

Poverty and Inequality in Societies of Human Rights → the paradox of democracies

CONFERENCE
THURSDAY 21
FRIDAY 22
FEBRUARY 2013
PROSPECTIVE WORKSHOPS
SATURDAY 23
COUNCIL OF EUROPE
STRASBOURG



<http://rights-poverty.eu/conference>

Poverty, precarity and inequalities are on the rise in European countries. These phenomena not only weaken the Social Cohesion of European societies but they also violate Human Rights and question the functioning of democracy. How can people living in poverty make their voices heard in polarised societies?

To be effective, the fight against poverty and inequalities must take into account the relationships and inter-dependencies that exist in society in order to facilitate the sharing of social responsibilities and guarantee equal access to material and immaterial resources whilst, at the same time, avoiding the wasting of resources and ensuring the well-being of all.

The Conference, jointly organised by the European Union and the Council of Europe, intends to formulate a renewed approach to combat poverty. The event is the culmination of two years of reflection conducted in the framework of the Project “Human Rights of people experiencing poverty.” The results of this work will be developed in two Council of Europe publications, which will be the basis for the conference: a guide *Living in dignity in the XXIst century*; and the number 25 of the series *Trends in Social Cohesion*.

Hundreds of actors from different backgrounds will gather in Strasbourg to discuss these societal problems and reflect on possible actions to fight poverty and inequalities.

OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE

Analyze the current situation and identify problems and obstacles in the fight against poverty and inequalities, such as the limits of legal and democratic mechanisms, changes in redistribution policies, etc. ;
Formulate concrete proposals to progress in the fight against poverty whilst taking into account the need to include the voice of each person in order to better utilize and share resources;
Exchange and share experiences, knowledge and practices to implement innovative actions to fight against poverty and inequalities, based on the concepts of common goods, shared responsibilities and avoidance of wasted resources.

VENUE Council of Europe

Strasbourg
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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
<http://rights-poverty.eu/conference>

HOTELS AND TRANSPORTATION

Within the limits of available resources, the costs will be covered by the organizers.

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THURSDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2013	
8:30 • 12:30	PLENARY SESSION
8:30 • 9:00	Welcome Coffee and Registration
9:00 • 9:15	Opening remarks Secretary General or Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe
9:15 • 9:45	The Convention of the Platform against Poverty and Social Exclusion László Andor, Commissioner, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion
9:45 • 11:45	Combating Poverty or Inequalities? Introduction Gilda Farrell, Council of Europe Emma Toledano, European Commission Speakers Magdalena Ségulveda, UN Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights Claudia Menne, European Trade Union Confederation Guy Standing, University of Bath, United Kingdom Luciano Gallino, University of Turin, Italy Peter Kenway, New Policy Institute, United Kingdom Moderator Emilio Santoro, University of Florence, Italy
Coffee break 15 mn	
12:00 • 12:30	Renewed strategies to combat poverty and inequalities: Presentation of the Guide Speaker Alessandra Sciarba, University of Palermo, Italy
Lunch break 1 h 30	

THURSDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2013	
14:00 • 16:15	3 PARALLEL WORKSHOPS
1	How should Human Rights be implemented to protect people from poverty? Speakers David Joyce, European Roma Rights Centre Johannes Gerds, Consultant to the Council of Europe André Gachet, FEANTSA, France Renzo Segala, Avvocato di Strada, Italy Philippe de Craene, Front Commun SDF, Belgium, and European Union of Homeless. Moderator Diane Roman, University of François Rabelais, Tours, France
2	How can the voices of people experiencing poverty influence democratic processes? Speakers Ternura Rojas, Indignados Movement activist, Spain Ilona Tomova, Institute for Population and Human Research, Bulgaria Rune Herlin Kamstrup, Council of Marginalized People, Denmark ATD-Quart Monde* Esther Gatera, All African Women's Group, United Kingdom Christel Amis, Black Women's Rape Action Project, United Kingdom Moderator Dirk Berg-Schlosser, Philipps University Marburg, Germany
3	Who pays and who benefits from the crisis? Speakers Cédric Rio, Inequality Watch Christina Samartzis, Médecins du Monde, Greece Andrij Waskowycz, Caritas, Ukraine Renato Carmo, Universidade Técnica de Lisboa, Portugal Adeline Otto, Solidair Moderator Faiza Shaheen, New Economics Foundation, United Kingdom
Coffee break 15 mn	
16:30 • 17:30	PLENARY SESSION
Speakers	Mobilising resources at local level: SPIRAL Methodology Persons engaged in setting action plans at local level in the cities of <i>Mulhouse</i> in France, <i>Kavala</i> in Greece, <i>Charleroi</i> in Belgium, <i>Timisoara</i> in Romania and <i>Covilha</i> in Portugal.
Moderator	Samuel Thirion, Council of Europe

