

PROGRAMME

22nd SEPTEMBER, THURSDAY

morning hours	Optional field visits in Bergamo – will be announced on the XING registration webpage
13h00-14h00	Registration at the venue of the Plenary in Aula Magna Sant'Agostino, Piazzale S. Agostino, 2
14h00 – 14h30	<p>Welcome and Introduction Opening by Kjell Larsson, President of FEANTSA Welcome by the Deputy Mayor of Bergamo Welcome by the Rector of University of Bergamo</p>
14h30 – 15h00	<p>Plenary Session I (Aula Magna Sant'Agostino) Chair: Volker Busch-Geertsema, DE</p> <p>Enrica Morlicchio: The Stigma of Being Poor: Labelling and Regulating the Homeless</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;">  <div> <p><i>Enrica Morlicchio holds a PhD in Sociology of Innovation Processes at the Federico II University of Naples, Italy. She is currently Full Professor of Economic Sociology in the Department of Social Studies of the University of Naples Federico II and Chief-editor of the Journal "Sociologia del Lavoro". She has been national and local coordinator of several research on urban poverty and social exclusion, gender issues and immigration. From 2005 to 2015 she was member of the National commission for the evaluation of social inequality (scientific coordinator Chiara Saraceno). Her recent publications include C.Saraceno, D.Benassi, E. Morlicchio C.Saraceno, D.Benassi, E. Morlicchio, Poverty in Italy, Features and drivers in a European perspective, Policy Press, Bristol, 2020; Sociologia della povertà, Bologna, il Mulino, 2020. Her work has been translated into English, Hungarian and Spanish.</i></p> <p>The commodities required to avoid the stigma of poverty vary across time and place, but direct experiences of indignity, shame and humiliation have always featured strongly in accounts of the experience of homelessness, in both rich and poor countries. Stigma is therefore a central dimension of the experience of homelessness which reflects the wider ideological construction of poverty and its causes, in which 'the poor' are represented as a passive 'burden' on society and as undeserving of state assistance. The presentation will point to the analysis of public and media discourse of poverty/homelessness, and it will give some examples of how the problem of homelessness has been confronted on the basis of stereotypes created through these discourses, for example centres of identification and of expulsion, mass eviction, new paternalism and charity, hostile architecture, and lunch shaming. The speech will also explore how creating opportunities to promote innovative and spontaneous forms of solidarity and community alliances in this framework is possible.</p> </div> </div>
15h00 – 15h15	Questions
15h15 – 15h45	Break and WALK TO PIGNOLO BUILDING (via Pignolo, 123) for the seminar session
15h45 – 17h15	<p>SEMINAR SESSION 1 Participants will be asked to select one of these 5 parallel seminars</p>
Seminar 1: Homelessness in Times of COVID-19 (Floor -1, Room 7)	

Chair: **Masa Filipovic-Hrast, SI**

Ruth Owen, BE: COVID-19 response & Homelessness in the EU



Ruth Owen is Deputy Director at FEANTSA (European Federation of National Associations Working with the Homeless). She has worked at FEANTSA since 2011, leading on a range of policy files and developing organisational strategy. She has a special interest in housing policy. She holds a BA in Geography from University College London. Ruth is also an alumna of the UK TeachFirst programme, which addresses educational disadvantage by recruiting high-performing graduates as teachers and leaders in challenging schools.

The presentation summarises the responses developed across EU member states and the challenges of their implementation. Based on the examples we conclude that there is a need for better pandemic planning for homeless people as a vulnerable group in the future, and there are a few key issues that proved essential to keeping homeless people safe – that would have been also essential also before the pandemic.

Roberta Bova, IT: The Homeless Population during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Inequities, Practices of Social Resilience and Social Reintegration Strategies



Roberta Bova holds a PhD in International Cooperation. Roberta Bova has been a research fellow in Sociology at the University of Bergamo (IT); her main interests are welfare studies and the role of culture in health and migration. Roberta Bova is currently involved in a number of applied research projects, examining the impact of social interactions in health, assessing vulnerability and the support politics for homeless people.

This presentation analyses the amplification of social insecurity and the social misrecognition of the homeless during the COVID-19 pandemic. The research was carried out in the city of Bergamo (IT) and was developed in two phases. The first phase was conducted in the months of May-September 2020. I carried out 18 discursive interviews with the socio-educational staff and the coordination figures who work in the support services and reception facilities for the homeless. The second phase of the research was conducted in the months spanning January-September 2021 and I carried out 12 interviews with homeless people who are participating in social reintegration programmes.

The survey shows that the COVID-19 pandemic has amplified the social insecurity of homeless people. During the first months of 2020, the public authorities failed to pay attention to homeless people, both those who sleep on the street and those who lived in communities or found support in a night shelters. The support services, faced with this process of social misrecognition, reacted by activating practices of social resilience; for instance, personalisation of the intervention, enhancement of the relational dimension and empowerment of users.

At the same time, from directly conversing with homeless people engaged in building paths of autonomy and social reintegration, it emerges that obtaining a stable residence and re-establishing bounds with one's family and friends network are fundamental prerequisites for promoting self-confidence and increasing well-being. However, in order to achieve full social reintegration and to prevent new forms of social misrecognition, in the event of future social or health crises, the relationship with a non-stigmatised social community is fundamental. Consequently, the primary objectives that the support network for homeless people should set for future projects should be to involve the local community through project participation activities and raising awareness of the phenomenon of poverty.

Seminar 2: Criminal Justice and Homelessness (1) (Floor -1, Room 8)

Chair: **Nóra Teller, HU**

Tamara Walsh, AU: Criminalisation of Homelessness in Australia: A National Study



Tamara Walsh is a Professor of Law at the University of Queensland. Her research focuses on social welfare law, and the impact of the law on vulnerable people. She has a special interest in homelessness, child protection and youth justice. Most of her studies are sociolegal and empirical in nature, and she draws on human rights law to explore how the law can help solve complex social problems. She lectures in human rights law and family and child law. She has degrees in both law and social work, and continues to volunteer as a solicitor in child protection matters.

Between 2017-2021, we conducted a large-scale national study on the criminalisation of homelessness in Australia. We spoke with people experiencing homelessness, and a range of criminal justice ‘professionals’ including lawyers, magistrates and police officers, in 10 different locations around the country. We asked them about how the law criminalises homelessness and how systems need to change to address this problem. We found that some offences criminalise homelessness directly, including trespass and ‘public nuisance’ Other offences criminalise poverty, including fare evasion, shop stealing and begging. Others indirectly criminalise homelessness by criminalising behaviours conducted in public which would be lawful, or undetected, if conducted in private, such as public intoxication, carrying a knife or possessing small quantities of drugs.

What was most interesting about our findings was that the ‘professional’ participants put forward very different suggestions for reform than the participants who were experiencing homelessness. People experiencing homelessness generally wanted only two things: housing, and to be left alone. They wanted to have the freedom to live their lives in the way they chose without interference from any ‘systems’. They recognised that, without having a private, secure and safe home to go to, they would continue to be subject to interference from the criminal law system. The ‘professionals’ on the other hand recommended additional treatment programs for mental illness and drug addiction, and court processes that provided case management services to address the causes of offending. The ‘professionals’ were well-meaning – they wanted to ensure that people experiencing homelessness received the ‘help’ and ‘support’ they need. However, those with lived experience of homelessness simply wanted autonomy, privacy and freedom of choice. Our results provide interesting insights on the ‘welfarisaton’ of criminal justice, and the unintended negative consequences that result for those who are subject to it.

Pia Justesen, DK: Begging in Denmark - Criminalization and its discriminatory Effect



Pia is Master of law (1994), Ph.D. (2000 in human rights), and Mediation Master (2010). Has a background in research (the University of Copenhagen, the University of Aarhus, the Danish Institute for Human Rights, and Yale University) as well as in the legal and consulting industry (Bech-Bruun Law Firm and Justadvice). Since 2021 she has been a researcher at the University of Aalborg, the Department of Architecture, Design and Media Technology on a project re. Dark Design and Social Exclusion in Public Spaces. Pia has a long list of publications on human rights, equal treatment, and social justice and is the Danish expert in The European Equality Law Network. Recently, Pia lived and worked in the US and published the oral history book “From the Periphery - Real-Life Stories of Disability” (Chicago Review Press).

This paper investigates the criminalization of homelessness with a particular focus on begging bans in Denmark. In the Lisbon Declaration on the European Platform on Combatting Homelessness from 21 June 2021, the European Union, the Member States, and civil society agreed to work towards the ending of homelessness by 2030. At the same time member states like Denmark continue to uphold laws criminalizing begging and other use of public spaces considered “unwanted”. A discrepancy between the overall commitment to end homelessness and the actual legal situation in Denmark seems to be the case. Because

of criminalization, people experiencing homelessness tell that they feel more unsafe. They hide, which complicates efforts from authorities and civil society to help them away from the street and eventually end homelessness. When the Danish prohibition of so-called "intimidating begging" was enacted in June 2017, the expressed intention from a majority of the Danish Parliament was to target homeless migrants having a Roma background. The penal code encompassing the new begging ban was, however, worded in a non-discriminatory manner. The paper will include a legal analysis of the preparatory works of the 2017-prohibition as well as case law and statistics covering the period from June 2017 to early 2022. The aim is to analyze whether and possibly to which extent, the begging ban has a discriminatory effect. Oral histories from individuals who have been imprisoned for begging will provide possible answers to the question: "Who is the so-called intimidating beggar"?

Seminar 3: Housing First (1) (Floor -1, Room 9)

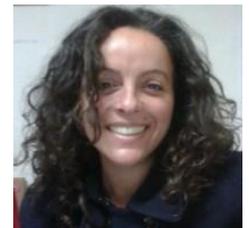
Chair: **Volker Busch-Geerstema, DE**

Ignacio Eissmann, Isabel Lacalle and Felipe Estay, Chile: Supported Housing Program: Approach to the first results of the Chilean experience of adaptation of the Housing First Model



Ignacio Eissmann is a Sociologist and has a Master in Government and Society from the Alberto Hurtado University and PhD in Social Work and Welfare Policies from Boston College and the Alberto Hurtado University. He is co-founder of Corporación Moviliza, an organization dedicated to developing programs to overcome homelessness in Chile, and co-founder and Director of the Center for Research and Advocacy to Overcome Homelessness in Latin America, CISCAL (www.ciscal.org). Ignacio is also Director of Studies and Incidents of the Jesuit Migrant Service in Chile.

Isabel Lacalle is a Social Worker, with a Diploma in Housing Policy from the University of Chile. Current Executive Director of the Corporación Nuestra Casa in Santiago de Chile, which works so that no one has to live on the street due to lack of alternatives. She is co-founder of the Center for Research and Advocacy to Overcome Homelessness in Latin America, CISCAL (www.ciscal.org). Member of the Zero Deficit Advisory Council, and of the Street, Habitat and Reinsertion roundtables in Santiago de Chile. She was also part of the leadership training program of the Institute of Global Homelessness.



Felipe Estay is a Master in Sociology at the University of Bristol and in Social Policy and Planning at the London School of Economics and Political Science. Currently is PhD student of Sociology in the Catholic University of Chile. He is the Executive Director of the Moviliza Foundation and co-founder of the Center for Research and Advocacy to Overcome Homelessness in Latin America, CISCAL (www.ciscal.org). He also worked at the Ministry of Social Development (Government of Chile), and has conducted multiple consulting research for the public sector and Inter-American Development Bank, in youth and families and support of the Social Protection System.

This paper analyzes the implementation of the supported housing program (adaptation of the Housing First model to Chile) in the period 2019 - 2021, addressing the question: what have been the results in housing stability and improving the quality of life? The methodology considered the review of secondary information and interviews with program participants.

The results show that the program achieve interrupt trajectories of homelessness of the vast majority of people who participate in it, changing their living conditions, and improving the subjective perception of well-being. However, it is still too early to draw conclusions about the impact of the program, since residential stability can only be observed in the long term, in order to identify whether the program is indeed a definitive interruption of homelessness trajectories, or is part of periods brief access to housing within life histories marked by the oscillation between the street, shelters and residential programs. On the other hand, the intervention experiences of this program have shown that it is essential to build human capital capable of adequately implementing

this design, since the change in the logic of the intervention is also a change in the way of thinking about public policy in Chile. The gender and life cycle approaches must also be integrated, to recognize that there are fundamental differences, and that the homelessness cannot be thought of in a masculinized way and always situating them as adults who must work to sustain their own processes of overcoming the homelessness.

Eszter Somogyi, Nóra Katona, Vera Horváth, HU: Evaluation of ESF Funded Housing First Programme in Hungary



Eszter Somogyi (MA in Sociology) works at Metropolitan Research Institute, a Hungarian think-tank, has more than twenty years of experience in research and policy consultancy related to urban regeneration, housing policy and complex policy making targeting vulnerable people. She took part in several research and consultation activities targeted to the most marginalized social groups, such as homeless people and Roma communities. Her expertise also includes national and local strategy development aiming to secure affordable housing and linking housing policies with employment and education policies.

Nóra Katona (MA in Sociology and MSc in Survey Statistics) is a researcher at Metropolitan Research Institute, based in Budapest. She has three years of experience in social research related to homelessness, marginalized groups, Roma communities and social inequalities among young people in urban settings. She also has experience with both quantitative and qualitative data collection techniques, data analysis and policy evaluation.



The research examined the results of the first, ESF-funded, deliberately Housing First programme in Hungary. The scheme, however, contradicted some of the basic principles of the original Housing First programme, as rent subsidy was only granted during the project implementation period and not afterwards. In addition, the target group consisted of clients with different levels of support needs.

The research examined nine of the 17 implemented projects by using quantitative and qualitative methods. The quantitative research consisted of two tools; one group of clients was surveyed with a questionnaire, whereas in case of another group of clients the progress was measured by the self-efficiency matrix recorded with social workers. The qualitative measure covered focus group interviews with the implementer teams in order to assess the degree of fidelity of the projects. Due to financial and technical constraints, the impact assessment could not include a control group measurement, but only a comparison of results between client groups with different support needs. The comparison focused on whether the projects were able to compensate for the more severe disadvantages of clients with higher support needs.

The research concluded that the service structure of the projects followed the ICM models and though some included elements of the ACT models, clients with higher support needs were less likely to be able to retain their housing after supported project period. Based on the findings, one of the main recommendations is that a separate program for homeless people with high support needs should be launched and that programmes should ensure greater fidelity to the original principles of Housing First programmes partly by providing training to the implementer teams.

Giuliana Costa, IT: Cohabitation as an Ingredient of Italian Housing First Italian Projects

Giuliana Costa Ph.D. is an Associate Professor in Sociology at the Polytechnic of Milan. Actually her main research interests are connected to local welfare policies in connection to housing led programs and projects. She is currently studying cohabitation



models within social policies. She participates in several research projects funded by the European Union, the Italian Government and other research agencies.

