noon (Brussels time)

## Commissioner Thyssen: Focus on Social Indicators

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In a recent [interview](#), Marianne Thyssen, EU Commissioner for Employment Social Affairs and Inclusion, said that the EC will promote the social dimension in its work: "When we present the yearly recommendations or reform programmes to the countries, more than ever we will focus on social indicators such as inequality and poverty. A country that performs well

economically but faces high numbers in poverty can expect a remark. The European Social Fund, with 86 billion EUR, remains an important pillar. Member-States can count on those funds for projects with regards to training, employment, the fight against poverty and social protection. Youth unemployment is an absolute priority. There is a special fund for this," the Commissioner said.

## Written Declaration on Deinstitutionalisation

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A [Written declaration](#) on the promotion of deinstitutionalisation of people with disabilities in the EU also mentions homeless people.

## UNITED NATIONS NEWS

### Sub-National Government Responsibilities on the Right to Adequate Housing

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In her first report to the General Assembly, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on adequate housing, Ms Leilani Farha, has [outlined some of the priority themes for her mandate](#). Among others, she identifies the important role of state, provincial and municipal governments in implementing the right to adequate housing. In many countries, sub-national levels of government hold key responsibilities for a range of programmes and policies linked to adequate housing, including not only housing programmes and strategies, but also other issues such as income assistance, support to particular marginalised and vulnerable groups, and provision of water, sanitation, electricity and other utilities, or implementation of strategies to address homelessness, says the Rapporteur.

FEANTSA and Fondation Abbé Pierre have [congratulated Ms Farha on her report and have published an appeal for the respect for the right to housing](#) that they presented to the United Nations. FEANTSA and Fondation Abbé Pierre call for closer working between:

- the UN, the Council of Europe and the European Union,
- States signatories to international treaties guaranteeing basic human rights
- Regions and local and regional authorities responsible for public policy contributing to the full enjoyment of these rights
- Civil society stakeholders that contribute to service provision and safeguarding the respect for rights, their universality and their indivisibility.

## MEMBER NEWS

### Austria: BAWO Conference 2015 - Human Rights Housing

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The [2015 BAWO Conference](#), taking place on the 11th-13th May 2015, will focus on co-operation: experts from the three länder around Lake Bodensee in Vorarlberg will share their expertise and knowledge on co-operating and co-operation – co-operation on different levels, with different partners, in different contexts. The right to housing, access to housing and legal work will be the main topic of speeches, workshops and the networking meeting. BAWO welcomes registrations from outside Austria. The conference will be in German, with one presentation in English on the 13th May. To book your place, please fill in the [online form](#) on the BAWO homepage or register in English by [e-mail](#).

### Austria: The Possibilities and Need for Development in the Austrian Homelessness Sector

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BAWO has published [a report on the state of the homeless sector in Austria](#), which has been in existence since the 1970s. Since then, according to the report, services were set up in the federal states and especially in the state capitals in response to acute emergency situations and the ins and outs of poverty policy. These services fit more or less well into the existing social

landscape. Characteristic of the current state of the homelessness sector is that many organisations have developed their own approaches, services and standards independently of each other and an overlapping design/planning and a coordinated development of standards and services is lacking and exists only in exceptional cases (in very recent years in Vienna and Upper Austria). That is why a few state capitals and parts of federal states in Austria have either very good professionals or inadequate and insufficient services and assistance profiles. Services work on their own as a rule, and their service profile is not compatible with similar services in the region.

## Belgium: Results of Brussels Homeless Count

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The *Centre d'appui au secteur bruxellois d'aide aux sans-abri* - la Strada carried out its third count of rough sleepers, homeless shelter users and people living in inadequate housing in the Brussels region on the 6th November 2014. More than 160 volunteers carried out the count between 23.00 and midnight in the 19 districts of Brussels and the national airport. The results of the count [were presented](#) to sector representatives on the 19th March. A total of 2,603 people were counted, 33% more than in 2010. Of those, 779 are roofless (412 rough sleepers and 367 in emergency shelters).

## Belgium: The Cost of Pathways Through Homelessness Services

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*Steunpunt Algemeen Welzijnswerk* (SAW) has [calculated the cost of pathways through homelessness services](#) and compared them to the costs of pathways in several other sectors. Calculations like this can be useful for the implementation of policies and their evaluation. SAW was commissioned to calculate these costs as part of the Housing First Belgium experimentation project, which aims to find more effective methods for combating homelessness.

## Finland: Y-Foundation Wins World Habitat Award

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Y-Foundation is a winner of this year's World Habitat Awards which highlighted 'inspiring housing projects benefiting people and communities'. Y-Foundation was [given the award](#) for being an early adopter of the Housing First model and for having played a leading role in a policy that is on target to end long term homelessness in Finland. See an [interview with Juha Kaakinen](#), Managing Director of Y-Foundation on his organisation winning the award.

