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## EUROPEAN POLICY EVENT:

## The Homeless Person First

EMERGENCY SERVICES and REHABILITATION SUPPORTS promoting  
accessibility - improving equality - strengthening networks

Thursday 18th April 2024

European Parliament

60 rue Wiertz, B-1047 - Bruxelles

With the support of the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union



- 09:00** Registration
- 09:30** Welcome address by  
**Cindy Franssen** (PPE) and **Mercedes Bresso** (S&D),  
co-chairs of the Intergroup on the fight against  
poverty at the European Parliament
- 09:45** Person First Project
- Background and introduction  
**Luigi Leonori**, coordinator of Person First  
project
  - Key findings from the Person First project  
**Ides Nicaise, Eveline Teppers**, HIVA –  
KULeuven
- 10:45** - Coffee break
- 11:00** Round Table
- The European Platform on Combating  
Homelessness (EPOCH): achievements and  
challenges  
**Yves Leterme**
  - European Federation of National Organisations  
Working with the Homeless (FEANTSA)
  - Mental Health Europe (MHE)
  - European Anti-Poverty Network (EAPN)
  - Platform for International Cooperation on  
Undocumented Migrants (PICUM)
- 12:10** Conclusion  
**Luigi Leonori, Ides Nicaise,**  
**Yves Leterme**

The project aims at creating a strategic partnership for vocational education and training of professionals working with homeless and refugees, with a special focus on the most deprived and severely mentally ill.

It will try to identify pathways that improve professionals' abilities to listen to - and understand - their voice and needs, and to design and propose more adequate responses that foster their physical and mental wellbeing as well as their dignity and access to rights.

#### FROM ASSISTANCE TO PARTICIPATION

To identify models and good practices to facilitate access of homeless people to services and to enable social and health workers of public and private services to meet homeless people wherever they are.

The project PERSON FIRST targets in particular those workers who are working with people living on the margins, with complex social and health problems and needs.

Homelessness is a symptom of structural dysfunction in society. When a person has lost everything, there is no more than the body to cry and the street to get lost. Homeless people live in conditions of severe chronic social, physical and mental precariousness. Their predicament calls into question our democracy when so many citizens are denied their fundamental rights. Homelessness is a provocation and a challenge, not only for those who work directly with homeless people but all layers of society.



[Click here to access the registration form](#) or scan the QR Code

Online participation possible