This article is focused on Italian Housing First projects that use cohabitation among users/clients as an ingredient of their operational model. Many of them make living "under the same roof and behind the same door" a fundamental ingredient of their action, both in the context of public policies and private projects run by non-profit entities. According to a recent evaluation of HF experimental projects in Italy more than 40% are organized into some form of cohabitation. Using hyper-proximity among strangers in HF constitutes a partial deviation from the original model developed by Tsemberis and his colleagues. It poses specific defies and dilemmas that need to be analyzed and contextualized, both in local welfare ecosystems and within theoretical dimensions. From the point of view of providers, sharing domestic spaces allows providers to reduce the costs of social intervention, to better organize the work of professionals and to make services sustainable from an economic point of view, as well as to implement therapeutic and/or educational paths that make sharing - of experiences, ways of doing and being, or of facing problems - a strength. Providing HF solutions that foresee cohabitation can be the result of a shortage of housing units to dedicate to the single projects or, by contrary, can be a deliberate content of these projects. In any case, matching homeless people to live together is not simple and asks for specific skills, both in providers and users. Providers have to minimize conflicts among users and support them in their autonomy process; users have to proof that they have social and psychological skills to live with another person (like being cooperative and tolerant). For all these aspects I argue that cohabitation in HF needs to be specifically and reflexively addressed and "thought". Even if it is more and more used, cohabitation as a kind of everyday life hyper-proximity is very little explored and thematized in social work, in social sciences, and in those disciplines that look more closely at the different dimensions of space. Cohabitation is increasingly embedded in housing led settings, but it is under-researched. My research questions are: 1) what is the role of cohabitation in HF projects?; 2) which are the opportunities and constrains given by cohabitation in HF projects?; 3) What organizational tools are used to manage cohabitation? My article is based on a fieldwork in which I interviewed key informants as HF project managers and coordinators.

Seminar 4: Exiting Institutions (Floor -1, Room 10)

Chair: **Mike Allen, IE**

John Cowman, IE: Accommodation Type Pre and Post Admission for Inpatients with Unmet Housing Needs in an Irish Mental Health Acute Inpatient Unit

John Cowman is the project manager (Housing Coordinator in Mental Health) in Community Healthcare Organization 7 in the Republic of Ireland. He is also the project lead on the Creating Foundations housing support project, which he developed in partnership with the mental health services and Focus Ireland, a key provider of homeless services. John's background is as a

VENUE: University of Bergamo, Italy



professional social worker and he is currently a part time PhD student in the School of Social Sciences, Education and Social Work, Queen's University Belfast. John's passion is developing tailored responses to mental health service users who are at risk of homelessness.

In a 2019 review of 35 European countries homeless strategies, only one country produced figures specifically relating to discharge from psychiatric hospitals. Ireland's recent homeless strategies have been criticised for a lack of focus on prevention and that the available information is inaccurate and unreliable. No data are routinely reported regarding discharge from acute mental health units to homeless services.

This study sought to identify the accommodation settings, pre and post admission, for inpatients with unmet housing needs in Dublin. Data were collected over eight months, from senior nursing staff on an acute mental health inpatient unit. There were 109 admissions and discharges. Pre and post admission accommodation type was categorised using the ETHOS typology and frequencies were calculated using SPSS.

The largest category pre admission was 'insecure' housing (60%, n = 65), with 25 individuals (23%) admitted from the parental home. The most frequently used individual setting at discharge (n = 28, 26%) was homeless hostels. Half (50%, n = 54) of the inpatients with housing need were discharged to a different accommodation type than they were admitted from. 28% (n = 30) of inpatients with housing need may be using the institutional circuit.

The ETHOS framework is diverse, inclusive and leads to a more sophisticated view of the extent of homelessness and housing exclusion on our acute wards. This flow into homelessness points to a possible normalisation of homeless discharge from acute units. It is important not to try to normalise discharging into homeless services, but to look at possible systems failures contributing to failed transitions from hospital. The ETHOS framework should be used regularly in acute wards to record and report homelessness and housing exclusion and in particular to report the numbers discharged to homeless services.

Luca Decembrotto, IT: Homeless People, Prison, and De-institutionalization: Access to Alternative Measures to Detention in Italy



Luca Decembrotto PhD, is Senior assistant professor / Research of Inclusive Education and Special Needs at the Department of Education Studies - University of Bologna. He is also Member of Fio.PSD Scientific Committee.

National and international literature have documented that homeless people have often experienced incarceration and release (Bergamaschi, 2017; Decembrotto, 2019; Herring et al., 2020; Lee et al., 2010; Metraux et al., 2008; Shlay & Rossi, 1992). Wacquant (2004) assumes that penal systems and welfare systems are connected, both in a practical and in a discursive way, to control marginalized population. The effect of this is a multiplication of discriminations and further exclusion experiences. In Italy, for example, homeless people denied access to alternative measures to detention and support services at the release because they do not have a residence address.

In 2016 the "States-general on prison and alternative measures" declared that no personal condition (drug addiction, immigration, or homelessness) may be a reason for exclusion from social recovery opportunities and may deny the right to a residence address, a prerequisite for the effective access to important citizenship rights in Italy. This perspective is supported by law no. 123/2018, which specifies the issue of the residential address (art. 11), but the practices are not promoted by other intervention. During covid-19 pandemic, a ministerial project for social inclusion of homeless in alternative measures to detention ("Progetto di inclusione sociale per persone senza fissa dimora in misura alternativa") financed a first experimentation in all Italian regions, in order to hold the prison overcrowding.

A focus group was conducted with members of Fio.PSD, due to highlight the strengths and the limitations of this kind of intervention. Despite a high level of expertise, the group has trouble with the complexity of integrating the challenges of

homelessness and those of de-institutionalization from prison, with the limits imposed by the alternative measures' rules. The ordinary responses to this kind of problem proved lacking, and it is necessary to reflect to find new formulas.

Seminar 5: Homelessness Research in Switzerland (Floor -2, Room 11)

Chair: **Freek Spinnewijn, BE**

Jörg Dittmann, CH: Extent, Profile, and Explanation of Homelessness in Eight of Switzerland's Largest Cities



Jörg Dittmann is a professor at the School of Social Work FHNW. He researches and teaches about poverty and social planning.

This study aims to fill a gap in the discussion of homelessness and to determine the extent and structure of homelessness in Switzerland. In the study, 543 homeless people were interviewed (face to face) in 8 cities. The projections come to a number of up to 2740 homeless people on an average day in December 2020 in Switzerland. The results confirm that the internationally discussed poverty- and migration-related approaches to the topic of homelessness are also significant for Switzerland. Health problems, medical care and addiction are important both for describing and explaining homelessness, but they do not prove to be the dominant factor. The high proportion of 61% of all homeless people who do not have valid residence papers draws attention to the need to link homelessness more closely to the issues of migration and residence rights.

Matthias Drilling, CH: Geography Matters: Results of a Quantitative Survey on Cantonal and Municipal Policies to Combat Homelessness



Matthias Drilling is a professor at the School of Social Work FHNW. He is a Social Geographer and Spatial Planner. He has been researching and teaching about poverty in the context of cities for years, and supports communities in spatial and urban development.

The project examines the understanding of homelessness, the policies derived from it as well as the strategies to combat homelessness at the level of cantons and municipalities. Examples will be used to show how cantonal and/or communal homelessness assistance is structured and how the policy fields (housing, social affairs, health, etc.) are interrelated. The study is based on a quantitative face-to-face survey of people aged 18 and over in eight of the largest cities in Switzerland. A total of 1,182 people were surveyed. Of these, 543 people, or 45.9% of all respondents, were homeless at the time of the survey.

Sabrina Roduit and Zsolt Temesváry, CH: Vulnerabilities and Resources of Central and Eastern European Homeless People Living in Geneva and Zurich



Zsolt Temesváry is a senior lecturer at the University of Applied Sciences Northwestern Switzerland. He completed his PhD in social policy in Hungary and was qualified as a professional of urban poverty and

mental health in Germany. His primary research areas are migration and homelessness, and the development of social work in Eastern Europe.

Sabrina Roduit is scientific collaborator at the University of Applied Sciences Northwestern Switzerland and coordinator of the Doctoral Programme for the Centre LIVES at the Universities of Geneva and Lausanne. She has completed her PhD in sociology in Geneva. Her main research areas are social inequalities in health, homelessness, life course and vulnerability, and HIV/aids.



The research project “Routes into Destitution” aims at exploring the vulnerabilities and resources of mobile destitute Central and Eastern European citizens living in the Swiss cities of Geneva and Zurich. In doing so, the project applies a mixed methodology including narrative-biographical interviews and a supplementary quantitative survey. The recent study fulfils an important gap in Swiss homelessness studies because CEE citizens are significantly overrepresented in the foreign homeless population based on the latest city counts. Currently one-fourth of all non-Swiss homeless people originate from the CEE region and their social status is significantly worse compared to other destitute EU-migrants. The CEE homeless experience accumulated vulnerabilities during their life-courses in the areas of housing, employment, healthcare and social rights. In the absence of housing and work contracts they do not have access to a Swiss residence permit, consequently they are not eligible on the vast majority of social and medical services. The research study reflects on the heterogeneity of CEE homeless people based on their various resources and vulnerabilities such as the level of education, type of activities, migration experiences, social networks, and language skills. Furthermore, the study provides a special focus on destitute Roma homeless migrants whose vulnerabilities (including ethnicity-based discrimination) are extraordinarily severe compared to other CEE homeless migrants. The project aims at providing useful information for welfare policies and services and supports evidence-based decision making in Switzerland.

19h30

DINNER

Venue: Monastero del Carmine, Via della Boccola, 12, 24129 Bergamo

23rd SEPTEMBER, FRIDAY

9h00 – 9h30

Coffee in PIGNOLO building, via Pignolo, 123

9h30 – 11h00

SEMINAR SESSION 2

Participants will be asked to select one of these 5 parallel seminars

Seminar 6: Digital Technologies and Homelessness (Floor -1, Room 7)

Chair: Eoin O'Sullivan, IE

Marco Heinrich & Frank Sowa, DE: Homelessness & Digitalization: On the (digital) Needs of Homeless People and the Potentials and Risks of Digital Support Options



Marco Heinrich is a research associate at the Nuremberg Institute of Technology, Germany. His research interests include qualitative research, housing and homelessness, social inequality, discrimination, social exclusion and deviance.

Frank Sowa is professor of sociology at Nuremberg Institute of Technology, Germany. He received his Ph.D. degree from the University Erlangen-Nuremberg and worked as senior researcher at the Institute for Employment Research. He is sociologist specialized in qualitative and ethnographic methods. Since 2017, he has been working on the topics of homelessness.



The social phenomenon of homelessness is difficult to delineate given the dynamic complexity of social reality and is subject to constant processes of change. The global COVID-19 pandemic, for example, is changing the lives and needs of homeless people, as well as the processes of caring in homeless service institutions. In addition, the pandemic has triggered or intensified processes of digitalization in social work. However, the potentials and risks of using digital technologies in the processing of this particularly vulnerable group have been little researched so far. This is where our project comes in and asks what (digital) needs exist among homeless people, how these can be met by digital solutions, and what significance this has for the science and practice of social work. In our paper, we would like to discuss to what extent the practice of social work in homelessness assistance is confronted with new challenges through digital needs and how interactions change in the interplay of presence and digitality. Based on narrative guideline interviews with homeless people, the (digital) needs were analyzed and solutions were developed in the form of technically innovative products, which are to support the affected people in their problematic life situations in a tailored and targeted way. In our presentation, we would like to present and discuss the results of this research and the developed products.

Vera Klocke, DE: „This Phone is Like a Friend to Me.“ Appropriation Processes of Smartphones by Homeless People in Berlin



Vera Klocke is a researcher working in the field of cultural studies. She graduated in media, film and popular culture at the University of Hildesheim. In her dissertation, she investigated television in living spaces ethnographically and with artistic methods such as video works and performances. She currently works as a research assistant at the Berlin University of the Arts and conducts research on homelessness and digital media.

In recent years, homelessness and digital media has been studied with an increasing focus on communication studies. (Hartmann, 2018, Marler, 2021; Humphry, 2021). The proposed paper builds on this perspective and addresses the question of how homeless people use their smartphones to organise their leisure time. Thereby it focuses in particular on the reception of video content, computer games and music. Three different categories are opened up. These are how this reception is used to create a private space, how it is used to organise time and how it has the potential to stabilise social relationships. The paper approaches these areas through extracts from ethnographic interviews, observations and video recordings. These were produced as part of an ethnographic study conducted between October 2021 and June 2022 in Berlin, Germany. The research process also included a smartphone distribution that took place at the beginning of the research period. This involved the distribution of 15 smartphones and sim-cards to people who did not own a smartphone at that time, in order to investigate the appropriation of the devices over

the following months. While the ethnographic results are presented with regard to the three categories described, the paper also reflects on this distribution of mobile phones and the methods used.

References: Hartmann, Maren (2018): Mobilising the Homeless? A Proposal for the Concept of Banal Mobilisation. In: Foellmer, Susanne; Lünenborg, Margreth & Raetzsch, Christoph (eds.): Media Practices, Social Movements, and Performativity – Transdisciplinary Approaches. London: Routledge, pp. 59-80. Humphry, Justine (2021): Looking for Wi-Fi: youth homelessness and mobile connectivity in the city, *Information, Communication & Society*, 24:7, 1009-1023, DOI: 10.1080/1369118X.2019.1670227 Marler, Will (2021): 'You can't talk at the library': the leisure divide and public internet access for people experiencing homelessness, *Information, Communication & Society*, DOI: 10.1080/1369118X.2021.2006742

David Lowis, DE: Digital Inclusion of Homeless People in Berlin: Assessing the Current State and Evaluating Smartphone Distributions as a Policy Tool



David Lowis is currently working as a research assistant and PhD student at Berlin University of the Arts, where he is conducting three years of mixed methods research with homeless people in Berlin on their digital media usage. He has also been supporting a Berlin-based NGO in distributing smartphones to homeless people, as well as trialling a digital payment system for homeless people in Berlin.

This presentation's aim is two-fold: to assess the state of digital media usage among homeless people in Berlin, and to evaluate smartphone distributions as one policy tool to improve the digital inclusion of homeless people.

For the first part, I will be laying out the results of a survey recently conducted among 150 homeless people in Berlin, focusing on their digital access, skills, and outcomes. This survey also addressed whether, and to what extent, digital media access had become a more important and/or burdensome issue to homeless people in Berlin as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. I will draw on the outcomes of other, similar surveys and compare the findings, as well as using ethnographic insights to situate them. Of particular interest is the fact that multimedia consumption, more so than communication or other digital functions, seems to be at the heart of how many homeless people in Berlin use digital media.

In the second part, I will describe the ethnographic fieldwork that I have been conducting for the last two years as part of an NGO distributing over 800 smartphones to homeless people. While smartphone distributions to homeless people have been a policy tool for over a decade now, the pandemic saw them proliferate across the world. Yet, there are many challenges to carrying out successful smartphone distributions, and questions as to how effective an intervention they actually prove to be – in particular since digital access often is not a binary question for homeless people, but rather an ongoing set of practices. Drawing on interviews and ethnographic findings, I will aim to situate the concept of smartphone distributions within the wider logics and logistics of distributions that are well-established in the homelessness sector, and evaluate what impact they may have on the digital inclusion of homeless people.

