

5th European seminar on local homeless strategies

Homelessness in public and private spaces: Mind the (policy) gap!

Local strategies to address the different faces of homelessness

Brussels, 4 June 2010

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René Kneip, President of *FEANTSA*, *European federation of national organisations working with the homeless*, welcomed all participants to the 5th European seminar on local homeless strategies. He started with a reminder that, for the past five years, FEANTSA has aimed to bring together practitioners from all levels (local, regional, national and European) to discuss local homeless strategies. This year, the focus was on local homeless strategies in public and private spaces.

The phenomenon of homelessness is often associated with rough sleepers who live in public spaces, yet this is often only the tip of the homelessness iceberg. Homelessness can also manifest itself in private spaces (from a “domestic” space to a private space in institutions). This seminar aimed to draw attention to homelessness as a continuum of living situations, linked to public and private spaces, which require a comprehensive policy.¹

Opening session

The opening session set the scene by looking at the EU context on homelessness with speakers Tore Hult from (Member of the local council of Alingsås, Sweden, and Member of the Committee of the Regions) and Antonia Carparelli (from DG Employment, social affairs and inclusion of the European Commission).



On behalf of the Committee of the Regions (CoR), the only EU body representing regional and local authorities, Tore Hult welcomed all participants. He noted the huge participation of local practitioners in the seminar as an indication of the growing interest in European cooperation on homelessness. From a Swedish point of view, local authorities are also active in tackling homelessness yet there are still 18.000 homeless people in Sweden. He highlighted the need for the European Union to treat this issue more seriously in the framework of the Europe 2020 strategy. Tore Hult further developed this in the third session of the seminar on the European dimension of local homeless strategies (see below).

Antonia Carparelli gave a brief introduction of the measures taken by the European Commission to tackle homelessness. The year 2010 has been selected as the European Year for combating poverty and social exclusion. To that end, homelessness being one of the most extreme forms of exclusion and deprivation has been given added impetus. For the past few years, homelessness and housing issues have gathered momentum at European level, namely through persistent calls for the design and implementation of integrated strategies to combat homelessness and housing deprivation, as well as calls for the appropriate financial resources and for efficient governance systems. One of the achievements of 2009 is the creation of the political commitment at EU level on homelessness, which may lead to opportunities in the new Europe 2020 strategy. The European Union has pledged to lift at least 20 million people from the risk of poverty and exclusion by 2020. As was emphasised by the President of the European Commission (José Manuel Barroso), the new Lisbon Treaty includes provisions which make poverty policy a shared responsibility between EU member states and the European Union. Hence, the principle of subsidiarity which is enshrined in the EU gives the European Union a positive role in supporting member states to define and implement common social objectives, such as common objectives on homelessness.



¹ See Annex I for ETHOS – European Typology of Homelessness and housing exclusion

Session 1: Local strategies to address homelessness in public spaces

This session looked at the role of different local stakeholders in tackling homelessness in public spaces in the city, and the strategies developed in this respect.

The role of railway stations in tackling homelessness



Fabrizio Torella focused on the Social Policy of Ferrovie dello Stato (FS) (the national Railway Company in Italy). Although making a profit is the prime objective of any enterprise or company, the bigger the enterprise the more social responsibilities it has. In Italy, this is enshrined in the Green Book on social responsibilities of enterprises. Social malaise is a problem for station users and workers. At railway stations, social malaise is multifaceted. In a bid to tackle this, help centres were created in different railway stations.

These are orientation centres where migrants, asylum seekers, refugees, minors and single mothers can get the necessary information on how to address their needs. Chief amongst these are the need for identification papers, a place to eat, sleep and have a bath. So far there are 13 help centres managed by the FS in Italy. In addition to helping people in precarious situations, help centres are places where institutions and organisations in the social sector build and coordinate their intervention strategies. Railway companies in other European countries are also developing homeless strategies in their stations, and cooperating at European level namely through the [Gares Solidaires](#).

Some participants reacted to this indicating that stations seldom have a homeless-friendly policy (taking Poland as an example), and rather adopt a security approach to homelessness in their stations. According to Fabrizio Torella, stations both consider homelessness as a social issue and a security issue, and the stations in Gares Solidaires have signed a Charter which will help to introduce new ethics in their stations. This is only the beginning.

