



## Social Affairs Forum Policy update for May - mid-July 2020

### 1. Key EU policy developments

#### Start of German Presidency

Germany took over the EU Council presidency under the motto ‘Together for Europe’s recovery’ on 1 July until the end of December 2020. Having originally mapped out an ambitious programme for the next six months, the COVID-19 pandemic has forced Germany to refocus its priorities on crisis management. The pressure is on Germany to steer Europe out of the pandemic into the recovery phase. Priorities include reaching agreement on the EU’s next seven-year budget (2021-2027), which includes the proposed €750 billion recovery fund. Another milestone will be seeking agreement on the EU-UK future relationship post-Brexit. The presidency will also be a key momentum for updating the Leipzig Charter on Sustainable European Cities (2007).

The German Presidency is committed to strengthen the social dimension of Europe and improve social cohesion to mitigate the negative socio-economic impacts of the corona crisis. [The German Presidency programme](#) states clearly: “Our objective, in the context of the implementation the European Pillar of Social Rights, is to reduce inequality within the EU, mitigate disturbances in labour markets owing to external shocks and improve social protection”. The priorities for social policy are:

- Review of SURE Proposal
- Support discussions for an EU framework for minimum wages
- Develop a framework for national minimum income protection systems in the EU Member States
- Support the new Gender Equality Strategy
- Strengthen the Youth Guarantee

Germany will also kick off the new Trio Presidency of Germany-Portugal-Slovenia. Building a fair and social Europe is on top of the priorities of the Trio Presidency programme as the three Presidencies affirmed that they are convinced of the strengths of the European Social Model and believe that further progress can still be achieved in the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights.

#### EU’s new proposal for MFF and Recovery Plan

The European Commission put forward its new [proposal](#) for the next long-term budget and a recovery plan for the EU on 27 May. With the plan, the Commission wants to kick start the European economy, boost the green and digital transitions, and make the EU fairer, more resilient and more sustainable for future generations. Through a radical new approach to boosting the finances of the EU budget via money raised on the financial market, the budget has significantly increased. The proposal for a new long-term budget and a recovery plan is composed of two parts:

- Next Generation EU:** An emergency European recovery instrument: **EUR 750 bn**, funded through a larger headroom with new financing raised on the financial markets. The funds raised will be channelled through EU programmes (EUR 500 bn) and via loans to member states (EUR 250 bn).
- The multiannual financial framework (MFF) for 2021 - 2027:** **EUR 1100 bn**. New tools will complement the funding programmes proposed by the Commission in 2018, some of which will be strengthened by investments via Next Generation EU.

The emergency instrument will be short-term and concentrated on the first years of recovery. It will complement the measures taken so far at EU level, including the SURE programme, the financing available from the European Investment Bank and the European Stability Mechanism.

#### Recording from our webinars on the 2021-2027 EU budget:

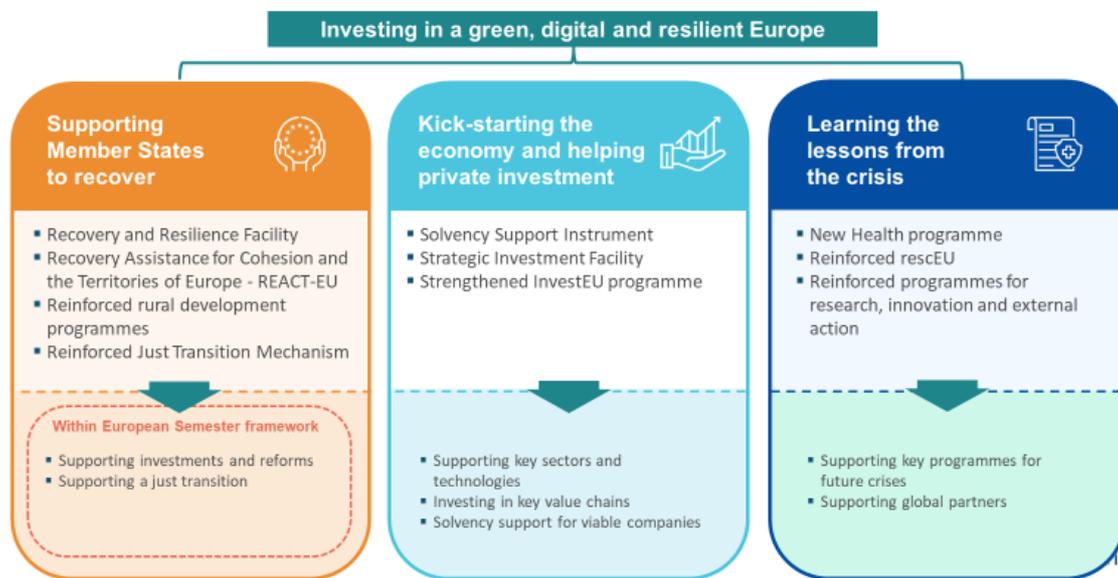
- On the overall 2021-2027 EU [budget proposal](#), you can also check our [overview document](#).
- On the European Regional Development Fund ([ERDF](#))
- On the European social fund+ ([ESF+](#))
- On Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived ([FEAD](#))



The full budget will be spent through EU programmes across three pillars:

1. **Recover and repair, coming out stronger from the crisis.** Main features include:
  - **A new Recovery and Resilience Facility** (EUR 560 bn for grants and loans) to fund key public investment and reforms aligned with the European priorities of a transition to a climate-neutral, digitalised and resilient Europe. It will be done within the European Semester. It will be available to all member states, in the euro area or not. It will be focused on those parts of the Union that have been most affected and where resilience needs are the greatest.
  - **REACT-EU** (EUR 55 bn), a cohesion policy top-up of the proposed allocation within the MFF between now and 2022. The top-up will be allocated based on the severity of the economic and social impacts of the crisis. Current operational programmes will be extended for two more years to address urgent needs and provide time to plan the new programmes. The Commission proposes for member states with unemployment level above the EU average to spend min. 15% of ESF+ to support young people and at least 5% to lift children out of poverty.
  - **The Just Transition Fund** (EUR 40 bn) to alleviate the socio-economic impacts of the transition to climate neutrality in the regions most affected. In addition, the Commission will be looking to set up a new public sector loan facility, supported by EUR 1.5 bn from the EU budget and EUR 10 bn from the European Investment Bank.
2. **Kick-start the economy and stimulate private investment.**
3. **Learning the lessons of the crisis and addressing strategic needs.** The Commission proposes a new EU4Health Programme to strengthen health security and prepare for future crises. Other programmes also get smaller top-ups, including the Asylum and Migration Fund and the Connecting Europe Facility. However, some programmes are reduced slightly compared to the 2018 proposals including Digital Europe, Erasmus+ and COSME. [Check out the overview in our latest infographic](#)