Seminar 7: Criminal Justice (2) (Floor -1, Room 8)

Chair: **Nicholas Pleace, UK**

Molly Bishop and Sarah Paul, UK: The Challenges and Opportunities to Move to Strengths Based Working from Deficit Based Assessment to Prevent Homelessness from Custody in England



Molly Bishop is the Strategic Lead for Homelessness and Rough Sleeping in Greater Manchester Combined Authority, where rough sleeping has been reduced by 57% over the last 4 years. Molly has a background in local government and social housing and is committed to delivering public service reform to see radical changes to bring an end to rough sleeping and prevent homelessness for all. She works with organisations across local government and civic society, including Greater Manchester Probation Service, working closely with the Mayor of Greater Manchester Andy Burnham to drive a progression programme of reform to impact on homelessness in Greater Manchester and national Government policy.

Sarah Paul is the Homelessness Prevention Lead for Greater Manchester Probation. Sarah played an instrumental role in the emergency Covid-19 Trailblazer for safe accommodation of people leaving prison in a public health crisis. This formed the foundations of the regional whole systems approach to the Community Accommodation Service for people leaving prison who are experiencing homelessness. Previously Sarah has implemented the Offender Personality Disorder Strategy alongside health colleagues within local custodial and community settings. She has also co-ordinated regional multi-agency public protection arrangements whilst co-located with Greater Manchester Police Sex Offender Management Unit.



The challenges and opportunities of moving towards a cross sector collaborative service response to prevent homelessness upon release from custody, founded on principles of strengths based working.

Main body:

- Recognising a transition in practise to strengths based working that has occurred across the homelessness sector in the UK in recent years, this paper explores the challenges and opportunities in realising this with a cohort specific focus on those leaving custodial settings.
- We will comment on experiences of collaboration between core public services (in particular Probation and Homelessness) and wider agencies, in their attempts to prevent homelessness recognising the evidence based prevention outcomes achievable via strengths based support.
- We will highlight specific activity to achieve this and reflect on its impact, including; shared definitions, assessment alignment, support and supervision cultures, shared governance, and recognition of expertise and insight.
- Examples of strengths based system reform, barriers, opportunities and early impacts will be included, with key statistical data and reflections from Communities of Practise groups throughout.
- Highlighting the innovative nature of this work and national spotlight on outcomes in Greater Manchester within the context of English policy making.

Conclusions:

- Key opportunities within the English system to further progress strengths based approaches to prevent homelessness for people in the custodial system, with reflection on how far existing reform approaches can achieve this.

Hannah Browne Gott, UK: Making Violence Visible: An Exploration of Linked Homelessness and Police Data

Hannah Browne Gott is a PhD candidate in Human Geography at Cardiff University, funded by the Economic and Social Research Council and Administrative Data Research Centre. Her PhD utilizes administrative data to understand how homeless people suffer from structural violence through their interactions with the institutions of health, housing and criminal justice. Her broader research interests focus on issues concerning poverty, social justice and housing.

Homelessness is widely suggested to be associated with crime and involvement with the police, and prior research suggests this is a complex interaction. This relationship and its interaction with different forms of discrimination has begun to be explored for those who have experienced homelessness. However, a lack of appropriate data has precluded robust quantitative analysis. This paper will discuss the interactions of people who have experienced homelessness with the police, drawing on linked administrative data collected by the police and statutory homelessness services. This paper presents analysis of linked data from 6000 individuals who have experienced homelessness and their over 83,000 interactions with the police force. The findings of this paper draw attention to the high levels of interpersonal violence and crime suffered by those who have experienced homelessness. This problematises with the often held view of homelessness as 'crimogenic'; instead demonstrating a heterogenous and complex relationship between homelessness and the police force, characterized by the violence experienced by the homelessness service users. This analysis shows the potential of administrative data for defining patterns that allow for early intervention and prevention of homelessness.

Seminar 8: Housing First (2) (Floor -1, Room 9)

Chair: **Lars Benjaminsen, DK**

Susanne Gerull, DE: "...you now have the possibility to create your own life again" Successes of the two Housing-First-Projects in Berlin/Germany



Susanne Gerull has been Professor of Social Work Theory and Practice at the Alice Salomon University of Applied Sciences (Berlin/Germany) since 2008, focusing on poverty, unemployment, homelessness and low-threshold social work. Prior to her doctorate, she worked as a social worker for homeless people in two social welfare offices in Berlin.

In October 2018, two Housing First model projects started in Berlin, which were designed to run for three years: "Housing First Berlin" (mixed-gender) and "Housing First for Women Berlin". The concepts of both projects closely follow the original approach of Sam Tsemberis and the eight basic principles described in the Housing First Guide Europe. The evaluation of the two Berlin projects was designed as a collaborative project between ASH Berlin and the two project sponsors. Based on the conceptual goals (which were essentially the same), an identical research design with a mix of quantitative and qualitative instruments was developed in a participatory manner with the staff. After two annual interim reports, the two final reports were submitted at the end of 2021 after three years of operation. The respective evaluation results were compared and discussed with the international state of research.

The results are impressive – even by international standards: Despite all the prophecies of doom, both model projects achieved the targeted rental contract rates: A total of 78 people (instead of 70 as required) were provided with housing secured by rental contracts. At 97.3% and 100% respectively over the entire term, a housing stability rate was achieved that is extremely good compared to other projects in Europe. With the occupation of their own apartment, the users' satisfaction not only with their housing situation but also with their employment situation has improved significantly on average, although the overwhelming majority is still unemployed and dependent on social benefits. In other areas of life, too, such as health and social contacts, the

new life in rented accommodation had a predominantly positive effect. Typical statements by the interviewees in this context were that they now had the opportunity to shape their own lives again and could use the apartment as a springboard for further desired changes in their lives. This perspective alone had obviously led to greater satisfaction even where no improvement in the other life situation objectively had yet occurred. In addition to many positive responses in the interviews, the standardized final survey of all users also revealed a very high level of satisfaction with the support offered: 84% resp. 85% were very satisfied, the rest satisfied. The work of the two Berlin pilot projects has also advanced the professional debate on Housing First throughout Germany. It was possible to convince politicians who were still hesitant about the approach's prospects for success. The professional public relations work of the Berlin project sponsors via TV, radio, print media and social media has also convinced many landlords to offer apartments to the users of the model projects.

At the Research Conference in Bergamo, the results of the two evaluations and the success parameters identified in the evaluation will be presented and discussed.

Catarina Ferreira, Crisitian Merendeiro, Americo Nave, PT: A Practical Example of a Housing-First Response in Portugal: 9 Years of Implementation



Catarina Ferreira is a Portuguese psychologist based in Lisbon, Portugal. Finished master on clinical psychology in University of Psychology in Lisboa. Since 2020 is working as a community psychologist in the “É UMA CASA, Lisboa Housing First” project, a response for people experiencing chronic homelessness, from CRESCER, a non-governmental organisation.

É UMA CASA, Lisboa Housing First program was implemented in 2013 as a response for people experiencing chronic homelessness and using licit and illicit drugs. Started as a pilot of 7 individualized and scattered houses, scale-up to 120 houses in recent years.

The program is a long-term and relationship-based response, where tenants are decision-makers guiding their recovery, being partners in advocating for the human right to housing. Based on a harm-reduction approach, this program meets people where they are and starts the support process from that point. Additionally, it helps people to gradually gain control over harmful behaviors while encouraging the use of addiction treatment and other health services. Staff includes peer-specialists who help maintain a client-driven approach, offering technical know-how based on life experience. Specific strategies have been created and implemented with tenants to respond to their needs facing alcohol consumption, inspired by Managed Alcohol Programs methodology.

Between February 2013 and March 2022, 131 people were enrolled in the program (75% male, 25% female, mean age 51 years), who spend on average 14 years in a homeless situation. Overall, 100% adopted harm reductions strategies to manage drug use, 55% are connected to treatment responses for drug use-related problems and 55% ended up abstinent. In terms of healthcare and social care, 71% are connected to healthcare services, 96% adhere to medication compliance, 89% are connected to social services, and 84% are documented. At the end of 9 years, 90% of people have been kept stably housed, not returning to the previous situation.

Lessons learned from 9 years of experience are valuable information based on practice to guide new implementations of Housing First methodology through European countries.

Seminar 9: Youth Homelessness Prevention (Floor -2, Room 10)

Chair: **Caterina Cortese, IT**

Allyson Marsolais, CA: Making the Shift – Using Social Innovation to Build the Case for Youth Homelessness Prevention



Allyson is the Executive Vice President with the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness (previously the Canadian Homelessness Research Network) and VP and Co-Founder of Hub Solutions. Allyson has a Master's degree in Critical Disability Studies from York University and almost 20 years experience working in the social justice field. Currently, Allyson is excited about further developing Hub Solutions, and is working towards a professional designation as a Project Management Professional (PMP).

Launched in 2017 as a partnership between the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness and A Way Home Canada, Making the Shift is a youth homelessness social innovation lab designed to build an evidence base for the prevention of youth homelessness. The work of MtS supports programming and policy decisions that will better coordinate systems, break down silos and reorient investments away from a crisis response to foreground the importance of prevention. MtS is a major funder of research on youth homelessness prevention in Canada. Moreover, MtS operates a range of demonstration projects that support communities to implement, evaluate and refine preventive programs and interventions. In this presentation we give an overview of our approach to social innovation, key projects, and preliminary outcomes of our research to date. We also highlight our knowledge mobilization strategy to identify how we are working to support commitment, uptake and scaling of preventive interventions.

Steve Gaetz, CA: Housing First for Youth – What Have We Learned from Our Demonstration Projects in Canada?



Dr. Stephen Gaetz is a Professor in the Faculty of Education at York University, in Toronto Canada. He is the President of the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness and the Homeless Hub at York University as well as co-Director of Making the Shift – Youth Homelessness Social Innovation Lab and the Toronto Centre of Excellence on Youth Homelessness Prevention. Dr. Gaetz works in collaboration with partners to conduct research and mobilize this knowledge so as to have a greater impact on solutions to homelessness, and in particular the prevention of homelessness. In 2017 Dr. Gaetz was awarded the Member of the Order of Canada.

Housing First for Youth (HF4Y) is an adaptation of Housing First designed to meet the needs of developing adolescents and young adults. As part of the Making the Shift project we have implemented four HF4Y demonstration projects, each with a specific focus. In this presentation we discuss preliminary results of Randomized Controlled Trials of projects in Toronto and Ottawa. Using quantitative and qualitative methods, participants were tracked for 24 months, at three month intervals. The outcomes areas focused on include: 1) Housing stabilization, 2) Attachment to employment and education; 3) Quality of Life; 4) Lifeskills and 5) Resilience. We will also explore what we have learned from our Indigenous-Led HF4Y project called Endaayaang. We will include with a discussion of the growth of HF4Y as a key intervention in Europe and Canada.

Melanie Redman, CA: Enhancing Collaboration between Canada and Europe: The Toronto Centre of Excellence on Youth Homelessness Prevention



Melanie Redman is the co-founder, President & CEO of A Way Home Canada, a national coalition reimagining solutions to youth homelessness through transformations in policy, planning and practice. A Way Home Canada has inspired communities and countries around the world to adopt the A Way Home brand as a way to participate in a growing international movement for change. Melanie also leads the National Learning Community on Youth Homelessness in Canada, which is a pan-Canadian community of practice for youth homelessness service providers. Melanie is also the co-founder and Partnership and Implementation Director for the Making the Shift Youth Homelessness Social Innovation Lab, an international "Network of Centres of Excellence."

In 2021 the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe established the Toronto Centre of Excellence on Youth Homelessness Prevention at York University (Toronto Centre of Excellence). Hosted by York University and co-led by the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness and A Way Home Canada, the launch of the Toronto Centre of Excellence (TCE) presents an important opportunity to work internationally to contribute to the transformation of how we respond to youth homelessness through a greater focus on prevention. In this presentation, we discuss the key activities of the TCE and explore the opportunities for deep collaboration between partners in Canada and Europe in the areas of research and evaluation, training and technical assistance, mobilizing knowledge to create impact and building an international movement for change.

Seminar 10: Women and Homelessness (Floor -2, Room 11)

Chair: **Nóra Teller, HU**

Boróka Fehér, PhD, HU; Lea Lengyel, PhD, HU: Life Stories of Homeless Women – Gendered Pathways into and in Homelessness



***Boróka Fehér** has worked with homeless people in Hungary since 1999. She is a policy officer of the Policy Department of the Budapest Methodological Centre of Social Policy (BMSZKI), the homeless service provider of the City of Budapest. She is a member of the February 3rd research team, carrying out the only annual survey among homeless people in Hungary. Her field of special interest is finding data in order to support the situation and services available for homeless women, empowering and participative ways of working. She is a member of FEANTSA's Women's Cluster. She holds a PhD in Social Work and Social Policy.*



***Lea Lengyel** studied Intercultural Psychology and Pedagogy first. She holds a PhD in Sociology, her thesis was entitled "Homeless women - Life stories and gender identity". She has been working with homeless people, focusing on women since 2014 in night shelters, outreach worker and is now a key worker in a hostel. She is a lecturer at the University of ELTE as well as other programs in higher education.*

Our presentation covers the findings of the study of 50 homeless women under 50 living in temporary accommodation in Budapest, analysing documentation of first interviews and care plans. Most women are from disadvantaged backgrounds, having been raised in foster care or families living in poverty. We shall introduce some data on health, education and income. We have

narrowed down our investigation to support needs related to living in a couple and what it means for these women to have children – whether small children or adults. We will illustrate our findings through three life stories, drawing conclusions relevant to internal policies, national policies and also research.

Méabh Savage, IE: Exploring Secondary Affective Professional Care Relations with Homeless Unaccompanied Mothers with Complex Needs - The Perspectives of Homelessness Workers and Mothers



Dr Méabh Savage works as a lecturer in social care in the Dept. of Social Care and Early Childhood Studies in the South East Technological University in Waterford. She has professional experience of working in the areas of women's homelessness and domestic abuse. Her research interests focus specifically on issues relating to care and social justice among people who are homeless and have multiple needs (addiction, domestic abuse/sexual violence and mental illness), including mothers, mental health service users, and their relations with professionals. Méabh is passionate about social justice and advocates for the inclusion of care and justice into research and practice responses to marginalised and disadvantaged groups.

This paper is based on some of the findings from a PhD study completed in the Republic of Ireland entitled 'Homeless Unaccompanied Mothers and Affective Injustices: Why a Relational Framework for Social Caring Matters'. A primary aim of this research was to explore how homeless unaccompanied mothers with complex needs have experienced the caring of professional care workers and how professional care workers have responded to the affective, economic and related needs of homeless mothers. The findings seek to advance understanding of the centrality of relationality and affective equality to professional care responses to gender and class-based inequalities, such as women's homelessness. Ultimately, this study seeks to identify spaces of resistance to social injustices within secondary and tertiary care relations (namely, professional care relations with homeless mothers and their relationships to the state) through a framework of Doulia.

