



Towards a
European Pillar
of **Social Rights**

The Housing perspective

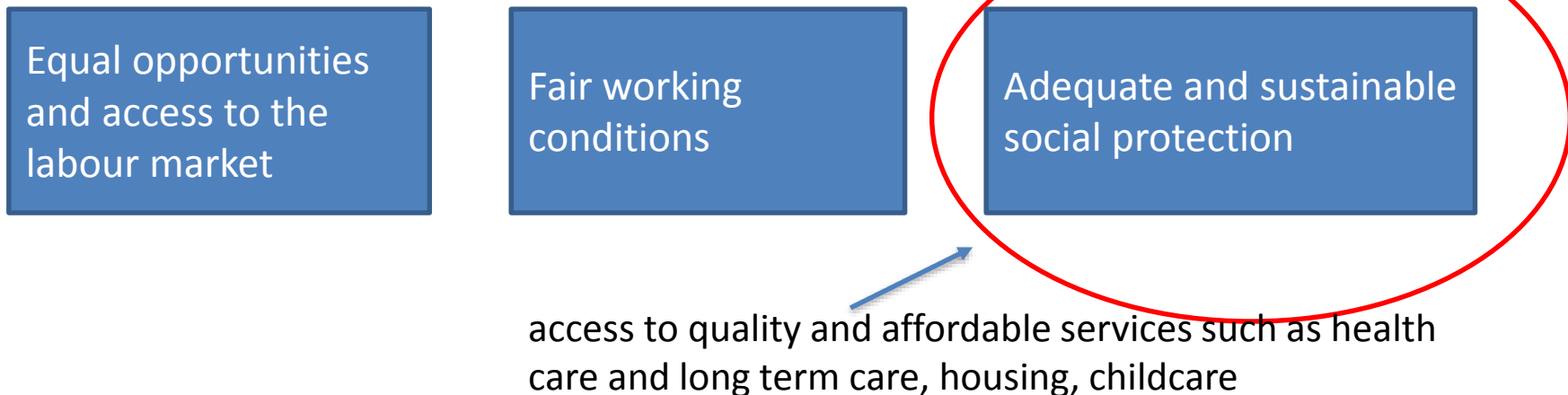
Edit Lakatos, Policy Officer



EC Communication in 2016

- Reference framework to urge Member States to converge on social standards without creating new legislation
- **Focus on social policies and social protection systems**

Three main axes:



- Dedicated website launched: http://ec.europa.eu/priorities/deeper-and-fairer-economic-and-monetary-union/towards-european-pillar-social-rights_en

Relevant parts on housing

- *Housing insecurity, affordability -large concern*
- *Rental market distortions-lack of availability*
- *Lack of adequate housing -barrier for labour mobility*

a) Access to social **housing/housing assistance** shall be provided **for those in need**.
Protection against eviction shall be ensured and support for low/medium income to **access home property** provided.

b) **Shelter shall be provided** to homeless and shall be linked up to other social services in order to promote social integration.

How would housing assistance be defined?

Complex housing assistance packages across Europe need to be taken into account.

Prioritizing a specific housing provision?

Diverse tenure needed

Our actions



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- Contributed to the public consultation; met SecGen; participated to a dedicated event organized by Social Platform
- Initiative welcomed (holistic and comprehensive strategy on complex issues)
- European Commission **should consider reformulating the text on housing.**
- EU Pillar should **promote a more preventive, efficient and reactive social protection**
- It can help supporting our demands:
 - Build more public, social and cooperative housing
 - Increase the quality of existing homes
 - Make the cities more inclusive

Parlamentary Report

Contributed to the Report

Plenary voted the report on 19 January 2017 in Strasbourg.

Vision: improving social rights within the Eurozone first

Strong support to do more to protect social rights (reflects the position of Housing Europe)

Introduction of legislative measures to ensure fair working conditions, improve work-life balance, ensure welfare state sustainability

MEPs did not support adequate minimum wages towards 60% of median wages



Art 19 urges to deliver the **right to adequate housing**

- by ensuring access to quality and affordable housing and to prevent and reduce homelessness

Ensure access to social housing/adequate housing benefits for those in need

Housing to be combined with social services

Abolish the criminalisation of homelessness

Help young people on low incomes set up their own households?

Investments in energy-efficient social housing is a win-win

Greater use of FI to support urban renewal/affordable housing

Promote the social housing development in regions where it is underdeveloped

Next steps



- High level Conference 23 January
 - Approach: social cohesion is part of the Economic Agenda (Commissioner Thyssen)
 - Meeting the Sec Gen to lobby further
- Final Proposal to be expected on 24 April
- President Juncker will host a “[Social Summit for Fair Jobs and Growth](#)” together with **Sweden's** Prime Minister in **Gothenburg on 17 November 2017**.

Thank you for your attention!



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