HOME~~LESS~~MORE

assessing the efficiency of policies and architectural approaches in the homeless European context

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MSc Degree in Architecture of the Sustainable Project 2018/2019

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For reasons of time and clarity of the arguments presented, it is necessary to make some clarifications regarding the contents of the thesis:

1. Some geographical limitations have been applied. Even though homelessness affects every place in the World, it has been decided to put the focus on Europe because of the similarity of policies and interventions. Making comparisons among different continents with heavy cultural differences would have been more complex in terms of satisfying results.

2. The needs of homeless people vary greatly depending on their geographical location. The European scenario, in fact, presents some disparities, sometimes very marked, which manifest themselves especially when Western Europe and Eastern Europe are compared. This situation is mainly due to political reasons born during the course of the history of the countries of the Union, creating a strong gap between the two macro-areas that still affects national policies and the attitude towards certain problems. This scenario, due to a series of circumstances, has allowed the Western part to develop more advanced techniques to solve the problems of poverty and housing exclusion, which is why most

of the data found in this document come from it. This does not mean that the rest of Europe has been left out: the East, with a slight delay, is beginning to modernise some practices to combat homelessness, drawing on the results obtained in the most advanced countries, so the lack of information about it should not be considered a lack, but an important starting point for determining the types of improvement measures where most need is requested.

3. Since homelessness is a complex condition resulting from a multitude of very different factors, it was decided to limit this research to urban homelessness, i.e. that part of the phenomenon that focuses on the housing issue as if it were answered in an urban settlement. The whole issue of homelessness related to migration and refugees has, therefore, been reported and described in the first chapter as part of the phenomenon itself, but subsequently omitted in the evaluations. Being, in fact, a very particular and delicate subject, it would require a specific argument and analysis with different implications and intentions.

0. introduction

0.1 preamble

Before some decades ago, homelessness was less visible and traceable. On one hand, due to the lack of a wide and transparent network available for the most, like the Web, intended to gather and store high amounts of data, on the other, the rapid urban expansion which characterized numerous cities starting from 1950. In rich countries the percentage of those who live in a city already counts the 81.5% (more than 8 people on 10).

Twenty years ago it was the 75.7% and in not more than other twenty years, in 2035, it is going to raise up to 85% (Magliocco, 2018).[1] (fig. 1, 2)
Today, 55% of global population lives in urban areas, a number that is expected to increase until the 68% before 2050. Some estimations show how the urbanization process, i.e. the gradual shifting of residency from the countryside towards the cities, combined with the average growth of
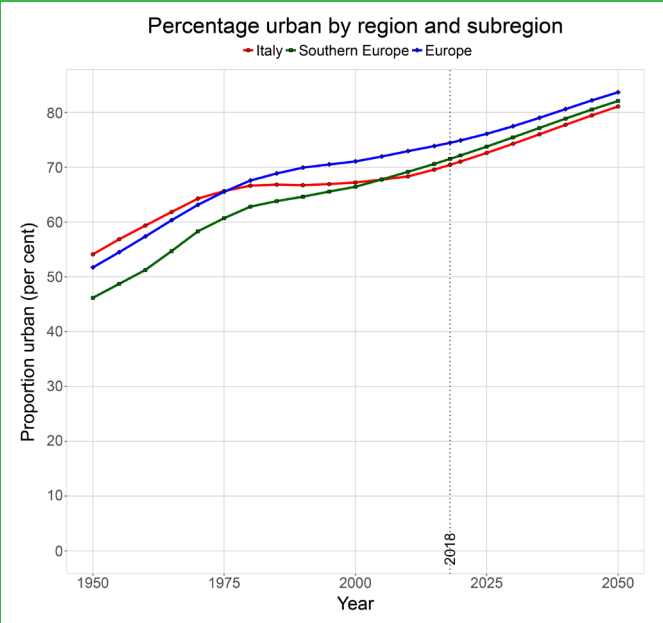
FIG. 1 | Percentage of urban population by region and subregion
Image Credit: 2018 United Nations, DESA, Population Division
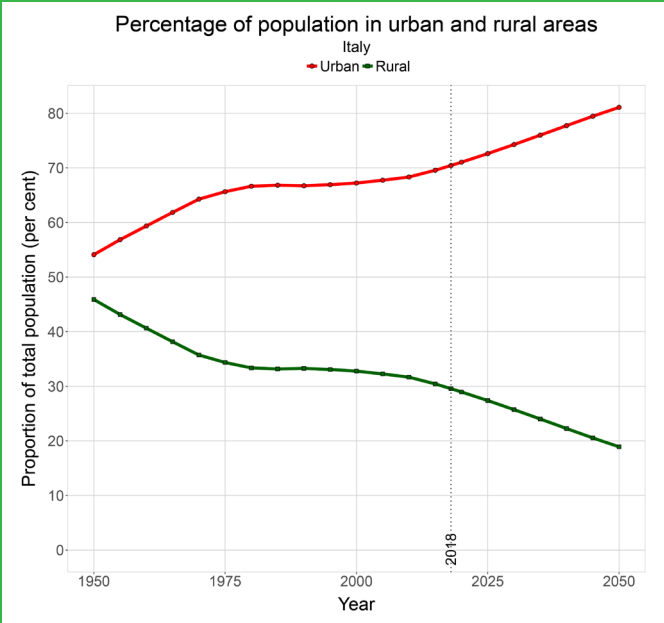
FIG. 2 | Percentage of italian population in urban and rural areas
Image Credit: 2018 United Nations, DESA, Population Division

global population, may add other 2.5 billion of people to the current 7.5 billion living in urban centers, always before 2050 (United Nations, 2018).[2]
Parallel to the rise of population, also social disparities grow as well, and homelessness, a phenomenon that up to fifty years ago was "hidden" in the countryside and which now finds a chance to spread in urban soil with all its implications.
Back in 2005, United Nations estimated that the total amount of homeless people around the World was more than 100 million. Joseph Chamie from Yale University wrote that actually the number previously detected by United Nations had already surpassed 150 million of units, which accounts, more or less, to the 2% of the entire living population (Chamie, 2017).[3] Going deeper, in 2004 UN-Habitat estimated that in Europe homeless population was around 3 million, while a research by Istat, in collaboration with Caritas Italy, fio. PSD[4] and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, calculated that in 2015 the italian peninsula hosted 50724 people in extreme poverty (Istat, 2015). Despite the threat embodied by these numbers,

the most alarming issue is the meaning behind the word "homeless", which actually involves more than what usually is shown to the appearance.

- What is homelessness?
- Is it possible to quantify it through data banks or targeted services?
- What role plays Architecture in fighting against poverty? Is there just one solution or many?

This thesis has, therefore, two main goals: firstly, clarifying and breaking down the phenomenon, with the aim of portraying the current situation in Europe and bringing an exhaustive explanation on causes, consequences and on-going trends of homelessness, secondly, analyzing the meaning of "home" and, through a qualitative comparison of selected projects, determine which architectural solution suits best for emergency needs or follow-up policies at a European level.

1. Magliocco Paolo, *Quante persone nel mondo si stanno spostando per vivere nelle città?*, in «La Stampa – Società», June 2018, https://www.lastampa.it/2018/06/12/societa/quante-persone-nel-mondo-si-stanno-spostando-a-vivere-nelle-citt-R67sc0c4FxTszFbXRwJf8I/pagina.html
2. United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *68% of the world population projected to live in urban areas by 2050, says UN*, in «News», 2018, https://www.un.org/development/desa/en/news/population/2018-revi-

sion-of-world-urbanization-prospects.html
3. Joseph Chamie, *As Cities Grow Worldwide, So Do the Numbers of Homeless*, in «YaleGlobal Online», 2017, https://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/cities-grow-worldwide-so-do-numbers-homeless
4. fio.PSD is the italian observatory of homelessness

0.2 a common committment

The topic of this research has been ac-
cordingly to a common strategy developed by the
United Nations: "The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable
Development".
«Adopted by all United Nations Member States in
2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and
prosperity for people and the planet, now and
into the future. At its heart are the 17 Sustainable
Development Goals (SDGs) (fig. 3), which are an
urgent call for action by all countries - developed
and developing - in a global partnership. They re-
cognize that ending poverty and other depriva-
tions must go hand-in-hand with strategies that
improve health and education, reduce inequality,
and spur economic growth – all while tackling cli-
mate change and working to preserve our oceans
and forests.»[5] (United Nations)
Homelessness, in particular, can be matched with
several of these goals. Some in a direct way: SDG
1 to fight against poverty, SDG 3 for granting to
all the people good health and well-being (which
means not only being in a good physical shape,
but also living in a vibrant and safe environment)

and SDG 10, because most of the time people are
treated differently with heavy distinctions of sex,
age or nationality. Some others in an indirect way:
since fighting homelessness involves the help of
supportive organizations and disciplines like, in
this case, Architecture, Psychology and Econo-
mics, the attention must be also brought to the
environmental and social impact that such inter-
ventions have, advocating for SDG 4, SDG 7, SDG 8,
SDG 11, SDG 13 and SDG 16.
Solving homelessness looks impossible, but it is
not. Numbers are constantly increasing year after
year and if global countries do not start acting in
favor of the Agenda, inequalities will keep rising.

5. United Nations, *Sustainable Development Goals*, https://sustainabledevelop-
ment.un.org/?menu=1300

1. understanding homelessness

1.1 the phenomenon

Before starting reasoning, discussing or giving interpretations about homelessness, it is worth understanding this big issue at its roots. **Chapter 1 wants to cover the causes, the consequences, the dynamics and the impact that such a problem has upon society**.
First of all, it is recommended to start with browsing the definitions of "homeless" given by dictionaries.

«Homeless (*noun*): people who do not have a home, usually because they are poor.»[6]

Cambridge Dictionary Online

«Homeless (*adjective*): (of a person) without a home, and therefore typically living on the streets.»[7]

Oxford Dictionary Online

«Homeless (*noun*): Who, not owning an accommodation, lives on the street.»[8]

Treccani Vocabulary Online

6. Cambridge Dictionary Online, https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/homeless
7. Oxford Dictionary Online, https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/homeless
8. Treccani Vocabulary Online, (translated from Italian), http://www.treccani.it/vocabolario/homeless/

Despite the reliability of dictionaries and encyclopedias, most of the informations provided by such tools are often insufficient. Indeed, **there is no official agreed definition for "homeless" or "homelessness"** but there are some that are more accurate and cover pretty well the entire complexity of the word and the phenomenon itself. In few words, each country and every organization may use different definitions to specify various parameters that are usuful for their studies.
The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), for instance, funds some health centers that use this definition:

«A homeless individual is defined in section 330(h)(5)(A) as an individual who lacks housing (without regard to whether the individual is a member of a family), including an individual whose primary residence during the night is a supervised public or private facility (e.g., shelters) that provides temporary living accommodations, and an individual who is a resident in transitional housing. A homeless person is an individual without permanent housing who may live on the streets; stay in a shelter, mission, single room occupancy facilities, abandoned building or vehicle; or in any other unstable or non-permanent situation. [Section 330 of the Public Health Service Act

(42 U.S.C., 254b)]

An individual may be considered to be homeless if that person is doubled up, a term that refers to a situation where individuals are unable to maintain their housing situation and are forced to stay with a series of friends and/or extended family members. In addition, previously homeless individuals who are to be released from a prison or a hospital may be considered homeless if they do not have a stable housing situation to which they can return. A recognition of the instability of an individual's living arrangements is critical to the definition of homelessness. (HRSA/Bureau of Primary Health Care, Program Assistance Letter 99-12, Health Care for the Homeless Principles of Practice).»[9] (National Health Care for the Homeless Council)

Moreover, the United Nations during the Economic and Social Council in 2009, spent their own words on the topic:

«In its Recommendations for the Censuses of Population and Housing, the CES (Conference of European Statisticians) identifies homeless people under two broad groups:

a. Primary homelessness (or rooflessness). This category includes persons living in the streets without a shelter that would fall within the scope of living quarters (fig. 4);

b. Secondary homelessness. This category may include persons with no place of usual residence who move frequently between various types of accommodations (including dwellings, shelters and institutions for the homeless or other living quarters). This category includes persons living in private dwellings but reporting 'no usual address' on their census form.»[10] (United Nations, 2009)

With this definition, probably inspired by the principles of the ETHOS Classification[11] published by FEANTSA (the European Federation of National Organisations Working with the Homeless), the United Nations wanted to give some order: they did not simply try to understand the dynamics of homeless people, **they also wanted to split them**

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9. National Health Care for the Homeless Council, *What is the official definition of homelessness?*, https://www.nhchc.org/faq/official-definition-homelessness/

10. United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *Economic and Social Council* (Report), 2009, https://unstats.un.org/unsd/censuskb20/Attachments/2009MPHASIS_ECE_Homeless-GUID25ae612721cc4c2c-87b536892e1ed1e1.pdf (p. 3)

11. Paragraph 1.1.1

FIG. 4 | Homeless by a Wall
Photo Credit: (edit of) Gary Knight via flickr, CC BY 2.0

into categories so that the issue could be inspected by different points of view. Indeed, having targeted fields of study, makes it easier to find solutions.

Unlike what is happening today, homelessness was once less visible and traceable for two main reasons: on one hand, the scarce access to any kind of technological source like Internet for gathering informations and connecting to a broader net of data, on the other, the quick urban evolution strating from the 50s. «In richer nations, the percentage of those who live in a city is already around the 81.5%, i.e. more than 8 people out of 10. 20 years ago it was 75.5% and it is expected that in less than 20 years, in 2035, it will be 85%.»[12](Magliocco, 2018)

«**Today, 55% of the world's population lives in urban areas, a proportion that is expected to increase to 68% by 2050. Projections show that urbanization, the gradual shift in residence of the human population from rural to urban areas, combined with the overall growth of the world's population could add another 2.5 billion people to urban areas by 2050**, with close to 90% of this increase taking place in Asia and Africa.»[13] (United Nations, 2018) (fig. 5, 6)

According to the last survey conducted by the United Nations in 2005, homeless people were more than 100 million around the world. Two years ago, Joseph Chamie from Yale University, stated that that number rose up to more than 150 million people, which accounts for, more or less, the 2% of the global population (Chamie, 2017).[14]

In addition, during the World Habitat Day[15] on 1st October 2017, Dr. Joan Clos, the Executive Director of the UN Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), said:

«While millions of people lack suitable homes, the stock of vacant houses is gradually increasing. [...] We all remember well that housing was at the epicentre of the eruption of the global economic crisis of 2008, instead of being at the heart of the urban policy. Today, 1.6 billion people live in inadequate housing, of which one billion live in slums and informal settlements.»[16] (Clos, 2017)

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12. Magliocco Paolo, *Quante persone nel mondo si stanno spostando per vivere nelle città?*, in «La Stampa», 12.06.2018, (translated from Italian), https://www.lastampa.it/2018/06/12/societa/quante-persone-nel-mondo-si-stanno-spostando-a-vivere-nelle-citt-R67sc0c4FxTszFbXRwJf8I/pagina.html

13. United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *68% of the world population projected to live in urban areas by 2050, says UN*, in «News», 2018, https://www.un.org/development/desa/en/news/population/2018-revision-of-world-urbanization-prospects.html
14. Joseph Chamie, *As Cities Grow Worldwide, So Do the Numbers of Homeless*, in «YaleGlobal Online», 2017, https://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/cities-grow-worldwide-so-do-numbers-homeless
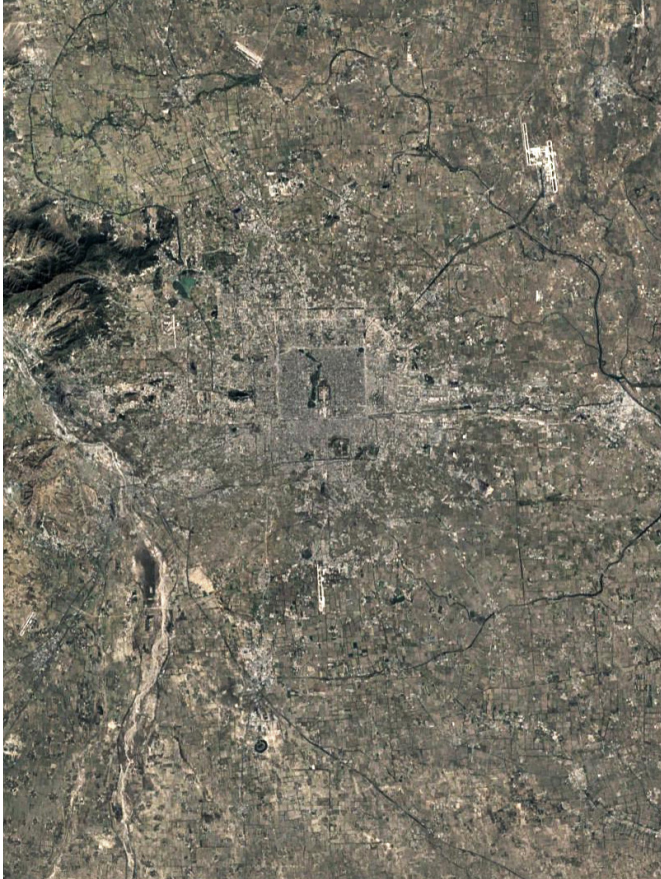
FIG. 5 | Beijing in 1984
Image taken from Google Earth

FIG. 6 | Beijing in 2016
Image taken from Google Earth

Despite the alarming numbers, what is frightening is the misconception of the phenomenon. Most of the time the homeless becomes *the lazy one*, a term that foster indifference towards people who could be our brothers or sisters.
Through the following chapters, the causes, the consequences and the multiple faces of *homelessness* will be analyzed in order to take an insight of the problem and to propose some useful solutions to reduce the growing trend.

1.1.1 the ETHOS Classification

The ETHOS (European Typology on Homelessness and housing exclusion) Classification for homeless people was first published in 2005 by FEANTSA with the aim of providing governments with a powerful tool of interpretation about the topic. Although it has been largely criticized for the reason that «the validity of the typology would be improved if the connections between the conceptual model and the stated operational categories were clarified»[17] (Amore, Baker, Howden-Chapman, 2011), this document is still the basis of rsersarch and comparison about homelessness and it is used both at national and international level.
It works upon the principle of *home* as the «center of family relationships, interests and interpersonal relationships.»[18] (Italian Treccani Encylopedia) «**Having a home can be understood as: having an adequate dwelling (or space) over which a person and his/her family can exercise exclusive possession (physical domain); being able to maintain privacy and enjoy relations**

15. The World Habitat Day is a daily event which occurs every year and where the United Nations promote affordable solutions to underline the importance of a sustainable future
16. UN News, *Affordable housing key for development and social equality, UN says on World Habitat Day*, 2017, https://news.un.org/en/story/2017/10/567552-affordable-housing-key-development-and-social-equality-un-says-world-habitat#.WdOzwFtSy70
17. Kate Amore, Michael Baker and Philippa Howden-Chapman, *The ETHOS Definition and Classification of Homelessness: An Analysis*, 2011, in «European Observatory on Homelessness, European Journal of Homelessness, vol. 5, n. 2_December 2011», pp. 19-37, https://www.feantsa.org/download/feantsa_ejh_v5n2_12-20112103110778663524025.pdf
18. Treccani Encyclopedia, (translated from Italian), http://www.treccani.it/enciclopedia/la-casa-familiare_%28Il-Libro-dell%27anno-del-Diritto%29/

(social domain) and having a legal title to occupation (legal domain).»[19] (ETHOS paper, 2005) In case just one of these three domains is not respected, the principle of *home* cannot be applied and according to the gravity of the situation, the targeted person is matched with one of the thirteen categories described, which in turn are grouped in four conceptual macro-categories:

- Rooflessness (without a shelter of any kind, sleeping rough);
- Houselessness (with a place to sleep but temporary in institutions or shelter);
- Insecure Housing (threatened with severe exclusion due to insecure tenancies, eviction, domestic violence);
- Inadequate Housing (in caravans on illegal campsites, in unfit housing, in extreme overcrowding).[20]

FEANTSA is really committed to help governments on making fare and strong policies towards the less fortunate. Having such a classification in almost every EU language makes comparisons possible and really increase the potential of every single action.[21] (FEANTSA, 2006)

Over the years the paper has yes affirmed its efficiency, but has also gathered some critics about its flexibility.

One, for example, comes from Kate Amore, Michael Baker and Philippa Howden-Chapman, from the Department of Public Health of the University of Otago (Wellington, New Zealand).

In their article they analyze the ETHOS process and its metodology by putting the emphasys on some weaknesses regarding time, circumstances and unclear criteria they believe should be fixed. Here is an extract:

«[…] There are a number of categories for which the application of these criteria is unclear. People living temporarily with friends or family (due to lack of housing) (Category 8.1), for example, are classified as housing excluded, but it seems likely that in many contexts they would satisfy the homelessness criteria: lacking security of tenure (legal domain) and lacking private personal space (social domain). […] Commercial (non-in-

19, 20. FEANTSA, *ETHOS - European Typology on Homelessness and Housing Exclusion*, 2005, https://www.feantsa.org/en/toolkit/2005/04/01/ethos-typology-on-homelessness-and-housing-exclusion

21. FEANTSA, *ETHOS - Taking stock*, 2006, https://www.feantsa.org/download/ethospaper20063618592914136463249.pdf

stitutional) collective living situations in which multiple households live in the same building or on the same site – such as boarding houses and camping grounds – do not appear in the typology. In many countries, people living in these settings would not be considered homeless because the dwellings are habitable and they have security of tenure. In some countries, however, this is not the case. In New Zealand, for example, camping ground residents have no security of tenure, and tenancy rights for commercial boarding house tenants are significantly weaker than for those in private rental housing. [...] When classifying a population into different categories (for prevalence or incidence measures), it is important that the entire population is assessed using a consistent reference period. [...] If a person is usually homeless but is in hospital at the time of enumeration, they should not be counted as homeless.»[22]

Rising some interesting points, the authors open up to new legit discussions about the accuracy of the study. The reality remains that homelessness is a very complex issue with a lot of differences and parallelisms in each country. **Even FEANTSA members tend to point out that their document provides typologies (homelessness and housing exclusion) but whether these are recognized as such and how much «the dividing line between homelessness and housing exclusion will vary»[23] (FEANTSA), this is up to every single government.**

In the following page, it is possible to read the new re-designed official table of ETHOS Classification 2017.

22. Kate Amore, Michael Baker and Philippa Howden-Chapman, *The ETHOS Definition and Classification of Homelessness: An Analysis*, 2011, in «European Observatory on Homelessness, European Journal of Homelessness, vol. 5, n. 2_ December 2011», pp. 19-37, https://www.feantsa.org/download/feantsa_ejh_v5n2_12-20112103110778663524025.pdf

23. FEANTSA, *ETHOS - European Typology on Homelessness and Housing Exclusion* (FAQ paper), 2005, p. 1, https://www.feantsa.org/download/ethos_faq-18107446974200637605.pdf

		OPERATIONAL CATEGORY		LIVING SITUATION	GENERIC DEFINITION
Conceptual Category	ROOFLESS	1 People Living Rough	1.1	Public space or external space	Living in the streets or public spaces, without a shelter that can be defined as living quarters
		2 People in emergency accommodation	2.1	Night shelter	People with no usual place of residence who make use of overnight shelter, low threshold shelter
	HOUSELESS	3 People in accommodation for the homeless	3.1 3.2 3.3	Homeless hostel Temporary accommodation Transitional supported accommodation	Where the period of stay is intended to be short term
		4 People in Women's Shelter	4.1	Women's shelter accommodation	Women accommodated to experience of domestic violence and where the period of stay is intended to be short term
		5 People in accommodation for immigrants	5.1 5.2	Temporary accommodation/reception centres Migrant workers accommodation	Immigrants in reception or short term accommodation due to their immigrant status
		6 People due to be released from institutions	6.1 6.2 6.3	Penal institutions Medical institutions (*) Children's institutions/homes	No housing available prior to release Stay longer than needed due to lack of housing No housing identified (e.g. by 18th birthday)
		7 People receiving longer-term support (due to homelessness)	7.1 7.2	Residential care for older homeless people Supported accommodation for formerly homeless people	Long stay accommodation with care for formerly homeless people (normally more than one year)
	INSECURE	8 People living in insecure accommodation	8.1 8.2 8.3	Temporarily with family/friends No legal (sub)tenancy Illegal occupation of land	Living in conventional housing but not the usual place of residence due to lack of housing Occupation of dwelling with no legal tenancy illegal occupation of a dwelling Occupation of land with no legal rights
		9 People living under threat of eviction	9.1 9.2	Legal orders enforced (rented) Re-possession orders (owned)	Where orders for eviction are operative Where mortagee has legal order to re-possess
		10 People living under threat of violence	10.1	Police recorded incidents	Where police action is taken to ensure place of safety for victims of domestic violence
	INADEQUATE	11 People living in temporary/ non-conventional structures	11.1 11.2 11.3	Mobile homes Non-conventional building Temporary structure	Not intended as place of usual residence Makeshift shelter, shack or shanty Semi-permanent structure hut or cabin
		12 People living in unfit housing	12.1	Occupied dwellings unfit for habitation	Defined as unfit for habitation by national legislation or building regulations
		13 People living in extreme over-crowding	13.1	Highest national norm of overcrowding	Defined as exceeding national density standard for floor-space or uesable rooms

Note: Short stay is defined as normally less than one year; Long stay in defined as more than one year.

FIG. 7 | ETHOS Classification 2017
Image Credit: (edit of) FEANTSA

1.1.2 those who are vulnerable: causes and consequences

Many people still view homelessness as the result of personal failings or simply think that they «are lazy and don't want to work.»[24] (Freeman, 2015) The reality is that the topic is more complex than it appears to be.

Economical and political systems depend on factors that are highly impressionable and they are, therefore, unpredictable and vulnerable. «**This economic system has multiplied more than 10 times the average income per capita of global population after millenia of stillness. Nevertheless**, as Pierluigi Ciocca writes in "La banca che ci manca", **"it has proven to be unequal with the distribution of income and wealth as much as detrimental for the environment... (and) highly unstable".**»[25] (Galimberti, 2016)

Among the others, one of the consequences of this system is homelessness.

«**Homelessness is usually the result of the cumulative impact of a number of factors, rather** than a single cause»[26] (Homeless Hub), in particular it **«may be the end result of a process that involves multiple ruptures with family and community [...]. The key causes [...] include individual/relational factors, structural factors and institutional and systems failures.**»[27] (Gaetz, 2014)

- *Structural factors*: «broad systemic economic and societal issues that occur at a societal level that affect opportunities, social environments, and outcomes for individuals.»[28] (Gaetz and Dej, 2017) Some key factors are, for example, poverty[29] (priority of the Agenda 2030[30] programme) and housing. Low incomes and the lack of a stable place where to live in, indeed, determine how challenging life can be for each individual in terms of sanitation, food supply and privacy, which should always be guaranteed according to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[31]. European data[32] show how housing eviction has a huge impact on people's lives: with housholds paying over 50% of their monthly income in rent, the pay cheque for living on the street is just around the corner.

24. Amy L. Freeman, *"Homeless people are lazy"… Uh, no.*, 2015, (for) «Huffington Post», https://www.huffingtonpost.com/amy-l-freeman/homeless-people-a-re-lazyu_b_8521886.html
25. Fabrizio Galimberti, *Le instabilità, le crisi e il governo dell'economia*, 26.10.2016, (for) «Il Sole 24 Ore», 26.10.2016, (translated from Italian), https://www.ilso-le24ore.com/art/commenti-e-idee/2016-10-25/le-instabilita-crisi-e-gover-no-dell-economia-211717.shtml?uuid=ADMagHjB&refresh_ce=1

26. Homeless Hub, *Causes Of Homelessness*, https://www.homelesshub.ca/about-homelessness/homelessness-101/causes-homelessness
27. Stephen Gaetz, *Coming of Age: Reimagining the Response to Youth Homelessness in Canada*, 2014, Toronto: The Canadian Onservatory on Homelessness Press, p. 10, https://homelesshub.ca/sites/default/files/ComingOfAgeHH_0.pdf
28. Stephen Gaetz & Erin Dej, *A New Direction: A Framework for Homelessness Prevention*, 2017, Toronto: Canadian Observatory on Homelessness Press, p. 18

- *System failures*: refer «to those situations where inadequate policy and service delivery contribute to the likelihood that someone will become homeless.»[33] (Gaetz and Dej, 2017) One example is the presence of barriers to access public services. It is quite common for hospitals and child-care facilities, due to the increasing number of requests or simply for funds cut or inadequacy of support, to introduce restrictions and requisites for the applicants, putting people in endless waiting lists. It goes without saying that homeless people, in this framework, struggle a lot to find adequate support. Simultaneously, a lack of planning for the time following the release (i.e. the reintroduction of individuals into society and, hopefully, into an accommodation) force people to fall into homelessness in case they have no better option.

Most of the time, failures of the system are directly connected to a scarce provision of data. Unfortunely, a large number of countries still have no official plans for gathering informations about homeless people and that «prevents governments to take an integrated system approach

to complex social issues.»[34] (Gaetz and Dej, 2017)
- *Individual circumstances*: the third factor differs from the others because refers «to the personal circumstances that place people at risk of homelessness.»[35] (Gaetz and Dej, 2017) It includes, for example, family crises, broken relations, mental illnesses, traumas, addictions, violence and sexual abuse, all factors considered both as a cause or a consequence of the phenomenon. (fig. 8)
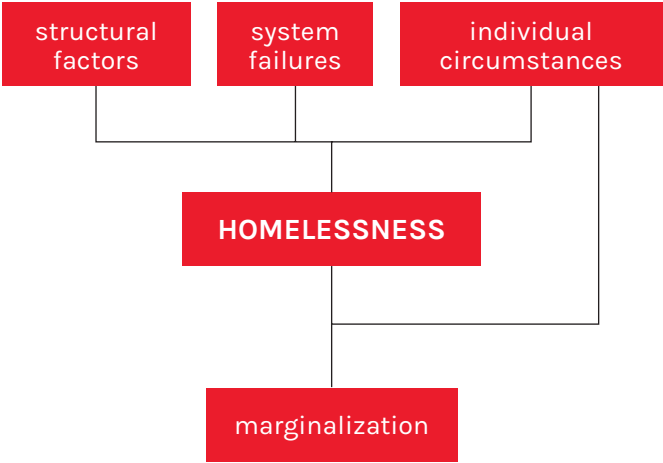
FIG. 8 | Causes and consequences of Homelessness (scheme)
Image Credit: image by the author

On one hand causes, because with the slowly increase of system failures, people experiencing individual problems are less and less likely to be treated adequatly, making their victims espe-

29. Within this context, *poverty* refers to the challenges that people face every day in order to see their basic needs met.
30. Paragraph 0.2
31. Paragraph 3.1.1
32. Chapter 2
33, 34, 35. Stephen Gaetz & Erin Dej, *A New Direction: A Framework for Homelessness Prevention*, 2017, Toronto: Canadian Observatory on Homelessness Press,

cially among young people, women and mothers. Data provaided by the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) say that «**one in 10 women has experienced some form of sexual violence since the age of 15, and one in 20 has been raped.**»[36] Or more, according to the World Health Organization in 2008, «**over 10,000 15-29 year old Europeans lose their lives to violence each year and far more suffer physical, emotional, psychological or social harm** due to involvement in, witnessing or fearing violence. Violence can affect every aspect of young people's lives, hampering their prospects for education, employment and health, and reducing their ability to form healthy personal and social relationships.»[37]

On the other consequences, for the reason stated above.

1.1.3 those who are invisible: hidden homelessness

«Hidden homelessness refers to people who would meet the legal definition of homeless if they were to make a formal application, but are not represented in the local authority homeless statistics. This may include people who have not approached the council for help, who have been turned away from statutory services […] or who have not been recorded for other reasons. This group includes people who are sofa-surfing (staying with friends, often on floors or couches), people living in overcrowded or unsafe conditions, and in out-of-season holiday lets or poor-quality caravans in rural areas.»[38] (Husbands, 2018) (fig. 9)

From a theorical point of view it is almost impossible to find these people, also considering that **hidden individuals have been estimated to account for the 80%[39] of the total homeless population.** (Crawley et al., 2013) «**Homelessness is a transitory and dynamic condition, not a static**

p. 20-21
36. FRA – European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, *Violence against women: an EU-wide survey – Main results*, 2014, p. 3
37. Counsil of Europe and European Union, *Youth Violence*, https://pjp-eu.coe.int/en/web/youth-partnership/youth-violence

38. Jessica Husbands, *Topic Briefing: Hidden Homelessness. October 2018*, p. 3, (for) «Shelter Scotland», https://scotland.shelter.org.uk/__data/assets/pdf_file/0005/1594103/Hidden_Homelessness.pdf
39. J. Crawley, D. Kane, L. Atkinson-Plato, M. Hamilton, K. Dobson, J. Watson, *Needs of the hidden homeless – no longer hidden: a pilot study*, 2013, in «Public Health», Issue 7, vol. 127, https://homelesshub.ca/resource/needs-hidden-homeless-%E2%80%93-no-longer-hidden-pilot-study

experience. […] It becomes, therefore, essential […] to acquire data on services for people affected by housing discomfort.»[40] (Istat, 2014) In cases like this, the help provided by NGOs becomes fundamental. Operating upon a vast territory, these organisations offer valid alternative solutions to cover the basic needs (food through common cantines, a bed in night shelters, goods for facing daily life, etc.) of those who struggle every day and as a consequence have the opportunity to

40, 41. Istat, *La ricerca nazionale sulla condizione delle persone senza dimora in Italia*, 2014, pp. 7-12, (translated from Italian) https://www.istat.it/it/files//2014/06/17915_Senza_dimora.pdf

meet those who remain hidden from governing insitutions. Istat (Italian National Statistical Institute) defines this type of survey as «time-location sampling, in which the units of the interested part of the population are reached through the selection of the places they frequent and the time they use them»[41].

Unfortunely, it is not as simple as it appears. First of all, there is the possibility that not every homeless person decides to take advantage of these services for unknown reasons, and secondly it is also possible, as well, that the same person could be registered multiple times within the same survey. A complete and accurate coverage of one country's territory results, therefore, almost a dream due to the nature of the problem itself.

«Experiencing hidden homelessness entails a living situation that is both physically and emotionally precarious. For instance, one study interviewing youth experiencing hidden homelessness understood their living accommodations with friends or family as temporary and felt a loss of control and feelings of imposition. Like all those who experience homelessness, pathways into hidden homelessness come about due to a combination of structural factors, system failures, as well as personal circumstances.»[42] (Ali, 2018)

It is comprehensible, then, how this situation is

particularly common among those who struggle to find an accommodation. **People who are not familiar with the system of the country, who have limited support, like ethnic minorities or migrants, or who, due to youth traumas or violence, see the house as an unwelcoming place, have a higher chance take part to this phenomenon.**

1.1.4 an uncertain future: youth eviction and migration

After the crisis in 2008 and especially during the last years, economy has had a huge impact. **In this context of political austerity, increasing unemployment and poverty, young people and migrants are undoubtedly the most vulnerable, threatened and targeted part of the population.** Eurostat portrays a clear panorama: in November 2018 the unemployment rate in Europe was 6.7% of the entire population and more than double for people under 25 (15.2%).[43]

«In most European countries, young people between 18 and 29 years old represent 20 to 30% of all homeless people.»[44] (Serme-Morin, 2016) Even though the causes and the consequences of youth homelessness are the same of everybody else, the fact that young people are exposed to a poor environment lacking of sane principles and vibrant engagements, esponentially increase the gravity of the repercussions. Children, for intance, are extremely influenced by parents and

42. Nadia Ali, *Understanding Hidden Homelessness*, 2018, (for) «Homeless Hub», https://www.homelesshub.ca/blog/understanding-hidden-homelessness

43. Eurostat, Unemployment by sex and age – monthly average (table), 2018, http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/submitViewTableAction.do
44. Chloé Serme-Morin, *FEANTSA Youth: advocating for young people's right to housing in Europe*, in FEANTSA, *Homeless in Europe – Preventing youth homelessness: Case Studies from across Europe and North America*, Spring 2016, p. 4, https://www.feantsa.org/download/magazine_spring_2016_youth3935837121310495469.pdf

in case the latters cannot offer stable conditions or, worse, are absent, the future of next generations does not appears so bright. «Trigger factors for youth homelessness are sadly consistent across countries: problems in the family home (often due to lack of income and poor housing conditions); discrimination based on sexuality (25% of homeless youth are LGBTQI[45]); personal substance abuse, mental health (often undiagnosed) issues, learning disabilities, and other structural factors including problems within the education system, involvement with the criminal justice system.»[46] (Jones, 2016) «**The European Observatory on Homelessness has called the increase in homeless youth across Europe the most striking trend in homeless demographics.** The Department of Justice in the US estimates over 1.9 million teens experience homelessness in the US each year (Bardine et al., 2014)[47]. In Canada, approximately 35,000 youth are homeless annually (Gaetz, 2014)[48], while UK sources report at least 83,000 youth were homeless in the UK in 2014 (Clarke et al., 2015)[49].[50] If we also add factors

such as discrimination, migration and exit from children's care system that does not provide adequate housing solution, the situation can only get worse.

On the other hand there is migration homelessness. Over the last few years, this phenomenon has been constantly on the rise: more and more people, usually for causes concerning war and extreme poverty in the homecountry, move towards EU to find fortune. Due to economical and bureaucratic barriers, these shiftings are often provided with illegal ways that end up being even lethal. «**An estimated 362,000 refugees and migrants risked their lives crossing the Mediterranean Sea in 2016, with 181,400 people arriving in Italy and 173,450 in Greece. In the first half of 2017, over 105,000 refugees and migrants entered Europe.** This movement towards Europe continues to take a devastating toll on human life. Since the beginning of 2017, over 2,700 people are believed to have died or gone missing while crossing the Mediterranean Sea to reach Europe, with reports of many others perishing en route.»[51] (The UN Ref-

45. LGBTQI is the acronym of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, http://lgbtq2stoolkit.learningcommunity.ca/wp/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/LGBTQ2S-Definitions.pdf
46. Samara Jones, *Can we really prevent young people from becoming homeless in Europe?*, in FEANTSA, *Homeless in Europe – Preventing youth homelessness: Case Studies from across Europe and North America*, Spring 2016, p. 2, https://www.feantsa.org/download/magazine_spring_2016_youth3935837121310495469.pdf

47. Bardine, D. et al., *Youth Homelessness in America*, The national network of youth, 2014, in Canada Without Poverty, *Youth rights! Right now! Ending youth homelessness: a human rights guide*, p. 3, https://www.feantsa.org/download/youthrights-guideeu-finalcompressed57863223550928774401.pdf
48. Stephen Gaetz, *Coming of Age: Reimagining our Response to Youth Homelessness in Canada*, 2014, Toronto: Homeless Hub Research Paper Series #11, in Canada Without Poverty, *Youth rights! Right now! Ending youth homelessness: a human ri-*

ugee Agency) (fig. 10)

Those who manage to land safely split into two categories: migrants who seek asylum in the welcoming country and others who undertake further travels to reach different parts of the continent. They «are defined as *migrants in transit* while they reside for a limited time in other countries.»[52] (FEANTSA, 2017) FEANTSA defines migrants in transit in a precarious human rights situation for two main reasons. Firstly, because due to their moving attitude they cannot recieve support from the hosting country. It is mandatory, indeed, for those who seek help from the government to register as asylum seekers. Not that for

FIG. 10 | Refugees on a boat crossing the Mediterranean sea, heading from Turkish coast to the northeastern Greek island of Lesbos, 29 January 2016
Photo Credit: (edit of) Mstyslav Chernov via Wikimedia Commons, CC BY-SA 4.0

ghts guide, p. 3, https://www.feantsa.org/download/youthrights-guideeu-final-compressed5786322350928774401.pdf
49. Clarke, A. et al., *Estimating the scale of youth homelessness in the UK*, 2015, Cambridge Centre for Housing & Planning Research, in Canada Without Poverty, *Youth rights! Right now! Ending youth homelessness: a human rights guide*, p. 3, https://www.feantsa.org/download/youthrights-guideeu-finalcompressed5786322350928774401.pdf

50. Canada Without Poverty, *Youth rights! Right now! Ending youth homelessness: a human rights guide*, p. 3, https://www.feantsa.org/download/youthrights-guideeu-finalcompressed5786322350928774401.pdf
51. UNHCR, Europe Situation, in «Emergencies», https://www.unhcr.org/europe-emergency.html
52. FEANTSA, *Homelessness among migrants in transit needs to be addressed*, 2017, p. 1, https://www.feantsa.org/download/homelessness-among-migran-

stable migrants life is easier: times and lists for acceptance are endless and people are forced to live on the street, in overcrowded conditions or in temporary solutions if they are lucky, ending up being deprived from their dignity as humans and becoming vulnerable to every form of violence.

Secondly, because in recent times, restrictions and laws for transiting across boarders have become tougher and tougher. Migrants in transit have the possibility to apply for support in the welcoming country, but some deliberately refuse because they hope to leave as soon as possible (FEANTSA, 2017).

Every year, an increasing number of people is at risk. Usually, prevention measures and a lack of preventive interventions are not enough to tackle the issue. What should be done as quickly as possible is to integrate targeted and efficient measures into national policies, taking inspiration from those countries, like Finland[53], that succeded in reducing the number of homeless.

ts-in-transit7118213477585514467.pdf
53. FEANTSA and Abbé Pierre Foundation, *Third Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2018*, p. 11, https://www.feantsa.org/download/full-report-en1029873431323901915.pdf

1.1.5 the power of stereotypes

«B. Discrimination and stigmatization
11. Discrimination affecting persons living in extreme poverty must be punished as a violation of human rights. The stigmatization of the poor and their associations, groups, neighbourhoods or places of residence, and their representation as persons without rights who are dangerous, violent and display other negative characteristics, must be regarded as forms of discrimination. Discrimination against the poor based on their image, their dress, their physical appearance or any other grounds related to their situation of extreme poverty constitutes a human rights violation. The State, international agencies and other parties concerned have an obligation to criticize and combat stigmatization of the poor and to promote a balanced and fair image of persons who are in a situation of extreme poverty.
12. The media and education systems play a key role in the processes of discrimination and stigmatization, and hence in efforts to combat those phenomena.
13. Public officials, those of international organizations, personnel in humanitarian organizations and all those working for the elimination of poverty are expected to maintain relations of respect

for the dignity and the fundamental rights of persons living in extreme poverty, particularly in human relations, in humanitarian services and in project formulation and implementation. The personnel of social welfare schemes have these obligations, and the right to freedom from discrimination based on the circumstance of poverty is a right which must be guaranteed to the poor.»[54] (United Nations, 2006)

Section B taken from the *Drafting Guiding Principles on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights*, developed by the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, puts the emphasis on the problem of homeless people being stereotyped and then discriminated, which moves the discussion on a psychological level.
The very first simple example of what happens comes from people reacting in front of rough sleepers. As far as we can see while walking through teh city, most of the time they are completely ignored, as if they do not exist. (fig. 10) For some reasons, circumstances have led people to

create some myths and questions around homelessness that contribute to the stigmatization of a group of people who are already marginalised enough both due to social and racial reasons. Homeless Hub, for instance, lists some of them:

1. People choose to be homeless;
2. People experiencing homeless are lazy;
3. All people who experience homelessness are addicts;
4. People experiencing homelessness should just find a job;
5. There are plenty of adequate services and supports to help those experiencing homelessness. (Homeless Hub)[55]

This first chapter has already spent some words about what hides behind a homeless, so it is easy to affirm that, despite some cases could be as described, reality is that there is much more complexity to be taken in consideration when talking about such a delicate issue. «The prejudices that still survive around homeless people often drive

54. United Nations Human Rights - Office of the High Commissioner, *The draft guiding principles on extreme poverty and human rights: the rights of the poor*, Annex, 2006, p. 33, https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Poverty/SubCommission2006_9.pdf

55. Homeless Hub, *Myths and Questions About Homelessness*, https://www.homelesshub.ca/about-homelessness/homelessness-101/myths-and-questions-about-homelessness

FIG. 11 | Asleep in Red
Photo Credit: (edit of) Derek Mindler via flickr, CC BY 2.0

local politics, fragmented due to the lack of a central programme, and legitimate different form of social inequalities.»[56] (Porcellana, 2010)
On the other hand, it is curious to understand how homeless people themselves feel and what they think about the social status they are associated with. In an article for *The Conversation*[57], Zoe C. Walter, from University of Queensland (Australia), explains how an experiment conducted together with The Salvation Army (TSA)[58] showed how homeless people's «perceptions of their situation might be just as important as how others classify them.»[59] (Walter, 2017) The interview with 119 people from five TSA accommodation centers in Queensland resulted in: 55% accepted to be defined as homeless, 31% rejected that label and only 14% were ambivalent.[60]
It appears «that **the wellbeing of people who refused to define themselves as homeless was significantly higher than the wellbeing of those who had adopted the label to describe themselves**»[61], demonstrating the effects of a positive mindset upon social attitudes. One male partici-

pant explained:
«To me, homeless is on the street. This is a hostel, it's a refuge, it's a roof over your head, a shower, food, so I wouldn't say I was homeless. I've got somewhere to go every day to sleep, so I wouldn't say I'm homeless»[62] (Unknown).

«The absence of an accommodation is just the most evident social and individual discomfort»[63] (Porcellana, 2017) within the framework, but measures and policies should be built at first, around a bigger sense of community.

56. Valentina Porcellana, *Abitare il dormitorio. Il lavoro educativo e gli spazi di prima accoglienza notturna a Torino*, in Gabriele Proglio, *Le città (in)visibili*, vol. 1, Antares, Catagnito 2010, p. 36, (translated from Italian)
57. «The Conversation is an independent source of news and views, sourced from the academic and research community and delivered direct to the public.» The Conversation, *Who we are*, https://theconversation.com/uk/who-we-are
58. The Salvation Army (TSA) is a Protestant Christian church and an international charitable organisation
59, 60, 61, 62. Zoe Walter, Cameron Parsell, Genevieve Dingle, Jolanda Jetten, *What's in the name 'homeless'? How people see themselves and the labels we apply matter*, 2017, (for) «The Conversation», https://theconversation.com/whats-in-the-name-homeless-how-people-see-themselves-and-the-labels-we-apply-matter-69282
63. Valentina Porcellana, *Abitare il dormitorio. Il lavoro educativo e gli spazi di prima accoglienza notturna a Torino*, in Gabriele Proglio, *Le città (in)visibili*, vol. 1, Antares, Catagnito 2010, p. 34, (translated from Italian)

2. the European scenario
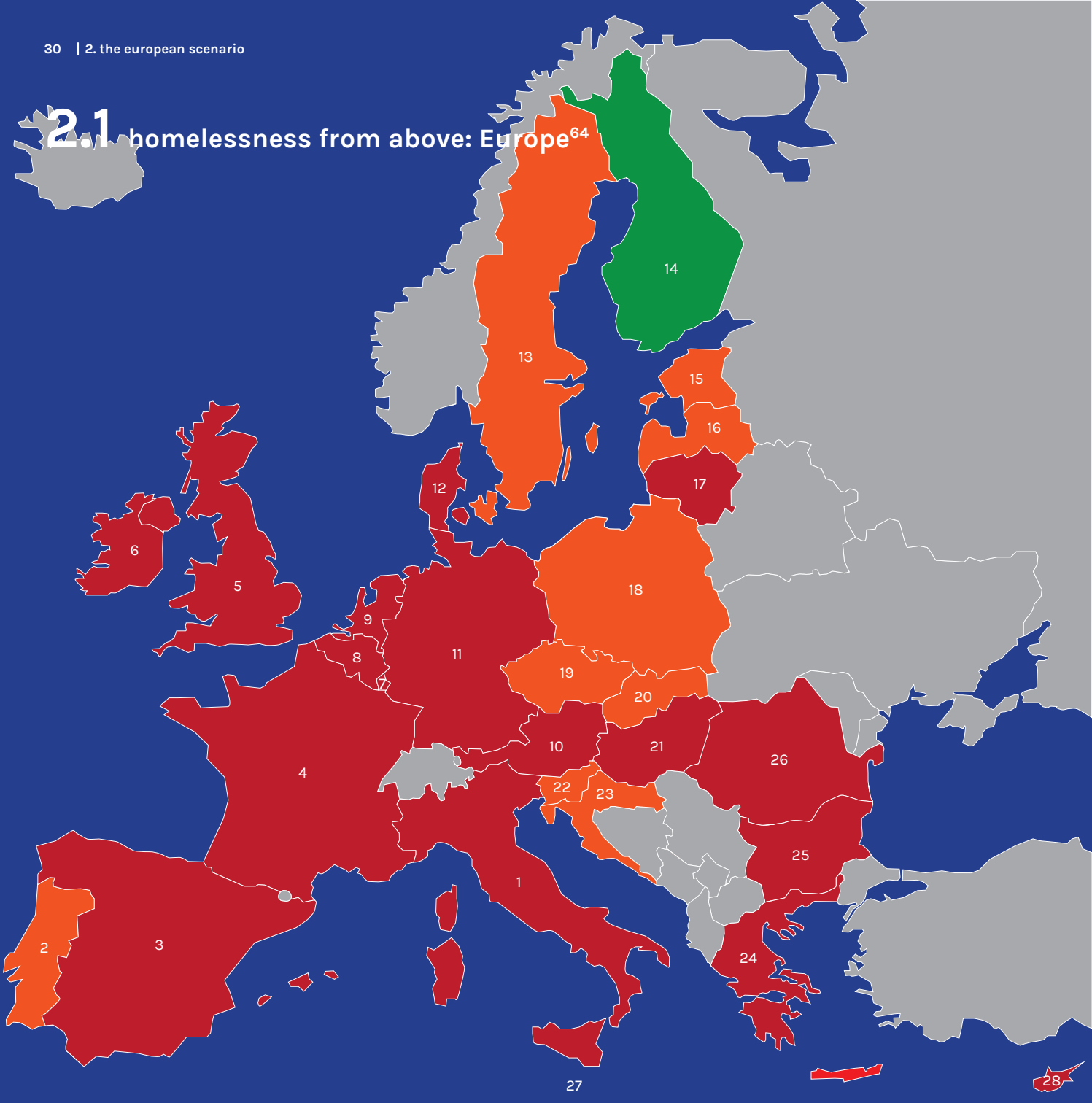
2.1 homelessness from above: Europe[64]

1. Italy
+6.5%[65]
2011 - 2014
I: 17.6% (+3%)[66]
II: 36.8% (+6.3%)[67]

2. Portugal
+16.2%
2008 - 2013
I: 17.7% (-23.8%)
II: 35.1% (+35.1%)

3. Spain
+20.5%
2014 - 2016
I: 18.5% (+4.5%)
II: 37.7% (+1.9%)

4. France
+17%
2016 - 2017
I: 18% (+1.1%)
II: 36.2% (+0%)

5. United Kingdom
+169%
2010 - 2017
I: 24.5% (+23.7%)
II: 47.4% (+30.9%)

6. Ireland
+145%
2014 - 2017
I: 16.4% (+1.2%)
II: 31.3% (-5.4%)

7. Luxembourg
+126%
2008 - 2017
I: 15.8% (+15.2%)
II: 34.4% (+15.8%)

8. Belgium
+96%
2008 - 2016
I: 19.5% (-4.9%)
II: 38.5% (-2.3%)

9. The Netherlands
+11%
2011 - 2016
I: 24.7% (-13.6%)
II: 47.8% (-3.2%)

10. Austria
+32%
2008 - 2016
I: 18.4% (-1.1%)
II: 40.3% (-2.7%)

11. Germany
+150%
2014 - 2017
I: 27.4% (-0.4%)
II: 51.3% (+8.7%)

12. Denmark
+8%
2015 - 2017
I: 26.7% (-19.6%)
II: 58.2% (+0.2%)

13. Sweden
+7%
2011 - 2017
I: 22.2% (+5.2%)
II: 44.1% (-0.5%)

14. Finland
-18%
2009 - 2016
I: 18.1% (+2.8%)
II: 36.8% (+7.3%)

15. Estonia
I: 15% (-14.8%)
II: 29.1% (-14.4%)

16. Latvia
I: 17.5% (-12.9%)
II: 31.9% (-12.8%)

17. Lithuania
+16.2%
2015 - 2016
I: 17.2% (-15.3%)
II: 32% (-23.1%)

18. Poland
-32%
2011 - 2017
I: 20.3% (-6.5%)
II: 35.9% (-1.4%)

19. Czech Republic
I: 23% (+0.4%)
II: 42.1% (+3.2%)

20. Slovakia
I: 20.3% (+1.5%)
II: 38.5% (+6.1%)

21. Hungary
I: 21.3% (-15.5%)
II: 36.3% (-6.7%)

22. Slovenia
I: 16% (+3.9%)
II: 32.7% (+7.6%)

23. Croatia
I: 18.2% (-28.1%)
II: 35.7% (-23.2%)

24. Greece
I: 41.9% (+44.5%)
II: 74.8% (+42.7%)

25. Bulgaria
I: 28.9% (+58.8%)
II: 48.4% (+65.2%)

26. Romania
I: 23.6% (-7.1%)
II: 39.2% (-0%)

27. Malta
-52%
2017 - 2018
I: 7.6% (-29%)
II: 13.3% (-36.1%)

28. Cyprus
+138%
2014 - 2017
I: 12.8% (+11.3%)
II: 20% (-6.4%)

64. The concept of graphic design and the pool of data for the entire chapter are based on FEANTSA and Abbé Pierre Foundation, *Third Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2018*, https://www.feantsa.org/download/full-report-en1029873431323901915.pdf
65. Homelessness trends with reference of time. Data provided in Pargaraph 2.2
66. Average housesolds' disposable income spent on housing costs in 2016 and relative trend from 2010. Data from FEANTSA and Abbé Pierre Foundation, *Third Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2018*, p. 54, https://www.feantsa.org/download/full-report-en1029873431323901915.pdf
67. Average poor households' disposable income spent on housing costs in 2016 and relative trend from 2010. Data from FEANTSA and Abbé Pierre Foundation, *Third Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2018*, p. 54, https://www.feantsa.org/download/full-report-en1029873431323901915.pdf

2.2 the threat of being excluded

«Overall in 2016, EU households saw the quality of their accommodation improve, despite prices continuing to soar. However, **the worsening housing situation for poor households and the associated increase in inequality continued in an alarming fashion**. The proportion of households that are poor, i.e. those with an income less than 60% of the standardised median income after social transfers, has gradually risen over the past six years from 16.5% of the total EU population to 17.3% in 2016. Eurostat/EU-SILC data analysis for 2016 includes the various aspects of housing exclusion in each EU country and compares the housing situation for poor households with that of the rest of the population. People excluded from the housing market[68] are consequently excluded from this analysis, with data solely concerning households with housing.»[69] (FEANTSA, 2018)

Chapter two of the *Third Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2018*, published by FEANTSA, opens with this short introduction, describing the situation of the housing market in 2016. Relying on data gathered by Eurostat for the most, FEANTSA tries to portray the European panorama on housing exclusion comparing numbers about housing costs and quality coming from all the 28 State Members.

