

Press Conference

Brussels, 9th July 2020

Ending homelessness - it can be done!

The Foundation Abbé Pierre and FEANTSA launch their Fifth Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe

Press Conference on Wednesday 22nd July 11.00 AM CET

- **Official Launch of the report on Thursday 23rd July, 9.30 AM – 11.00 AM CET**

The ongoing health crisis has meant that a significant proportion of the 700,000 homeless people across the European Union have been provided with shelter by public authorities during the pandemic. The decisions that were taken and the means allocated serve as proof that eradicating homelessness in Europe is a real possibility. We now have a **unique opportunity to avoid a return to the status quo** with its alarming repetition of failed policies and to adopt long-term action plans to end to homelessness once and for all.

In their Fifth Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe, the Foundation Abbé Pierre and FEANTSA portray the individuals facing homelessness and housing exclusion throughout Europe while looking back at the impact of COVID-19 on the most vulnerable among us.

Also included in the report are grassroots surveys on the reception and accommodation conditions of people seeking asylum and beneficiaries of international protection.

This Fifth Overview of Housing Exclusion provides guidelines for an EU-wide policy to eradicate homelessness, which would make access to dignified, adequate and affordable housing a top priority Europe-wide as well as at a national and local level.

The report will be **launched on 23 July 2020** with both organisations holding a **joint press conference the day before**.

Press Conference on Wednesday 22nd July 11.00 AM CET on Zoom

Registrations at <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlqd-2trzsGNOJfuUp9PWSy9Y4rF6TtUBc>

Please find attached a Zoom user guide.

In attendance:

Freek Spinnewijn, FEANTSA Director

Manuel Domergue, Director of Studies at the Foundation Abbé Pierre

Chloé Serme-Morin (FEANTSA) and **Sarah Coupechoux** (FAP), Coordinators of The Fifth Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe

*The report and press kit are available upon request, **under embargo until Thursday, 23 July at 6.00 AM CET.***

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About FEANTSA :

FEANTSA is the European Federation of National Organisations Working with the Homeless. With over 100 members, we are the only European NGO focusing exclusively on homelessness. FEANTSA has consultative status at the Council of Europe and the United Nations.

About Foundation Abbé Pierre:

Foundation Abbé Pierre is a major actor in the fight against homelessness and housing exclusion in France and advocates for a more just and human-centered society. The Foundation was established by Henri Grouès, known as "L'Abbé Pierre" and supports almost 900 projects annually both in France and internationally.

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