



HELLENIC REPUBLIC  
Ministry of Social Cohesion  
and Family Affairs



Under the auspices

**CITY OF  
ATHENS**

# FEANTSA FORUM 2025

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FULL PROGRAMME



**FEANTSA**, in cooperation with host organisation **Emfasis**, are proud to present the **FEANTSA Forum 2025**.

Taking place on the 13th and 14th of May in Athens, the FEANTSA Forum is the largest event on homelessness in Europe. Attended by service workers and housing providers, researchers, lawyers, policy makers, and anyone else committed to ending homelessness, the FEANTSA Forum is the chance to connect with and learn from each other's knowledge and experiencing.

For more information and updates, keep an eye on our social media channels and our [website](#).

**Venue: The President Hotel, Leof. Kifisias 43, Athina 115 23, Greece**

The President Hotel is advantageously situated near two metro stations and other means of public transport. Its quiet yet cozy atmosphere makes it the perfect spot to hold this Forum.

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# 13.05 Overview

**09:00-13:00**

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY - FEANTSA MEMBERS ONLY**

**ROOM: ATLAS 1+2**

The annual General Assembly for the FEANTSA membership. Coffee break from 11:00-11:30.

**DROP IN SESSION: FEANTSA MEMBERSHIP**

**ROOM: TBC**

Are you considering FEANTSA membership? In this session, you can ask questions about how your organisation can become part of FEANTSA and learn more about how FEANTSA works, along with the benefits and responsibilities of joining the only European NGO focused exclusively on the fight against homelessness. This is a drop-in session, so feel free to join at any time between 9:00 and 13:00.

**14:30-16:00**

**WORKING SPACES - FIRST SESSIONS**

**ROOM: VARIOUS**

A variety of working spaces are available, see page 4 for more details.

**16:30-18:00**

**WORKING SPACES - SECOND SESSIONS**

**ROOM: VARIOUS**

A variety of working spaces are available, see pages 5 to 6 for more details.

**14:30-23:00**

**SITE VISITS**

Site visits to various services throughout Athens. Times and locations vary. See pages 7 to 9 for more details.

**DINNER**

Offered by the Greek Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family Affairs (AC).

# Working spaces

**14:30-16:00**

## **MONITORING HOMELESSNESS IN GREECE**

### **ROOM: ATLAS 1**

The working space Monitoring Homelessness in Greece aims to facilitate a focused discussion among municipalities, experts, and relevant stakeholders on improving the collection, evaluation, and harmonization of data concerning homelessness in Greece. This initiative seeks to identify existing gaps, explore good practices, and promote better methodologies for monitoring homelessness at the local and national levels.

## **MEET THE HOUSING FIRST EUROPE HUB**

### **ROOM: ATLAS 2**

This session provides an opportunity to learn more about the work of the Housing First Europe Hub, including its research, capacity-building, and training activities. Participants will also receive updates on the state of Housing First across Europe and have the chance to exchange experiences and best practices. The session is designed as a networking opportunity for Hub partners and associates, and all newcomers – those interested in Housing First and the Housing First Europe Hub are very welcome to join.

## **PRESENTATION EPOCH PRACTICE**

### **ROOM: EUROPE B**

EPOCH Practice, co-financed by the European Commission, and implemented by FEANTSA, aims to strengthen mutual learning and capacity building on homelessness through webinars, training sessions, study visits, research, and other dissemination tools for representatives from EU Member States in charge of national homelessness policies. This session presents the past 18 months of Epoch Practice activities, and allows interested stakeholders to engage directly with the project team. All welcome.

## **TURNING PICS D'OR INTO A EUROPEAN EVENT**

### **ROOM: COSMOS**

Join us for an open working session dedicated to expanding “Les Pics d’Or” into a European event. This initiative from FAP aims to highlight and satirise hostile urban measures that marginalise the homeless. With the presence of Sarah Coupechoux, a representative from the organisation, we will explore strategies to engage participants and audiences from across Europe, fostering a more inclusive and widespread impact.

## **YOUTH HOMELESSNESS**

### **ROOM: EUROPE A**

This will be a space to take stock of FEANTSA’s work on youth homelessness and discuss current and future priorities. We will also explore how the FEANTSA Youth network should work, in both contents and processes.

# Working spaces

**16:30-18:00**

## **PRESENTATION COMHOM PROJECT**

### **ROOM: ATLAS 1**

Launched in January 2025, COMHOM is a three-year initiative funded by the European Social Fund Plus. It focuses on transforming the way homelessness is tackled by leveraging data, digital tools, and a standardised monitoring and evaluation framework. By addressing the fragmentation of homelessness services and fostering collaboration, COMHOM aims to set new benchmarks for efficiency, innovation, and effectiveness. Project coordinators Sant Joan de Déu Serveis Socials Barcelona will present COMHOM and explain how organisations across Europe can engage with it.

## **A LOOK INTO LONG-TERM HOUSING SOLUTIONS FOR MIGRANTS**

### **ROOM: COSMOS**

This session will bring together stakeholders who work to empower migrant communities, including asylum seekers and refugees, to access long-term safe and affordable housing solutions. We will explore lessons learned, causes of homelessness among migrants and facilitate discussions about long term solutions, including how/if we can work with Housing First for migrants.