For instance, **22 out of 28 European Countries see an increase in their costs** (expressed in PPP[70]) by not less than 6%, with almost half of them being above 20% and with peaks of more than 40% in Bulgaria, United Kingdom and Portugal. On the other hand, in some countries the rise in inequality may be explained with the difference in the amount of disposable income that households spend in housing. For the poor ones, high values are to be found in countries like Greece with 75%, Denmark with 58%, Germany with 51% and Czech Republic and Bulgaria with 48%, while in the rest of Europe percentages oscillate between 30% and 40%. But for the total population, numbers are halved, meaning that poors spend the double.[71]

This leads to huge discrepancies in European society. Recovering from this state of things can be hard unless governments and organizations

68. According to the *European Typology of Homelessness and Housing Exclusion* drawn up by FEANTSA in 2007, the four forms of exclusion associated with housing are rooflessness (sleeping rough), houselessness (shelters or supported accommodation), living in insecure housing (temporary solutions with friends or families, illegal occupation, threatening conditions) and living in inadequate housing (temporary and overcrowded solutions).
69. FEANTSA and Abbé Pierre Foundation, *Third Overview of Housing Exclu-*

sion in Europe 2018, p. 50, https://www.feantsa.org/download/full-report-en1029873431323901915.pdf
70. PPP: Purchasing Power Parity. It is a tool used in Economics to balance the difference among currencies in order to evaluate something under the same value (for instance, in US Dollars or Euros).
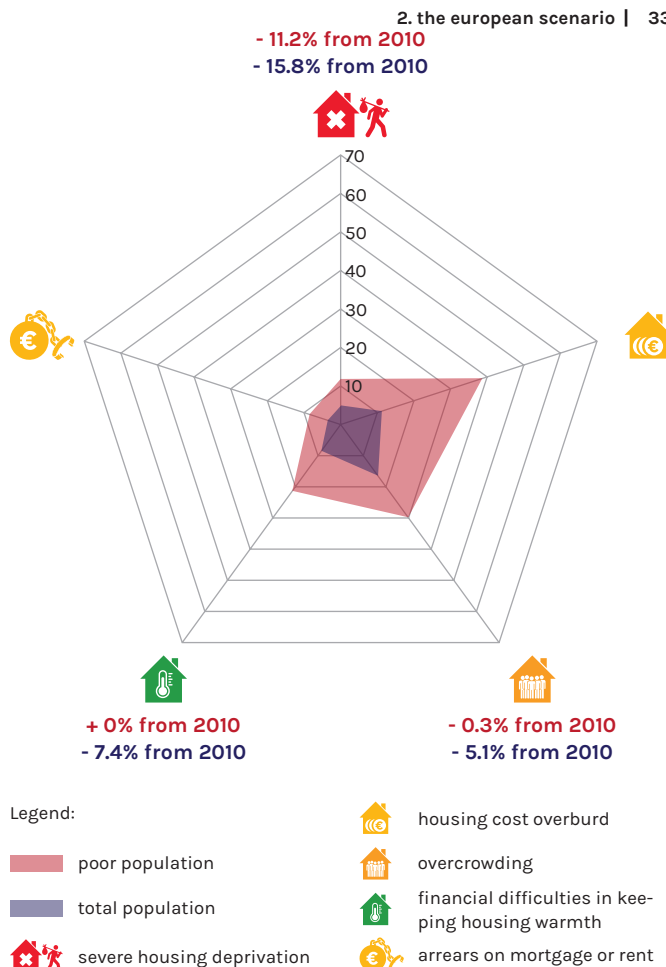71. FEANTSA and Abbé Pierre Foundation, *Third Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2018*, pp. 52-59, https://www.feantsa.org/download/full-report-

2.2.0 Europe[73]

adopt rapid and targeted solutions.

In addition, in this economical scenario of austerity and unemployment, young people and migrants are extremely vulnerable. Age and nationality, indeed, seem to be two key factors that worsen people's conditions.[72]

In this chapter, housing exclusion has been studied and arranged so that it is possible to have a complete overview of all 28 European countries through a targeted comparison. In particular, it articulates around five main factors: sever housing deprivation, housing cost overburd, overcrowding, financial difficulties in keeping an adequate housing temperature and arrears and mortgage on rents.

- 11.2% from 2010
- 15.8% from 2010

+ 0% from 2010
- 7.4% from 2010

- 0.3% from 2010
- 5.1% from 2010

Legend:

- poor population
- total population
- severe housing deprivation
- housing cost overburd
- overcrowding
- financial difficulties in keeping housing warmth
- arrears on mortgage or rent

housing costs (in €/month)		
	2016	**2010 - 2016**
housing costs for poor households (PPP)	405.7	+10%
young people and ratio with total population (2016)		

	aged 18-24		total pop.	
	total	poor	total	poor
housing cost overburden rate	14.2%	43.4%	11.1%	39%
	total (16-24)			
severe housing deprivation	7.6%		4.8%	

population aged 18+ sorted by nationality (2016)			
	non-EU	EU	nationals
housing cost overburden rate	27.6%	22.4%	10.6%
overcrowding	32.7%	18%	14.2%

en1029873431323901915.pdf

72. FEANTSA and Abbé Pierre Foundation, *Third Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2018*, pp. 60-63, https://www.feantsa.org/download/full-report-en1029873431323901915.pdf

73. FEANTSA and Abbé Pierre Foundation, *Third Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2018*, pp. 51-65, https://www.feantsa.org/download/full-report-en1029873431323901915.pdf

2.2.1 Italy

KEY STATISTICS[74]

- Homeless people (2014): 50724 (+6.5% since 2011)
Males: 85.7%, Females: 14.3%
Nationals: 42%, Foreigners: 58%
- Young homeless people (18-34): 33%
- Homeless in the North: 56%
- Homeless in the Center: 23.7%
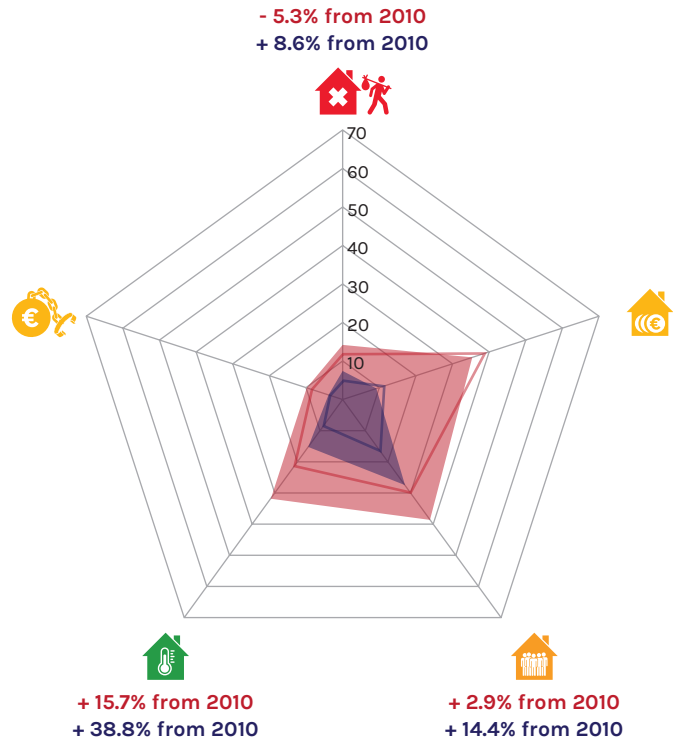- Homeless in the South: 20.3%
- ETHOS categories: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

REMARKS ON POLICIES[75]

Positive
- National data surveys on homelessness
- Homelessness is on the Political Agenda
- Housing First recognisezed as best approach
- Funds for projects and measures to end ho-melsssness

Negative
- No minimum income for homeless people
- Long-term public services still missing
- Residence is a denied right in many cities
- Affordable housing is a mirage
- No official follow up of ISTAT[76] data updates
- Austerity against migrants and refugees
- "Poverty as a guilt" approach

- 5.3% from 2010
+ 8.6% from 2010

+ 15.7% from 2010
+ 38.8% from 2010

+ 2.9% from 2010
+ 14.4% from 2010

housing costs (in €/month)		
	2016	**2010 - 2016**
housing costs for poor households (PPP)	308.5	+5.9%
young people and ratio with total population (2016)		

	aged 18-24		total pop.	
	total	**poor**	**total**	**poor**
housing cost overburden rate	9.3%	31.9%	9.6%	35.8%
	total (16-24)			
severe housing deprivation	12.4%		7.6%	

population aged 18+ sorted by nationality (2016)		
	non-EU	**EU**	**nationals**
housing cost overburden rate	28%	30.9%	7.7%
overcrowding	53%	42.1%	22.8%

74. FEANTSA - Country Profile: Italy, *Homelessness in Italy*, 2018, https://www.fiopsd.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/IT-Country-Profile-2018.x97831.pdf
75. FEANTSA - Country Profile: Italy, *Homelessness in Italy*, 2017, https://www.feantsa.org/download/it-proof-read-new-template124857004325179404.pdf
76. ISTAT is the Italian National Statistical Institute

2.2.2 Portugal

KEY STATISTICS[77]

- Homeless people supported by AMI[78] (2013): 1679 (+16.2% since 2008)
Males: 76%, Females: 24%
Nationals: 79%, PALOP countries[79]: 12%, Foreigners: 8%
- Young homeless people (under 30): 29% (16% in 2008)
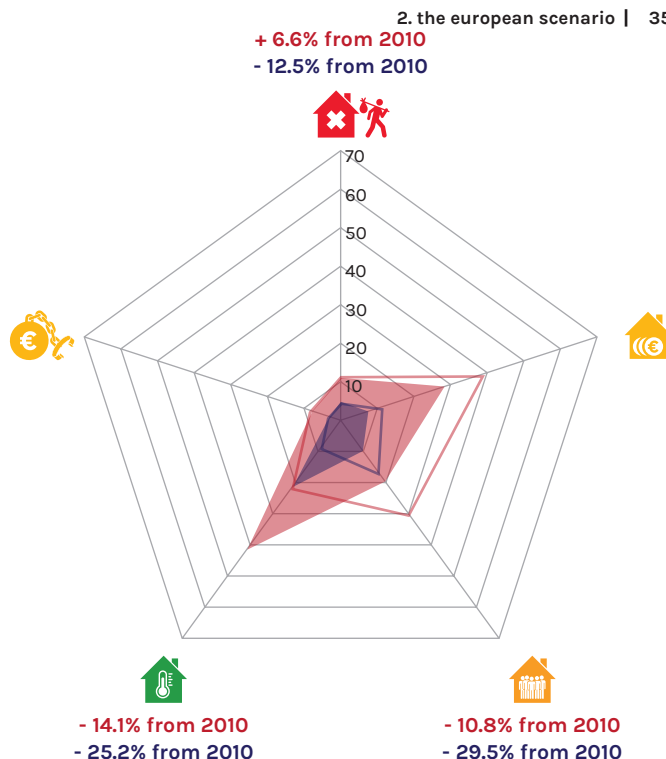- ETHOS categories: 1, 2, 6

REMARKS ON POLICIES[80]

Positive
- Introduction of a strategy but still not implemented
- Local organisations remain active

Negative
- No official surveys for homelessness
- Cuts and reduced social support because of troika austerity
- Increase of poverty and unemployment
- Higher taxes
- No regulations for housing eviction

+ 6.6% from 2010
- 12.5% from 2010

- 14.1% from 2010
- 25.2% from 2010

- 10.8% from 2010
- 29.5% from 2010

housing costs (in €/month)		
	2016	2010 - 2016
housing costs for poor households (PPP)	229.6	+39.6%
young people and ratio with total population (2016)			
	aged 18-24		total pop.	
	total	poor	total	poor
housing cost overburden rate	9.5%	33.4%	7.5%	29.1%
	total (16-24)			
severe housing deprivation	9.4%		4.9%	
population aged 18+ sorted by nationality (2016)			
	non-EU	EU	nationals
housing cost overburden rate	29%	10.6%	6.8%
overcrowding	35.8%	15.8%	8.5%

77. FEANTSA - Country Profile: Portugal, *Homelessness in Portugal*, 2017, https://www.feantsa.org/download/portugal-20178706366150042850260.pdf
78. AMI: Assistência Médica Internacional (International Medical Assistance)
79. PALOP countries are the African Countries of Portuguese Official Language (*Países Africanos de Língua Oficial Portuguesa* in portugese) and they include Angola, Cape Verde, Sao Tome and Principe, Mozambique and Guinea-Bissau)
80. See note 14

2.2.3 Spain

KEY STATISTICS[81]

- Estimated homeless people by NGOs: between 23000 and 35000
- Avereage of daily homeless admitted by shelters' service (2016): 16437 (+20.5% since 2014) Males: 80.3%, Females: 19.7%
- Average age (2012): 42.7 (37.9 in 2005)[82]
- ETHOS categories: 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 12

REMARKS ON POLICIES[83]

Positive
- Adoption of the *Comprehensive National Homelessness Strategy 2015-2020*
- Experiences of Housing First
- Plan to fight homelessness in Catalunya

Negative
- National systems for data collection are not reliable
- Cuts to both welfare and homeless services
- The Spanish Congress is about to approve some public security measures that include control and punisment of behaviour on the street
- The government is refusing to adopt measures for evictions
- No progress for affordable social housing

+ 39.4% from 2010
- 5.6% from 2010

+ 48.7% from 2010
+ 34.7% from 2010

+ 38% from 2010
+ 8% from 2010
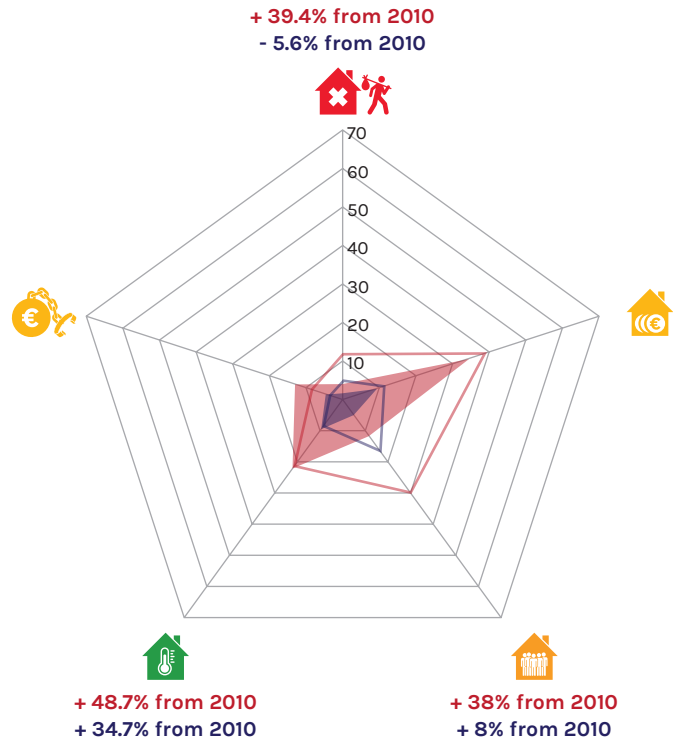
housing costs (in €/month)		
	2016	2010 - 2016
housing costs for poor households (PPP)	325.5	-4.2%
young people and ratio with total population (2016)			

	aged 18-24		total pop.	
	total	poor	total	poor
housing cost overburden rate	9.8%	28.7%	10.2%	36.4%
	total (16-24)			
severe housing deprivation	2.9%		1.7%	
population aged 18+ sorted by nationality (2016)			

	non-EU	EU	nationals
housing cost overburden rate	38.9%	32%	7%
overcrowding	16.7%	5.4%	4%

81. FEANTSA - Country Profile: Spain, *Homelessness in Spain*, 2017, https://www.feantsa.org/download/spain-20174593655314017659709.pdf
82. Young people may not be included because they do not wish to be classified as homeless or are reluctant to access traditional homeless' services.
83. See note 18

2.2.4 France
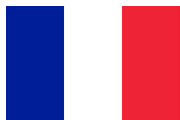
KEY STATISTICS[84]

- Homeless people (i.e. those who called the 115 emergency line for shelter - June 2017): 20845[85] (+17% since 2016)
Families: 54%, Single men: 33%, Single women: 8%, Couples with no children: 5%
Nationals: 10%, Foreigners: 90%
- Young homeless people (18-29): 26% of total homeless
- ETHOS categories[86]: 1, 2, 3, 12, 13

REMARKS ON POLICIES[87]

Positive
- Official national data
- Development of a national strategy for homelessness and housing
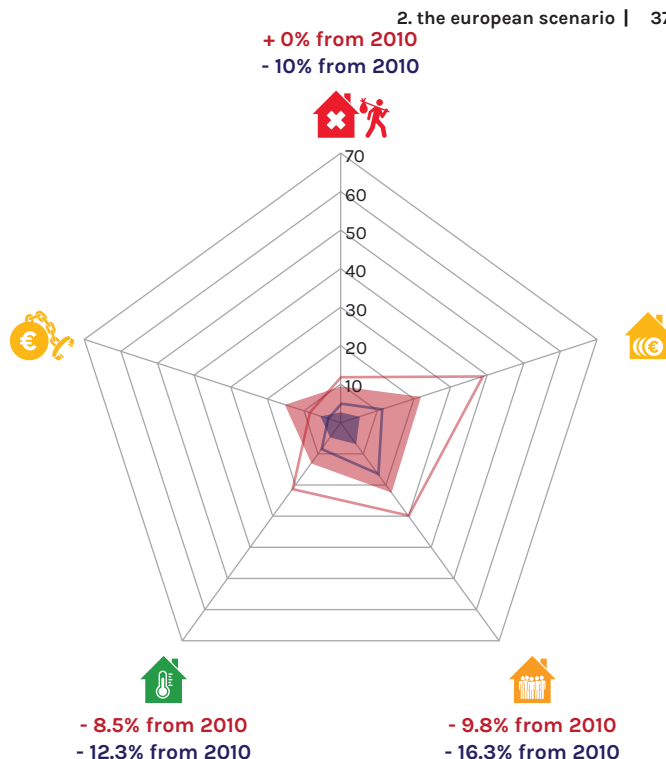- Housing First experiences are being developed

Negative
- Costs of housing have increased

+ 0% from 2010
- 10% from 2010

- 8.5% from 2010
- 12.3% from 2010

- 9.8% from 2010
- 16.3% from 2010

housing costs (in €/month)		
	2016	**2010 - 2016**
housing costs for poor households (PPP)	505.8	+21.5%
young people and ratio with total population (2016)		
	aged 18-24	**total pop.**
	total poor	total poor
housing cost overburden rate	11.5% 39.8%	5.2% 22.3%
	total (16-24)	
severe housing deprivation	5.9%	2.7%
population aged 18+ sorted by nationality (2016)		
	non-EU **EU**	**nationals**
housing cost overburden rate	11.6% 11.8%	5.4%
overcrowding	30.1% 11.9%	5.6%

84. FEANTSA - Country Profile: France, *Le Sans-Abrisme en France*, 2017, https://www.feantsa.org/download/france-2017-fr2566325350432231035.pdf
85. Fédération des Acteurs de la Solidarité, Barometer of 115 emergency calls, http://www.federationsolidarite.org/publications-federation/barometre-115/barometreen-cours
86. FEANTSA, Country Fiche France, 2014, https://www.feantsa.org/download/france_final1217215808435700822.pdf

87. See note 84

2.2.5 United Kingdom

KEY STATISTICS[88]

- Homeless people living rough in England (one night in Autumn 2017): 4751 (+169% since 2010)[89]
- Homeless households in Northern Ireland (2015/2016): 18628[90]
- Request of assistance for homeless in Scotland (2017): 17797 (+2% since 2016)[91]
- Homeless people in Wales: 6891[92]
- ETHOS categories: n/d
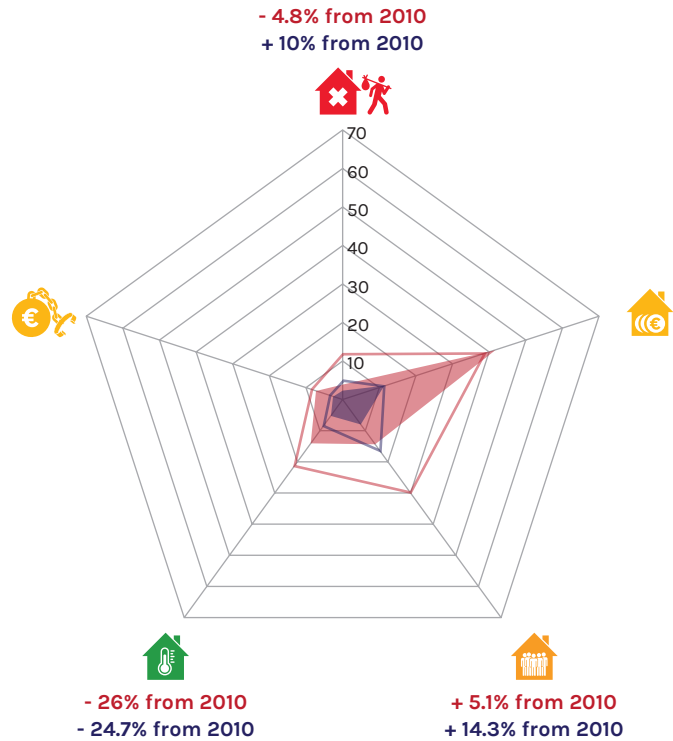
REMARKS ON POLICIES[93] (England)

Positive
- The Homelessness Reduction Bill before Parliament aims to give legal protection to homeless
- In 2016 the new major of London announces a programme addressing the rough sleepers

Negative
- Different regional collection data systems
- Reduced housing benefits for homeless people, included supported housing
- Tougher conditions for young in terms of housing refunds and advantages
- Benefit restrictions for migrants

88. FEANTSA - Country Profile: UK, *Homelessness in United Kingdom*, 2016, https://www.feantsa.org/download/united-kingdom-cfsh-nov-2016-fi-

- 4.8% from 2010
+ 10% from 2010

- 26% from 2010
- 24.7% from 2010

+ 5.1% from 2010
+ 14.3% from 2010

housing costs (in €/month)		
	2016	**2010 - 2016**
housing costs for poor households (PPP)	542.6	+45.3%
young people and ratio with total population (2016)		
	aged 18-24	total pop.

	total	poor	total	poor
housing cost overburden rate	19%	50.2%	12.3%	42.4%
	total (16-24)			
severe housing deprivation	3%		2.2%	

population aged 18+ sorted by nationality (2016)			
	non-EU	**EU**	**nationals**
housing cost overburden rate	28.9%	23.1%	11%
overcrowding	19.6%	19.2%	5.3

nal3826906471851315452.pdf
89. Provided by DCLC (Department for Communities and Local Governments)
90. Published by the Department for Communities
91. Data for Scotland have been gathered by local authorities and published by the Scottish Government
92. Data from the Welsh Government
93. See note 88

2.2.6 Ireland

KEY STATISTICS[94]

- People in emergency accommodation (November 2017): 8857 (+145% since November 2014)
Families: 1530 (+286% since 2014), Adults: 5524, Children: 3333 (+276% since 2014)[95]
- Young homeless people (18-30): 24% (2013)
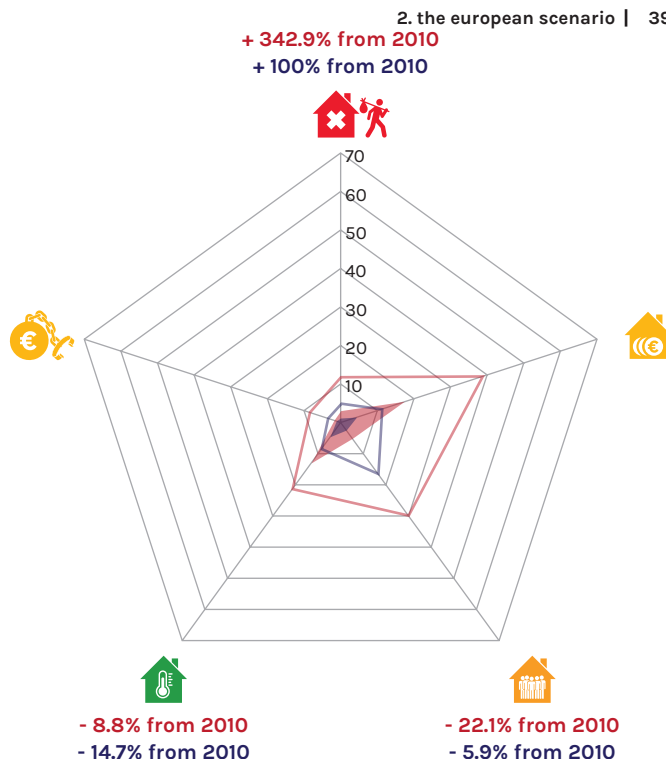- ETHOS categories: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 12, 13

REMARKS ON POLICIES[96]

Positive
- Good National Homeless Strategy and data collection system
- Improved access to services for health care
- Housing-led approaches
- Implementation of the Youth Homeless Strategy
- Child Care Act for the aftercare plan for young people leaving care
- Supported shifting for families from emergency accommodation into sustainable tenancies

Negative
- Poor implementation and delays on delivering necessary data
- Rent costs increased, homeless people struggle to find accommodation
- Punishment and fines for begging.

+ 342.9% from 2010
+ 100% from 2010

- 8.8% from 2010
- 14.7% from 2010

- 22.1% from 2010
- 5.9% from 2010

housing costs (in €/month)		
	2016	**2010 - 2016**
housing costs for poor households (PPP)	388.1	+6.5%
young people and ratio with total population (2016)		

	aged 18-24		total pop.	
	total	poor	total	poor
housing cost overburden rate	7%	24.7%	4.6%	18.7%
	total (16-24)			
severe housing deprivation	1.8%		1%	

population aged 18+ sorted by nationality (2016)		
	non-EU	EU	nationals
housing cost overburden rate	21.3%	9.8%	3.8%
overcrowding	13.5%	4.9%	2.1%

94. FEANTSA, Country Fiche Ireland, 2014, https://www.feantsa.org/download/ireland-22441290671006595609.pdf
95. Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, *Homeless Data*, https://www.housing.gov.ie/housing/homelessness/other/homelessness-data
96. See note 94

2.2.7 Luxembourg

KEY STATISTICS[97]

- Homeless people (Winter 2016/2017): 864 (+125.6% since Winter 2008/2009)
- Homeless people accessing the accommodation service (March 2017): 420
Males: 86%, Females: 14%
- Average of nights spent in shelters (2016): 81.1 (+105% since 2010)
- ETHOS categories: 1, 2, 3, 6, 8

REMARKS ON POLICIES[98]

Positive
- Widespread debates about housing solutions as priority, including Housing First
- Social rental agencies like AIS and AIS Kordall are growing
- Intensification of social housing construction

Negative
- No official data collection
- Housing costs increase, municipalities are not willing to accept transitional or emergency structures for homeless people

- 9.4% from 2010
- 8.7% from 2010

+ 135.3% from 2010
+ 240% from 2010

+ 4.4% from 2010
+ 3.8% from 2010
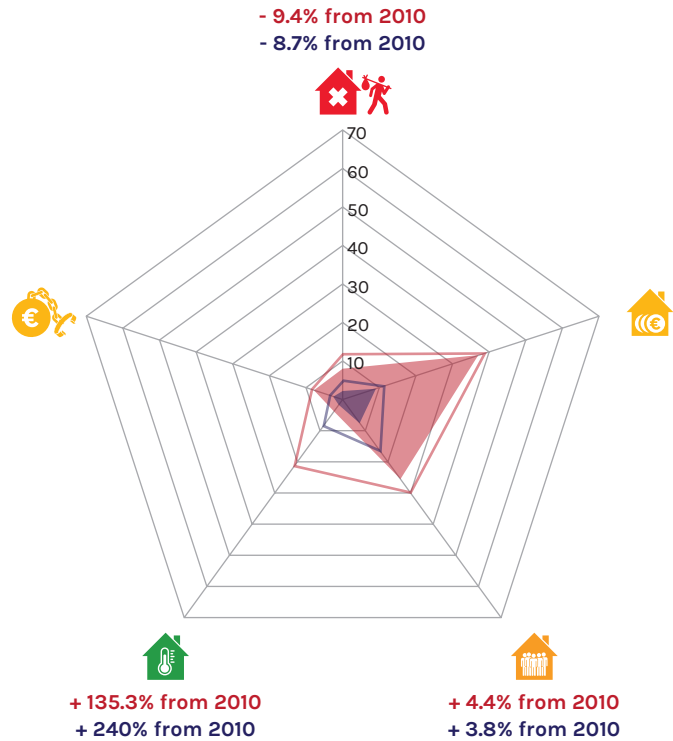
housing costs (in €/month)		
	2016	2010 - 2016
housing costs for poor households (PPP)	615.4	+12.7%
young people and ratio with total population (2016)		
	aged 18-24	total pop.
	total　poor	total　poor
housing cost overburden rate	11.4%　32.7%	9.4%　37%
	total (16-24)	
severe housing deprivation	3.1%	2.1%
population aged 18+ sorted by nationality (2016)		
	non-EU	EU	nationals
housing cost overburden rate	22.9%	13.4%	5.5%
overcrowding	20%	10.2%	3.4%

97, 98. FEANTSA - Country Profile: Luxembourg, *Homelessness in Luxembourg*, 2017, https://www.feantsa.org/download/luxembourg-20172229809190539617755.pdf

2.2.8 Belgium

KEY STATISTICS[99]

- Homeless people (one night in Brussels region in November 2016): 3386 (+96% since 2008)
Males: 53%, Females: 23%
Young people (under 18): 18%, Unknown: 6%[100]
- ETHOS categories: 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 9, 11, 12

REMARKS ON POLICIES[101]

Positive
- Homelessness strategies are progressing, especially in Flanders region
- Federal Housing First experiments

Negative
- Regional data collection rather than national
- Coercive approaches for squats and Roma people like fines upon begging

+ 10.2% from 2010
+ 0% from 2010

+ 0% from 2010
- 14.3% from 2010

- 5.1% from 2010
- 11.9% from 2010
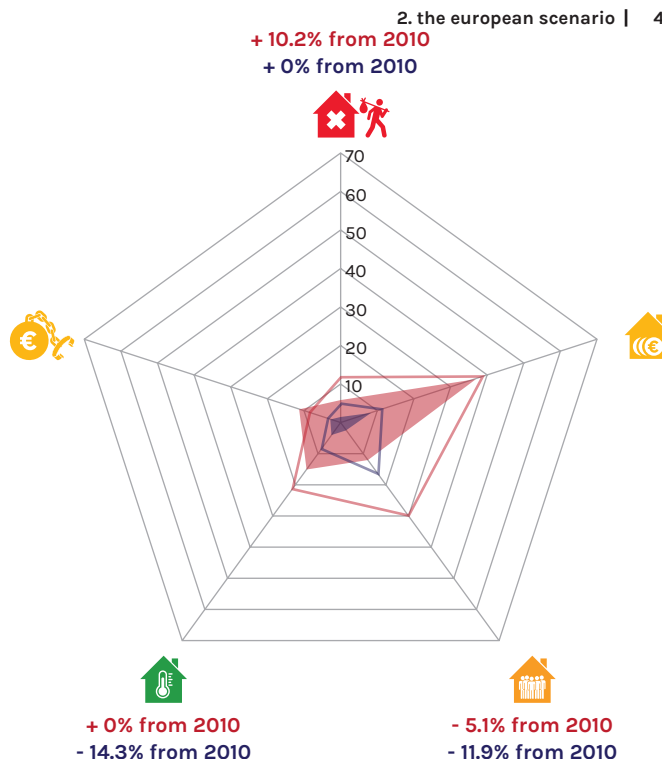
housing costs (in €/month)		
	2016	**2010 - 2016**
housing costs for poor households (PPP)	531.6	+20.1%
young people and ratio with total population (2016)		
	aged 18-24	**total pop.**
	total poor	total poor
housing cost overburden rate	9.2% 35.5%	9.5% 37.6%
	total (16-24)	
severe housing deprivation	3.7%	1.9%
population aged 18+ sorted by nationality (2016)		
	non-EU **EU**	**nationals**
housing cost overburden rate	33.4% 17%	8.5%
overcrowding	15.8% 8.2%	2.2%

99. FEANTSA - Country Profile: Belgium, *Homelessness in Belgium*, 2016
100. La Strada (the observatory that collaborates with the Region of Brussels and its Government), *Personnes sans abri et mal logées en Région de Bruxelles-Capitale*, https://lastrada.brussels/portail/images/PDF/Denombrement_nov-16mar17_synthese_FR_long.pdf
101. See note 99

2.2.9 The Netherlands

KEY STATISTICS[102]

- Homeless people accomodated by emergency services (2016): 60120 (+11% since 2011)
Males: 61%, Females: 32%, Children: 7%[103]
- Homeless people (18-65): 31000, with over 40% concentrated in the G4
Young homeless people (18-24): 41%[104]
- ETHOS categories: 1, 3, 8

REMARKS ON POLICIES[105]

Positive
- National data collection
- Quality standard shelters and supported housing, developed with service users
- Number of eviction has not increased
- More and more former homeless are working
- Housing First is widespread and continues to grow

Negative
- Vulnerability due to waiting lists
- No adequate aftercare for young people
- Unaffordable housing market
- Benefit cuts for those who share accommodation with a homeless
- Restrictions for asking for an emergency shelter

+ 258.3% from 2010
+ 180% from 2010

- 17.7% from 2010
+ 13% from 2010

+ 224.4% from 2010
+ 100% from 2010
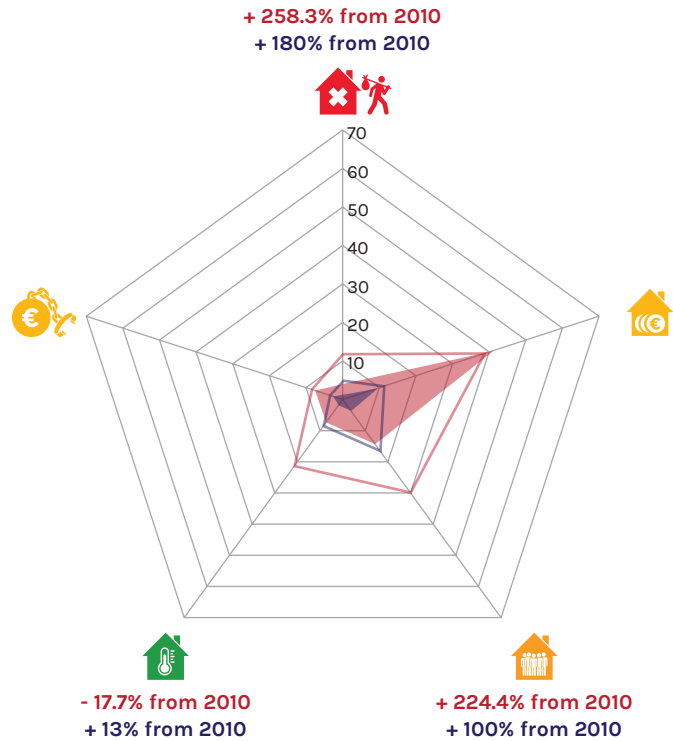
housing costs (in €/month)		
	2016	2010 - 2016
housing costs for poor households (PPP)	583.3	-1.3%
young people and ratio with total population (2016)				
	aged 18-24		total pop.	
	total	poor	total	poor
housing cost overburden rate	19.9%	70.2%	10.7%	42.9%
	total (16-24)			
severe housing deprivation	4%		1.4%	
population aged 18+ sorted by nationality (2016)			
	non-EU	EU	nationals
housing cost overburden rate	39.9%	21.3%	11.6%
overcrowding	10.2%	5.1%	3.5%

102, 105. FEANTSA - Country Profile: The Netherlands, *Homelessness in The Netherlands*, 2018, https://www.feantsa.org/download/netherlands-20171044773520982513341.pdf
103. Federatie Opvgang, https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten/rapporten/2017/12/22/cijfers-maatschappelijkeopvang-2016
104. CBS (Statistics Netherlands), *Homeless: more often young and non-Western*, 2016, https://www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/nieuws/2016/51/dakloos-vaker-jong-en-niet-westers

2.2.10 Austria

KEY STATISTICS[106]

- Homeless people (2016): 15090 (+32% since 2008)
- Homeless people in Salzburg (October 2016): 1761
Men: 59%, Females: 25%, Children: 16%
- New homeless profile (refugees who asked accommodation in 2015): 85000, of which 22000 only in Vienna in 2016
- ETHOS categories[107]: 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13

REMARKS ON POLICIES[108]

Positive
- Austrian entities showed interest to cope with the crisis in refugee accommodation
- New affordable housing projects forseen

Negative
- Effort for refugees is insufficient, 80% of those who leave the Care system risk homelessness
- Reduced security programme for refugees, migrants and larger families due to failed negotiations between Federal and regional governments
- Tough laws for begging

- 6.4% from 2010
+ 5% from 2010

- 3.3% from 2010
- 28.9% from 2010

+ 25.8% from 2010
+ 26.7% from 2010
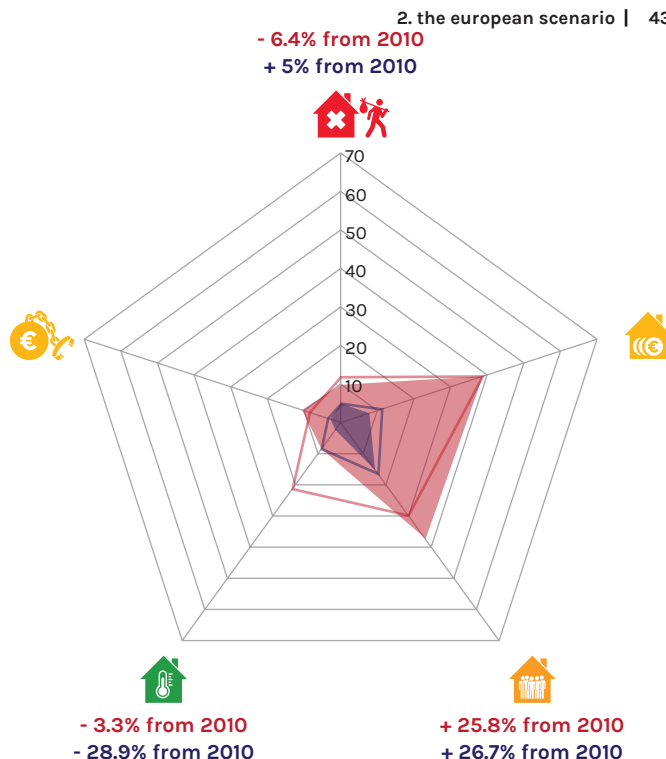
housing costs (in €/month)		
	2016	**2010 - 2016**
housing costs for poor households (PPP)	518.8	+13.1%
young people and ratio with total population (2016)				
	aged 18-24		**total pop.**	
	total	**poor**	**total**	**poor**
housing cost overburden rate	12.6%	50.6%	7.2%	38.8%
	total (16-24)			
severe housing deprivation	6.1%		4.2%	
population aged 18+ sorted by nationality (2016)				
	non-EU	**EU**	**nationals**	
housing cost overburden rate	18.4%	21.5%	5.4%	
overcrowding	51%	24.5%	8.6%	

106. FEANTSA - Country Profile: Austria, *Homelessness in Austria*, 2017, https://www.feantsa.org/download/austria-20178599194934673684360.pdf
107. FEANTSA, Country Fiche Austria, 2014, https://www.feantsa.org/download/austria-28227691941026318248.pdf
108. See note 106

2.2.11 Germany

KEY STATISTICS[109]

- Homeless people in 2016 (homeless+refugees, included for the first time in estimates): 860000 (+150% since 2014)
Homeless: 420000 (Males: 69%, Females: 24%, Children: 7%), Refugees: 440000
- ETHOS categories: 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 11

REMARKS ON POLICIES[110]

Positive
- Subsistence benefits slightly increased
- Rent control regime introduced
- Regional stock surveys for homelessness, hopefully national in the future

Negative
- no legally-required, nationwide data collection on homelessness
- Low ceilings in housing benefits in a context of rising rents
- No major investment in social housing
- Tougher regulations in public space control, particularly affecting homeless people and EU migrants

- 4.8% from 2010
- 9.5% from 2010

- 21% from 2010
- 26% from 2010

- 2.1% from 2010
+ 1.4% from 2010
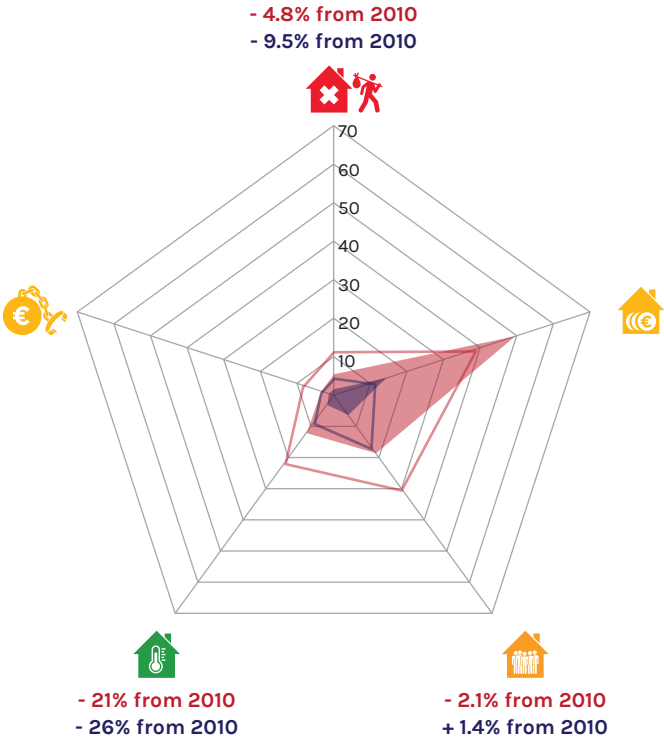
housing costs (in €/month)		
	2016	2010 - 2016
housing costs for poor households (PPP)	591.3	+28.5%
young people and ratio with total population (2016)			

	aged 18-24		total pop.	
	total	poor	total	poor
housing cost overburden rate	17.1%	57.2%	15.8%	50.3%
	total (16-24)			
severe housing deprivation	3%		1.9%	

population aged 18+ sorted by nationality (2016)			
	non-EU	EU	nationals
housing cost overburden rate	18.9%	19%	16.9%
overcrowding	26.8%	15.7%	5.9%

109, 110. FEANTSA - Country Profile: Germany, *Homelessness in Germany*, 2017, https://www.feantsa.org/download/germany-20174561023180755814062.pdf

2.2.12 Denmark

KEY STATISTICS[111]

- Homeless people (one week in 2017): 6635 (+8% since 2015)[112]
- Young homeless people (2015): 1172 (+85% since 2009)
- ETHOS categories: 1, 2, 3, 6, 8

REMARKS ON POLICIES[113]

Positive
- Biannual national counts on homelessness
- Willingness of a shifting toward permanents housing solutions as quick as possible
- Housing First experiences

Negative
- General impression of increased controls over public space, ending up in unattractive solutions
- Rise in youth homelessness

+ 0% from 2010
+ 30.8% from 2010

+ 61.2% from 2010
+ 42.1% from 2010

+ 18% from 2010
+ 12.3% from 2010
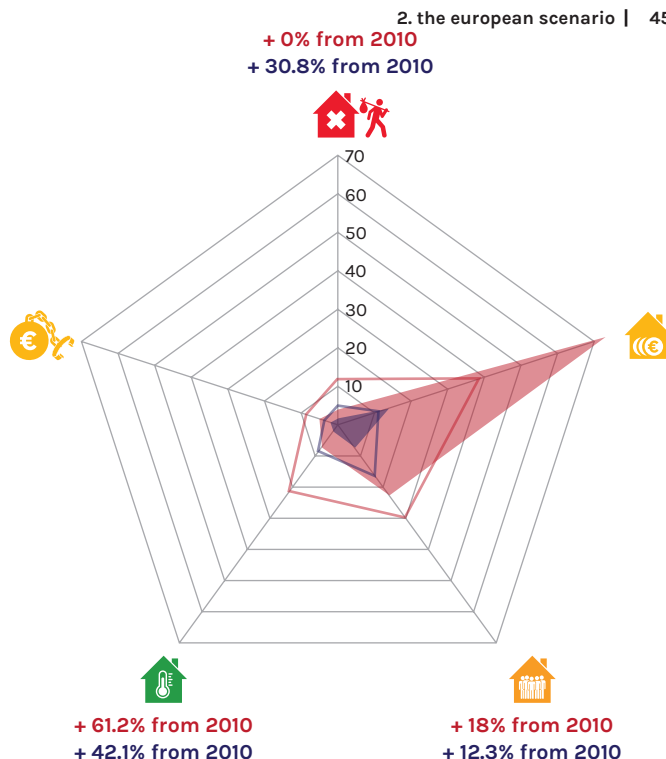
housing costs (in €/month)		
	2016	**2010 - 2016**
housing costs for poor households (PPP)	607.2	+13%
young people and ratio with total population (2016)		
	aged 18-24	**total pop.**
	total **poor**	**total** **poor**
housing cost overburden rate	38.6% 87.2%	15% 74.1%
	total (16-24)	
severe housing deprivation	4.2%	1.7%
population aged 18+ sorted by nationality (2016)		
	non-EU **EU**	**nationals**
housing cost overburden rate	36% 17.9%	16.8%
overcrowding	19.1% 13.6%	7.6%

111. FEANTSA - Country Profile: Denmark, *Homelessness in Denmark*, 2016, https://www.feantsa.org/download/denmark-cfsh-oct-2016-final1307680678201491058.pdf
112. Lars Benjaminsen, *Hjemløshed i Danmark 2017: National kortlægning*, København: VIVE - Det Nationale Forsknings- og Analysecenter for Velfærd, SFI-Rapport, https://pure.sfi.dk/ws/files/923630/Hjeml_shed_i_Danmark_2017.pdf
113. See note 111

2.2.13 Sweden

KEY STATISTICS[114]

- Homeless people (one week in April 2017): 33000 (+7% since 2011)
- ETHOS categories: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 11

REMARKS ON POLICIES[115]

Positive
- Cooperation among cities
- Funds for a Swedish Hub, with the goal to scale up Housing First in collaboration with municipalities
- Housing First working well

Negative
- Women and foreign-born inhabitants represent an increasing proportion of the homeless population
- No follow up on national strategies ended in 2009
- Increase of acute homelessness and homelessness among parents with children under 18
- Mobile EU citizens, people without paper, unaccompanied children are excluded from the data collection

+ 51.1% from 2010
+ 68.8% from 2010

+ 7% from 2010
+ 52.9% from 2010

+ 37.7% from 2010
+ 29.7% from 2010
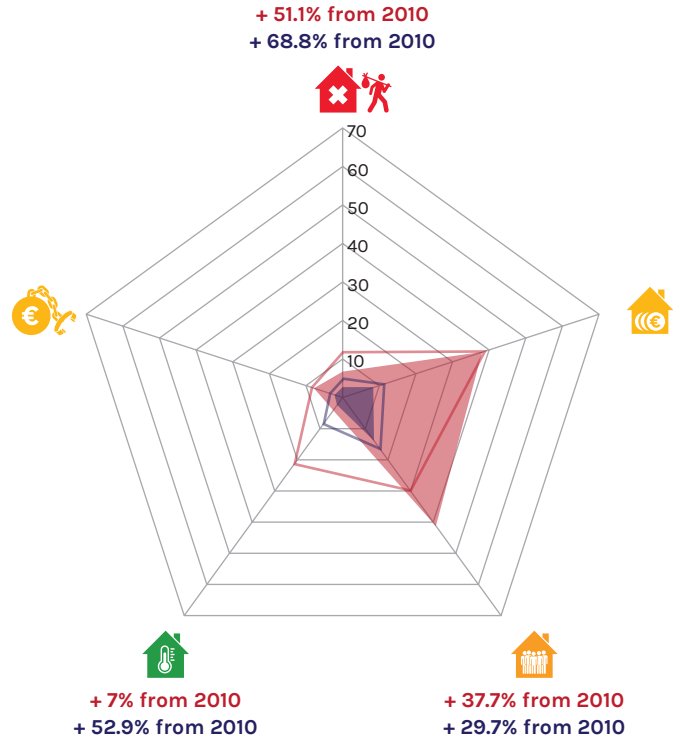
housing costs (in €/month)		
	2016	**2010 - 2016**
housing costs for poor households (PPP)	483.9	+19.4%
young people and ratio with total population (2016)		
	aged 18-24	**total pop.**
	total **poor**	**total** **poor**
housing cost overburden rate	18.4% 54.3%	8.5% 38.7%
	total (16-24)	
severe housing deprivation	5.2%	2.7%
population aged 18+ sorted by nationality (2016)		
	non-EU **EU**	**nationals**
housing cost overburden rate	21.4% 22.4%	8.4%
overcrowding	48.4% 19.1%	11.3%

114, 115. FEANTSA - Country Profile: Sweden, *Homelessness in Sweden*, 2017, https://www.feantsa.org/download/sweden-20176435929975687899561.pdf

2.2.14 Finland

KEY STATISTICS[116]

- Homeless people living alone (2016): 6644 (-2% since 2015)
- Long-term homeless people (2016): 2048 (-18% since 2009)
- young homeless people (under 25): 1399 (-18% since 2015)
- Homeless families (2016): 325 (-30% since 2015)
- ETHOS categories:[117] 1, 2, 3, 6, 8

REMARKS ON POLICIES[118]

Positive
- National surveys on homelessness
- No street homelessness
- No shelters in larger cities
- Homelessness trend is downwards

Negative
- Lack of affordable rental housing
- Homelessness among migrants is on the rise

+ 45.5% from 2010
+ - 22.2% from 2010

+ 8.6% from 2010
+ 21.4% from 2010

+ 17.1% from 2010
+ 8.2% from 2010
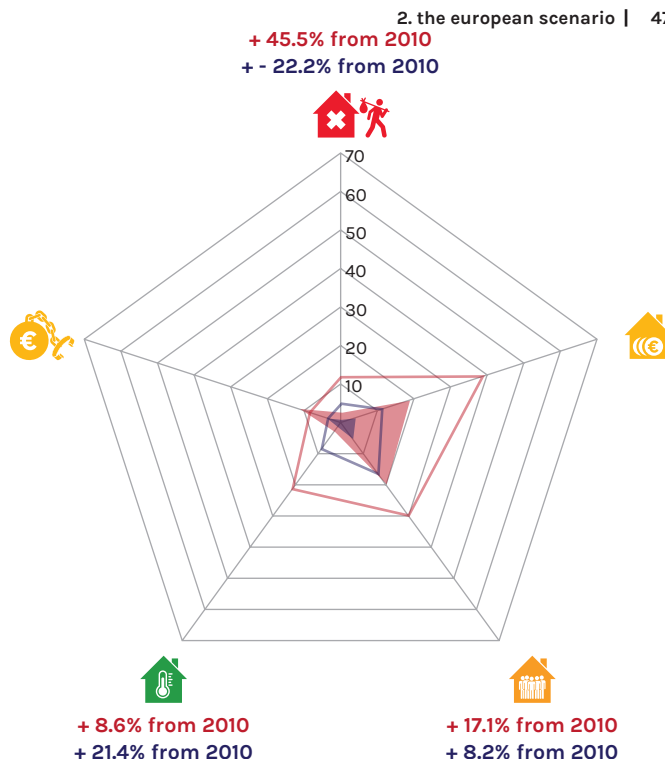
housing costs (in €/month)		
	2016	2010 - 2016
housing costs for poor households (PPP)	385.1	+11.6%
young people and ratio with total population (2016)				

	aged 18-24		total pop.	
	total	poor	total	poor
housing cost overburden rate	12.3%	38.2%	4.4%	19.5%
	total (16-24)			
severe housing deprivation	1.9%		0.7%	

population aged 18+ sorted by nationality (2016)			
	non-EU	EU	nationals
housing cost overburden rate	7.1%	10.6%	4.8%
overcrowding	17.3%	8.9%	6.6%

116. Ara, *Homelessness in Finland 2016*, Report 1/2017, p. 3, http://www.ara.fi/en-US/Materials/Homelessness_reports/Homelessness_in_Finland_2016
117, 118. FEANTSA, Country Fiche Finland, 2017, https://www.feantsa.org/download/finland-cfsh-jan-2017-final7798353929600660403.pdf

2.2.15 Estonia

KEY STATISTICS[119]

Because the majority of homeless people are located in the capital, Tallinn, data are mostly reflecting the situation in the city.

