

Warsaw
22-24 October



EUROCITIES Social Affairs forum

‘Inclusive Cities: Ensuring social inclusion & well-being for all ages’



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Short overview of the meeting:

Tuesday 22 October	morning	Arrival
	afternoon	Steering committee meeting Optional city tours/Copernicus Science Centre
	late afternoon	Interactive session for newcomers and partner search for joint projects
	evening	<i>Informal dinner (at own cost)</i>
Wednesday 23 October	morning	Official opening and keynote interventions
	late morning	Announcement of new city pledges and EUROCITIES vision on social Europe
	afternoon	<i>Lunch with exhibition of social projects by local partners</i>
	afternoon	Speed-networking Private political discussion for elected city politicians
	late afternoon	Site visits
Thursday 24 October	evening	<i>Official dinner</i>
	before lunch	Plenary session with presentation of results from workshops
	before lunch	SAF business meeting and closing of the meeting
	afternoon	Steering committee meeting WG Smart Social Inclusion WG Urban Ageing URBACT City Lab

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Background

Our Social Affairs Forum strategy for 2019-2020 adopts a life-cycle approach to ensure that the needs and interests of all people in our cities are well taken care of at any age or stage of their life. This involves children having sufficient places in nurseries and schools, young people getting support to move from education or training to work, working-age adults being prepared to face changes in the world of work, all people even those inactive having a roof over their heads, elderly people being helped to fully participate in the community and everyone feeling welcome regardless of their origin. Through our EUROCIITIES initiative '[Inclusivcities4all: Social Rights in My City](#)', we aim to build an inclusive Europe with inclusive cities for all people at all ages. To achieve this ambitious goal, we work towards implementing the principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights at local level.

Objectives

The aim of this EUROCIITIES Social Affairs Forum (SAF) is to build capacity of city authorities, at political and technical level, to learn, share and co-create innovative policies for social inclusion and well-being for all ages. The focus is on identifying what works to improve the quality of life of the age groups most at risk of exclusion and hardest hit by increasing inequality - **children, young people and the elderly**. Therefore, we will concentrate on the role of cities in implementing the European Pillar of Social Rights principles **11 childcare and support to children, 16 healthcare and 18 long-term care**.

Ensuring a good start in life for all children and young people

One in four children in the EU live at risk of poverty (26.9%), making children the age group at the highest poverty risk in most EU countries. Children growing up in poverty are less likely to do well in school, enjoy good health and realise their full potential in life. They are at a higher risk of becoming unemployed, poor and socially excluded. Early intervention in child development especially in the first 18 months of life is vital to break the vicious cycle of poverty and prevent inequality of opportunities.

There are currently over 32 million children below the age of compulsory education in the EU, but only about 15 million have access to early childcare. This is due to the limited availability, affordability or accessibility of early childcare services in many areas, which disproportionately affects children from poor and migrant background families. In most countries, spending on early childhood education and care remains lower than other education levels despite the returns on investment being much higher.

Principle 11 of the European Pillar of Social Rights proclaims the right to affordable early childhood education and care of good quality for all children as well as children's right to protection from poverty. Children from disadvantaged backgrounds have the right to specific measures to enhance equal opportunities. Ending poverty in all its forms is also the **UN Sustainable Development Goal 1**.

Most European cities have some competences in early childcare provision. By investing in this sector to increase the number of places and make childcare more affordable, cities can address inequalities faced by disadvantaged children while positively impacting parents' labour market participation.

So far, **five cities** ([Leeds](#), [Lyon](#), [Madrid](#), [Timisoara](#) and [Warsaw](#)) signed pledges to deliver principle 11 of the European Pillar of Social Rights. Their combined investment in early childcare is **€152 million**. For example, **Warsaw** committed to invest over €71.5 million to increase by 15% the number of children under 3 years of age attending childcare by 2023. To achieve this, Warsaw made childcare free of charge in 2019 paying for a place in private childcare if no place is available in public childcare. Warsaw is building 36 new municipal creches with 5,000 extra places (in addition to the existing 64 creches and 12 mini creches with 7,389 places) and buying approx. 4,000 - 6,200 places in non-public creches.