Alessandro Radicchi, Director of the ONDS (National Observatory on Poverty and Solidarity in Italian Railway Stations) provided two different perspectives on homelessness in stations. Firstly the perspective of stations and station users : homeless people are seen as tending to dirty the premises by using platforms as toilets, and they can sometimes scare station users. Secondly, he provided the perspective of homeless people and the reasons why they choose to stay in stations: stations are convenient places to seek solace and shelter, for safety and even sometimes pick-pocketing for survival. However, homeless people are aware that not all stations offer the same opportunities. To that end, they tailor their preferences accordingly. Some stations are used as dwelling places. This is mostly the case with bigger central stations where they live day and night. Stations located in suburbs are mostly used for a nightly or fortnightly sleeping and transit stations are only for transition. Due to the fact that homeless people are in stations not by choice but by necessity, organisations like the ONDS and NGOs started reaching out to them. Ten years ago, these organisations had tense relations with railway security companies but this has evolved over time towards good and fruitful cooperation. Alessandro also showed a 4-minute testimony of a person who has been living in Roma Termini station for over 20 years.



Coercion and rough sleeping – forcing people into shelters?



Geertien Pils, from the **Centrum Voor Dienstverlening Rotterdam**, spoke about the use of coercion and persuasion when reaching out to rough sleepers. She spoke of coercion in general terms, namely the “coercion” of society to take up the cause of homelessness and show solidarity towards fellow citizens in distress. Secondly the “coercion” of politicians and their civil servants to take up their responsibility to ensure citizens have access to open and safe cities. Thirdly coercion of homeless people to leave the street and start a resettlement process. No rough sleeping policy can be successful without the full and active cooperation of the people concerned. Yet, in order to get that process started, the city of Rotterdam has sometimes used coercive methods to trigger pathways back into society (involving the police services and arrests). This “gentle pressure” policy seems to have yielded results as the number of homeless people has significantly decreased in Rotterdam over the years.

However, some participants found this method controversial and highlighted some research undertaken in the UK which shows that a repressive approach can be a high risk strategy since it can work for some homeless people, whereas for others who do not respond well the approach can result in even worse situations. Another participant from the Netherlands suggested consulting homeless people about this coercive approach, giving them a clear role and resources to fulfill that role. Some participants agreed with the notion of coercion for society in general and for all relevant organisations (taking an example of a project in Austria) to be involved and made aware of the opportunities for cooperation in this field. Another participant raised the issue of rapid intervention as soon as people fall into a street homelessness cycle, in order to avoid deterioration of the person's situation (mental and physical).

The perspective of police services in tackling rough sleeping in Paris



Commandant Jean-Francois Molas, head Police Officer of the “Brigade d’Assistance aux Personnes Sans-Abri (BASPA) talked about local strategies developed in Paris to reach out to homeless people. Based in the 19th arrondissement of Paris, the BASPA employs 72 staff, most of whom work round the clock (from 6h30 to 23h00). They work closely with other outreach NGOs. The BASPA has 145 beds and an Accommodation Centre Home for Homeless People (CHAPSA) in Nanterre. This offers

homeless people an opportunity to meet with social workers who may inform them of their rights. The BASPA intervene in different situations: for initiatives taken by the BASPA, in extreme weather conditions, to support other outreach organisations, for group evictions.

The BASPA being a *police* outreach service has some clear advantages:

- they may have more authority in convincing rough sleepers with urgent health needs to accept hospital care (and to convince hospitals to take homeless patients);
- the same goes for developing cooperation with firemen when a homeless person refuses help;
- they also have easier access to information on evictions and can therefore take fast action to redress situations.

There are laws in France which make it impossible to force homeless people to accept health treatment, but there are also laws that stipulate that people in physical danger must be assisted. For strategic reasons, the BASPA tries to build relationships with people rather than using coercion. This is also in line with the general move over the last decades from a repressive approach to a social assistance approach. The increasing diversity of profiles of homeless people (namely with the increase of foreigners among the homeless population) has implied a change in strategy and the development of new working practices.

Reaching out to the “hidden” rough sleepers in Budapest

Ferenc Matlári, social worker in the Menhely Foundation (Hungary) talked of strategies used to reach out to hidden rough sleepers around the city of Budapest in Hungary. In Hungary and possibly in many other countries, the stigma of homelessness forces some homeless people to hide. This situation renders the task of social workers more difficult since, before anything can be done to support them, they first need to locate them. This exercise firstly requires knowledge of whether they really exist, of where they are staying and who should take action to assist them.