- Homeless people (2012): 1371 (1225 in shelters and 146 on the street)
- ETHOS categories[120]: 1, 2

POLICIES AND STRATEGIES[121]

- Other than some politics adopted during the Soviet Period and the transition period, like the *1995 Social Welfare Act*, which was very vague, currently there are three main initiatives underway in the capital:
1. Preventive measures like free services and rising awareness among people
2. Early stages of transitional accommodations
3. Ensuring minimum standard living for the so called "hopeless cases"[122].

- 78% from 2010
- 71.1% from 2010

- 32.2% from 2010
- 12.9% from 2010

- 69% from 2010
- 66.2% from 2010

housing costs (in €/month)		
	2016	**2010 - 2016**
housing costs for poor households (PPP)	177.8	+27.6%
young people and ratio with total population (2016)		
	aged 18-24	**total pop.**
	total / **poor**	**total** / **poor**
housing cost overburden rate	8.5% / 35.6%	4.9% / 19.3%
	total (16-24)	
severe housing deprivation	5.3%	3.3%
population aged 18+ sorted by nationality (2016)		
	non-EU / **EU**	**nationals**
housing cost overburden rate	6.8% / 17.7%	4.7%
overcrowding	15.6% / 5.2%	10.7%

119. Lilya Wagner, Erki Korp and Charles Walters, *Homelessness in Estonia: Overview and Analysis*, in European Observatory on Homelessness, *European Journal of Homelessness*, Volume 8, No. 2, December 2014, pp. 231-244, https://www.feantsa.org/download/feantsa-ejh-8-2-web9013629343468406009.pdf
120. ETHOS categories have been estimated according to available data
121. See note 119
122. The so called "hopeless cases" are, for example, those who don't want to

change their lifestyle or those who are heavily addicted to some drugs.

2.2.16 Latvia

KEY STATISTICS[123]

- Homeless poeple (one night of 2011): 2342 (0.11% of total population)
- ETHOS categories[124]: 1, 2, 3

POLICIES AND STRATEGIES[125]

- Latvia does not seem to have a proper strategy to tackle homelessness which is the reason why it is hard to find reliable data. From 2014/2015 the authorities of Riga started improving the night accommodation service by adding several more shelters to those already existing.
It's estimated that during the month of September 2014, 328 people stayed in a shelter (-6% than the same period in 2013)
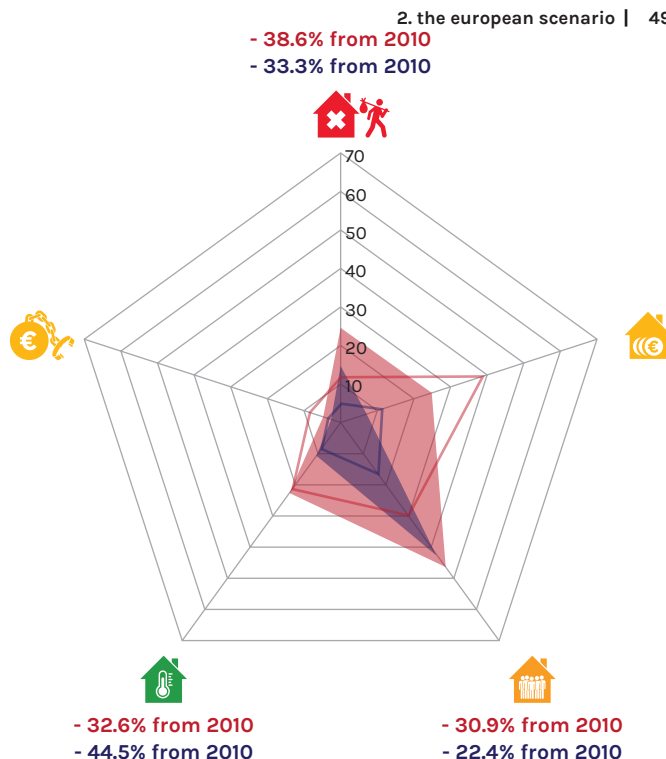
- 38.6% from 2010
- 33.3% from 2010

- 32.6% from 2010
- 44.5% from 2010

- 30.9% from 2010
- 22.4% from 2010

housing costs (in €/month)		
	2016	2010 - 2016
housing costs for poor households (PPP)	144.1	+24.7%
young people and ratio with total population (2016)				

	aged 18-24		total pop.	
	total	poor	total	poor
housing cost overburden rate	5.1%	25.5%	7%	25.2%
	total (16-24)			
severe housing deprivation	22.3%		14.6%	

population aged 18+ sorted by nationality (2016)			
	non-EU	EU	nationals
housing cost overburden rate	11.2%	18.3%	6.5%
overcrowding	41.2%	28.8%	39.2%

123. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), *HC31. Homelesss Population*, 2017, p. 3, https://www.oecd.org/els/family/HC3-1-Homeless-population.pdf
124. ETHOS categories have been estimated according to available data
125. Baltic News Network, *Authorities increase amount of aid for homeless people*, 2014, https://bnn-news.com/authorities-increase-amount-aid-homeless-people-120031

2.2.17 Lithuania

KEY STATISTICS[126]

- Homeless people in temporary accommodation or shelters (one night of 2016): 4569 (+16.2% since 2015)
- Households waiting for social housing (2016): 14766 (-54% since 2014)[127]
- ETHOS categories: 1, 2, 3, 4

REMARKS ON POLICIES[128]

Positive
- National data collection (which occur every 10 years)
- Laws about support for housing acquisition or rental

Negative
- Lack of actions against homelessness
- Weak policy on social housing since 97% of the market is private, unregulated and expensive
- Weak homelessness prevention
- Vilnius and Kaunas, the biggest cities) refused to sign a social housing development plan
- Necessity to declare the address in order to recieve support

- 14.7% from 2010
- 36.3% from 2010

- 12.6% from 2010
+ 16.3% from 2010

- 40.2% from 2010
- 47.9% from 2010
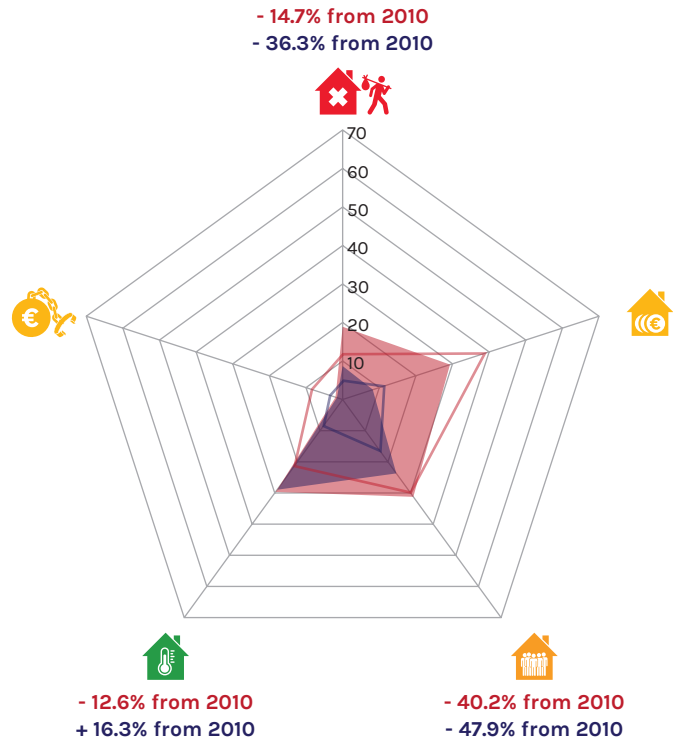
housing costs (in €/month)		
	2016	**2010 - 2016**
housing costs for poor households (PPP)	152.9	+16.2%
young people and ratio with total population (2016)		
	aged 18-24	total pop.
	total poor	total poor
housing cost overburden rate	9% 26.7%	7.8% 29.6%
	total (16-24)	
severe housing deprivation	13.9%	8.6%
population aged 18+ sorted by nationality (2016)		
	non-EU EU	nationals
housing cost overburden rate	24.5% /	7.9%
overcrowding	23.2% /	21.3%

126. FEANTSA - Country Profile: Lithuania, *Homelessness in Lithuania*, 2016, https://www.feantsa.org/download/lithuania-cfsh-oct-2016-final6882244060421866126.pdf
127. The number of requests has strongly decreased, but the Ministry of Social Security and Labour pointed out that the waiting time on the list requires between 10-15 years before you are housed.
128. See note 126

2.2.18 Poland

KEY STATISTICS[129]

- Homeless people (one night in February 2017): 33408
People sleeping rough: 6508 (-32% since 2011 census), People in shelters: 26900
Males: 81.8%, Females: 18.2%
Young homeless people (18-24): very slight increase but not quantifiable
- ETHOS categories: 1, 2, 3

REMARKS ON POLICIES[130]

Positive
- Strategical plans taken up by the Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Policy
- Establishment of standards for services and housing
- Housing programme for affordable tenancy
- Growing prominence of homelessness advocacy
- Housing First-inspired approaches

Negative
- No national data collection strategy
- Difficulties in accessing health services and shelter accommodations for not self-reliants
- Lack of funds, data, services' efficiency and cooperation among governamental entities

- 29.6% from 2010
- 29.3% from 2010

- 45.6% from 2010
- 52% from 2010

- 9.8% from 2010
- 14.3% from 2010

housing costs (in €/month)		
	2016	**2010 - 2016**
housing costs for poor households (PPP)	272	+31.9%
young people and ratio with total population (2016)		
	aged 18-24	**total pop.**
	total **poor**	**total** **poor**
housing cost overburden rate	7.9% 25.3%	7.7% 29.6%
	total (16-24)	
severe housing deprivation	12.8%	9.4%
population aged 18+ sorted by nationality (2016)		
	non-EU **EU**	**nationals**
housing cost overburden rate	55.7% /	7.9%
overcrowding	46.3% /	37.2%

129, 130. FEANTSA - Country Profile: Poland, *Homelessness in Poland*, 2017, https://www.feantsa.org/download/poland-20173052275387466390396.pdf

2.2.19 Czech Republic

KEY STATISTICS[131]

- Homeless people (2016): 68500
Males: 75%, Females: 25%
- Young homeless people (aged 18-): 11.9%
- Old homeless people (aged 65+): 10.3%
- People at risk of housing loss: 119000
- ETHOS categories: 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8

REMARKS ON POLICIES[132]

Positive
- Adoption of the *Concept of Preventing and Tackling Homelessness Issues in the Czech Republic until 2020*
- *Social Housing Strategy* and *Social Housing Act*
- Homelessness data gathered appear on media
- Strong commitment to housing-led programmes, including Housing First
- Increase number of researchers and experts

Negative
- No national or regional data collection
- undesireable behaviour in public space is punished (begging, alcoholism)
- Non-adoption of some measures that would have helped assistance in homeless shelters

- 22.7% from 2010
- 33.3% from 2010

+ 16.1% from 2010
- 26.9% from 2010

- 10.4% from 2010
- 20.4% from 2010

housing costs (in €/month)		
	2016	**2010 - 2016**
housing costs for poor households (PPP)	389.2	+36%
young people and ratio with total population (2016)				

	aged 18-24		total pop.	
	total	**poor**	**total**	**poor**
housing cost overburden rate	10.6%	53.7%	9.5%	45.4%
	total (16-24)			
severe housing deprivation	4.5%		3%	

population aged 18+ sorted by nationality (2016)			
	non-EU	**EU**	**nationals**
housing cost overburden rate	22.6%	19.4%	9.5%
overcrowding	40.7%	23.8%	15.1%

131, 132. FEANTSA - Country Profile: Czech Republic, *Homelessness in Czech Republic*, 2017, https://www.feantsa.org/download/czech-republic-20171431767123284348800.pdf

2.2.20 Slovakia

KEY STATISTICS[133]

- Homeless people (2011): 23483
- Homeless people in Bratislava (2016): 2064
Males: 65%, Females: 35%
People aged 25-49: 36%
- ETHOS categories: 1, 3

REMARKS ON POLICIES[134]

Positive
- National statistics on homelessness
- The first census in 2016 has paved the way for several improvements. Some briefings show a strong will of collaboration between the Government and NGOs as a first step.

Negative
- Lack of a national integrated strategy
- Several internal disputes about the efficiency of several projects including Housing First
- Limited human and financial resources (especially from NGOs)
- stakeholders not included in the implementation of the future national strategy for preventing and tackling homelessness
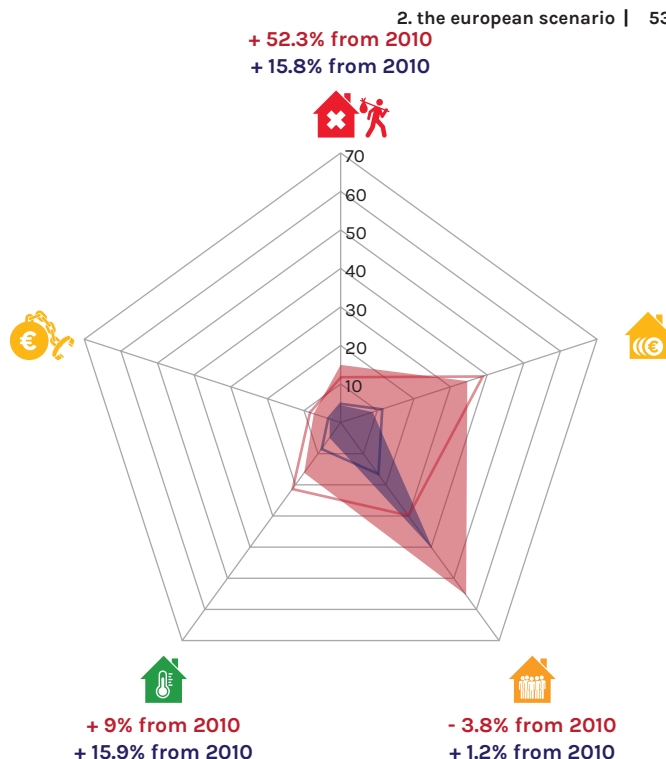
+ 52.3% from 2010
+ 15.8% from 2010

+ 9% from 2010
+ 15.9% from 2010

- 3.8% from 2010
+ 1.2% from 2010

housing costs (in €/month)		
	2016	**2010 - 2016**
housing costs for poor households (PPP)	287.2	+29.5%
young people and ratio with total population (2016)		
	aged 18-24	**total pop.**
	total **poor**	**total** **poor**
housing cost overburden rate	7.1% 32.4%	9.1% 34.5%
	total (16-24)	
severe housing deprivation	7.4%	4.4%
population aged 18+ sorted by nationality (2016)		
	non-EU **EU**	**nationals**
housing cost overburden rate	/ 4.3%	7.7%
overcrowding	/ 51.5%	37.8%

133, 134. Daniel Gerbery, *Addressing homelessness with evidence-based policy in Slovakia*, 2017, (for) European Social Policy Network (ESPN), ESPN Flash Report 2017/65

2.2.21 Hungary

KEY STATISTICS[135]

- Homeless people (February 2016): 10206
People living in public spaces: 3422
People staying in hostels: 6784
- ETHOS categories: 1, 2, 3

REMARKS ON POLICIES[136]

Positive
- Funds are expected for projects providing Housing First

Negative
- No national data collection on homelessness
- Current funding from ESF[137] do not cover the costs of services and shelters for homeless people
- No progress in increasing the affordable number of social housing units.
- Threat of cuts on the already minimal benefits for housing

- 22.7% from 2010
- 4.5% from 2010

- 2.2% from 2010
- 14% from 2010

- 21.5% from 2010
- 14.4% from 2010

housing costs (in €/month)		
	2016	**2010 - 2016**
housing costs for poor households (PPP)	208.9	-3.5%
young people and ratio with total population (2016)		

	aged 18-24		total pop.	
	total	poor	total	poor
housing cost overburden rate	9.7%	26.7%	8.8%	32.9%
	total (16-24)			
severe housing deprivation	23.3%		16.9%	

population aged 18+ sorted by nationality (2016)			
	non-EU	EU	nationals
housing cost overburden rate	/	4.9%	8.6%
overcrowding	/	28.3%	35.7%

135, 136. FEANTSA - Country Profile: Hungary, *Homelessness in Hungary*, 2017, https://www.feantsa.org/download/hungary-201774525497665294709 28.pdf
137. ESF: European Social Fund

2.2.22 Slovenia

KEY STATISTICS[138]

- Homeless people included in dedicated pro-grammes (2018): more than 6800[139]
- ETHOS categories: 1, 2, 3, 4 ,5, 6, 8, 9, 11

REMARKS ON POLICIES[140]

Positive
- Increase in social financial aid (subsistence be-nefit, housing benefit, emergency healthcare and mental healthcare
- New services on the list, like shelters, day cen-ters and some Housing First attempts

Negative
- No national strategy for data collection
- Tough repercussions on public begging and sle-eping

- 62.2% from 2010
- 70.8% from 2010

+ 8.4% from 2010
+ 2.1% from 2010

- 55.9% from 2010
- 63.9% from 2010
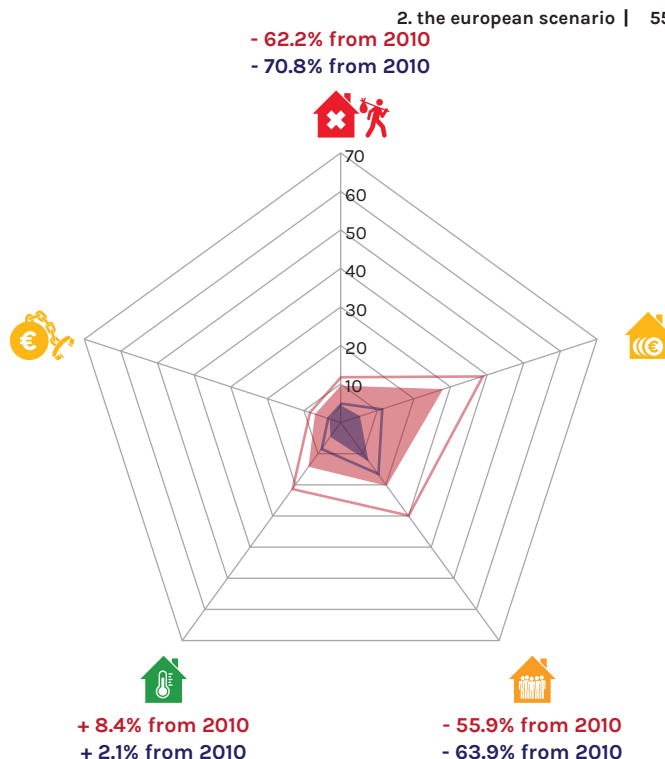
housing costs (in €/month)		
	2016	**2010 - 2016**
housing costs for poor hou-seholds (PPP)	299.3	+22.2%
young people and ratio with total population (2016)		
	aged 18-24	total pop.
	total poor	total poor
housing cost overburden rate	5.3% 27.5%	5.7% 28.3%
	total (16-24)	
severe housing deprivation	8.5%	4.5%
population aged 18+ sorted by nationality (2016)		
	non-EU EU	nationals
housing cost overburden rate	26.8% 17.2%	5.1%
overcrowding	38.6% 26.5%	10.6%

138. FEANTSA, Country Fiche Slovenia, 2012, https://www.feantsa.org/downlo-ad/slovenia5681981284257380847.pdf
139. JL Flanner, *World Homeless Day Shines a Light on the Problem in Slovenia*, 2018, (for) Total Slovenia News, https://www.total-slovenia-news.com/news/2256-world-homeless-day-shines-a-light-on-the-problem-in-slovenia
140. See note 138

2.2.23 Croatia

KEY STATISTICS[141]

- Homeless people (one night in 2018): more than 1000 (of which 420 accomodated in shelters, the rest is sleeping rough)[142]
- ETHOS categories: 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 11, 12

REMARKS ON POLICIES[143]

Positive
- A strategy against poverty is being developed
- Possibility to apply for EU funds
- Ministry of Social Policy and Youth decision to fund homelessness projects and programmes in 2014

Negative
- No official national data collection
- No national strategy to tackle homelessness
- Low amount of regulations about the way shelters should work
- ETHOS classification not implemented
- More power at local level rather than national caused problems for lack of funds

- 34.4% from 2010
- 42.3% from 2010

+ 14.8% from 2010
+ 12% from 2010

- 1.1% from 2010
- 5.9% from 2010

housing costs (in €/month)		
	2016	**2010 - 2016**
housing costs for poor households (PPP)	193.2	-29.8%
young people and ratio with total population (2016)		
	aged 18-24	**total pop.**
	total **poor**	**total** **poor**
housing cost overburden rate	5.4% 24.2%	6.4% 29.4%
	total (16-24)	
severe housing deprivation	9.4%	7.1%
population aged 18+ sorted by nationality (2016)		
	non-EU **EU**	**nationals**
housing cost overburden rate	7.2% 5.2%	6.8%
overcrowding	60.6% 21.6%	38.3%

141. FEANTSA, Country Fiche Croatia, 2014, https://www.feantsa.org/download/croatia_final4962995937732017390.pdf
142. HINA, *Less Than Half of Homeless People Have a Place in Shelters*, 2018, https://www.total-croatia-news.com/lifestyle/26674-less-than-half-of-homeless-people-have-a-place-in-shelters
143. See note 141

2.2.24 Greece

KEY STATISTICS[144]

- Homeless people sleeping rough (prefecture of Attica in 2015): 17000
- Homeless people included in ETHOS typologies (2015): 500000
- Homeless people sleeping rough sampled in Athens (2016): 451
Males: 85%, Females: 15%
Nationals: 62%, Foreigners: 38%
- ETHOS categories: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13

REMARKS ON POLICIES[145]

Positive
- National data collection is developing
- National Strategy really committed to address homelessness
- Free access to public health
- Interest in housing-led approaches

Negative
- Heavy effects of crisis and austerity measures
- No unemployment benefits for bureaucratic restrictions nor housing costs adjustments
- Punishment for begging and private space occupancy
- Benefits for low pensions reduced

- 15% from 2010
- 17.1% from 2010

+ 36.7% from 2010
+ 89% from 2010

+ 21.6% from 2010
+ 12.5% from 2010

housing costs (in €/month)		
	2016	**2010 - 2016**
housing costs for poor households (PPP)	484.6	+13.5%
young people and ratio with total population (2016)		
	aged 18-24	total pop.
	total poor	total poor
housing cost overburden rate	46.9% 90.3%	40.5% 91.9%
	total (16-24)	
severe housing deprivation	11.1%	6.3%
population aged 18+ sorted by nationality (2016)		
	non-EU EU	nationals
housing cost overburden rate	79.9% 64.1%	36%
overcrowding	56.6% 30.7%	25.3%

144, 145. FEANTSA - Country Profile: Greece, *Homelessness in Greece*, 2017, https://www.feantsa.org/download/greece-20172928673074328238317.pdf

2.2.25 Bulgaria

KEY STATISTICS[146]

- Total population (according to 2011 census): 7364570
- People at risk of poverty or social exclusion: 49.1%
- Homeless people (first half of 2017): 1068[147]
- ETHOS categories: n/d

REMARKS ON POLICIES[148]

Positive
- Approval and support on housing initiatives by targeted groups
- Commitment and support from municipalities

Negative
- Lack of internal and external resources and poor financial management
- Low amount of experts for project management
- The number of houses provided is not enough
- No proper use of housing funds
- Housing based on loans that will be repaid is still a doubtful project
- Infrastructure projects are expensive and have to deal with bureaucracy, risulting in unefficiency and uneffectiveness

- 16.1% from 2010
- 21.1% from 2010

- 25.7% from 2010
- 41.1% from 2010

- 4.3% from 2010
- 10.3% from 2010

housing costs (in €/month)		
	2016	2010 - 2016
housing costs for poor households (PPP)	172.6	+54.4%
young people and ratio with total population (2016)				

	aged 18-24		total pop.	
	total	poor	total	poor
housing cost overburden rate	21.2%	52.5%	20.7%	55.3%
	total (16-24)			
severe housing deprivation	18.2%		11.6%	

population aged 18+ sorted by nationality (2016)			
	non-EU	EU	nationals
housing cost overburden rate	29.8%	/	20.4%
overcrowding	55.2%	/	37.9%

146. Antoaneta Irikova and Marina Trencheva, *Housing, homelessness and social policy in Europe - How to tackle social exclusion?*, 2014, https://www.tilburguniversity.edu/upload/2ef750b4-0218-4f73-ba15-504c5c61997b_Bulgaria_Erasmus_IP.pdf
147. Sofia New Agency, *One Fifth of Homeless People in Sofia are University Graduates*, 2017, https://www.novinite.com/articles/185732/One+Fifth+of+Homeless+People+in+Sofia+are+University+Graduates
148. See note 146

2.2.26 Romania

- 15.6% from 2010
- 21.7% from 2010

- 4.8% from 2010
- 31.3% from 2010

- 2.1% from 2010
- 6.9% from 2010

KEY STATISTICS[149]

- People experiencing rooflessness or houselessness (2011): 113495
- Highest overcrowding rate in EU: 60.6%
- Highest rate of poverty in EU: 25.4%
- ETHOS categories[150]: 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 11, 13

REMARKS ON POLICIES[151]

Positive
- There is no specific national strategy since homeless people have always been targets of national awareness

Negative
- No official national data collection and very few informations available
- Low numbers of social housing units for hign numbers of people in need
- Weak aftercare for children and adults leaving institutions
- Restrictions for homeless people for accessing medical treatment
- No support for the evicted ones
- Hospitals have low capacity
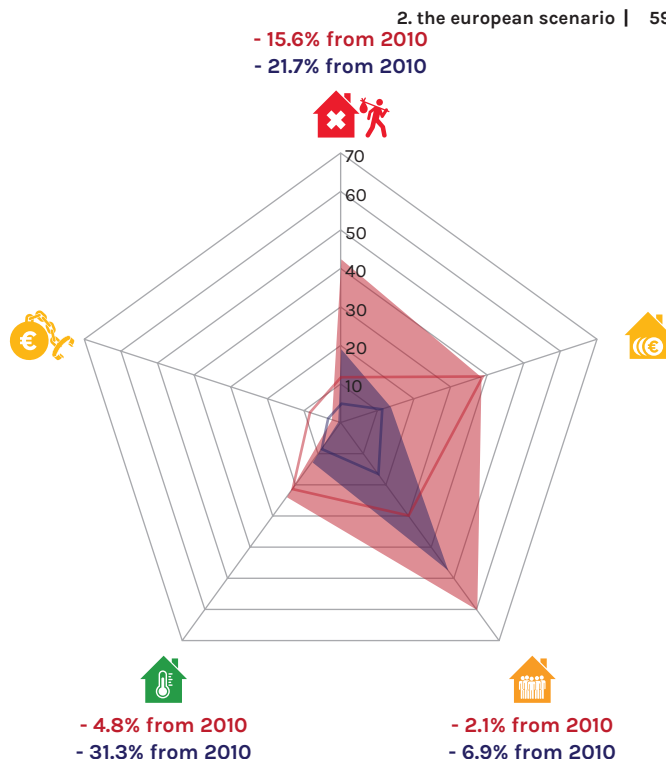
housing costs (in €/month)		
	2016	**2010 - 2016**
housing costs for poor households (PPP)	122	+31.5%
young people and ratio with total population (2016)		
	aged 18-24	total pop.
	total poor	total poor
housing cost overburden rate	14.7% 34%	14.4% 38.8%
	total (16-24)	
severe housing deprivation	30.6%	19.8%
population aged 18+ sorted by nationality (2016)		
	non-EU EU	nationals
housing cost overburden rate	/ /	14.2%
overcrowding	/ /	43.1%

149. FEANTSA - Country Profile: Romania, *Homelessness in Romania*, 2017, https://www.feantsa.org/download/romania-cfsh-jan-2017-final2599276833334601432.pdf
150. ETHOS categories have been estimated according to available data
151. See note 149

2.2.27 Malta
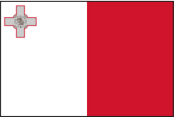
KEY STATISTICS[152]

- Homeless people (between January and June 2018): 191 (-52% since 2017)
Males: 123, Females: 46, Unknown: 22
Nationals: less than half
- ETHOS categories[153]: 1, 2, 3, 5, 9

POLICIES AND STRATEGIES

- The lack of data portrays a country where also strategies seem to be at a very early stage. YMCA and Caritas Malta together are pushing the Government and stakeholders to take some measures in order to provide more adequate accommodation to those in urgent need

+ 152.9% from 2010
+ 0% from 2010

- 45.8% from 2010
- 52.4% from 2010

+ 13.6% from 2010
- 27.5% from 2010
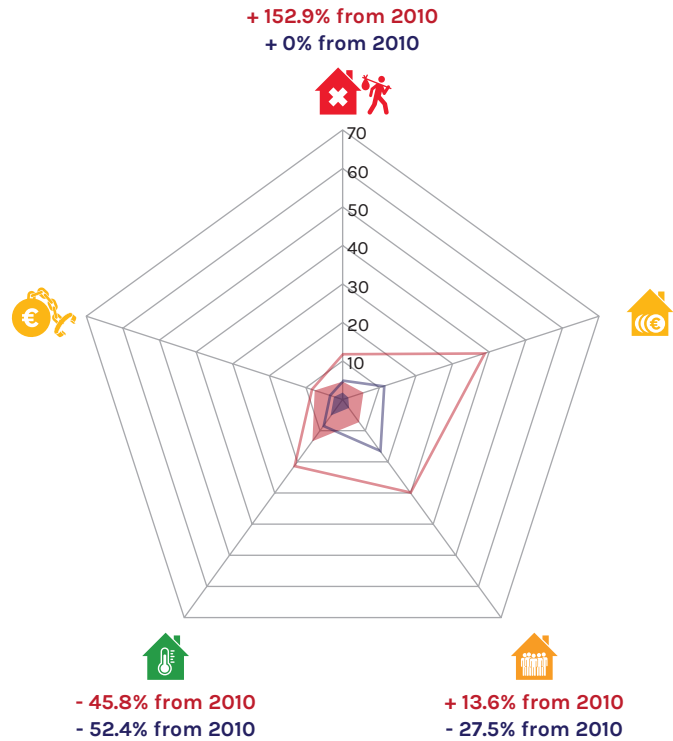
housing costs (in €/month)		
	2016	2010 - 2016
housing costs for poor households (PPP)	151.9	-13.5%
young people and ratio with total population (2016)		

	aged 18-24		total pop.	
	total	poor	total	poor
housing cost overburden rate	0.9%	7.2%	1.4%	5.9%
	total (16-24)			
severe housing deprivation	2%		1.4%	

population aged 18+ sorted by nationality (2016)			
	non-EU	EU	nationals
housing cost overburden rate	5.5%	8.9%	1.1%
overcrowding	10.5%	1%	2.4%

152. Sarah Carabott, *Half of homeless shelter residents are foreigners*, 2018, (for) Times of Malta, https://www.timesofmalta.com/articles/view/20180820/local/half-of-homeless-shelter-residents-are-foreigners.687064
153. ETHOS categories have been estimated according to available data

2.2.28 Cyprus

KEY STATISTICS

- Homeless people (2017): 129[154]
- People seeking asylum (2017): 4499 (+138.4% since 2014)[155]
- ETHOS categories[156]: 1, 5, 8, 12, 13

POLICIES AND STRATEGIES

- Cyprus is probably on the edge of bankrupt. Its debt is one of the highest and this terribly affects the funds destined to the homeless issue. Shelter services exist, as well as dedicated facilites for asylum seekers, but endless waiting lists and the low level of assistance in general make the current sistuation even harder.

- 15.9% from 2010
- 18.8% from 2010

+ 22.2% from 2010
- 11% from 2010

- 24% from 2010
- 31.4% from 2010
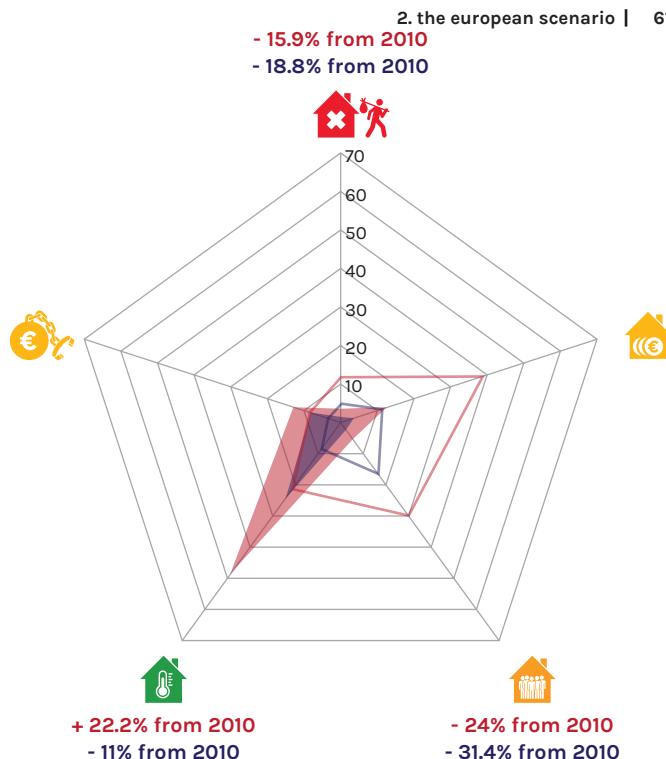
housing costs (in €/month)		
	2016	2010 - 2016
housing costs for poor households (PPP)	232.8	-1.4%
young people and ratio with total population (2016)		
	aged 18-24	total pop.
	total	poor	total	poor
housing cost overburden rate	3%	15.4%	3.1%	12.6%
	total (16-24)	
severe housing deprivation	3.9%	1.3%
population aged 18+ sorted by nationality (2016)		
	non-EU	EU	nationals
housing cost overburden rate	9.5%	10.5%	1.6%
overcrowding	4.7%	3.7%	1.8%

154. Stelios Marathovouniotis, *129 homeless people in Cyprus in 2017*, 2018, (for) in-cyprus (Cyprus online hub), https://in-cyprus.com/129-homeless-people-in-cyprus-in-2017/
155. UNHCR Cyprus, *Joint Statement on the growing problem of homelessness among asylum-seekers in Cyprus*, 2018, https://www.unhcr.org/cy/2018/05/09/joint-statement-growing-problem-homelessness-among-asylum-seekers-cyprus/
156. ETHOS categories have been estimated according to available data on Béla Szandelszky, *Homelessness is becoming an increasing issue for asylum-seekers in Cyprus*, 2018, (for) UNHCR Cyprus, https://www.unhcr.org/cy/2018/05/09/joint-statement-growing-problem-homelessness-among-asylum-seekers-cyprus/

2.3 considerations

2.3.1 continental Europe

Countries included:

- ● 1. Italy
- ● 2. Portugal
- ● 3. Spain
- ● 4. France
- ● 5. United Kingdom
- ● 6. Ireland
- ● 7. Luxembourg
     8. Belgium
- ● 9. The Netherlands
     10. Austria
     11. Germany
     27. Malta

● the black dot indicates which countries have a national strategy against homelessness

Continental Europe is the most balanced region in Europe in terms of positive and negative aspects of strategies and policies. In general, there are many points in favour, as it seems that states are increasingly focusing on the integration of long-term solutions for the homeless and the development of national strategies, but there are still critical aspects that need to be addressed.

POSITIVE REMARKS:
- most of the countries have adopted a national strategy against homelessness
- Housing First approaches seem to be consolidated and active part of strategies
- funds are being expended on homeless-oriented projects
- surveys on data provision are forseen some at national level, others at regional
- support and healthcare are provided

NEGATIVE REMARKS:
- there is still austerity towards migrants and refugees
- in several countries actions like begging or sleeping rough are fined
- surveys are sometimes unreliable
- constant increase of poverty and unemployment
- cuts on welfare, especially for young people
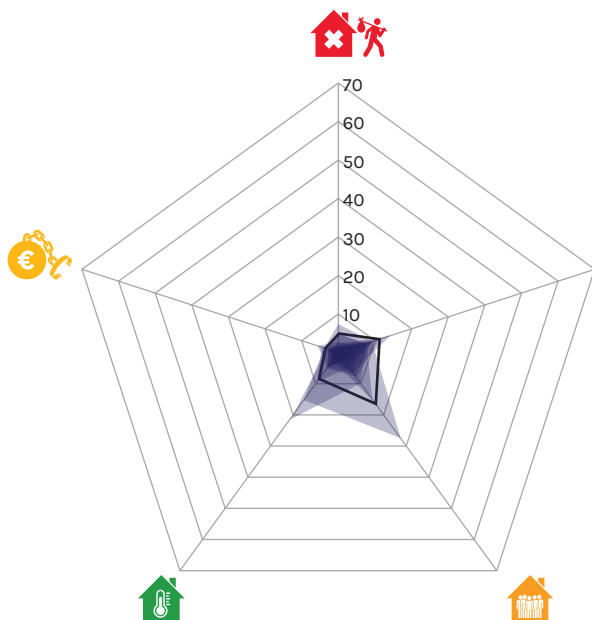
TOTAL POPULATION

Concentration mostly for rent, overcrowding and warmth but still far below the European average. **Peaks** in overcrowding and warmth but isolated cases for a couple of countries.
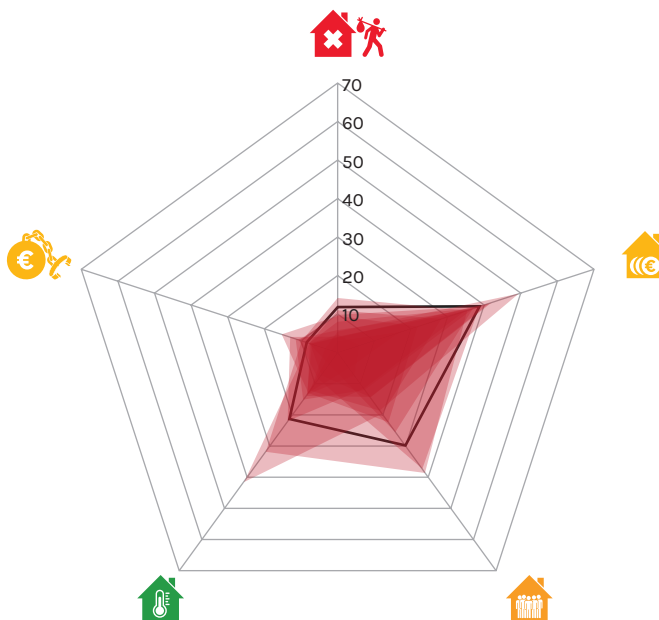
POOR POPULATION

Concentration is spreaded through all the factors and most of the time reaches the line of the European average, meaning that the situation is aligned to the average but with high needs, especially for rent, mortgaes and arrears and severe deprivation. Less for overcrowding and warmth, but still heavy concentration, meaning that most of the countries face the same problem.
Peaks everywhere but severe deprivation. High values for warmth.

2.3.2 northern Europe

Countries included:

- • 12. Denmark
  13. Sweden
- • 14. Finland
  15. Estonia
  16. Latvia
  17. Lithuania

• the black dot indicates which countries have a national strategy against homelessness

Northern Europe is an area with strong contrasts. Although it has established itself as one of the pioneers of strategic innovation in the fight against homelessness, the northern area is also experiencing a marked decrease in the number of affordable housing and a consequent difficulty among younger people in finding a place to live. The categories that find it hardest to get sheltered are women and foreigners.

POSITIVE REMARKS:
- surveys and data collection happen with regularity
- there is a committment on shifting from temporary to more permanents housing solutions as qiuckly as possible
- Housing First works very well
- Funds are used to finance long-term tenancies and users' services

NEGATIVE REMARKS:
- Increase in youth homelessness
- women and foreign people are more likely to be homeless
- the housing market is very expensive
- in some countries there is no follow up in care, especially for young people
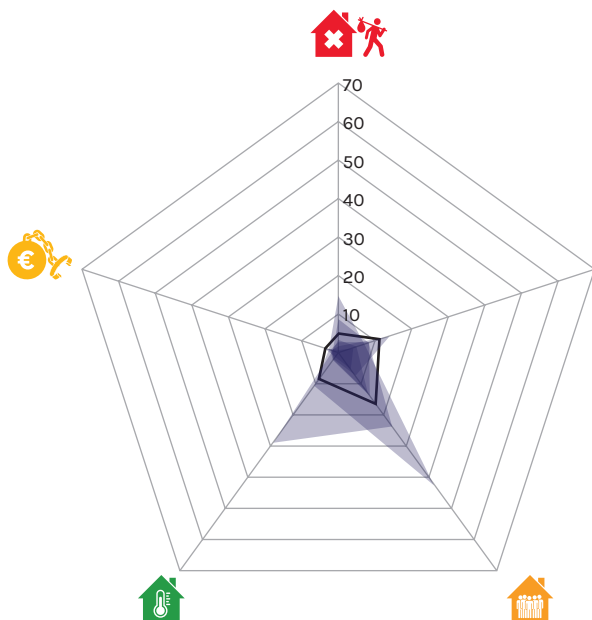
TOTAL POPULATION

Concentration mostly far below the average line, except for overcrowding, but still acceptable.
Heavy **peaks** to be found in housing deprivation, overcrowding and warmth.
Mortgages and arrears are not a big issue, or atleast not a priority.
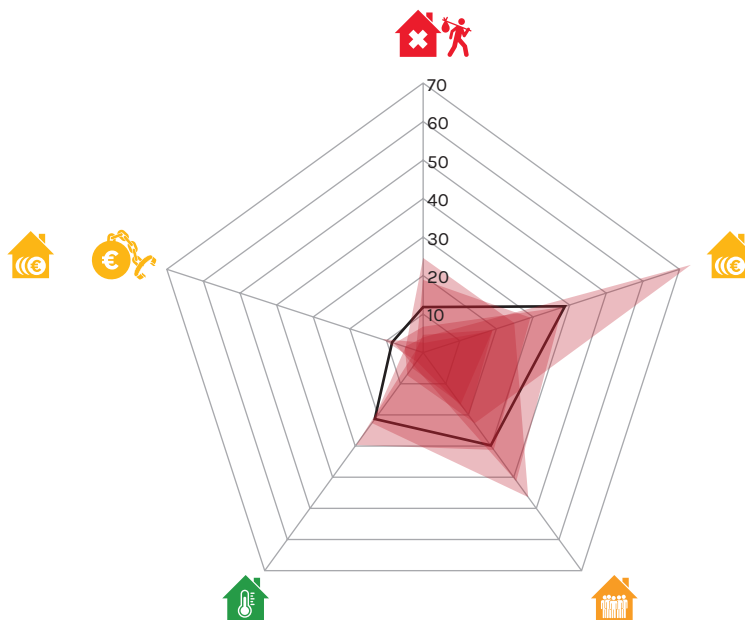
POOR POPULATION

Concentration towards rents and overcrowding, since the housing market is very vibrant but exeptionally expensive. In some countries still below the average, though.
High **peaks** for overcrowding, rents and warmth (a bit less).
Mortgages and arrears seem to be not a big issue neither for poor people. This must be due to the very efficient system of welfare and help for those in economic need.

2.3.3 eastern Europe

Countries included:

   18. Poland
- 19. Czech Republic
   20. Slovakia
   21. Hungary
   22. Slovenia
   23. Croatia
- 24. Greece
   25. Bulgaria
   26. Romania
   28. Cyprus

- the black dot indicates which countries have a national strategy against homelessness

The oreintal zone of Europe is certainly the most problematic. The history of this area has had very strong social and economic repercussions and for this reason the countries concerned are struggling to keep up with those in other areas. Despite this, some countries are slowly experimenting to adapt to the landscape of strategic innovation on the homelessness front.

POSITIVE REMARKS:
- plans against homelessness and affordable housing in development in some countries
- very early attempts of Housing First
- development of standards for services and housing

NEGATIVE REMARKS:
- lack of national strategies
- havey restrictions to access services
- it seems that partnerships are difficult to be agreed
- the amount of funds is very low if not absent
- actions like begging or rough sleeping are punished
- there is no proper data collection about the phenomenon
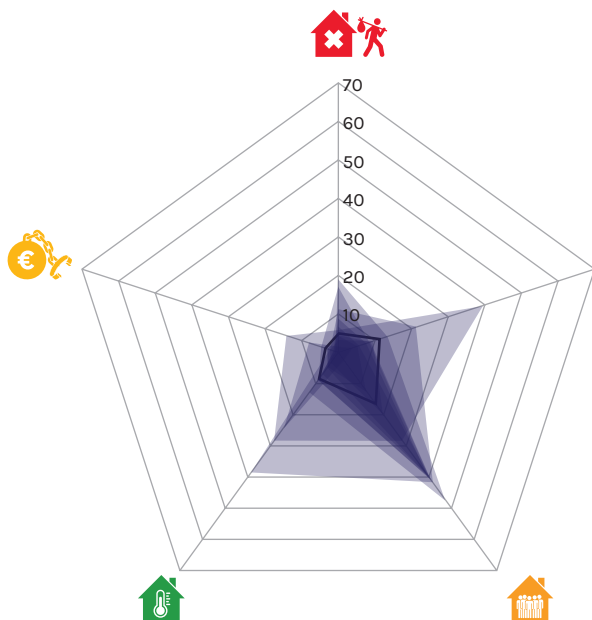
TOTAL POPULATION

Concentration covers almost the entire area of the average value with high numbers on the over-crowding line and other intense areas for other indices.
Heavy **peaks** everywhere.
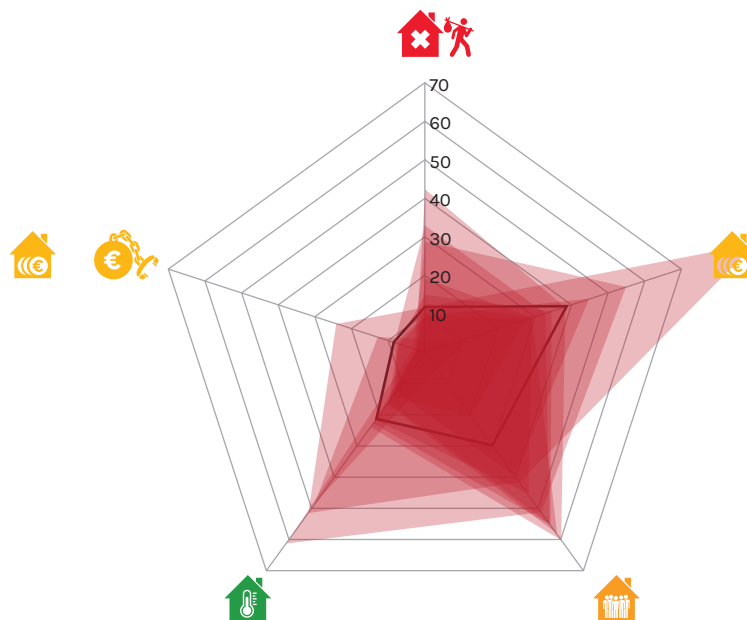
POOR POPULATION

Concentration covers the entire area of average and exceeds for many indicators, above all for overcrowding.
Peaks skyrocket everwhere, with their most im-pressive value for rents (Greece).
The situation that Eastern Europe is facing is un-doubtely the most alarming, most of the time due to the restrictive limitations that austerity sets. For this reason, people find themselves in extre-me poverty and they often struggle to claim an in-dependent and qualitative place where to live in.

2.3.4 ETHOS presence overview

The following scheme represents the subdivision of homeless people into the ETHOS categories according to the surveys of FEANTSA in 2017. This sum has been made with the purpose of confronting the situation across the Union, in order to understand what kind of accommodation homeless people need.