## EU budget powering recovery



### The key points under a fair and inclusive recovery for all:

- Provide €100 billion to support workers and businesses through the short-term European Unemployment Reinsurance Scheme (SURE)
- Launch a Skills Agenda for Europe and a Digital Education Action Plan
- Establish fair minimum wages to help vulnerable workers, particularly women
- Step up the fight against tax evasion to help member states generate revenue

### What's new for ESF+ 2021-2027

- The ESF+ budget has been furthermore decreased from the initial Commission proposal from 101,17 billion to 97,33 billion in current prices (2% decrease in budget)
- The Health Strand is proposed to be taken out of the ESF+ to be called EU4Health Programme



- New ring-fencing of 5% for combatting child poverty
- Youth ring-fencing is increased from 10 to 15% for Member States with high NEET rates
- A force major/emergency clause which would allow to derogate from Article 4 (scope) and Article 7 (thematic concentration)

#### **Additional funds to the EU budget 2020 already made available**

On 3 June, the Commission proposed [modifications](#) to its budget for 2020 to make €11.5 billion for recovery available already in 2020 to help the regions most in need, support businesses and those in need outside EU borders. This is a technical follow-up to the major recovery plan that the Commission put forward at the end of May (the “Next Generation EU” package and the revised 2021-2027 MFF). The draft amending budget aims to ensure that the additional € 11.5 billion for REACT-EU, the Solvency Support Instrument and the European Fund for Sustainable Development (EFSD) will be available as soon as possible this year.

#### **Additional funds under FEAD for 2020-2022**

The Commission has proposed further amendments to the FEAD Regulation in view of the growing needs on the ground to respond to COVID-19 crisis. These amendments make available for the years 2020, 2021 and 2022 additional resources for the FEAD, as part of the increased resources to cohesion policy under the EU budget 2014-2020. Under the new REACT-EU initiative, current cohesion policy programmes will be topped up between now and 2022. The additional resources will provide food and basic material assistance together with accompanying measures, or to dedicated social inclusion measures. To ensure a quick delivery, member states will receive a substantial pre-financing payment on the additional resources, and are not required to add any national co-financing. [Read more](#)

#### **State aid**

The European Commission is consulting Member States on its proposal to expand the State aid Temporary Framework to further support micro, small and start-up companies and encourage private investments. Micro and small companies have been particularly affected by the liquidity shortage caused by the economic impact of the current coronavirus outbreak, exacerbating their existing difficulties to access financing compared to medium-sized and large enterprises. If left unaddressed, these difficulties could lead to a large number of bankruptcies of micro and small companies, causing serious disturbances for the entire EU economy. The Commission is therefore now proposing to further extend the scope of the Temporary Framework by enabling Member States (i) to support certain micro and small enterprises, including start-ups that were already in difficulty before 31 December 2019, and (ii) to provide incentives for private investors to participate in coronavirus-related re-capitalisation measures. [Find out more](#)

#### **Social Europe**

##### **Commission opens public consultation on reinforcing social Europe**

The European Commission has opened a broad [public consultation on the future of social Europe](#). The consultation will gather proposals for new EU policy actions or legal initiatives. The Commission will use the inputs from the public consultation to shape the action plan for the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights, which is to be presented in early 2021 at the EU Social Summit.

##### **What is EUROCITIES doing?**

###### **1. Preparing a EUROCITIES policy paper**

We have developed a draft policy paper on building a stronger social Europe with cities, presenting concrete proposals for policy actions and arguments on how to strengthen the urban dimension of the EU social agenda. We want you to help us shape this paper to have a strong and united voice from cities into the EU public consultation.



Please send us your feedback **by 14 August** via email to [Bianca.Faragau@eurocities.eu](mailto:Bianca.Faragau@eurocities.eu) We aim to finalise the paper after summer and present it to Commissioner Schmit and Members of the European Parliament during our high-level political event online on 30 September.

## 2. Submit your contribution online

To make our voice from cities heard in this massive consultation, we also encourage our members to submit views online on the [webpage of the EU public consultation](#). Your city's contribution can be:

- A. **a pledge** - we encourage all our members that already signed pledges to the European Pillar of Social Rights to upload their city pledge also on the Commission website (simple upload button)
- B. **submit your city input for new initiatives at EU, national, regional or local level** - if your city already has a position on how to strengthen (urban dimension into) EU social policies or drive a fair or inclusive recovery in Europe, you can upload this on the webpage (simple upload)

## 3. Take part in online consultations with Commissioner Schmit

European Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights, Nicolas Schmit is doing a series of virtual consultation webinars on the future of social Europe with stakeholders in each member state. We have managed to get the Commission to open up these online consultations to cities.

**Are you interested? Send us a list of names of representatives from your city to join this online discussion with Commissioner Schmit** (ideally to consider the city mayor, deputy mayors in charge of social policies, city director for social/employment services etc.) **Deadline: 31 August 2020** via email to [Bianca.Faragau@eurocities.eu](mailto:Bianca.Faragau@eurocities.eu)

The virtual consultations are organised per member state, so several cities from the same country will join the same webinar with Commissioner Schmit. The dates will be set according to the Commissioner's agenda. [Find out more about these virtual consultations with Commissioner Schmit](#)

## European Parliament to discuss employment and social policies of the Euro Area 2020

The EMPL Committee is preparing an own-initiative report on 'Employment and social policies of the Euro Area 2020'. In her draft report, the Rapporteur Klára Dobrev (S&D, HU) expresses her concern that member states have made limited or no progress regarding six out of 10 Country Specific Recommendations addressed to them in 2019. She also draws attention to the devastating social effects of the COVID-19 crisis. [Read the draft report](#)

## Migration and integration

### Situation on the Greek islands and borders

At the beginning of July, MEPs in LIBE committee held a [debate](#) on alleged pushbacks of asylum-seekers at the Greek-Turkish border. During the debate in the European Parliament, the Greek government dismissed the accusations and highlighted Greece's role in protecting the external EU border. Ylva Johansson, Commissioner for Migration and Home Affairs, agreed that allegations of violence against asylum seekers should be investigated. She also commended Greek authorities for avoiding a spread of COVID-19 in the refugee camps on the Greek islands.

As of July, eleven member states have pledged to take in roughly 2000 of the 5000 unaccompanied children in Greece in the context of the Commission's [voluntary relocation exercise](#), with 920 pledges made by Germany, 500 made by Portugal and 350 made by France. The scheme focuses primarily on unaccompanied children and teenagers, but also includes children with severe medical conditions and other vulnerabilities and their core family members.