## **RESULTS OF THE EU HOMELESSNESS COUNTING PROJECT**

### **ROOM: ATLAS 2**

The EU Homelessness Counts Project, funded by the EU Commission, was launched to harmonise data collection on homelessness across Europe. The project aims to create a shared approach using the ETHOS Light framework, helping cities adopt common definitions and methodologies to improve the accuracy and comparability of homelessness counts. In 2024, the first project year, 15 cities across Europe participated in the project, laying the groundwork for a more unified data collection process.

This session will present key findings from the first year of data collection, sharing insights into challenges, successes, and lessons learned. Whether you are a policymaker, researcher, or practitioner, we invite you to join the discussion and learn how this initiative is shaping the future of homelessness data in Europe.

## **INTERACT PROJECT**

### **ROOM: OLYMPIA**

INTERACT is a three-year initiative funded by the European Social Fund Plus. It addresses the complex challenges faced by women experiencing homelessness, focusing on intimate partner violence, substance use, and mental health issues. With a transnational consortium of organisations from Greece, Italy, Germany, Portugal, Iceland, and Romania, the project offers tailored, trauma-informed support, empowering women to find a way out of homelessness.

# Working spaces

**16:30-18:00**

## **DYNAMIC CONFERENCE ON ENDING HOMELESSNESS: THE NECESSARY MILITANT PERSPECTIVE**

### **ROOM: EUROPE B**

Laurent d'Ursel presents his dynamic conference on ending homelessness at the FEANTSA Forum. A dynamic conference is a tool for popular education developed by French activist Franck Lepage. It combines the forms of lecture, theatrical monologue and stand up. This dynamic conference draws on work with a group of homeless activists in Brussels (Le Syndicat des immenses), as well as Laurent's experience as an artist, activist, founder of an NGO, and landlord in Brussels. It shows in an engaging and amusing way that ending homelessness is technically possible, humanely desirable, and financially viable. By making these facts more widely known, societally convincing and politically engaging, the conference aims to contribute to a collective societal decision to end homelessness.

## **THE ROLE OF REAL-TIME DATA IN ENDING HOMELESSNESS – NORDIC INSIGHTS**

### **ROOM: ORION**

Accurate and timely data is essential for designing effective homelessness policies and strategies. Traditional data collection methods, such as point-in-time counts, provide valuable insights but often fail to capture the dynamic nature of homelessness. This session explores how real-time data systems, such as By-Name Lists and local dashboards with aggregated data, can enhance service coordination, support early intervention, and strengthen long-term prevention strategies.

Building on recent OECD research and experiences from Nordic countries, we will discuss both the opportunities and challenges of integrating real-time data into policy and practice. The session will highlight key lessons from different national and local approaches, providing insights into how data-driven strategies can accelerate progress towards reducing and ultimately ending homelessness.

Join us to explore how innovative data solutions can drive systemic change and improve homelessness responses at all levels.

# Site visits

15:00-17:00

17:00-19:00

## **ARSIS – ASSOCIATION FOR THE SOCIAL SUPPORT OF YOUTH (ARSIS – KOINONIKI ORGANOSI YPOSTIRIXIS NEON)**

### **MEGALOU ALEXANDROU 56, METAXOURGEIO**

Social support of youth in difficulty or danger and in the advocacy of their rights. The main target is the prevention of youth marginalisation, the elaboration of policies which defend youth rights and the active social support towards disadvantaged young people

<https://arsis.gr/en/epikoinonia/>

14:00-15:30

15:30-17:00

## **DOCTORS OF THE WORLD GREECE**

### **DELIGIORGI (NEAR METAXOURGIO STATION)**

The project aims to protect & support women & their children during the asylum application process & to quickly find sustainable solutions for their normal life in the country. The Open Accomodation Center operates by offering all the necessary services to women and their children according to their special needs, in order to utilise their time spent in the Open Center.

<https://astepforward.mdmgreece.gr/en/the-project/>

15:00-17:00

21:00-23:00

## **EMFASIS NON-PROFIT**

### **SOFIANOU 2 KOUKAKI**

a privately-funded Non Profit initiative. Since 2013 its objective is restoring the dignity of individuals facing multiple forms of homelessness. In Athens they operate streetwork shifts on the street & 3 mobile support units, mapping those in visible & invisible homelessness. They also have dedicated teams for emergency weather conditions, across Greece. Emfasis support programmes include temporary accommodation, rent & utilities subsidy and health emergency coverage.

<https://www.emfasisfoundation.org/>

16:00-

## **EQUAL SOCIETY**

### **ALIKARNASOU 49, ATHENS**

a non-profit organization promoting equality, social inclusion, & human rights. It implements programs to combat poverty and social exclusion for vulnerable groups.

<https://equalsociety.gr/el/programmata-trexonta/peoples-meals-social-soup-kitchen-athens-municipality-2024.html>

12:00-15:00

## **EPANODOS – REINTEGRATION CENTER FOR RELEASED PRISONERS**

### **DERIGNI 28-30, ATHENS**

<https://epanodos.org.gr/>

# Site visits

15:00-17:00

## **ECHO100PLUS**

### **DROSSOPOULOU 27-29, 11257 KYPSELI**

A registered Austrian charity, founded in 2012 by a group of Austrian friends with strong ties to Greece, who took action because of the intensity of the economic & social crisis in the country. They currently provide professional training to xxxxx

<https://echo100plus.com/en>

15:00-17:00

17:00-19:00

## **GREEK COUNCIL FOR REFUGEES (ELLINIKO SYMVOULIO GIA TOUS PROSFYGES)**

### **STOURNARI 57, ATHENS - 10432**

It provides legal & social assistance to refugees & asylum seekers in Greece. It aims to defend the rights of refugees & support their integration into Greek society.