The Hungarian approach to addressing this situation has been to set up a non-stop homeless helpline commonly known as the “dispatcher service”. Through this scheme, people who have information on the whereabouts of homeless people or potentially homeless people are encouraged to call the centre. The development of technology has meant that various means can be used to raise awareness about homelessness. Of particular importance are the media, the internet, cooperation with police and ambulance services, as well as general awareness of citizens who are likely meet rough sleepers (joggers, dog walkers, etc). In addition to the above mentioned services, social workers are on the street 5 to 6 hours a day, 5 days a week. Ferenc Matlári also illustrated the realities of hidden homelessness with a selection of photos which can be seen in his powerpoint presentation (see FEANTSA website).

Session 2: Local strategies to address homelessness in private spaces

This session looked at the role of different local stakeholders in tackling homelessness in private spaces, and the strategies developed in this respect.

The relationship between domestic violence and homelessness



Micheala Gosch, in her capacity as the manager of Graz women's shelter, highlighted the relationship between domestic violence and homelessness. Amongst the main underlying causes of homelessness for women she identified issues such as lower income, gaps in the educational system, difficulties in finding employment and the lack of affordable housing. Female homelessness is generally invisible. People with no expertise in the field cannot necessarily understand vulnerability of women to homelessness. Whereas men can easily sleep rough, women are less likely to follow that path. This situation leaves most women with limited choices but to either stay with willing friends or family or to put up with a violent relationship. Domestic violence has been identified as the main cause of female homelessness in Austria. When domestic violence becomes unbearable, women are forced to leave the home with personal, social and financial consequences.

Alarmed by the increasing vulnerability of women who are forced out of their home due to domestic violence, the Austrian government passed the Austrian Federal Act on protection from domestic violence. There are 26 women shelters countrywide with 748 places for women and their children. Immigrants, older women, disabled women and women with multiple needs fall within the category of groups with special needs.

Faced with this phenomenon, the city of Graz developed an ambitious strategy that aims to provide 300 places for homeless women, expanding council housing and providing transitional shelters.

A participant from the Netherlands asked about attempts to prevent female homelessness, but Michaela Gosch explained that developing prevention approaches to domestic violence can be quite delicate as this implies going into private households. The city of Graz works with homeless women by providing emergency shelter and temporary accommodation as soon as they are forced to leave their home, and by initiating diverse projects that aim to boost women's self-esteem.

A participant from the UK talked about measures in Wales to protect victims of domestic violence through "target hardening", in other words strengthening of original property (alarm systems, reinforced exits, etc).

Cooperation agreements between prisons and local authorities to reduce homelessness in Norway

Kristin Tandberg from the Correctional Services in Eastern Norway shared impressions on the Norwegian experience on the cooperation between prisons and local authorities to prevent homelessness. She first highlighted some of the characteristics of prisoners - some do not have their own home, some have large debt problems, some are substance abusers, others have mental health problems. Norway has been grappling with the increase in homelessness in medium and small cities and amongst young people. In response to this, the Norwegian government has vowed to address the problem by taking measures that aim to end homelessness.



One of the objectives of the Norwegian government is to ensure that nobody spends time in temporary accommodation on release from prison – which is why the correctional services cooperate closely with the Norwegian state housing bank (coordinator of the national homeless strategy). In addition, there is a fund to employ civil servants to find housing solutions for prisoners. The correctional services have also encouraged the development of cooperation agreements between municipalities and correctional services. Experience until now shows that agreements have improved the situation, although lack of housing and funding are still a challenge for prisons. Furthermore, psychological problems and substance abuse of inmates can also make resettlement into community challenging.



Gro Månsson is project coordinator of the project “My future” which is a project based on cooperation between the Norwegian State Housing Bank, Drammen prison and Drammen municipality. Gro shed more light on the measures taken at local level in the framework of the “My future” project in order to ensure that released prisoners do not fall into a cycle of homelessness. To that effect, there is much emphasis on preparing release from the very first day of the prison sentence. They adopt a needs-based approach whereby a social officer reviews the situation with the prisoner before contacting the municipality who then delegates a person to define the needs of the prisoner. As a result of the project, internal working mechanisms and early intervention have significantly improved, and there is generally greater partnership working between different agencies. The results of the project indicate that prisoners were helped to find housing solutions such as in supported housing, or in rehabilitation centres (for substance abuse treatment), or living with their family.