EUROCITIES, in the context of our Solidarity Cities Initiative, has supported cities to coordinate a [letter to the EU institutions](#), calling for the relocation of all unaccompanied minors from the islands to European cities. The letter, originally published in April, continues to draw attention and impact on the debate on solidarity and the [relocation of migrant children](#) in the EU. The city of Bruges is the most recent signatory to the letter.



EUROCITIES also received a direct response to the letter both from European Parliament President Sassoli and European Commission President von der Leyen, who stated “I can only commend the readiness and generosity of cities around Europe to receive minors from Greece and I strongly encourage you to continue conveying this message to your national authorities. Addressing this challenge requires common efforts at the national, regional and local levels and European cities play a key role in the reception and integration of migrants and persons seeking protection.” President Sassoli equally commended the primordial role of cities and their “positive role as drivers for change”.

**We keep this letter open to continue bringing together cities that support relocating refugee children from the Greek islands. If your city is interested to join this initiative, please contact [katharina.bamberg@eurocities.eu](mailto:katharina.bamberg@eurocities.eu).**

### **New avenues for legal labour migration**

The Commission’s Legal Migration Fitness check of March 2019 found the objectives of the EU’s legal migration directives still relevant to the EU’s needs, but found that it presents a [fragmented system](#) which impacts the coherence and effectiveness of the system as a whole. On that basis, the EP LIBE committee has started work on an [own-initiative report](#) on “New avenues for legal labour migration”. EUROCITIES took part in an exchange in July with the rapporteur and shadow rapporteurs to highlight the key role of cities in integrating migrants, migrants’ essential role in local economies and cities’ service provision to undocumented migrants. The European Parliament will conduct further consultations, specifically also on the complementarity of existing legal pathways and their associated work and residence permits, as well as innovative ideas for new migration schemes.

## **Employment**

### **Commission launched the Youth Employment Support initiative**

On 1 July, the European Commission launched the [Youth Employment Support](#) to provide support to employment of young people through 4 pillars of action:

1. European Commission’s proposal for a [Council Recommendation on A Bridge to Jobs - Reinforcing the Youth Guarantee](#)
2. European Commission’s proposal for a [Council Recommendation on Vocational Education and Training](#).
3. A **renewed European Alliance for Apprenticeships**.
4. Additional **measures to support youth employment** include employment and start-up incentives in the short term, and capacity building, young entrepreneur networks and inter-company training centers in the medium term.

### **European Commission’s proposal for Reinforcing the Youth Guarantee**

The proposal addresses the COVID-19 recovery, green and digital transition and has a €9 billion budget. It is designed to be more inclusive to avoid any forms of discrimination, with a wider outreach to more vulnerable groups, such as youth from ethnic minorities, young people with disabilities, or young people living in rural, remote or disadvantaged urban areas. It has a strong focus on NEETS and gender dimension. The Youth Guarantee schemes should be based on the following guidelines, which are structured around four phases which are **mapping, outreach, preparation and offer**, and organised in accordance with national, regional and **local circumstances**.

The new elements are related to **good-quality opportunities** for the sustainable integration of young people into the labour market and the **age range is now 15-29 year**. The proposal has covered many points raised by cities, especially the focus on:

- early leaving from education and training
- outreach work through ambassadors and social workers
- person-centred counselling, guidance and mentoring
- focus on NEETS
- one-stop shops

Read the proposal [here](#).



## European Commission’s proposal for a Council Recommendation on VET

The proposal aims to make systems more modern, attractive, flexible and fit for the digital and green economy. The learner-centered vocational education and training will prepare young people for their first jobs and gives more adults opportunities to enhance or change their careers. The proposal recommends that member states take actions to implement this policy at national level, together with social partners and local authorities. The proposal follows six directions:



The EU funding will provide support for:

- training of teachers and trainers in VET, in particular in the digital field
- support mobility of VET learners, teachers and trainers across Europe
- setting up quality assurance and graduate tracking systems
- setting up 50 Centers of Vocational Excellence to boost high-end training. They will be established locally as reference points for training in specific areas for both initial training of young people as well as for continuing up-skilling and re-skilling of adults, through flexible and timely offer of training for the skills needs of companies. Read more [here](#).

## European Parliament report on reducing inequalities with a focus on in-work poverty

The EMPL Committee is preparing an own-initiative report on ‘Reducing inequalities with a special focus on in-work poverty’. In her draft report, the rapporteur Özlem Demirel (GUE/NGL, DE) argues that the EU is confronted with rising inequalities, poverty, declining collective bargaining, an increase in atypical and precarious employment and serious social consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic. She calls on the Commission and the member states to counteract these developments. She stresses the need for strong and effective collective bargaining systems and a coordinated approach that spans all phases of life and provides a framework that is poverty-proof and ranges from a minimum income to minimum wages and a minimum pension. [Read the draft report](#)

## COVID-19: the impact on undeclared work and key challenges

On 9 June, the [European Platform tackling undeclared work](#) has published the impact of COVID-19 for undeclared workers across Europe. The article shows that many undeclared workers have lost their jobs and are unable to access healthcare and government financial support, and some of them face significant reductions in their working hours and pay. The articles show new forms of undeclared work like employees which have their contracts suspended and receive state financial compensation, then the same employers hire them illegally during their suspension. Read more [here](#).

## Skills

### Commission launched the updated European Skills Agenda

On 1 July, the European Commission launched the new European Skills Agenda for sustainable competitiveness, social fairness and resilience. It sets ambitious objectives for upskilling and reskilling for the next five years, covering 12 actions which focus on skills for jobs by partnering up with member states, companies and social partners to empower people to take up lifelong learning, and using the EU budget as a catalyst to unlock public and private investment in people’s skills. The 12 areas are:

1. A Pact for Skills
2. Strengthening skills intelligence



3. EU support for strategic national upskilling action
4. Proposal for a Council Recommendation on VET (see above)
5. Rolling out the European universities' initiative and upskilling scientists
6. Skills to support the green and digital transitions
7. Increasing STEM graduates and fostering entrepreneurial and transversal skills
8. Skills for Life
9. Initiative on Individual Learning Accounts
10. A European approach to micro-credentials
11. New Europass Platform
12. Improving the enabling framework to unlock Member States' and private investments in skills

Read more [here](#).

### **European Network of Cities for Apprenticeships**

On 5 May, European Commission in partnership with Rome Metropole launched the European Network of Cities for Apprenticeships. It aims to raise awareness on the role of cities in supporting apprenticeships in cooperation with stakeholders at regional and national level. It will act as an advocacy platform providing cities with information, training, as well as technical and policy assistance. Additionally, the network will play a proactive role in encouraging the development of green and digital skills in apprenticeships. You can find all the information [here](#).