<https://gcr.gr/el/>

15:00-17:00

## **ITHACA LAUNDRY**

### **KOUMOUNDOUROU SQUARE**

it operates a mobile laundry service for the homeless population in Athens and Piraeus, restoring dignity to homeless individuals by providing them with clean clothes and promoting social inclusion.

<https://ithacalaundry.gr/ithaca/schetika-me-emas/>

15:00-17:00

17:00-19:00

## **KATHODON**

### **KONSTANTINOU PALAIOLOGOU 18, ATHENS 10438**

“On the Way” is a Christian, non-profit organization focusing on love, respect. It has open arms for every homeless person.

<https://ontheway.gr/>

15:00-17:00

17:00-19:00

## **MAZI HOUSING**

### **PEONIU 6, VICTORIA**

Mazí exists to end homelessness and social exclusion for people who have experienced displacement in Athens. They support young men to move from living on the streets, in camps or in precarious housing into long-term independent housing. Working with our talented team and expert partners, they gather the practical tools and soft skills to pave their own way to self-reliance.

<https://mazihousing.org/>



# Site visits

**15:00-17:00**

**17:00-19:00**

## **NOSTOS**

### **NOTARA & METSOVOU, PEDIO AREOS**

NOSTOS Organization for Social Integration is a not-for-profit Civil Society Organization aiming at alleviating the effects of social exclusion and unemployment felt by several socially vulnerable groups. The target is to incorporate those facing difficulties into the social web and the labor market. This is achieved by the provision of a multiplicity of services and activities of social and educational character.

NOSTOS was founded in 1995 by local Pontian Associations and their Federation, initially aiming at facilitating the social integration of Greek origin returnees from the ex-Soviet Union. Following our constitutional aim to combat social exclusion, we have since then gradually expanded NOSTOS services to other socially vulnerable groups in an effort to respond to arising social problems. Today NOSTOS is a well-respected Social Service steadily engaged.

# 14.05 Overview

**09:00-11:00**

## **OPENING PLENARY**

Kicking off with a welcome to the Forum, a conversation between the Executive President of the EU Commission Roxana Minzatu and the chair of EPOCH Yves Leterme, and a panel discussion on *Ending homelessness: responsibility and role of the homeless shelter sector*.

**11:30-13:30**

## **WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS, AND IN CONVERSATION WITH'S**

The first round of informative sessions, looking at *Housing First*, *staff well-being*, *migration*, *sex work* and much more.

**14:30-16:30**

## **WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS, AND IN CONVERSATION WITH'S**

Following lunch, the second round of sessions cover topics such as asylum seekers, a special look at *homelessness in Greece*, and *peer work*.

**17:30-18:00**

## **CLOSING PLENARY**

From the University of California, Margot Kushel will speak about the importance of evidence-based policies to tackle homelessness effectively. She will share her views on what evidence is important and what evidence is missing. She will also share her experience on how to make service providers and policy makers more receptive to evidence and how to make researchers more interested in policy and service-relevant research.

## **CONFERENCE DINNER**

# Opening Plenary

**09:00-09:10**

## **WELCOME SPEECH**

Jules Van Dam, President of FEANTSA

A Representative of Greek hosts

**09:10-09:20**

## **EXECUTIVE PRESIDENT OF THE EU COMMISSION ROXANA MINZATU IN CONVERSATION WITH THE CHAIR OF EPOCH YVES LETERME**

Roxana Minzatu, EU Commission (TBC)

Yves Leterme, Chair of EPOCH (TBC)

**09:20-11:00**

## **ENDING HOMELESSNESS: RESPONSIBILITY AND ROLE OF THE HOMELESS SHELTER SECTOR**

How does shelter fit in with the goal of ending homelessness? This panel will discuss what shelter is for, what it is like, and what its future should be.

### **Speakers:**

Rina Beers, Valente, The Netherlands

Hana Košan, Kralji ulice, Slovenia

Michael Herzog, neunerhaus, Austria

**11:30-13:30**

## **NEXT STEPS IN HOUSING FIRST – BUILDING NATIONAL AND LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS**

### **ROOM: ATLAS 1**

This workshop will explore the transition of Housing First from a project-based approach to its integration into national and municipal strategies. Speakers from different countries (including France, Austria, Germany and Greece) will share their experiences, highlighting key challenges, strategies for securing support, and funding mechanisms.

Following a panel discussion, where speakers will present insights on scaling up Housing First at different levels of governance. Participants will engage in group discussions facilitated by the speakers, allowing for deeper exchanges on best practices, common barriers, and practical solutions.

### **Speakers:**

Andreas Karadakis, Thessaloniki, Greece

Rolf, Jordan, Deutscher Verein, Germany

Emine Oezkan, Housing First Austria, Austria

Raphaël Bouloudnine, Un chez soi d'abord, France

TBC, Bundesverband Housing First

**11:30-13:30**

## **ENDING MIGRANTS' HOMELESSNESS IN AN INCREASINGLY HOSTILE ENVIRONMENT**

### **ROOM: ATLAS 2**

Homelessness among migrants is rising across Europe, driven by restrictive migration policies that worsen destitution and create a hostile environment for exiled people and support organisations. This workshop will explore strategies and collaborative approaches to advocate for and support displaced individuals in securing stable housing and fostering inclusive communities.

