

KIRKENS
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Access to rights for destitute EU migrants in Norway

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Mari Seilskjær, Church City Mission

mari.seilskjaer@bymisjon.no

Key legal framework

Social Services Act:

- Financial social assistance
- Temporary accommodation

Social Housing Act:

- Assistance to find or maintain stable housing

Critical limitation: Full rights are reserved for persons with regular residence



Regulation on Social Services for Migrants

Migrants with Right to Stay But No Residence (§ 1)

- **Right to information, advice and guidance**
- **Social assistance and temporary housing** – with limitations:
 - Applicable for persons who cannot provide for their livelihood
 - Until the person “can be expected to receive assistance from the home country”
- Practical reality: These rights are frequently denied
- **No right to emergency accommodation for everyone in need.**



Registration procedures and requirements

Residents: 'Proper' registration → personal number

- Requires a long-term employment contract + housing contract

Non-residents: Temporary id number (D-number).

Excluded from important rights:

- Housing allowance
- General practitioner (GP)
- BankID (electronic identification)
- *Note:* Until recently also excluded from social assistance, social housing and temporary accommodation unless they had a strong "connection" to Norway



Access to health care

Migrants with **European Health Insurance Card:**

- "Necessary health care"

Very limited rights for **mobile migrants:**

- "Emergency health care that cannot wait"
- NGOs run Health Centres for Irregular Migrants

Non-residents (d-number):

- No GP. More limited access to specialist health care



Access to employment

- Very limited support available
- Difficult to find stable work for persons with limited language knowledge, lack of formal skills and limited digital access
- Unemployment, unstable jobs, work exploitation
- Accommodation through the employer



Criminalisation of homelessness

- Oslo: Sleeping ban adopted in 2013
- Heavily criticised by Human Rights Bodies
- Discriminatory – Roma migrants particularly targeted
- After 2015: Few recorded cases



Lack of knowledge and policy

- EU migrants are not properly included in the national mapping of homeless in Norway
- Non-residents excluded from most data and statistics
- Little exposure, limited political attention
- Absence of ambition and policy framework