### **Social economy**

Social economy canvas: <https://blogs.ec.europa.eu/eupolicylab/portfolios/social-economy-canvas/>

### **Housing**

#### **European Parliament's report on access to decent and affordable housing for all**

MEP Kim van Sparrentak is preparing an EP report on access to decent and affordable housing for all. The report is focusing on:

- An EU coordinated approach on social and affordable housing
- Tackling the causes of the housing crisis
- Achieving adequate and healthy housing
- Combatting homelessness and housing exclusion
- Combatting discrimination and promoting inclusion and social cohesion
- Investing in social and affordable housing
- The renovation wave for a socially and environmentally just housing system

The report should include a broad focus, from low- and middle-class income to Roma settlements, migrants, LGBTQI or persons with disabilities. Among the main measures, the report calls for coordination and common definitions at European level; tackling the causes including the lack of regulation for short term accommodations; ensuring a social mix and removing the specific target group in the state aid rules for social housing; adopting cross sectoral approaches to prevent homelessness with a focus on combatting all forms of discrimination. The European Parliament also acknowledges the opportunity of the renovation wave but highlights that focus should be put on ensuring that it remains socially and environmentally just. The report will also consider the impact of COVID-19, especially new groups at risk of homelessness and recognising how teleworking changed the role of the 'home'. EURO CITIES is working in close contact with the rapporteur and shadow rapporteurs of the report to ensure that priorities from the local level are included in the report. More information was provided during the meeting of the WG housing, see the recording [here](#).

#### **Public feedback on the roadmap for Renovation Wave initiative**

European Commission held a public feedback on the roadmap for the 'Renovation Wave' initiative, which is meant to address the current low decarbonisation and energy renovation rates across the EU. EURO CITIES has sent contribution to this public consultation, which you can find [here](#)



## Homelessness

### Commission to launch a study on homelessness

The European Commission has announced an upcoming study to analyse the situation of homelessness in Europe. The study aims to identify the main drivers of homelessness, the policy instruments used in Europe, their impact and why they don't seem to work. To ensure that the diverse reality all over Europe will be covered, six separate consultations will be organised by groups of countries in Europe, as well as one at EU level. Participants will include representatives of cities, member states, NGOs, service providers and academics. All the contributions will feed into a toolkit composed of the resulting analysis and recommendations. This toolkit is expected to be promoted during a high-level EU convention during the Portuguese presidency (first half of 2021).

## Education

### Public Consultation for the Digital Education Action Plan

On 18 June, The European Commission launched a public consultation to gather views and experiences on education and training during the COVID-19 crisis and the recovery period, and the vision for the future of digital education in Europe. The consultation will inform the Commission's proposal for a renewed Digital Education Action Plan, expected in Q3 2020. You can respond [here](#) until 4 September.

## Roma inclusion

### Updates on the strategic EU framework for Roma equality, inclusion and participation

The post-2020 EU Roma framework is currently being drafted by the European Commission and EURO CITIES is regularly consulted. The new EU Roma framework is expected to be adopted at the beginning of October and officially launched during an online conference on 12 October. The new framework will consist of a communication which includes a portfolio of indicators. A Council recommendation should also be adopted unanimously by all member states. The current focus on socio-economic integration is expanded to also include anti-gypsyism and equality. The new framework is expected to have a joint approach including both mainstreaming and targeted measures. It will be built around thematic areas (existing ones: education, employment, health, housing; complemented with more cross-cutting ones: poverty reduction and social inclusion, fighting environmental discrimination and promoting environmental justice). Three horizontal areas have also been added to expand the focus to all groups of Roma, including those that are better included (anti-gypsyism, awareness of Roma history and culture, participation & trust). The Commission also expressed its willingness to better reflect the diversity of Roma people, in particular by including EU mobile citizens. Third country nationals and stateless Roma would also be mentioned. The framework should also pay specific attention to the diversity in terms of age, gender etc. The role of municipal authorities should be recognised and member states should be asked to consult municipal authorities. EURO CITIES is now working to highlight the need for capacity building at local level in terms of data collection. More information was provided during the WG online meeting, see [here](#).

### European Parliament to adopt a report on Roma inclusion

On 14 September, the European Parliament is expected to adopt a new EP report on Roma inclusion. The current version of the text calls for the adoption of a legally binding legislative proposal on equality, inclusion and anti-gypsyism as well as the reinforcement of the current EU Roma framework. It should especially include binding targets and indicators which would in turn be used to adequately allocate funding. The European Parliament also recommends a strong focus on anti-gypsyism as a way to address inclusion beyond the most deprived. This would be combined with a focus on equal participation and the inclusion of arts, language, culture and Roma history in the school curricula and European heritage. Attention is also put on intersectional and environmental discriminations. Finally, the European Parliament would change its wording to use the term 'Romani' as a way to acknowledge better the diversity of the communities included under the current terminology 'Roma'.



### Violence against women and domestic violence

The European Commission launched a public consultation to launch a fitness check (evaluation) to assess what more can be done on this issue. It will:

- assess whether current EU legislation has helped prevent and combat violence against women and domestic violence, and whether there are gaps in the legislation
- analyse whether EU measures are consistent with sources of international law
- analyse whether greater protection is needed against this form of discrimination.

You can submit your feedback to the EU roadmap [here](#) until 21 August.

### Children

#### European Commission is preparing an EU strategy on the rights of the child

The European Commission released a roadmap for an EU strategy on the rights of the child, outlining:

- The EU aims to develop a comprehensive policy framework for children's rights, bringing all existing and future EU actions and policies on children's rights under one single umbrella
- The strategy will contribute to mainstreaming children's rights across all relevant EU policy areas
- Focus is on persisting and emerging challenges to the protection of children's rights, which were not addressed in the previous agenda or which need further targeted action at EU level
- The strategy aims to include specific measures on: the rights of the most vulnerable children; children's rights in the digital age; the prevention of and fight against violence; the promotion of child-friendly justice; strengthen the protection of children in migration; and participation of children in the EU political and democratic life.