	Roofless		Houseless				Insecure				Inadequate		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1. Italy	●	●	●	●	●								
2. Portugal	●	●				●							
3. Spain	●	●	●		●			●				●	
4. France	●	●	●									●	●
5. United Kingdom													
6. Ireland	●	●	●	●		●						●	●
7. Luxembourg	●	●	●			●		●					
8. Belgium	●	●	●	●			●		●		●		
9. The Netherlands	●		●					●					
10. Austria	●	●	●			●	●	●			●	●	●
11. Germany	●	●	●				●	●			●		
12. Denmark	●	●	●			●		●					
13. Sweden	●	●	●	●		●		●	●		●		
14. Finland	●	●	●			●		●					
15. Estonia	●	●											
16. Latvia	●	●	●										
17. Lithuania	●	●	●	●									
18. Poland	●	●	●										
19. Czech Republic	●	●	●	●			●	●					
20. Slovakia	●		●										
21. Hungary	●	●	●										
22. Slovenia	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●		●		
23. Croatia	●	●	●		●	●					●	●	
24. Greece	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
25. Bulgaria													
26. Romania	●	●	●					●	●		●		●
27. Malta	●	●	●		●				●				
28. Cyprus	●				●			●				●	●

3. the value of the home

3.1 home is more than a simple shelter

3.1.1 the house as a right

On December 10, 1948 the General Assembly of the United Nations published and adopted the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights, a document written as an «answer to the horrors of the Second World War»[157] (Amnesty International, 2017) and agreed by all the state members of the United Nations with the aim of fostering equality, respect, safety and dignity for every human being without distinction of gender or social status**.
Homelessness, for its nature, does not guarantee this balance and for that reason is considered a human right's violation.
Here are some of the guide principles of the Declaration:

«Article 1.
All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.

Article 2.
Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. [...]

Article 25.
1. Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and wellbeing of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.
2. Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance. All children, whether born in or out of wedlock, shall enjoy the same social protection.»[158]

The Declaration begins with the most important principle, i.e that every human being is born equal

157. Amnesty International, *Dichiarazione universale dei diritti umani: da 69 anni in difesa di tutti*, 2018, (translated from Italian), https://www.amnesty.it/dichiarazione-universale-dei-diritti-umani-69-anni-difesa-tutti/

158. United Nations Human Rights – Office of the High Commissioner, *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, 1948, pp. 2-8 https://www.ohchr.org/EN/UDHR/Documents/UDHR_Translations/eng.pdf

in rights and dignity. Since, therefore, every single person has the right of being treated equally, it is vital that people start acting and thinking like a community, where every decision is taken with the aim of promoting a high sense of inclusion without discrimination. Data gathered by FEANTSA in *the Third Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2018* show the opposite, portraying a Europe where **human differences have still a strong influence on housing conditions**: «A worrying and increasing proportion of young people in Europe are being excluded from the housing market or are in unfit housing. In addition to being particularly affected by unfit housing, young people are spending astronomical amounts [...]. [...] Among EU citizens aged between 18 and 24 living below the poverty line, 43% were overburdened by housing costs in Europe in 2016, four times the population as a whole. [...] **In all EU countries without exception, foreign nationals** (from outside the European Union) **are more overburdened by housing costs and experience more overcrowding than nationals.**»[159] (FEANTSA, 2018)

159. FEANTSA and Abbé Pierre Foundation, Third Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2018, pp. 60-63 https://www.feantsa.org/download/full-report-en1029873431323901915.pdf

This is a clear violation of Article 2.

Article 25 is really important for the specific needs of homeless people: the Declaration establishes, indeed, that social services must be guaranteed because of the primary role they play in making a fare and healthy living environment.

«Regarding and responding to homelessness in a human rights framework represents a shift away from the prevailing 'welfare' response. This shift is important. Whereas a welfare framework tends to conceptualise responses to homelessness as gratuities provided by a well-resourced and compassionate society, a rights-based framework enables marginalised and disadvantaged people to make claims against the state as of right. Crucially, it also imposes an obligation on the state to immediately ensure all homeless persons' civil and political rights (such as the right to vote and the right to freedom of expression) and to take steps, to the maximum of its available resources, to progressively realise all homeless persons' economic, social and cultural rights (such as the right to social security and the right to an adequate standard of living).»[160] (Lynch et al., 2003)

The awareness for an individual to claim something as a right is a very powerful tool of safeguard.

Nevertheless, it is also true that «the Universal

Declaration is not a treaty, so it does not directly create legal obligations for countries. However, it is an expression of the fundamental values which are shared by all members of the international community. And it has had a profound influence on the development of international human rights law.»[161] (Australian Human Rights Commission)

Within this framework, endless numbers of NGOs and other organisations are working together intensely for providing housing, shelters and services to those on the streets. Homelessness is on the rise. If we still consider the issue as a consequence of indivuals' weakness, we are actually pretending to be blind. What has been done until now is not enough, but granting people a cooperative community could really be the starting point.

160. Philip Lynch e Jacqueline Cole, *Homelessness and Human Rights: regarding and responding to homelessness as a human right violation*, 2003, in The University of Melbourne, «Melbourne Journal of International Law 17», vol. 4, 2003, http://classic.austlii.edu.au/au/journals/MelbJIL/2003/17.pdf
161. Australian Human Rights Commission, *What is the Universal Declaration of Human Rights?*, https://www.humanrights.gov.au/publications/what-universal-declaration-human-rights
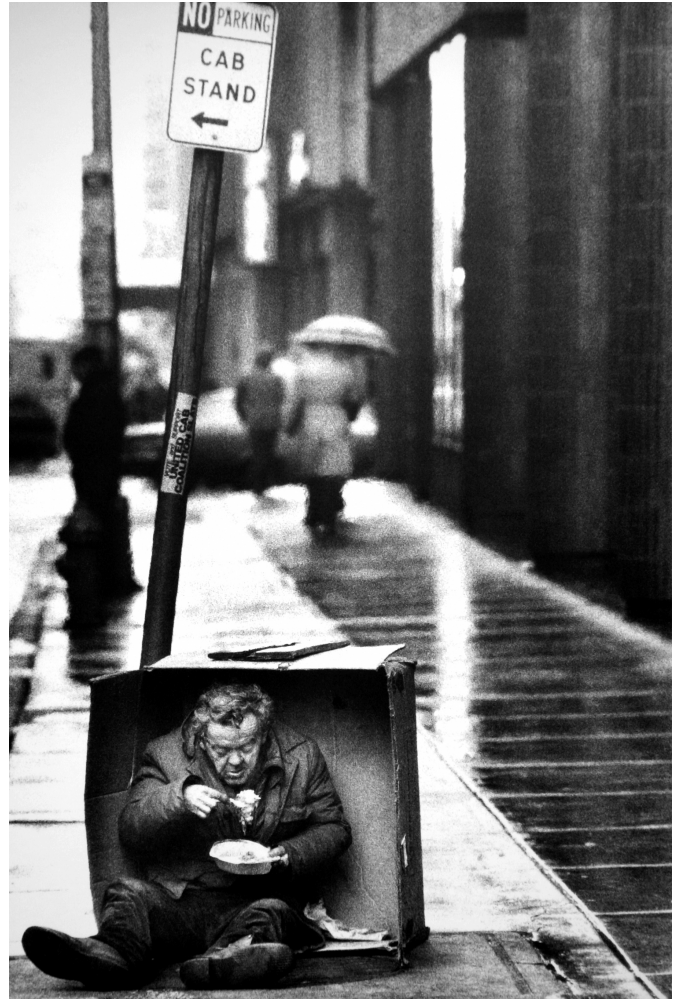
FIG. 12 | Philadelphia's Homeless - 1986 Pulitzer Prize, Feature Photography
Photo Credit: (edit of) Tom Gralish via flickr, CC BY 2.0

3.1.2 what is a home?

There is no place like home: safe, welcoming, warm, where you can just be yourself, in complete privacy, and, above all, freedom.

From an architectural point of view, it is necessary to distinguish the concept of *house* from the one of *home*, two similar words that are frequently used as synonyms but that actually assume two completely different meanings. While the first merely refers to the physical «building in which people live»[162] (Collins Dictionary Online), the latter brings much more complexity, expanding the study also to sociological, psychological, geographical, anthropological, historical, philosophycal and, of course, architectural fields. Wikipedia states that «a home is generally a place that is close to the heart of the owner, and can become a prized possession»[163]. Despite its accented romanticism, the definition is true: without restrictions of any kind, «from the moment we are born we make emotional bonds with people, things and places»[164] (Haywood, 2017),

factors that help shaping people's personalities. As a consequence, since «humans are generally creatures of habit, the state of a person's home has been known to physiologically influence their behavior, emotions, and overall mental health.»[165] (Boutruche et al., 2008) Following this reasoning, **home becomes a very flexible term, «an inhabited space that transcend geometric space»[166] (Bachelard, 1975) and time, referring to a particular sense of belonging**.

It is difficult to assess the real meaning of home. Its complexity makes the task even tougher, also considering that its definition may vary individual to individual for a series of personal circumstances, which makes almost impossible to find a common agreement. In a very rich and thorough research about the topic, Shelley Mallet analyzes the term and try to draw some conclusions from several points of view: «How then is home understood? How should home be understood? Or, how could home be understood? Clearly the term home functions as a repository for complex, inter-related and at times contradictory socio-cultural ide-

162. Collins Dictionary Online, https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/house

163. Wikipedia, *Home*, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Home#Psychological_significance

164. Trudy Haywood, *Homesickness - Settling in to University*, 2017, (for) Warwick University, https://warwick.ac.uk/services/counselling/informationpages/homesickness/

165. Samuel Boutruche, Stéphanie Bourgeois and Nadine Lyamouri-Bajja, *Raising Young Refugees' Voices in Europe and Beyond: A Seminar Report*, Council of Europe, 2008, p. 35

166. Gaston Bachelard, *La poetica dello spazio*, Dedalo, Bari, 1975, in Nadia Giorgi, *MINORIGIUSTIZIA*, 2009, vol. 2, pp. 78-82, DOI:10.3280/MG2009-002008

as about people's relationship with one another, especially family, and with places, spaces, and things. It can be a welling place or a lived space of interaction between people, places, things; or perhaps both. The boundaries of home can be permeable and/or impermeable. Home can be singular and/or plural, alienable and/or inalienable, fixed and stable and/or mobile and changing. It can be associated with feelings of comfort, ease intimacy, relaxation and security and/or oppression, tyranny and persecution. It can or can not be associated with family. Home can be an expression of one's (possibly fluid) identity and sense of self and/or one's body might be home to the self. It can constitute belonging and/or create a sense of marginalisation and estrangement. Home can be given and/or made, familiar and/or strange, an atmosphere and/or an activity, a relevant and/or irrelevant concept. It can be fundamental and/or extraneous to existence. Home can be an ideological construct and/or an experience of being in the world. It can be a crucial site for examining relations of production and consumption, globalisation and nationalism, citizenship and human rights, and the role of government and governmentality. **Equally it can provide a context for analyzing ideas and practices about intimacy, family, kinship, gender, ethnicity, class, age**

and sexuality. Such ideas can be inflected in domestic architecture and interior and urban design»[167].

In these terms, perhaps, home can be understood as a place of well-being.

167. Shelley Mallett, *Understanding home: a critical review of the literature*, 2004, in «The Sociological Review, vol. 52, Issue 1, 2004», p. 84, https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/j.1467-954X.2004.00442.x

3.1.3 home as well-being: The World Health Organization

With Chapter 2 it is possible to get an overview of what is happening in Europe right now. Data collected show how economical and social factors contribute for the eviction, the phenomenon which causes people to be deprived of their homes. If losing a safe place is relatively easy because of governments and laws making pressure on deadlines and costs (in general, heavy requirements), so it is not for the opposite. The process of building a home takes a long time: consolidating relationships, security and privacy around the living space requires a certain amount of trust in both neighbours and political institutions, as it is perceivable through Chapter 1.

So, what really makes a home?

In this research the first attempt of matching people with housing solutions meeting individuals' needs has been explored with ETHOS, but it remains a simple classification of what homeless people physically need according to their status. The World Health Organization (WHO) (fig. 13) believes that well-being is made of much more, stating that «**Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.»[168] (WHO, 1946) In these terms, for analogy, home cannot be thought just as an ensamble of walls**.

In 2011, indeed, the WHO itself released a document called "Housing: shared interests in health and development - Social Determinants of Health Sectoral Briefing Series 1" which analyses eight housing policies that should guarantee health to the users. «By providing information on other sectors' agendas and policy approaches, and their health impacts, and by illustrating areas for potential collaboration, the Social Determinants of Health Sectoral Briefing Series (the Series) aims to encourage more systematic dialogue and problem solving, and more collaboration with other areas of government.»[169] (WHO, 2011)

Promoting this kind of interdisciplinary work,

168. World Health Organization, *Constitution of the World Health Organization*, 1946, p. 1, http://apps.who.int/gb/bd/PDF/bd47/EN/constitution-en.pdf?ua=1
169. World Health Organization, *Housing: shared interests in health and development*, 2011, https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/44705/9789241502290_eng.pdf?sequence=1

FIG. 13 | The World Health Organization (WHO) logo
Image Credit: The World Helath organization via Wikimedia Commons

WHO seems really committed to ensure more dynamic, rapid and cohesive answers with the aim of fostering equity, sustainability and human development among those realities that still struggle to deal with societal threats.
The eight principles articulate in:

1. DWELLINGS PROVIDE ADEQUATE SHELTER FROM NATURAL ELEMENTS AND HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES - Dwellings should be of sound construction, in a reasonable state of repair, weatherproof and adequately ventilated.
In recent years, the housing market is facing the reality of substandard dwellings. The rapid increase of population and housing demand is forcing construction companies to act very quickly and this usually results in poorly designed dwelling with no opportunity of development.

HEALTH IMPACT:
- indoor biological and chemical agents may affect brain's functioning

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS:
- systematic inspections
- technical standards and programmes to avoid hazardous agents' sedimentation
- adequate building materials

2. HOUSING ENSURES PERSONAL AND HOUSEHOLD PRIVACY, SAFETY AND SECURITY - Housing should allow occupants to live without fear of intrusion, provide safety, and allow safe entry and exit.

HEALTH IMPACT:
- domestic injuries (such as poisoning, burning, drowning and falling)
- violence in and around the home

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS:
- adequate indoor and environmental design
- prevention of household risks by implementing some regulations concerning the usage of certain facilities
- engagement of communities in activities

3. DWELLINGS PROVIDE SPACE APPROPRIATE TO HOUSEHOLD SIZE AND COMPOSITION - Dwellings should have space for individual and common purposes within accepted crowding ratios, allowing separations between uses.
In Europe, there is not a common indicator which regulates the size of a dwelling, but it varies from country to country. In some, it is given by square meters per person while in others in inhabitable rooms per person. For convenience, $15m^2$ will be

taken as reference, which is one minimum living standard adopted in some countries.[170]

HEALTH IMPACT:
- risk of infections' transmission
- mental disease

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS:
- defining occupancy and crowding ratios
- promoting relocation initiatives
- physical changes to existing dwelling

4. REASONABLE LEVELS OF BASIC SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE AT THE DWELLING - Clean water, sanitation, waste disposal, access infrastructure and power should be available to the dwelling.

HEALTH IMPACT:
- risk of infections for low levels of hygiene
- power denial may lead to bad functioning of indoor systems with consequent illness

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS:
- assessment of housing and basic services ne-

eds
- involving users in masterplans' preparation

5. HOUSING COSTS ARE REASONABLE AND AFFORDABLE - Accommodation costs should be within accepted affordability limits to secure housing for all.
One common measure of affordability is the use of a ratio between shelter cost and income. Commonly a 30% level for this ratio is accepted internationally as a limit for affordable housing. According to FEANTSA, «on average, one EU household in ten spent more than 40% of its disposable income on housing in 2016, against four poor households out of ten.»[171] (FEANTSA, 2018)

HEALTH IMPACT:
- poor levels of selfe-confidence
- low environmental maintainance due to high housing costs

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS:
- implementation of supply-side interventions to improve affordability

170. European Centre for Environment and Health, *Housing and health regulations in Europe - Final Report*, July 2006, p. 37, http://www.euro.who.int/__data/assets/pdf_file/0004/121837/e89278.pdf

171. FEANTSA and Abbé Pierre Foundation, *Third Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2018*, p. 55, https://www.feantsa.org/download/full-report-en1029873431323901915.pdf

- strategies that provide affordable housing and temporary resettlement plans

6. THE LOCATION OF DWELLINGS ALLOWS ACCESS TO SOCIAL SERVICES, SERVICES AND SPACE FOR ACTIVITIES OF DAILY LIFE, AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES - Residential locations allow access to opportunities for education, purchasing or growing food, purchasing other necessities for daily living, recreation, and employment.
A problem affecting millions of low-income families and slum dwellers is that residential areas are often in isolated areas with little independent infrastructure (jobs, schools, post offices, shops). Inadequate transportation, limited financial resources and gender norms, among other barriers, create circumstances where whole communities are excluded.

HEALTH IMPACT:
- sedentary lifestyles, social isolation and chronic diseases
- equity threats

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS:
- interdisciplinary approaches guaranteeing support in life's key events (birth, preschool, education, employment and retirement)

- informal settlements upgrade

7. TENURE ARRANGEMENTS ENSURE REASONABLE CONTINUITY OF OCCUPATION - Terms of occupation provide stability for individuals, households, communities and neighbourhoods.
Tenure refers to the legal basis under which people occupy a dwelling. Most informal settlements are erected on land that is state or privately owned, which often means that housing units in slum areas are illegal. Consequently, legal authorization to register property or improve the liveability of housing and settlements is refused. Local governments are often forbidden to provide services such as water, sanitation, waste removal, electricity, roads or schools.

HEALTH IMPACT:
- increased exposure and vulnerability
- risk of eviction with consequent impact on health

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS:
- promotion of human rights
- resettlement programs
- emergency assistance

8. DWELLINGS PROTECT OCCUPANTS FROM CLI-

MATE CHANGE - Dwellings should protect people from extreme weather events and contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

HEALTH IMPACT:
- extreme weather conditions improve habitats for diseases
- indoor thermal variability
- fluctuations in water availability and quality

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS:
- use of sustainable building technologies
- consider health problems as a direct consequence of climate change

The reason behind the choice of selecting and studying a recognized official document that works at an international level is that having indicators built upon international experience brings more validity to all the argumentations.
Thanks to these eight points, some early evaluations based on common criteria for assessing the efficiency of different types of dwelling are made possible.

3.2 housing emergency: a European striking issue

3.2.1 a brief historical overiview

«Access to shelter, i.e. accommodation in the event of an emergency, is a fundamental right. Homelessness is a counterpart to extreme poverty and a consequence of periods of economic recession.»[172] (FEANTSA, 2018)

Although it may seem like a fairly recent phenomenon as the numbers continue to grow, homelessness has always characterized the history of the World and Europe. Until about the middle of the 20th century, homelessness laws were quite common, and most of the time they were aimed at isolating those people considered to be behaving negatively towards society. Caring for these individuals included predominantly religious organisations, such as The Salvation Army, which was established in 1865 and is still operating, as well as basic services provided by simple dormitories, hospitals and other institutions. From 1950 onwards, after the Wars, the situation changed: due to the strong increase in population, the demand for housing was ever greater and Europe had to face a heavy increase in demands. A number of political measures were therefore introduced to safeguard the safety and work of each individual.

In the East, until 1980, the communist regime had always provided housing for workers and the phenomenon was less visible, but the problems concerned the quality of the buildings. A decade later, in 1989, with the fall of the Berlin Wall, Eastern Europe changed its face, and the privatization and liberalization of the housing market made homelessness a serious social problem. Meanwhile, in the West, dedicated structures continued to progress, always following the line of the so-called "staircase approach".[173]

172, 173. FEANTSA and Abbé Pierre Foundation, *Fourth Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2019*, pp. 10-11, https://www.feantsa.org/download/oheeu_2019_eng_web5120646087993915253.pdf
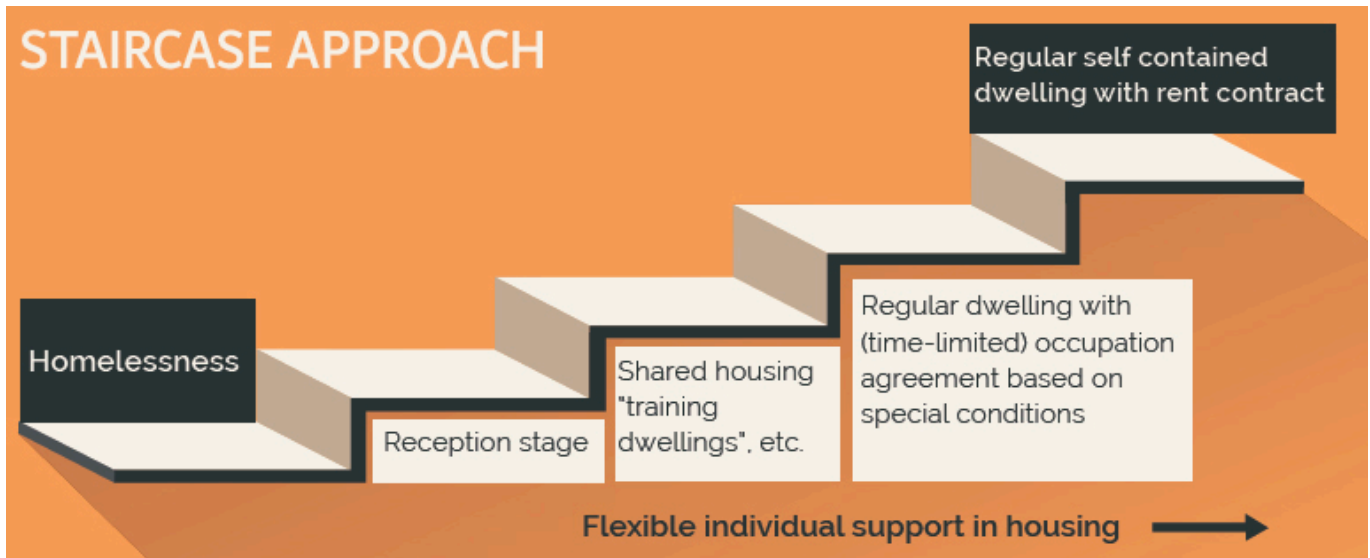
FIG. 14 | Staircase system
Image Source: (edit of) Tsemberis, S. and Henwood, B. (2013) Housing First: Homelessness, Recovery and Community Integration. In V. Vandiver (ed.) Best Practices in Community Mental Health: A Pocket Guide, pp. 132-150. NY Oxford University Press

3.2.2 the "staircase approach"

It is the most common approach with regard to the fight against homelessness and the one on which most welfare systems referred until about thirty years ago, before the advent of more innovative practices. «The social welfare system for housing the homeless is structured around a housing model where homeless service users demonstrate their ability to move from one level of accommodation to another» (fig. 14) «either as part of the rehabilitation process or by acting in accordance with the targets that have been jointly laid down. It is based on legislation and the end goal is independent living.»[174] (Tainio et al., 2009) **In a nutshell, as in a game, homeless people must prove, by behaving adequately, to be deserving of access to ever higher levels** (defined by temporary, transitory, permanent and supported structures, which will be explained later) **and fi-**

nally earn a home as if it were a "reward". Since among these behaviors a fundamental factor is being free from addiction to substances and some studies suggest how a «high proportion of long-term homeless people have problems with alcohol and/or other drugs»[175] (Särkelä, 1993), it is easy to create circumstances and barriers for which the individual is unable to access the services: even if some, through rehabilitation pathways, are shown to be "clean" at the time of access, there is still a large number of emergency cases that struggle to get out of this condition. During the last decades, experts in the field have begun to doubt the effectiveness of this system. «Research on staircase homelessness services reported similar problems to those identified in staircase mental health services. In particular:

- **Homeless people became 'stuck', unable to complete the steps that they were expected to follow to be rehoused**.
- **Staircase services were abandoned by homeless people who did not like or could not follow the strict rules**.

- **There were concerns about the ethics of some staircase services - particularly a tendency to view homelessness as the result of someone's character flaws - with homeless people being blamed for causing their own homelessness**.
- **Staircase services could be harsh environments for homeless people**.
- **Costs were high, but the effectiveness of staircase services was often limited**.»[176] (Pleace, 2016)

STAIRCASE PROCESS
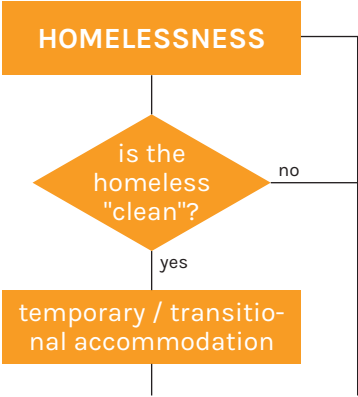
174. Hannele Tainio and Peter Fredriksson, *The Finnish Homelessness Strategy: From a 'Staircase' Model to a 'Housing First' Approach to Tackling Long-Term Homelessness*, 2009, in «European Journal of Homelessness, vol. 3, December 2009», p. 185, https://www.feantsa.org/download/feantsa-ejh2009-evaluation-16622178144273146290.pdf
175. Antti Särkelä, *Sosiaalityön asiakas subjektina ja ei-subjektina*, 1993, in «Täydennyskoulutusjulkaisuja / Helsingin yliopiston Lahden tutkimus- ja koulutu-

skeskus» vol. 7
176. Nicholas Pleace, *Housing First Guide - Europe*, February 2016, p. 15, https://housingfirsteurope.eu/assets/files/2017/03/HFG_full_Digital.pdf
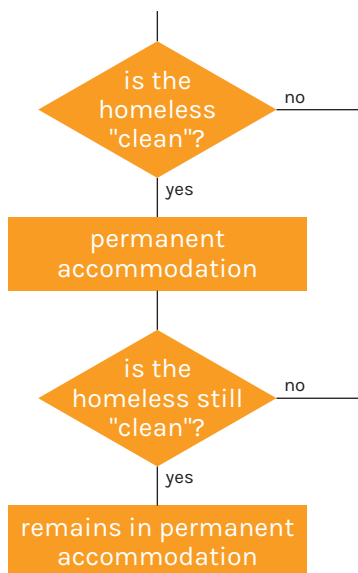
3.2.2.1 temporary and transitional accommodations

There is a fine line between temporary and transitional solutions and sometimes the two are used to identify the same infrastructure, but for the purpose of this research it is more effective to keep these two definitions separate, even if they are very close together. A temporary structure, also called "emergency", is

a type of service designed to accommodate those who are in an emergency housing situation in the shortest possible time, ensuring, in parallel, a type of support, even minimal, for the physical and mental protection of the user. According to FEANTSA and an article from Hannah Cromarty, «The distinction between services within this broad spectrum is not always clear: what is called 'emergency accommodation' in Ireland for example is called 'temporary accommodation' in England where a distinction is made between 'first-stage' accommodation and 'second-stage' accommodation. First-stage accommodation mainly provides direct access to basic services (shelter, a meal, sanitary facilities) (e.g. cold weather/winter shelters, night shelters, emergency hostels, women's refuges, nightstop schemes for 16-25-year olds) and are usually provided by charitable or religious organisations. Second stage services specialise in support with a focus on rehabilitation and reintegration»[177], definition more attributable to a transitory service. Perhaps it is easier to distinguish the two from a

177. FEANTSA and Abbé Pierre Foundation, *Fourth Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2019*, p. 12, https://www.feantsa.org/download/oheeu_2019_eng_web5120646087993915253.pdf,
Hannah Cromarty, *Rough sleepers: access to services and support (England)*, March 2018, House of Commons Library, https://researchbriefings.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefing/Summary/CBP-7698

temporal point of view: if, theorically, emergency solutions are designed to cover a shorter period of time, the transitory solutions should guarantee, by offering higher levels of support, a more prolonged stay while waiting for the homeless person to be directed, once ready, towards fixed dwellings.

SERVICE PROVIDERS
The associations that provide these services are various: «non-governmental organisations, not-for-profit organisations, private enterprises, charitable organisations, religious organisations, and public services are all stakeholders.»[178] In particular, a great deal of work is being done by religious associations and NGOs which, under the administration of a local government, can directly provide for the distribution of services.

FUNDINGS
The methods of financing also vary for both solutions. They can come from either the public or the private market, but as each Member State has such a diversity of sources and financing

178. FEANTSA and Abbé Pierre Foundation, *Fourth Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2019*, p. 12, https://www.feantsa.org/download/oheeu_2019_eng_web5120646087993915253.pdf

systems, it is difficult to establish precisely the amounts allocated to these types of intervention.

ACCESSIBILITY
In general, temporary and transitional services have very limited access requirements (gender, nationality, age), in order to maximise the number of acceptances, but they are almost always present.
What vary, however, are the hours of availability: if transitional structures, with higher levels of support, are usually open at any time, it is easier to find temporary reception centres that offer their services only during the night. In some cases, in fact, the individual, after the night, is required to leave the facility and return the next evening with the hope of not having to repeat the asylum application procedure.

3.2.2.2 permanent accommodations
From a staircase approach perspective, permanent accommodations are the last step in the fight against housing exclusion. Once this point has been reached, in fact, the homeless person should have reached such a degree of independence as to allow himself a private life. Since this type of solution is, in itself, a simple type of housing on a tenant basis (usually, apartments ren-

ted from the real estate market), it is more correct, in the field of homelessness, to speak of Permanent Supportive Housing. «Permanent Supportive (or Supported) Housing (PSH) combines rental or housing assistance with individualized, flexible and voluntary support services for people with high needs related to physical or mental health, developmental disabilities or substance use»[179], according to what is reported by Homeless Hub.

The big difference with temporary and transitional solutions is precisely the change in the relationship between supplier and customer, which are now linked by a long-term contract. This leads to the permanent housing taking on different characteristics from the other solutions.

SERVICE PROVIDER

The apartments to rent come directly from the market, without any distinction between housing with or without dedicated support. This means that prices, urban location and availability are strongly influenced by real estate dynamics.

179. Homeless Hub, *Permanent Supportive/Supported Housing*, https://www.homelesshub.ca/solutions/transitional-housing/permanent-supportivesupported-housing

FUNDINGS

As far as financing is concerned, a distinction should be made between normal and supported housing. In the first case, rents are offered at the market price directly by the agencies, while in the second case it is possible that some NGOs establish partnerships with the municipalities so that they can rent the apartments themselves and, taking advantage of funds earmarked for humanitarian aid at national and European level, re-rent them to those in need at more affordable prices and adding to the package also plans for medical, financial and employment aid.

In this perspective, Permanent Supported Housing becomes a more economical and effective option.

ACCESSIBILITY

In general, access to a long-term housing service is not restricted by a person's profile, except as regards age. Accessibility is mainly linked to three factors:

1. the economic availability of the tenant, who has the right to own the property as long as he can pay the rent;
2. the actual availability of houses on the market to meet the demands;
3. the behavior of the individual, which according

to the processes of staircase must be considered suitable by temporary or transitional structures.

3.2.3 assessing emergency

It has become now more than ever vital to address emergency needs such as the provision of housing, with the aim of reducing growing alarming trends and preventing other people to fall into homelessness. Since the purpose of this research is to assess the efficiency of architectural solutions in the fight against the phenomenon, **emergency accommodation is understood as an adequate place where addressing urgent needs, with or without support, in a limited period of time**[180].[181] For this reason, the ETHOS classification considers as emergency only categories 2 and 3, respectively "roofless" and "houseless" people.

Over the last ten years indeed, especially after the crisis, the number of people in need of emergency accommodation has skyrocketed. Here are some data reported by FEANTSA: «In **Italy** in 2016, 75% of homeless people were permitted access to emergency accommodation [...]. In **Lithuania**, 62% of the 4,024 homeless people counted in 2017 were in emergency or temporary accommodation [...]. In **Ireland**, between February 2015 and February 2018, the number of homeless people in emergency accommodation financed by the State increased by 151% and by 300% for children [...]. In **Spain**, the number of people taken into emergen-

cy and temporary accommodation centres each day on average increased by 20.5% between 2014 and 2016 [...]. In the **Czech Republic**, expansion in the emergency accommodation sector is a recent phenomenon: the number of beds in night shelters has more than tripled between 2006 (459 beds) and 2014 (1,560 beds), the situation is similar for the number of beds in emergency accommodation with services which have almost doubled between 2006 (4,208 beds) and 2015 (7,311 beds).»[182]

In some countries, like **France** and **United Kingdom**, the availability of emergency accomodation has reached its limit, and the government has been forced to borrow some structures from the market (hotels and B&Bs, for example) to fullfill the demand.

Only **Finland** shows positive results. It is the only country displaying a downward trend in homelessness, which is mainly due to integrated strategies aimed to reduce emergency centers and fostering long-term projects.[183]

Within this scenario, despite the effort, Europe seems struggling in providing adequate solutions. To combat emergency, it is therefore necessary to understand what the urgent needs requested by the homeless population are and design targeted solutions and policies.

Official European reports and national news come in help to set some points.

1. WEATHER-RESPONSE AND PROTECTION FROM EXTREME CONDITIONS

FIG. 16 | Homeless person begging on the street during winter
Photo Credit: Getty

«Like families in temporary or overcrowded homes, or the hidden homeless who stay with friends or relatives, **what rough sleepers need**

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180. For "period of time" is intended the time necessary to find a more solid and adequate accommodation (weeks or months)

181, 182, 183. FEANTSA and Abbé Pierre Foundation, *Fourth Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2019*, pp. 15-16, https://www.feantsa.org/download/ohe-eu_2019_eng_web5120646087993915253.pdf

most is a suitable place to live – in winter more than ever.»[184] Sometimes, by reading local news or newspapers, it seems like homelessness starts to be taken seriously every year only in the same period: the cold season. From «November, the 'measures taken' and the 'efforts made' to temporarily increase the accommodation capacity for homeless people during the coldest months are reported in the media. In April of the following year, in the same media outlets, a variation on the following can be found: 'End of the winter plan: hundreds of people unable to find accommodation'.»[185]

Winter plans are for sure a vital issue, especially when dealing with deaths caused by extreme conditions, but according to statistics, even summer is equally fatal. Reality is that homeless people, for several reasons, die all year long, and governments cannot afford to play with lives for a lack of vision and strategy. «The ineffectiveness of seasonal management is characterized by insufficient reception over the long-term, beyond winter. It constitutes not only a factor of insecurity for

homeless people who find themselves without a solution at the end of the winter period, but it is also a handicap for social workers who are limited in the support arrangements.»[186] (Bertrand, 2018) **It may sounds controversial, but the risk is that emergency winter plans could harm the reception of people: with subscriptions rising every year, measures taken result to be insufficient, contribuiting indirectly to the rise of homelessness itself. In Amsterdam, for example, during January 2017, the waiting time for giving shelter to one who was eligible was about 1.2 years**.[187] What strategies lack is the availability of long-term solutions, where periodical protection should be guaranteed.

2. LOW-THRESHOLD ACCESSIBILITY AND ADMISSION CRITERIA

«There are many, sometimes contradictory, criteria that can hinder access to (at least some) emergency accommodation in European countries. These criteria may be established formally and legally by local, regional or national legisla-

184. The Guardian, *The Guardian view on rough sleeping: more than a winter crisis*, January 2019, https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/jan/31/the-guardian-view-on-rough-sleeping-more-than-a-winter-crisis
185. FEANTSA and Abbé Pierre Foundation, *Fourth Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2019*, p. 20, https://www.feantsa.org/download/oheeu_2019_eng_web5120646087993915253.pdf

186. François Bertrand and La Strada, *Du givre sur les ronces - Évaluation du plan hiver 2017-2018*, 2018, p. 71, https://www.lastrada.brussels/portail/images/PDF/RapportHiver2018-Fr-05-BAT.pdf (translated from French)
187. FEANTSA and Abbé Pierre Foundation, *Fourth Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2019*, p. 21, https://www.feantsa.org/download/oheeu_2019_eng_web5120646087993915253.pdf

tion or informally through practices and regulations specific to service providers.»[188] (FEANTSA, 2019)

Another factor that prevents people from entering in housing programs is accessibility. **Always due to high numbers of requests, even emergency accomodations are becoming more selective, and this is displayed by several admission criteria being set for acceptance**.

The first is the small **financial contribution** asked daily, weekly or monthly according to the shelter's policies, which should help the structure to run its services. In The Netherlands, for example, the average fee gravitates around €3.5 and €9 per night, in Czech Republic CZK 45 (€1.5-2) and in Hungary HUF 1283 (€4), but sometimes they can be free of charge. Even though shelters' fees may look affordable, this is not always necessarily true for homeless people: in most of EU countries, «Banning begging is gaining credence amongst policy makers as a way to 'solve' problems associated with homelessness and poverty»[189] while, actually, for some accounts for the only source of income.

Secondly, showing **administrative documents** has proven to be a barrier to emergency. «Some services require people to have no criminal convictions, to be legally in the country or even simply to provide identification such as in Greece, where the majority of night shelters require a tax statement and proof of identification»[190]. Local connection requirements are, in fact, becoming more and more common in the regions where services are being provided, as well as, at last, **restrictions of age, gender and nationality**.

In some cases, like Brussels, these criteria do not apply and access to emergency accomodation is regulated by a lottery system, with the aim of promoting low-threshold alternatives. Furthermore, In Finland, the Ministry for Social Affairs and Health in 2002, has expressed its willingness to open the access to drug and alcohol users[191], who are usually the first to be refused, taking a step forward in favor of the fight against homelessness.

188. FEANTSA and Abbé Pierre Foundation, *Fourth Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2019*, p. 23 https://www.feantsa.org/download/oheeu_2019_eng_web5120646087993915253.pdf
189. FEANTSA, *Criminalising homeless people – banning begging in the EU*, February 2015, https://www.feantsa.org/download/2015-02-07_draft_criminalisation_policy_statement-38703600034690521366.pdf

190, 191. FEANTSA and Abbé Pierre Foundation, *Fourth Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2019*, pp. 23-25, https://www.feantsa.org/download/oheeu_2019_eng_web5120646087993915253.pdf

3. QUALITATIVE AND "HUMANISED" ACCOMODATION SUITABLE FOR LONG-TERM TENANCY

«**Emergency accommodation is the physical interface of the staircase approach for people experiencing homelessness**, with a succession of preparatory interventions, from initial reception to social rehabilitation. **Despite this key role, many emergency shelters are often rundown and poorly equipped, reflecting an image of exclusion and instability**. They lack private spaces and there is an expectation that users should cohabit with strangers. Emergency accommodation is supposed to be a temporary solution but, in reality, it prolongs precarious living conditions and rarely leads to well-being, recovery and social integration.»[192] (Tilling, 2018)

One of the most impelling issues of emergency accomodations is the quality of the structures destined to host people. According to Ian Tilling, the President of FEANTSA, modern accomodations do not pay adequate attention to both the physical and psychological conditions of the measures ta-

ken. Some of the characteristics involved concern overcrowding, lack of private space and, as a consequence, respect for private and family life and security, the impersonal nature of communal spaces, the poor quality of facilities and internal regulations depriving people of their freedoms.[193] Most of the time, individuals are not allowed to choose anything, but they simply accept what they are given. This is the main reason why services should be "humanised" (i.e. made and shaped for human dignity) and guarantee at least minimum levels of well-being for users without distinctions, making them feel secure and able to build and manage a life around other people in long-term housing solutions. **Reception services, indeed, cannot be described as decent if they encourage worsening feelings of helplessness, insecurity, guilt and powerlessness**. Unfortunely, the vast majority of night shelters in Europe «reflect an image of exclusion and instability. The buildings are often run down. There are often facilities designed for other functions. They are equipped with low-quality and second-hand furniture. They are lacking in space for socialising and privacy. Accomodation provided to people envisages cohabitation among strangers and rarely guarantees space for storing personal belongings safely while being protected against theft.»[194]

192, 193. FEANTSA and Abbé Pierre Foundation, *Fourth Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2019*, p. 32, https://www.feantsa.org/download/oheeu_2019_eng_web5120646087993915253.pdf

(Campagnaro et al., 2018) These conditions, if not updated, risk to harm the integrity of the person, contributing to the increase of chronic homelessness.
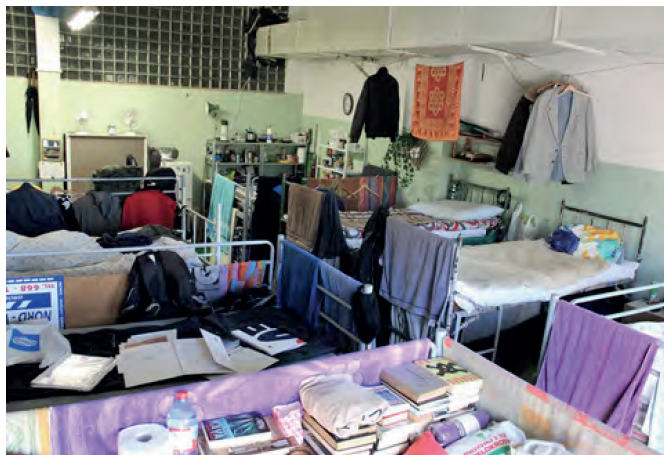
FIG. 17 | Dormitory in a homeless shelter in Warclaw (Poland)
Photo Credit: Dariusz Dobrowolski

4. SUPPORT PROVISION ADDRESSING MULTIPLE NEEDS

In recent years, as explained through Chapter 1 and visible in Chapter 2, every European country has undergone a massive shift for what concerns homeless' profiles. According to statistics, for a long time the majority of homeless people were lone men, while «Homelessness now also affects women and families of all ages, creating new needs within emergency accommodation services, which are not adapted to accommodate these new profiles»[195].

Data from Germany, England or Ireland, just to name a few, show a marked **increase of families with children and young lone-parent families**. Germany estimates a +31% homeless families from 2014 and 2016, England a +59% homeless children in the last five years and Ireland counts 25% of homeless parents being between the ages of 18 and 24, and that for 9% of these families the first place to live after leaving their original family is in emergency accommodation. Hungary also demonstrates how in famililes where children live in poverty there is convincing evidence of a strong correlation between low levels of education, unemployment, low income, a lack of social assistance, housing insecurity and parental and child exclusion with generation-to-generation homelessness.[196] The same happens when families stay for prolonged periods in unsuited housing solutions.

Another delicate category on the rise is represented by **lone young people (like those leaving wel-**

194. Cristian Campagnaro, Valentina Porcellana, Nicolò di Prima, Sara Ceraolo, *Shelter as a place of wellbeing and dignity*, 2018, in «Homeless in Europe - Access to shelter - Spring 2018», p. 18, https://www.feantsa.org/download/spring-2018-feantsa-homeless-in-europe-magazine3972490471031025956.pdf
195, 196, 197. FEANTSA and Abbé Pierre Foundation, *Fourth Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2019*, pp. 35-36, https://www.feantsa.org/download/ohe-

fare services, LGBTQ2S and unaccompanied mi-nors) for whom the future is less and less bright. Since their needs are completely different from other categories and several structures are still not properly equipped and ready to welcome the-se new profiles, challenges like discrimination, vulnerability, restricted access to social welfare and education are always around the corner.

Particular attention must be paid to **women** who are frequently victims of persecutions. «Their most important need is security, as they often have a history of living with domestic violence and abuse, generally beginning in childhood and continuing with an abusive partner. […] Secure services must be made available to them.»[197] Data across Europe show that an average of 30% of ser-vice users are, indeed, women.

As stated in Chapter 1, **people with a migration background** are numerous among the homeless community. According to the latest data sub-mitted by UNHCR, between the 1st of January and 30th of September 2016, 361.678 migrants arrived in Europe.[198] Usually, most of them are not legal-ly registered and cannot, therefore, get access to homeless' services. «Whether they are indivi-duals, families or unaccompanied minors, whose profiles and needs vary, the dignified reception of migrants requires social workers to be trained in administrative procedures and appropriate lan-guage skills.»[199]

People leaving institutions (prison or healthca-re facilities) is the last category in emergency identified by FEANTSA. What Europe seems to lack is an adequate level of committment in placing those people in affordable or qualitative housing. Once out of prison or hospital, people become homeless and this creates a vicious circle that could be prevented with the integration of dedica-ted policies. To understand the scale, «In England, […] about a third of people released from prison have nowhere to stay.»[200]

If one of these problems alone accounts for an emergency issue, sometimes the overlapping of multiples realities has the potential to become really problematic. With this diversity in needs

eu_2019_eng_web5120646087993915253.pdf
198. fio.PSD, *Immigrants and homeless people*, https://www.fiopsd.org/en/mi-granti-e-senza-dimora/

199, 200, 201. FEANTSA and Abbé Pierre Foundation, *Fourth Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2019*, pp. 36-37, https://www.feantsa.org/download/ohe-eu_2019_eng_web5120646087993915253.pdf

constantly growing, it is necessary for Europe to adapt the already existing solutions and make them fully operative and effective. «A transformation towards person-centred services, structured around self-determination and respect for individual choices, is vital.»[201]

3.3 architectural response

3.3.1 how is Architecture handling homelessness?

According to some of the most influential architects of our age, Architecture can be expressed as the Art of solving problems through a good design. For BIG's leader Bjarke Ingels, for instance, «Architecture is the art and science of making sure that our cities and buildings actually fit with the way we want to live our lives: the process of manifesting our society into our physical world»[202], for Norman Foster «Architecture is an expression of values – the way we build is a reflection of the way we live»[203], and for Frank Ghery «Architecture is a small piece of this human equation, but for those of us who practice it, we believe in its potential to make a difference, to enlighten and to enrich the human experience, to penetrate the barriers of misunderstanding and provide a beautiful context for life's drama.»[204] Despite the variety of definitions about the topic, one point seems to be shared by the most: Architecture is at service of culture and reflects the way people live every day.

With numbers of homeless people and diparities growing fast all around the world, some architects are worried about the role their profession is playing in increasing life quality standards. One among the manies Shigeru Ban, who expresses his concern about social committment in a speech given at a TEDx Tokyo conference: «**[...] we are not working for society but we are working for privileged people. Rich people, government, developers, they have money and power: those are invisible. So they hire us to visualize their power and money by making monumental architecture. [...] So I was very disappointed we are not working for society. [...] That's responsibility for Architects, then people need some temporary housing but there are no Architects working there because we are too busy working for privileged people.**»[205]

Due to this big raise of homeless cases during the last decades, world governments seem to have accepted the challenge by including targeted policies against extreme poverty and about providing emergency housing solutions where needed ac-

202. David Basulto, *AD Interviews: Bjarke Ingels / BIG*, February 2014, (for) «ArchDaily», https://www.archdaily.com/477737/ad-interviews-bjarke-ingels-big/
203. Max Tholl, *Architecture is an expression of values* (a conversation with Norman Foster), October 2014, (for) «The European», https://www.theeuropean-magazine.com/norman-foster/9114-the-role-of-architecture-in-todays-society?utm_medium=website&utm_source=archdaily.com
204. Frank Gehry, *1989 Pritzker Prize Ceremony Speech*, via ArchDaily, https://

www.archdaily.com/773971/architecture-is-121-definitions-of-architecture
205. Shigeru Ban, *Shigeru Ban: Emergency shelters made from paper* (speech for TED), 2013, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q43uXdOKPD8

cording to the circumstances. Several examples in Europe, and in general all over the world, range from smaller solutions, with proper shelters for covering primal emergencies, to bigger and more solid ones, involving entire apartments and facilities. In particular, the most common ones are:

- Tiny shelters
- Dormitories
- Cohousing
- Social housing
- Private settlements based on Housing First model

3.3.1.1 tiny shelters

The term "tiny shelters" does not refer to a proper and well-defined architectural typology, but rather to the practice of making small-sized living units with minimum quality standards. During last decades, this phenomenon has seen a big increase and has gathered more popularity than ever, especially in America but also with some extent across Europe. In particular, tiny units' examples are mainly divided in two categories: tiny houses and sleeping pods. According to CNBC, an american tv news channel, «A lot of people come to the tiny house movement because of finances»[206], while for BBC «pods could be a useful tool to help people sleeping rough »[207]. If on one hand may sound like the two are concieved for the same purpose, on the other, actually, there is a slight difference that must be pointed out.
Both of them are the result of demographic trends, in particular the fact that global population is growing very rapidly and, in parallel, also housing prices. This inevitably leads to some consequences like homelessness at first and the reasearch of affordable solutions as second. Since tiny

houses inhabitants, though, being mostly people in search of more affordable down-scaled proper apartments with every amenity, are not always homeless, so are those living in pods, made on purpose to fight housing emergency among those in need. This is the reason why tiny houses have not been included in this evaluation.
Dispite their limited dimensions, tiny units introduce several architectural themes, some of them with big potential and others more controversial and discussed.

MODULARITY
Arch2o defines modular design as «a design approach that subdivides a system into smaller parts called modules or skids that can be independently created and then used in different systems. A modular system is characterized by functional partitioning into discrete scalable and reusable modules, rigorous use of well-defined modular interfaces and making use of industry standards for interfaces.»[208] (fig. 18) The fact of dealing with small modules makes architectu-

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206. Stephanie Dhue, *Tiny homes offer convenience, affordability to owners*, April 2016, (for) «CNBC», https://www.cnbc.com/2016/04/08/tiny-homes-offer-convenience-affordability-to-owners.html
207. Paul Heaney, *Emergency pods 'useful tool' for rough sleeping, says charity*, December 2018, (for) «BBC», https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-46607795

208. Riham Nady, *When Beauty and Efficiency Meet: Modular Architecture*, (for) «Arch2o», https://www.arch2o.com/language-modular-architecture/

re extremely flexible: not only designers have the possibility to build and dismantle units in a very limited amount of time (making the reuse value even higher), but also to save money in construction costs, which introduces the second theme.

AFFORDABILITY

As a consequence of the modular technique used, affordability is also what makes these pods interesting. Most of the time, the limited size allows companies to build everything in advance (prefabrication) in the fabric, so that no extra costs (or very low) will occur when placing the project in-situ. In addition, «If you can go through one component design process and create a component design that can be used in a number of pro-

duct variations or across product generations, or preferably both, you save tremendous amounts of money on development costs. You can also be very fast in bringing improved products based on selectively upgraded components to the market in the future.»[210] (McCluskey, 2000)

SUSTAINABILITY

Another key factor of this typology is sutainability. Firstly, less and local high quality materials are often used, contributing to important savings in embodied energy[211] of the final product. Again, smaller dimensions fit best when architects and designers want to experiment sustainability, both in terms of materials and costs. This is, in part, one of the reasons why tiny shelters for homeless are more and more target of competitions and exercises in the field. Secondly, reusability has become a focal point and it is important both for the user and the producer.

SPACE OCCUPANCY

The other reason why tiny shelters are studied is

210. Alan McCluskey, *Modularity: upgrading to the next generation design architecture, Business and Media*, 2000, http://www.connected.org/media/modular.html
211. Embodied energy is the total amount of energy used in the entire production process of a good

their particular capability of being placed wherever there is need. At a urban scale, one striking issue that urbanists and architects are facing is filling up vacancies, i.e. urban voids resulted from demolitions or low care by the municipality. With tiny units, it is possible to fill these gaps and recreate ideal conditions for building up and renovate the identity of the targeted place. One example is the competition called "Homeless tiny shelters - In the heart of Turin" published in 2018

by SIAT, the Organization of Architects and Engineers in Turin (Italy), with the aim of designing a so called "shelter island", a welcoming place for reclaiming abandoned urban space and, at the same time, offering emergency and temporary relief to homeless people. (fig. 19)

ACCESSIBILITY
Built up for emergency cases, tiny shelters usually do not ask for any kind of charge or requirement to be used, so guests are free to move in for a temporary stay. It may happen that sometimes, when shelters are organized in small "villages" and, therefore, under the control of charities or NGOs, some limitations could be applied to maintain a certain level of order, but it is rare in Europe.

Despite some positive remarks, tiny shelters have also some negative characteristics which make them unsuitable for specific situations.