### **Speakers:**

Rick Henderson, Homeless Link, UK

Heracles Moskoff, Greek Ministry of Migration and Asylum, Greece

Yonous Muhammadi, Greek Forum of Refugees, Greece

Marthe Yonh, Cités Caritas, France

# Workshops

**14:30-16:30**

## **HOMELESS POLICIES UNDER RIGHT-WING POPULIST GOVERNMENTS: STRATEGIES FOR THE HOMELESS SECTOR**

### **ROOM: ATLAS 1**

The workshop will discuss the impact of populist right-wing governments on homeless policies and services. The workshop will look at the challenges and try to uncover some opportunities as well. A variety of issues will be covered such as the impact on political ambition, funding, housing first programme, homeless migrants, etc.

### **Speakers:**

Boroka Feher, BMSZKI, Hungary

Jules van Dam, Valente, The Netherlands

Lucia Fiorillo, fio.PSD, Italy

Juha Kahila, Y-Saatio, Finland

**14:30-16:30**

## **CREATING SAFE SPACES: WHAT WORKS AND WHY FOR WOMEN-ONLY HOMELESSNESS SERVICES**

### **ROOM: ATLAS 2**

This interactive workshop will explore what works and why in women-only homelessness services. We will explore the gender specific risks and needs of women experiencing homelessness and how women-only services can address them. Through the examples of two women-only day centres from Lyon and Glasgow, we will share key challenges and lessons learnt from setting up and running women-only safe spaces for women experiencing homelessness.

### **Speakers:**

Anne Kahlhoven, Au Tambour!, France

Hannah Boyle, Simon Community Scotland, Scotland (TBC)

# 'In conversation with'

**11:30-12:25**

## **DOES EU ACTION ON HOMELESSNESS MATTER? (Q & A)**

### **ROOM: ORION**

The session will allow participants to question Katarina Ivankovic-Knezevic, who is the driving force behind the EU work on homelessness, about the current and future role of the EU in the fight against homelessness. There will be space for both policy related questions and practical questions related to funding and learning opportunities.

### **Speakers:**

Katarina Ivankovic-Knezevic, Director for Social Rights and Inclusion, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion at EU Commission (TBC)

**14:30-15:25**

## **INVESTMENT IN HOUSING SOLUTIONS: EUROPE CAN HELP!**

### **ROOM: ORION**

European investment in social and affordable housing has been growing in recent years. It is about to get a further boost with the EU's Affordable Housing Plan. In this context, Emilia Postolache will explain how European investment can be mobilised for housing solutions to homelessness. She will focus on the role of the Council of Europe Development Bank and draw on her experience co-chairing the funding working group of EPOCH.

### **Speakers:**

Emilia Postolache, Council of Europe Development Bank

**12:35-13:30**

## **FREE MOVEMENT & HOMELESSNESS: WHAT CAN THE EU DO?**

### **ROOM: ORION**

20 years after the approval of the Free Movement Directive, intra-EU migrants make up a significant number of the homeless population in the largest cities of Western and Northern Europe. Annie Berendsen will discuss homeless EU citizens' access to social support and shed light on the role the EU has or should have in supporting this particular group.

### **Speakers:**

Annie Berendsen, De Regenboog Groep, The Netherlands

**15:35-16:30**

## **HOMELESSNESS AMONG ASYLUM SEEKERS IN BRUSSELS – A 'RECEPTION CRISIS' OR A STRUCTURAL DENIAL OF RIGHTS?**

### **ROOM: ORION**

Since 2021, Brussels has experienced a persisting absence of reception for applicants for international protection. Referred to as a 'reception crisis', this reflects a deeper, structural denial of fundamental rights. The director of the Federal Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers takes the hot seat to reflect on what led to this situation, systemic barriers faced by applicants, policy shortcomings, and pathways to ensure dignified reception conditions.

### **Speakers:**

Pieter Spinnewijn, FEDASIL, Belgium

**11:30-12:25**

## **HARM REDUCTION, SUBSTANCE USE AND HOMELESSNESS: FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE**

### **ROOM: OLYMPIA**

The relation between substance use and homelessness is complex and deeply interconnected. Harm reduction strategies are crucial in addressing the rights and well-being of people experiencing homelessness who use drugs. This seminar will examine the state of harm reduction in Europe before shifting to a more practical perspective, addressing key challenges and future direction.

#### **Speakers:**

Joana Moura, C-EHRN, The Netherlands

Martinho Dias, Crescer Na Maior, Portugal

Malu Salazar, De Regenboog Groep, The Netherlands

**11:30-12:25**

## **CHALLENGES OF PUBLIC PROCUREMENT FOR HOMELESS SERVICES: ARE THERE LESSONS FROM IRELAND?**

### **ROOM: COSMOS**

The way homeless services are procured is an important factor in how they are designed and delivered. In this seminar, we will explore how the tendering process for homelessness services in Ireland shapes outcomes. We will then look at what the relevant EU rules on public procurement of social services are, and how they can best be applied to protect and promote quality. The seminar is both an opportunity to recognise challenges and to learn about inspiring practice.

#### **Speakers:**

Mike Allen, Focus Ireland, Ireland

Mathias Maucher, Social Services Europe, Belgium

**11:30-12:25**

## **LIVES ON THE MARGINS: EXPLORING THE CONNECTION BETWEEN HOMELESSNESS AND SEX WORK**

### **ROOM: EUROPE A**

The access to safe, stable housing is often very difficult for sex workers, and homelessness is or has been a reality for many. Speakers will explore what this means in practice and what solutions could look like for sex workers facing homelessness.