## France: NGOs Urge Prime Minister Not to Forget Working Poor

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7.5% of employed people in France are living in poverty. They are part of the 8.5 million people living on less than 987 Euros a month. In a [joint letter](#), different movements and NGO networks, including FEANTSA members EMMAUS and FNARS, try to draw the Prime Minister's attention to the fragile economic and social situation of people who nevertheless have a job. "Even though they have a job", these people face "serious difficulties for finding accommodation, food, healthcare, transport and accessing leisure activities". These NGO leaders ask the Prime Minister to introduce an "ambitious policy" to "combat poverty and promote job security" with "robust budgetary commitments from the State". They point to three priority areas: "simplifying benefits to reduce the number of non-claimants, bolstering the spending power of lower earners and their access to support".

## France: Spring Emergency Shelter Closures - Appeal to Government

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The 115, the emergency number for homeless people in France, can only find solutions for 57% of the requests for accommodation it receives, says FNARS in a [press release](#). It's during this crisis situation that the closure of places opened in winter will take place, continues FNARS. As every year, this closure, decided by the State, will put several thousand men, women and children back out on the street on the 31st March, the date when the "winter plans" end and evictions can recommence, says the press release. NGOs and social workers who have been supporting these people refuse to accept this cyclical scenario, especially when the end of "thermometer-driven" homelessness policy was hailed as a priority of the governmental anti-poverty initiative in 2012. FNARS has also sent an [open letter to the Prime Minister](#) to ask him to commit to changing this situation.

## Ireland: Simon Communities Warn Homeless Crisis Deepening and Rents Out of Control

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The Simon Communities in Ireland have [warned](#) that the latest figures from the Private Residential Tenancies Board (PRTB) Quarterly Rent Index means that vulnerable people and families are being forced into homelessness daily and many people are stuck in emergency accommodation for far too long because of rising rent, housing shortages and inadequate rent supplement payments. They simply have no other option. The figures released and compiled by the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI) for the PRTB show an increase of 5.8% in rents nationally over the course of 2014, this follows a 3% increase in 2013. Rent for houses was up by 4.8% and apartment rents were up by 6.4%.

## Ireland: Hospital Discharge for People who are Homeless

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Focus Ireland, the Dublin Region Homeless Executive and the Irish Health Services Executive (HSE) have set up a pilot scheme that will examine local authority homeless placement services and their cooperation with hospitals. The pilot, which began in December 2014, will be in operation for a year, with an on-going review of the services taking place during this period. Dublin City Council's Central Placement Service is working in cooperation with Hospital Social Work Teams where homelessness may be a concern. The HSE will put a formal discharge protocol in place with Dublin Hospitals and Homeless Services to ensure that, as far as possible, no patient will be discharged into homelessness.

## Italy: Housing First - Experiences and Dialogue to Build Social Innovation

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fiio.PSD hosted an [event entitled "Housing First: Experiences and Dialogue to Build Social Innovation"](#), on the 19th of March 2015. The event was open to social workers, NGOs and institutions directly involved with the Housing First model and social marginalisation. More than 60 organizations took part in this event, some belonging to the public sector (Regional Institutions, Local Authorities, Health Services), others to the not-for-profit sector (NGOs, Foundations, Social Cooperatives, Dioceses and Caritas), all coming from different parts of Italy. Professor Deborah Padgett, an anthropologist from New York University, presented the US experience and Dr Raffaele Tangorra, General Director of the Italian Department for Work and Social Affairs, chaired a round-table discussion between public and private stakeholders.

## Italy: Evidence-Giving in the Senate Commission on Hygiene and Public Health

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fiio.PSD was [asked to give evidence to the Italian Senate](#) Commission on Hygiene and Public Health at a hearing on a bill on health care for homeless people.

## Spain: Book Launch "From Street to Home"

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FEANTSA member San Juan de Dios has launched its latest [free e-book](#), "Del carrer a la llar: Housing first com a model d'intervenció i la seva aplicació a Barcelona" ("From Street to Home: Housing First As an Intervention Model and its Implementation in Barcelona") by Joan Uribe i Vilarodona, director of Sant Joan de Déu Serveis Socials-Barcelona and FEANTSA AC Member for Spain. The book is the first in the San Juan de Dios teaching collection.

The book aims to explain what Housing First is – and what it isn't, which changes and improvements in service design and support methods it entails and, stressing the high success rate in the many cities across the world where it is being introduced. It suggests a new direction for the current system in the City of Barcelona, in which, basing itself on the successes of the current support model – variety and number of resources – social support can be strengthened with the home as a residential space for the person receiving support, increasing the likelihood of success of the support – leaving the situation of homelessness or housing exclusion for good – and with a person-centred perspective of support where the person is at the centre of service provision and social worker intervention.