The study consisted of two phases- phase one involved twelve in-depth interviews with seven homeless unaccompanied mothers with complex needs about their experiences of care across three spheres of affective relations (primary/motherhood), secondary (professional), tertiary (state-led) (Lynch 2007). Phase two involved critical conversations with twelve professionals working in the homelessness sector in Ireland. In phase two, the study explored professional care and solidarity work with mothers; critically analysing the extent to which relations of institutional and practitioner power or solidarity frame the character of professional care relationships with mothers. It investigated the extent to which responses to mothers are located within a framework of affective equality/inequality.

Findings reveal important insights into the nature of secondary care relations between mothers and professionals under the current model of neoliberal capitalism, from the perspectives of professionals and mothers. The findings reveal the importance of doulia to socially just responses to homeless unaccompanied mothers, and to homeless mothers/women in general.

11h00 – 11h30

Coffee break (Floor -4)

11h30 – 13h00

SEMINAR SESSION 3

Participants will be asked to select one of these 5 parallel seminars

Seminar 11: Measurement of Homelessness (Floor -1, Room 7)

Chair: **Freek Spinnewijn, BE**

Volker Busch-Geertsema, DE: Measuring Homelessness in Germany – The New National Approaches



Prof. Dr. Volker Busch-Geertsema has studied social sciences at the University of Bremen and is a senior research fellow and board member at the Association for Innovative Social Research and Social Planning (GISS, Bremen, Germany). Since 2015 he is an honorary Professor at Heriot Watt University Edinburgh. He is a member of the European Observatory on Homelessness since 1995 and since 2009 he is the Coordinator of the Observatory and member of the editorial team of the European Journal of Homelessness. He has conducted a number of extensive research projects on different aspects of homelessness in Germany, Europe and further abroad.

The presentation will report about two distinct approaches to measure homelessness in Germany, both based on new national legislation to implement recurrent measurement of homelessness at national level.

a) Measuring “sheltered homelessness”: The national office of statistics has collected for the first time in 2022 administrative data about all homeless persons provided with different types of shelter and temporary accommodation by municipalities and NGOs. It is a point in time data collection at 31 January 2022 and will be repeated annually in the following years.

The presentation will critically assess the approach, and report about the basic results and reactions by politicians, interest groups and the media.

b) Measuring the extent and profile of “hidden homelessness” and “unsheltered homelessness”: The German Ministry of Employment and Social Affairs has commissioned Kantar Public and GISS with conducting a survey on these two groups of homeless people. A sample survey was conducted in 151 German cities and towns covering more than 700 services of a wide range of providers during the week from 1st of February until 7th February 2022. A large number of service users completed questionnaires and the services provided counts of the two target groups during the week. Similar surveys shall be conducted bi-annually according to the new legislation.

Again, the presentation will critically assess the approach and the lessons learned for future surveys of the target groups, and report about the basic results and reactions.

Sjoerdje van Heerden, Paola Proietti and Silvia Iodice, EU: Homelessness in EU Cities and Towns



Paola Proietti holds a Bachelor and MSc in Economic and Social Sciences from Bocconi University. Later she obtained a PhD in Urban and Regional Science. Her research cuts across Human and Economic Geography, Political Economy, Public Policy. In 2019 she joined the European Commission where she contributes to the Knowledge Centre for Territorial Policies focusing on equality and non-discrimination policy, spatial inequalities and cohesion, informal settlements and homelessness, migration and local and regional indicators for sustainable development.

Sjoerdje van Heerden works at the Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Commission. Her recent research primarily focuses on affordable housing, house price dynamics, and housing financialisation across EU cities. Other research topics include EU sustainable urban development strategies, governance, and immigration and integration policies. Sjoerdje conducts both

quantitative and qualitative research and has published in various peer-reviewed journals (e.g. *Urban Studies*, *Electoral Studies*, *Journal of Urban Affairs*, *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*). She holds a Msc in Urban Studies and a PhD in Political Science from the University of Amsterdam.

Silvia Iodice holds a Ph.D. in Architecture (Doctor Europaeus; thematic area: Urban Planning and Evaluation), at the Department of Architecture of the University of Naples 'Federico II'. Since 2020 she is Contract Agent at the Joint Research Centre (European Commission), working as urban analyst and researcher in the Territorial Development Unit to support European policies with territorial analyses. She is mainly involved in urban-related projects and activities dealing with multi-dimensional phenomena and she takes care of the Community of Practice on Cities (CoP-CITIES), meant as an initiative to improve information sharing and enhance collaborative work among relevant urban stakeholders.

The number of people experiencing homelessness in the EU has increased over the past decade. While the exact consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic still remain to be seen, there is cause for concern. In many cities, a growing number of people are at risk of losing their accommodation. In this context, our study summarises the main findings from a survey conducted among a sample of European cities and towns, composed of 133 local administrations across 16 EU Member States. The survey was conducted in 2021. A specific feature of the research is that findings are also analysed according to city size (ranging from small towns to large metropolitan areas), allowing for the detection of possible differences in terms of homelessness numbers, profiles, trends, and policies between cities, both before and during the Covid-19 pandemic. Overall, there are indications that city size matters when it comes to homelessness, for example, exclusively smaller urban areas report 'zero homelessness', while in smaller urban areas that do experience homelessness, more variation in profile type is observed (e.g. chronic, transitional, episodic). Furthermore, during the pandemic, it was largely the smaller urban areas that maintained stable numbers of homeless people. At the same time, our study makes clear that more research is needed to fully understand the exact cause of these differences. For example, the observation that smaller urban areas more often experience 'zero homelessness' may be rooted in more effective (prevention) policies, migration to larger cities, or due to different definitions or methodologies to measure homelessness. Improving policies that aim to tackle homelessness and precarious living conditions, fits with the 'Leaving No One Behind' principle, which is crucial in the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals framework and several EU initiatives, among those the European Pillar of Social Rights.

Arianna Gatta, IT: Making the Invisible Visible: Challenges in Estimating the Homeless Population



Arianna Gatta is a PhD researcher at the European University Institute in the Department of Political and Social Sciences. In terms of methods, her research focuses on quantitative methods for measuring homelessness and hard-to-reach populations, as well as the use of experimental and qualitative approaches. In terms of topics her work focuses on access and consequences of conditional welfare for marginalized groups such as the homeless and the unemployed youth. She collaborates with fio.PSD and is currently visiting at INPS as collaborator of professor Klarita Gërxhani.

In the last 40 years social scientists have developed and applied a wide variety of methods to measure the homeless population. However, estimates tend to differ significantly depending on the method used. This leaves the question "How many homeless are there?" a difficult one to answer, despite being crucial for public policies. Moreover, little is known regarding the degree of comparability of the results produced by the same method over time. In this work strengths and drawbacks of different quantitative methods are outlined, providing insights on what they can and cannot measure. The city of Rome is used as case study, as the total homeless population has been estimated repeatedly over time using capture-recapture method (in years 2002-2011), point-

in-time sampling (in 2014), time-location sampling (in 2011, 2014 and 2021) and through the administrative data of the Anthology platform. A particular focus is dedicated to time-location sampling. Previous homeless population estimates in Rome from the Italian National Statistics (ISTAT) in 2011 and 2014 are compared to those from a novel data collection run in 2021, during the Covid-19 pandemic. Preliminary results show that the 2021 estimate of the homeless population is significantly smaller than the previous ones performed with time-location sampling, and more similar to point-in-time estimates. This might be driven by the reduction in turnover of homeless people across services, resulting from the movement restrictions within and across cities caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. The estimate of the homeless population is highly sensitive not only to the method used but also to the contingent context. This calls for more attention from researchers and practitioners on these aspects when producing, using and comparing estimates of the homeless population.

Seminar 12: New Service Models in Homelessness Provision (Floor -1, Room 8)

Chair: **Kjell Larsson, SE**

Riikka Perälä, FI: Housing Social Work – What, To Whom and Why? The Context of Finnish Homelessness and Housing Work



Dr. Riikka Perälä received her PhD in sociology in 2012 from the University of Helsinki. Her research interests cover the position of vulnerable citizen groups in welfare and housing policies and services. In the homelessness field, she has investigated these issues in the context of housing first policies and participated also in the development of policies in various expert groups.

Currently, she works as a post-doctoral researcher in Y-Foundation, in a large research consortium, which investigates displacement processes related to estate demolition in different cities in Finland. The other members of the consortium are University of Tampere and Turku. The project is funded by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health.

Housing social work is a professional orientation, which has been developed in the field of housing first research in Finland since the beginning of 2000's. The work is targeted at people, who have difficulties in their housing or who lack housing. The purpose is to enhance their housing skills and options for housing to prevent homelessness. This presentation reviews the experiences of different professional groups, working in the field of homelessness and housing in Finland, of housing social work and of the abilities of this kind of work to help and support people in their housing. The data draws from semi-structured interviews, where professionals were asked to describe and share their views of the housing social work. In the background is a larger research project, which handles the role of housing social work in displacement processes resulting from estate demolition. The data collection started in February 2022 and the data will consist of 20-40 interviews.

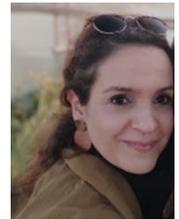
The structure of the presentation is two-fold. First part defines housing social work and its special role in comparison with other forms of social work. The second part reviews the abilities of housing social work in preventing homelessness. The initial data suggests that housing social work has an integral role in securing housing, making houses feel like home and creating trust to society and its services. However, the work lacks possibilities and skills to affect in cities' housing and urban planning policies on a larger societal scale. In the end of the presentation it is discussed, how housing social work could be further developed in the context of housing rights. This could mean, for example, efforts to incorporate housing social work expertise in cities' urban planning work.

Maria Vargas-Moniz, Sofia Rodrigues, Maria Jose Domingos, Ana Oliveira and Henrique Joaquim, PT: The Role of Training for Professional Intervention Development: The Experience of the Portuguese National Homelessness Strategy



Maria João Vargas-Moniz, PhD in Psychology, Assistant Professor and Researcher at ISPA – Instituto Universitário Lisboa – Portugal. Member of the executive committee of the APPsYCI - Applied Psychology Research Center Capabilities. Represents the National Federation of Rehabilitation Mental Health Organizations at the ENIPSSA (member of the Executive Committee/ Coordinator of the Training WG). Board member of the European Community Psychology Association (President 2017-2019).

Sofia Rodrigues, Psychologist, PhD in Psychology, International Certification in collaborative and dialogical practices by TAOS Institute (Spain and USA); Specialization in Systemic and Family Intervention; Supervisor and consultant in the areas of social and community intervention with highly vulnerable families, collaborative and strengths-based approaches, solution-focused practices, case management and Photovoice methodology.



Maria José Domingos, Sociologist, Executive director from the CLLD Lisbon Network, member of the National Strategy for Social Integration of Homeless people since 2007.

Ana Costa Oliveira, PhD in Social Work. Currently, pedagogical coordinator of the master's in social work and assistant professor of the Faculty of Human Sciences of the Portuguese Catholic University. Researcher at the Católica Research Center for Psychological, Family, and Social Wellbeing. Areas of publication and research in the areas of social innovation and social intervention, strengths-based intervention, and narrative social intervention.



Henrique Joaquim, Ph.D. in Social Work and Social Worker, Executive Manager of National Strategy for Social Integration of Homeless People.

Portugal has been entailing effort toward a national strategy on homelessness since 2009 with the participation of civic society organizations and public entities representants. It was formally appointed by ministerial resolution in 2017 with a mandate until 2023.

Within the strategy, since 2019 there has been a series of training modules on the integration of homeless people that was transformed into an online baseline initiative in 2020 due to the pandemic contingency involving the national territory with over 250 professionals directly working with people with homelessness experiences.

The current proposal focuses on the qualitative descript analysis of a nationwide advanced training program on the strengths-based and capabilities approaches with 40 professionals of the initial group who are currently supporting people who are or have been in a homelessness situation.

The evaluation/reflection survey is focused on the: a) the potential for the adoption of the proposed frameworks (strengths-based and capabilities approaches); b) effective implementation of components or the overall frameworks and c) possibilities for the integration of the frameworks within their professional teams/service.

Preliminary results indicate the tensions between professional person-centered approaches and organizational aims and factors that hinder/foster the implementation of these approaches.

Seminar 13: Homelessness in Italy (Floor -1, Room 9)

Chair: : Vera Lomazzi, IT

Teresa Consoli and Antonela Meo, IT: Homelessness in Italy: Analysis, Data and Latest Policies



Teresa Consoli is Associate professor in Sociology of Law at the University of Catania. She is member of the scientific Committee of the Italian federation of services for homeless people (FioPSD) and monitored the first experimental implementation phase of Housing first in Italy, 2016 (https://www.feantsaresearch.org/download/10-1_article_46549812314095159059.pdf). Her main research interests are oriented towards poverty, migration, inclusion and exclusions processes and the normative dimension of welfare systems.

Antonella Meo is Associate professor in Sociology at the University of Turin, Italy. She is member of the scientific Committee of the Italian federation of services for homeless people (FioPSD). Her main research interests include social vulnerability and inequality dynamics, poverty and social exclusion, social policies and local welfare.



Homelessness in Italy is recently facing a growing political and social attention. Since the approval of the Guidelines for severe adult marginality in 2015 by the Italian Minister of Labor and Social Policy, more services have been offered on the ground and spread awareness is perceived by all actors involved in enhancing the conditions of the life of homeless people. Furthermore, some European funds have been specifically oriented towards homelessness (Avviso 4/2016, PON Inclusion) and others will be devoted only to increasing the services for this vulnerable population.

How these recent interventions are contributing to a better understanding of the condition for falling or not into homeless in Italy? Which kind of analytical and methodological approach is characterizing the policies actually financed and locally implemented? Which directions are following Italian policies towards homelessness?

Lessons to be shared from all recent publications (ie. M. Allen, L. Benjaminsen, E. O'Sullivan, N. Pleace, 2020) are strongly underlying the necessity of a deeper understanding of the causes of homelessness in national contexts, as well as to the availability of data while, on the other hand, strongly support the offer of preventive service and of skilled public servants to be implemented in a long-term strategy alongside the supply of affordable public housing.

The paper would try to describe how the implemented policies in Italy are pursuing, among others, also these two different aims: a re-conceptualisation of the term of the debate and the definition of preventive policies through skilled professionals. Is it actually the case in Italy? An analysis of the latest policies and service provision will be offered for the discussion.

Daniela Leonardi, IT: Homelessness since Covid: An Opportunity to Re-imagine Policies?



Daniela Leonardi holds a PhD in Applied Sociology and Methodology of Social Research, and is a Postdoc Researcher at the University of Parma, Italy. She is a member of the Scientific Committee of the Italian Federation of Services for Homeless People (FioPSD). Her research interests concern poverty and social exclusion, public policy analysis, street-level bureaucracy theory, homelessness and welfare systems. Her most recent publication on homelessness is Leonardi, D. and Stefani, S. (2021), The pandemic and homeless people in the Turin area: the level of housing adequacy shapes experiences and well-being, in «Housing, Care and Support», Vol. 24 No. 3/4, pp. 93-104. doi: 10.1108/HCS-03-2021-0006.