#### **Speakers:**

Sabrina Sanchez, ESWA - European Sex Worker Rights Alliance, The Netherlands

Mauro Striano, Alias Brussels, Belgium

# Seminars

**11:30-12:25**

## **WELL-BEING OF STAFF: AN URGENT CONCERN FOR THE HOMELESS SECTOR**

### **ROOM: EUROPE B**

Supporting staff wellbeing is essential for delivering effective, relationship-based services for people experiencing homelessness. However, many homelessness services lack a proactive approach to staff mental health and wellbeing support. In this session, we will explore practical strategies for both organisations and staff to promote wellbeing. We will highlight the findings of a recent membership study in this area and showcase a best practice from a Housing First program in Dublin.

### **Speakers:**

Gerard Spillane, Focus Ireland, Ireland

**12:25-13:30**

## **MAKING SENSE OF EU DATA ON HOMELESSNESS**

### **ROOM: OLYMPIA**

Despite substantial progress in the measurement and operationalisation of homelessness, challenges remain in producing reliable, comparable, and context-sensitive data. This seminar will examine recent European level data sources on homelessness from national governments, the 2021 Population and Housing Census, and retrospective accounts from the EU-SILC Housing Difficulties module. We will highlight both meaningful advancements and persistent gaps in homelessness data and discuss some of the new insights regarding prevalence and distribution of homelessness across Europe.

### **Speakers:**

Dora Welker, FEANTSA

Freek Spinnewijn, FEANTSA

**12:25-13:30**

## **VACANT BUILDINGS: UNDER-EXPLOITED POTENTIAL TO HOUSE HOMELESS PEOPLE**

### **ROOM: COSMOS**

This seminar will explore the unused potential of vacant spaces across Europe as a sustainable and innovative solution to address the growing housing and homelessness crises. Drawing from a comprehensive report, case studies and on-site experiences, speakers will discuss the current state of vacant properties and assess their potential for transformation into affordable, adequate and much needed housing.

### **Speakers:**

Charifa Mahamoud, FEANTSA

Dimitra Siatitsa, University of Athens, Greece

Meriç Özgünes, Social Rental Agency of the Major Development Agency of Thessaloniki, Greece



# Seminars

**12:25-13:30**

## **COLLECTIVE COMPLAINTS IN ACTION: TURNING LEGAL VICTORIES INTO ADVOCACY TOOLS.**

### **ROOM: EUROPE A**

This seminar will examine how collective complaints under the European Social Charter can be transformed from legal victories into powerful advocacy tools. It will showcase practical strategies for leveraging legal decisions to influence policy, raise public awareness, and enhance the protection of vulnerable groups, with a focus on the Woonzaak case and FEANTSA v. Belgium complaint.

### **Speakers:**

Joy Verstichele, Vlaams Huurdersplatform, Belgium

Maria Jose Aldanas, FEANTSA, Belgium

**12:25-13:30**

## **PREVALENCE AND IMPACT OF VIOLENCE ON HEALTH OF PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS**

### **ROOM: EUROPE B**

People experiencing homelessness report high rates of violence—including experiences of both physical and sexual assault. This seminar will examine data from several primary data collection projects from California, the United States, that collected robust survey and qualitative data on the experience of violence. We will discuss findings from the California Statewide Study of People Experiencing Homelessness, a large representative study of adult homelessness in California and from the HOPE HOME study, a longitudinal study of older homeless adults. We will discuss findings and implications for research and practice in Europe. In addition to findings, we will discuss challenges with collecting these data, including best practices to avoid retraumatizing people and secondary trauma amongst those who collect the data.

### **Speakers:**

Margot Kushel, University of California, USA

**14:30-15:25**

## **HOMELESSNESS IN ENGLAND: HOW DID WE GET HERE?**

### **ROOM: OLYMPIA**

Twenty years ago, the UK's homelessness policies were seen as an example to follow. Recently, the Financial Times called Britain the "world's worst" performer on homelessness. This seminar will explore how this happened, and what's needed to turn the tide.

### **Speakers:**

Matthew Downie, Crisis UK, UK

Nicholas Pleace, University of York, UK

# Seminars

14:30-15:25

## **HELPING HOMELESS SERVICE PROVIDERS USE ENERGY SAVING OPPORTUNITIES: SOME EXAMPLES FROM EUROPE**

### **ROOM: COSMOS**

Many buildings used by homeless service providers are inefficient, resulting in high energy costs and discomfort for staff and clients. Renovations can cut expenses, improve services, and create more welcoming and dignified spaces. While the EU promotes upgrading the least-performing buildings, funding gaps, administrative hurdles, and technical constraints often stand in the way.

In this session, we will explore key renovation challenges through research from Poland and Hungary and explore a promising example from Lithuania. Join us to discuss practical solutions for energy-efficient, high-quality spaces in homeless services.

### **Speakers:**

Jakub Wilczek, Ogólnopolska Federacja na rzecz Rozwiązywania Problemu Bezdomności, Poland

Bernadett Horváth-Takács , Hajléktalanokért Közalapítvány/Public Foundation for the Homeless, Hungary

Aida Karčiauskienė, Caritas Lithuania, Lithuania

14:30-15:25

## **TACKLING HOMELESSNESS IN GREECE: HOPE AND PROGRESS IN TIMES OF AUSTERITY**

### **ROOM: EUROPE A**

Despite economic hardship and austerity measures, Greece has actively worked to address homelessness. This workshop will explore the evolving landscape of homelessness in the country, focusing on key challenges, good practices, and forward-looking solutions. Experts, policymakers, and practitioners will share insights on how housing-led approaches, emergency support services, and inclusive social policies could be integrated to provide more effective support for people experiencing homelessness.