* Participation to be confirmed

FRIDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2013	
9:00 • 10:30	PLENARY SESSION
Introduction	New Strategies to Fight Poverty and Inequality Guðbjartur Hannesson, Minister of Welfare, Iceland* Andrej Hunko, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
Speakers	Talley Hoban, Dumpster diver, Germany Ugo Mattei, International University College of Turin, Italy Louise Haag, Basic Income Earth Network, University of York, United Kingdom Jacob Von Uexkull, World Future Council, Sweden
Moderator	Laurent Bonelli, University Paris-Ouest-Nanterre, France
Coffee break 15 mn	
10:45 • 13:00	3 PARALLEL WORKSHOPS
1	Basic income and access to financial resources Speakers Tax Justice Network Bernard Bayot, Réseau Financement Alternatif and European Financial Inclusion Network Roberto Musacchio, Altramente and former European Parliament member, Italy Jean-Paul Brasseur, Vivant-Europe, Belgium Expert on minimum wages Moderator Yannick Vanderborght, University of Saint-Louis, Belgium
2	Common pooling of resources and shared responsibilities Intervenants Philippe Grainger Rushey, Green Time Bank, United Kingdom Association Lafayette Accueil, Project The Roof garden, France* Ingrid Schütt, Noppes, Local Exchange Trading System, Netherlands Ana Mendez, Observatorio Metropolitano, Spain Thomas Dawance, Community Land Trust, Belgium Moderator Tommaso Fattori, Movimento acqua bene comune, Italy
3	Avoiding waste and making resources accessible Speakers Jean Rousseau, Emmaus International James Wallbank, Access-space and Edgeryders, United Kingdom Andrea Sesta and Daniela Galvani, [im]possible living, Italy Mariani Papanikolaou, Kinisi, Greece / Pharmacists network of Kavala, Greece* Moderator Maria Jeliakova, EAPN, Bulgarie
Lunch break 1 h 30	

* Participation to be confirmed

FRIDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2013	
14:30 • 16:30	PLENARY SESSION
14:30 • 15:15	Workshops outcomes: Proposals for the future moderators of workshops
15:15 • 16:00	Approaching the Future with a New Perspective Speakers Jean Lambert, EU Parliamentarian Luis Jimena Quesada, European Committee of Social Rights Fintan Farrell, EAPN Isabelle Perrin, Mouvement International ATD-Quart Monde Anna Coote, New Economic Foundation, United Kingdom Moderator Gilda Farrell, Council of Europe
16:00 • 16:30	Commitments to action Speakers Snežana Samardžić-Marković, Director General of Democracy, Council of Europe Rita Skrebiškiene, President of the European Committee for Social Cohesion, Council of Europe Chairman of the Social Protection Committee, European Commission*
SATURDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2013	
EXCHANGE AROUND CONCRETE ACTIONS	
9:00 • 16:00	Sharing resources and knowledge to fight poverty (register in a separate form) Workday around the Project to Fight Poverty in European Cities, using the approaches developed by the Council of Europe: Edgeryders and SPIRAL. It will be dedicated to deepen the reflection and methods to innovate in the design of actions and the use of local resources in the fight against poverty. It will be based on the experiences of young creators and other innovative on-going actions.