Delivering accessible and age-friendly services

Europe is ‘turning grey’ and the demographic change is felt in our cities more than anywhere else. In 2017, nearly one in five people in the EU (19%) were aged 65 and more. The share of people aged 80 years or older will more than double by 2080 to reach 13% of the whole EU population. The 2018 Ageing Report shows that the working-age population will decline from 65% to 56%, and for every person aged over 65 years the number of people working will decrease from 3.3 to 2 persons. This does not only put pressure on the pension systems, but also on the long-term care services available at local level.

Ageing society requires that cities adapt their infrastructure and services to make them more accessible to the elderly. Cities are already developing age-friendly strategies, experimenting new (digital) tools and tailoring care services to meet the needs of the elderly. Incentives to continue participating fully in society are increasingly offered with a focus on inter-generational cohesion between young and old.

Principle 16 of the European Pillar of Social Rights proclaims the right for everyone to timely access affordable, preventive and curative health care of good quality. **Principle 18** goes further by asserting that everyone has the right to affordable long-term care services of good quality, in particular home-care and community-based services. Ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages is **goal 3 of the UN Sustainable Development Goals for 2030**.

So far, **three cities** signed pledges to deliver principles 16 and 18 of the European Pillar of Social Rights. [Ljubljana](#) committed to invest **€29 million** in 2018-2022 to renovate health centres and purchase high-quality healthcare equipment to provide optimal access to primary healthcare services in 11 locations in the city with over 2.7 million patient visits a year. [Braga](#) and [Timisoara](#) committed to improve access to high-quality long-term care in their cities, their combined investment amounting to **€14.5 million**.

Key questions

- How can cities promote healthy lives and well-being for all people at all ages?
- What (more) can cities do to ensure a good start in life for all children and young people?
- How can cities ensure equal access to healthcare and social care services for at-risk age groups?
- Which new solutions for age-friendly services can cities use to adapt to demographic change?

Format

Through a mix of panel debates, workshops, site visits, speed-networking sessions and a political side event, city authorities will:

- reflect how to implement principles 11, 16 and 18 of the European Pillar of Social Rights locally
- share innovative city initiatives in childcare, elderly care and age-friendly services
- co-create new solutions to tackle concrete city challenges related to unequal access to care services
- learn how to transfer and upscale lessons from ESF-funded projects in Warsaw and other cities
- find inspiration for your project proposal for the 5th call of UIA on the topic of demographic change
- set the strategic direction on how to work with the EU institutions on social policies in 2019-2024

Expected outcomes

- Announce **new city pledges** to implement the principles of the EU Pillar of Social Rights at local level
- Present **EUROCITIES vision on the future of social Europe** from the perspective of cities
- At least **5 cities**, whose pressing social challenges are explored in-depth in workshops, will benefit from new ideas for actionable solutions that can lead to piloting new projects (e.g. 5th UIA call)
- **120 participants** from 50 cities will gain new know-how, skills and inspiration from exchanging their innovative policies on how to promote well-being at all ages and ensure equal access to care services

Tuesday, 22 October

Venue: Centrum Nauki Kopernik (Copernicus Science Centre)
20 Wybrzeże Kościuszkowskie st.,
00-390 Warsaw

- 11.00 - 16.00 Optional
- city tours
 - Copernicus Science Centre
 - First day of REHA Conference: 'Modern education and ophthalmology, giving back hope for the future'. Find more [here](#)

14.30 - 16.00 **Steering Committee meeting** (NB: only for members of the Steering Committee)

16.30 - 18.00 **Interactive session for newcomers**

This session is for new members of the social affairs forum (SAF) and city representatives attending the SAF meeting for the first time as well as members that wish to benefit from a first networking moment. It will give an overview of our forum priorities and working areas as well as an opportunity to find partner cities to develop joint EU projects.