### **Speakers:**

TBC

# Seminars

**14:30-15:25**

## **PARTICIPATION OF PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS: EXAMPLES OF WHAT WORKS - HOW TO BECOME A PEER WORKER**

### **ROOM: EUROPE B**

This seminar will explore the diverse pathways to becoming a peer worker, featuring three speakers who will share their personal experiences. The discussion will address key questions, including what peer work means to them, why they chose this path, and how they navigated the process despite the lack of formal recognition in many countries. The session will also examine the challenges and gaps that persist in establishing peer work as a recognised profession.

#### **Speakers:**

Khadim Diagne, Fondazione Casa della Carità, Italy

Tii Juden, No Fixed Abode, Finland

Arvi Kestilä, Saatenkari, Finland

**15:35-16:30**

## **HOMELESS FIRST! PRIORITISING HOMELESS PEOPLE IN SOCIAL HOUSING ALLOCATION**

### **ROOM: OLYMPIA**

Social housing is one of the most important resources to respond to homelessness and housing exclusion, but due to local allocation systems this can be challenging in practice. This seminar will discuss proposals and mechanisms to prioritise people experiencing homelessness in access to social housing.

#### **Speakers:**

Emma Byrne, Focus Ireland, Ireland

Tom Pedersen Rønning, Odense Municipality, Denmark

**15:35-16:30**

## **BREAKING THE CYCLE OF INVISIBILITY: HONOURING PEOPLE WHO DIED HOMELESS**

### **ROOM: COSMOS**

This seminar will highlight initiatives aimed at making visible the lives of people who die homeless in the streets, shelters, hospitals... By honouring their memory, the speakers work to prevent and address these tragedies while advocating for a shared ambition of European collaboration.

#### **Speakers:**

Gill Taylor, Museum Of Homelessness, UK

Adèle Lenormand, Collectif Les Morts de la Rue, France

# Seminars

**15:35-16:30**

## **ART AND HOMELESSNESS: CREATIVITY FOR SOCIAL IMPACT**

### **ROOM: EUROPE A**

This session will explore the transformative power of art in addressing homelessness and the positive social change it can foster. David, an internationally acclaimed artist and activist, will share insights into the One Festival of Homeless Arts, which showcases powerful works by artists who have experienced homelessness. Sarah will present the C'est Pas Du Luxe festival, which fosters artistic collaboration between marginalised communities, professional artists, and cultural organisations. Together, they will discuss how creativity can amplify voices and create meaningful social connections for those facing homelessness.

### **Speakers:**

Sarah Coupechoux, FAP, France

David Tovey, One Festival of Homeless Arts, UK

**15:35-16:30**

## **ACCESS TO ADEQUATE HOUSING FOR LGBTIQ+ ASYLUM SEEKERS**

### **ROOM: EUROPE B**

LGBTIQ+ asylum seekers arriving in Europe may be confronted with specific challenges. For example, collective accommodation may expose them to more discrimination and violence. In this seminar, we'll learn about what adequate accommodation means for LGBTIQ+ asylum seekers and how to provide it.

### **Speakers:**

Chrysoula Andritsopoulou, NOSTOS, Greece

# Closing plenary

**17:00-18:00**

**CLOSING PLENARY: RESEARCH LESSONS FOR EFFECTIVE POLICIES AND SERVICE DELIVERY**

**ROOM: ATLAS 1+2**

Margot Kushel will speak about the importance of evidence-based policies to tackle homelessness effectively. She will share her views on what evidence is important and what evidence is missing. She will also share her experience on how to make service providers and policy makers more receptive to evidence and how to make researchers more interested in policy and service-relevant research

**Speaker:**

Margot Kushel, University of California, USA

# TIMETABLE - 13.05

	Room: Atlas 1	Room: Atlas 2
09:00	<b>GENERAL ASSEMBLY - FEANTSA MEMBERS ONLY</b>	
09:30		
10:00		
10:30		
11:00		
11:00	Coffee Break	
11:30	<b>GENERAL ASSEMBLY - FEANTSA MEMBERS ONLY</b>	
12:00		
12:30		
13:00		
13:30		
14:00		
14:30	<b>MONITORING HOMELESSNESS IN GREECE</b>	<b>MEET THE HOUSING FIRST EUROPE HUB</b>
15:00		
15:30		
16:00	Coffee Break	
16:30	<b>PRESENTATION OF THE COMHOM PROJECT</b>	<b>RESULTS OF THE COUNTING PROJECT</b>
17:00		
17:30		
18:00		

# TIMETABLE - 13.05

	Room: Olympia	Room: Cosmos
09:00		
09:30		
10:00		
10:30		
11:00	Coffee Break	
11:30		
12:00		
12:30		
13:00		
13:30		
14:00		
14:30		<b>TURNING PICS D'OR INTO A EUROPEAN EVENT</b>
15:00		
15:30		
16:00	Coffee Break	
16:30	<b>INTERACT PROJECT</b>	<b>A LOOK INTO LONG-TERM HOUSING SOLUTIONS FOR MIGRANTS</b>
17:00		
17:30		
18:00		

