

Anti-Poverty Day

Eradicating Poverty by 2050: How?
From Commitment to Action

13 October

European Parliament, Brussels

Co-organised by:



On 6 May 2026, the European Commission set out an ambitious goal: **to help eradicate poverty in the EU by 2050**. This commitment lies at the heart of the first-ever EU Anti-Poverty Strategy. For the first time, the Commission has pledged not merely to reduce poverty, but to contribute to its eradication.

The EU is still far from achieving the Porto Target of reducing poverty by at least 15 million people, including 5 million children, by 2030. Latest figures show that poverty remains persistently high and progress has largely stagnated. In 2025, at least 92.7 million people in the EU (20.9% of the population) were at risk of poverty or social exclusion.

At the same time, the drivers of poverty are becoming increasingly complex. Successive crises, including the COVID-19 pandemic, Russia's invasion of Ukraine, and escalating geopolitical tensions in the Middle East, have disproportionately affected the most vulnerable. These shocks have fuelled inflation and rising living costs, further deepening poverty and social exclusion.

While the EU Anti-Poverty Strategy contains promising commitments, such as the establishment of a structured dialogue with people experiencing poverty and a proposed Council Recommendation on easy and integrated access to services, it leaves important questions unanswered.

What will it take to eradicate poverty by 2050? What level of funding is required? Which legislative gaps must be addressed? And how should people experiencing poverty be meaningfully involved in this process?

In this second edition, the 2026 EU Anti-Poverty Day will seek to trigger conversations on these questions, by bringing together Members of the European Parliament, people experiencing poverty, representatives of the European Commission, of the Irish Presidency, other key EU institutions and civil society organisations.

08:30 - 09:00 **Arrival & Registration**

09:00 - 09:30 **Opening session**

Room: ASP1G3

Speakers:

- Irish Permanent Representation to the EU (tbc)
- **Marie Toussaint**, Greens/EFA, Member of the European Parliament
- **Hristo Petrov**, Renew, Member of the European Parliament
- Person Experiencing Poverty, European Anti-Poverty Network (EAPN) (TBC)
- **Elena Carolina Diaz Galán**, UN Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights (Video message)

Moderation: **Juliana Wahlgren**, EAPN Director

09:30 - 10:30

Room: ASP1G3

Panel 1: What is concretely needed to make the eradication of poverty a reality by 2050?

Speakers:

- Person Experiencing Poverty, EAPN (tbc)
- Member of the European Parliament (tbc)
- **Patricia Bezunartea Barrio**, Director General of Family Diversity and Social Services, Ministry of Social Rights, Consumer Affairs and Agenda 2030, and responsible for the National Strategy for the Prevention and Fight Against Poverty and Social Exclusion 2024-2030 (TBC)

Moderation: **Marit Maij**, S&D, Member of the European Parliament

10:30 - 11:00

Coffee Break

11:00 - 11:20

Room: ASP1G3

Keynote Speech

Roxana Mînzatu, Executive Vice-President of the European Commission for Social Rights and Skills, Quality Jobs and Preparedness

11:30 - 12:40

Rooms: (tbc)

Workshops

Workshop 1: How to ensure the meaningful and sustainable participation of people experiencing poverty?

Workshop 2: How to address socio-economic discrimination against people experiencing poverty?

Workshop 3: How to ensure the implementation of the European Child Guarantee?

12:50 - 13:35

Room: ASP1G2

Panel 2: Protecting social rights: policy and legal responses to counteract attacks against people experiencing poverty

Speakers:

- Person Experiencing Poverty, EAPN (tbc)
- **Danilo Della Valle**, The Left, Member of the European Parliament
- **Freek Spinnewijn**, Director, FEANTSA (European Federation of Organisations Working with the Homeless)

Moderation: Juliana Wahlgren, EAPN Director

13:35 - 13:55

Closing Session

- Reporting from the Workshop Sessions
- **Marie Toussaint**, The Greens/EFA, Member of the European Parliament
- Person Experiencing Poverty, EAPN (tbc)

14:00

Lunch & End of the Event



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