## Spain: Conference on Social Work with Homeless People

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Las Palmas (Gran Canaria) city council organised a [two-day conference](#) on local government approaches to homelessness that took place on the 16th and 17th March. Professionals from across Spain were in attendance. The conference discussed current approaches to homelessness and debated future challenges facing local governments in their efforts to end homelessness.

## Spain: Arrels Fundació Work Receives Recognition from Municipality

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Arrels Fundació has been [awarded](#) a prize (9.000 €) by the city of Barcelona in recognition of their work on participation in recent years. The prize is awarded by the [town hall of Barcelona](#) to organisations that have put participation into practice in a concrete way. It is awarded once a year.

I send you here a couple of links related to this prize: the first one is of the specific department in charge of the prize. In the second you will find a picture of our director (both service users at our board couldn't attend the ceremony) with the Major when receiving the prize.

## UK: Call for Review of Homelessness Support

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UK homelessness charities, including FEANTSA members, have written to UK political party leaders ahead of forthcoming elections, calling on them to review the support given to single homeless people. [The letter](#), signed by Centrepoint, Crisis, Homeless Link, Housing Justice, Shelter and St Mungo's Broadway, say that current laws, that stipulate that single homeless people are only entitled to support if they are judged to be in priority need, are leading to homeless people being turned away by councils without receiving support.

## UK: The State of Homelessness Support in England

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The Homeless Link annual [review](#) of the homelessness sector shows how the sector has changed and indicates some of the future challenges for those who fund and provide support for people experiencing and at risk of homelessness.

## HEADLINES

### Austria: Women's Homelessness in Focus

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Visibility. Opening the discussion. Promoting openness. These and others are the goals of the [ongoing project](#), "Shared Spaces: A Cycle of Workshops and Events on Women's Homelessness in Vienna".

### France: Anti-Poverty Initiative – Evaluation of 2013-14 and 2015-17 Objectives

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Adopted in 2013 the French Initiative to fight poverty and promote social inclusion was the result of a huge consultation exercise and a joint evaluation of the situation regarding the causes of poverty and the means available for providing help to the most vulnerable.

In an economic context that continues to be difficult, the objective of the 2015-17 roadmap is to rethink the founding principles of society and to defend the French value of solidarity.

From 2013-14, numerous measures were taken regarding prevention approaches and support for vulnerable people. Through the new roadmap, the Government commits to carrying on all the measures introduced and adding to the initiative through a

series of new measures.

## Greece: First Anti-Poverty Measures

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Greece's new government has [adopted a first batch of measures](#) to combat poverty. The measures include free electricity, rent support and food stamps. According to the plan, the government will reconnect electricity to households unable to pay their bills and provide up to 300 kilowatt hours free of charge this year. Under the plan, up to 30,000 households will also receive a monthly rent supplement of between 70 and 220 euros and 300,000 people will be given stamps for food and other basic goods from companies participating in the scheme. Priority will be given to families with small children, unemployed and poor people.

It has emerged that [the Troika asked Greece not to pass these antipoverty measures](#). The Greek Parliament nonetheless [approved the measures](#).

## Ireland: Rents May be Fixed for Three Years

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Rents could be fixed for three years and linked to the rate of inflation until housing supply catches up with demand under plans by Republic of Ireland Minister for the Environment Alan Kelly. Under the plans, landlords would have to justify a rent increase by refurbishing the property. It has yet to be decided whether the new "rent certainty" initiative will be voluntary or mandatory for landlords, but they may be incentivised through measures such as tax breaks to convince them to take part.

## Italy: Research into LGBT Homelessness

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A [report](#) by *Avvocato di Strada* shows that stigma and discrimination, including dual discrimination of LGBT migrants and a lack of services are causes of homelessness among LGBT people in Italy. The research interviewed 20 homeless people and homeless service representatives in Bologna, Italy, and is part of a broader research project into a perceived 'new' category of homeless people in the country, LGBT homeless individuals. There are currently no specific services for LGBT homeless people but there are plans to create services for this group based on a model that developed spontaneously in Bologna. The research gives advice for homeless service providers on how to work with homeless LGBT people, including the need for training. The [project](#) that accompanied the research included two training sessions, one on organisational issues for service providers and one on legal issues for barristers.

## Netherlands: Supporting Homeless Families

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It has become apparent that families who become homeless are sometimes not given adequate support. How often does this happen? And when it happens, how long does this situation last? The [Trimbos-instituut](#) is starting research into support available to homeless families that hopes to answer these questions. The research will demonstrate which local government support homeless families can count on, how many families are being supported by local authorities and what kind of support they receive and for how long. Results are expected in October.

## Spain: Third Sector Platform Concerned About Senate Approval of 'Public Security Law'

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The Spanish Third Sector Platform, has [reiterated its concern](#), that it has been making public in recent months, about the approval by the Spanish Senate of the Public Security Bill, which, as was the case in Parliament in December, was approved only by votes from the *Partido Popular* party and was vetoed by all other members.