# TIMETABLE - 13.05

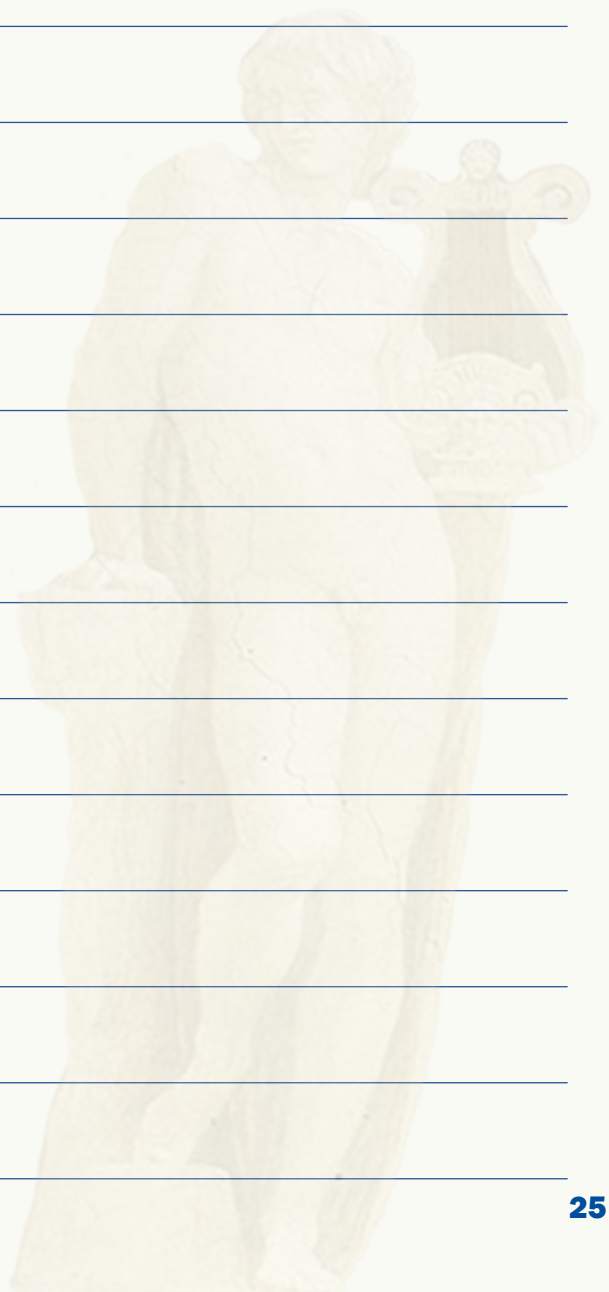
	Room: Europe A	Room: Europe B
09:00		
09:30		
10:00		
10:30		
11:00	Coffee Break	
11:30		
12:00		
12:30		
13:00		
13:30		
14:00		
14:30	<b>YOUTH HOMELESSNESS</b>	<b>PRESENTATION EPOCH PRACTICE</b>
15:00		
15:30		
16:00	Coffee Break	
16:30		<b>DYNAMIC CONFERENCE ON ENDING HOMELESSNESS: THE NECESSARY MILITANT PERSPECTIVE</b>
17:00		
17:30		
18:00		



# TIMETABLE - 14.05

**Room: Orion**

09:00	
09:30	
10:00	
10:30	
11:00	Coffee Break
11:30	
12:00	
12:30	
13:00	
13:30	
14:00	
14:30	
15:00	
15:30	
16:00	Coffee Break
16:30	<b>THE ROLE OF REAL-TIME DATA IN ENDING HOMELESSNESS - NORDIC INSIGHTS</b>
17:00	
17:30	
18:00	



# TIMETABLE - 14.05

	Room: Atlas 1	Room: Atlas 2
09:00	<b>OPENING PLENARY</b>	
09:30		
10:00		
10:30		
11:00	Coffee Break	
11:30	<b>NEXT STEPS IN HOUSING FIRST - BUILDING NATIONAL AND LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS</b>	<b>ENDING MIGRANTS' HOMELESSNESS IN AN INCREASINGLY HOSTILE ENVIRONMENT</b>
12:00		
12:30		
13:00		
13:30	Lunch	
14:00		
14:30	<b>HOMELESS POLICIES UNDER RIGHT-WING POPULIST GOVERNMENTS: STRATEGIES FOR THE HOMELESS SECTOR</b>	<b>CREATING SAFE SPACES: WHAT WORKS AND WHY FOR WOMEN-ONLY HOMELESSNESS SERVICES</b>
15:00		
15:30		
16:00		
16:30	Coffee Break	
17:00	<b>CLOSING PLENARY</b>	
17:30		
18:00		

# TIMETABLE - 14.05

	Room: Olympia	Room: Cosmos
09:00		
09:30		
10:00		
10:30		
11:00	Coffee Break	
11:30	<b>HARM REDUCTION, SUBSTANCE USE AND HOMELESSNESS: FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE</b>	<b>CHALLENGES OF PUBLIC PROCUREMENT FOR HOMELESS SERVICES: ARE THERE LESSONS FROM IRELAND?</b>
12:00		
12:30	<b>MAKING SENSE OF EU DATA ON HOMELESSNESS</b>	<b>VACANT BUILDINGS: UNDER-EXPLOITED POTENTIAL TO HOUSE HOMELESS PEOPLE</b>
13:00		
13:30	Lunch	
14:00	Lunch	
14:30	<b>HOMELESSNESS IN ENGLAND: HOW DID WE GET HERE?</b>	<b>HELPING HOMELESS SERVICE PROVIDERS USE ENERGY SAVING OPPORTUNITIES: SOME EXAMPLES FROM EUROPE</b>
15:00		
15:30	<b>HOMELESS FIRST! PRIORITISING HOMELESS PEOPLE IN SOCIAL HOUSING ALLOCATION</b>	<b>BREAKING THE CYCLE OF INVISIBILITY: HONOURING PEOPLE WHO DIED HOMELESS</b>
16:00		
16:30	Coffee Break	
17:00		
17:30		
18:00		