Homelessness and housing needs assessments



Andrew Waugh, former adviser to the Scottish Government, referred to the Scottish experience of homeless/housing needs assessments which mainly uses surveys in a top-down manner. He talked about a model he developed to assess homelessness and housing needs through a bottom-up approach - a mathematical model which uses already available local authority data (instead of new survey data).

Andrew Waugh referred to the Homelessness Act 2003 which reduces hurdles to accessing accommodation when homeless. Previously, there were 4 boxes to tick before receiving support: 1. be homeless 2. be in priority need 3. not be intentionally homeless 4. be connected to the local authority. The 2003 Act effectively cancelled hurdles 2, 3 and 4, thereby placing pressure on local authorities to house homeless people.

In order to provide Scottish local authorities with tools to implement the provisions of the Act, and assess if local authorities will be able to meet the targets set by the 2003 Act, the Waugh Model was tested in 6 local authorities and then extended to all 32 Scottish local authorities. The model assess homeless household needs against the supply of accommodation in order to guide local policy interventions, develop convincing arguments for local politicians, and answer questions like “What proportion of lets will homeless households need?”.

Some of the results of the Waugh model applied to local authorities predicted increases in temporary accommodation (due to the abolishment of priority need requirements), and a potential doubling of budgets by 2018. Hence, policy interventions suggested included a modification of the “right to buy”, a greater use of the private rental sector, and making more lets available to homeless people.

A question from the floor during debates with the seminar participants raised the issue of understanding what would happen, when increasing the lets for homeless people, to other people who would originally have had access to the accommodation. Andrew Waugh said the model is dynamic, but that presently it provides no feedback loops, namely regarding people who do not get the accommodation that goes to a homeless person. Which is why it is important to look at wider housing need because if there is a general shortage of housing, then tackling homelessness will only partly solve the problem.

Session 3: European dimension of local homeless strategies

Homelessness is a local phenomenon, yet the European momentum to work together to end homelessness is growing, especially during this European Year 2010 for combating poverty and social exclusion. This session will look at examples of European initiatives which can have an impact on local approaches to reduce homelessness.

European cities and regions preparing official opinion on combating homelessness



Tore Hult, member of the local council of Alingsas, Sweden, reminded delegates that homelessness is a phenomenon which affects most cities in Europe, including his hometown of Alingsas in Sweden. He stressed the need for tackling the issue of homelessness at EU level. The starting point, he believes, is to agree on a common definition of homelessness as a means of moving forward together.

He saw the European seminar as an opportunity to collect feedback from local practitioners on effective local strategies and emerging issues. This feedback is essential information for a position paper on "Combating homelessness" which is to be adopted in the CoR plenary in October 2010. He highlighted some of the key points in the position paper so far including the need to agree on a common definition, the importance of prevention strategies, the need to involve and empower homeless people in tackling homelessness, and the need to open up EU financial instruments like the structural funds to support local authorities in tackling homelessness.

HABITACT – European exchange forum on local homeless strategies

Nienke Boesveldt, local civil servant in Amsterdam City Council briefly introduced HABITACT as a European tool for cooperation on local homeless policy. The HABITACT network was launched in June 2010, already has 10 partner cities, and is growing steadily. The network is currently facilitated by FEANTSA which opens doors to a massive amount of expertise and an interesting combination of experiences/perspectives from service providers, researchers, and more. HABITACT aims to connect local policy-makers working on the issue of homelessness using different instruments such as European project building, developing online resources, and organising study visits and peer reviews.



Amsterdam city council hosted the first HABITACT peer review on 4-5 March 2010, adapting the methods used in the official EU peer review programme for national governments in the framework of the Social Open Method of Coordination. Amsterdam homeless policy was therefore taken as a starting point for European exchanges. The process started with a collection of all relevant information on Amsterdam homeless policy which was sent to an independent researcher who wrote a discussion paper to guide debates during the peer review.

The peer review enabled the peer cities to see Amsterdam policy in practice through site visits, followed by discussions on the main successes and challenges, as well as key questions (such as resettlement of homeless people, building political momentum, relations between local authorities and service providers, and more. Among the key challenges for Amsterdam city council are keeping people in stable living conditions once they are off the street, and developing effective prevention strategies.