#### Join online the Forum on the Rights of the Child

The European Commission is organising a European Forum on the rights of the child, which will take place online on 29-30 September and 1 October 2020 (mornings only). This Forum will be part of a wide consultation process that will lead to the adoption of the EU Strategy on children's rights in the first months of 2021. To attend, register here <https://www.euchildforum2020.eu/signup> until 22 September. [Find more information](#) and see the [draft programme](#)

#### Useful reading:

- European Commission, July 2020, [Summer 2020 Economic Forecast: An even deeper recession with wider divergences](#)
- Eurofound, 2020, [Living, working and COVID-19: First findings - April 2020](#)
- European Parliament, Briefing July 2020 - [Next Generation EU A European instrument to counter the impact of the coronavirus pandemic](#)
- European Parliament, Briefing July 2020 - [Just Transition Fund](#)
- European Parliament, Briefing June 2020 - [Platform economy and precarious work: Mitigating risks](#)
- OECD, June 2020, [Cities in the World: A New Perspective on Urbanisation](#)
- OECD, June 2020, [The territorial impact of COVID-19: Managing the crisis across levels of government](#)

## 2. News from EURO CITIES

### Recently adopted EURO CITIES documents:

- [EURO CITIES statement: EU recovery powered by cities](#) - mayors call for a new pact between the EU and city leaders to overcome the impacts of the corona crisis and propose to involve city governments in the EU recovery programmes and demand direct access for cities to EU funding.
- [EURO CITIES report on the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goals at local level](#) - Building on the integrated nature of the 2030 Agenda, the report examines the main drivers for transforming cities in line with the SDGs and gives concrete examples of actions implemented at local level. It puts forward a set of recommendations to accelerate SDG implementation in line with the 'UN Decade of Action' and key EU political priorities.



### Online city dialogues on COVID-19

EUROCITIES has organised a series of online events to inform, connect cities and facilitate city-to-city dialogue and mutual learning on how to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 crisis and plan for the recovery in the medium to long-term.

Taking stock of the key messages from these online city dialogues, we prepared two overviews:

- [Overview of emergency social measures in cities to respond to COVID-19](#)
- [Overview of city measures to mitigate the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 crisis](#)

Past city dialogues:

- **29 April** - City Dialogue on social services responses to COVID-19. Guest speakers from OECD discussed with city experts from social services about emergency social measures to respond to COVID-19 crisis, with a focus on targeted support to the most vulnerable groups. [Read the key messages](#) or watch the [recording](#)
- **7 May** - City Dialogue with OECD on socio-economic territorial impact of COVID-19 crisis in cities and how to mitigate this impact. [Read the key messages](#) or [watch the recording](#).
- **12 May** - City Dialogue with ILO, OECD and DG EMPL on the impact of COVID-19 crisis on the labour market. [Read the key messages](#) or [watch the recording](#)
- **18 May** - City dialogue on volunteering during Covid-19. [Read the key messages](#) or [watch the recording](#)
- **26 May** - Social cost-benefit analysis, how does it work? [Watch the recording](#)
- **28 May** - City Dialogue on Green Recovery: relaunching the economy with the Doughnut model in Amsterdam. [Check the presentation from Amsterdam here](#) or [watch the recording](#)
- **29 May** - City Dialogue with WHO on urban preparedness of public health measures. [Read the highlights](#) or [watch the recording](#)
- **8 June** - Webinar on European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). [Key points and presentations here](#) and [watch the recording](#)
- **16 June** - City dialogue on the impact of COVID-19 on women. [Watch the recording](#)
- **23 June** - City Dialogue on the role of the entrepreneurship and SMEs in the economic recovery. [Read the highlights](#) or [watch the recording](#)
- **25 June** - EUROCITIES-GRSI webinar on community sponsorship programmes for refugees. [Read the highlights](#) or [watch the recording](#)
- **30 June** - City dialogue on the role of cities in the economic recovery. [Read the highlights](#) or [watch the recording](#)

## 3. News from Social Affairs Forum and Working Groups

### European Pillar of Social Rights

#### Madrid and Glasgow sign new pledges

Madrid and Glasgow signed new pledges reaffirming their commitment to implement the European Pillar of Social Rights.

**Madrid signed a strong pledge to gender equality.** The city has put in place a Strategic Plan for Gender Equality for 2018-2020 which centres on gender mainstreaming, creating a permanent training strategy for City Council staff and ensuring a positive gender impact on 68% of €5,184 million budgeted for 2020. To achieve gender equality, Madrid is committed to eliminate all types of violence and discrimination against women, support women's employment, fight against the feminisation of poverty and promote women's empowerment and participation in public life. [Read Madrid's pledge](#)

**Glasgow signed a strong pledge on minimum income.** Glasgow is committed to be a 'Fair Work City'. To achieve this, Glasgow combines actions on minimum income, tackling poverty and community empowerment, such as the Glasgow Living Wage to fight in-work poverty, Glasgow Guarantee employability programme, using social clauses in public procurement, reducing child poverty in the city by supporting food aid programmes to children and young people with a budget allocation of £2 million annually. [Read Glasgow's new pledge here](#)



### Your city too can join with a city pledge

Is your city working to push forward fair work, equality and inclusion policies at local level? Do you want to make your city known as a champion 'inclusive city for all'? Join our campaign by submitting a (new) city pledge on one or several of the 20 principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights.

**All new city pledges submitted until early September will be announced during a EURO CITIES high-level political event with the European Parliament on 30 September 2020.**

### Take part in our EURO CITIES survey on child poverty

The COVID-19 crisis has strongly affected children, especially children in precarious family situations. EURO CITIES has launched a new survey to collect timely updates about the situation of child poverty in cities in Europe. The survey aims to identify (new) challenges putting children at risk and how cities are responding with support measures to prevent and mitigate child poverty. The survey looks into good practices from cities to understand what works well and under which conditions, what could be improved and where are the gaps that need to be addressed with support from national and EU level.

With this survey, EURO CITIES will collect inputs from cities to feed into the European Commission proposal for an EU Child Guarantee, which is to be launched in early 2021. This is a unique opportunity for cities to contribute to shaping the EU Child Guarantee by feeding lessons from local level and get access to the 5% of ESF+ earmarked to improve local services to support vulnerable children.

Members are invited to respond to our survey until 31 August: <https://bit.ly/surveychildpoverty>

### Take part in our survey on digitalising social services

At the initiative of Barcelona and Amsterdam, we have launched a survey on digitalising social services. We are interested in what way the COVID-19 crisis has impacted your way of working in social services in your city. In particular, we are interested in how social services adapted to the distance rules and how digitalization and innovation has rapidly found its way. The aim of the survey is to learn from each other and to see what these interventions imply on the long term.

Members are invited to respond until 7 August [to the survey](mailto:j.robeer@amsterdam.nl) by email to [j.robeer@amsterdam.nl](mailto:j.robeer@amsterdam.nl). Following the survey, we will organise an online city dialogue on digitalising social services, as joint dialogue between the Social Affairs Forum and the Knowledge Society Forum on 22 September 2020.

