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ANNUAL GROWTH SURVEY 2018 CALLS ON MEMBER STATES TO TACKLE HOMELESSNESS

Today, the European Commission published its Annual Growth Survey (AGS), launching the 2018 Semester for economic and social policy coordination within the EU. The Annual Growth Survey sets out priorities for the year ahead. As in previous years, the AGS focuses on three broad priorities: boosting investment, structural reforms and fiscal responsibility.

For the first time, the Commission has underlined investment in adequate social housing and other housing assistance as "essential", focusing on the need to protect "vulnerable people against unjustified forced eviction and foreclosures, as well as tackling homelessness".

FEANTSA is delighted that the Commission has raised its level of ambition on homelessness and housing exclusion in the Semester process. This is a major breakthrough compared to previous years and demonstrates a serious engagement with Priority 19 of the recently proclaimed European Pillar of Social Rights. At a time when homelessness is increasing in almost all Member States, this development is both timely and much needed.

FEANTSA now looks forward to seeing this new ambition reflected in the monitoring, reporting and recommendation phases of the 2018 Semester, and into concrete action to tackle homelessness within Member States and at EU level. We are ready to work with the Commission and local, national and regional governments to help make this happen!

Useful resources:

- [FEANTSA Position Paper: The Good, the Bad & the Ugly: A Housing and Homelessness Perspective on the 2017 European Semester](#)
- [Headlines on Housing Exclusion & Homelessness for the EU Semester 2018](#)
- [The Second Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2017](#) (new edition will be released in March 2018)

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Notes for editors:

1. **FEANTSA** is the European Federation of National Organisations working with the Homeless. It is an umbrella of not-for-profit organisations which participate in or contribute to the fight against homelessness in Europe. It is the only major European network focusing exclusively on homelessness at European level