19.30 **Informal dinner (at own expense)**

Venue: Hala Koszyki, Koszykowa 63, 1st floor

Wednesday, 23 October

Venue: Centrum Nauki Kopernik (Copernicus Science Centre)
20 Wybrzeże Kościuszkowskie st.,
00-390 Warsaw

8.30 - 9.00 Registration and welcome coffee

9.00 - 9.30 **Official welcome by**

- Rafał Trzaskowski, Mayor of Warsaw
- Maarten van Ooijen, Deputy Mayor of Utrecht and vice-chair of SAF

09.30 - 10.00 **Keynote intervention**

Live interviews with beneficiaries of municipal social policies sharing their life stories

- Pani Maria Janicka - beneficiary of Z@opiekowani ESF project
- Pan Adam Borowicz- beneficiary of City Digital Education project
- Young beneficiary of ESF projects (TBC)

10.00 - 11.00 **Announcement of new city pledges 'Inclusivecities4all: Social Rights in My City'**

Cities that signed pledges to implement the European Pillar of Social Rights are invited to present their pledges to the Social Affairs Forum and invited EU stakeholders. Priority will be given to announcing 'new' city pledges (signed after February 2019) with a focus on principles 11 childcare and support to children, 16 healthcare and 18 long-term care.

The new city pledges will be handed over to the present MEP and Commission official in a ceremonial moment, followed by an official photo session.

11.00 - 12.30 **Presentation of EUROCITIES vision on future of social Europe**

- **Maarten van Ooijen**, Deputy Mayor of Utrecht and vice-chair of SAF

Reactions by:

- **Jan Olbrycht**, MEP, President of the Urban Intergroup (TBC)
- **Krista Kiuru**, Minister of Family Affairs and Social Services of Finland (TBC)
- **Katarina Ivanković-Knežević**, Director for Social Affairs, DG EMPL, European Commission (TBC)
- **Tadeusz Truskolaski**, President of the Union of Polish Metropolises (TBC)

Discussion / Q&A with audience

Moderator: TBC

12.30 - 14.00 **Lunch (preceded by family photo) & exhibition of local projects for social inclusion**

During lunch, participants will have the opportunity to visit the stands of invited local partners (municipal services, social enterprises, NGOs, foundations, citizens' initiatives) to learn about successful municipal initiatives for social inclusion and well-being for all ages, especially children, elderly and people with disabilities, in Warsaw.

14.00 - 15.30 **Speed-networking of innovative city initiatives for inclusion & well-being at all ages**

Format: worldcafé with two rounds of 40 minutes

During this session, participants will have the opportunity to learn about innovative city initiatives to deliver optimal access to care services, in particular childcare, healthcare and long-term care. Priority will be given to municipal strategies for accessible and age-friendly cities, new approaches to integrate social and healthcare services, lessons from ESF-funded projects and urban projects experimenting new (digital) tools in care services.

City project 1	To be selected based on open call
City project 2	To be selected based on open call
City project 3	To be selected based on open call
City project 4	To be selected based on open call
City project 5	To be selected based on open call
City project 6	To be selected based on open call
City project 7	To be selected based on open call
City project 8	To be selected based on open call
City project 9	To be selected based on open call
City project 10	To be selected based on open call

OPEN TO EUROCITIES POLITICIANS ONLY

14.00 - 15.30 **Private political discussion for elected city politicians - by invitation only**

Suggested topic: 'How should EUROCITIES and SAF cities engage with the new MEPs and the new European Commission to feed-in the EU social agenda for 2019-2024?'

15.30 - 17.30 **Parallel site visits**

Site visits will offer participants the opportunity to discover and learn from Warsaw's innovative social policies and projects in the area of childcare, elderly and long-term care as well as accessibility for people with disabilities, funded by the city and/or ESF.