# TIMETABLE - 14.05

	Room: Europe A	Room: Europe B
09:00		
09:30		
10:00		
10:30		
11:00	Coffee Break	
11:30	<b>LIVES ON THE MARGINS: EXPLORING THE CONNECTION BETWEEN HOMELESSNESS AND SEX WORK</b>	<b>WELL-BEING OF STAFF: AN URGENT CONCERN FOR THE HOMELESS SECTOR</b>
12:00		
12:30	<b>COLLECTIVE COMPLAINTS IN ACTION: TURNING LEGAL VICTORIES INTO ADVOCACY TOOLS</b>	<b>PREVALENCE AND IMPACT OF VIOLENCE ON HEALTH OF PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS</b>
13:00		
13:30	Lunch	
14:00	Lunch	
14:30	<b>TACKLING HOMELESSNESS IN GREECE: HOPE AND PROGRESS IN TIMES OF AUSTERITY</b>	<b>PARTICIPATION OF PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS: EXAMPLES OF WHAT WORKS - HOW TO BECOME A PEER WORKER</b>
15:00		
15:30	<b>ART AND HOMELESSNESS: CREATIVITY FOR SOCIAL IMPACT</b>	<b>ACCESS TO ADEQUATE HOUSING FOR LGBTIQ+ ASYLUM SEEKERS</b>
16:00		
16:30	Coffee Break	
17:00		
17:30		
18:00		

# TIMETABLE - 14.05

Room: Orion

09:00

09:30

10:00

10:30

11:00

Coffee Break

11:30

**DOES EU ACTION ON HOMELESSNESS MATTER? (Q&A)**

12:00

12:30

**FREE MOVEMENT & HOMELESSNESS: WHAT CAN THE EU DO?**

13:00

13:30

14:00

Lunch

14:30

**INVESTMENT IN HOUSING SOLUTIONS: EUROPE CAN HELP!**

15:00

15:30

**HOMELESSNESS AMONG ASYLUM SEEKERS IN BRUSSELS – A ‘RECEPTION CRISIS’ OR A STRUCTURAL DENIAL OF RIGHTS?**

16:00

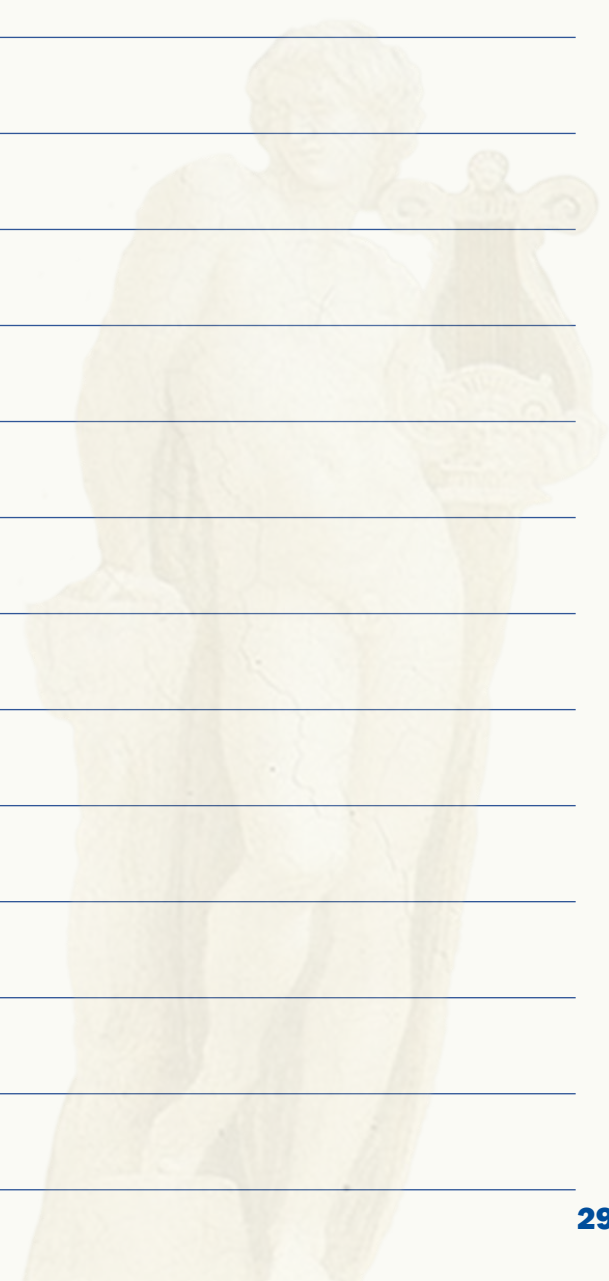
16:30

Coffee Break

17:00

17:30

18:00





Co-funded by the European Union.  
By the EaSI strand of the ESF+ programme.

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