Emmanuel Cornelius, who is responsible for homeless policy in Esch-Sur-Alzette City Council (in Luxembourg) is also a member of HABITACT. He explained his motivations for joining HABITACT. In 2005, representatives from the Esch-sur-Alzette city council tried to build their expertise on homelessness by taking part in various FEANTSA conferences. This showed them the benefits of working closely with FEANTSA, and hence the advantages of joining a network like HABITACT which in the past year has provided many opportunities for building expertise further and developing European cooperation with other cities.

He reminded participants that HABITACT was created mainly because local authorities active on the issue of homelessness cannot become direct members of FEANTSA (whose statutes only allow NGOs as members). He considered this a positive development because local authorities have a

different perspective on homelessness (as policy-makers and funders of homeless services). HABITACT therefore provides cities with their own forum of exchange on local homeless policies. The aim is to expand HABITACT to at least one city per country, so he encouraged all cities present at the seminar to join.

EU law and its implications for migrant workers who become vulnerable to homelessness



Herwig Verschueren, Professor at the University of Antwerp in Belgium, discussed the intricacies of EU Law by focusing mainly on the rights and obligations enshrined in the free movement of people (Articles 45, 49 and 56) and the European citizenship provisions (Articles 20 to 24).

Free movement is a fundamental right for EU citizens and since December 2009 (with the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty) the fight against social exclusion is one of the European Union's primary objectives. To this effect, Professor Erwig briefly shed light on the rights of economically inactive persons in the European Union.

The rationale for this emphasis was to help delegates understand the gap between the rights of economically active persons and economically inactive persons.

In addition to EU primary legislation (Treaty provisions), complementary rights are enshrined in secondary legislation (regulations and directives). Regulations are directly applicable and binding in all EU Member States without the need for any national implementing legislation. Directives on the other hand bind Member States as to the objectives to be achieved within a certain time limit while leaving the national authorities the choice of form and means to be used.

Relevant secondary legislation currently in force is Directive 2004/38 on the right of citizens of the Union and their family members to move and reside freely within the territory of the Member States, and Regulation 883/2004 on the coordination of social security schemes.

If EU citizens migrate for work reasons and become destitute, they are allowed to stay in the host country as long as they show that they are not an "unreasonable burden" on the host state (which is very open to interpretation since ECJ case law has not yet defined this clearly).

He referred to the need to use case law (judgments of the European Court of Justice) to understand the rights of destitute migrants, and referred to landmark cases:

- Grzelczyk case >> [Details](#)
- Trojani case >> [Details](#)
- Zhu and Chen case >> [Details](#)
- Teixeira and Ibrahim case >> [Details](#) (most recent case: 23.2.2010)

A German participant saw the parallel between the German situation regarding "vagrancy" years ago in Germany and the current European situation now, namely in relation to the discussion on "unreasonable burden". The German solution was to set up a Federal body to deal with this. Maybe there is a role here for an EU body.

A representative from the European Commission mentioned the issue of entitlements and financing these social benefits. The issue is also about EU member states sharing the burden, but it is arguably difficult to introduce a right to minimum assistance for destitute migrants when there is no tax coordination.

A representative from FEANTSA raised the issue of the rights of asylum-seekers to "minimum conditions for reception", and the possibility of having a similar legal framework for destitute migrants. Herwig Verschueren believes there is a difference between asylum-seekers whose lives are in danger, and destitute EU citizens, and therefore it may be difficult to have a similar legal framework.

