

## Seminar 22: Pooling of Data on Homelessness (Room: 00.16)

Chair: **Nóra Teller, HU**

### **Amandine Lebugle and Alice Mercier, FR: The French Homeless Helpline the day after the Night of Solidarity in Paris (France)**



**Amandine Lebugle, France, is a demographer. She has been working at Samusocial of Paris since 2019. She completed research on fertility decline in rural Iran (2000-2008), violence against women in France (2010-2018), homeless people using the metro in Paris as shelter (2019), post-secondary students attending food banks in the greater Paris region (2021-2022) and users of the 24/7 Homeless helpline (since 2019).**

**Alice Mercier, France, graduated in Demography from Panthéon Sorbonne University in 2020. She has been working at samusocial since 2021. She conducted different research on homeless families living in hostels, and users of the 24/7 Homeless helpline.**



Since 2018, every year a street count, titled 'Nuit de la solidarité' (NdIS) aimed at counting and describing people without an accommodation, has been carried out in Paris (France). Despite variations in the number of people counted each year, the profile of the people met remains the same: the vast majority were single men. Among respondents, few called the 115 emergency number, which is a 24/7 Homeless helpline; around 10% contacted the helpline the same day (around sixty people) and 66% said they never did. However, the 115 team picks up over 1,000 calls a day. In fact, 115 users seem to be quite different from people surveyed on the street. Why such a large gap in numbers? Are 115 callers investigated during the NdIS? Where do they sleep ?

**Data:** To answer these questions, the Samusocial of Paris organised a survey the day after the NdIS among 115 users to find out if they had been questioned and if not, to understand why. Each caller was therefore asked to answer a short questionnaire to specify, for example, his place of refuge the previous night. The survey was combined with the '100 % pick-up day', a new operation initiated in order to allow as many people as possible to talk to a helpline worker. Thanks to the support of the 115 team by around thirty volunteers, we collected 635 questionnaires.

**Results:** Few people calling the 115 helpline were surveyed during the NdIS. Their place of refuge mainly explains this result. Finally, this survey clearly highlights the benefits of using a variety of data to approach an overview of the number of homeless people and to have better knowledge of their characteristics.

### **Natasa Krivokapic, Goran Ceranic, Rade Sarovic, Predrag Zivkovic, Milica Rajkovic, Montenegro: Recognising Homelessness in Montenegro**



**Natasa Krivokapic is Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Philosophy, Montenegro. She was a member of the Steering Committee of the MEHO COST action. Goran Ceranic is Associate Professor at the Faculty of Philosophy in Nikšić, Montenegro. He was a member of the Steering Committee of the MEHO COST action. Rade Sarović is Associate Professor at the Faculty of Philosophy, Montenegro. Predrag Zivkovic is Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Philosophy, Montenegro. Milica Rajkovic is a Master of Sociology. During her schooling, she was an active participant in several projects.**

This paper aims to present some basic results of the first scientific research on homelessness in Montenegro, such as the scope, structure, forms, and causes of this social problem. During socialism, the phenomenon of homelessness was not recognized because there were almost no people "without a roof over their heads". Also, the period of post-



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socialist transition does not record a significant number of visible homeless people. The problem of homelessness is poorly recognised in institutions dealing with social work. One of the assumptions that could explain the small number of registered homeless people is the traditionally strong connection between family members and the solidarity of the immediate and wider community towards persons who find themselves in a situation that could be called homelessness. Taking into account such social circumstances, the research was primarily based on determining the situation using the first three categories from the FEANTSA typology of homelessness. The specifics of the social and political-economic context of Montenegro shows the need to develop a specific methodology in measuring homelessness.