PRIVATE SPACE
According to the WHO for what concerns well-

FIG. 19 | Sharing Archipelago masterplan
Image Credit: Francesca Turnaturi, Valeria Comazzi, Fabio Vignolo, Elena Rudiero via SIAT YOUNG (http://siat.torino.it/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/2018_SIAT-YOUNG_ESI-TI-CONCORSO.pdf)

212. FEANTSA and Abbé Pierre Foundation, *Fourth Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2019*, p. 33, https://www.feantsa.org/download/oheeu_2019_eng_web5120646087993915253.pdf

being, adequate private space per person must be guaranteed in order to preserve people's health and dignity. «Minimum quality standards exist in almost all European countries»[212] says FEANTSA, and those must be respected. Usually, the size of tiny solutions does not reach 5m² and does not even foresee an adequate security system with proper doors or lockers, resulting in the complete exposition of the homeless to external threats.

LACK OF SUPPORT

Support is fundamental for the reintegration of the individual into society and the absence of any kind of humanitarian, physical and mental help for those accessing homeless services means not being advocating for independence and self-reliance of the person. This is due, of course, to the limited living space and the lack of a structured and wider organization around these type of shelters. This risks not to contribute to eradicating homelessness.

TRACEABILITY

Unfortunely, because of their temporary nature and the nomadic attitude of their clients, tiny shelters cannot keep trace of homeless people. Since numbers are vital for understanding the scale of the problem, services unable to keep tra-

ce of the flows of people are useless both at local and national level.

FIG. 20 | Aronte Bivaque at Passo della Focolaccia, Apuane Alps, Tuscany, Italy. The bivaque is considered one of the most iconic emergency shelters for those who venture in the mountains
Photo Credit: photo by the author

3.3.1.2 dormitories (also known as hostels or night shelters)

«Hostels are perhaps the oldest institution for homeless people, existent long before there were any explicit policies to mitigate and resolve homelessness. They emerged as a response to some effects of industrialisation and urbanisation in the 19th century. […] Homelessness was extensive during the Great Depression in the 1930s, and after World War II, but in the subsequent decades it was to a growing extent perceived as a residual problem in a developing welfare state, and many shelters were closed. However, in response to increased rough-sleeping following, for example, the neo-liberal shift in the US and the UK in the 1970s, the transition of Central and East European countries in the 1990s and local and national strains and constraints elsewhere, hostels of varying standard, quality and size have been established again all over Europe.»[213] (Busch-Geertsema et al., 2007)

This short historical digression serves as a reminder to understand the origin and the initial (and still contemporary) purpose of dormitories: addressing sleeping emergencies. They are pro-bably the most common service provided for homelessness and the reason is that it is a system which is, by now, enrooted in society's culture.

The concept is very simple: once applied and accepted, homeless people are given a bed in common rooms alongside a locker or a storage to keep some few belongings, and have the opportunity to attend group activities and benefit of common areas and some forms of basic healthcare and personal support. (fig. 21)

FIG. 21 | Emergency shelter in Münster (Germany) from the winter plan for lone men. Access between 5.30 pm and 9 am only
Photo Credit: BAGW

213. Volker Busch-Geertsema and Ingrid Sahlin, *The Role of Hostels and Temporary Accommodation*, in European Observatory on Homelessness, *European Journal of Homelessness*, Volume 1, No. 2, December 2007, p. 68, https://www.feantsaresearch.org/download/ejh_vol1_article36413141587604968267.pdf

However, because of the constant shift of social dynamics over time and, as a consequence, of people's needs, the nature, the purpose and the structural and physical organization of dormitories may vary country by country, as well as their role and perception. Single people, families, women, women with children or young homeless are just some subdivisions that may occur when designing dedicated spaces for more or less temporary stay in the structures. It may happen that multiple functions are contained in the same building.

As a more, indeed, building-oriented solution, dormitories have better responses to some urgents needs, but they still present some drawbacks.

AFFORDABILITY
Dormitories are in general very affordable for users. According to Shelter England, the majority of them are free, but some may ask a fee between €2 and €5[214], which is a very low amount. This happens because since they are, most of the time, supported by healthcare facilities and subject to

214. Shelter England, *Emergency housing if you're homeless: night shelters*, April 2018, https://england.shelter.org.uk/housing_advice/homelessness/temporary_housing_if_youre_homeless/nightshelters

periodic maintenance, they need some refunds when expenses are not completely covered by sponsors.

SUSTAINABILITY
Like other normal buildings, dormitories must follow and meet the sustainable points set in local or national policies, so the level of sustainability depends mostly on the site of construction. However, what makes them particularly interesting from an architectural point of view, is the process of renovation they undergo before being opened. When not built from scratch, indeed, dormitories are the result of qualitative transformations of former hostels or rooms with obsolete or inadequate spaces and structural characteristics. Unlike building new volumes, this helps making some economical savings.

SPACE OCCUPANCY
Renovations may account as a good solution whenever the municipality wants to get rid of vacant buildings. Instead of demolishing abandoned structures with the risk of creating voids in neighborhoods and consecutive undefined environments (a threat for homelessness), construction companies have the opportunity to make some new value out of the old and offer better places

where to live or transit.

SUPPORT

«Very often temporary accommodation functions as a substitute for permanent housing, either because of housing shortage or because homeless people are excluded from regular housing. However, there has been a trend in many European countries to develop hostels, not only to provide a basic accommodation, but also to serve needs for care and support»[215] (Busch-Geertsema et al., 2007). It is, infact, more and more common to see dormitories offering services for their users. Other than covering basic needs like food, water, clothes and hygiene, a dedicated staff «may be able to connect you to other services, such as help finding a place to stay in the daytime and longer-term housing»[216], other than making sure that people are able to recieve healthcare support and counseling for various issues. Most of the time, these structures are run by NGOs recieving funds from the municipality or other sponsors.

TRACEABILITY

Since night shelters are based on an acceptance process, flows of people are always under constant control. Having registered profiles means being able to provide very useful data for national or local surveys.

PRIVACY AND SECURITY

These aspects are strongly connected to the size of the shelter itself but, mostly, to the amount of square meters reserved for each person. Actually, there is not a fixed size or amount of space requested, but dimensions may vary in parallel with people's needs. Busch-Geertsema believes that «often the development of large shelters with very basic conditions was (and still is) legitimised by the fact that many people are in desperate need for physical shelter, while setting up smaller hostels allowing more privacy and more individualised support has been presented as an improvement»[217]. Overall, though, private space is not adequate if not absent: people sleep together in common rooms and the only space they own is

215. Volker Busch-Geertsema and Ingrid Sahlin, *The Role of Hostels and Temporary Accommodation*, in European Observatory on Homelessness, *European Journal of Homelessness*, Volume 1, No. 2, December 2007, p. 72, https://www.feantsaresearch.org/download/ejh_vol1_article36413141587604968267.pdf
216. Shelter England, *Emergency housing if you're homeless: night shelters*, April 2018, https://england.shelter.org.uk/housing_advice/homelessness/temporary_housing_if_youre_homeless/nightshelters

217. Volker Busch-Geertsema and Ingrid Sahlin, *The Role of Hostels and Temporary Accommodation*, in European Observatory on Homelessness, *European Journal of Homelessness*, Volume 1, No. 2, December 2007, p. 68, https://www.feantsaresearch.org/download/ejh_vol1_article36413141587604968267.pdf

the size of the matress. In addition, without private space, privacy and both physical and mental safety are compromised. Sometimes, the presence of community areas help to balance this lack.

ACCESSIBILITY

As starting point of a "staircase approach" against homelessness, dormitories are still too picky for what concerns acceptance. «The hostel sector has been criticised as becoming increasingly institutionalized and having developed into an organisational barrier, rather than an instrument to remedying and reducing homelessness»[59]. Requirements usually involve identity, sex, age and nationality restrictions and even if admitted, most of the shelters offer just an overnight stay, while supported activities are carried out in different buildings.

FIG. 22 | Dormitory in an emergency shelter in The Hague (The Netherlands)
Photo Credit: Henriëtte Guest

FIG. 23 | Dormitory of an emergency shelter in Budapest (Hungary)
Photo Credit: Végh László/Abcúg

3.3.1.3 cohousing

The term "cohousing" and the theory behind this living solution are pretty new. Their origin has to be found in Denmark around 1960 «among groups of families who were dissatisfied with existing housing and communities that they felt did not meet their needs.»[218]

Generally, cohousing «are housing complexes consisting of private dwellings accompanied by large common areas intended for sharing between the cohousers. Living in cohousing means living according to a qualitative lifestyle, in balance between the autonomy of the private house and the sociality of the common spaces, within places co-designed by and with the people who will live there. They are apolitical, nonpartisan aggregations, not united by religious or ideological beliefs.»[219] (fig. 24, 25)

This practice is becoming more and more common among young people (not necessarily homeless), especially those who want a sustainable and communitarian way of life when moving, travelling or working. Cohousing has, indeed, a very strong community-led characterization, and its

218. Wikipedia, *Cohousing*, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cohousing#cite_note-4
219. cohousing.it, *What is Cohousing*, http://www.cohousing.it/capire-il-cohousing/ (translation from italian by the author)

FIG. 24 | Example of cohousing in Ubud, Indonesia, by Architect Alexis Dornier. The picture shows common areas and the pool surrounded by apartments. *Photo Credit: (edit of) Alexis Dornier via Dezeen (https://www.dezeen.com/2016/06/09/alexis-dornier-architecture-roam-co-living-housing-residential-complex-bali-indonesia-communal-roof/)*

FIG. 25 | Common area on the top of the roof
Photo Credit: Alexis Dornier via Dezeen (https://www.dezeen.com/2016/06/09/ alexis-dornier-architecture-roam-co-living-housing-residential-complex-bali-indone- sia-communal-roof/)

principles can be summed in a few simple points:

1. partecipatory design. Cohousing involves its fu- ture inhabitants even into the design process, so that the final product could meet everyone's spe- cific needs at its best. Doing so, there is a secon- dary goal, i.e. the one of forming strong relation- ships among cohousers;
2. shared spaces. With respect of personal privacy (each individual is provided with a private basic room), it is possible to share several services and spaces, with the aim of promoting a wide social network and costs savings. Sometimes, also trai-

ning activities and workshops can be hosted by the building;
3. community living. The share of values, ideas and help stands at the base of this housing so- lution.

Like condominia, the ownership is usually entru- sted to one homeowner who rents out the apart- ments.
Like other housing solution, it is necessary to analyze cohousing through various aspects.

AFFORDABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY
Like normal apartments, cohousing is based on monthly rents. In general, fees include bills and the use of common spaces and the amount spent for a room is lower, of course, than one for an apartment, but it is still similar (even if not sli- ghtly higher) than a normal room on the market. Unlike other housing options cohousing does not foresee subsidization and, as a consequence, the access is limited to those who are able to pay.

SUSTAINABILITY
As a residential building, structural sustainaility is determined by local policies. In this case, thou- gh, Architecture plays an important role: since cohousing complexes are usually all made from

skretch, the use of sustainable materials and techniques may help to reduce construction, maintainence and management costs and maximize energy use efficiency. One of the principles adopted is, indeed, the one of being eco-friendly.
Sustainability is, in part, achieved also trhough the flexibility of the design. Becuase each community is planned in its context, the need and the values of residents must reflect the characteriscs of the site.[220]

SECURITY AND SAFETY
Despite the large number of common spaces, cohousing is about private accommodations, so users can spend a balanced life alternating community life and privacy. For the same reason, also physical and mental integrity can be preserved.
There are no fixed dimensions for what concerns the size of apartments, but each of them hosts atleast a bed, a kitchen and a small living room. Usually, bathrooms, common kitchens and common rooms are separated, but it may vary case by case. This kind of configuration establishes itself

220. Wikipedia, *Cohousing*, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cohousing#cite_note-4

as a transitional solution with a higher chance of granting longer tenancies.

FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT
Wherever housing is built, the great sense of community developed among inhabitants has the ultimate goal of creating a safe and collaborative environment, both in urban and suburban situations. At the beginning of the chapter, indeed, it has been clarified how important is for people to feel free of threats in the area of residency.

LACK OF SUPPORT
Unfortunely, economical and healthcare support provision is not foreseen in the programme, but it is bound to the location of the building (presence of urban services in the surroundings). Workshops and activities are scheduled but their target is the entire community, not the single person.

TRACEABILITY
People living in cohousing structures are all registered under a contract and therefore visible to the government.

FIG. 26 | The Collective Old Oak cohousing in London (building)
Photo Credit: (edit of) The Collective (http://www.plparchitecture.com/the-collective-old-oak.html)

FIG. 28 | The Collective Old Oak cohousing in London (coworking space)
Photo Credit: The Collective (http://www.plparchitecture.com/the-collective-old-oak.html)

Your private bathroom

Your private kitchenette

FIG. 27 | The Collective Old Oak cohousing in London (studio room)
Photo Credit: The Collective (http://www.plparchitecture.com/the-collective-old-oak.html)

3.3.1.4 social housing

According to Housing Europe's report on the state of housing in 2017, «Growth has returned to our continent»[221] but not without leaving serious inequalities which still have great impact on society, especially in the housing sector. With cuts in the salary for workers and the rise of prices of houses in the market (fig. 29), finding affordable housing solutions is becoming more and more difficult and policies struggle to provide adequate response in most countries .Social Housing options seem to be one of the best solutions not only because they offer apartments at a lower price, but also because the way they are structured helps people to interact with each other and enhance their social cohesion. This practice is widespread across Europe and it is being slowly included in most of countries' national strategies.

Actually, there is no official definition of Social Housing in Europe, since every Member State gives it different connotations according to how

HOUSES PRICE INDICIES, 2005 - 2017
Euro area and EU aggregates. Index levels (2015=100)
Source: Eurostat
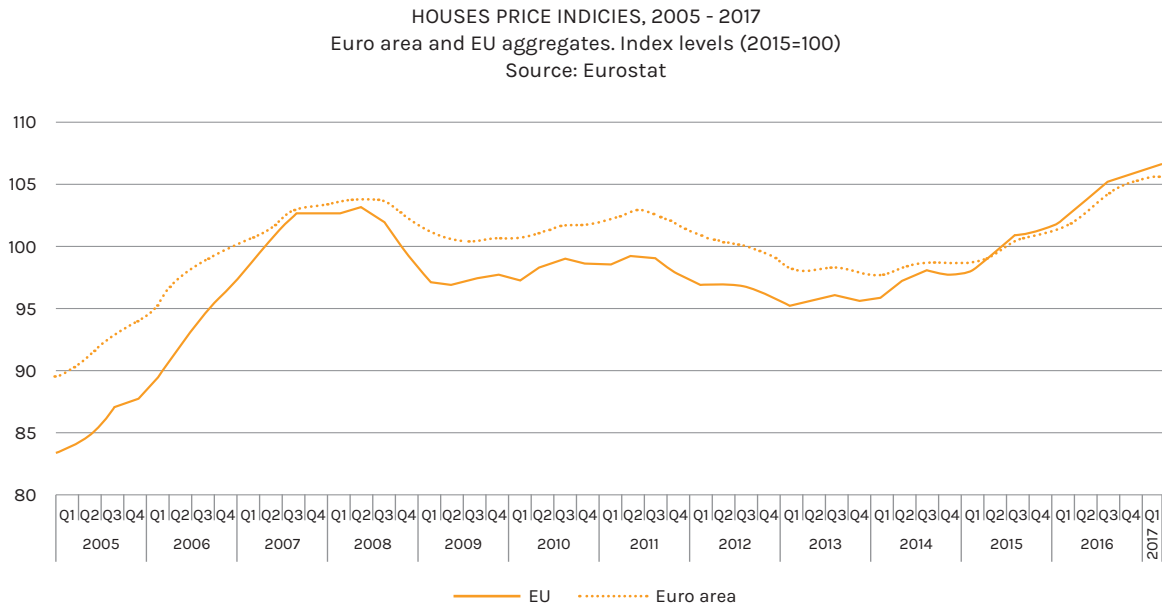
FIG. 29 | Houses prince indicies, 2005 - 2017
Image Credit: (edit of) Eurostat

the service is provided. Nevertheless, the European Parliament's section of Employment and Social Affairs, in 2013 "Social Housing in the EU" report states that «The term social housing has two possible connotations according to the 2012 edition of the "Encyclopedia of Housing".

The first refers to all types of housing that receive some form of public subsidy or social assistance, either directly or indirectly, which can include tax relief on mortgage interest, tax shelters for homeownership, subsidies to builders, depreciation allowances for investments in residential properties, or below-cost provision of collective public services (roads, electricity, water or sewers) for housing. This definition is very inclusive, namely whenever the private housing stock receives some public subsidies, it should be included in the social housing sector.

The second definition largely refers to traditional public housing, namely housing subsidised by the state and social rented housing, but also includes new forms of publicly supported and non-market housing, such as cooperatives, rent-geared-to-income, limited-dividend and non-profit housing provided by social agencies, community groups, non-profit private firms and political organisations other than governments.

The common distinction of these new forms is that they are collectively managed on a not-for-profit basis, with their rents set (at least partially) according to the ability to pay. Public subsidies are used to reduce initial capital costs or operating costs, with a wider target than traditional policy.»[222] (European Parliament, 2013)

Despite some differences, «There are three common elements in defining social housing across EU Member States: a mission of general interest, the objective of increasing the supply of affordable housing, and specific targets defined in terms of socio-economic status or the presence of vulnerabilities.»[223]

Having the possibility of owning an apartment for a cheaper price is becoming a very interesting point when dealing with poverty: those who cannot afford private housing market or those who sleep rough in the street see Social Housing as a

221. Alice Pittini, Gerald Koessl, Julien Dijol, Edit Lakatos, Laurent Ghekiere, *The State of Housing in the EU 2017*, October 2017, p. 10

222, 223. European Parliament - Policy Department A: Economic and Scientific Policy, *Social Housing in the EU*, January 2013, p. 8, http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/note/join/2013/492469/IPOL-EMPL_NT(2013)492469_EN.pdf

light of hope.

AFFORDABILITY

«Housing affordability has become a key issue, impacting the lives of millions of European citizens. Housing costs is the single highest expenditure item for households»[224] says Housing Europe. In addition, as also mentioned by FEANTSA and showed in the second chapter of this research, a large number of households are overburned by housing costs, meaning that they spend 40% or more of their income on housing. Social Housing was born in Europe to play a counter-role for the effects of the crisis, and during the last years has been listed as one of the main solutions to fight homelessness. Those who run this service have the duty to keep the rent as affordable as possible, usually lower than market prices but hopefully under 30% of the disposable income, which is considered the threshold of poverty.

SUSTAINABILITY

Being target of several architectural and energe-

tic studies (in terms of efficiency), social housing has the potential to be structurally sustainable. Since the final price of a unit should be kept affordable, also construction techniques and materials aim to reduce the overall impact of the building. This allows designers to experiment modularity, prefabrication and the use of high-performing materials for future savings in bills and maintenance. (fig. 30, 31)

FIG. 30 | Social Housing in Nancy (France) by ANMA
Photo Credit: ANMA (http://www.anmachina.com/?portfolio=social-housing-nancy-france)

224, 225. Alice Pittini, Gerald Koessl, Julien Dijol, Edit Lakatos, Laurent Ghekiere, *The State of Housing in the EU 2017*, October 2017, pp. 20-23

FIG. 31 | Ruotutorppa Social Housing in Helsinki (Finland) by Arkkitehdit Hannunkari & Mäkipaja Architects
Photo Credit: Arkkitehdit Hannunkari & Mäkipaja Architects via ArchDaily (https://www.archdaily.com/113043/ruotutorppa-social-housing-arkkitehdit-hannunkari-makipaja-architects)

From an economical point of view, «In general, with few exception, social housing providers have to cope with less public funding and rely more on private finance.»[225] Actually, countries where social renting was already strongly established (for example Austria, France and Denmark) have shown to be more resilient, while the problem seems to persist where social housing sector is smaller and public funds have been limited.

PRIVACY AND SECURITY
Social rented apartments are, in all respects, private apartments regulated by a rent contract, which accounts for a strong level of privacy, physical and mental security and a certain stability for what concerns tenancy.

PRIVATE SPACE
The size of each apartment may vary according to several factors, starting from the site of construction and ending up with architectural choices or the number of family's members. In general, the space provided is adequate for an independent and healthy lifestyle (usually around not less than 25-30m^2). Social housing, when dealing with homelessness, can be considered a turning point for individuals' lives in terms of a "staircase approach": long-term tenancy, independency and privacy are key factors for the rehabilitation of excluded individuals.

SUPPORT
As stated before, social housing was born for hel-

ping people in economic need, and, therefore, the only type of support provided is about rent payment and subsidization. «According to a recent survey, housing providers members of Housing Europe provide additional services for tenants such as money advice, employment training, advice on how to access available social benefits and public services, they engage in social mediation and neighbourhood services to improve local area or community, they manage 'sheltered' accommodation such as sheltered housing, retirement homes, foyers, they arrange for domiciliary care and support services for residents with specific needs.»[226] Today more than ever, in a scenario of increasing inequalities, foreseeing holistic care for targeted users has become a priority.

TRACEABILITY
Under a legal lease contract, people in social housing are registered and easily traceable.

ACCESSIBILITY
Despite its enormous potential, social housing

struggles to accomodate people. Applications for a vacant spot are too selective and heavy requirements prevent poor people to even think to make a housing request. In a logic of process, people in need should be those prioritized, but current data show differently. «In this context, social housing providers continue to offer rents significantly lower than the market, but are faced with a double challenge: decreasing income of current residents and large number of people registered on waiting lists. Responding to the ever growing demand in the context of increasing building and energy requirements and decreasing public support is becoming more difficult».[227]

In the following pages, housing sector profiles across Europe have been examined.

226. Alice Pittini, Gerald Koessl, Julien Dijol, Edit Lakatos, Laurent Ghekiere, *The State of Housing in the EU 2017*, October 2017, p. 21

227. Alice Pittini, Gerald Koessl, Julien Dijol, Edit Lakatos, Laurent Ghekiere, *The State of Housing in the EU 2017*, October 2017, p. 11

AUSTRIA
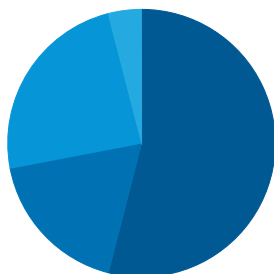
OWNER OCCUPIED 54%
PRIVATE RENT 18%
SOCIAL RENT 24%
OTHER 4%

BELGIUM
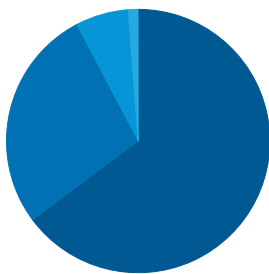
OWNER OCCUPIED 64.8%
PRIVATE RENT 27.5%
SOCIAL RENT 6.5%
OTHER 1.2%

BULGARIA
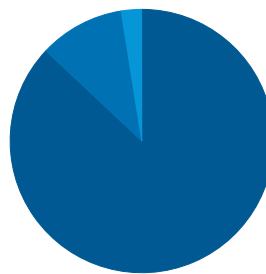
OWNER OCCUPIED 87%
PRIVATE RENT 10.5%
SOCIAL RENT 2.5%

CROATIA
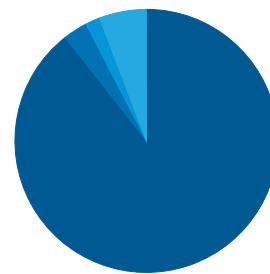
OWNER OCCUPIED 89.4%
PRIVATE RENT 3%
SOCIAL RENT 1.8%
OTHER 5.8%

CYPRUS
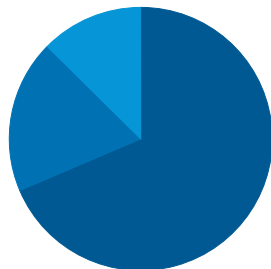
OWNER OCCUPIED 68.6%
PRIVATE RENT 18.8%
OTHER 12.6%

CZECH REPUBLIC
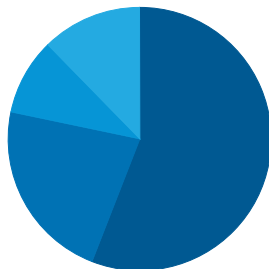
OWNER OCCUPIED 55.9%
PRIVATE RENT 22.4%
SOCIAL RENT 9.4%
OTHER 12.3%

DENMARK
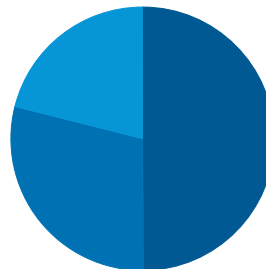
OWNER OCCUPIED 49.5%
PRIVATE RENT 28.8%
SOCIAL RENT 20.9%

ESTONIA
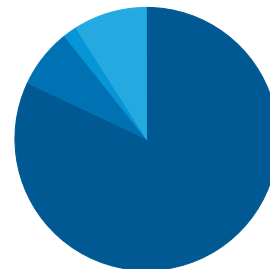
OWNER OCCUPIED 82%
PRIVATE RENT 7.3%
SOCIAL RENT 1.7%
OTHER 9%

FINLAND
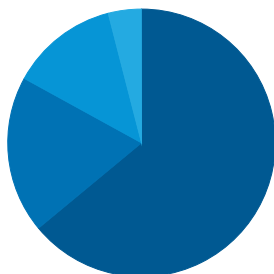
OWNER OCCUPIED 64%
PRIVATE RENT 19%
SOCIAL RENT 13%
OTHER 4%

FRANCE
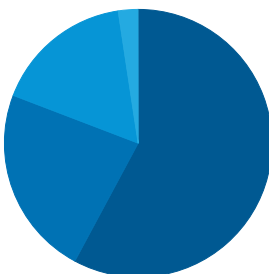
OWNER OCCUPIED 57.9%
PRIVATE RENT 23%
SOCIAL RENT 16.8%
OTHER 2.4%

GERMANY
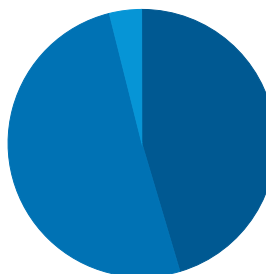
OWNER OCCUPIED 45.4%
RENT AT MARKET
PRICE 50.7%
SOCIAL RENT 3.9%

GREECE
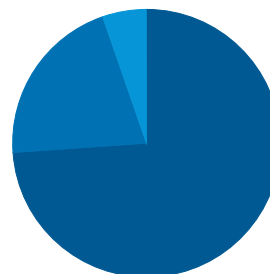
OWNER OCCUPIED 73.9%
PRIVATE RENT 20.8%
OTHER 5.3%

HUNGARY
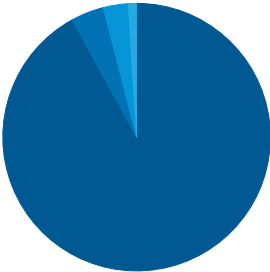
OWNER OCCUPIED 92%
PRIVATE RENT 4%
SOCIAL RENT 3%
COOPERATIVE 1%

IRELAND
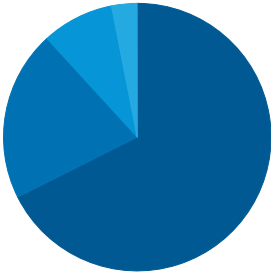
OWNER OCCUPIED 67.6%
PRIVATE RENT 20.6%
SOCIAL RENT 8.7%
OTHER 3.1%

ITALY
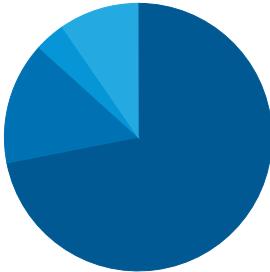
OWNER OCCUPIED 71.9%
PRIVATE RENT 14.8%
SOCIAL RENT 3.7%
OTHER 9.6%

LATVIA
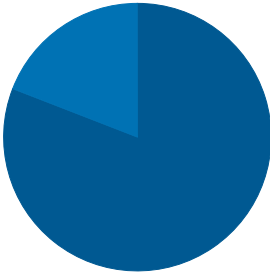
OWNER OCCUPIED 80.9%
PRIVATE RENT 19.1%

LITHUANIA
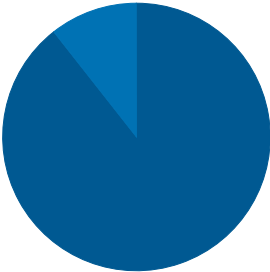
OWNER OCCUPIED 89.4%
TENANT 10.6%

LUXEMBOURG
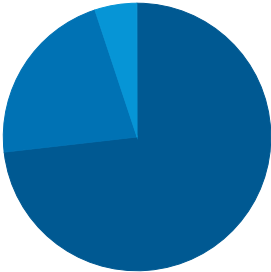
OWNER OCCUPIED 73.2%
TENANT MARKET
PRICE 21.7%
TENANT REDUCED
RENT 5.1%

MALTA
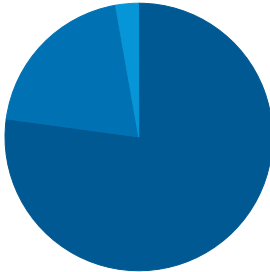
OWNER OCCUPIED 76.45%
RENT 19.86%
OTHER 2.75%

THE NETHERLANDS
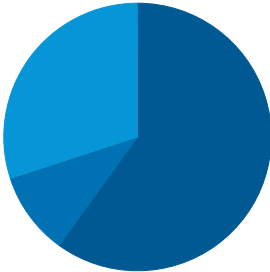
OWNER OCCUPIED 60%
PRIVATE RENT 10%
SOCIAL RENT 30%

POLAND
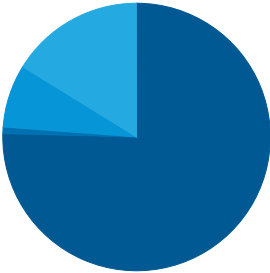
OWNER OCCUPIED 75.4%
PRIVATE RENT 0.8%
SOCIAL RENT 7.6%
COOPERATIVE 16.2 %

PORTUGAL
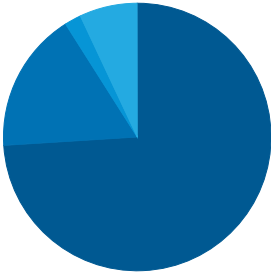
OWNER OCCUPIED 74%
PRIVATE RENT 17%
SOCIAL RENT 2%
OTHER 7%

ROMANIA
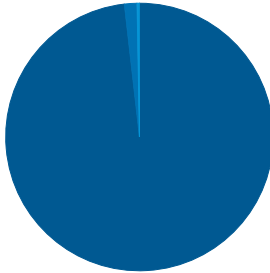
OWNER OCCUPIED 98.2%
SOCIAL RENT 1.5%
OTHER 0.3%

SLOVAKIA
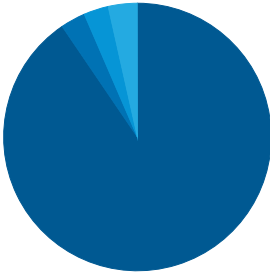
OWNER OCCUPIED 90.5%
PRIVATE RENT 3%
SOCIAL RENT 3%
COOPERATIVE 3.5%

SLOVENIA
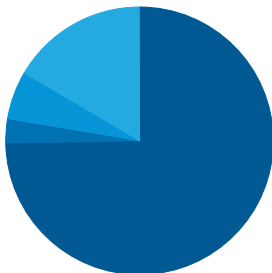
OWNER OCCUPIED 77%
PRIVATE RENT 3%
SOCIAL RENT 6%
OTHER 14%

SPAIN
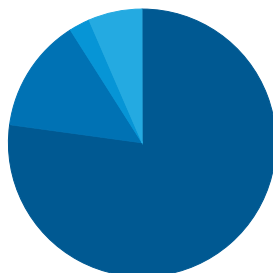
OWNER OCCUPIED 77.1%
PRIVATE RENT 13.8%
SOCIAL RENT 2.5%
OTHER 6.5%

SWEDEN
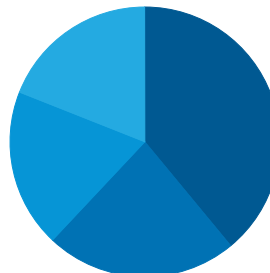
DIRECT OWNERSHIP 39%
TENANT OWNERSHIP 23%
PUBLIC RENT 19%
PRIVATE RENT 19%

UNITED KINGDOM
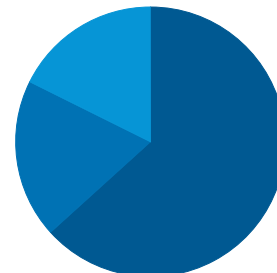
OWNER OCCUPIED 63.1%
PRIVATE RENT 19%
SOCIAL RENT 17.6%

FIG. 32 | Housing sector profiles of European Union member states
Image Source: (edit of) Housing Europe in «The State of Housing in EU 2017»

3.3.1.5 housing first

«Housing First is probably the single most important innovation in homelessness service design in the last 30 years. Developed by Dr. Sam Tsemberis in New York, the Housing First model has proven very successful in ending homelessness among people with high support needs in the USA and Canada and in several European countries. Housing First is designed for people who need significant levels of help to enable them to leave homelessness. Among the groups who Housing First services can help are people who are homeless with severe mental illnesses or mental health problems, homeless people with problematic drug and alcohol use, and homeless people with poor physical health, limiting illness and disabilities. Housing First services have also proven effective with people who are experiencing long-term or repeated homelessness who, in addition

Eight core principles:

| Housing is a human right | Choice and control for service users | Separation of housing and treatment | Recovery orientation |

| Harm reduction | Active engagement without coercion | Person-centred planning | Flexible Support for as Long as is Required |
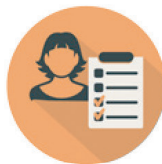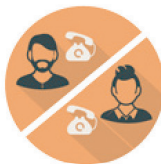
FIG. 33 | Housing First 8 core principles
Image Credit: Nicholas Pleace via "Housing First Guide - Europe" (https://housingfirsteurope.eu/assets/files/2017/03/HFG_full_Digital.pdf)

to other support needs, often lack social supports, i.e. help from friends or family and are not part of a community.»[228] (Pleace, 2016)

With these words, Nicholas Pleace opens the official "Housing First Guide - Europe", giving a brief introduction about the history and the role of this practice. Before moving forward, it is important to point out that Housing First is not an architectural typology, but a housing process that takes advantage of private apartments as starting point for addressing and supporting people's needs.

This methodology bases its work upon eight core principles, that are visible in the picture on the left. (fig. 33)

Within these, «Housing First pursues a range of service priorities, which include offering help with sustaining a suitable home and with improving health, well-being and social integration. Housing First is designed to provide opportunities to access treatment and help with integration into a community. There is also the option to get help with strengthening social supports

HOUSING FIRST

HOUSING FIRST

Regular self contained dwelling with rent contract

Homelessness

Reception stage

Shared housing "training dwellings", etc.

Regular dwelling with (time-limited) occupation agreement based on special conditions

Flexible individual support in housing
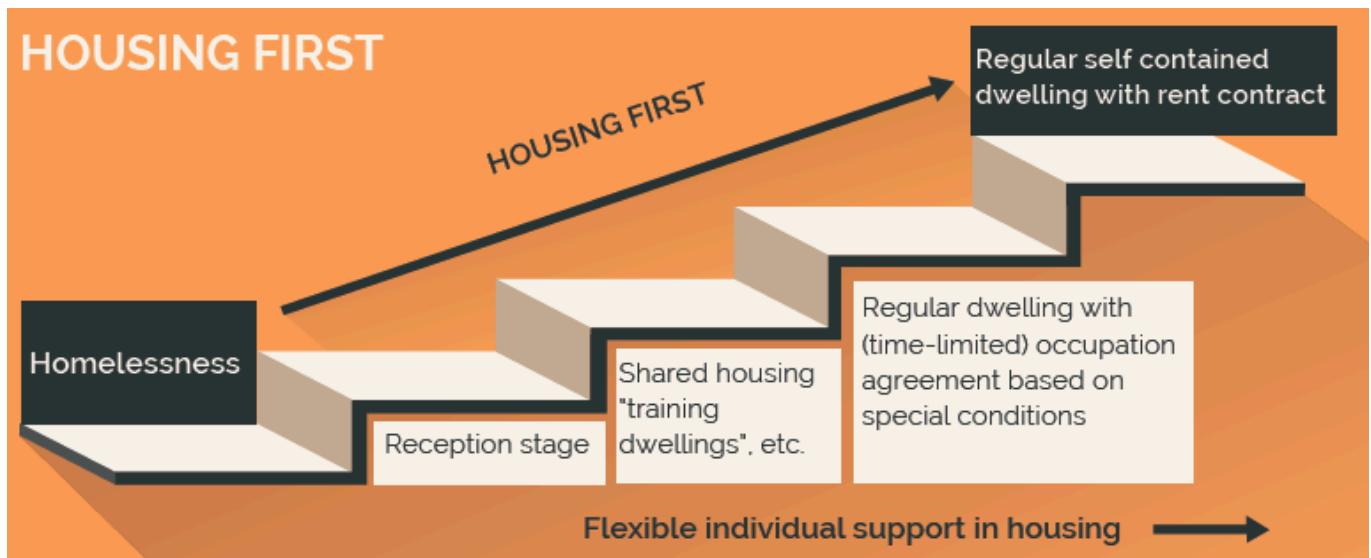
FIG. 34 | Summarising the differences between Housing First and Staircase Services
Image Source: Tsemberis, S. and Henwood, B. (2013) Housing First: Homelessness, Recovery and Community Integration. In V. Vandiver (ed.) Best Practices in Community Mental Health: A Pocket Guide, pp. 132-150. NY Oxford University Press

and with pursuing rewarding opportunities, such as arts-based activities, education, training and paid work.»[229]

The great innovation that this methodolgy has brought into the scene is that of inverting the process established for a long time with the "staircase approach" and putting the home as a right and as a requirement for the reintegration of homeless individuals into society. (fig. 34)

«Housing First is also focused on improving the health, well-being and social support networks of the homeless people it works with. This is very different from homelessness services that try make homeless people with high support needs 'housing ready' before they are rehoused. Some existing models of homelessness services require someone to show sobriety and engagement with treatment and to be trained in living independently before housing is provided for them. In these types of homelessness service, housing happens 'last'.»[230]

Even with some differences, within Europe it is gaining more and more popularity with its positive results, not only because it is generally more effective than staircase services according to some results, but also because it addresses ethnical and humanitarian issues in a better way and seems cheaper in terms of management: raising the efficiency of a service (for example, reducing the frequency of use of medical centers and homeless services in general) helps making some savings that can be invested in additional housing provision.

Here are some key characteristics of the program.

AFFORDABILITY

What service providers (mostly NGOs) usually do is making partnerships with housing organizations, buying units and then renting them to people at a lower price than the normal or private housing market. Since the ultimate goal is to eradicate homelessness and poverty, monthly fees tend not to overcome the poverty threshold price set at 30% of disposable income. This includes all kind of amenities, from support to group activities and coverage of basic needs.

SUPPORT

Housing is essential for the program, but the integration of support which aims to make people independent is vital. (fig. 35)

228, 229, 230. Nicholas Pleace, *Housing First Guide - Europe*, February 2016, pp. 12-19, https://housingfirsteurope.eu/assets/files/2017/03/HFG_full_Digital.pdf

tending participation in meaningful activity»[231]. In order to do so, groups of multidisciplinary teams or experts, guided by the Housing First staff, are engaged to provide intense help every day at every time in two different modalities: in most of the cases, counseling happens directly at the individual's home with a frequency of one time per week, but it may change according to the level of emergency of the case, while sometimes specific locations, like cafés, are mutually agreed for meetings. Other than helthcare, whenever there is an impelling necessity, the program can offer some forms of subsidised payment and also some help in managing finances.

SUSTAINABILITY

From an architectural point of view, it is difficult to assess the sustainability of materials and techniques used for the realisation of apartments. The fact of being single private apartments scattered across the urban complexity means that every case is different from the others. One com-

FIG. 35 | Types of support provided by Housing First programs
Image Source: Nicholas Pleace via "Housing First Guide - Europe" (https://housingfirsteurope.eu/assets/files/2017/03/HFG_full_Digital.pdf)

«Support in Housing First centres on delivering housing sustainment, the promotion and support of good health and well-being, developing social supports and community integration and ex-

231. Nicholas Pleace, *Housing First Guide - Europe*, February 2016, p. 55, https://housingfirsteurope.eu/assets/files/2017/03/HFG_full_Digital.pdf

mon practice, though, is to renovate those places that, in their former state, may harm new inhabitants' well-being. It is less frequent, but sometimes private Housing First flats are gathered in big housing complexes, which are built with more sustainable measures.

What is easier to analyze is the economic sustainability of the program: Housing First relies mainly on rents from users for what concerns investments, but its activity is largely if not completely funded by public organizations or directly from the municipality through dedicated sectors. Also the European Union has targeted expenditures and funds for humanitarian purposes like this one.

PRIVACY AND SECURITY

By owning a fully fledged apartment from the housing market, users are granted of complete privacy and security, so that people are free to chosse whether to coduct their life alone or with personal relationships. In addition, square meters are always adequate (more than 25m^2 for a single person) in order to make sure that houses have enough space to deliver home support and to put people in a friendly and welcoming environment. Born as a service for addressing long-term homelessness, Housing First must, in fact, guarantee

all the comforts for a pleasant stay, especially those for preserving the integrity and the dignity of individuals.

LIMITED ACCESSIBILITY

«There are three main mechanisms by which a Housing First service can deliver housing:
1. Use of the private rented sector
2. Use of the social rented sector (where social rented housing exists)
3. Direct provision of housing, by buying housing, developing new housing or using existing housing stock.»[232]

Relying on the actual housing market and then being subject to market trends, housing provision may result sometimes difficult and some challenges need to be addressed. Some of them include:
1. finding an appropriate settlement in an adequate place in conditions of high-pressure demand;
2. in the private sector, quality standards are becoming more and more rare;
3. in the social rented sector, apartments may be

232. Nicholas Pleace, *Housing First Guide - Europe*, February 2016, p. 55, https://housingfirsteurope.eu/assets/files/2017/03/HFG_full_Digital.pdf

destined to other groups of people rather than ho-
meless;
4. traces of stigmatization still prevent homeless
people to be accepted by some landlords or some
neighbours;
5. some people cannot afford even low or subsidi-
zed rents;
6. because Housing First is still and experiment
in most European countries and not fully imple-
mented in national strategies, applications for
the services largely overtake the physical availa-
bility of apartments, accounting for endless wai-
ting lists.

On the other hand, though, once accepted, Hou-
sing First does its best for preventing people to
leave the service. Only in case of "nuisance" (com-
plaints about bothering by neighbours) the indivi-
dual is warned and, eventually, moved to another
place, but not directly evicted.

TRACEABILITY
People in the program are fully registered and,
therefore, easily identifiable.

4. evaluation

4.1 evaluation goals and methodology

4.1.1 evaluating the quality

The first objective of this research is to assess the level of quality, in terms of provision of well-being, of architectural solutions destined to the fight against homelessness. In order to do so, the eight points set by the WHO resulted to be very helpful and they have been, therefore, transformed in eight qualitative indicators. To these, a ninth indicator has been added: level of accessibility, which will help to evaluate the flexibility and the efficiency of reception of homeless accommodation centers.

WELL-BEING INDICATORS

Adequate shelter from natural elements and hazardous substances

Personal and household privacy, safety and security

Space appropriate to household size and composition

Reasonable levels of basic services

Reasonable and affordable housing costs

Access to social services, services and space for activities of daily life and economic opportunities according to location

Reasonable continuity of occupation and traceability ensured by tenure arrangements

Protection from climate change and sustainability

Level of accessibility

Thanks to these points, an early comparison in absolute terms about which architectural solution brings the highest level of well-being is made possible.

What is also necessary to understand is the nature of every example. As stated in Chapter 3, reception centers, according to their structure, are designed and dimensioned to host people for different period of times, contribuiting to the purpose of eradicating homelessness in various ways. Relying on the characteristics listed in Paragraph 3.3.2, every project in this section will also be given a temporal mark.

TEMPORAL NATURE

te   temporary

tr   transitional

p   permanent

At last, when the project is financially, socially or medically supported will be indicated with the following symbol.

s   supportive

4.1.2 evaluating the emergency

As reported in Paragraph 3.3.3, and according to FEANTSA, emergency accomodation has been identified as **an adequate place where addressing urgent needs, with or without support, in a limited period of time**. Since the quality alone of Architecture is not enough to evaluate the efficiency of a program, it is necessary to understand how a project is able to respond to the most impelling needs of homeless population.
For this reason, once assessed the level of wellbeing, the characteristics of each project will be checked with the aim of confronting them with those requested by emergency. Doing so, it will be possible to see what architectural typology suits best for addressing vital needs.

EMERGENCY NEEDS

1. WEATHER-RESPONSE AND PROTECTION FROM EXTREME CONDITIONS
2. LOW-THRESHOLD ACCESSIBILITY AND ADMISSION CRITERIA
3. QUALITATIVE AND "HUMANISED" ACCOMODATION SUITABLE FOR LONG-TERM TENANCY
4. SUPPORT PROVISION ADDRESSING MULTIPLE NEEDS

To make the evaluation a bit more accurate, each indicator will have three levels of impact:

low (20% transparency)

medium (50% transparency)

high (100% transparency)

4.2 qualitative well-being evaluation

Ⓣs TINY SHELTERS

1. "Commonweal Pods" by Reed Watts Architects
2. "ORIG-AMI" by Xavier Van den Stappen
3. "The Homeless Cabin" by James Furzer + Clear Architects
4. "Iglou" by Geoffroy de Reynal
5. "BALISE" by Martial Marquet & Judith Angel
6. "Jagtvej 69 - Vendepunktet" by WE Architecture + Erik Juul
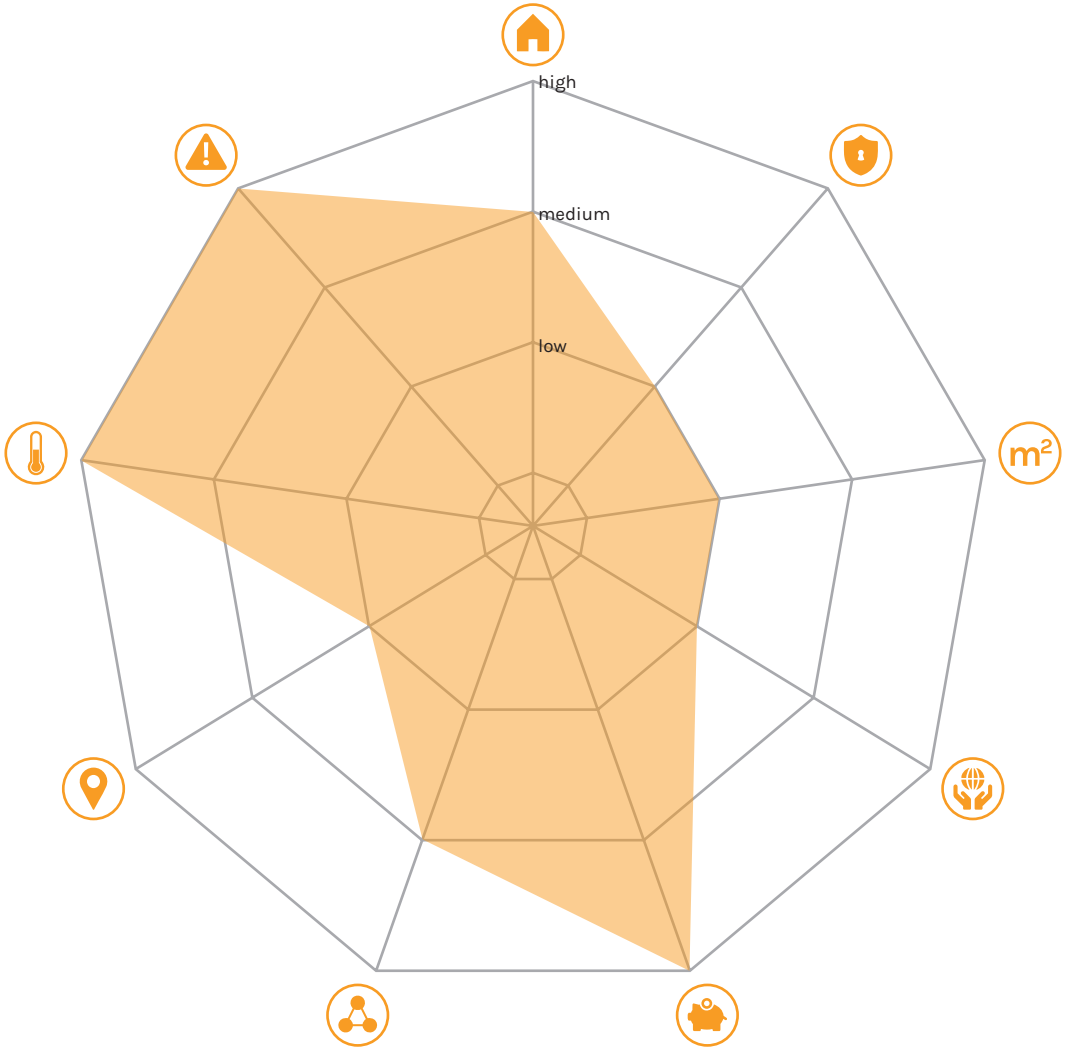
1. "Commonweal Pods" by Reed Watts Architects

FIG. 36 | Wooden sleeping pods installed
Photo Credit: Cameron Maynard for Aldworth James & Bond (https://www.reedwatts.com/commonweal-pods/)

Info

Commission: charity Commonweal Housing
Location: 999 Club night shelter in Deptford (London)
Program: temporary sleeping pods
Year: 2017
Area: 4m²

«Modular sleeping pods made from easy-to-assemble wooden panels are providing temporary accommodation for homeless people in London. Ten of the prefabricated pods, designed by London-based architecture studio Reed Watts, have been installed inside the 999 Club night shelter in Deptford. They offer secure, temporary accommodation to people who might otherwise be sleeping on the streets. (fig. 36)

Reed Watts is also making the design available

online through a Creative Commons license, so that anyone with the facilities will be able to reproduce additional pods and make them available to people in need.

[...] The project was initiated by a competition in 2017 hosted by the charity Commonweal Housing, which called for ideas to help Romanian migrant workers who were being forced to set up camp in public parks or underpasses. These migrants are among an estimated 170,000 homeless people in the UK capital – equivalent to 1 in 52 people.

Reed Watts won the competition with its design for "low-tech pods" that can be easily installed in spaces such as school halls or disused buildings. Prototype pods were previously installed in the 999 Club, as well as Housing Justice in Hillingdon, to allow the architects to test the concept. An adapted version of this design is the one that is now being rolled out.

Each pod consists of 18-millimetre-thick interlocking panels of fireproof birch plywood, which can be assembled by hand. Together they form an approximately cube-shaped structure, measuring 2.1 metres high, 2.1 metres long and 1.9 metres wide. (fig. 37) Every one comes with a mattress raised up on a platform that functions as a bed, a seat and a secure storage area. A curtain offers users the option of privacy.»[233]

FIG. 37 | Single wooden pod from above
Photo Credit: Cameron Maynard for Aldworth James & Bond (https://www.reedwatts.com/commonweal-pods/)

233. Amy Frearson, *Wooden sleeping pods by Reed Watts made available to homeless people in London*, December 2018, (for) «Dezeen», https://www.dezeen.com/2018/12/18/commonweal-modular-sleeping-pods-homeless-housing-reed-watts/

evaluation form[234]

The pods are installed in a dedicated **open-air room inside an existing night shelter building**, which makes them adequately **protected from external factors such as humidity, rain and sun exposure**. This prevents the formation of moisture and mold. The structure is made up with interlocking panels of plywood birch that **do not require specific tools, such as toxic glues or screws**, to be assembled. **Ventilation is good**.

The fact of being installed indoor makes the pods a little bit safer than outdoor shelters. Each unit is **separated from the common area simply by a curtain, which does not account for a real security system**. A safe storage is designed to be under the bed.

Square meters are very poor: 4m² cannot be accepted as an adequate standard of living. Truth is that pods are built to be temporary solutions, but it is not to forget that human beings have rights.