### [Highlights from our Social Affairs Forum meeting online on 27 May](#)

More than 90 representatives from 55 cities met online for the Social Affairs Forum meeting to discuss the social consequences of the COVID-19 crisis and how to mitigate them. Members had the opportunity to get first-hand information directly from the European Commission about the new EU recovery package and how this will reinforce the EU social agenda. Finally, members got invited how to stay actively involved and provide inputs to the EURO CITIES advocacy actions to ensure a strong urban dimension in reinforcing social Europe and building a fair and inclusive recovery.

Deputy mayors from Athens, Barcelona, Leipzig, Malmo, Utrecht, Vienna and Zagreb engaged in a direct dialogue with the European Commission Director for Social Affairs, Katarina Ivankovic. They discussed common challenges related to the COVID-19 crisis, exchanged on social policy measures to respond to the crisis and shared lessons learnt so far, as well as concrete ideas for working together between cities and the European Commission in the post-covid recovery. Key takeaways are:

- Cities play a key role in preventing and combating rising inequalities by reaching out to people in need and providing targeted support.
- Social investment must remain a priority of municipal budgets. The crisis has shown more than ever that we need a strong municipal social infrastructure and social services should be recognised as essential services.
- Social and economic recovery from the crisis are strongly inter-linked and should go hand in hand.
- Cities are planning for an inclusive recovery by further mobilising the solidarity at local level and rebuilding the city together.
- The COVID-crisis is an opportunity to reinforce social Europe with a strong urban dimension.



### [Key messages from our meeting online with Commissioner Schmit](#)

On 12 June, a delegation from EUROCITIES, made of our SAF chair and vice-chair and the Commissioner for Social Rights from Barcelona, held an online meeting with European Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights, Nicolas Schmit. This was the first bilateral exchange of EUROCITIES with Commissioner Schmit and we took the opportunity to present the work of cities to contribute to the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights and to discuss how to work together between EUROCITIES and the Commissioner and his team towards a sustainable and inclusive recovery from the COVID-19 crisis, building a stronger social Europe with an urban dimension in mind.

Commissioner Schmit agreed that cities play a key role in building a stronger social Europe. He said: “There cannot be a real recovery from this crisis without a social recovery. For this, we need to strengthen the social dimension of Europe to rebuild the social fabric in our society and give cities the means to tackle the rising urban poverty and inequalities”. The Commissioner echoed the unprecedented social challenges in cities due to the crisis, saying that the urban problems are European problems and need European solutions. He invited cities to have a say on how to reinforce social Europe and find the best solutions. “The social and economic impact of the COVID-19 crisis requires all of our efforts to preserve and create jobs, and to ensure social inclusion for everyone”, said Schmit. As mentioned by the Commissioner, “In these endeavours, the European Pillar for Social Rights is more relevant than ever and I welcome the work of EUROCITIES in implementing it.”

### **WG Housing reports on housing responses to COVID-19 crisis and potential recovery measures**

WG housing has gathered the housing emergency responses that cities have taken to address the COVID-19 crisis. The report highlights the following measures:

1. Urgent short-term measures in the public housing sector like suspension of evictions, rent payment, increase homeless accommodation, action protocols, Housing Quality Certificate
2. Urgent short-term measures in the private housing sector like suspension of evictions, rent payment, mortgage payment, mobilization of private housing, tax payment, inspection
3. Medium-term structural measures
4. Community support or mediation measures like community support and unemployment support.

The report was submitted to the OHCHR - Special Rapporteur on the right to adequate housing ‘[Call for input: COVID-19 and the right to housing](#)’. You can find the report [here](#).

### **WG Homelessness - online meeting on 28 April**

On 28 April, members of the WG Homelessness met online to discuss the latest updates at EU and cities level. Participants learned more about the upcoming 7-year EU budget and in particular the Fund for the European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD) as well as about the European Parliament’s draft report on access to adequate and affordable housing. To contribute to these different initiatives, EUROCITIES will be using our upcoming report on cities implementing principle 19 of the EPSR. This report on housing and assistance to the homeless is being updated to include data on the impact of COVID-19 in cities. For this purpose, city experts discussed and complemented the challenges identified in a survey conducted in 2019. In particular, they shared their knowledge on the impact of the crisis on homelessness and cities measures to support homeless people. More information [here](#) and [recording](#)

### **WG Migration and Integration - online meeting on 6 May**

During its online meeting on 6 May, the WG Migration and Integration discussed the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on cities’ service provision to migrants. Cities exchanged on the impact of the pandemic on urban migrant communities. They also presented the proactive policy responses put in place to deal with the crisis, among them safe accommodation, communication and information provision, unemployment support and job-matching, and online education and integration services. The Working Group is currently drafting a policy note outlining these local challenges and policy responses to underline that cities are key actors for an inclusive recovery from the pandemic.

Consult the [documents](#) or watch the [recording](#).



### **WG Education - online meeting on 15 May**

The Education WG met online on May 15 to exchange on the evolving situation with schools in the transition phase in the context of COVID-19. The meeting was attended by 35 representatives from 20 cities across Europe. Cities have expressed the need for strengthening support to teachers and to provide training on the use of online tools, while paying specific attention to children coming from low-income families and deprived neighbourhoods, children with special needs and learning difficulties. [Read more](#).

### **WG Roma inclusion - online meeting on 2 June**

On 2 June, the members of the WG Roma inclusion exchanged the latest information during an online meeting of the working group. The discussions first focused on sharing how cities ensured the continuity of access to services for the most vulnerable citizens. In particular, municipalities fostered among Roma people the access to information, food, shelter, continuity of education etc. The exchanges were followed by updates on the new proposal for the 7-year budget of the EU, together with the recovery fund. City experts of Roma inclusion also heard the latest information regarding the Post-2020 EU framework on Roma equality and inclusion strategies which will be launched in October. Finally, they planned the upcoming activities of the working group with the policy transfer in Berlin, and the possibility to sign a joint pledge on Principle 3, equal treatment and opportunities. More [here](#) and recording [here](#)

### **WG Urban Ageing - online meeting on 11 June**

WG members exchanged on measures and strategies with specific focus on support to elderly people during the crisis as well as in the key phases of the COVID-19 transition. They discussed how the pandemic is taking a disproportionate toll on elderly people across Europe. Members shared that mental health conditions and loneliness have become more visible issues in this context hence many cities have reinforced the provision of psychosocial support to elderly via helplines. [Read more](#)

### **WG Housing - online meeting on 16 June**

On 16 June, WG housing has met online to discuss about access to affordable housing and co-housing models in EU cities. In the first part of the meeting participants had the opportunity to exchange views on the housing situation in cities with the Member of European Parliament Ms. Kim van Sparrentak, rapporteur on EP's report on 'Access to decent and affordable housing for all'. In the second part of the meeting Barcelona has presented the 'Common declaration of housing authorities of Barcelona, Paris and London'. City practitioners had also the chance to get informed about the latest updates from EU level and EURO CITIES and talk about the potential of an EU project on 'emerging models of cohousing in European cities. You can find all the presentation [here](#) and the recording [here](#).

