

## “THE RIGHT TO DECENT HOUSING FOR ALL”

### Seminar organised by the transversal group ‘Poverty’ of the Human Rights Committee of the Conference of INGOs

#### on the occasion of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

**Strasbourg, 17 October 2018**  
**9h - 13h, Palais de l'Europe, Room 3**

Article 31 of the European Social Charter underlines that “With a view to ensuring the effective exercise of the right to housing, the Parties undertake to take measures designed:

1. to promote access to housing of an adequate standard;
2. to prevent and reduce homelessness with a view to its gradual elimination;
3. to make the price of housing accessible to those without adequate resources.”

#### **Welcome and opening**

9h Opening by *Miguel Cabral de Pinho*, Vice-Chair of the Human Rights Committee of the Conference of INGOs

9h10 *Eliane Chemla*, General Rapporteur of the European Committee on Social Rights

#### **I. Findings and testimonies**

9h30 – 9h50 NGOs

“Health and housing” *Martine Schmelck*, Doctors of the World

“Access to housing”, *Robert Urbe*, Caritas

#### **II. Department of the European Social Charter, Collective Complaints Division**

10h20 – 10h40: Collective complaints and difficult situations of access to housing and bad housing  
– *Odeta Kumbaro-Bianku* (French) and *Niamh Casey* (English)

10h40 – 11h: break

### **III. Grass-roots experiences**

11h Elements from the annual report of FEANTSA (European Federation of National Organisations working with the homeless) – *Chloé Serme-Morin*

11h15 “4 walls and a roof” project of Caritas Alsace and the City of Strasbourg – *Germain Migno*, Caritas Alsace

11h30 Report of the Belfast meeting of the collaborative Platform Council of Europe – FRA – ENNHRI – EQUINET (subject to publication)

### **IV. Formulation of recommendations**

11h45 – 14h45 Exchange between the participants on the recommendations made by the INGOs and proposals for new recommendations with the aim of reinforcing the efforts of the Conference of INGOs within the Council of Europe and enriching the work of national branches of the INGOs