Basic **services are available** at the 999 Club Night Shelter. Homeless people, or whoever wants to apply, are initially provided with the opportunity of **taking a shower, having a meal (breakfast or dinner), doing the laundry or accessing a internet hub for job opportunities**. The sheltering programme also works with a number of **partners to ensure people a certain level of sanitation**, especially for mental and physical illnesses, drug habits or alcohol issues.

The service is **free of charge**.

Commonweal Pods are part of the 999 Club Night Shelter, located in Deptford, Southern London. Since the context is mainly urban, the area is **well-served by facilities**: it is possible, indeed, to find a couple of parks for recreation, several numbers of groceries, a couple of churches, schools, theaters, bus stops and three train stations, which makes easy to reach other parts of the capital.

Because of the nature of the structure, the 999 Club **cannot guarantee solid tenure occupation** for two main reasons. Firstly, reporting data from 2018, the **service is open only 30 weeks per year** in 3 ten-weeks blocks, meaning that in some parts of the year homeless people are uncovered. Se-

condly, the **maximum stay for one person is set to 28 days** before a status review, after which you are accepted again or relocated if considered suitable for the next step. The good thing is that applying for a service makes a homeless people traceable and **visible to data**, contributing to more efficient surveys on numbers.

Since the pods are hosted inside another building, it is **hard to determine** its actual resilience to climate changes. For sure, its **assembling process is sustainable** (simple wooden panels, low waste and reuse of materials once disassembled, no chemical materials), **but its extremely basic design**, if imagined in outdoor conditions, has no chance of protecting users from extreme temperatures.

Commonweal Pods **has a good level of acceptance**. The **rapidity of accessing the materials, the easy assembling process and modularity of design** account for a valid immediate shelter. **On the other hand**, the fact of being included in a wider **programme with acceptance requirements**, makes it difficult, sometimes, for extreme homeless cases to access the service. In particular, in

this example, people have to prove to be eligible for benefits and former resident in the municipality for a number of minimum months. In addition, the 999 Club has some **rules to follow during the accommodation** period that, once broken, may cause the eviction of the person.
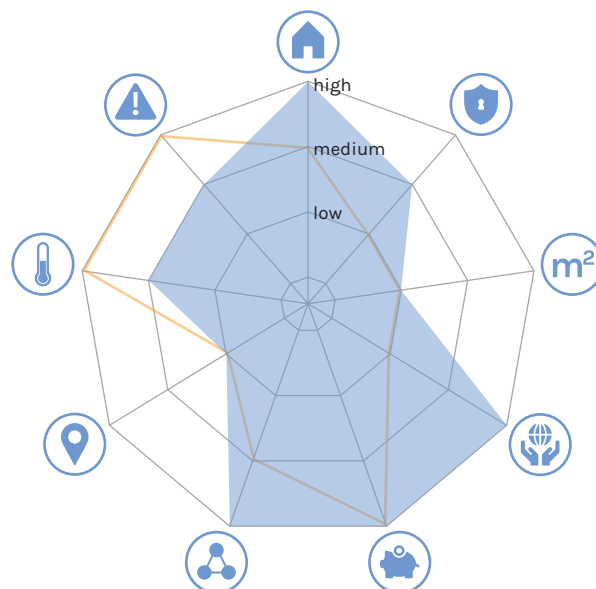
234. All extra informations are available at the 999 Club official website, https://999club.org/

2. "ORIG-AMI" by Xavier Van den Stappen

FIG. 38 | Workers placing cardboard tents outside Brussels' station
Photo Credit: Nicolas Maeterlinck/Agence France-Presse — Getty Images via The New York Times (https://www.nytimes.com/2017/12/30/world/europe/belgium-cardboard-tents-homeless.html

Info

Commission: NGO L'Appel du Coeur
Location: Bruxelles, Belgium
Program: temporary cardboard tents
Year: 2017
Area: 2.5m²

«With material tents forbidden on the streets of Brussels, homeless people in the Belgian capital are often left without a safe place to sleep. But one entrepreneur seems to have found a way around the rule: origami-style cardboard tents.
The tents can be folded and carried on someone's back, and are big enough to house two people. The

hope is that they can last for a couple of weeks before needing to be replaced, said Xavier Van den Stappen, the entrepreneur behind the ORIG-A-MI project.

"Cardboards are light, they keep the heat, and if they don't get wet, they are pretty resistant," Mr. Van den Stappen said by telephone on Saturday. With the help of a local charity, he handed out 20 tents at a Brussels train station on Friday. (fig. 38) The Brussels area had more than 2,600 homeless people in early 2017, according to La Strada, which monitors homelessness in city. But most of the shelters there are overcrowded by wintertime, said Olivier Vanden Avont, the president of L'Appel du Coeur, the group that helped distribute the tents, as well as day-to-day essentials: a blanket, underwear, a T-shirt and a toilet kit.

"If the cardboard tents can last for a month, this will be a victory already" Mr. Vanden Avont said, adding that homeless people feared the cold more than anything else. Temperatures in Brussels have ranged from 30 degrees to 50 degrees Fahrenheit (minus 1 to 10 Celsius) in December.

Mr. Van den Stappen said he first thought about the cardboard tents in early 2017, when he was discussing the dangers of the cold with a homeless man who was using cardboard in the streets of Brussels.

[…] He estimated that future versions could cost around 30 euros, or about $36.

One option, he said, would be to rent out tents at music festivals and donate any that are still usable to homeless people. He said he had also been contacted by representatives of aeronautic companies who had heard of the project and wanted to donate cardboard that they could not use.

"The tents won't last for months, and this is just an emergency response," Mr. Van den Stappen said. "But the concept itself can be sustainable."»[235]

235. Elian Peltier, *Origami-Style Cardboard Tents for Homeless in Brussels*, December 2017, (for) «The New Youk Times», https://www.nytimes.com/2017/12/30/world/europe/belgium-cardboard-tents-homeless.html

evaluation form

The cardboard tent has **not a fixed location**, so **its potential efficiency** on whether it can protect homeless people from external factors **may vary**. But taking the example of the Brussel Station, i.e. an open-air scenario, Origami is **constantly exposed to weather** and the fact that it is made out of cardboard makes it extremely **vulnearble to** the formation of **moisture and mold**. Ventilation may be good, but in this case is a minor concern. Being placed underneath a structure may help a bit.

Outdoor shelters are always a big issue when it comes to security and safety. Unfortunely, t**ents cannot guarantee protection from external threats for an evident lack of security systems**, and homeless people are therefore forced to a "sleeping-rough-like" situation.

2.5m² are not certainly enough as a living space condition. The matress-sized tent is thought to be a simple sleeping shelter that can host at maximum two people. This means that there is enough space for one sleeper and some belongings, but homeless population need more.

The only service available, if it is possible to call it so, is the **protection from eventual rain, snow or direct sunlight exposition**, but it doesn't account as a true basic service covered. Some help comes from the NGO that is in charge to distribute the tents, which provides homeless with **daily essentials**, but clean water, sanitation or power supply are not forseen.

Occupying a tent is **completely free**.

The choice of placing the tents in train stations is strategic. Most of the time, **train stations host all the basic facilities** like public toilets, groceries or shops, especially in capitals. In Brussels there are three main stations, all of the three **close to schools, theaters and hospitals and well served by public transport**.

Tenure or solid occupation is not possible because of the nature of the shelter. Even the creator is aware of this. He believes that lasting for one month, that could be already a victory for its products. Of course, **the use of these is purely temporary** and for the lack of some forms of

access or registration, homeless **people remain hidden to national data**.

Since the **design of Origami tents is really basic and the material used is easily accessible** and recyclable, the environmental footprint of this object is very sustainable. Also their **cost is extremely limited** (30 euros each). What the tent **lacks is a good amount of resilience to extreme weather conditions** because of the use of a carboard structure.

Despite several weaknesses, cardboard tents are a **pretty good makeshift shelter**. Because of their **free and immediate access**, homeless people have the chance of finding a basic shelter lightly supported by the activity of some volunteers.

3. "The Homeless Cabin" by James Furzer + Clear Architects

Info

Commission: private project
Location: United Kingdom
Program: temporary shelter
Year: 2018
Area: 6m²

«With around 1100 people sleeping 'rough' each night on London's streets alone, James's ingenious solution recognises the increasing issue of homelessness in the UK, and the need to provide a safe haven for those with nowhere to sleep. 'Defensive' architecture, aimed at deterring rough sleepers does little to tackle the problem of homelessness and simply shifts the community along. The 'Homeless Cabin' has been designed as an

1. proposed plan
    scale 1:20
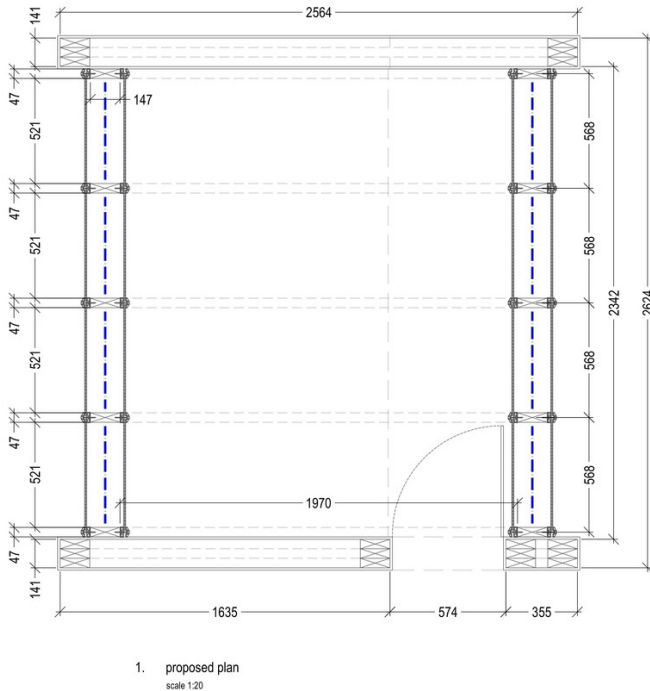
FIG. 40 | The simple Homeless Cabin plan
Image Credit: James Furzer via ArchDaily (https://www.archdaily.com/904667/the-ho-meless-cabin-jfd-plus-clear-architects)

immediate reaction and solution to hostile architecture and they can be used both independently or as a community of cabins which provide a place of shelter, and safety. (fig. 39)
James Furzer, Founder & Director at JFD and Part III Architectural Assistant, Clear Architects: «As

architects, we should be using architecture as a tool to help change the current perception of homelessness and provide thoughtfully designed spaces for those less fortunate. A place of warmth, security and privacy, where one can gather their thoughts and regenerate away from the public eye. In short, a worldwide, immediate, temporary solution to rough sleeping».
[...] To ensure designs are as simple as possible, materials are carefully selected to enhance the thermal qualities and natural lighting within the shelters. Each concept is designed to be easily adapted to become self-sufficient, meaning no mains electricity would be required. Inside would be a simple material design and fit-out, providing the minimum requirements for a secure and comfortable night's sleep. The concept is not about providing a 'luxury night's stay' but an appropriate atmosphere for safe sleeping.»[236] (fig. 40)

236. James Furzer and Clear Architects via María Francisca González, *The Homeless Cabin / JFD + Clear Architects*, November 2018, (for) «ArchDaily», https://www.archdaily.com/904667/the-homeless-cabin-jfd-plus-clear-architects

evaluation form

The Homeless Cabin has been designed to be moved or placed in outdoor situations where there is need. Looking as a very small house, this cabin can account as a **proper shelter for homeless**. Because of its structure and size, it can easily protect people from weather conditions, granting a **good amount of light and ventilation**: even if being made of **industrial materials could lead to formation of chemical volatile substances** when exposed to extreme weather, keeping the door open is sufficient to let the air in and out.

Relying on **walls and a door** can be a first step to indoor safety and protection, but the **absence of a locker or a safe** (which is normal, for examples in dormitories) and the **exposition to public** cannot completely prevent from being victim of crime. Placing multiple shelters in an area could probably enhance this aspect.

6m² for a sleeping pod can be acceptable, but still not entirely adequate for good living conditions. This size, nevertheless, **allows an extremely simplified furniture**, which can be great for emergency situations.

The cabin, for now, is **not ivolved in any kind of supported strategy** and cannot rely on external support. It provides, though, some **very basic services**, like the possibility of a **portable toilet** with a flushing system, made possible through rainwater collection, and sufficient **power supply** generated by solar panels on the roof.

Spending a night in the shelter is **free**.

There is **not a fixed location** for these cabins. The project has begun as a response to the rising number of homeless people in London, where every kind of service is available no matter the street or the neighbourhood. Attention must be paid when putting the cabins in too much isolated places, resulting in harmful environment for the hosts.

Like any other temporary shelter, **solid tenure is not guaranteed**. Those who are lucky may have the chance to spend several nights in there, but its **temporary nature** expects homeless people to move frequently and then remain **untraceable**.

The overall evaluation of **sustainability of the cabin is positive**. From a construction point of view, materials used are accurately selected to ensure **thermal qualities inside** and a good amount of lightning. On the other hand, though, the **lack of a heating system** makes it diffuclt to resist to some extreme temperatures. Power is granted by a **solar panel**, and **rain collection** can be implemented. In addition, its **prefabricated design helps reducing the costs** of construction.

Basic needs are mostly met with the cabin, making this pod a good attempt of recreating some basic comfort conditions for an overnight stay.
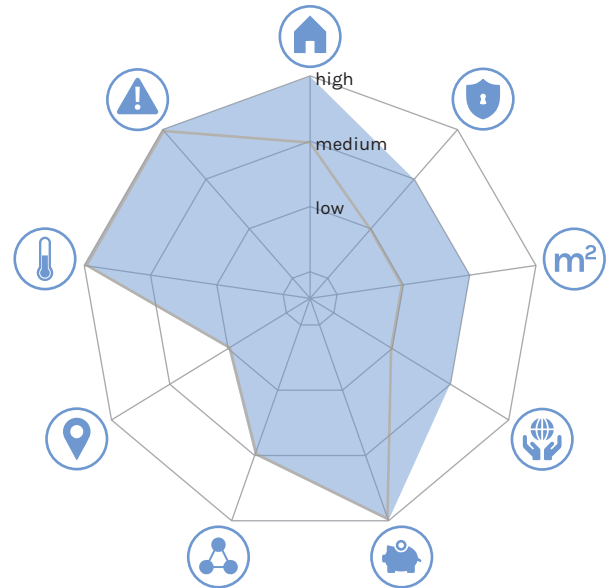
4. "Iglou" by Geoffroy de Reynal

FIG. 41 | Iglou shelter ready to be delivered
Photo Credit: ABC News (https://abcnews.go.com/International/igloos-provide-shelter-homeless-population-france/story?id=53578058)

Info

Commission: private project
Location: Paris and Bordeaux, France
Program: temporary shelter
Year: 2018
Area: 2.5m²

«Geoffroy de Reynal, a French engineer, designed his igloo-like shelters from Polyethylene foam, a material that can retain body heat. (fig. 41) The shelters are covered in aluminum foil and "the temperatures inside the igloos are about 60 degrees Fahrenheit higher than outside. And it is also waterproof," he explained. (fig. 42)
De Reynal made his first igloos this winter with

his own money. He then started an online crowd funding campaign for which he received around $20,000, much more than he expected.

"Using my resources and the money from the crowd funding campaign, I built 20 igloos prototypes this winter and distributed 10 in Bordeaux, and 10 additional in Paris," he said.

He went on, "I was living abroad in Montenegro for a year, and there are not much people living outside there. When I came back to France, I was surprised by the number of homeless in the streets, so I decided to come up with an idea to help them."

[...] De Reynal does not see his igloos as a permanent solution. "I am not trying to replace emergency accommodations," he argued. "I am just trying to make life a bit less difficult for homeless people. Having one of these igloos does not mean that you are not a homeless anymore."

Laurent Eyzat, president and founder of the organization Actionfroid, which helps homeless by giving them food, clothes, and now igloo shelters, said the feedback has been positive so far.

This winter was an experiment, and de Reynal already has many ideas for next year.

"My ambition is to produce these igloos on a large scale, hundreds or even thousands of them," he said. "I also want to make some improvements: putting wheels under the igloos to make them easier to transport, or build larger modular igloos for families."

He hopes French authorities will help him finance his very ambitious project.

What's the next part of his plan?

"Develop the igloos abroad. In countries like Poland, there are lots of people living in the streets. In the U.S., igloos could be very useful in cities such as Chicago that are very cold and snowy during the winter," he said.»[237]

237. Paul Pradier, *Igloos provide shelter for homeless population in France*, March 2018, (for) «ABC News», https://abcnews.go.com/International/igloos-provide-shelter-homeless-population-france/story?id=53578058

evaluation form

Despite ist small dimensions and its simplicity, Iglou accounts for a **decent shelter** for overnight sleeping, offering enough protection from some of the outdoor weather issues. The body of the pod is entirely **waterproof**, which means that effects such as **moisture and mold can be avioded**. The **materials used are completely industrial** which may cause some volatile compounds to form with overheating, but keeping the "door" open facilitates the **flow of air in a very small volume**.

Unfortunely, the pod **does not guarantee too much security**. Without any security locker or separation from the outside, people inside Iglou remain vulnerable to threats.

The size of the pod is similar to any other single or maximum double tents, i.e. around **2.5m²**. The author claims that Iglou can **host up to two people**, but if the **space is already insufficient for one** (exept maybe for some belongings), for two becomes really limited.

The pod is **not included in any kind of supported program**, but it is distributed by the NGO "Action-froid". In addition to the delivery of the tents, t**he organization distributes clothes and food**, but this does not cover all the basic needs that homeless people are needed of. **Services like toilet, sanitation or power supply are not forseen** for lack of structures.

Iglou has begun being distributed in Paris and Bordeaux **for free**. Interesting is the fact that it has been completely f**unded by a crowdfunding campaign** started by the author and concluded successfully with more than $20.000 raised.

As previously stated, the distribution of these pods has started in Paris and Bordeaux, but **not in fixed or standard locations**. Iglou is thought to be delivered where there is a need. It is therefore **difficult to forsee whether homeless people will be able to benefit of the services that cities offer**, but it would be interesting to set some ideal places where pods could be placed in order to guarantee a decent environment.

Like most of the temporary solutions, also Iglou is **not able to provide stable accommodations**. The

author is aware of this, describing his creation as something which amis to make **homeless people lives a bit less difficult** while searching for more solid housing.

Because of the low amount of **selected material used and the simplicity of the assemblage**, the pod is economically sustainable. It is entirely made of **polyethylene foam**, which retains body heat and makes, therefore, **heat comfort** during the winter period. One drawback is that the industrial process to make it has some **environmental impact**. The inside is covered with aluminium foil and it is **fireproof**. **Constant exposure to extreme conditions may alter the properties** of the structure.

Iglou is **suitable for rapid accommodation**. It is available for everyone in need and the author has already some plans of delivering the service also abroad, where homelessness is a serious issue.

high
medium
low
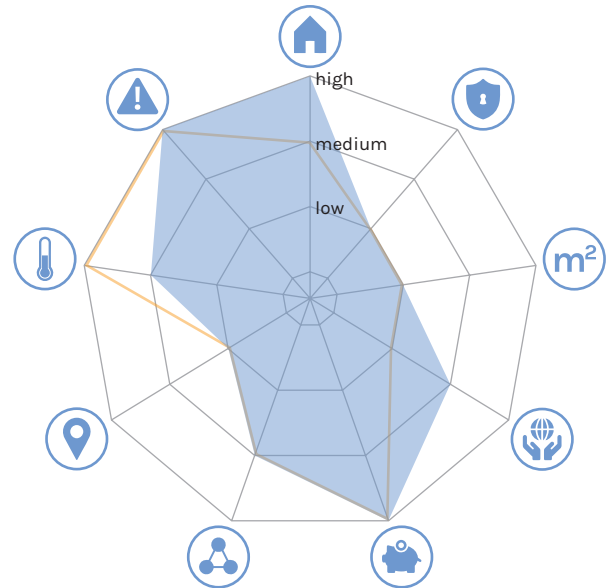
5. "BALISE" by Martial Marquet & Judith Angel

FIG. 43 | Balise ensemble of buildings (render)
Image Credit: Shift Visuals (https://www.shift-visuals.com/)

Info

Commission: design competition by PEROU Association
Location: Paris, France
Program: nomadic temporary shelter
Year: 2015
Area: 10-25m² according to units' size

«Balise (Beacon in English) is a nomadic homeless shelter, which adapts itself to various urban contexts thanks to the independence of its components.

In the summer of 2014, PEROU, an association fighting against homelessness, launched an open call for ideas to design a nomadic homeless shelter, which could turn vacant yards into welcoming places. (fig. 43) The shelter had to be nomadic,

because no vacant yard stays long without construction in Paris, but still, there are always sites that are temporary empty and can welcome a shelter. The Balise project is our proposal for this open call.

Playing on oppositions like comfort and instability, the hidden shelter and the bright signal, Balise is a place to receive help but also a space for exchange, that preserves intimacy when it is needed.

- A family of spaces:

The two housing types "Solo" & "Duo" are familiar constructions. Their interiors are composed of one single piece of furniture containing the principal functions of the house: a bed, a table, a washbasin, some storage. The project is inspired by familiar shapes like a stool or a cupboard, and by the archetypal shape of a house. This collection of shapes with various uses completes and respects each other to form housing for one or two people, and a large common space to eat, to share and to learn. A workshop to work, or to learn how to work to re-invent oneself, a sauna to heal or to recover, etc.

- A steady and autonomous shelter:

Balise is a place of freedom and rest; it offers comfort and stability. But the components of the project, forming a set of "architectural furniture",

are nomadic structures, their position in a specific site are temporary. Those independent components are connected by a last one: the footpath. This link, physical and conceptual, between the different elements of the project, distributes every part of the program and gives to Balise its versatility, allowing it to adapt to various sites and configurations. The footpath is easy to set up, and become the path for users and inhabitants of the whole project but also a technical mean to electricity and water out of the ground to each part of the shelter.

- The Balise (Beacon), a signal that lasts:

Balise (Beacon) is a signal that warns the traveler of its presence, but also the access to a harbor. Here, the signal is a lighttower which is also the remaining object of the shelter on the site. In fact, the lighttower will be left on the site each time the project has to move from a vacant yard to another. It will be the only remaining object on the site, with written on it where the last location of the shelter is.»[238]

238. Martial Marquet & Judith Angel, *BALISE, Centre d'Accueil nomade pour sans-abris*, 2015, https://martialmarquet.com/BALISE

evaluation form

Balise, as a sort of a village-shaped temporary service, offers **good protection against weather** for its users. The structure is made out of **wood**, which must be usually **treated** to make it waterproof (and then avoid mold or moisture) or fire resistant. The **use of glues** or particular substances **may cause the release of compounds** inside the unit, but **ventilation seems adequate**.

For being a pod, unlike other temporary solutions, this project seems to be a bit better for what concerns security. First of all, every single unit can count on a **door that regulates the access** to the inside, which means that clients have **their own space** for the night. Secondly, the village-like organization guarantees also **protection as it was**, in fact, **a community** based service.

The size of every pod is **variable**, since there is a single version and a double one, respectively **10m²** **and 25m²** approximately, which is absolutely fair for temporary solutions. The interior includes principal functions of a house: a **bed**, a **table**, a **washbasin** and some **storage**. In addition, private space is implemented with some **common areas** for clients' exclusive use.

There is **no reference about any supported program** leading the service, but **some dedicated services are available** for customers: 4 units as common bathrooms, a common kitchen, a library, a workshop area and even a sauna to recover.

Unfortunely, informations about **costs are not provided**. The presence of a staff for the managemenet of the shelter complex, though, may account for a small charge.

Balise has been presented in Paris as a concept project with a **nomadic nature**. According to its description, the aim is to move the village **from a vacant yard to another** after a fixed period of time. This introduces **two important themes: the architectural use of vacant space and the flexibility of the built**. These characteristics make this competion's idea very contemporary, especially for the reason that the very recent urban sprawl contributes to leave more and more spaces vacant or unused across cities.

Long or medium residency cannot, unfortunely, **be guaranteed** in a temporary shelter because

of the high number of emergency cases. Despite this, the fact of the presence of a staff could mean an acceptance registration of clients at a welcome desk, and this would be very useful for homeless' traceability, but actually there are no given informations about it.

As many other examples, Balise's pods are **sustainable both on a structural and economical level**. Their compact dimensions and the **wood** as construction material make it a ready-made, even **possibly prefabricated**, solution to be placed where needed. Since the nomadic attitude, the unit must be **easy to assemble and dismantle**, contributing for savings in new material provision. **Performing details** of the structure **have not been provided**, so it is difficult to make some evaluations about the insulating efficiency of the unit.

Balise is a **very good solution for sheltering**. Not only offers some kind of **basic privacy**, but also a **number of services** not so common for temporary solutions. Acceptance requirements are not specified, if forseen.
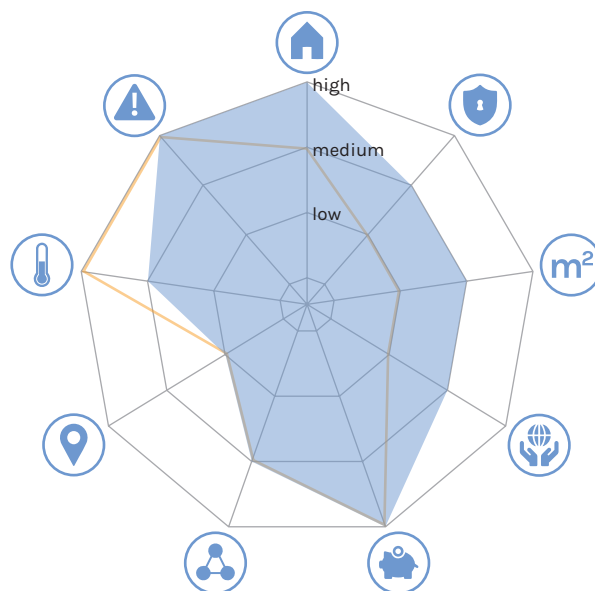
6. "Jagtvej 69 - Vendepunktet" by WE Architecture + Erik Juul

FIG. 44 | Building seen from Jagtvej 69 (render)
Image Credit: WE Architecture (https://www.we-a.dk/jagtvej-69)

Info[239]

Location: Jagtvej 69, Copenhagen, Denmark
Program: Temporary homeless housing and urban gardens
Year: 2017
Area: 972m²

«WE Architecture + Erik Juul have been awarded a commission to transform a vacant lot at Jagtvej 69 in Copenhagen into a urban garden and housing structure (fig. 44) that could provide temporary accommodation for homeless people, helping them to turn their lives around.
The architects describe the project as a place "where housing and green gardens [create] a pla-

tform for the meeting between locals and homeless, and a path for a new beginning."
To facilitate this interaction between the community and its homeless members, the design takes the form of an armature housing a series of modular containers, each designated for its own specific activities. In addition to bedrooms, the containers would provide a wide range of activities such as kitchens, dining spaces, offices, living rooms, and even a yoga studio.

FIG. 45 | Internal view showing private and communal spaces (render)
Image Credit: WE Architecture via ArchDaily (https://www.archdaily.com/867338/we-architecture-plus-erik-juuls-urban-garden-and-housing-to-provide-turning-point-for-copenhagens-homeless)

The architects believe surrounding the temporary community members with these activities will help to them to improve their professional and social standing by improving communication with authorities and allowing them to take care of their physical and mental health. With the addition of community gardens and semi-public event spaces, the proposal provides the neighborhood with a new social meeting place that everyone can use. (fig. 45)
Based on a simple scaffolding system, the concept is for the structure to be flexible, with the ability to add new features and change according to new needs. In the future, the project could be completely dismantled, and moved to a new site that needs help.»[240]

239. WE Architecture, *Jagtvej 69*, 2017, https://www.we-a.dk/jagtvej-69
240. Patrick Lynch, *WE architecture + Erik Juul's Urban Garden and Housing to Provide Turning Point for Copenhagen's Homeless*, March 2017, (for) «ArchDaily», https://www.archdaily.com/867338/we-architecture-plus-erik-juuls-urban-garden-and-housing-to-provide-turning-point-for-copenhagens-homeless

evaluation form

As the previous one, also this project sees the **combination of multiple single pods in a unique structure** in order to recreate the atmosphere of a "garden village", a combination of housing units and green. Each pod is the result of the **recovery of former containers adequately treated to protect people** from weather conditions. Chemical treatments for surfaces are required, and they can harm the indoor quality, but big windows are foreseen for every room, so **ventilation is guaranteed**.

Every room is separated from the others, so essential privacy is respected, which is not very common in tiny shelters. The village conformation also accounts for a **second layer of security, which is represented by the community**, but it is also true that the access to the inside is public.

Every pod is designed to be destined to **single people only**. However, the **size may vary** according to the type of stay: for more temporary and limited use, simple pods of about **7m²** (bed, desk and closet) are arranged, while for more transitional stays a **14.4m²** room (bed, wardrobe, desk, bathroom and larger spaces) can be assigned. Overall sizes are sufficient for a tiny shelter.

NGO support or other forms of external aid are not mentioned. Despite this, **several spaces are destined to common and community-based activities with the aim of improving personal skills**: bathrooms, dining rooms, a workshop, common living rooms, yoga spaces, education and gardening.

As a still on-going project, eventual fees for the use have not already been assessed. The presence, though, of a number of activities **should foresee some staff members for the menagement, which my result in small charges**.

The project is going to be located in Jagtvej 69, north-west of the city center. **The area is well served**: a big park is just on the other side of the road, groceries, a very close metro station, churches, schools, gyms and a hospital is not so far.

Unfortunely, a **solid tenancy cannot be guaranteed**, but the fact of reserving some rooms to tho-

se who need a longer stay than the temporary is very positive. The nature of the structure, however, is still temporary, and numbers of requests that wait to be accepted are advanced every day.

With some extents, sustainability is what characterise this project for two main reasons: the first concerns the **use of recycled material**, i.e. containers, which is recovered and renovated to suit and meet minimum standards of livability; the second is the **flexibility of the structure due to the modularity** of the design concept. The juxtaposition of different modules next to each other to fill up urban gaps is also a very contemporary architectural theme, and architects do not exclude to reuse the same concept for other parts of the city, since assembling and dismanteling the structure is very easy. On the other hand, **no informations about** materials and techniques used for insulation and **energy efficiency** have been released.

The **level of accessibility seems good**, partly due to the reason that multiple modules have been adapted to meet different needs. Rooms dedicated to specific activities should mean the pre-

sence of a staff and **limited access, a potential drawback**, but the advantage is that people could be traced.
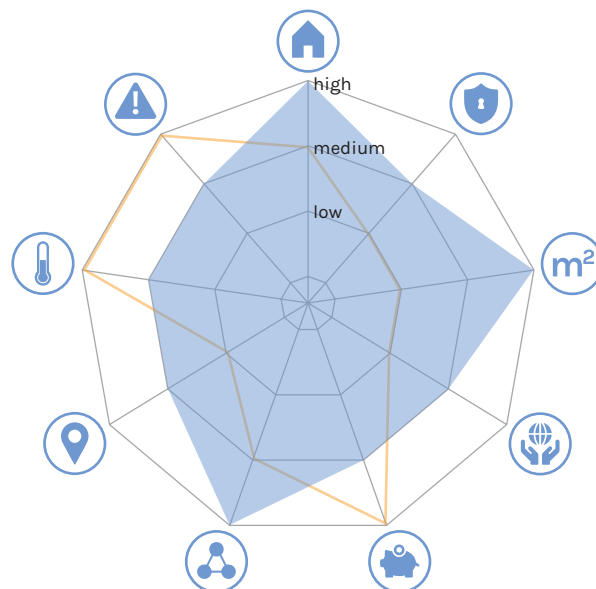
(D) **DORMITORIES**

7. "Homeless Shelter of Porto" by Nuno Valentim
8. "The Hermes Boat" by Prague City Hall
9. "Shelter Home for the Homeless" by Javier Larraz Arquitectos
10. "Day Centers" by Praksis and the Stavros Niarchos Foundation
11. "Shelter for Migrants and Travelers" by Atelier RITA
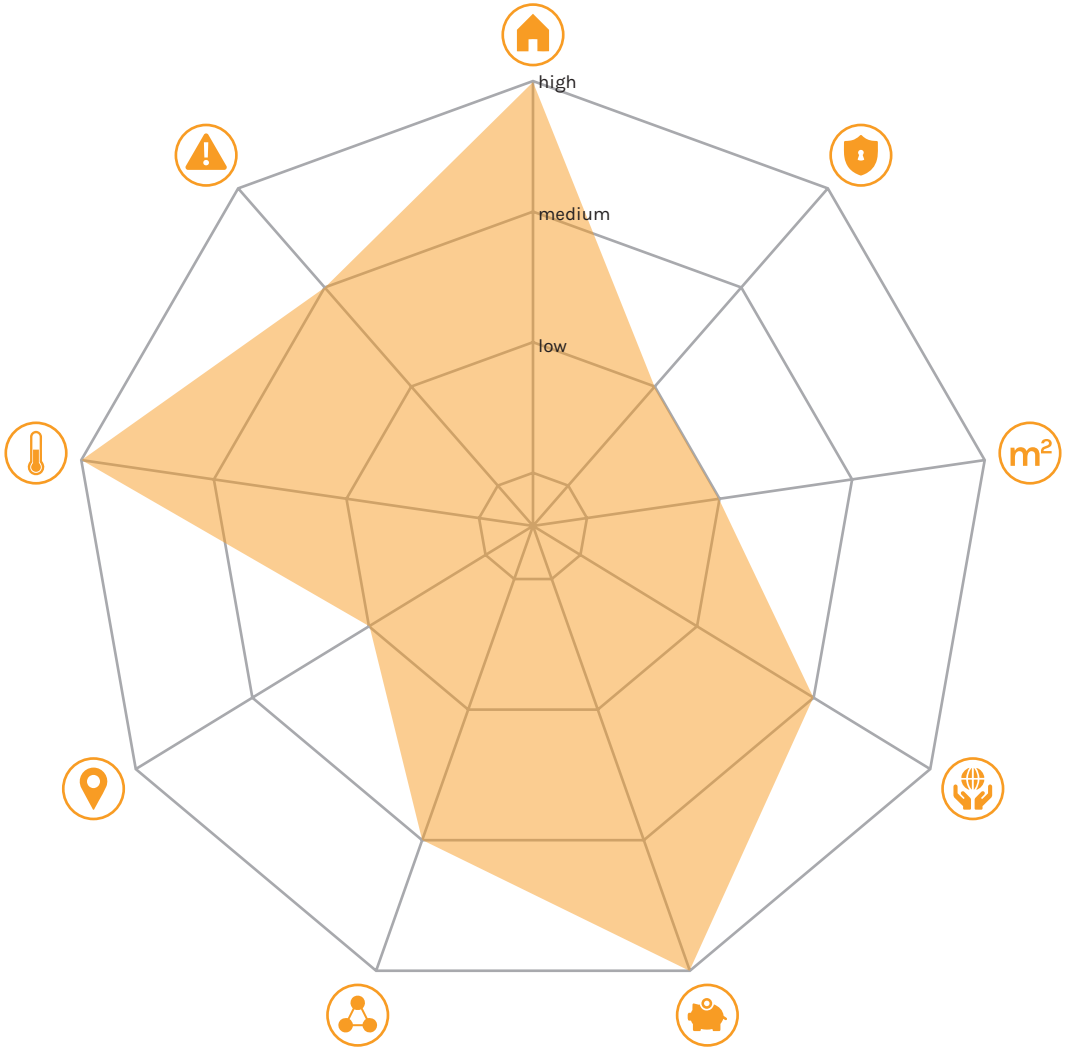
7. "Homeless Shelter of Porto" by Nuno Valentim

FIG. 46 | Colourful facade of the renovated building
Photo Credit: Building Pictures (https://www.buildingpictures.pt/alberguesnoturnosdoporto)

Info

Commission: Association of Night Hostels of Porto
Location: Porto, Portugal
Program: Temporary shelter, dormitory
Year: 2017
Area[241]: lot size 1586m², gross area 1285m², plant area 989m²

The homeless shelter of Porto (fig. 46) is a project carried by portugese architect Nuno Valentim which consists in a renovated hotel transformed into a shelter for those who experience homelessness.

«General aspects: the building belonging to Association of Porto shelter for the homeless although

it is a non-listed building has numerous values linked with its urban integration, inner spatiality, decorative elements quality and naturally the value of use given to it. Based on the diagnosis and preliminary programme, project sought to correct functional problems caused by inadequate interventions carried at over time, improve user comfort levels (seeking to adapt the possible use of available spaces) and solve the diagnosed pathologies and their causes. [...] The preliminary programme proposed the rehabilitation of this social equipment (a first line of aid to the homeless), searching most of all to improve reception/hosting conditions and increase its capacity (from 60 to 75 people). The main functions and spatial distribution were maintained, however the project sought to improve overall conditions such as, interior space, natural light, ventilation and comfort. More specifically:

– Light and ventilation in all bedrooms, allowing direct contact with garden/street;
– Rationalization of beds per room; resizing to the minimum of 6 to a maximum number of 10 users (previously there had been dormitories with 17 users) (fig. 47);
– Introduction of new bathrooms adapted to the programme, intensity of use and to the building;
– Appropriate infrastructures to the number of

FIG. 47 | Example of a room with bed lines
Photo Credit: Building Pictures (https://www.buildingpictures.pt/alberguesnoturnosdoporto)

users, updated in order to optimize performance and comfort – hydraulic, electrical, gas, ventilation, heating installations as well as safety equipment;
– improvement of thermal and acoustic performance, insulation of roofs and constructive rehabilitation of existing windows;
– correction of previous interventions that diminished in any way the quality of the pre-existing building.»[242]

241. Nuno Valentim Lopes, *Albergues Nocturnos do Porto Competition Panel*, 2016, https://www.portaldahabitacao.pt/opencms/export/sites/ihru/pt/ihru/premios/premio_ntp/2017_premio_ntp/paineis_premio2017/01_1055_Albergues-Painel-P1-P2.pdf
242. Simon Architecture Prize, *Rehabilitation of a Homeless Shelter in a 19th century building*, 2018, https://www.simonprize.org/works/pt10_rehabilitation-of-a-homeless-shelter-in-a-19th-century-building-2/

evaluation form[243]

The renovation of the old building has **ensured higher levels of protection** from external and internal disease. The structure has been provided with updated systems of **thermal, acoustic and constructive insulation** as well as **improved ventilation**, which helps in case some paintures and treatments of the walls produce certain volatile compounds when exposed to sunlight, **gas and hydraulic systems and safety equipments**.

Sleeping in a dormitory could **not always be the safest option** because users who live together in a common room are always in contact one with each other. This, of course, can be harmful at a physical level, for the reason that **no walls separate sleepers** and arguments are likely to happen, and dangerous when it comes to keep belongings safe. The service, though, **provides some lockers**.

After the renovation, **internal spaces have been improved**, also increasing the capacity of hosted-sleepers (up to 75). With a plan area of 989m², **the space per person is still insufficient** for adequate standards of living.

The Assosiation promotes a **number of services** made possible thanks to **several partnerships**. The structure offers workshops and training with the aim of **fostering personal skills**, art and sport initiatives, organic farming activities as well as those basic services such as brand new sanitary rooms, power supply and waste control.

The service is **free of charge**. To ensure people their basic needs, the assosiations recieves the majority of its funds my the State and a smaller part from donations.

The building is located in the **center of the city of Porto**, very close to the Republic Square. Being in the center means being surrounded by all kind of services: **groceries, schools, churches** and some recreational areas. The dormitory is placed **right between two metro and train stations** and several bus stops.

Because of the nature of the structure, the dormitory **cannot guarantee solid tenure occupation**. Since fundings are just enough for covering basic needs and running some services, despite

the association claims to be really committed to diminishing poverty, **this night shelter can only provide a temporary solution**. People using the Hostel are, at least, registered and, therefore, **traceable**.

The new **heating and ventilation systems and general infrastructural improvements** to the building, make the Hostel ready to face different climate conditions. In addition, the association has developed the **Green Commitment Project**: this resulst from the implementation of an **Environmental Sustainability policy** that aims to promote actions to conserve and manage natural resources, minimizing the polluting effects in the air, preserving biological diversity and improving the quality of the environment.

The mission of the Porto Nightlife Association continues to be, as it was at the time of its foundation, on 1 December 1881 , to **provide accommodation, food and hygiene care to any deprived person who requests it**, **regardless of the sex to which they belong, the country where they come and the religion they profess**, and to help those who knock on the door, lost, abandoned, self-de-

struction, excluded, follow the natural path of the human being: be realized, be part of the whole that is the society.
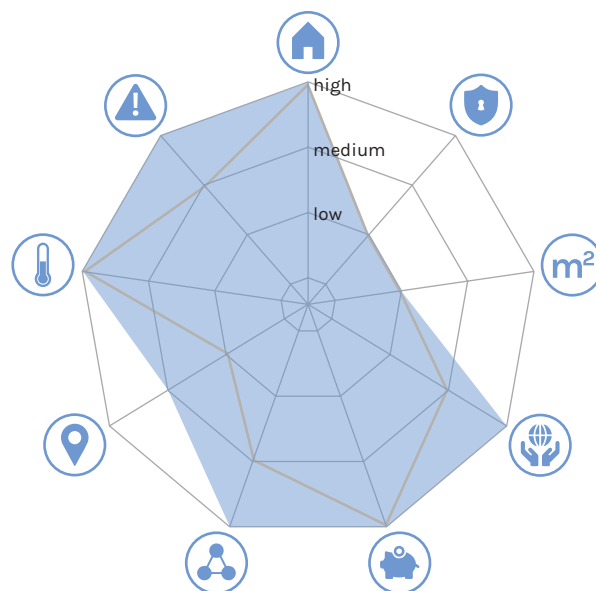
243. All extra informations are available at the Association of Night Hostels of Porto official website, https://www.alberguesporto.com/index.php

8. "The Hermes Boat" by Prague City Hall

FIG. 48 | The Hermes Boat on the Vltava River
Photo Credit: (edit of) Chmee2 via Wikimedia Commons, CC BY-SA 3.0

Info

Commission: Renovation by Prague City Hall
Location: Prague, Czech Republic
Program: Temporary shelter, dormitory
Year: 2006
Area[244]: 400m²

«As of 2016 the number of winter-weather beds available for Prague Homeless people was limited to just over 400. Centres are in place in the Michle, Žižkov and Holešovice districts of the city but there's a boat on the River Vltava which on it's own provides more than half of all the available Prague homeless accommodation in the city, it's called Hermes. (fig. 48)

The Hermes boat is permanently moored under the Stefanikuv Bridge and offers accommodation to the homeless all year at a charge of CZK20 (less than €1) per night. It can take 230 people in triple stacked bunk-beds. (fig. 49)

FIG. 49 | Triple bunks can be segregated by curtains based on age or sex
Photo Credit: www.ceskatelevize.cz via livingprague.com (https://livingprague.com/community/prague-homeless-hermes-boat/)

Hermes began life in 1962 as a vessel designed for the transport of goods (a cargo barge). At the end of 2006 Prague City Hall provided close to 12 Million Czech Korun (£360,000) in order to reconstruct the ship for the purposes of providing an all-year-round dormitory for unaccompanied men and women. It began operation on January 2nd 2007 and has annual running costs of two million Czech Korun (£60,000).

Hermes does not just offer a safe place to sleep or the associated sanitary services. Within the Hermes people can find social legal advice, legal counselling, psychological counselling and a health clinic. Clients can use the follow-up services provided by other offices of the Prague Social Services Center such as family counselling, the RIAPS Crisis Center, a shelter home for homeless men, rehabilitation and non-integration programs, etc. These are all designed towards reintegrating homeless or socially deprived people back into society.

You must be over 18, in social or housing distress, with a valid ID/Passport or Travel document and sober (no alcohol or drugs).

Hermes is not a guest house. You must enter between 7-30pm and 8-30pm and you are woken at 6am the following morning to be packed and gone by 6-30am. But it is both an integral and substantial part of city's attempt to help the Prague homeless.»[245]

244. Dimensions taken from Google Maps, https://www.google.it/maps/@50.095191,14.4269067,239a,35y,349.19h/data=!3m1!1e3?hl=en
245. LivingPrague, *Prague Homeless – The Hermes Boat*, January 2018, https://livingprague.com/community/prague-homeless-hermes-boat/

evaluation form

The **renovation of the former cargo boat** into a homeless dormitory makes Hermes a very singular story. Despite being an unusual dormitory, the boat provides **adequate shelter** for homeless people: its structure grants **repair from weather** conditions and keep the **rooms well ventilated** by its system of windows. Floating on the water is not a big issue since Hermes has originally been built to navigate, but could be a bit uncomfortable for those who suffer of sea sickness. **Heating is present**.

As normal dormitories, **safety and security are certainly better then singular shelters since access and management are restrained**, but it does not offer more than a locker. The fact of sleeping with several other unknown people in the same room may be sometimes unsafe. There is the **possibility of subdividing rooms** in areas according to sex or age by simply using curtain systems.

After the renovation, spaces have been readapted and some **communal meeting rooms are present in addition to dormitories**. **The space per person remains too low** anyway: on a surface of,

more or less, **400m², 230 people can be hosted**, meaning that the space per person, on an average, is insufficient.

Despite of the limited time that a person can **access the night shelter every time of the year (entance between 7-30pm and 8-30pm and check-out at by 6-30am the following morning**), Hermes offers a **wide range of services**: people can find social legal advice, legal counselling, psychological counselling and a health clinic. Of course, basic services like water, sanitation and food are covered.

The project has been funded by the Prague City Hall. The **entrance fee is almost nothing (CZK20 = less than 1 euro)** but it covers all the services of the structure.

The boat is permanently morred under the Stefanikuv Bridge, on the Vltava River. It is **close to the city center**, which means having **all kind of services available in the nearby surroundings**: public transport, groceries, theaters, churches, a hospital and some green areas for amusement.

The only drawback is the water, which can be un-predictable in terms of droughts or floods.

As previously mentioned, Hermes is not a guest house and **hours of overnight service are very restrictive**, so once woken up in the morning the homeless has to move somewhere else. **Periodic tenancy is, therefore, not possible**. On the other hand, some kind of registration when accessing the service makes possible to keep trace of a person in official surveys.

The dormitory has **recently been renovated** from a former cargo boat, meaning that nothing had to be built from skretch, **saving materials and time**. The wooden **structure has been insulated and heating has been added**, so that indoor conditions are kept comfortable even during the winter. One big issue could be the discharge of pollution into the river, but unfortunely there are no data about it.

Despite of the large number of spots for hosting homeless people, **there are some entrance requirements** that must be fulfilled. In particular, gue-sts must be over 18, in social or housing distress, with a valid ID/Passport or Travel document and sober (no alcohol or drugs). These are not really heavy requirements, though, compared to other services.
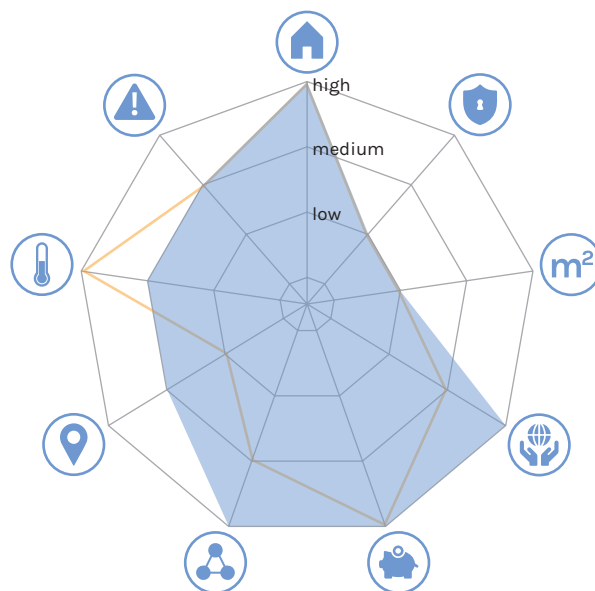
9. "Shelter Home for the Homeless" by Javier Larraz Arquitectos

FIG. 50 | Exterior perspective of the building
Photo Credit: Iñaki Bergera via ArchDaily (https://www.archdaily.com/124688/shelter-home-for-the-homeless-javier-larraz)

Info[246]

Commission: Municipality of Pamplona
Location: Pamplona, Spain
Program: homeless dormitory
Year: 2010
Area: 995m²

«What the construction of the new Shelter Home for the Homeless (fig. 50) offers, beyond satisfying the needs of shelter and food for the residents, is an opportunity for improving the quality of life of a socially excluded group, whose needs reach further than the simple fact of finding a place to sleep. The proposal defines a sound volume, able

to assume with personality the intensity of use to which it is going to be subjected to, and being at the same time flexible in its functioning, where the interior configuration facilitates the coexistence among the different groups of users and allows for undertaking the different needs that are found in a relatively complex program in spite of its limited space: bedrooms, dining rooms, occupational workshops, leisure rooms, etc.

A silent box is proposed, that protects its contents from the curiosity of the onlookers, and that adequately integrates its reduced scale in a semi-urban, bleak environment. The Project has undertaken an exercise of careful contention in various levels:

-Spatial: An extremely rational distribution is disposed, modulated and adjusted, where the program of needs exhausts the meagre area at our disposal.

-Formal: A discreet, sensible and contained architecture is proposed, with no room for fancies.

-Economic and Temporal: The construction works where undertaken in the adjusted period of 6 months, at an amount of 870€/m².

-Energetic: the building holds an A level energetic qualification.

The centre offers shelter and food for its users. In exchange of these, they must get involved in the daily tasks of maintenance, such as cleaning, washing, gardening, painting,... searching in this way for a personal compromise and positively focusing the respect for the new installation. An exterior lattice conformed by aluminum profiles guarantees the desirable privacy of the users, and at the same time resolves the possible intrusion problems that may occur in such a center. (fig. 10) [...] The building integrates two different uses: a user hostage service and a medium stay centre for stable homeless persons in the city. Although both groups live together in the same volume, the project must avoid interferences amongst both programs, facilitating its functional independence. [...] The user centre takes the ground and the whole of the first floor, and accounts for a total of 18 double rooms. It is complemented with the corresponding toilets and bathrooms, an occupational workshop where the users are offered the possibility of developing several types of work during the day, a drycleaners service, a social dining room with a capacity of up to 48 seats, leisure rooms, administration, reception and locker.»[247]

246. ArchDaily, *Shelter Home for the Homeless / Javier Larraz*, April 2011, https://www.archdaily.com/124688/shelter-home-for-the-homeless-javier-larraz
247. Architizer, *Shelter Home for the Homeless*, https://architizer.com/projects/shelter-home-for-the-homeless/

evaluation form

The homeless shelter in Pamplona offers a very good stay and **good protection** from the outside. The architecture of the building is both appealing and functional, **lightning and ventilation are kept adequate** through the design so that eventual internal gas losses or breathing issues, despite the articulation of rooms, can be solved.

Privacy and safety are just two among the **positive qualities** of the structure. Starting from the design, perimetral **walls protect their contents from the curiosity** of the onlookers. Moving on the inside, the volume hosts **two main homeless services**: a dormitory for medium stay and a more temporary-oriented area that are separated with the intention of keeping uses **separated** and private. In addition, every user has a double room and the possibility of having some **lockers**, which means good levels of safety and security.

The area of the building is **995m² and private rooms are 8m² each**, a size that results decent for people that spend a lot of time in communal spaces. One of the exercises undertaken by the architects involves, actually, the **extremely rational use and distribution of spaces** in order to make the design as **efficient** as possible.

For all the users, **basic needs are covered**: the service offers **provision of food, sanitary facilities, power supply and dry/cleaning possibilities**. In addition, people are given the chance of **improving personal skills** through workshops, leisure rooms, outdoor activities and social development meetings.