Since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic, homeless people have had unprecedented visibility in empty cities. For this population, life under the pandemic has been even more difficult but, at the same time, the pandemic has been an opportunity to rethink policies, to implement Housing First projects and to change the organisation of shelters.

This contribution aims to explore a case study in which the condition of people experiencing homelessness was analysed starting from the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic in five territorial areas around Turin, in Northern Italy. The author was in charge of monitoring the implementation of Avviso 4/2016, a call on European funds that allowed 5 territorial areas in Piedmont to implement Housing First projects. Starting from the implementation of Avviso 4/2016, the effects of the pandemic in the local reception of homeless people will be analysed.

The empirical data consists of in-depth interviews with social workers, social service managers, local politicians and former homeless persons now living in Housing First accommodations. The interviews were collected during the first wave of the pandemic in Italy and a follow-up was conducted after one year.

According to the results, Housing First projects emerged as inclusive and safe spaces that empower people in their own lives. The case study provides empirical insights to recognise, at policy and organisational levels, the importance of Housing as a measure of individual and collective security, calling for intervention to address homelessness in terms of housing policies rather than exclusively social and emergency treatment.

Seminar 14: Qualitative Research Methods: Peer Research (Floor -1, Room 10)

Chair: **Masa Filipovic-Hrast, SI**

Daniel Hoey, Paul Haughan, Kathleena Twomey, IE: Peer Research in Housing and Homelessness: The Value and the Practical Issues



Daniel Hoey is the Research Manager in Focus Ireland, an organisation working to end homelessness in Ireland. He holds a MSc in Applied Social Research from Trinity College in Dublin. His research work to date has mainly related to marginalised populations, including a study on the health and social needs of older methadone users. Daniel has led a programme of peer research in Focus Ireland since 2016.

Paul Haughan is a Peer Researcher in Focus Ireland since 2014. He has worked on research projects as part of Focus Ireland's Monitoring and Evaluation Programme, including evaluations of tenancy sustainment and satisfaction levels of tenants in long-term housing. Paul is also involved in a research project in partnership with the Health Service Executive in Ireland investigating the support needs of people with experience of homelessness to engage in volunteering.



Kathleena Twomey is a Peer Researcher in Focus Ireland since 2014. Kathleena has worked on research projects as part of Focus Ireland's Monitoring and Evaluation Programme, including evaluations of tenancy sustainment and satisfaction levels of tenants in long-term housing. She was also involved in the Irish aspect of the European RE-inVEST project, an initiative that addressed social inequality and poverty by researching the experiences of vulnerable people most impacted by the financial crisis.

Peer research has emerged as a popular method of participatory social research. Broadly speaking, it is research that is guided and conducted by people with lived experience of the issue being studied, produced in collaboration with professional researchers. Peer research has several advantages as a methodology. Peer researchers bring extensive 'insider knowledge' to a research

project and about the research participants. They understand the community being researched, the concerns in that community, the language of that community, and how to engage that community. Involving peer researchers at the research design stage can help to decide what questions will be addressed, which provides context for the research framework. Furthermore, the shared lived experience of homelessness and/or housing instability can help to build trust and can encourage and empower individuals to participate in research. However, the value of peer research is debated and the validity of findings from research adopting non-traditional methods may be questioned in terms of its added impact. In addition, there is a reasonable reluctance to adopt a peer research methodology because of significant resourcing and time requirements. Since 2014, Focus Ireland, a homeless NGO based in Ireland, has employed a small team of peer researchers with lived experience of homelessness to work on specific research projects. This paper, co-produced between the Focus Ireland Research Manager and the peer researchers themselves, seeks to contribute to the peer research debate by reflecting on eight years of peer research work to explore the value of and the practical issues in undertaking a participatory peer research methodology in the housing and homelessness sector. This paper is linked to a guidebook on peer research which will be of interest to researchers considering adopting this methodology in housing and homelessness research.

Monika Conti, Amanda Kirby, UK: Exploring Youth Homelessness through the Lens of Neurodiversity: A Peer Research Project



Monika Conti is a Policy and Research Officer at End Youth Homelessness Cymru. Her research interests lie in the areas of homelessness, youth disadvantage and participatory research methods. She graduated with an MSc in International Social and Public Policy from London School of Economics in 2021 and she previously studied Economics at Lancaster University.

Professor Amanda Kirby is an emeritus professor at the University of South Wales and an honorary professor at Cardiff University. She has clinical and research experience and founded and ran a transdisciplinary clinical and research team for 20 years relating to neurodiversity. She is a qualified GP and has a Ph.D. relating to emerging adulthood and neurodiversity.

Neurodivergent young people (such as those with ADHD, Autism, Dyspraxia, Dyslexia, Tourette's Syndrome/Tic Disorders and other forms of neurodivergence) are at a particular risk of youth homelessness due to risk factors such as increased likelihood of family breakdowns, social and systemic barriers and lack of support for their diagnosis. Upon becoming homeless they experience further disadvantages in accessing support, as youth homelessness services are usually built with the neurotypical brain in mind and thus fail to meet the needs of neurodivergent young people.

Given the specific challenges and disadvantages experienced by neurodivergent young people there is a need to look at youth homelessness through the lens of neurodiversity. However, limited research has been so far carried out in this area. To address this knowledge gap and the needs of neurodivergent homeless youth, End Youth Homelessness Cymru has been working on a research project which explores homelessness experiences of neurodivergent youth.

The research has the following aims:

- 1) to identify ways in which youth homelessness can be prevented for neurodivergent young people
- 2) to improve the accessibility of youth homelessness services for all young people
- 3) to amplify youth voice

The research takes on a collaborative and youth participatory approach which emphasises the value of lived experience and the agency of young people. To fulfil the aims of this approach, neurodivergent young people with lived experiences of youth homelessness have been recruited to collaborate on the research as peer researchers. As part of their role, they have been trained in research methods and have co-developed the research design and data collection tools. In the subsequent stages of the

research, the peer researchers will conduct interviews, co-analyse collected data, contribute to writing the report and co-create practical recommendations for practitioners and the Welsh Government.

Seminar 15: Policy Analysis (Floor -2, Room 11)

Chair: **Nóra Teller, HU**

Valesca Lima and Rory Hearne, IE: Housing Financialisation and the Creation of Homelessness in Ireland

Dr Valesca Lima is Assistant Professor of Political Science at the DCU School of Law and Government.

Dr Rory Hearne is Assistant Professor of Social Policy in Maynooth University Department of Applied Social Studies. He is author of 'Housing Shock; The Irish Housing Crisis and How to Solve it'

There is growing interest in the impacts of financialisation on housing affordability and insecurity in the private rental sector, particularly financialisation 2.0 and the increased role of global real estate funds. This paper aims to contribute to our understanding of these impacts on housing systems and housing marginalisation by conceptually and empirically exploring the relationship between the financialisation of rental housing and homelessness in the post-crash era. We identify the processes and pathways by which this has unfolded in Ireland.

Since 2010, global real estate and equity investors entered the Irish residential property market and these institutional landlords are now Ireland's largest private landlords, largely focused in the capital, Dublin, and surrounding areas. Ireland also experienced a new homelessness crisis in this period. New presentations of families becoming homeless started to increase from 2013 onwards, following, and in parallel to, the trend of rapidly increasing rents, and the increasing involvement of real estate investment funds in the Irish private rental market. Focusing on the impact on low income tenants in the PRS, we draw on the temporal approach to consider the particular impacts and outcomes of the changing nature of the regime of financialisation on private rental housing.

Our findings point to the financialisation of the Private Rental Sector (PRS) in Ireland, and particularly the emergence of institutional landlords, playing an important direct and indirect contributory role in the structural housing factors that create homelessness, including reduced affordability, rising housing insecurity, displacement and evictions. We argue there is a need for greater attention to be paid to the evolving real estate-state-finance relationship, particularly the central role of the state, conceptualised here through pathways and processes of action and inaction, in developing and facilitating financialisation.

Nicholas Pleace, UK: Barriers to the Obvious: Understanding Uneven Progress in Developing and Delivering Integrated, Preventative and Housing-Led Homelessness Strategies



Nicholas Pleace is Director of the Centre for Housing Policy, an interdisciplinary research team within the School of Business and Society at the University of York. He has worked in homelessness research for over 25 years and been a member of the European Observatory on Homelessness for over a decade. Nicholas has a Chair in Social Policy at York and is currently the University Research Theme Champion for Justice and Equalities Research.

This paper draws on research and consultancy undertaken in Ireland, Northern Ireland and at local authority in the UK, alongside an evidence review on the degree to which integrated homelessness strategies are being adopted within the EU and OECD countries. Narratives that homelessness is 'complex' and that there is both an insufficient understanding and a shortfall in the use of 'evidenced' strategies and service models that demonstrably 'work' remain widespread. These narratives are often framed

within images of homelessness as predominately an experience of lone men with complex needs living rough and in emergency shelters. Alongside this, there are frequent calls for better data to more fully ‘understand’ homelessness, including considerable efforts to enhance enumeration of people sleeping rough. The disconnect between these narratives and demonstrably effective good practice exists at two levels. First, the assertions around ‘complexity’ and a stronger focus on ‘what works’ are narrowly grounded, tending to emphasise North American conceptualisations and methodologies, while side-lining European examples of successfully preventing and reducing homelessness that are both effective and, in strategic terms, really relatively simple in nature. Second, calls for improved data are often grounded in conceptualisations of homelessness as explicable and solvable primarily in terms individual pathology, neglecting the gender dynamics of homelessness and the ‘hidden’ nature of homelessness. In the light of the development of the European platform to combat homelessness, key lessons to overcome distorted narratives on the nature of homelessness and on the nature of effective strategy are considered.

13h00 – 14h00

Lunch break (Floor -4)

14h00 – 15h30

SEMINAR SESSION 4

Participants will be asked to select one of these 5 parallel seminars

Seminar 16: Measuring Homelessness (2) (Floor -1, Room 7)

Chair: Lars Benjaminsen, DK

Yusuke Kakita, Soshiro Yamada, Hiroshi Goto, Dennis Culhane, Kanako Nakano, Japan: Homelessness and Housing Exclusion in Japan from an International Perspective



Yusuke Kakita, Japan is an associate professor at Osaka Metropolitan University in the school of human life and ecology. He is researching about poverty, homelessness and social policy. The fields of his research are streets in urban area, temporary accommodation for homeless people, NPOs delivering support, local and central government.

Soshiro Yamada, Japan is a professor at Nihon Fukushi University in the department of social welfare. He is looking at public assistance for homeless people in Japan. He is also interested in the life condition of people who were transferred from homelessness to permanent housing using public assistance.



Hiroshi Goto, Japan is a professor at Rikkyo University in the college of community and human services. He started his career as a social worker for a homeless support non-profit organization (San-Yu-Kai) in Japan. He is currently interested in both local-level and global-level research on the homelessness. The former is an analysis of case records of homeless self-reliance support centers (Transitional housing) in Japan, and the latter is a comparative study of public assistance in the US and Japan.

Dennis Culhane, USA is a professor of Social Policy at the University of Pennsylvania. He is a social science researcher with primary expertise in the area of homelessness and assisted housing policy. Most recently, Culhane’s research has focused on the aging of the adult homeless population in the US.



Kanako Nakano, Japan is an associate professor at Otani University in the faculty of sociology. She started her career as social worker at emergency hospital and shelter for homeless people. The research fields are social work theory, supporting homeless people (especially, assistance to the homeless with intellectual disabilities), social work at shelters in Japan.

The number of homeless people in Japan has been lower than that of other developed countries as the definition of homelessness is different. The Japanese law defines homeless people as “people living rough.” However, the concept of homelessness in international discourses such as FEANTSA’s ETHOS (European Typology of Homelessness and Housing Exclusion) is broader than that in Japan.

Our study attempts to perceive homelessness and housing exclusion in Japan by referring to broader concepts such as ETHOS. To that end, in 2021, we conducted an Internet survey on the experience of homelessness and housing exclusion. We received responses from 39,998 participants above the age of 18 in 14 high-population prefectures. Of them, 2,061 (5.2%) had experienced homelessness and housing exclusion; this rate is similar to the results of studies conducted in Europe and the United States. Thereafter, from among these 2,061 respondents, we administered a questionnaire on 725 who had experienced homelessness and housing exclusion in the 5 years prior to the survey. Homelessness and housing exclusion experiences (multiple answers) were categorized as follows: 1) informal sector: living temporarily with acquaintances and friends (45.9%); 2) private for-profit sector: living in employee dormitories (30.9%), Internet cafes (26.9%); 3) public or non-profit sector: living in NPOs’ housing using public assistance benefit (24.6%), shelter and hostel for homeless people (22.1%); and 4) living rough (19.7%), etc.

The survey found that the number of homeless people in Japan was large in various categories other than “living rough,” including in the informal and private for-profit sectors, which were unexplored previously. The findings suggest that through international comparisons with research conducted in other developed countries, one can gain a deeper insight into the situation in Japan, which could provide valuable suggestions for future policymaking.

Rory Hearne, Keith Adams, Kenneth McSweeney, IE: Understanding Ireland’s Hidden Homelessness Crisis: A New Approach to Defining and Measuring Homelessness and Housing Exclusion in Ireland

Rory Hearne is Assistant Professor of Social Policy in Maynooth University Department of Applied Social Studies. He is author of 'Housing Shock; The Irish Housing Crisis and How to Solve it'.

Keith Adams is policy officer with the Jesuit Centre for Faith and Justice, Kenneth McSweeney is research assistant and project worker in a homelessness service in Dublin.

The UN describes homelessness as “an egregious violation of human rights” requiring decisive action on HHE, including measurement and monitoring that can enable effective policy responses.

Policy can only be effective if it is responding to an accurately measured level of housing need. In Ireland, previously unseen forms of HHE have emerged in recent years and existing measurements are not capturing the scale of people affected, particularly the most vulnerable, including lone parents and children, women in domestic violence refugees, and Travellers.

While monthly statistics, using a narrow and contested definition, provide a monitoring mechanism; they are inadequate to capture the full scale of homelessness. Ireland’s measurement of HHE has not been updated to respond to new groups affected by HHE, resulting in ineffective prevention responses. The European Commission (2019) highlighted Ireland’s “unreliable and incomplete” statistics and an absence of “clear and inclusive definitions” which were hampering planning and effective policy solutions, and the report recommended the adoption of the ETHOS classification as the basis for a bespoke HHE database. Irish NGOs have also recommended the government publish a database on housing insecurity in line with FEANTSA’s ETHOS framework, noting that, “regular, reliable and transparent data on homelessness is essential both for national policy and practice” (Focus Ireland, 2019). This paper outlines the findings from research funded by the Irish Research Council, which investigated the current measurement of homelessness in Ireland and discusses the potential and challenges in implementing the ETHOS framework in Ireland. It undertook interviews with key policy makers, experts and NGOs in the area in Ireland. It draws on ETHOS and human rights

frameworks, to conceptualise and measure the nature and scale of homelessness and housing exclusion (HHE) in Ireland. It offers a comparative analysis of how Ireland's HHE compares to other countries using the ETHOS framework.