Political site visit 1

Revitalization programme

An intergenerational tenement house (Stalowa Street 29)

The tenement house is a large part of an intergenerational project, designed as a space for youngsters as well as for older people. It uses co-housing for the social integration of tenants and social bonds to increase the security.

Museum of Polish Vodka (pl. Konesera 1)

As an example of revitalization process, is an extremely atmospheric place and an important point on the cultural and business map of Warsaw.

Site visit 2

Maturity well designed - bringing together people of all generations in one place

Intergenerational Activity Centre in Warsaw (CAM - Nowolipie 25B Street)

The centre was developed under the European project "Innovation for Active Ageing" and it has been designed as an innovative institution which provides senior citizens with a unique programme of informational and integration services. One of its goals is to bring non-NGO senior leaders together in order to activate and engage them in local NGOs' activities.

House of Daily Stay for Veterans - Soldiers of the Warsaw Uprising (Nowolipie 22 street)

The aim of the facility is to provide support to Warsaw Uprising veterans by offering warm meals and easier access to rehabilitation, gymnastics, psychological therapy or the possibility. It also creates social-cultural opportunities like artistic events, bridge games or various integration workshops which are open to all citizens.

Site visit 3

New technologies in care services

Social Welfare Home (Syreny 26 Street)

Project "Construction and implementation of an integrated care support system based on ICT tools in the Warsaw Function Area (E-Opieka)" is co-financed from the European Regional Development Fund. The main objective of the project is to improve the quality of life of people using the care services provided by Warsaw Functional Area, through the construction and implementation of a support system based on information and communication technology tools in the place of residence and social welfare homes.

Site visit 4

Accessible Warsaw

Invisible Exhibition (Millenium Plaza building - Aleje Jerozolimskie 123a)

The exhibition is designed to raise awareness for an inclusive society, by offering a visual imparity real-life experience to people. The visit is designed as a blind- guided tour. After the visit, the city of Warsaw will present the city's 'urban accessibility standards for people with disabilities'.

Site visit 5

Childcare - comprehensive urban solutions and development strategy

Private and Urban Nurseries with the City Unit responsible for managing nurseries (Private nursery Tyniecka 54 street, public nursery Spartańska 2 Street)

The site visit will present Warsaw's strategy on childcare and the lessons learnt during the implementation of the policy in the area of childcare for children under 3 years. Also, it will include the lesson learnt from the ESF funded projects that the city has implemented.

Site visit 6

Support to single mothers

Single Mothers Centre City (Chlubna 9A-9D)

The facility provides shelter and 24 hours support for women with children and pregnant women in vulnerable situation. The support is tailored to the individual needs of the beneficiaries who use the services in individual and group format, including social work, legal and psychological counselling, pedagogical and career guidance, support groups, parental education workshops, general development and socio-therapeutic activities for children.

Site visit 7 Day-care facilities for youth and children

Family Support Centre "Rodzina Warszawa" (Stara 4 street.)

The family support centre runs day care facilities for children aged 6 to 18 and provides support services for parents to improve the performance of care and education tasks, by offering a variety of events, workshops and training. The Centre also runs FabLabs which are places, where citizens of Warsaw are able to develop their interests in music (musical instruments, a rehearsal space, and recording studio), carpentry and journalism (TV studio with a special equipment to make movies and documentaries).

19.30 Official dinner hosted by the city of Warsaw

Venue: Villa Foksal (Foksal 3/5 Street)

Thursday, 24 October

Venue: Centrum Nauki Kopernik (Copernicus Science Centre)

20 Wybrzeże Kościuszkowskie st.,

00-390 Warsaw

08.30 - 09.00 Registration and welcome coffee

09.00 -11.00 **CO-CREATION workshops on real case scenarios of city challenges**

Participants will work together in parallel workshops to co-design possible solutions to real cases of complex social challenges in cities, with a focus on child poverty, unequal access to care services and adapting to demographic change. Each city challenge will be presented, discussed and explored through situation-based group work. By the end of the workshop, participants will formulate **actionable solutions** to address the given city challenge. The experts from the city concerned by the challenge will give their feedback on which actions they take back home and consider to pilot into new policies or projects.