Annex I: ETHOS – European Typology of Homelessness and housing exclusion

	Operational Category	Living Situation	Generic Definition	
Conceptual Category	ROOFLESS	1 People Living Rough	1.1 Public space or external space Living in the streets or public spaces, without a shelter that can be defined as living quarters	
		2 People in emergency accommodation	2.1 Night shelter People with no usual place of residence who make use of overnight shelter, low threshold shelter	
	HOUSELESS	3 People in accommodation for the homeless	3.1 Homeless hostel	Where the period of stay is intended to be short term
			3.2 Temporary Accommodation	
			3.3 Transitional supported accommodation	
	4 People in Women's Shelter	4.1 Women's shelter accommodation Women accommodated due to experience of domestic violence and where the period of stay is intended to be short term		
	5 People in accommodation for immigrants	5.1 Temporary accommodation / reception centres	Immigrants in reception or short term accommodation due to their immigrant status	
		5.2 Migrant workers accommodation		
	6 People due to be released from institutions	6.1 Penal institutions	No housing available prior to release	
		6.2 Medical institutions (*)	Stay longer than needed due to lack of housing	
		6.3 Children's institutions / homes	No housing identified (e.g by 18th birthday)	
	7 People receiving longer-term support (due to homelessness)	7.1 Residential care for older homeless people	Long stay accommodation with care for formerly homeless people (normally more than one year)	
		7.2 Supported accommodation for formerly homeless people		
INSECURE	8 People living in insecure accommodation	8.1 Temporarily with family/friends	Living in conventional housing but not the usual or place of residence due to lack of housing	
		8.2 No legal (sub)tenancy	Occupation of dwelling with no legal tenancy illegal occupation of a dwelling	
		8.3 Illegal occupation of land	Occupation of land with no legal rights	
	9 People living under threat of eviction	9.1 Legal orders enforced (rented)	Where orders for eviction are operative	
9.2 Re-possession orders (owned)		Where mortgagee has legal order to re-possess		
10 People living under threat of violence	10.1 Police recorded incidents	Where police action is taken to ensure place of safety for victims of domestic violence		
INADEQUATE	11 People living in temporary / non-conventional structures	11.1 Mobile homes	Not intended as place of usual residence	
		11.2 Non-conventional building	Makeshift shelter, shack or shanty	
		11.3 Temporary structure	Semi-permanent structure hut or cabin	
12 People living in unfit housing	12.1 Occupied dwellings unfit for habitation	Defined as unfit for habitation by national legislation or building regulations		
13 People living in extreme overcrowding	13.1 Highest national norm of overcrowding	Defined as exceeding national density standard for floor-space or useable rooms		

Note: Short stay is defined as normally less than one year; Long stay is defined as more than one year.
This definition is compatible with Census definitions as recommended by the UNECE/EUROSTAT report (2006)

(*) Includes drug rehabilitation institutions, psychiatric hospitals etc.

Annex II: Seminar programme

Homelessness in public and private spaces: Mind the (policy) gap! Local strategies to address the different faces of homelessness

Brussels, Friday 4 June 2010

Seminar moderator: René Kneip, FEANTSA President

9.30 Welcome

Tore Hult – Member of the local council of Alingsås, Sweden, Member of the Committee of the Regions
Antonia Carparelli – European Commission - DG Employment, social affairs and inclusion

10.00-11.15 Session 1: Local strategies to address homelessness in public spaces

The role of railway stations in tackling homelessness

Fabrizio Torella, Ferrovie dello Stato and Alessandro Radicchi, ONDS, Italy

Coercion and rough sleeping – forcing people into shelters?

Geertien Pols, Centrum voor Dienstverlening Rotterdam, The Netherlands

The perspective of police services in tackling rough sleeping in Paris

Commandant Jean-François MOLAS, Brigade d'Assistance aux Personns Sans-Abri (BAPSA), France

Reaching out to the “hidden” rough sleepers in Budapest

Ferenc Matlári, Menhely Foundation, Hungary

Discussion

11.15-11.30 Coffee/tea

11.30-13.00 Session 2: Local strategies to address homelessness in private spaces

The relationship between domestic violence and homelessness

Michaela Gosch, Frauenhaus, Graz, Austria

Homelessness and housing needs assessments

Andrew Waugh, Former advisor to Scottish Government, UK

Cooperation agreements between prisons and local authorities to reduce homelessness

Kristin Tandberg, Correctional Services Eastern Norway and Gro Månsson, Drammen prison, Norway

Discussion

13.00-14.30 Lunch

14.30-16.00 Session 3: European dimensions of local homeless strategies

European cities and regions preparing official opinion on combating homelessness

Tore Hult, Member of the Committee of the Regions

HABITACT – European exchange forum on local homeless strategies

Nienke Boesveldt, Amsterdam city council and Emmanuel Cornelius, Esch-sur-Alzette city council

EU law and its implications for migrant workers who become vulnerable to homelessness

Herwig Verschueren, University of Antwerp, Belgium

Discussion

16.00-17.00 Drinks reception

report



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PROGRESS**

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- providing analysis and policy advice on employment, social solidarity and gender equality policy areas;
- monitoring and reporting on the implementation of EU legislation and policies in employment, social solidarity and gender equality policy areas;
- promoting policy transfer, learning and support among Member States on EU objectives and priorities; and
- relaying the views of the stakeholders and society at large.

For more information see:

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=327>

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