**Letter of Motivation to Join EAPN**

**European Anti-poverty Network**

**Brussels, Belgium**

**EAPN Slovenia letter of motivation to join EAPN**

Dear Sir/Madam,

The European Anti-Poverty Network Slovenia is a network of civil society organizations, working on different fields of fighting poverty and social exclusion (children, families, women in poverty, older people, precarious workers, migrants etc.) in Slovenia. The Network was established on May 23, 2019, by signing the agreement on cooperation by 13 organizations, network founders, with the aim of expanding the membership in the future.

Due to the very successful initial cooperation, positive atmosphere, the EAPN SLO members have expressed their sincere readiness and willingness to perform their future work also as a member of the European Anti-Poverty Network. The desire of the EAPN SLO to join the EAPN as a national network and acquire the status of full membership is motivated by several reasons. We are aware that only cooperation and through joint forces in the reduction of poverty, fighting social exclusion and improving current situation will bring changes in Slovenia and Europe-wide. The network founders are aware that poverty is a political choice and single organization doesn’t have the power to change things in the field of poverty and social exclusion. Current topics that the EAPN Slovenia identified to be most relevant to tackle with are: the addition to work activity, law on long-term care, health access and homelessness of young (LGBT) people. There is a need to support each other in actions and to find common ground for the best solutions, above all to include the people experiencing poverty themselves in all these processes.

Moreover, by adopting applicable experiences, such exchange can contribute to a more significant improving of the type and quality of various forms of support to vulnerable groups in Slovenia, or can contribute to actions aimed at shaping institutional and policy framework for fighting poverty and social exclusion. We are willing to make our contribution in the region of the Western Balkans and in Europe.

***Tina Divjak,***

European Anti-poverty Network Slovenia

Network Coordinator

Ljubljana, May 30, 2019