Seminar 17: Homelessness in Sweden (Floor -1, Room 8)

Chair: **Kjell Larsson, SE**

Marcus Knutagård and Arne Kristiansen, SE: Reception – Hospitality and Hostility



Marcus Knutagård is an associate professor at the School of Social Work, Lund University. His research interests include housing policy, homelessness and the importance of place for how social work is organised – its moral geography. Two of his ongoing research projects are “Scanian homes: Reception, settlement or rejection – homelessness policies and strategies for refugee settlement” and “Take away – disinvestment of established methods when implementing new psychosocial interventions for homeless people and people with mental health problems”.

Arne Kristiansen, PhD, is associate professor at School of Social Work, Lund University. His research interests include homelessness, substance abuse and service user involvement. He is currently involved in two research projects: “Scanian homes: Reception, settlement or rejection – homelessness policies and strategies for refugee settlement” and “RECO - Resilient Communities by Sustainable Welfare Transformation”



The aim of this paper is to analyse the practice of reception of newly arrived migrants. The paper is part of an ongoing project Scanian homes: Reception, settlement or rejection – homelessness policies and strategies for refugee settlement. The aim of the project is to investigate the practice, interaction and results of municipal homelessness policies and refugee reception strategies in Skåne county in Sweden, in order to identify policy elements that are helpful for providing secure and adequate housing for these groups. The project consists of several sub studies. In this paper we will particularly focus on the focus group interviews conducted with social workers with a responsibility of coordinating housing and accommodation for refugees and homeless people in ten municipalities. Theoretically, the paper draws on Zacka's (2017) discussion on street-level bureaucrats' moral dispositions of taking a reductive position that tend to become pathological. Street-level bureaucrats are those who implement policies. In this way, we try to analyse municipalities as having a policy making disposition that is either enforcing, indifferent or caregiving. In some contexts, they have the possibility to act as sensible moral agents, while in other contexts, their agency is severely undermined. Our preliminary results show that several municipalities took up the settlement of new arrivals ambitiously and successfully when The Settlement Act was passed in 2016, and planned for "permanent residence". This law obliges the municipalities to receive and settle a certain number of newly arrived refugees each year. The state subsidies initially contributed to the settlement gaining a higher status in the municipality; new administrations were engaged. In several municipalities, the ambitions have gradually been cut down or changed direction. The length of residence and living conditions for newly arrived migrants vary greatly between municipalities. Several municipalities highlight "social dumping" as a problem.

Marie Nordfeldt, SE: Civil Society's (new?) Roles in the Field of Homelessness – a Follow Up Study



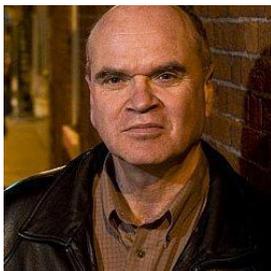
Marie Nordfeldt has a PhD in Human Geography and is a professor in Social work at Karlstad University. Her research mainly concerns the role of civil society within the field of welfare, both social welfare issues such as e.g. homelessness and broader issues involving service and infrastructure. She has been involved in several research projects and evaluations focusing homelessness. Currently she runs a project on CSOs work and initiatives for persons in a situation of homelessness, financed by the Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society (MUCF).

Civil society organisations (CSOs) have a long tradition of advocating for, and providing services to, people in a situation of homelessness, especially for persons in acute homelessness. In Sweden, CSOs have in this respect served the role of being a social security network beyond the public social services. In this paper I investigate the current roles of CSOs within the organisational field of homelessness and, analyse whether the division of labour between the public social services and civil society has changed during the latest decades. The paper is based on a follow-up study of a study conducted in the end of the 1990's (Nordfeldt 1999) and thereby give a long-term perspective on the role of CSOs within the field of homelessness. The method used is semi-structured interviews with representatives of (18) CSOs working within the field of homelessness in Stockholm and Gothenburg, both the "traditional" organizations included in the 1990's study, and more recently initiated organisations, and relevant documents. Theoretically the article is inspired by neo-institutional organizational theory. Findings suggest that the division of labour is rather intact, CSOs still make up a niche to care and provide services for acute homeless persons, although the cooperation with the public social services has increased over time. The role as an "mediating link" identified as important in the 1990's study, i.e. to support persons to establish or re-establish contacts with the public welfare system. This role has both grown in scope and become more structured, e.g. advocating for individual rights, providing legal advice and an additional role during the latest years include it-support in digital contacts with public authorities, healthcare, landlords and others.

Seminar 18: Housing First (3) (Floor -1, Room 9)

Chair: **Caterina Cortese, IT**

Tim Aubry, Aurélie Tinland, Sandrine Loubiere and Maryann Roebuck, CA: Identifying Predictors of Housing Instability Among Tenants with a High Level of Needs in Housing First Programs



Tim Aubry is a Full Professor in the School of Psychology and Senior Researcher at the Centre for Research on Educational and Community Services at the University of Ottawa. Throughout his career, Tim has collaborated on research projects with community organizations and government, contributing to the development of effective social programs and policies. He was a Member of the National Research Team and the Co-Lead of the Moncton site in the At Home / Chez Soi Demonstration Project on Housing First of the Mental Health Commission

of Canada. He is currently serving as the Co-Chair of the Canadian Housing First Network – Community of Interest.

Aurélie Tinland, M.D., Psychiatrist and Researcher in School of Medicine, La Timone Campus, Aix Marseille University and Department of Psychiatry & Sainte-Marguerite University Hospital, Marseille, France

Sandrine Loubiere, Ph.D., Researcher in School of Medicine, La Timone Campûs, Aix-Marseille University, & CEReSS—Health Service Research and Quality of Life Center, Boulevard Jean Moulin, Marseille, France, Department of Research and Innovation, Support Unit for Clinical Research and Economic Evaluation, Assistance Publique—Hôpitaux de Marseille

Maryann Roebuck, Ph.D., Post-Doctoral Researcher, School of Psychology and Centre for Research on Educational and Community Services, University of Ottawa & Ottawa Branch of the Canadian Mental Health Association

Very few previous studies have examined predictors of housing instability among Housing First (HF) tenants. Volk and her colleagues (2016) found that after one year of receiving HF, lifetime homelessness, time spent in jail, and community integration predicted housing instability. However, predictive models in this study were weak and the researchers concluded that predicting housing instability from individual characteristics of HF tenants lacked precision. A limitation of this research was the short amount of time people had received HF. The proposed presentation will share findings of two large multi-site studies conducted in Canada and France that investigated individual characteristics associated with housing instability after 24 months of receiving HF. In particular, the same set of predictors of housing instability will be examined with similar study samples of HF recipients with a high level of needs from the 5-city At Home/Chez Soi Demonstration Project in Canada and from the 4-city Un chez soi d'abord Study in France. For the analyses, hierarchical logistic regressions will be used to determine predictors of people experiencing unstable housing at 24-months. Housing instability is defined as being housed less than 90% in the last 6 months of the 24-month period. In addition to these quantitative findings, presenters will share findings from qualitative data collected from a sub-sample of about 50 study participants with high needs in the Canadian study who received HF with ACT. In particular, the qualitative analysis will examine in a more in-depth manner predictors of unstable housing in HF programs coming out the quantitative analyses. The findings will be discussed in the context of tenant selection and service planning in HF programs.

Elisabetta Leni and Saija Turunen, FI: Young People in Housing First: Cost Offset and Impact Evaluation



Elisabetta Leni is a researcher at the Y-Foundation, Finland. After working several years in the non-profit sector in Italy, she obtained a PhD in Economics at the University of Essex, UK. The current focus of her research is on homelessness and social housing.

Saija Turunen is research manager at Y-Foundation, Finland where she has worked since 2017. Saija studied and worked in the field of social research in the UK where she founded and ran her own research consultancy as well as taught research methods at the University of Bangor, North Wales after receiving her Ph.D. from there in 2001. Currently Saija co-leads the research work cluster of the Housing First Europe Hub and her research interests include impact assessment, women's homelessness as well as subjective well-being.



We perform a cost offset calculation of a new supported housing unit in the Helsinki Metropolitan area, Finland. The supported unit is managed with the Housing First approach and targets youth with low-support needs. Our main analysis looks at cost offsets resulting from changes in the service use of residents of the supported unit. We consider services provided by the social, health

and criminal justice systems in addition to welfare benefits. We adopt a quasi-experimental methodology that takes advantage of the high demand for places in supported units that is causing waiting lists or inability to offer housing support to all applicants. It follows that, at the time the supported unit opened, a young person eligible for a place in it could: i) obtain an apartment in the unit; ii) be assigned to permanent housing without support; iii) remain homeless. We consider service use over a 4-year horizon, 2 years before the unit opened and 2 years after. By comparing the before-after change across the 3 groups, we can estimate the cost offset due to permanent housing and housing support, 2 key features of the Housing First approach. The economic analysis uses administrative records and is enriched by the evaluation of other nonmonetary outcomes (such as quality of life and independent living skills) measured through periodic surveys. Our study is interesting for two reasons. First, it takes a long-term perspective that considers the time it takes for the positive outcomes associated with the Housing First approach to emerge. Second, there is scarcity of studies looking at cost offsets for youth homeless even though youth are more affected by housing exclusion than the rest of the population. The supported unit was recently opened, and the study is ongoing. We have applied for administrative data and will soon start collecting survey data.

Julia Wagnanska, PL: The Polish Housing First Model – HF as Compass or as a Road Map?

Julia Wagnanska is a homelessness researcher concentrated on policy oriented research and evidence based policy. In that role she cooperated with European Observatory on Homelessness FEANTSA as a national observer in 2005-2009. Since then she became a Housing First advocate in Poland initiating and implementing research and advocacy projects in cooperation with various stakeholders. In 2019 she became a Polish Housing First Model Coordinator and HF fidelity expert for the Housing First Program by Cooperation Fund Foundation. She is currently a Vice president of the newly funded Housing First Poland Foundation. She is a member of ICM team which supports 7 participants of a program “Ambivalence” based on HF values.



Preliminary Polish Housing First Model (PHFM) has been drafted in early 2020 to guide implementation of the Housing First Program in Warsaw. The Program implemented by the partnership of a lead ngo, local government, supporting ngo and international partner Y Saatio, serves forty participants - over half of all HF participants in the country. In 2020 the HF implementers in Poland could use HF guidebooks such as European HF Guidebook, Canadian HF Toolkit, Pathway's to Housing by Sam Tsemberis but none of them were available in Polish language – except of Tsemberis's guidebook – and all of them were not based on the expertise on Polish local context. The goal of the PHFM was to summarize international experience into guidelines sensitive to Polish context without losing Housing First fidelity. The presentation will present the key decisions made on unchangeable core of HF (the set of HF values: housing, choice, recovery, support and community) and adjustable operational elements which should be worked out in the new local context. The issue of HF as “a road map” vs “a compass” put forward in in the Demos Helsinki report (2022) will be addressed. The presenter is the author of the PHFM and Polish HF Model Expert in the Housing First Program in Warsaw

Seminar 19: Health and Morbidity (Floor -1, Room 10)

Chair: **Mike Allen, IE**

Navina Sarma, DE: Planning and Implementation of a Study on Infectious Diseases among People Experiencing Homelessness in Berlin, Germany: How to Deal with Ethical Issues and Responsibilities?



Navina Sarma (MPH) is a researcher at the infectious disease department at Robert Koch Institute in Berlin/Germany. She is working on structural marginalisation and migration and has been voluntarily working with homeless people since the last 10 years, where she started an outreach clinic for rough sleepers in 2013.

People experiencing homelessness (PEH) bear a high burden of disease but their access to care is often limited. Poor access to measures of harm reduction and safer sex, imprisonment and origin from high prevalence countries can increase the risk for HIV, viral Hepatitis, Syphilis and Tuberculosis. Many of these infections are likely to remain undiagnosed and untreated. However, valid data as basis for targeted prevention and care in Germany is missing. In order to address this data gap, a multicentre cross-sectional sero-behavioural study (POINT-study) among PEH was piloted in Berlin in 2021. Considering that research can create additional harm for the already stigmatised and marginalised PEH population, we present the approach, methodology and lessons learned from our pilot study. The study was planned and implemented by an interdisciplinary study team including actors from harm reduction and homeless services, epidemiological research and infectiology. 216 participated in the study. Central components of the study were point-of-care-screening, linkage-to-care, language mediation, incentives for respondents and a questionnaire that included questions on the living and working situation of respondents. Study participants also participated in the evaluation. Research results were discussed with low threshold health-care service providers to discuss practical implications. The need for improvement of awareness about bloodborne- and sexually transmitted infections within homeless services, as well as a closer cooperation between homeless services, harm reduction services and infectiology was identified. The study is a step towards better data and direct transfer of research results into practise which enables targeted prevention, access to diagnostic, treatment and care for homeless people without reproducing stigma and social exclusion. This presentation will discuss how ethical pitfalls were dealt with in the POINT-pilot study in order to learn from experts and implement learnings in an adapted study design as part of a national rollout.

(co-authors: Steffen, G. 1, Cawley, C. 2, Leicht A. 3, Weber, C. 4, Heidrich, S. 5, Kajikhina, K. 2, Hövener, C. 2, Jansen, K. 1, 2 Kröger, S. 1, Zimmermann, R. 1, Bremer, V. 1 - 1 Robert Koch Institute, Department of Infectious Diseases, Berlin, Germany, 2 Robert Koch Institute, Department for Epidemiology and Health Monitoring, Berlin, Germany, 3 Fixpunkt e. V., Berlin, Germany, 4 BeSog Berliner Sozialprojekte gGmbH, Berlin, Germany)

Sándor Békási, HU: Synergistic Health Services: The Malteser Model in Budapest



Sándor Békási graduated from Semmelweis University (Budapest, Hungary) as a primary care physician and health manager. After molecular biology research activities, his attention turned to client-centric digital health care solutions. He is the chief physician and director at the Health Center of the Hungarian Charity Service of the Order of Malta providing primary care services 24/7 to people experiencing homelessness. He is also the co-founder of Fitpuli, a Hungarian digital health startup. His main interest is the integration of mobile applications, telemedicine, and remote patient monitoring into traditional medical care pathways.

The COVID-19 pandemic drew vast attention to the ineffectiveness of fragmented health services and the lack of digital health solutions in the care of people experiencing homelessness. In our presentation, we discuss a health care model built around traditional primary care services and extended with telemedicine, mobile outreach teams, preventative screening activities, cross-sectional studies, and personalized case management. These form a solid evidence base for the evaluation of future development goals. We also provide details about our previous and ongoing research projects as these results are much needed to reflect on

the current health status of our clients in Hungary. Our experiences suggest that a holistic service portfolio including digital and personalized options might have a strong beneficial effect on care continuity and care pathways.