Workshop 1 **City challenge 1:** to be selected based on open call

Workshop 2 **City challenge 2:** to be selected based on open call

Workshop 3 **City challenge 3:** to be selected based on open call

Workshop 4 **City challenge 4:** to be selected based on open call

Workshop 5 **City challenge 5:** to be selected based on open call

11.00 - 11.30 **Presentation of results from workshops in plenary**

11.30 - 12.30 **SAF business meeting**

- **Working with the new European Parliament and European Commission**
 - political breakfast with the new EU Commissioner for Social Affairs
- **Update on key EU policy developments related to social affairs**
 - European Pillar of Social Rights
 - European Social Fund+
 - Urban Agenda for the EU and Leipzig Charter 2.0
- **Future of EURO CITIES**
 - Strategic framework for 2020-2025
 - Next steps and Forum meetings in 2020
- **Announcement of the SAF host city in June 2020**

12.30 - 13.00 Final remarks and closing of the meeting

- Pawel Rabiej, Deputy Mayor of Warsaw
- Maarten van Ooijen, Deputy Mayor of Utrecht and vice-chair of SAF

13.00 - 14.00 Lunch

14.00 - 15.30 Steering committee meeting (NB: only for members of Steering Committee)

14.00 - 18.00 Joint study visit of the WG Education and WG Employment (for members only)
Venue: Kłobucka 14 Street (Ognisko Ursynów)

Lessons learnt from ESF projects

- ‘Ognisko plus’ which provides individual and comprehensive support to 265 young people aged 6-18, at risk of social exclusion, that are experiencing difficulties in performing care and educational functions.
- ‘A better start in Ursynów (district of Warsaw)’ offers socio-therapeutic support and educational and street working classes for 60 young people aged 6-18.
- ‘Support on start’ aims at offering a comprehensive support to young people, combining personal development with professional activation and raising the qualifications, so that they become competent employees and happy and fulfilled people.

Registration link [here](#).

14.00 - 18.00 Meeting of the WG Smart Social Inclusion (for members only)
Venue: Social Welfare Home (Syreny 26 Street)

Presentation of the social services reform in Warsaw

- The Social Services Centre ‘Social Warsaw’ is a new city unit which aims at modernising the system of home care services for the elderly and people with disabilities in Warsaw, which is responsible for development of common service standards for the entire city. The standards were the basis for announcing tenders - social clauses were used and the criteria for selection of contractors were unified - identical for all 18 districts of Warsaw.
- ERDF project "Construction and implementation of an integrated care support system based on ICT tools in the Warsaw Function Area (E-Care)". The project aims at improving the quality of life of people using care services provided through a support system for these services, based on information and communication technology tools.

Registration link [here](#).

14.00 - 18.00 Study visit of the WG Urban Ageing (for members only)
Venue: TBC

Presentation of social and digital integration of older people

- ‘An intergenerational tenement house’ is part of a large intergenerational project, designed as a space for intergenerational connection for youngsters and older people.
- Warsaw’s E senior - It is a comprehensive programme of activities preventing the digital exclusion of seniors and supporting their social activity.

Facilitated by Albin Bostrom. Registration link [here](#).

14.00-18.00 URBACT City Lab on integrated policies (open to all participants)

24 October

The third URBACT City Lab is focusing on the principle of integration and it is linked to the policy themes of the SAF. It will also look at how cities are effectively implementing an integrated approach in their policy work. The format is dynamic and interactive focusing on:

**09.00-18.00
25 October**

- 24 October - policy issues and challenge;*
- 25 October - an exploration of effective city practices;*
 - deep dive into one Warsaw integrated approach projects.*

The detailed programme and a registration link will be available in early September, but if you would like to express initial interest in attending, please email communication@urbact.eu



This event has received financial support from the European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation "EaSI" (2014-2020). For further information, please consult: <http://ec.europa.eu/social/easi>