This project has been **built in a limited period of time of six months at an amount of 870€/m²**, which is relatively cheap. The centre **offers shelter and food** for its users but **in exchange** of these, they must get involved in the **daily tasks of maintenance**, such as cleaning, washing, gardening, painting and many others.

The building is located north-west of the city center of Pamplona, close to the Arga River. The area, a **semi-urban context, is actually pretty empty** considering the proximity to the center: just a couple of bus stops connect the shelter to the city, there are some green parks, some schools and several parking lots, but for services such

hospitals, churches, theaters or groceries people need to move a little bit.

There are **two different services** for guests: **temporary shelter or dormitory** with a medium-term stay, which is the main one. Both of these uses are intended as **transitory**, meaning that the stay aims to prepare the homeless to an independent way of living by living in communities for a limited period of time. For this reason, the shelter **cannot guarantee solid tenancies**, but is a **first step towards independence** and keep trace of applicants.

According to the description, the building holds an **A grade of energetic qualification**, i.e. materials and techniques used contribute to the energetic efficiency with consequent savings in money and emissions. It was **built in-situ** for the duration of six months, though, and it means that the **environmental footprint was higher** than prefabricated methods. Despite this, the **climatic comfort inside is always guaranteed**.

Without any requirement mentioned, the shelter

seems a **good solution for rapid acceptance**. One thing that guests seem obliged to do is **working in exchange of hospitality**, which means that those who are not willing to do so can be refused or evicted if already in. Another thing that limits the access is the **very low number of spots (27 rooms in total)** which results in long lists of applicants.
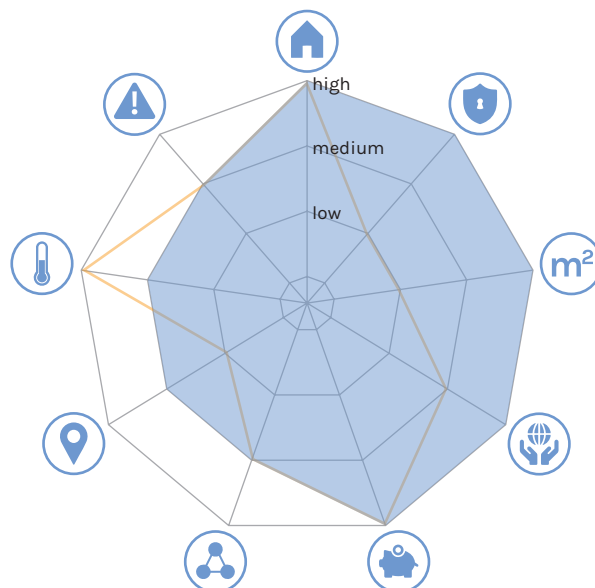
10. "Day Centers" by Praksis and the Stavros Niarchos Foundation

FIG. 51 | Programs' logos
Image Credit: Praksis (https://www.praksis.gr/en/about-praksis)

Info

Commission: NGO "Praksis"
Location: Athens and Piraeus, Greece
Program: Day centers
Year: 2014
Area: n/d

«Praksis is a non-governmental organization aiming at the development, application and implementation of humanitarian and medical action programs. Praksis operates nationwide with a focus on the two major urban centers of Athens and Thessaloniki, as well as on Lesvos island and in Patras. In addition, Praksis' volunteers operate across Greece. Praksis operates two clinics in Athens and Thessaloniki that serve socially vul-

nerable groups for over 17 years. Those clinics continue the operations started in 1996 by the "Médecins Sans Frontières" organization. Praksis main objective is to address the social and economic exclusion of socially vulnerable groups and to defend their civil and social rights. More specifically, the goals of Praksis include the following:
- Provision of free social and medical services in the fields of treatment prevention and health infrastructure.
- Promotion of volunteerism and solidarity as well as active contribution in the design, development and roll out of programs that aim to tackle social and economic exclusion of vulnerable groups and individuals.
- Active cooperation with other social services, NGO's and local authorities in alignment with Praksis objectives.
- Development of database for collection and storage of social and medical data in order to stimulate research focused on socially vulnerable groups.
- Reporting of identified cases of social injustice, exclusion and corruption to the relevant authorities, social services and other domestic and international organizations.
- Development of the necessary infrastructure and manpower in order to serve the organiza-

tion's purposes and initiatives.»[248]
"Syn sto Plyn" is a programme designed and developed in collaboration with the Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF)[249]. The aim of this project is to focus on homelessness, making sure that housing and support needs are addressed despite of the high levels of home ownership in the country. Part of this are Day Centers. «The Day Centers in Athens and Piraeus provide relief support and rehabilitation assistance for the homeless. Both Day Centers include bathing and washing facilities, a children's corner and resting area. They offer to the visitors sleeping bags, snacks, clean clothes, shoes, hygiene kits, etc.», other than «an extensive range of targeted social services including medical, psychological and employment support, legal aid, Greek language tutorials for foreign people, as well as accessibility to a network of related services.»[250]
"Syn sto Plyn" represent a very innovative humanitarian approach for Greece, considering the lack of similar services in the country due to the economical crisis.

248, 250. Stavros Niarchos Foundation, *"Syn sto Plyn" Program Overview*, May 2014, pp. 13-14, https://www.snf.org/media/5062550/SynStoPlyn_Deloitte.pdf
249. The Stavros Niarchos Foundation is one of the world's leading international philanthropic organizations making grants in the areas of arts and culture, education, health and medicine and social welfare

evaluation form

It is **difficult to retrieve informations** about ventilation, enlightment or other characteristics of the inside of Praksis' facilities, but highly detailed reports and the **high level of satisfaction from users** account for a **good** place where to find **protection** from external threats. This case, actually, is slightly different from other shelters since what it provides is daycare and **does not foresee overnight sleeping**.

Because of the different service provided, privacy and security are **less striking issues**. Of course the aim of the organization is to offer a safe place where homeless people can find some relief, but **during the day customers are less likely to be victims of violations**. So, the level of **privacy remain limited** from inside to outside, but not among people themselves inside the structure.

Unfortunely, there are **no informations about private space**, but again, it is of minor importance, since the usage of the service is exclusively public.

Services are the main reason why Praksis has been under the spotlight in Greece. As stated in the description, the "Syn sto Plyn" programme has represented a **huge and innovative humanitarian approach towards poverty** in general. Greece has suffered for the crisis much more than other parts of Europe and it still struggles to invest money on programmes like this one. Praksis' services include: direct and free of charge Primary Health Care and pharmaceutical provision, basic hygiene services (showers, hygiene kits, clothing, etc.), psychological support, social support, work counseling and promotion to labor, legal counseling, financial support in specific programs, legal aid, Greek language classes, access to the network and housing counseling, since **the ultimate goal of the association in to promote equity** and try to reintegrate people into society.

The service appears to be **free of charge**, but no further informations are provided on this topic. It is important to note that the **programme's costs are covered by fundings from the Stavros Narchios Foundation** and public donations.

Day centers can be found through the Attica Region, in particular in Athens, Piraeus and Thessa-

loniki. In all of the three, **the structures are located very close to city centers and are, therefore, served by several city services**.

Tenancy is not part of the programme, but it is possible to track those who use the service.

Despite the harsh situation happening in the country because of Troika restrictions, strategies and immediate solutions to poverty are tough to be designed. However, the **Greek government seems really committed to promote innovative policies**, with focus especially on preparing the Green Paper on National Strategy for Social Inclusion, aiming at the definition and documentation of strategic options for the development of a comprehensive policy to **prevent and combat work and social exclusion of vulnerable groups of the population living in Greece**, promoting the piloting of a means-tested income support program and utilizing the financial resources from the European Union for the financing of social protection programs.

"Syn sto Plyn" **programmes are open to all wi-**

thout any distinction of age, geneder, nationality or status.
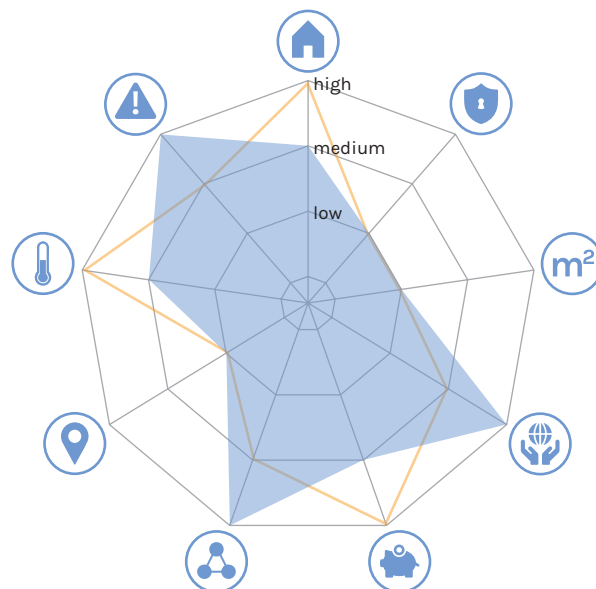
11. "Shelter for Migrants and Travelers" by Atelier RITA

FIG. 52 | Bird's view of the complex
Photo Credit: David Boureau via ArchDaily (https://www.archdaily.com/901650/shelter-for-migrants-and-travelers-atelier-rita)

Info

Commission: ONG Emmaüs Solidarité
Location: 94200 Ivry-sur-Seine, France
Program: Co-housing
Year: 2016
Area: 5000m², 18m² for each room

«This project is commissioned by the ONG Emmaüs Solidarité, as part of the attempt to provide a solution to the refugees constant arrivals. [...] The Emergency shelter is made for 400 people (350 refugees and 50 Roma community). Families, sometimes with children, and isolated women are hosted for 6 months maximum. This humanitarian program is almost an unprecedented situation in France wich leads to think about the

current world's state and appears to be a really challenging mission for the architects.

The emergency engage to essential architecture. The first question is: How to offer dignity and functional qualities to a vulnerable population, with different cultures? The project is thought like a little town (fig. 52, 53), a common notion of "habi-

ter" regardless of geographic origin. Between public space and the most intimate space, everyone easily accommodates with a life in community. From the Greek Agora to the Church square (when religion is placed in the city center), people organize their life around this permanent transition from public to private space, from sociability to introversion.

The six yurts, as multipurpose rooms, are placed in the Shelter's heart. The vast free space sepa-

rating them offers several places as a support to this small society of buildings. These places allows people to interract: children play games and people spend time together. The rooms are displayed on both sides of this central space, three streets are for isolated women and couples and three others for families.

Started on November 2, 2016, the construction was completed on March 7, 2017: 4 months and 1 week. The center needed to be built very quickly wich leads us to choose a prefabrication system. To reduce the time of the operation we worked on two constructions site at the same time: the infrastructures were made on site and the prefabricated wood modules in a factory near Nancy.

These modules presented also another opportunity: they are reusable. This makes sense in terms of resilient architecture. We could imagine a second life for them, in a logic of circular economy for instance, or be reused by the same owner on another site. This is especially significant because the emergency shelter is planned to stay on this site for 5 years.»[251]

251. María Francisca González, *Shelter for Migrants and Travelers / Atelier RITA*, September 2018, (for) «ArchDaily», https://www.archdaily.com/901650/shelter-for-migrants-and-travelers-atelier-rita

evaluation form[252]

The rectangular shaped boxes are completely new and account for **good protection**. Even though treatments for the walls may release some compounds when exposed to extreme weather conditions, the window on the smaller side of the box contributes to keep the room **well ventilated and enlighted**.

Since every single client, family or couple who benefit from this service has a place of its own, **the overall level of privacy and security is guaranteed**. In addition, the masterplan has been designed so that rooms for different groups of people (women, couples and families) are separated, creating a sort of a very-low-scale neighborhood separation, as well as the yurts with public functions. Therefore, the life within the site works as a continuous shift from private to public spaces.

The entire complex is built upon an area of 5000m², enough space to host 400 room in total. **Each of them is 3mx6m, i.e. 18m² in total**, which can be **fair or not depending on the number of people**: for single people or couples can be reasonable, but for families statrs to be a bit uncomfortable.

The general goal of Emmaüs Solidarité is to **promote services and support**, like health, employment, housing and culture, **which drive the individual towards a more and more independent living attitude**. In this specific case, six yurts are foreseen as public structures, placed in the center of the area (acting as a square within a city) and hosting facilities like common areas, children dedicated rooms, refectories and workshops.

There is **no reference about prices** or charges for those who use the service. The only information given is that the NGO recieves fund from the public.

The building is located in Ivry-sur-Seine (south of Paris) at Rue de la Baignade 10. **The area is principally industrial and residential** and, as a consequence, **public services are not completely accessible**. In the surroundings, it is possible to find a grocery, some bus stops, a school, a pharmacy and a train station. For further assistance it is necessary to move towards the center.

This project has been design to be **displaceable**,

and as stated in the description is supposed to remain on site for five years. This means that **its nature is both transitory or temporary** and so the level of tenancy (people can remain for a maximum of six months). Actually, it is mainly thought as a shelter for travelers and migrants, so people in the program are expected to move somewhere else. Traceability is good.

What makes this case interesting is its architectural configuration, which makes it **sustainable in terms of materials and costs**. To optimize the time scheduled for construction, everything has been built both on site (the structure) and in a factory (prefabricated boxes), so that once completed, every piece just needed to be put in place with low costs of construction. This technique also allows the project to be **easily dismantled and resettled in another site**. In a logic of circular economy, having reusable materials account for sustainable solutions. Unfortunely, there are no informations about insulation or energetic performances.

It is **unclear whether the service is only available for some or for all of those in need**. Boxes

have been built for refugees and Roma people, according to the description, and if it be so, then **acceptance levels would not be fair enough**.
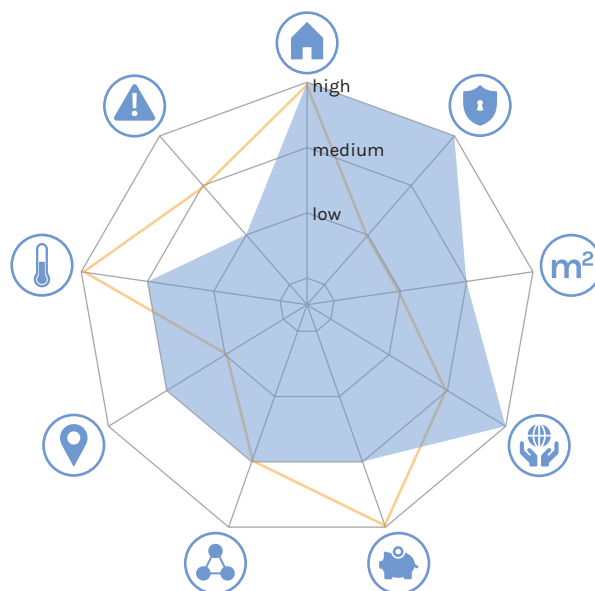
(Ch) COHOUSING

12. "Y:Cube" by Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners
13. "Stepping Stones" by Morris + Company
14. "Herzberg Public Housing" by AllesWirdGut Architektur + feld72
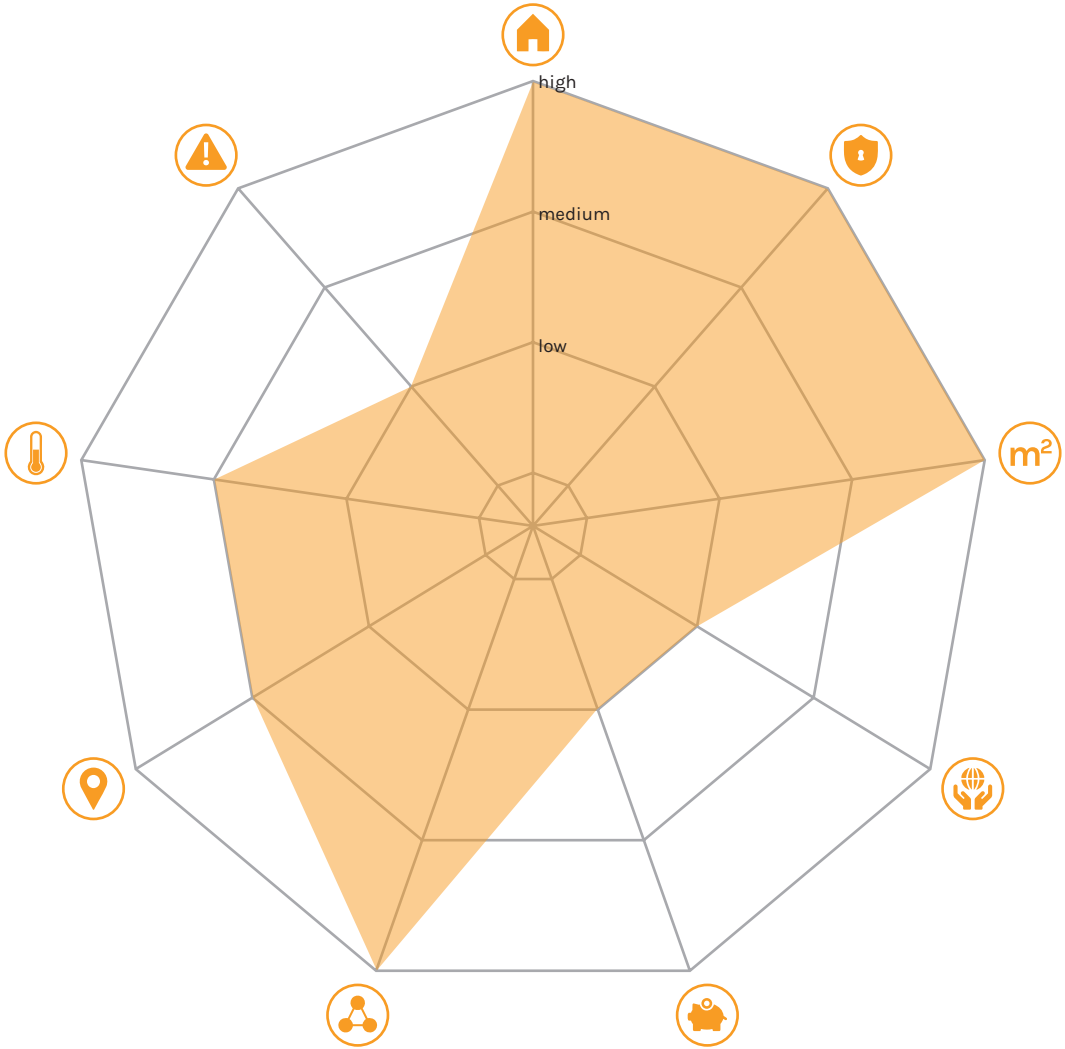
12. "Y:Cube" by Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners

FIG. 54 | Perspective view of the ensemble from the street
Photo Credit: Grant Smith via ArchDaily (https://www.dezeen.com/2015/09/08/richard-rogers-prefabricated-housing-for-homeless-people-opens-in-south-london-mitcham-merton/)

Info

Commission: charity YMCA London South West
Location: Mitcham, South London, UK
Program: Co-housing
Year: 2015
Area: 1640m² (gfa) and 26m² per single unit

«Designed for charity YMCA, this factory-building housing scheme by Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners will provide accommodation for 36 homeless young people in Mitcham, south London.
Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners' modular Y:Cube scheme for the YMCA was designed to be easily assembled and transported, so blocks can be moved between temporary sites in the capital. (fig. 54)

Named George Williams Court after YMCA's founding member, the complex comprises 36 single-occupancy apartments. Each of the 26-square-metre units has a combined living room and kitchen and a separate en-suite bedroom. (fig. 55)

FIG. 55 | Single unit interiors
Photo Credit: Grant Smith via ArchDaily (https://www.dezeen.com/2015/09/08/richard-rogers-prefabricated-housing-for-homeless-people-opens-in-south-london-mitcham-merton/)

The brightly coloured blocks are stacked one on top of the other at a previously vacant plot between a play park and rows of suburban housing in Mitcham, a district within the London borough of Merton.
[…] «We've been failing to build enough housing» said Richard Rogers at the opening of the scheme earlier today. «The supply lags behind demand and buying becomes ever more unaffordable.» Rogers claims there is space to build a further half a million houses on disused brownfield sites across the capital. «We need to let local authorities build more, to make the most of their land, create the communities that we need and put value back into building more affordable social housing» he said. «We need to unleash similar building innovation across the capital or the same old business model will cause us to stay in the same old housing crisis.»
Each unit costs between £30,000 and £35,000, and takes about a week to construct in the Derbyshire factory – and the same to assemble on-site. […] Rent is calculated at 65 per cent of the local market value, taking into account site lease and construction costs – equating to an outgoing of approximately £150 per week for each resident in the Mitcham scheme, which sits on charity-owned land. This setup is designed to allow residents to put money aside to save towards a purchase in the private housing sector.»[253]

253. Jessica Mairs, *Richard Rogers' prefabricated housing for homeless people opens in south London*, September 2015, (for) «Dezeen», https://www.dezeen.com/2015/09/08/richard-rogers-prefabricated-housing-for-homeless-people-opens-in-south-london-mitcham-merton/

evaluation form[254]

The design of the unit is simple but effective. The **prefabricated** box is provided with **pre-glazing and cladding processes** which help achieving **high values of thermal and acoustic insulation.** Being treated with plastic and chemical agents may result in dispersion of toxic volatile compunds when exposed to extreme conditions, but since the **ventilation is good** the comfort should be guaranteed.

Social Housing, actually being an independent living situation in a proper flat, **allows security and safety** not only because of the fact that **people are the owners of their places**, but also because the community built around the settlement may play an interesting role in safeguarding each others' doors.

Y:Cube offers **adequate space** for a good quality apartment. Each flat has an **area of 26m²** and includes a fully funrnished living space with kitchen, a separate bedroom and private toilet.

YMCA's philosophy is to **support young people** not only with a bed but also with **adequate trai-ning, skills and confidence** to be ready to face independent life. This starts with the **provision of the basic needs** such as water, food storage and private hygenic services, followed by the opportunity of users to access sport facilities, community halls, skill-based trainings, apprenticeship schemes, food banks and health and mental support.

YMCA let properties for the **65% of current rent prices in the area** (starting from 250£ per week)[255], which means that a flat costs 150£ per week, for a total of 600£ per month. Despite prices under the average, though, **the rent may still result too much** for some.

The building is located east of Mitcham, a district of South London in the London Borough of Merton. The area has a **strong residential connotation**, with a relatively **low number of services** within the close surroundings: a grocery, some sport facilities, parks and a couple of schools. Transport seems a bit better, with several bus stops and a train station.

Despite being a co-housing project, Y:Cube provi-

des **short-hold tenancies for a maximum that range from 3 to 5 years**, creating semi-permanent communities. The concept is not designed to provide long term accommodation, but to act as a **transition between temporary accommodation and market housing**. However, occupants have enough time to improve their management skills.

Modular techniques and prefabricated process makes these units **sustainable both environmentally and economically**. Everything has been built in the factory and assembled on site in five monts, with expectations of life of sixty years. Once assembled, units are ready to be connected to water, gas and power services. Each unit is constructed from **high quality, eco-efficient materials** (primarily renewable timber) and are so **well-insulated** that during winter months they require little heating, with valuable savings on bills.

Rapid housing does not fit to this kind of solution for two main reason. Firstly, because people in need are much more likely not to have enough incomes to afford a rent, and secondly because the number of people leaving temporary accom-

modations for being rehoused in co-housing programmes is high, and acceptance could take really long, also considering the fact that this kind of service is still in development.
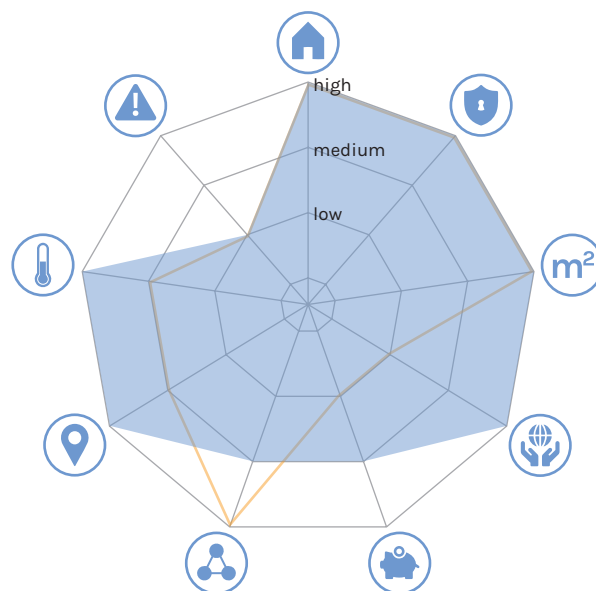
254. All extra informations are available at the Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners official website, https://www.rsh-p.com/projects/ycube/
and on YMCA official page, https://www.ymca.org.uk/
255. Data from Foxtons, a UK real estate agency, https://www.foxtons.co.uk/living-in/mitcham/rentals/

13. "Stepping Stones" by Morris + Company

FIG. 56 | Project view from York Road (render)
Image Credit: Morris + Company via ArchDaily (https://www.archdaily.com/909115/morris-plus-company-imagines-london-tube-station-repurposed-for-the-homeless)

Info

Commission: "New Horizon Youth Center"
Location: York Road Tube Station, North London, UK
Program: mixed-used co-housing shelters
Year: 2018
Area: 7-21m² according to units' size

«Morris + Company has unveiled images of their competition-winning vision addressing London's homelessness crisis. The M+C scheme, produced for the New Horizon Youth Center and Mayor of London-led competition, repurposes the abandoned York Road tube station into a hostel and co-working space. (fig. 56)

Titled "Stepping Stones", the project seeks to pro-vide «an inclusive, viable, and holistic site stra-

STEP 01
Moving from short-stay
to more long-term
accommodation.

STEP 02
Moving from mid-term
stay accommodation to
co-living unit offered at
reduced market rent.

STEP 03
Moving from hared
accommodation to
affordable property
ownership.

WOW!
AND I CAN
BUILD THIS
MYSELF.
BRILLIANT!

SHORT STAY UNIT
Requirements: sleep; store; relax; view
Space Standards: 7sq.m

drawing file   CNC machine   bed unit

MID-STAY UNIT
Requirements: sleep; store; relax; view
+ lounge; study
Space Standards: 11.5sq.m

CO-LIVE UNIT
Requirements: sleep; store; relax; view +
lounge; study; entertain
Space Standards: 21sq.m

modular

KIT OF PARTS: Each unit is designed in a modular way using lightweight timber materials allowing for ease of construction, maintenance, replacement and a natural warmer material finish.

FAST, LIGHTWEIGHT & SUSTAINABLE TIMBER CONSTRUCTION: Unit dimensions and spans allow for use of timber structure aiding a fast construction process and a lighweight solution which would suit any oversite development (replication).

FIG. 57 | Drawings of mixed-used housing units
Image Credit: Morris + Company via ArchDaily (https://www.archdaily.com/909115/morris-plus-company-imagines-london-tube-station-repurposed-for-the-homeless)

tegy that can support a managed and balanced community by providing homeless young residents with a sage, supporting stepping-stone into appropriate long-term housing solutions.» (fig. 57) Each resident in the proposal is treated with equal dignity through considered, shared design principles. Publicly-accessible co-working spaces and a charity shop empower residents, who see their shared home act as an active destination for the local community.

Morris + Company collaborated with key advisors including homeless charity, homeless shelter providers, engineers, developers, vulnerable young people, and social workers throughout the competition process.»[256]

256. Niall Patrick Walsh, *Morris + Company Imagines London Tube Station Repurposed for the Homeless*, 2019, https://www.archdaily.com/909115/morris-plus-company-imagines-london-tube-station-repurposed-for-the-homeless

evaluation form

Stepping Stones is still an on-going project, but has the **potential to offer adequate protection** for its users. The building, an ex tube station, will be completely renovated and a series of rooms are going to be built with **adequate glazing** for good enlightment **and ventilation**. The building also protect people from extreme weather conditions.

The level of privacy and security is well designed: this project foresee **dedicated areas according to the use**, which includes all short, mid and long term stays. The first two are grouped in one wing of the building, while the third in the other and it is not accessible for temporary or transitional users. Because of the mix of overnight services, **privacy may vary**. It is going to be higher where clients have their own room, while lower in the common dormitory.

As for privacy, also **square meters may result adequate or not according to the usage of the structure**. In the dormitory, private space does not certainly reach the minimum per person, but being a temporary solution can account for a fair deal (also because there is some common space on the ground floor). On the other hand, litt-

le apartments designed for co-living mixed use (short, mid and long term) offer a more generous and independent space, respectively **7m², 11.5m² and 21m²**.

New Horizon Youth Center, which is the promoter of this project, is an organization who **mainly focuses on young homeless people and provides every kind of service**: food, hygiene, medical support, housing counseling, training and skill development. Stepping Stones, in particular, offers **co-working spaces and shops** also open to the public, where guests have the opportunity to get familiar with a working environment and daily life.

No informations about overnight charges have been provided. The charity is funded from both statutory, trust, corporate and individual sources and is managed by a voluntary Board of Trustees.

The ex York Tube station is located north of London's city center, **very close to the King's Cross train station. The area is well served**: parks for amusement, training centers, groceries, a care

center, churches, theaters and public transport.

Thanks to its mixed use, Stepping Stones can guarantee **different types of tenancies according to the needs**. Unfortunely, the structure **does not provide permanent housing solutions**, but works to form people towards the independent living. Thanks to access' registrations, users are traceable.

One of the most interesting points of this project is the **renovation of an abandoned building**. Since construction works have to be done on-site, some costs may rise but it becomes sustainable in terms of reuse. Gaining additional space from vacant building or spaces themselves is a very contemporary architectural issue and helps reducing the sprawl of the urban soil. Each housing unit is **designed in a modular way** using lightweight timber materials, allowing for **ease of construction, maintenance and replacemens**. **No further informations about energy efficiency** or insulation have been given, so it is difficult to assess the overall performance.

Access is another issue that needs to be differentiated: of course, for what concerns co-living units, those set for mid or long-term do not help, since are part of a step approach (similar to a very small-scaled staircase), but the presence of a temporary service balances the evaluation. In general, though, sleeping spots are extremely numbered. Requirements for the access, if present, have not been clarified.
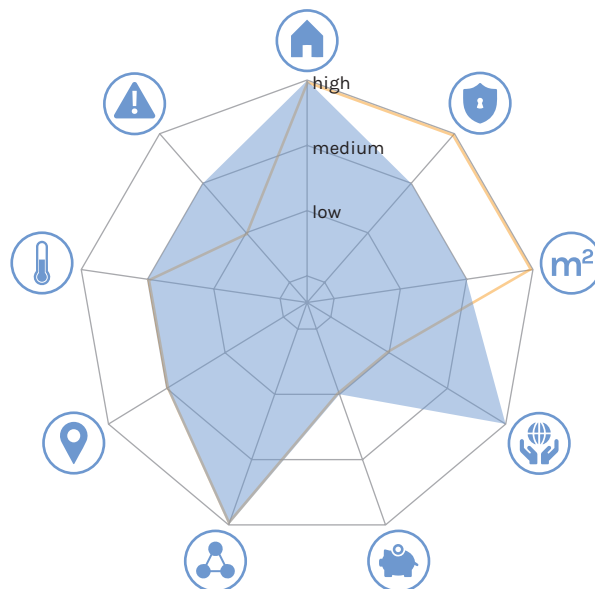
14. "Herzberg Public Housing" by AllesWirdGut Architektur + feld72

FIG. 58 | Herzberg Public Housing (complex view)
Photo Credit: Hertha Hurnaus via ArchDaily (https://www.archdaily.com/173668/herzberg-public-housing-alleswirdgut-architektur)

Info

Commission: EGW Heimstätte + ÖVW Österreichisches Wohnungswerk
Location: Vienna, Austria
Program: social cohousing
Year: 2011
Area: 20212m²

«The idea behind the Herzberg development is to create a built structure (fig. 58) which combines a variety of residential offerings into one neighborhood that facilitates different ways of living. This objective was pursued on both an urban-planning and on an architectural level.
For one thing, the estate comprises several widely different urban-design typologies: there is the

lawn with several point block buildings scattered on it; the residential courtyard building with access balconies, or the street and plaza with a multi-family townhouse.

This collage structure makes the estate mediate in the urban fabric between the colony of small-scale single-family houses on the West side and a shopping mall to the East. For another thing, the buildings are terraced on the upper stories, which creates different living and outdoor situations from floor to floor.

The range of apartment types thus created spans from the single-person rooftop apartment with a large terrace to flexible (blended) family apartments with living rooms from which one or two temporary bedrooms may easily be partitioned off if needed, and to assisted-living homes for children without families.

The color design re-unifies the resultant diversity into one coherent neighborhood and provides it with an urban identity of its own.»[257]

257. ArchDaily, *Herzberg Public Housing / AllesWirdGut Architektur + feld72*, October 2011, https://www.archdaily.com/173668/herzberg-public-housing-alleswirdgut-architektur

evaluation form

This cohousing project offers a **good level of protection** for its users, both from external threats and extreme weather conditions. The building has been built from skretch with the intention to give the neighbourhood its own identity. Each of the 121 apartments has a **good amount of glazing and adequate levels of ventilation** in order to preserve a healthy environment.

Security and privacy are focal points of the project, since the aim of the program is trying to **balance the public life with the private one**. Cohousing projects, indeed, work because they are able to provide social structures that host several community activities but without compromising private life. In this particular case, Herzberg foresee **different types of apartments that suit to different groups of people's needs**.

Even though detailed informations about square meters per apartment are not given, **the space dedicated to people is adequate**. Not only because the building has been designed to **host different architectural typologies** according to people's needs (there is the lawn with several point block buildings scattered on it; the residential courtyard building with access balconies, or the street and plaza with a multi-family townhouse), but also because users have **access to some common areas**, like the internal courtyard.

This building has been funded by EGW, the oldest non-profit association in Austria. They strive to **provide housing for all needs and situations, in high quality and at affordable prices**.[258] Unfortunely, there is **no mention about the coverage of some integrated practices** like healthcare provision, counseling or workshop activities, so the personal support seems to be limited to just subsidization.

Renting prices have not been declared. Being part of the EGW sustainable and affordable plan, the service should be offered at reasonable prices.

The housing complex is located **south of Wien, but very close to the city center**. The area, therefore, offers **a number of facilities**: groceries, metro stations, universities and educational services, churches and parks.

Different typologies within the same structure account for a great solution to meet people's needs. Moreover, the **nature of the project is intended to be as permanent**, so the combination of the two makes **long-term tenancy feasible**. Traceability is permitted.

The sustainability of this project if fully centered on EGW committment to take the **responsibility for people and the environment seriously** with all the consequences. Their goal is to plan sustainably: **healthy living and energy saving** are a matter, including an **ecological construction method with environmentally friendly building materials**. Demanding and high-quality architecture is brought into line with the latest environmental standards.[259] Every euro recieved from rents is reinvested in housing menagement. From an economical point of view, being built from skretch, the building results more expensive,

According to the description, no requirements seem to be asked for acceptance. **The major obstacle that prevents people from accessing the service is the unaffordable rental payment** for the mosts, like any other housing led solutions.
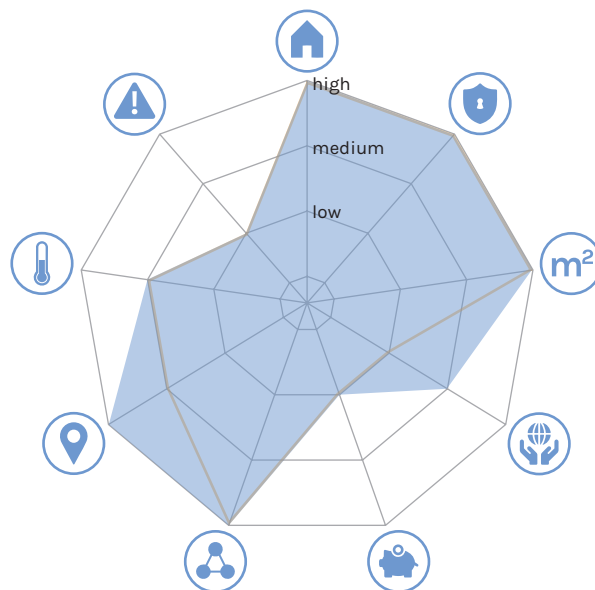
258, 259. EGW, http://www.egw.at/ueber-uns/unser-selbstverstaendnis/

Sh **SOCIAL HOUSING**

15. "Santa Madrona" by Pich-Aguilera Architects
16. "Dortheavej Residence" by BIG
17. "Social Housing Poljane" by Bevk Perović arhi-
tekti
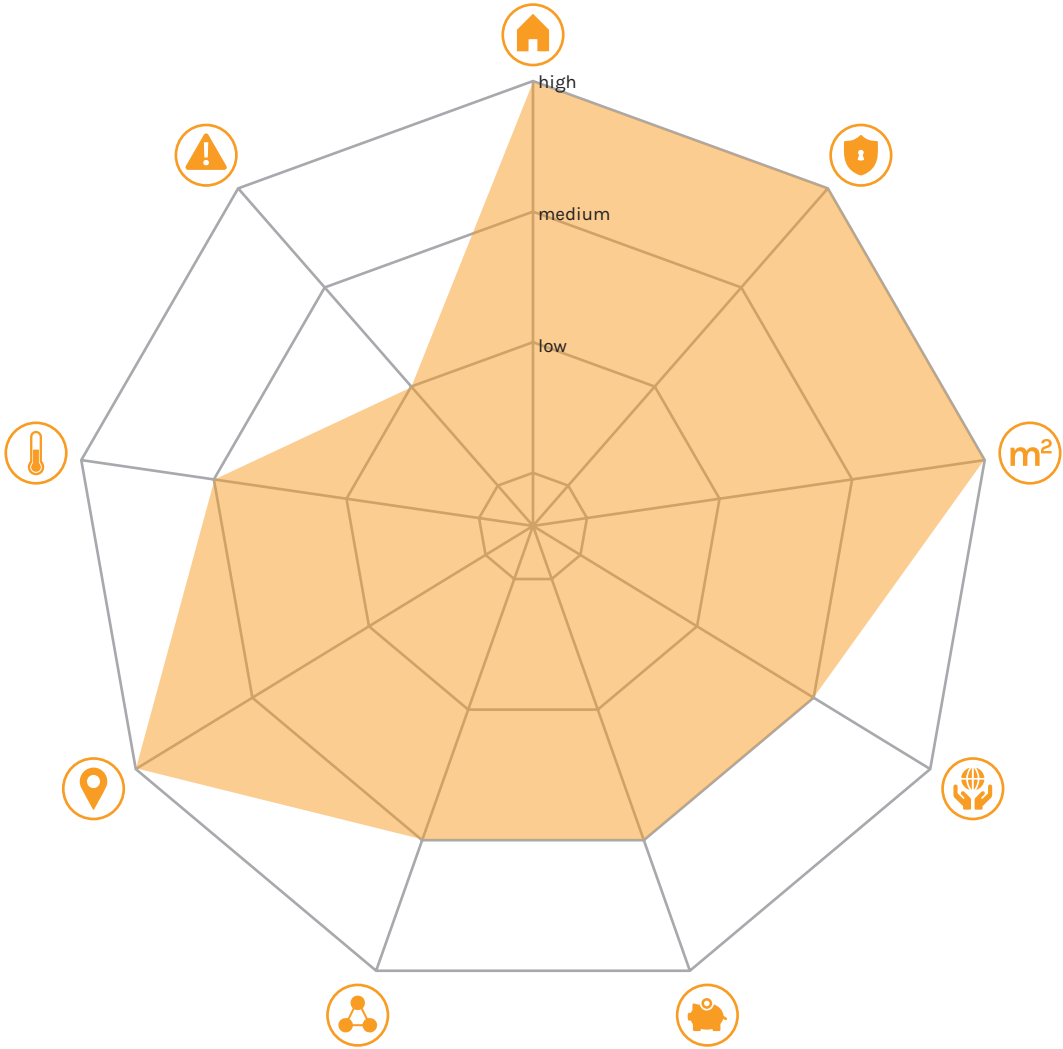
15. "Santa Madrona" by Pich-Aguilera Architects

FIG. 60 | Project view from Travessera de Dalt
Photo Credit: Simon García via ArchDaily (https://www.archdaily.com/503794/santa-madrona-62-social-dwellings-pich-aguilera-architects)

Info

Commission: Municipality of Barcelona
Location: Travessera de Dalt, 92, 08024 Barcelona, Spain
Program: social housing
Year: 2013
Area: 5704m²

«The project of "Santa Madrona" deals with an urban space, where two apartment blocks with an afforfable renting price have to be placed, nearby a small public square of the Gracia neighbourhood of Barcelona. (fig. 60) The intervention had to place also, a public equipment on its ground floor, with a specific area and some specific leisure spaces. So then, the project had this interesting

challenge to propose in one hand apartment blocks with an affordable renting price, with all the facilities that were needed, an urban space intimately bounded to the block's life and an equipment that will promote the so necessary mixture of uses. All the project has contemplated, both in it's urban planning abd construction, a respect in the resources used during its usefull life.

In this regard sustainability as it begins in the public-private partnership that made the acquisition of viable solar concession by the "Obra Social La Caixa" and has made possible the promotion of affordable housing .

The layout of the buildings volume set a square on the chamfer, allowing to clear the top corner of the street Travessera de Dalt with Escorial St. and bring in their own environment, a place of comfort in the middle of the city center. It is envisaged that the project that the natural comfort should be considered both in a city level and in the scale of the building.

The buildings have been built with industrialized building systems, ensuring quality, deadlines and some prices as well as promoting the production and innovation of local industry on the one hand, and control of the consumption of resources, recycling and its reuse by another. The entire structure and its envelope was produced in factory and assembled at work. It is a heavy concrete structure with bearing walls. Supportive structure and facade are simplifying their performance and interior layout.

[...] The homes have been qualified by the Catalan Institute of Energy with Energy Certificate B, which is the highest rating that can be obtained, if conditions do not allow buildings to provide a high production of renewable energy. Finally it has been incorporated against the simplicity and compactness of the building, color and texture to the facade to distinguish each home and provide a bright and necessary identity in the magma of a large city.»[260]

260. ArchDaily, "Santa Madrona". 62 Social Dwellings / Pich-Aguilera Architects, May 2019, https://www.archdaily.com/503794/santa-madrona-62-social-dwellings-pich-aguilera-architects

evaluation form

Santa Madrona consists in a two-block apartment units area that hosts 130 apartments in total. Each of them has been built with regard to **protection from the outside**, which means that residents are completely **safe from general weather**. The amount of **glazing is sufficient for a good ventilation** against mold and moisture, but it could be slightly increased.

The two **blocks are separated** and each of them is occupied by **proper private flats**. No common areas are foreseen, except the square outside the building, which accounts as public space. Inhabitants live, therefore, in complete privacy and physical and mental safety.

There is **no reference about the size** of every apartments, but they are **surely adequate to host both single persons and small families**. To respond to different needs, some apartments have different dimensions. What the project tries to achieve, infact, is a necessary **mixture of uses**.

Santa Madrona is run by an organisation called "Obra Social La Caixa", whose work is to **give opportunities to those who live in poverty**. In general, it works in **collaboration with social organisations to reach as many people in need as possible**: children, families and people at risk of social exclusion who need support and resources to overcome the toughest moments. It provides support in different ways: social and educational development, friendly and entertaining environment to help people balancing private and public life, share of information about poverty and homelessness and empowerment of the individual.[261] Thanks to some **partnerships with the housing stock**, La Caixa also menage to keep prices as affordable as possible.

According to European guidelines, to be intended as affordable, rents should not exceed the 30% of an individual's monthly income, but since **no informations have been given about rents**, it is hard to assess the actual affordability..

The housing units are located **slightly off the center** of Barcelona, towards the hills on the north-east. The area is **very well served by every kind of facility**: hospitals and clinics, metro stations, groceries, parks, bus stops, churches and educa-

tional centers.

Having apartments with different dimensions helps to broaden the service to the most. In this case, social housing is **concieved as a long-term solution** and people who access the service can expect a **solid tenancy**.

The houses have been designed and built with parameters of **bioclimatic architecture, with an initial effort to reduce the demand for energy, followed by a detailed analysis and dimensioning of the facilities, introducing finally systems for producing renewable energy**. The main points are: manual or automated natural crossed ventilation, high levels of insulation, harnessing sun for pre-heating, light activation upon presence, garbage collection, data collection. The only drawback is that it has been built from skretch.

Access is very limited. Despite alle the regulations that may occur for applications, rent remains one of the biggest barriers that people in need should overcome.

261. La Caixa Foundation, https://obrasociallacaixa.org/en/pobreza-accion-social/pobreza/en-un-vistazo
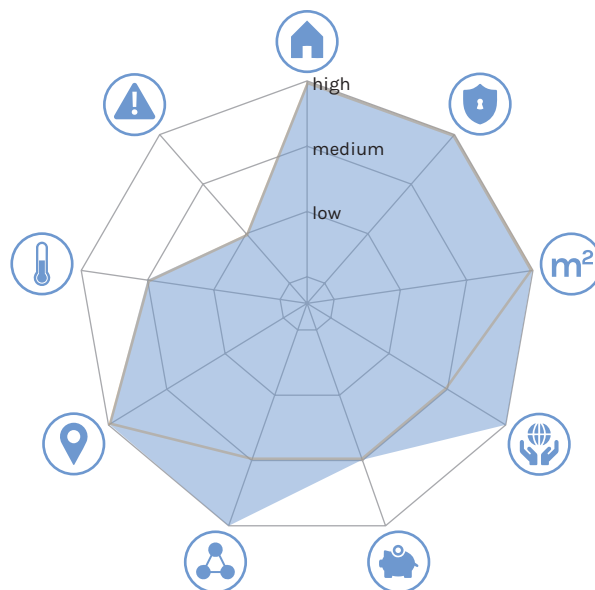
16. "Dortheavej Residence" by BIG

FIG. 61 | Building seen from the front
Photo Credit: Rasmus Hjortshøj via ArchDaily (https://www.archdaily.com/903495/homes-for-all-dortheavej-residence-bjarke-ingels-group)

Info

Commission: Lejerbo
Location: Copenhagen, Denmark
Program: social housing
Year: 2018
Area: 6800m², units range from 60 to 115m²

«Named after its Dortheavej address in the northwestern part of Copenhagen, the 5-story building winds through the area characterized by car repair shops, storage and industrial buildings from the 1930s–50s. BIG was commissioned to design Dortheavej in 2013 by Danish non-profit affordable housing association Lejerbo, whose mission is drafted by Danish urban space designer Jan Gehl. BIG was asked to create much needed affordable housing and public space in the area, while keeping the pedestrian passageways

open and the adjacent green yard untouched. Earlier this spring, BIG and Lejerbo were honored by the Danish Association of Architects with the Lille Arne Award for prioritizing the spatial qualities of the residences and the building strategy on a strict affordable housing budget.

"Our ambition was to create affordable apartments by the world's leading architects. Together with BIG, we have succeeded in creating sustainable, safe and functional homes that see eye to eye with the people who live in them." Jan Hyttel, President, Lejerbo Copenhagen.

[...] The characteristic checkered pattern of Dortheavej is based on a singular prefab structure. Conceived as a porous wall, the building gently curves in the center, creating space for a public plaza towards the street on the south side and an intimate green courtyard towards the north. On the street level, the building opens up to allow the residents and general public to pass seamlessly into the courtyard.

The housing modules repeat along the curve and are stacked to the height of the surrounding buildings. The stacking creates additional space for each apartment to have a small terrace, providing a setting for healthy, sustainable living. On the sunny south side, balconies retract and add depth to the façade while on the northern side,

the facade is even. Long wooden planks cover the façade on all sides, highlighting the modules and alternating to accentuate the checkered pattern. Large floor-to-ceiling windows in the apartments allow lots of daylight into the units and outside views to the green courtyard or the surrounding neighborhood. The size of the apartments ranges from 60-115m^2 and the materials are all kept very simple with wood and concrete in light colors dominating inside and out.»[262] (fig. 62)

FIG. 62 | View from the inside (apartment)
Photo Credit: Rasmus Hjortshøj via ArchDaily (https://www.archdaily.com/903495/homes-for-all-dortheavej-residence-bjarke-ingels-group)

262. Diego Hernández, *Homes for All - Dortheavej Residence / Bjarke Ingels Group*, October 2018, (for) «ArchDaily», https://www.archdaily.com/903495/homes-for-all-dortheavej-residence-bjarke-ingels-group

evaluation form

Built on five floors, this residence by BIG has an **adequate structure to protect people from weather and extreme conditions**. As assessed in the descriptions, big full'height windows allow both a **good amount of enlightment as well as ventilation** into the apartments.

Privacy and safety are guaranteed for the simple reason that people own their apartments. The fact that big windows face directly the court in front of the residence might be seen as a violation, but sight can be screened with multiple simple solutions.

Each apartment ranges from **60m² to 115m²**, which means that, other than being an **adequate size for conducting a safe and comfortable life**, it aims to **accommodate different groups** of people. With regard to space, Dortheavej also recieved a reward for spatial qualities.

The residence has been commissioned and is managed by the non-profit organization Lejerbo. **The core tasks of Lejerbo are to manage public housing, build public housing and provide on-**going renovation as well as the operation and maintenance** of the managed housing. The homes are both **youth housing, family housing, elderly homes and care centers**, as well as institutions. Its mission is to create "spaces for life" and to do so it aims to take care of inhabitants by **promoting efficient, affordable and socially-vibrant structures**.[263] Unlike many other similar solutions, Lejerbo offers the opportunity for users to choose their future apartment (what they call "residence democracy"). Unfortunely, there is no mention to the coverage of basic needs or other supportive actions.

No informations have been released about rental prices. According to Chapter 2, Denmark is one of the most expensive countries in Europe for what concerns housing costs, so it would be interesting to see how the Municipality of Copenhagen deals with this situation.

Dortheavej is located north-west of Copenhagen. It is a bit far from the city and it is **mostly a residential area**, but the surroundings offer **good services**: supermarkets, churches, bus stops, educational buildings, theaters, parks and heal-

thcare facilities.

Concieved as a long-term housing solution, this residence **guarantees solid tenancy** to all the owners. Potentially, the time that a person spend in a social housing is unlimited: one is able to stay in his apartment as long as he can pay the rent.

The sustainability of the build comes from his **low impact on environment and on construction costs**. First of all, the structure is made of **prefabricated modules** and that accounts for less construction costs on site, and secondly, the materials used, **concrete and wood, are extremely available** in the North, contributing for a lower consumption footprint. Despite these positive remarks, the building is entirely new, which makes the whole process less sutainable than a renovation.

Rent payments and the high number of requests are the major factors that mark **this solution as unaccessible to the most in need**.

263.   Lejerbo,   https://www.lejerbo.dk/om-lejerbo/hvem-er-lejerbo,-q-,/mission-og-visioner
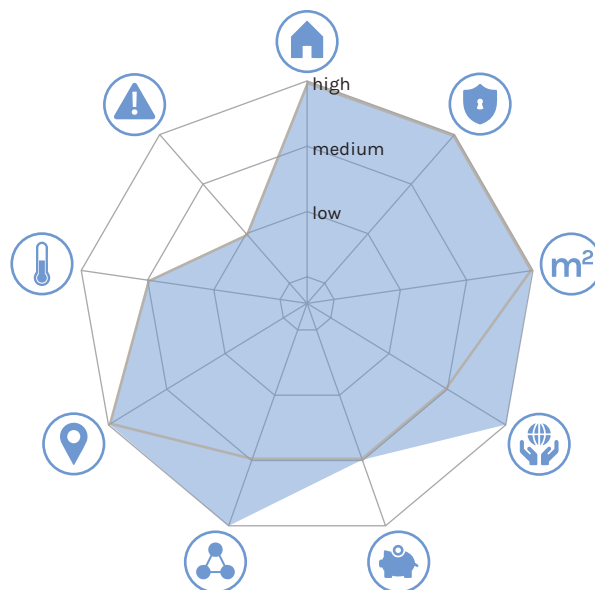
17. "Social Housing Poljane" by Bevk Perović arhitekti

FIG. 63 | Project buildings with adjacent soccer field
Photo Credit: Miran Kambič via ArchDaily (https://www.archdaily.com/90095/social-housing-poljane-bevk-perovic-arhitekti)

Info

Commission: Housing Fund Maribor and Housing Fund of Slovenia
Location: Maribor, Slovenia
Program: social housing
Year: 2007
Area: n/d

«Social housing settlement Poljane is located near a busy crossroads on the outskirts of Maribor. It consists of four buildings (2 slabs + 2 towers), a total of 130 social apartments. Project – limited with the existing rigid urban plan of the area, which had to be followed to a dot – replaces the missing exterior public spaces with collective areas inside the buildings.