(Co-authors: Zsuzsa Gyórfy³, Edmond Girasek³, Emília Morva⁴ - 1 Health Center, Hungarian Charity Service of the Order of Malta, Budapest, Hungary, 2 Telemedicine Workgroup, FitPuli Kft., Győr, Hungary, 3 Semmelweis University, Faculty of Medicine, Institute of Behavioural Sciences, Budapest, Hungary, 4 Regional Directorate, Hungarian Charity Service of the Order of Malta, Budapest, Hungary)

Magdalena Mostowska, PL: Deaths of People Experiencing Homelessness in Poland



Magdalena Mostowska is a sociologist, lecturer and researcher at the Faculty of Geography and Regional Studies at the University of Warsaw. She has completed several research projects on migrant, as well as women homelessness in Poland, the EU and the US.

It is well established that people experiencing homelessness have very high mortality rates and low life expectancy compared to the general population. Causes of homeless deaths provide an insight into the severity of health and social problems: drug poisoning, suicide, traffic accidents, violent assaults as well as diseases rare in the general population: diseases of liver, TBC, along with a high prevalence of behavioural health problems. These figures provide arguments for housing-based approaches. Precise data, however, is not collected and there's a general paucity of research concerning the impact of homelessness on health in Poland. This paper presents preliminary findings from a project on homeless deaths in Warsaw.

The project consists of three parts. Firstly, it reviews the sources and methods of data collection in other countries. Secondly, it identifies the Polish sources and institutions that register some of the data, and the ways they could be used in analysis. Thirdly, it looks at homeless deaths from a sociological perspective: at the ways homeless deaths are framed in the media; the way public institutions handle such cases; and the way voluntary support organizations deal with them.

The media image is especially sensationalized focused on the acts of violence and "freezing to death" on the streets. The construction of homeless deaths by public institutions seems to be invisibilising them, minimizing the impact of living situation and focussing on addictions. Service providers point to the systemic failures: denying shelter for active substance users, or people registered at another municipality; lack of support for individuals released from hospitals. Sporadically, individual stories are posted on social media and tend to illustrate the deficiencies of the support system. However, there are no organizations in Poland, that specifically work around the problem of death, both in terms of advocacy as well as remembrance, organization of wakes, funerals, contacting families.

Seminar 20: Youth and Homelessness (Floor -2, Room 11)

Chair: Freek Spinnewijn, BE

Grainne McKenna and Geraldine Scanlon, IE: The Educational Needs of Children Experiencing Homelessness in Dublin, Ireland



Dr Geraldine Scanlon is an Assistant Professor in Psychology and Education in the School of Human Development. She has significant experience of national and international collaboration on studies that explore and support the inclusion of Children with Special Educational Needs in mainstream education. Dr Scanlon's recent work with UNICEF (2022), the National Disability Authority (2019) and the Children's Rights Alliance (2018) has focused on human rights-based approaches to education and development, especially for seldom heard voices and marginalised groups. A core element of her work is ethical research and innovation that facilitates the voice of children and vulnerable populations.

Grainne McKenna is an Assistant Professor at Dublin City University, Institute of Education with a specialist teaching interest in early childhood, special educational needs and teacher-child relationships. Grainne has worked as a primary school teacher and Developmental and Educational Psychologist. Grainne has special research interests in children's rights and social justice. She has been involved in developing, implementing, and evaluating several initiatives to support better outcomes for children and families. Grainne has recently undertaken research on the needs of children experiencing homelessness (Children's Rights Alliance, 2018) and the educational experiences of young men experiencing homelessness (Peter McVerry Trust, 2019).



Access to education is enshrined in the Irish Constitution (Article 42), and further recognised by the State's signature and ratification of the UNCRC in 1992. Despite this, the phenomenon of family homelessness is having a detrimental impact on children's participation and development of rights. In Ireland, children and their families are the largest and fastest growing group experiencing homelessness; children and their parents account for over 60 per cent of the officially recorded homeless population. Homelessness is damaging and disruptive to children's lives, and schools and educational services across Ireland are lacking supports and systems to respond to the educational needs of children living in homeless accommodation. This study explored how living in emergency accommodation affects children's access and participation in education from the perspective of parents, principals, teachers and educational professionals. A mixed-method research design was adopted, this included; interviews with parents of children experiencing homelessness, a survey of educational professionals working in primary and post-primary schools, and semi structured interviews with school principals, teachers, home-school liaison officers and early childhood professionals working directly with children experiencing homelessness. The findings indicate that homelessness is having a detrimental impact on children's lives resulting in significant educational inequality. Children experiencing homelessness have a unique profile of need and set of challenges not accounted for previously within the Irish education system. The study provides meaningful insight into the cumulative risk homelessness poses to children's education and provides recommendations for the development of policies, practices and procedures that promote educational access and the enactment of children's right to education in Ireland.



Peter Mackie, UK: Preventing Homelessness: Moving Upstream

Peter is a Professor at Cardiff University. The primary focus of Peter's research and advisory work is homelessness prevention. His work has had considerable impact, including the development of new legislation and practice in multiple countries. He was the academic lead on the Welsh Government's Homelessness Action Group and is currently a member of the International Advisory Board for the Canadian Youth Homelessness Social Innovation Lab (Making the Shift), and an Editor for the International Journal

on Homelessness.

In the UK, as in many other European countries, first experiences of homelessness often occur as a child or young person. Recognising this fact, and in response to calls for homelessness prevention efforts to move further upstream – ahead of crisis point – a school-based intervention is being piloted in Wales, drawing on lessons from the seminal Geelong Project in Australia. This presentation reports on the development and first year of implementation of Upstream Cymru. It tracks the challenges of adapting a universal screening tool for the Welsh context; developing collaborations between services, schools and academia; and the dilemmas of implementing a school-based intervention through a pandemic. Drawing on new survey data collected during the pilot, and linked education and homelessness administrative data, the presentation will both confirm and contradict many long-standing assumptions about who is most at risk of becoming homeless and what this means for effective early intervention.

15h30 – 16h00 | **Break and WALK TO AULA MAGNA for the closing panel session (Aula Magna Sant'Agostino, Piazzale S. Agostino, 2)**

16h00 – 18h00 | **Plenary Session II (Aula Magna)**
Chair: **Volker Busch-Geertsema, DE**

16h00 – 16h30 | **Dennis Culhane, USA:** "Can Research on the Causes of Homelessness Have a Preventive Impact?"



Dennis Culhane, USA is a social science researcher with primary expertise in the area of homelessness and assisted housing policy. His work has contributed to efforts to address the housing and support needs of people experiencing housing emergencies and long-term homelessness. Most recently, Culhane's research has focused on using linked administrative data to gain a better understanding about the service utilization patterns of vulnerable populations, including youth exiting foster care and/or juvenile justice, as well as the individuals aged 55 and older who are experiencing homelessness. His research also focuses on homelessness among veterans. From July 2009 – June 2018 he served as Director of Research at the National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans, an initiative of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. He also co-directs Actionable Intelligence for Social Policy (AISP), an initiative that promotes the development, use, and innovation of integrated data systems by states and localities for policy analysis and systems reform.

For at least the last 15 years research on homelessness has contributed to significant changes in how the problem is addressed - especially among those currently homeless or at imminent risk. Supportive housing, rapid rehousing, crisis intervention services have all been developed, deployed and improved with the support of the international researcher community. But as we are witnessing in many communities, while

16h30 – 17h00

these efforts can achieve some gains in reducing the size of the homeless population, primarily through reduced duration of episodes, they leave largely unaddressed the underlying causal conditions that continue to generate new homelessness episodes, such that gains can be easily reversed with any exacerbation of those conditions. This presentation will consider what if anything the research community may be able to do to inform the mitigation of causal factors, and why they may be relatively stubborn to address.

Christopher Pierson, UK: The Next Welfare State?



Chris Pierson, UK is Emeritus Professor of Politics at the University of Nottingham. In a career spanning four decades, he has held visiting posts at the University of California, Johns Hopkins University, the Australian National University, the University of Auckland and the Hanse Wissenschaftskolleg. He has two main research interests: the dynamics of the contemporary welfare state and the very long history of the idea of private property. He is editor of The Oxford Handbook of the Welfare State (2010, 2021), sole author of three editions of Beyond the Welfare State? (2006) and of three volumes of Just Property (2013, 2016, 2020). His most recent book, The Next Welfare State? UK Welfare after COVID-19 (Policy Press, 2021) is a wide-ranging interrogation of the shape of social policy in Britain after the pandemic and of the possibilities for a new 'strategy of equality'

In my talk, I will outline the key arguments of my recently-published book *The Next Welfare State? UK Welfare after COVID-19*. While the pandemic has had a very significant impact upon the welfare state – in both the short- and the longer-term – in many ways, this just heightens longstanding and deep-seated challenges that our welfare order has faced for at least a generation or two. Overall, the pandemic has made the welfare state much bigger - but almost nothing has been done to address existing inequalities, of both wealth and life chances. Indispensable as the welfare state is, I argue that we need now definitively to settle accounts with any lingering sense that it can somehow come to constitute for us a renewed 'strategy of equality'. If this is what we want, we need something radically different – and as radical as we can manage.

17h00 – 17h30

Cristina Avonto, President of fio.PSD, IT: Results of the Consensus Conference in Italy

<p>17h30 – 18h00</p>	 <p><i>Cristina Avonto has been the president of fio.PSD president since 2015, and she is President of the Cooperativa Sociale Progetto Tenda di Torino, a cooperative she founded in 1999, that is an experimental laboratory of a social model for innovative actions, working for and with women and investing into the development of equality policies. She holds a degree in psychology (Turin) and has an MA in psycho-social analysis (Milan). For ten years she has worked with immigrant women and children victims of trafficking, political refugees, homeless women and women in extreme poverty, and women victims of domestic violence. She is actively involved in several national and international networks that deal with integration policies and overcoming discrimination.</i></p> <p>The Italian 2022 Consensus Conference on Homelessness is the end of a process that has progressively involved national stakeholders, fio.PSD members, representatives of institutions and NGOs. The challenge we addressed is to truly change the plight of homeless people, and to build consensus with all people, organizations and public realities on how to eradicate homelessness. We believe this is an ambitious but possible goal and the seven major challenges that evolved during the consensus process will be presented at the Bergamo Conference</p> <p>Questions & Closing of the conference</p>
<p>18h00 – 19h00</p>	<p>Drinks reception in the courtyard of Aula Magna</p>

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Venue: PIGNOLO BUILDING, Floor -4

Sophie Samyn, BE: Logics of Care in Temporary Container Homes at the Edge of the City



Sophie Samyn studied media and theatre studies at the Ghent University (Belgium) during which she specialized in Nigerian film making practices by migrants in Europe. As a result of her interest in migration, she worked for a number of years with migrants in Italy and Belgium. After an advanced Masters in Conflict and Development, with final research on the trafficking of Nigerian women to Europe, she conducted a research project with Sarah Adeyinka on the wellbeing of African women in prostitution in Brussels. She is currently part of the TRAHOME research project on the pathways of hidden homelessness, as a Phd candidate.

This paper examines the urban assemblage of the so-called post-mobile policy of the city of Ghent as a social work intervention. In 2020, this policy put an end to the toleration of the presence of informal settlements by especially Intra-European migrants with Roma ethnicity. At the same time, on the outskirts of the city, a temporary housing project was proposed, including very intensive individual accompaniment trajectories focusing on children's education, language acquisition and employment. Relying on an eight months urban ethnography, this paper describes and analyses the underlying logics and consequences of this local social welfare policy, at the intersection of migration, homelessness and the urban space. We do this using the different hybrid frameworks of social work proposed by Ornellas et. al (2016), exposing the frictions that exist between different actors involved. We argue that the post-mobile policy downplays the importance of the structural on the local level, e.g. neglecting dynamics of EU labour

migration, historical processes of exclusion and systemic racism, whilst urging to formalize all way of living on its territory. In doing so, it risks to illegalize the survival strategies of those in the margin offering little social change in return.

Carsten Hvid Nielsen, DK: Push and Pull - How People in Homelessness are Being Excluded from Urban Space in the City of Copenhagen



Carsten Hvid Nielsen, PhD student at the department of Architecture, Design and Media Technology in Aalborg University, Denmark, and also a member of the research community Center for Mobilities and Urban Studies (C-MUS). Carsten Hvid Nielsen has a background in the pedagogical-sociological field and has previously both worked as a pedagogue and taught other pedagogues and caretakers.

In recent years, people in homelessness have experienced how urban space is becoming more and more dismissive. This rejection occurs, among other things, through the way we decorate our urban spaces and through the urban space inventory. An example is sloping benches, which are fine for sitting on when waiting for the bus for five minutes, but which you fall off if you want to sleep on the bench. The phenomenon is well known all over the world and we describe this phenomenon as dark design (Jensen, 2019), which is design interventions in urban spaces that in some way pull or push socially disadvantaged, people in homelessness or other 'unwanted subjects' around the city or totally out of the city.

Through a major Danish research project, we will among other questions investigate and partly document dark design in concrete urban spaces. Rosenberger describes that it can be difficult to identify this type of design if you do not experience the consequences of it yourself (2019, p. 884). Therefore, through the PhD project, I use methodological approaches, such as the Urban Songline method (Marling, 2003, p. 12), and walking interviews (Jones, Brunce, Evans, Gibbs & Hein, 2008), to involve socially disadvantaged individuals and people experiencing homelessness as participants, because they are the ones who experience the consequences of Dark Design and feel excluded from the urban public spaces.

In this presentation, I will describe the first findings of the PhD project through four different categories of socially exclusive design in urban spaces: 1) urban space inventory, such as benches and bus stops, 2) technical installations, e.g. sound and light, 3) barriers such as fences and payment machines, and 4) the absence of 'material', such as benches being removed and planting in parks being cut down.

Juan Manuel Rodilla, Gloria Puchol, Mercedes Botija, Nadia Rondino, ES: Effectiveness of Homelessness Services: A Longitudinal Study of Homelessness Population (LONGHOME)



Juan Manuel Rodilla is the coordinator of St. John of God Valencia and PHD candidate by the University of Valencia. With a decade of experience in coordinating projects to assist vulnerable populations with organizations such as St. John of God, Doctors Without Borders and the United Nations, he currently combines the coordination position at SJD with that of a doctoral student at the University of Valencia, researching in the field of homelessness. Juan Manuel Rodilla has a Master of International Affairs from Columbia University (Fulbright grantee), a Master in development policies from the Polytechnic University of Valencia and a Postgraduate degree in Development Cooperation from the University of Valencia. Juan Manuel Rodilla teaches

classes in the Master's in Social Economy at the University of Valencia, in the Master's in Development Cooperation at the Miguel Hernandez University, and in the Technology Course for Human Development at the Polytechnic University of Valencia.

Mercedes Botija Yagüe is Doctor in Social Sciences (Cum Laude), Graduated in Social Work, Bachelor of Humanities, Master in Criminology and Master in Emotional Intelligence. He has received the awards for social research Dolors Arteman, City of Talavera de Castilla-La Mancha and Amparo Moreno. Mercedes Botija Yagüe has 56 publications, including articles in indexed journals and books, 109 citations with an h-index of 6. Mercedes Botija leads the GESinn research team specialized in homelessness, currently hired by the City Council of Valencia for the methodological design of the questionnaire and subsequent analysis of the data from the census of homeless people carried out biannually by the Valencia City Council. Mercedes Botija is the academic director of the Congress on measuring and addressing homelessness in the city of Valencia.



