

# Affordable Housing is on the EU agenda

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Coordinators' & Action Leaders' Meeting

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# Housing in the European Union

- **The Action Plan of the Housing Partnership**
  - Adopted at the last Partnership meeting in December 2018 in Vienna
  - Endorsed by the Ministers for Urban Affairs in June 2019 in Bukarest
  - Referred to by reports and opinions of the European Committee of the Regions (2017), European Social and Economic Committee (2019) and European Parliament (2021)
  - Member States level: Housing mentioned as central element of the New Leipzig Charter (2020)
  - Noted on UN-level at UNECE HLM meetings and UN Forum of Mayors
- **A crisis-proof Action Plan**
  - Corona pandemic reinforced many of the suggested policy recommendations

# Better regulation

- **Goal: De-blocking investment for affordable housing**
  - HP proposes change in EU state aid as narrow definition of target group for social housing is contradicting principle of subsidiarity
  - DG COMP launched a consultation and an evaluation of SGEI/EU state aid in 2021
  - Action Leaders of the HP sent letter with their contribution to this to VP Vestager
- **Window of opportunity - Challenge**
  - Corona crisis management allowed for more favourable conditions with regard to state aid – is this here to stay as a principle?

# Better funding and financing

- **Goal: Diverse and protective housing systems**
  - HP suggests to improve uptake of EU funding and financing by cities and changes in the European Semester to respond to housing needs
  - Commission launched EU renovation wave with an Affordable Housing Initiative, the New European Bauhaus Movement and suggestions to combat homelessness and energy poverty
  - EIB works to include housing in the Sustainability Awareness Bonds
- **Window of opportunity - challenge**
  - MFF and RRF could allow for better EU funding – but there is little involvement of cities in the NRPs

# Better knowledge and governance

- **Goal: A more evidence-based housing policy on EU-level**
  - HP proposes more exchange, capacity building, better subnational data and a sound monitoring system
  - UIA and URBACT, JRC, EIGE and HP Action Leaders contribute to more knowledge on housing – Eurocities pledges, HE State of Housing report, IUT body of work on tenants' rights
  - DE-EU produced study on housing in EU 27, PT-EU organised conference on housing in the EU
- **Window of opportunity - challenge**
  - Social Scoreboard to link housing to the European Semester, Commission to engender its database on energy poverty.

# Come and visit the UAEU Housing Partnership!

**News, events, papers, statements:**

<https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/housing>

**Action Plan:**

<https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/urban-agenda/housing/action-plan/housing-partnership-action-plan>

[https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/system/files/ged/final\\_action\\_plan\\_euua\\_housing\\_partnership\\_december\\_2018\\_1.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/system/files/ged/final_action_plan_euua_housing_partnership_december_2018_1.pdf)

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