### **WG employment - online meeting on 18 June**

On 18 June, WG employment met to discuss about cities' plans to support people in employment in the COVID-19 recovery period. Six cities have presented their approach on the long-term plans to support people in employment focusing on skills development, life-long learning and job matchmaking at local level (Amsterdam, Barcelona, Belfast, Munich, Stockholm and Toulouse). You can find the presentation [here](#) and the recording of the meeting [here](#).

### **WG children - online meeting on 10 July**

More than 40 representatives from 27 cities met online for the kick-off meeting of the new EURO CITIES Working Group Children and Young People, which is chaired by Leeds. The city experts discussed the social impacts of the COVID-19 crisis on children and how cities are responding to mitigating them. Two heads of unit from DG EMPL and DG JUST presented the roadmap of the European Commission on children, with several initiatives like the EU Child Guarantee in the pipeline, on which cities' inputs are highly appreciated. [Read the highlights from the meeting](#) and the [recording is available here](#).



## 4. Upcoming events

### Save the Date for our high-level political event at EP on 30 September online

EUROCITIES will organise a high-level political event online on 30 September to discuss 'Building a stronger social Europe for just transitions: what role for cities?' The event will be co-hosted by the European Commission and the European Parliament (similarly to our event in February 2019).

The event will gather city mayors and deputy mayors to announce the new city pledges and discuss with MEPs and Commission officials the role of cities to reinforce social Europe and drive a fair and inclusive recovery after the pandemic. We will also launch at the event our EUROCITIES position on building a stronger social Europe with cities (to be finalised over summer). The event will consist of two political debates on new urban poverty, including the housing-related challenges, and on child poverty, each debate inviting reflections from the European Commission, MEPs, German/Portuguese Presidency of Council respectively, and mayors/deputy mayors from cities. We plan to use the outcomes of the political debates to feed into our recommendations from cities for the EU Child Guarantee and for the action plan of the European Pillar of Social Rights. More information soon.

### Save the NEW Dates for SAF in autumn in Zagreb on 9-10 November

Our new dates for the Social Affairs Forum in Zagreb are 9-10 November. The theme we will discuss is: 'Cities in transition: green, digital and social changes - How do we drive a fair and inclusive recovery?' We are exploring options for having a combined physical and online meeting.

### Save the date for our SAF events and WG meetings in autumn-winter 2020

SAF working group	Autumn meeting
<b>SAF political event at EP</b>	<b>30 Sept - online</b>
WG Homelessness	30 Sep - 2 Oct, Lyon
WG Employment	30 Sep - 2 Oct, Lyon
WG Migration & Integration	7-9 October, Tampere
WG Roma inclusion	14-16 October, Berlin
<b>Social Affairs Forum</b>	<b>9-10 November, Zagreb</b>
WG Housing	16-20 Nov, Berlin
WG Education	Online, tbc
WG Urban Ageing	Online, tbc
WG Smart Social Inclusion	Online, tbc

### Call to host Social Affairs Forum /Social Innovation Lab in November 2021

We are launching a call for cities willing to host a social affairs forum meeting in 2021. If you are interested in hosting, please send an application letter to [sinead.mullins@eurocities.eu](mailto:sinead.mullins@eurocities.eu) by **26 August 2020**. You should also complete the application dossier here: <https://forms.gle/4ExCshLrCupcVkcs8>

## 5. News from EUROCITIES members

### Germany launches stimulus to support cities

In Germany, on 3 June the Federal Government decided on an overall €130 billion fiscal stimulus package that includes **€25 billion in support for municipalities**. This includes compensating revenue losses of municipal surcharge of local business tax in 2020 by €8 billion. The government also decided on a permanent higher federal share in municipal welfare spending, additional capital grants for childcare facilities, hospitals, public transport, digitalisation and local health services. For the Länder, the Federal Government compensates declining revenues and provides additional grants to compensate crisis spending. This federal support comes on top of support provided by the Länder to the local governments. In particular, the Länder have decided to loosen the fiscal rules applied to municipalities by suspending the balanced budget rule, suspending the duty for cutback measures and for spending freezes. In addition, regulation for short term credits has been eased.



### **Vienna's strong Youth Guarantee**

Vienna is investing €17 million to help out the more than 16,000 young people currently without a job. The package includes intra-company vocational training, qualification passports, assistance for catching up the missed time and offers to enter into professions in health, care and IT, dedicated to the young generation. The package includes:

- 10 million euros for vocational training in intra-company apprenticeships, dedicated to young people who cannot find a place in a company
- 7 million euros for the qualification of young unemployed Viennese people that encompass several measures:
- Qualification passports for educational screening of more than 3,000 young unemployed Viennese
- Assistance to catch up on apprenticeships and other training/education
- Qualification for future professions in the health, care and IT sectors as well as for newly emerging professions, for example in the fight against climate change.

[Read more](#)

### **Glasgow is testing feasibility for a pilot on universal basic income**

Glasgow is one of the few cities in Europe that has cross-party agreement to trial a universal basic income. Since 2017, the city has been working together with three other local authorities with the Scottish Government on the feasibility of local pilots for universal basic income (UBI), which led to a set of recommendations approved in June 2020. The recommendations find that although a UBI pilot would be a very helpful experiment to understand the effects of UBI, such a pilot is currently difficult to implement due to the complex institutional and legal framework in the UK. Nonetheless, there are many arguments in favour of UBI as a model. Glasgow is now committed to follow up on the UBI pilot study findings, using the lessons learned to inform policy and explore implementing with stakeholders and partners at home and internationally. [Read the executive summary](#) or the [full report](#).

### **Vienna launches new online platform for a fair digital economy**

Vienna has launched its new website [fairdigitaleurope.eu](http://fairdigitaleurope.eu) The website, set up in collaboration with the Association of Austrian Cities and Towns and the Austrian Association of Public Companies, offers important content and documents, and is designed to facilitate networking with cooperation partners and to position local and regional interests at EU level. [Find out more](#)

### **Integrating refugees “the Rotterdam way”**

As of 1 July 2021, there will be new legislation regarding the integration of asylum seekers in the Netherlands. According to the new Civic Integration Act, municipalities will become in charge of the integration of the asylum-seekers. With this in mind, Rotterdam presented its idea on how to efficiently ensure the integration by helping them learn Dutch and how to be financially self-reliant.