The Platform believes that the rejection of the Bill by all parliamentary groups but the *Partido Popular* reflects the opposition to this Bill from citizens, social NGOs, platforms, legal practitioners, European Union Human Rights bodies and, recently, [United](#)



[Nations rapporteurs](#).

The Bill will return to Parliament at the end of March, which is why the Third Sector Platform is calling again for the proposals and contributions from the sector to be taken into account.

The Platform stresses that even if some articles relating to the Right to protest and freedom of association have been changed, the most relevant contributions from the Third Sector, collected in its document of proposals of which the objective is to avoid a move towards the criminalisation of poverty, as is happening in other European countries at the moment, have been ignored.

## ANNOUCEMENTS

### Goodbye to Pedro Meca

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It is with sadness that we announce the death of Father Pedro Meca, a social worker who was a long-standing supporter of social justice and the rights of homeless people and founder of several homelessness services in Paris. Michel Mercadié has written a [tribute](#) to him to celebrate his life.

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Job Coaching and Success in Gaining and Sustaining Employment among Homeless People

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People who are homeless experience many barriers that affect their ability to gain and sustain work. This [study](#) investigates whether personal job coaching support contributes toward employment success. It analyses the short- and long-term employment outcomes of 2,480 clients participating in a labour market programme. The study showed that clients being supported by a job coach have significantly higher chances of gaining employment than those not being supported. This holds particularly true for the youngest age-group.

### Street Paper, Assistance and Protagonism: A Critical Discourse Analysis of CAIS Magazine

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This [paper](#) integrates a research project that aims to investigate five Portuguese language street papers linked to the International Network of Street Papers. The distribution of these publications occurs on the streets, sold by homeless people but beyond the structural changes of journalistic routines and practices, is there a discursive change implied, in terms of discourses activated for the representation of homelessness? To investigate this question, this research project includes a collection of recent texts from five different publications and interviews with the editors of each of them. This paper focuses on one of them, CAIS magazine, from Lisbon. Interested in the extent of homeless people's participation in producing CAIS magazine, the authors selected an excerpt in which the vendors are represented.

### Low-income Households Excluded from the Private Rental Sector

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This [project](#), 'Bridging the divide: the experiences of low-income households excluded from the private rental sector in Australia' investigated forced exits from private rental accommodation in Australia. It sought to understand practitioner responses and systems of service integration to assist these people be reintegrated back into suitable accommodation.

## Homeless Children and Families in Ile-de-France

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Families – children and their parent(s) – account for an increasing part of the homeless population. [The ENFAMS survey](#) (*Enfants et familles sans logement* (Homeless Children and Families)) is the first in France to have studied this population specifically. The study aims to describe the trajectories, living conditions and health conditions of the families, as well as estimating the size of the population at a specific point in time.

801 families in Ile-de-France were interviewed during the first half of 2013. They were living in emergency accommodation, in temporary accommodation, in homeless hostels or in asylum-seeker centres. In order to take part in the study they had to include at least one child under 13 years of age and speak one of the seventeen languages used in the study.

## Ending Street Homelessness is Possible – Manual on Helping Homeless People

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The Belgian NGO [Street Doctors](#) has published a practical guide to its work with homeless people. The guide covers making contact, working on hygiene, physical and mental health care for the patient, motivation and coordination for teams and with other bodies and work on the patient's environment.

## Drawing What Homelessness Looks Like: Using Creative Visual Methods as a Tool of Critical Pedagogy

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This article presents findings from a [creative qualitative study](#), where drawing was used as a methodological tool to investigate university students' awareness of homelessness. Previous research (Breeze and Dean 2012; 2013) has shown that homelessness charities often utilise stereotypical images in their fundraising campaigns, focusing on the arresting issue of rough sleeping (rooflessness) as opposed to other, more widespread experiences of homelessness. In drawing 'what homelessness looks like' the images students produce are often rooted in familiar local scenes - local roofless people they see regularly, or replications of common media images, with a tendency to depoliticise and individualise homelessness as a social issue. These drawings show striking similarities, common themes, and indicate a lack of critical engagement with the complex problems within personal homelessness narratives. The efficacy of the methodological approach is assessed, with the role creative methods such as drawing can play in stimulating critical discussion of issues, such as gender and the media, highlighted. The article also argues that such methods can play a role in critical pedagogy, encouraging deeply reflexive accounts of participants' behaviour and knowledge. In policy terms however, this article concludes that it would be a risk for homelessness charities to utilise less stereotypical images in their fundraising materials, as the findings suggest such images align with those in the minds of potential donors.



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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-EEA and EU candidate and pre-candidate countries.

For more information see: <http://ec.europa.eu/progress>

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