Gloria Puchol is degree in Economics and a Master's degree in Development Cooperation from the Polytechnic University of Valencia. Gloria currently coordinates the research department of SJD Valencia developing a systematic research on homelessness and a longitudinal evaluation of the cases attended during 2020.

Nadia Rondino is a social worker by the University of Ca'Foscari in Venice, currently working in the homeless program of ACCEM and she collaborated as an Eures research intern in St. John of God Valencia.



This paper presents the results of a longitudinal study of homelessness population in Valencia. Longitudinal studies to research homelessness are scarce and improving knowledge on homelessness service providers effectiveness in the European context should be a priority. The research is focused on the trajectory of a sample of housing-led program users two years after leaving the program. The study aims at identifying which factors either facilitated or impeded people to escape homeless. Following Pleace's theoretical framework, the findings of the study confirm that both formal and informal support are two of the main factors that contribute exiting homelessness. Finally, detailed information regarding the methodology used for the longitudinal study will be provided in order to be replicated by service providers wishing to provide evidence-based practices.

Veera Niemi, FI: Housing and Service Pathways of the Homeless



Veera Niemi (nee Viitanen) is a PhD Candidate of Social work in University of Turku, Finland. She is working in a research project (2022-2023) Fighting segregation and homelessness among the most vulnerable through housing social work (SEGRA), funded by Ministry of Social Affairs and Health in Finland. The project is a collaboration of University of Tampere, University of Turku and Y-Foundation. Niemi has previously published studies on register-based research on homelessness both in English and in Finnish. She has also worked several years as a university teacher of social work and as a social worker and manager in child protection.

In this study we analyze the housing and service pathways of the homeless in a longitudinal data combining several national and regional social and health sector administrative registers. The study contributes to the theoretical debates of structural, systemic

and individual explanations of homelessness and transitions into and out of homelessness. We analyze the complex and multi-professional service use, transitions and gaps between services, and transitions between different housing and household forms preceding homelessness. The time scale in our study is several years, partly reaching all the way to birth.

Using linked administrative register data is a growing methodology in social sciences internationally. While both technologies and jurisdiction in this field are rapidly developing, new opportunities arise for accessing new kinds of data, variables and perspectives. In Finland, the Finnish Social and Health Data permit Authority Findata was established in 2020 and it combines, pre-processes and pseudonymizes social and health care data for research use securing data security of individuals. Our research is the first to utilize these new possibilities in homelessness data collection, and we are combining national register data (population register and registers of social benefits) and regional social and health registers of the studied urban region in Finland.

Building this new kind of data and ensuring its reliability and technical usability before actual analysis is time-consuming but important piloting work for future research. During the year 2022 we are doing this preparatory work, and in our presentation, we will give an overview of the process this far and explain the importance of these new methodological possibilities for state-of-the-art homelessness research.

Francesco Mazzeo Rinaldi, Elvira Celardia, Erica Cutulim, Vincenzo Miraculac, Antonio Piconec, Andrea Russoc, IT:
How Homeless is Felt: A Computer-Based Approach



Francesco Mazzeo Rinaldi is an Associate Professor at the University of Catania, where he teaches evaluation research methodology. He is also an Affiliate Professor at the KTH, Royal Institute of Technology, School of Architecture and the Built Environment, Stockholm. He has been serving as an auxiliary agent for several years at the European Commission. He is currently serving as CEO of BENCH S.r.l., Spin-off of the University of Catania, and associate editor of the Italian Evaluation Review (Rassegna Italiana di Valutazione). He has extensively published in the areas of Program Evaluation, Research Methodology, Social and Cohesion Policy, and Big Data Analytics.



Elvira Celardi is Assistant Professor in General Sociology at the University of Catania, Department of Political and Social Sciences. She has worked extensively with research institutes, both public and private, monitoring and evaluating social intervention projects. She is specialized in methodology of social research, evaluation research and theory-driven evaluation. Her main expertise and research areas include social housing, social inclusion and poverty. On these subjects she has published a substantial number of reports, essays and articles in peer-reviewed publications.

Erica Cutuli is a PhD student in Science of Interpretation at the University of Catania with a project on SDGs and corporate communication. Her academic interests concern the field of Digital Humanities, from computational linguistics to the study of digital media.



Vincenzo Miraculac is a PhD student in Complex Systems at the University of Catania. His research interests concern computational social sciences, in particular the spread of fake news on social networks.

Antonio Picone is a Ph.D. student in Complex Systems at the University of Catania. His main project and his interests are bound to the field of Natural Language Processing, with a particular interest in researching ways to identify sentiments and emotions in a written text with the help of Artificial Intelligence.



Andrea Russo is a PhD candidate in Complex Systems at the University of Catania. He is currently working at the Department of Physics and Astronomy. He collaborated with CNR Ibam, he also has worked purely on projects involving technology and society. His main research field and interests are focused on the study and the development of Computational social method to explain social complexity, in particular field like Politics - Economics – Business and Defense-Security sector applications.



Homelessness is a complex phenomenon that today is impossible to frame within a clear and unique definition. Just think of the image of the “homeless man” described by Nels Andersen[1] - whose main expressions were the tramp, the bum and the hobo - is now far from representing the new homeless who lives in a condition of material and relational deprivation. In the absence of a shared definition, the tendency is to consider housing deprivation as a sufficient condition to define a homeless person, including Rough Sleeping, living in Unconventional Dwellings or in situations of Insecure and Inadequate Housing [6]. The effects of modernization and globalization processes should also be considered [4, 5, 2]. These processes not only hit the labor market but also eroded and modified traditional family systems and pushed an unstoppable flow of people from the poorest areas of the world toward the West [7]. While the causes that lead individuals to live in a condition of homelessness are always attributable to the convergence of individual and structural circumstances that cause the disintegration of social and relational networks, the facets of the phenomenon are changing[3]. In this regard, our goal is to analyze the perception of the homeless through online textual data (e.g., online news and comments on social networks). Using computational methodologies and sentiment analysis techniques, we will perform a large-scale evaluation of the sentiment expressed by online readers and users in the Italian context. We will attempt to outline how people perceive the “typical” homeless. We will also attempt to link any differences in perceptions with the different geographical origins of the data.

References: [1] Anderson, N. (1998). On hobos and homelessness. University of Chicago Press. [2] Bauman, Z. (2017). Dentro la globalizzazione: le conseguenze sulle persone. Gius. Laterza & Figli Spa., [3] Consoli, T., Meo, A., et al. (2021). Homelessness in Italia: Biografie, territori, politiche. FrancoAngeli., [4] Gallino, L. (2000). Globalizzazione e disuguaglianze. GLF editori Laterza. [5] Giddens, A. (2000). Il mondo che cambia: come la globalizzazione ridisegna la nostra vita. Il mulino. [6] Meert, H. and Edgar, B. (2006). Fifth review of statistics on homelessness in Europe. Feantsea, Brussel. [7] Span'o, A. (2007). I senza fissa dimora in campania: tra bisogni e risposte istituzionali. Percorsi diseguali/2. La tipologia dei giovani inoccupati alla prova dell'indagine quantitativa.

Roberta Pascucci, IT: Housing Solutions for Families. Findings of a Housing Led Project in Trieste (Italy)



Roberta Pascucci (PhD), Sociologist and Social Research. Expert in Methodology of Social Research, her fields of interest are Poverty, Social Inequality and Social Policy. She collaborates with Social Policy and Research office in fio.PSD.

Migrants represent around 60% of homeless people in Italy (Istat, 2015), most of them (78%, 30,000 people) coming from Extra-EU countries (Istat, 2014). Mixed families are likely to be more exposed to poverty than native families (Istat, 2020). The contribution presents the findings of the monitoring of housing integration for 30 non-native families with high and

complex needs involved as indirect beneficiaries in the “Autonomy, Recovery, Community project” (AMIF fund) in 2019-2021, carried on by three NGO placed in the city of Trieste (Italy). All families involved have been supported by a multidisciplinary team in managing the home and the budget, accompanying to local services, and enhancing socioeconomic integration. The Project gives the opportunity to reflect on the possibility of tailoring housing solutions on specific target groups.

Franca Viganò, IT: The Italian Approach to Health and Homelessness. A Qualitative Perspective During and After the Covid-19 Outbreak



Franca Viganò has obtained a Bachelor's degree in History, Anthropology and Religion, and a Master's degree in Ethnoanthropological Disciplines from La Sapienza University in Rome, with a thesis on medical anthropology. She continued her studies with a Second Level Master's degree in Public Policy and Social Change from Collegio Carlo Alberto in Turin. Here, she had the occasion to collaborate as an intern within the research team of the Laboratory of Fundamental Rights. After the conclusion of her studies, she worked as a researcher for CCM (now Amref-CCM Foundation) on a research related to the project: “Diritto alla salute: a Torino una rete per sostenere i più deboli” (with World Friends). She is now enrolled as a first year Ph.D. Student in “Human Rights, Society and Multilevel Governance” at the University of Padua.

My research project aims to analyze the Italian homeless and vulnerable groups' reaction to the spread of the pandemic and how this phenomenon affects the National Healthcare System, as well as public's reactions. I am currently redefining the theoretical framework to link my considerations, based on the literature regarding changes within the welfare system, to a literature review on neoliberalism and development, as well as on other related socioeconomic policies (including healthcare intervention programs) affecting changes within the phenomenon and its perception. In Italy, homelessness has been documented in different ways and through different approaches and measures. In 2010, the matter of a 'new homelessness' was already discussed. These newly identified profiles of the homeless are important because they go past the classical stereotype of 'clochards' and include people that do not necessarily experience real social exclusion, the lack of a network, and do not live in poverty and decay situations. In Italy, the concept of 'home/dimora' it is understood not only in the strict sense of a residence. It is rather an important place where relationships and identities are constructed and developed (Meo Capponi, 2010). The relevance of private associations (Terzo Settore) in this research is due their importance in the assistance and care for vulnerable groups in the past decades, transforming their role as a substitute to the State when providing care for poor and vulnerable people, when in reality their role should be a 'complementary' one (fio.PSD, 2015). For the observational part, I will focus on the cities with the highest percentage of homeless people. This is not in a comparative perspective since every region has its own regulation and approaches in certain matters and laws. I plan to engage in interviews with homeless people, public healthcare system workers and volunteers, as well as with professionals working for NGOs.

References: Meo A., Capponi A. (2010) Senza casa in G.B. Sgritta (edited by) (2010) “Dentro la crisi. Povertà e processi di impoverimento in tre aree metropolitane”, pp. 143-158, Franco Angeli, fio.PSD (2015), Linee Di Indirizzo per il Contrasto Alla Grave Emarginazione Adulta in Italia, Ministero del Lavoro e delle Politiche Sociali

Nia Ffion Rees, UK: "It started at home": Prevention of Youth Homelessness, An Exploration of Mediation in Networks of Care and Place Attachment

Nia's areas of interest broadly lie within housing insecurity, homelessness, youth studies and inequality. Her PhD examines the dominant responses to tackling youth homelessness – mediation, aiming to offer a rare critique of this intervention mechanism. Nia has undertaken research at a global level, including exploring the housing pathways of young people, Peru; informal trade and child labour, Tanzania. As Research Consultant for The Wallich and Policy and Research Manager for Llamau, Nia has



undertaken research which has impacted on service provision for homelessness young people in Wales. Nia appreciates the contributions of service users and peer researchers and aims to ensure their voices are heard through participatory research.

“I felt like I didn’t belong... things weren’t right and I didn’t want to go home” (Young Person, 2022). This paper critically examines a highly dominant, yet under-researched approach to the prevention of youth homelessness – family mediation, a political priority in Wales and the global north. Dominant service responses have received little academic scrutiny within international literatures. This study will begin to address this fundamental gap by critically examining mediation as an approach to youth homelessness prevention. Mediation services seek to support young people and their families to bridge differences that risk unplanned exits from the home. Fundamental to the approach is the maintenance/re-establishment of ties with family, ultimately aiming to prevent homelessness.

This paper draws upon findings from participatory research undertaken in the case study country of Wales. It focuses upon in-depth biographical interviews and network activities, undertaken with young people at risk of homelessness, who have experienced family mediation, wholly innovative approach. It explores the impact of their social networks before and after mediation and the role it plays in repairing broken relationships. Semi-structured interviews undertaken with mediation workers and key informants are also drawn upon. Focusing upon the themes of conflict, care, networks, home and place-attachment, this paper offers rare critique of the merging homelessness prevention paradigm - challenging the conceptualisation of prevention by considering the importance of the extent to which interventions enable ontological security and the feeling of ‘home’. It fills a gap in research within housing and youth studies by critiquing this intervention, innovatively drawing upon the concepts mentioned. By critiquing the dominant intervention mechanism of mediation, this research has direct implications for service provisions in Wales and internationally. There is policy interest from both governmental and non-governmental bodies including End Youth Homelessness Cymru and international youth homelessness agencies.

Ashwin Parulkar, USA/India: Crammed In Or Shut Out? Implications of Delhi’s Homeless Shelter System’s Floor Space Constraints – with Attention to the Public Health Risks of Overcrowded Shelters during Covid-19 (2020)



*Ashwin Parulkar is a Senior Research Specialist at HELP USA (New York). He is co-editor of *The Right to Food Debates: Social Protection for Food Security in India* (Orient Blackswan 2018) and co-author of *Dispossessed: Stories from India’s Margins* (Speaking Tiger 2017). Ashwin earned a B.S. in management from Case Western Reserve University, an MFA in creative writing from Syracuse University, an M.A. in international relations from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, also at Syracuse University, and is a Ph.D. candidate in development studies at the International Institute of Social Studies (ISS), The Hague.*

Through an analysis of public data on (a) occupancy rates, official capacities, and square footage of Delhi’s shelters; (b) the city’s homeless and general population estimates; and (c) interviews with state officials and Centers for the Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) experts, this study examines the nature and implications of limited floor space across Delhi’s homeless shelter system to ascertain the extent to which capacity and coverage deficits are rooted in planning and design. Floor space constraints pervade Delhi’s homeless shelter system. The state government allots, on average, 18 square feet of personal space across the system’s 223 shelters, which is far below the guideline of 50 square feet per resident stipulated by the National Urban Livelihood Mission Scheme of Shelters. About 7400 people – 40% of the system’s official residential capacity – use these shelters. The amount of personal space available to these residents – the true as opposed to official shelter area – is 45 square feet per person. This tells us that (a) the average Delhi shelter operates at full capacity to overcrowded conditions and (b) the low percentage of homeless people who use the capital’s shelters represents a limit of how many people can access shelters, not merely the number



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who do. In that context, this study examines the question: What is the extent of overcrowding in Delhi's shelters and its implications on the ability of residents in these spaces to socially distance to prevent the spread of COVID-19?

The presentation focuses on three implications:

1. shelter space constraints posed a significant public health risk to homeless people during the COVID-19 pandemic
2. shelter space shortages are concentrated in districts experiencing rapid population growth and may continue to exclude homeless people
3. shelters that, comparatively, have more space have the potential to accommodate more people in the near-term.

Early registration requested from June 15th, 2022.
DEADLINE for registration: September 1st, 2022.