To start with, Rotterdam will be performing a language test to establish the initial language training and career orientation of each asylum-seeker. Based on this, the city will prepare a personal plan for integration with the participation of the permit holder. This system will categorise people into three learning routes: the employment route, the self-reliance route and the education route. [Read more](#)

### **Bratislava launches pilot project to combat homelessness**

The Housing First approach aims to tackle the problem of homelessness from two separate directions. By providing affordable housing to struggling families and individuals, they will have the opportunity to get back on their feet and work towards improving their situation in life. On top of granting homeless citizens an affordable housing, the new pilot project will also focus on their general stability through social care. Social care workers will work alongside the selected individuals to create a general approach that would allow them to stabilize their health and housing situations, as well as their incomes. As part of the pilot project, Bratislava will renovate a total of 22 currently uninhabited apartments. In terms of who will be the first ones to take part in the initiative, that will be up to an expert commission to decide based on a number of factors, including threat levels and degree of social dependence. Through this new initiative, Bratislava is set to become one of the first cities in Slovakia to combine affordable housing with intensive social counselling with the goal of quickly rehabilitating homeless individuals and getting them back on their feet. [Read more](#)



### **Lisbon picks up efforts in providing affordable housing**

The city of Lisbon is taking another step in the long fight to provide affordable housing for all people in need. The municipality recently started the transformation of an old set of army barracks into a housing project of 240 dwellings. These will be rented below the prices of the private rental market and be targeted to the most vulnerable including homeless and elderly people. In order to regenerate the neighbourhood, social services and commercial spaces will also be included. [Read more](#)

### **Berlin becomes first German state with its own anti-discrimination law**

To cover a loophole in national legislation, Berlin became the first German state adopting an anti-discrimination law. The bill explicitly makes it illegal for public authorities including the police or schools to discriminate on the basis of skin colour, worldview, age, gender, sexual orientation, religion and background. Specific mentions are also made to forbid discrimination on the basis of perceived lack of skills in German, income, occupation, education or disability. Berlin therefore takes a clear stance against racial profiling and in favour of the fight against systemic racism. [Read more](#)

### **Manchester inaugurates new Youth Plan**

Manchester adopted its 'Out Manchester Youth Strategy 2020-2023' to help young people reach their full potential. Drafted together with youth representatives, the strategy aims at ensuring availability of a wide range of high-quality services and opportunities outside of school. Leisure activities are seen as a way to help young people acquire the skills needed to develop into independent successful adults. Thanks to the cooperation with local organisations, Manchester's strategy will focus on making youth thrive; become highly skilled; progressive and resilient; leaving well, healthy and safe; and being connected and heard. [Read more](#)

## **6. Project news**

### **CONNECTION**

Our project CONNECTION had a rough start! Because of the COVID-19 situation, the kick-off meeting that was planned in Brussels at the end of March was cancelled and replaced by online meetings: a first session during which the partners gathered online to meet each other and discuss the themes of the project, and a second session which focused on the project learning methodologies. The partner cities are clustered in four communities of practice, each working on a different theme (integration strategies, gender and migration, pathways to employment and one-stop-shops). Starting with a first round next autumn, each city in its community will host a workshop, during which partners will discover how policy initiatives are implemented in local context. They will also learn about good practices through presentations, site visits, workshops and peer-to-peer discussions. Following a call that was launched by EURO CITIES, 8 additional cities will be selected shortly to take part in the visits.

### **VALUES**

[VALUES](#) (Volunteering Activities to Leverage Urban and European Social integration of migrants) was disrupted, as many other projects, by the pandemic and had to reinvent itself. While the two last rounds of visits planned to be hosted by our partner cities have been postponed, new forms of e-learning were organised to ensure continue information and knowledge exchange amongst cities. Our partner cities, organised in four clusters, met online to discuss progress on their action plan and the benchmarks and plan the future visits that should take place this autumn. City staff also virtually met with volunteers and civil society from the city they have been paired with in the framework of VALUES city staff and volunteers exchange visits. These sessions enabled all partners involved to discuss how civil society and the municipal level could improve cooperation on integration of migrants. The impressive work of our partner cities to mitigate the impact of the Covid-19 outbreak at local level inspired us to organise a city dialogue on volunteering and city responses to the many challenges these unprecedented times have brought on the municipal level. The recording is available [here](#). The final project results will be presented to all EURO CITIES members during the Integrating Cities Conference IX, tentatively planned on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020 in Nuremberg. If your city has good practice examples on volunteering for migrant integration and is interested in featuring in the next Integrating Cities publication, please read more [here](#).



## 7. Funding news

The latest edition of the **EUROCITIES funding forecast** with information on all open and upcoming funding opportunities for cities and the specific funding briefs, is available [here](#) (after log in).  
Contact: Anja De Cunto [anja.decunto@eurocities.eu](mailto:anja.decunto@eurocities.eu)

### Access city award

European cities over 50 000 inhabitants have the opportunity to present their designed actions and strategies to become barrier-free and better places for everyone to live and work. This special edition of the [Access City Award](#) will take into account the current situation with COVID-19 and introduces a special mention “**Accessibility of public services in times of pandemic**” to reward cities’ efforts. Since the 10th anniversary of the Award (ACA2020), the European Commission awards a financial incentive of EUR 350.000. This amount shall be shared among the three winning cities. **Deadline 9 September 2020.**

### EaSI - Employment and Social Innovation

Establishing and testing integrated interventions aimed at supporting people in (the most) vulnerable situations. To the [funding brief](#). **Deadline: 15 October 2020.**

### Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund

The publication of the 2020 calls for proposals is expected for autumn.

### Erasmus + programme

- **Key Action 3: European Youth Together.** Deadline **28 July**. See [funding brief](#)

### Europe for citizens

Deadline 1 September 2020:

- Civil Society projects. To the [funding brief](#).
- Town twinning. To the [funding brief](#).
- Network of town. To the [funding brief](#).

### Horizon 2020

The current [work programme](#) is available and includes upcoming calls potentially interesting for SAF members:

- **SC3-EC-2-2018-2019-2020:** Mitigating household energy poverty. Deadline **10 September**. See [funding brief](#).
- **Active and Assisted living programme:** Healthy Ageing with the Support of Digital Solutions. Deadline **24 August**. See [funding brief](#).

New calls for proposals related to the Green Deal objectives will be published in September 2020, with deadline in January 2021. [More information](#).



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