

Epim

European Programme
for Integration
and Migration



Civic Observatory of the Rights of EU citizens

- ❖ Created in 2019
- ❖ Cooperation between ECAS, FEANTSA, Médecins du Monde and EU Rights Clinic
- ❖ The aim: to monitor and take stock on an annual basis of legal and political developments in the field of EU citizenship. This will allow the organisations involved in the Observatory to run and implement joint cross-sectoral initiatives and advocacy actions in order to complement and increase the impact of their individual activities.



With support from EPIM (the European Programme for Integration and Migration)

Civic Observatory of the Rights of EU citizens

❖ Specific objective: optimising the impact of the individual work of CORE's members by creating synergies in terms of expertise to increase capacity and upscaling the promotion of EU mobile citizens' rights.

❖ Common activities:

- ✓ Policy paper
- ✓ Identification of good practices
- ✓ Complaints or litigation measures
- ✓ Advocacy and communication activities
- ✓ Training activities and exchange of knowledge



Internal training / experience exchanges

05.11.2020

14:00 – 15:00 (common session)

Introduction & Ice breaker

Presentation of the CORE partnership and the workshop

→ European Federation of National Organisations Working with the Homeless (FEANTSA)

→ Doctors of the World Germany

→ European Citizen Action Service (ECAS)

General introduction regarding freedom of movement. Legal background - What conditions apply to the freedom of movement? What obstacles do citizens still face in practice?

15:00 – 16:15 Breaking into 3 rooms

16:15 – 16:30 Coffee break

16:30 – 17:00 (common session) Conclusions and remarks



Internal training / experience exchanges

Breakout sessions

Breakout session 1 → ECAS: Tools and opportunities to use strategic litigation for providing support to mobile EU citizens.

- Introduction: when can Member States lawfully restrict rights of residence?
- Judicial redress before the national courts and preliminary references to the EU Court of Justice
- Alternative dispute resolution: SOLVIT and ombudsmen
- Complaints to the European Commission: with a view to enforcement by the Court of Justice
- Petitions to the European Parliament: with a view to publicising the issue

Breakout session 2 → FEANTSA: Homelessness service providers perspective

The development of specific homeless services to address homelessness among mobile EU citizens;

The challenges faced by homeless service providers to support destitute mobile EU citizens;

Reconnections: are voluntary returns part of the solution?

Legal perspective on free movement of the destitute

Recognition of the status of worker for precarious & atypical jobs.

Homelessness as a ground for expulsions.

Doctors of the World: Healthcare access for mobile EU citizens:

EU commitments to the right to health

Data from the European Observatory Report on Barriers to access healthcare for EU mobile citizens

EU Legal Framework on Healthcare access for temporary and habitual stay

Example of Germany: Legal context and Recent Changes; Covid-19 effects on health care

Internal training / experience exchanges

- ❖ The meeting was held online due to COVID-19 restrictions, though it was originally planned to be in person.
- ❖ In the end, 21 people attended the meeting. All were professionals working with destitute mobile EU citizens:
 - Health professionals and Programme Managers working for Doctors of the World in Belgium, France or Sweden
 - Legal experts of the programme “Your Europe Advice” from Italy, Ireland or Portugal
 - Professionals from service providers working with homeless people in Sweden, Germany or Romania.
- ❖ An opportunity to learn from other organisations with a different area of expertise and then potentially use this knowledge in the daily work:
 - Lawyers could learn how mobile EU citizens can access healthcare in their receiving country, or how services can work to best fulfil the needs of homeless mobile EU citizens.
 - Health professionals could learn more about the rights mobile EU citizens have and how to uphold them.
 - Service providers could gain more expertise on the legal and healthcare aspects of their work with homeless mobile EU citizens.
- ❖ Overall, the evaluation of the meeting was very positive. 7 participants answered the feedback form out of which all found the contents of the training useful, with the chance to apply this knowledge to their work; they considered the sharing of expertise very relevant. Even some of the respondents would have liked the meeting to be longer or to have similar meetings in the future.

CONCLUSIONS

- There is a need to protect and promote the rights of mobile EU citizens
- Homeless services & health professionals need support to develop competences to protect and promote the rights of mobile EU citizens
- Legal experts increased knowledge on the barriers that destitute/homeless mobile EU citizens face when upholding their rights

CORE & training's objective

To build bridges between practitioners working with destitute mobile EU citizens and legal experts