Vast empty spaces – public 'rooms' - are carved out of the volumes of the blocks and designated for public programmes. These spaces are either covered – designed as covered open-air playgrounds or open – as roof gardens oriented towards the sun.

The apartments, arranged around the central communication core are of a standard typology, but their individuality is expressed with colourful balconies, inserted into the apartment plans. The balconies appear in different positions on the façade and work as accents which give the whole settlement a dynamic character. (fig. 64)

The section of the block is also readable on the facade. The stacking fields of ondulated cement facade panels mark the apartments while the smooth horizontal belts mark the floor plates. The choice and appearance of facade materials follows the industrial character of the surroundings.»[264]

FIG. 64 | Closer view on balconies and structure
Photo Credit: Miran Kambič via ArchDaily (https://www.archdaily.com/90095/social-housing-poljane-bevk-perovic-arhitekti)

264. ArchDaily, *Social Housing Poljane / Bevk Perović arhitekti*, November 2010, https://www.archdaily.com/90095/social-housing-poljane-bevk-perovic-arhitekti

evaluation form

Social Housing Poljane articulates in two groups of a slab and a tower each, for a total of 130 apartments. The structure of the buildings is very simple but efficient: **protection against weather threats is good** and an adequate amount of glazing keeps the rooms **well ventilated and enlighted**.

Protection and security are always guaranteed, especially for young people and young families as one of the goals of the funding association that developed this project.

There is no standardized apartments, but **their size varies**. The slab structure hosts more differentiation, with units intended for couples or small families and a common area on the top of the building, as the result of carving out volumes. In the tower, the apartments are slightly bigger, hosting up until four or five people and three bedrooms. No detailed informations are given on the square meters, but **they are undoubtedly adequate**.

The Housing Fund of Slovenia, together with the Housing Fund Maribor, is the main promoter and the current manager of the housing program. It was established to create the best conditions to **secure enough quality housing and facilitating housing access by providing aid in the payment of loans**, but unfortunely it **seems that other kind of support**, like individual care, health, skill empowerment and counseling, vital for homeless people, **are not foreseen**.

There are no informations about rental prices. **The average price** for a three-bedroom apartment in Maribor gravitates around **€523 per month in the city center and €394 outside**[265], but with social subsidization it is supposed to be lower.

Data about the location are missing or wrong, so it is hard to establish the range of services in the surroundings.

The good thing about differentiating sizes of the apartments is the fact that **multiple groups of people can be accommodated**. Also the level of **tenancy is great**, since the project was born as a long-term solutions for those in economical need.

It is also hard to determine the sustainability of this project, since there is a **lack of details about construction or materials used**. What can be said is that, as a new building, the impact of the construction process is not indifferent. Despite this, every apartment provides insulation and internal climate control, so people are able to face extreme conditions.

Like for other social housing projects, **access can be denied because of the monthly rent and the high number of requests**.
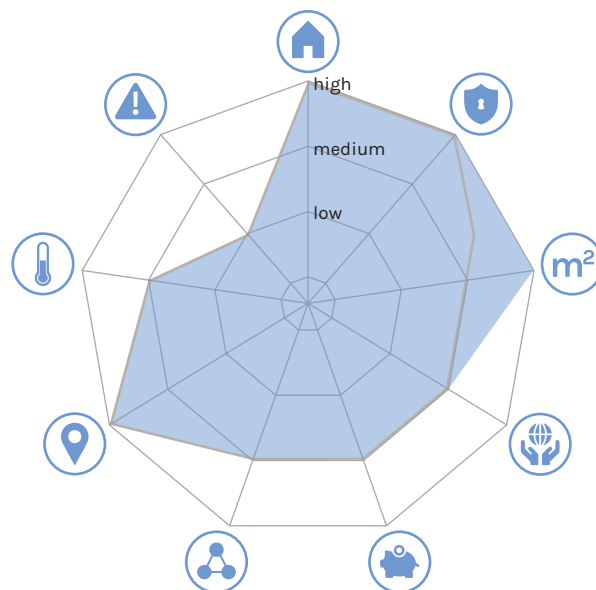
(Hf) **HOUSING FIRST**

18. HVO Querido - Discusstraat
19. Väinölä Housing First
20. Housing First for families in Brno
21. neunerhaus - Housing First in Vienna
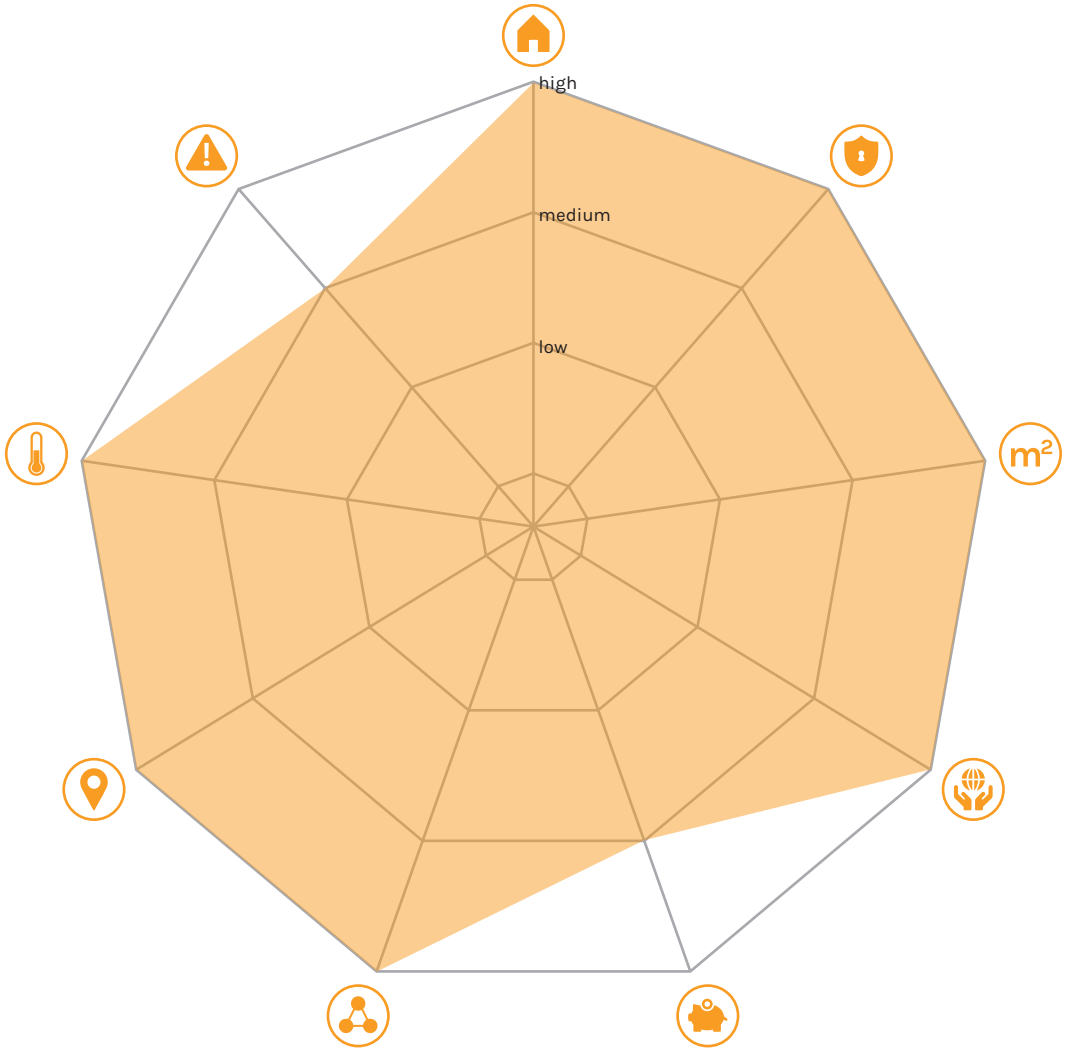
m²

18. HVO Querido - Discusstraat

Info

Commission: NGO "HVO-Querido"
Location: Discusstraat 15, Amsterdam, NL
Program: Housing First service
Year: 2006 - in activity
Area: variable

«Discus Amsterdam is the first Housing First program in the Netherlands and began as a joint initiative of Jellinek Mentrum, Alliantie Amsterdam, and HVO-Querido. (fig. 65) Jellinek Mentrum provides treatment and counseling for people with mental and psychiatric problems, and with addiction problems. Alliantie Amsterdam is a housing association and HVO-Querido is an NGO that provides shelter and housing assistance to homeless

people and other vulnerable groups in Amsterdam. Discus Amsterdam is part of HVO-Querido and is financed mainly through public means. In addition, clients of Discus pay a contribution to the costs of care varying from 122€ to 209€ a month. Discus Amsterdam's methods are based on those of Pathways to Housing from New York.

Since May 2006, Discus has provided Housing First services to people living on the streets. These people are offered accommodation of their own on the condition of income management. Clients who are eligible for Discus's services have complex and multiple problems. Both psychiatric and addiction problems are inclusion criteria for Discus, meaning the program serves a doubly diagnosed population. Clients are referred to Discus by "De Veldtafel", a group of professionals from different care organizations under supervision of the municipal health service of Amsterdam.

[...] In the Netherlands, the staircase model is the dominant approach to homelessness. Discus's approach differs from this by offering homeless people access to housing without requiring them to be 'housing-ready'. Discus clients receive the key to their own apartment directly after their intake. An important difference between Discus and care as usual for clients served by Discus is that Discus focuses on the strengths of its clients rather than on their illness. Another important difference is that Discus clients can decide for themselves how they want to organize their lives, as long as they pay the rent and do not cause nuisance. The Discus program thus is highly client-centered and respects Discus clients' choices.

[...] Discus clients mainly live in self-contained social housing. The apartments, which are located across Amsterdam, are rented by HVO-Querido and sublet to Discus clients.

[...] Support is provided by Discus workers in close cooperation with community psychiatric nurses on a 24/7 basis. [...] The services provided by Discus workers are off-site support services. However, this does not mean that services are not provided in clients' homes if necessary.»[266]

Currently, Discus has approximately 200 clients.

266. Dorieke Wewerinke, Sara al Shamma and Judith Wolf, *Housing First Europe - Local Evaluation Report Amsterdam*, March 2013, http://housingfirstguide.eu/website/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Amsterdam_HFE_Local_Evaluation.pdf

evaluation form[267]

Apartments provided by Discus are rented by HVO-Querido (in collaboration with several real estate organisations in Amsterdam) and then sublet to clients, meaning that size and facilities may vary. However, Discus wants to **guarantee the quality of the settlement with good standards of ventilation, enlightment and, above all, rain protection**.

Since one of the guide principles of the NGO is supporting people towards independent living, **safety and security are always guaranteed** through dedicated support. Being less exposed to the threats of living rough or in inadequate shelters, more than 70% of the users have **positive outcomes in terms of physical and mental conditions**, while more than a half experience **improvements in feelings of safety**.

Depending on users' needs, Discus offers a range of different options of single-sized housing flats, all with adequate living space. "De Alliantie", for example, one of the housing partners of HVO, has houses to rent with a **size not lower than 40m²**.

Living in complete independence in owned apartments, people involved in the Discus programme have **access to all the basic needs**, i.e. clean water, sanitary scattered support (i.e. directly at home and not in dedicated centers) and power provision. This is also possible thanks to the **complete furnishing service that the NGO provides**. In addition, a lot of **daytime activities are forseen**, such as sports, art, gardening, social engagement and work training.

One of the **requirements for people who want to apply for the service is the possibility to pay a rent**. According to Discus' policies, to **obtain a rent supplement**, the rental price may not exceed €631.73 and the annual income may not exceed €20.975 (more or less meaning 35% of disposable income spent for rent). **90% of the users have one**. This is made possible thanks to the Social Support Act (WMO), by the municipality of Amsterdam.

Discus is located sout-west of the Amsterdam city center, in a mainly residential area. **All the services are covered**: bus stops that connect with the city center, sport facilities, supermarkets, scho-

ols and universities, hospitals and parks for amusement.

Volunteers work hard to **ensure an affordable tenancy** for their clients. Having proved to be more cost-efficient than a staircase approach-based service, HVO offers a **potential unlimited time for staying in the programme** as long as one can afford it. **What may cause people to be excluded from the service is making nuisance**, i.e. contributing for annoying situations (hygiene, noise or bad behavior) for neighbors.

Sustainability is high on the priorities' list. Everyone is aware and tries to develop themselves considering this topic. The workers are stimulated to use their bikes as much as possible (they have electrical bikes to use for free), and otherwise use public transport. Recycling, waste separation and food management are other important issues. For now, **also economic sustainability is ensured by the constant fundings** coming from the municipality of Amsterdam.

Despite the effectiveness of the Housinf First ap-

proach, the yet **low number of settlements** and **scarcity of inclusion** of this service in national policies makes **difficult** for people in extreme situation **to find an immediate shelter solution**. This is also due to some **monetary requirements** and, above all, the **high number of requests**.
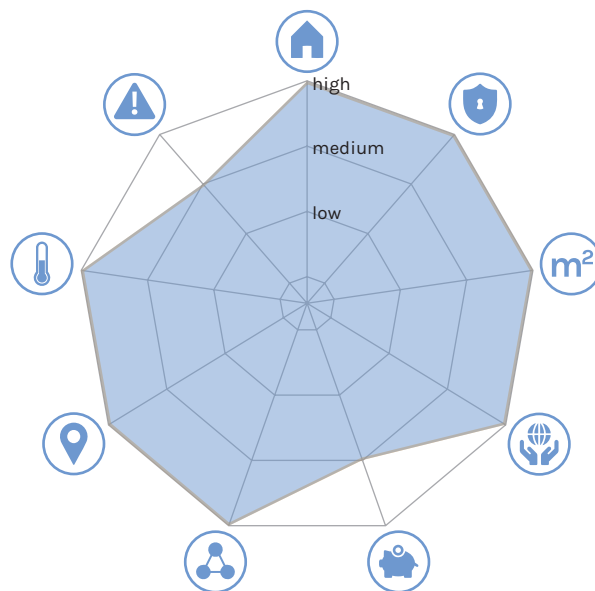
267. All extra informations are available in the *Housing First Europe - Local Evaluation Report Amsterdam* document, http://housingfirstguide.eu/website/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Amsterdam_HFE_Local_Evaluation.pdf

19. Väinölä Housing First

FIG. 66 | Perspective view of the Väinölä housing unit
Photo Credit: The Salvation Army (https://www.pelastusarmeija.fi/paikkakunnat/espoo/asumispalvelu#paikallinen)

Info

Commission: Christian charity "The Salvation Army"
Location: Kuusiniemi 5, 02710 Espoo, Finland
Program: Housing First service
Year: 2014 - in activity
Area: variable

As part of the long-term homelessness reduction program, the Rescue Army Housing Unit, Väinölä, was completed in March 2014 in Viherlaakso, Espoo. (fig. 66) The unit can hosts 35 people and offers supported living for long-term homeless people aged 18-65 in Espoo. Väinölä's 11 social and health care workers together ensure the success of living with the residents. The property has been built and owned by the Y Foundation and the City

of Espoo continues to rent the apartments to the long-term homeless.

«The Y-Foundation's goal is to end homelessness in Finland. It aims to do this by increasing the amount of affordable rental housing made available to homeless people. It builds, renovates and leases buildings in towns and cities across Finland. Homes are provided using the Housing First model through partnerships with municipalities and non-governmental organisations. Most of its homes are in central city locations. This enables residents to be close to work opportunities, amenities and support services. It also uses innovative designs and plans to support resident integration.

[…] Increasingly Y-Foundation promotes mixed housing schemes in its projects. The rents are kept lower than market price and are monitored through market surveys. As compared to the traditional model, in which homeless people are offered places in hostels and shelters, Y-Foundation offers rented accommodation and provides support services to help people become independent.

[…] The main source of Y-Foundation's income is from the rents. It also receives grants from RAY (Finland's Slot Machine Association) and ARA, (the Housing Finance and Development Centre of Finland). The foundation also uses bank and other loans to invest in purchasing and building new housing. The rental income is used to cover the costs of running the organisation, repayment of loans and housing maintenance.

[…] The work of Y-Foundation has made a significant and leading contribution to the goal of ending long-term homelessness in Finland. The aim of ending long-term homelessness is now close to being realised. It has demonstrated a model through which housing and support for other aspects such as social work could be delivered by a social enterprise by efficient networking. The project has provided sustainable housing to 8,590 people, who now have a home of their own. Furthermore, the project has been able to engage local authorities and several non-governmental organisations in developing support work for their target groups.»[268]

268. World Habitat Awards, *Y-Foundation*, https://www.world-habitat.org/world-habitat-awards/winners-and-finalists/y-foundation/#award-content

evaluation form[269]

Housing provided by The Salvation Army is owned by the Y-Foundation, a social enterprise that specialises in housing homeless people. Its modus operandi is very simple: they buy housing from the municipality in which they operate, they renovate every apartment and then they rent them through housing first services. By doing so, **inhabitants are guaranteed a welcoming place with good standards of protection from weather and internal air circulation**.

Embracing the Housing First phylosophy, the Y-Foundation and The Salvation Army have the ultimate goal to train people to an independent way of living. They provide, most of the time, **private apartments to ensure people security and safety** against outdoor threats. Feedbacks from users show appreciation for neighbours, meaning an **increase of safety at a community level**.

The Y-Foundation offers apartments according to users' needs. Usually, the size of a flat is **around 35m²**, as reported from some users, which accounts for a **very good amount of space** for living at complete ease.

The **access to basic needs is a fundamental point** for Housing First and Väinölä offers water, sanitary facilities and power supply to all its customers (the apartment are actually normal apartments on the market) other than **care support every day at every time**. In particular, the goal of the Salvation Army's work is to help the person in a holistic way - both in the body and in the soul. Work includes: **social assistance, food aid, adult hobby activities, children and youth clubs, camps, Sunday school, and spiritual events**.

Rents are kept lower than market price and are monitored through market surveys. According to the Y-Foundation 2018 annual report, the average rent for an apartment was **12.08 euros per month per square meter**. Hence, the rent for a 35m² studio would be €423. For FEANTSA, the average amount spent in Finland for poor tenants is €476, i.e. the 36% of disposable income[270], which decreases up to **32% with Housing First rental service**.

The Väinölä housing complex is located in a **mostly residential area** outside the city of Espoo. **Not so many services** are available around: a couple

of bus stops, a grocery and a lot of green space.

Solid tenancy is guaranteed. Being a part of a Housing Fist programme, the main goal of The Salvation Army is providing adequate houses as a priority. Potentially, **leasing has no limits** and homeless people can keep their place until they are ready to move independently or until they are able to pay their rent.

Building regulations in Finland require a **high degree of energy efficiency**, with high levels of thermal insulation including, for example, **triple glazed windows** and the use of **renewable energy**. The foundation has gone beyond the building regulation requirements on some buildings by, for example, using **geothermal heating systems**. In addition, the foundation prioritises central locations, which reduce the cost of driving and increase access to public transport and reduce the need for parking spaces (not really the case of Väinölä). Also the **financial system seems sustainable**: being funded mostly from rents, used for creating other housing opportunities, the foundation has achieved a **good sustainable balance between borrowing, repayments and operational costs**.

Unfortunely this kind of service **cannot meet urgent requests among the rising homeless population**. Firstly because people have to pay a rent, and not everyone can afford it, and secondly becuase the limited number of apartments creates waiting lists.
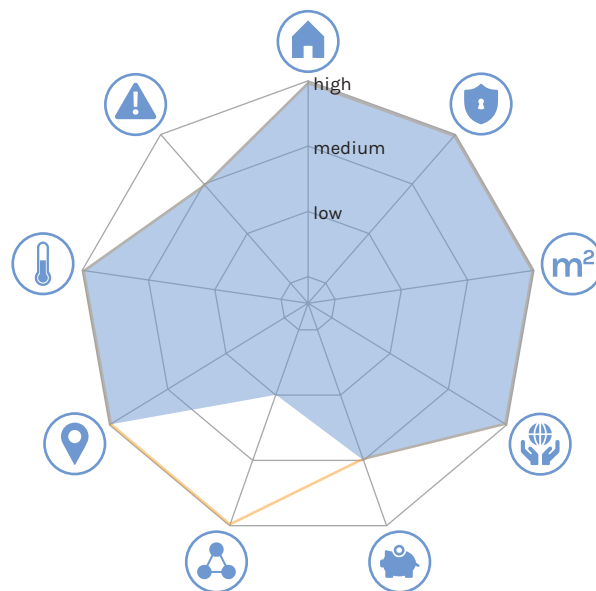
269. All extra informations are available in the *Y-Foundation 2018 Annual Report*, https://ysaatio.fi/assets/files/2019/04/Y-Foundation_Board_of_Trustees_report_2018.pdf,
on the Y-Foundation website, https://ysaatio.fi/en/home,
and on the Salvation Army Finland page, https://www.pelastusarmeija.fi/
270. FEANTSA and Abbé Pierre Foundation, *Third Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2018*, pp. 52-54, https://www.feantsa.org/download/full-report-en1029873431323901915.pdf

14| 4. evaluation

20. Housing First for families in Brno

FIG. 67 | Front facade of the NGO's building in Brno
Photo Credit: IQ Roma Servis (http://www.iqrs.cz/cs/vize-poslani-hodnoty)

Info

Commission: NGO "IQ Roma Servis" (fig. 67)
Location: Brno, Czech Republic
Program: Housing First experiment
Year: 2016 - in activity
Area: variable

«The City of Brno (pop 400 000), which owns and controls access to 29 000 flats, approved a strategy to end family homelessness: to make it rare, short and non-recurring. Since 2016 various traditional and experimental approaches have been tested for outcomes. Among them, the housing first approach seemed very promising, so 50 municipal flats were dedicated to showcase housing first in Brno and measure its impact through randomized control trial.

Between September 2016 and May 2017 fifty families out of the total population of 421 were randomly assigned to housing first program through a lottery organized by City Council for Health and Social Affairs. [...] The project is run by Brno municipality, which is not only the owner of the 50 non-segregated apartments but also provides overall coordination of local partners including Department of Social and Legal Protection of Children, Labour Office, Department of Education etc.»[271] Some of the criteria used for the evaluation of the impact of Housing First rather than usual treatments include: prevalence of homelessness, security of tenure, mental health, state of primary carers/mothers and the use of emergency health services by family members.

«Early results from focus groups (May 2017) with families that moved in since September 2016 show that beneficiaries are finding their own place and privacy in the new housing. They also find security, calmness, and constancy. This has also big impact on their children. Having own room, storage for toys, or first own desk itself made the children happier and more balanced.

[...] Housing first approach has never been tested in the Czech Republic, and Brno project is the first pioneer. It is also the first randomized control trial in social policy being performed in the Czech Republic. It clearly leads the way to greater reliance on evidence-based policy and focus on outcomes. Housing first itself is one of the most innovative shifts in social policy in recent decades, which moved from programmatic innovation to leading approach in health and human services sector in less than 20 years. The project philosophy - housing as the basic necessity - aligns with consumer choice: homeless families are interested in being housed, and see housing as their main problem. For the first time in Brno, housing was not allocated by criteria of deservingness or financial competition, but randomly. The project treats housing as basic necessity so there were no preconditions (apart from being household with children living in Brno City and be willing to cooperate with social worker) attached to beneficent families - the most needy could be supported in contrast to usual approach that excludes indebted families and is sometimes discriminatory.»[272]

271, 272. Plataforma pro socialni bydleni, *Housing First for Families in Brno*, https://hf.socialnibydleni.org/housing-first-for-families-in-brno

evaluation form[273]

The municipality of Brno is running some experiments of Housing First for families. This is a pilot project, but the goals are clear. Among the others, one of the priorities is **bringing qualitative housing to families** which means that the municipality is in charge of delivering houses with **no threats of mold, moisture, wall damages, lightning or ventilation to keep indoor comfort**.

Through constant surveys, the NGO IQ Roma has the chance of measuring the improvements that families undergo during their stay. **Early results** show how the **perception of privacy and security is increasing, both among parents but also among children**. With every person having his own space, also improvements in mental health and social attitude have been recorded.

The size of flat depends on the family, which is usually asked to choose the apartment. In general, they provide adequately-sized flats, with separate room for children. Some small families (mother and one children) live with a bedroom and a kitchen (**approximately 35 m²**), while large families (about ten members) may live in three-bedrooms apartments (**approximately 120 m²**).

In addition of basic services, the NGO, partnering with the Department of Social and Legal Protection of Children, the Labour Office and the Department of Education, offers **activities for children and for children with their parents too**. The aim is not only to develop a **child 's skills** and **knowledge**, but also teach parents how to work with their children, prepare them for the education system and how to develop child's physical, personal and social skills.

Families are assigned to municipal flats and are **eligible for government housing allowance and housing supplement**. Direct rent payment organized between the local Labour office and the landlord is preferred, and an **emergency fund is set to assist in crises**. The prize for flats was less that 2 euros for m² (42 krounds) at the start of the project. Right now, it is about 58 krounds for m² (2.3 euros).

IQ Roma headquarter is located north-east of the center of Brno, in an **area well-served** by all kind of facilities. Apartments are owned my the municipality and are **scattered across the city, so access to services may vary**.

Tenancy and solid occupation are the basis of this experiment. Families, as long as they pay the rent, are allowed to live in Housing First flats and **take advantage of all the services provided**. The pilot experiment has been conducted for 12 months, but after those, it has been registred a **100% of families still housed**.

Building regulations in Czech Republic given by the Building Act[274] forsee sustainability in terms of **reducing the impact of building construction and functioning**, which is common across all European countries. What makes this Housing First experiment sustainable is the **leadership** that it is assuming in guiding Czech Republic to move towards a more **housing-led oriented strategy against homelessness**. IQ Roma Servis is, infact, the first NGO that provided such a supported service, following pioneers like HVO Querido in Amsterdam. There are already some plans in the city of Brno of reducing homelessness by 2020, and the municipality seems to own enough apartments to hope for a positive outcome.

Housing First Brno **is not easily accessible**. In addition to common Housing First restrictions (**rent and waiting lists**), the experiment conducted had **some requirements** for being accepted: families must have at least one child under 18, must be residents in Brno, must be counted during Family homelessness registry week (census) in April 2016 in Brno and must be homeless accordingly to ETHOS.
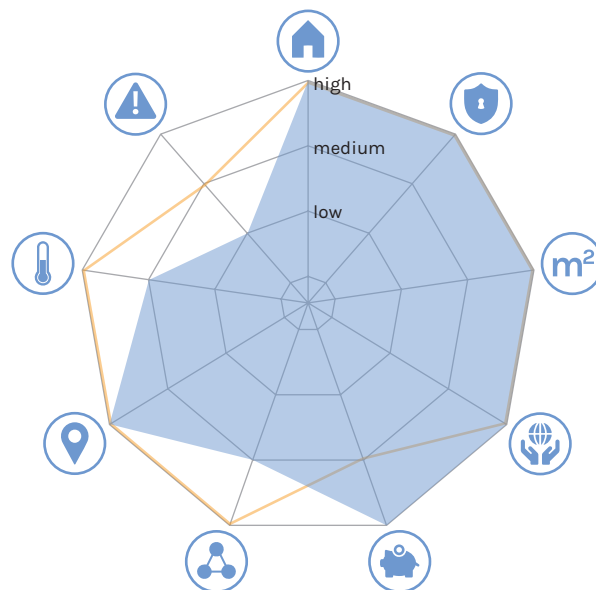
273. All extra informations are available in FEANTSA's article about the project, https://www.feantsaresearch.org/download/12-1_d2_researchnote_ripka_v025351276129096319303.pdf,
and on the IQ Roma Service webpage, http://www.iqrs.cz/en/iqrs
274. Czech Parliament, *Building Act - on town and country planning and building code*, March 2006, https://www.mmr.cz/getmedia/9a941cf5-268b-4243-9880-d1b169fb33d6/SZ_angl.pdf

21. neunerhaus - Housing First in Vienna

Info

Commission: neunerhaus
Location: Vienna, Austria
Program: Housing First project
Year: 2012 - 2015
Area: variable

Neunerhaus (fig. 68) is a 3-year Housing First pilot project conducted in Vienna starting from 2012 which was realized thanks to the funds coming from the Vienna Social Fund (FSW), that invested annualy around €500000.

«Neunerhaus is taking care of homeless people and of people who are in danger of becoming homeless. Besides offering the standard services in the form of emergency accommodation, temporary accommodation and social counseling, neu-

nerhaus also provides medical services for homeless persons and their pets. [...] To facilitate the provision of affordable apartments, which is the key bottleneck considering the Viennese housing market, a special platform for the acquisition of apartments called ERST WOHNEN (the German translation of Housing First) was established in cooperation with selected companies in the field of housing and housing finance. The aim is to foster even more cooperation with private housing companies and housing associations. Against the backdrop of increasing housing costs and rents, the overall goal is to contribute to the promotion of affordable housing in general.

[...] Housing First is based on five principles in Vienna: direct access to permanent and safe accommodation, separation between housing administration and personal assistance (i.e. apartments and social work should be provided by separate organizations), promotion of social inclusion (support to build up social networks in the neighborhood, also by providing information on existing institutions), autonomy and participation (clients define themselves how much assistance they need and what kind of apartment they are looking for), and flexible assistance for individual needs (personal assistance should also be continued even if the apartment is lost,

e.g. due to serious illness etc.).

[...] In contrast to the US approach to Housing First, all Viennese projects do not focus on persons with psychiatric diagnoses or problems of drug addiction, but are concerned with housing problems of a much broader group of people.

[...] Therefore, apart from providing new apartments to their clients as quickly as possible, organiza-tions that run Housing First projects also provide accompanying, individualized and more or less obligatory social pedagogic support.

[...] Neunerhaus defined the following criteria for clients to qualify for the project: they need to be homeless or in acute danger of becoming homeless, require care or personal assistance, declare having an own apartment with an own lease contract a desired goal, and be of legal age and qualify for getting financial support. Exclusion criteria are to be dependent on stationary care, in acute danger of harming themselves or others, or to show a kind of behavior that could have serious adverse effects on their social environment.»[275]

275. Florian Wukovitsch, Andreas Novy and Carla Weinzierl, *Housing First Vienna*, ImPRovE Case Study N.5, Antwerp: Herman Deleeck Centre for Social Policy – University of Antwerp, June 2015

evaluation form[276]

Vienna is pushing forward to promote affordable housing solutions for the homeless. Erst Wohnen, the company in charge of providing houses for the project, continues to **acquire flats that are in good conditions**, so that guests are adequately **protected from weather, mold, moisture and hazardous volatile compunds thanks to proper ventilation**. Some apartments are new and others old but renovated.

Neunerhaus wants to make sure that its clients find the best protection according to their needs. This is the reason why the **housing assignment process** requires an average of 2-months of counseling, at the end of which homeless are given their private apartment. Since one of the core principles of the project is **developing decision making skills**, neunerhaus firmly believes that having total **protection and safety** inside a house could really make the difference towards the goal.

Houses come in different sizes, all with **abundant and adequate space for conducting good lives**: 1-bedroom flats of **38.6m²**, 2-bedroom flats of **50m²**, 3-bedroom flats of **65,75 m²** and 4-bedroom flats of **85m²**.

Other than **offering basic needs**, the Viennese Housing First model focuses more on **self-determination and participation** rather than solving mental ilnesses or addiction problems. With the **support of the social worker** carrying out tasks, from organising meetings to deciding on social care objectives, it shows users how negotiations can be achieved and that participation in decision-making is possible. It cannot be assumed, that everyone has the required skills (making decisions, expressing oneself clearly) and therefore **cooperation with the social worker ensures that these skills are continuously developed**.

In Austria, there is a high risk of poverty, with poor tenants paying more than 40%[277] of their disposable income on housing costs according to FEANTSA. The goal of Erst Wohnen is, thus, provide people with the **most affordable solution**. Usually the cost of an apartment is set at **€6.88 per square meter per month**, resulting in a range from €250 to €600 according to the size.

Neunerhaus has its office in the south-western part of the city, but **apartments are scattered**. The city offers a very **high amount of services**

everywhere (bus stops, metro, groceries, hospitals, schools and entertainment) so the position is not a big issue.

In compliance with the principle of fostering independence and social and financial decision-making of the person, **long-term tenancies are a central point of the program**.

Flats are all new or renovated, which means that are provided with **adequate insulation and heating system**, so people are protected from climate change and are able to face extreme weather conditions. Also economically, the organization ensure **rental support** for those who need it, because keeping tenancies alive is very important as a primary goal. What is more important, though, is the level of **social sustainability and advocacy for equality**. Social work promotes social inclusion. **Social inclusion means being accepted for who we are in society**, and being able to participate actively in it. An inclusive society is achieved through a continuous **dismantling of social barriers**, symbolised for example by special schools for children with disabilities or isolated institutions for people with mental illnesses.

Like other Housing First programs, rapid housing responses can be handled, but **only for those who meet some requirements**.

276. All extra informations are available in the neuerhaus, *Housing First Pilot Project Report*, April 2015, https://www.neunerhaus.at/fileadmin/user_upload/Fachpublikationen/2015/20150925_HousingFirst_Report_english.pdf
277. FEANTSA and Abbé Pierre Foundation, *Third Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2018*, pp. 52-54, https://www.feantsa.org/download/full-report-en1029873431323901915.pdf

overview

The following scheme has been made with the purpose of having a complete overlook of the qualitative evaluation of the projects.
The analysis of both typologies and single cases allows comparisons among groups and further considerations explained later in this chapter.

(Ts) **TINY SHELTERS**
1. Commonweal Pods
2. ORIG-AMI
3. The Homeless Cabin
4. Iglou
5. BALISE
6. Jagtvej 69 - Vendepunktet

(D) **DORMITORIES**
7. Homeless Shelter of Porto
8. The Hermes Boat
9. Shelter Home for the Homeless
10. Praksis Day Centers
11. Shelter for Migrants and Travelers

(Ch) **COHOUSING**
12. Y:Cube
13. Stepping Stones
14. Herzberg Public Housing

(Sh) **SOCIAL HOUSING**
15. Santa Madrona
16. Dortheavej Residence
17. Social Housing Poljane

(Hf) **HOUSING FIRST**
18. HVO-Querido - Discusstraat
19. Väinölä Housing First
20. Housinf First for families in Brno
21. neunerhaus

4.3 emergency evaluation

(Ts) **TINY SHELTERS**

1a. "Commonweal Pods" by Reed Watts Architects
2a. "ORIG-AMI" by Xavier Van den Stappen
3a. "The Homeless Cabin" by James Furzer + Clear
Architects
4a. "Iglou" by Geoffroy de Reynal
5a. "BALISE" by Martial Marquet & Judith Angel
6a. "Jagtvej 69 - Vendepunktet" by WE Architectu-
re + Erik Juul
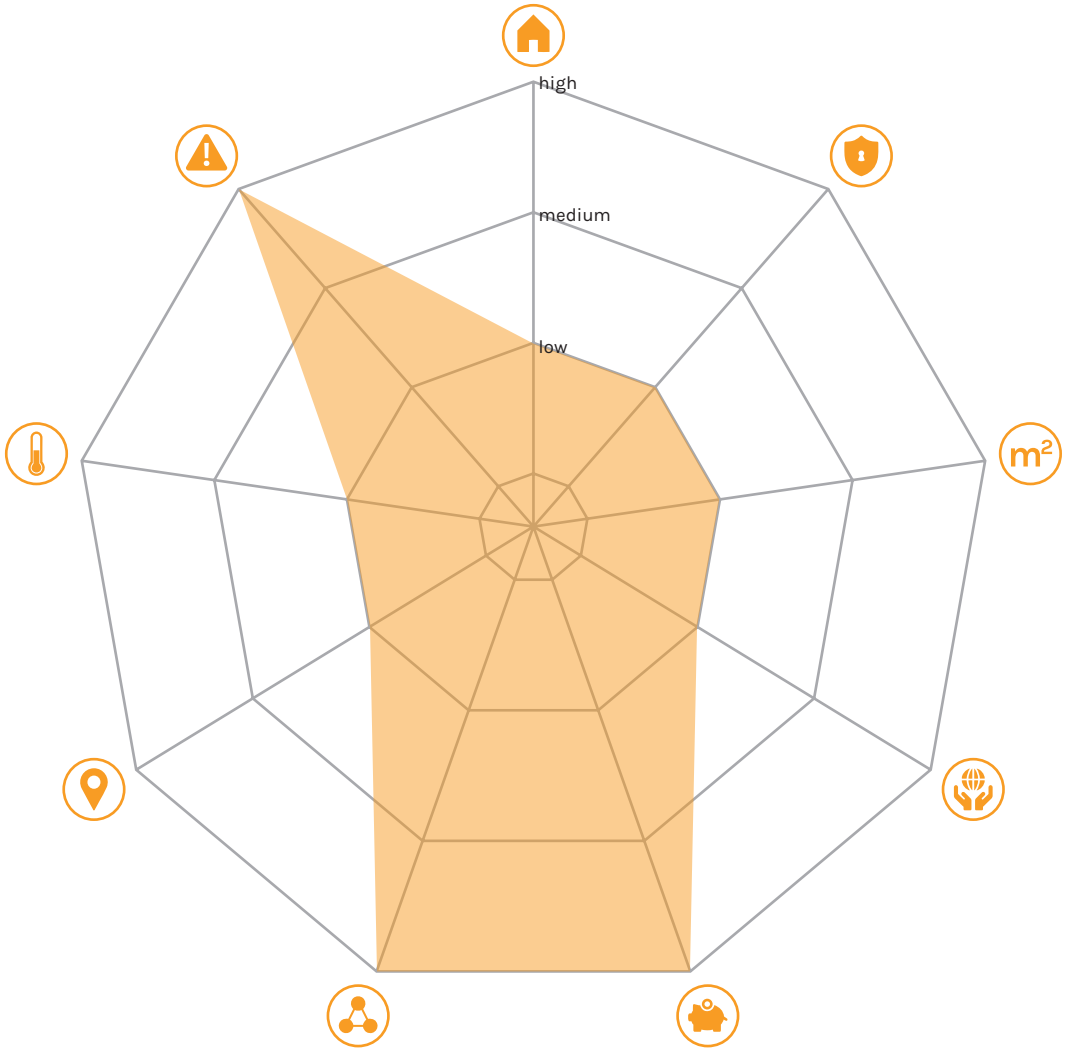
1a. "Commonweal Pods" by Reed Watts Architects

WEATHER-RESPONSE AND PROTECTION FROM EXTREME CONDITIONS

In this particular case, sleeping pods are collocated inside a dormitory, which makes them a good option for sheltering people against weather conditions. Being underexposed to sunlight, heavy rains and wind, the level of maintenance is reduced drastically.

LOW-THRESHOLD ACCESSIBILITY AND ADMISSION CRITERIA

Commonweal Pods alone would grant immediate access to shelter without any kind of restriction, but here regulations are set by the dormitory (see in the evaluation form). The structure cannot, therefore, guarantee secure tenancy during emergency periods.

QUALITATIVE AND "HUMANISED" ACCOMODATION SUITABLE FOR LONG-TERM TENANCY

The big problem of pods is that the quality provided is very poor and, for sure, not adequate to address people reception for a prolonged period. These kind of standards do not guarantee comforts. Affordability remains good.

SUPPORT PROVISION ADDRESSING MULTIPLE NEEDS

Overall, service provision is adequate, offering basic needs and a certain grade of medical assistance.
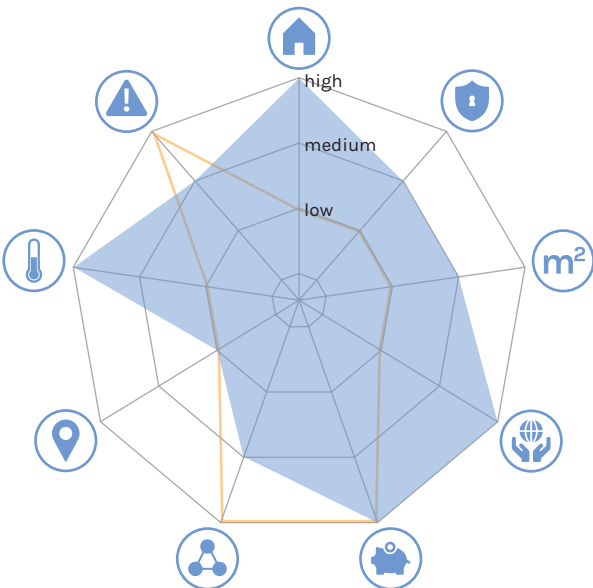
2a. "ORIG-AMI" by Xavier Van den Stappen

WEATHER-RESPONSE AND PROTECTION FROM EXTREME CONDITIONS

ORIG-AMI is made of cardboard, which is extremely subject to weather changes. Protection is absent even for a very small amount of time.

LOW-THRESHOLD ACCESSIBILITY AND ADMISSION CRITERIA

No requirements are foreseen for being given a tent, but tenancy is not even concieved.

QUALITATIVE AND "HUMANISED" ACCOMODATION SUITABLE FOR LONG-TERM TENANCY

The only advantage of such a project is the affordability and the flexibility for what concerns the placement and the delivery.

SUPPORT PROVISION ADDRESSING MULTIPLE NEEDS

No support is foreseen. The ONG that delivers this project offers some basic needs provision (food, water, clothes), but the homeless community is too complex and impelling needs cannot be treated.

high

medium

low
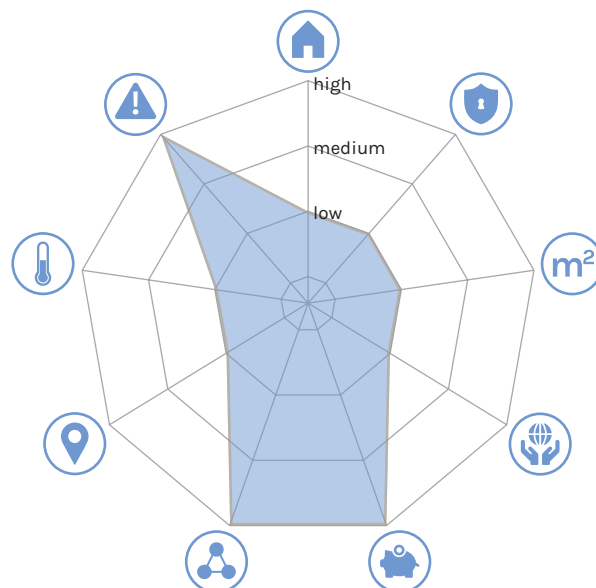
3a. "The Homeless Cabin" by James Furzer + Clear Architects

WEATHER-RESPONSE AND PROTECTION FROM EXTREME CONDITIONS

Despite the fact of being realized with sustainable materials and techniques makes it a little bit more resilient than other pods, but the Homeless Cabin cannot protect people for too long.

LOW-THRESHOLD ACCESSIBILITY AND ADMISSION CRITERIA

Access to the shelter is completely free from any form of fee or rule, but tenancy is highly unstable, forcing people to find other accommodations.

QUALITATIVE AND "HUMANISED" ACCOMODATION SUITABLE FOR LONG-TERM TENANCY

The cabin is not suitable for long-term tenancies. Square meters and privacy are very poor, combining for heavy discomfort, especially when dealing with a multiple-nights stay. On the other hand, no fee is asked.

SUPPORT PROVISION ADDRESSING MULTIPLE NEEDS

This project is a private one and it is not involved in any supportive plan. The structure offers a portable toilet and power supply, but people need more than basic services.
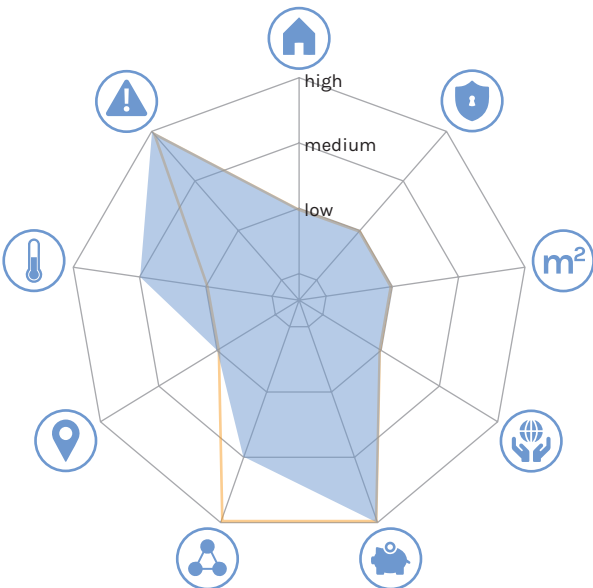
4a. "Iglou" by Geoffroy de Reynal

WEATHER-RESPONSE AND PROTECTION FROM EXTREME CONDITIONS

Iglou is waterproof and fireproof, but the structure is not design to resist to extreme weather for long.

LOW-THRESHOLD ACCESSIBILITY AND ADMISSION CRITERIA

The delivery of these pods is free, as well as its access, so everyone can benefit from it without exception. No tenancy is intended.

QUALITATIVE AND "HUMANISED" ACCOMODATION SUITABLE FOR LONG-TERM TENANCY

Private space is reduced to the square meteres necessary for a couple to sleep. No security system has been designed, but the structure is lightweight and can be transported easily where needed.

SUPPORT PROVISION ADDRESSING MULTIPLE NEEDS

Iglou is distribuited by an organization that covers basic needs like food and clothes provision, but no personal support is foreseen.
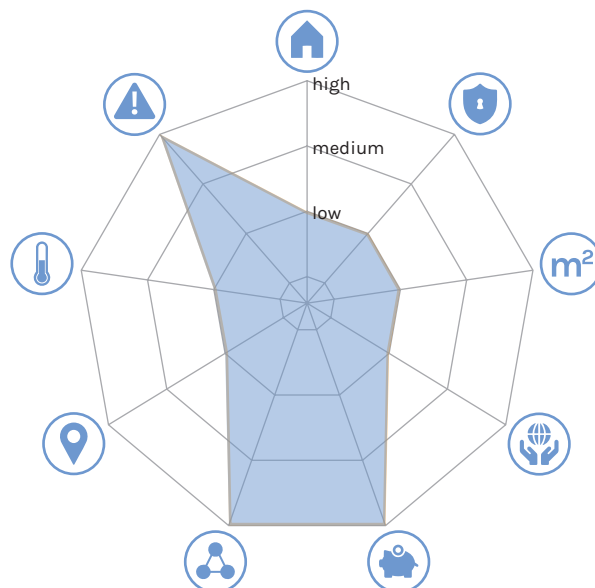
5a. "BALISE" by Martial Marquet & Judith Angel

WEATHER-RESPONSE AND PROTECTION FROM EXTREME CONDITIONS

The case of Balise is singular, since pods are arranged as a sort of village. Every module is designed to last for months, so the protection from weather and extreme conditions is sufficient.

LOW-THRESHOLD ACCESSIBILITY AND ADMISSION CRITERIA

No mention has been made in terms of reception citeria, but the aim is to host homeless people in times of emergency. Despite being a bit more organized than other similar solutions, this project is still temporary and cannot promise long-term stays.

QUALITATIVE AND "HUMANISED" ACCOMODATION SUITABLE FOR LONG-TERM TENANCY

Balise offers more quality than standard tiny shelters. Square meters are slightly higher and rooms are private (or shared maximum with another person). The "village" system offers a friendly

environment. No informations about costs have been released.

SUPPORT PROVISION ADDRESSING MULTIPLE NEEDS

The structure foresees some common rooms, a shared kitchen, a library and a workshop, but no targeted measures are taken for addressing urgent needs.
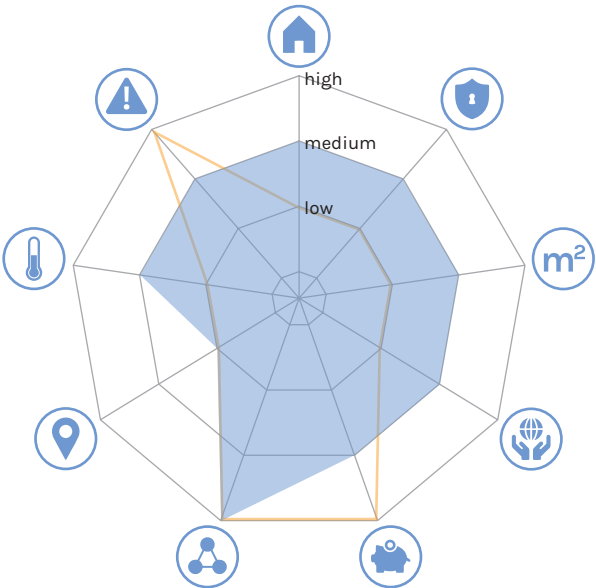
6a. "Jagtvej 69 - Vendepunktet" by WE Architecture + Erik Juul

WEATHER-RESPONSE AND PROTECTION FROM EXTREME CONDITIONS

The Urban Village is made of recycled containers treated adequatly to respond to some quality standards. They are able to provide good protection from weather but seems a bit less resilient to extreme conditions.

LOW-THRESHOLD ACCESSIBILITY AND ADMISSION CRITERIA

Admission criteria have not been described yet, but the structure of the service may include some regulations. Long-term tenancies cannot happen, but some transitory situations are possible.

QUALITATIVE AND "HUMANISED" ACCOMODATION SUITABLE FOR LONG-TERM TENANCY

Square meters and privacy are more developed than other temporary solutions, and also the village concept creates a sort of friendly community. No informations about costs are available.

SUPPORT PROVISION ADDRESSING MULTIPLE NEEDS

External support seems not to be part of the project. The structure includes activities for residents, but no targeted aid like medical or psychological.
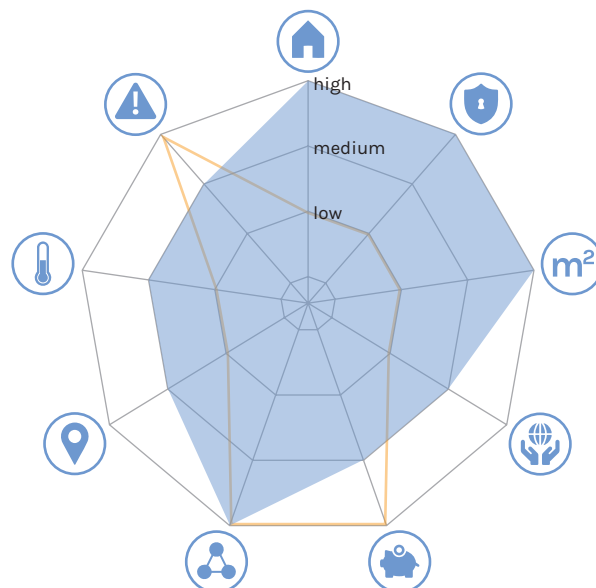
(D) **DORMITORIES**

7a. "Homeless Shelter of Porto" by Nuno Valentim
8a. "The Hermes Boat" by Prague City Hall
9a. "Shelter Home for the Homeless" by Javier Larraz Arquitectos
10a. "Day Centers" by Praksis and the Stavros Niarchos Foundation
11a. "Shelter for Migrants and Travelers" by Atelier RITA
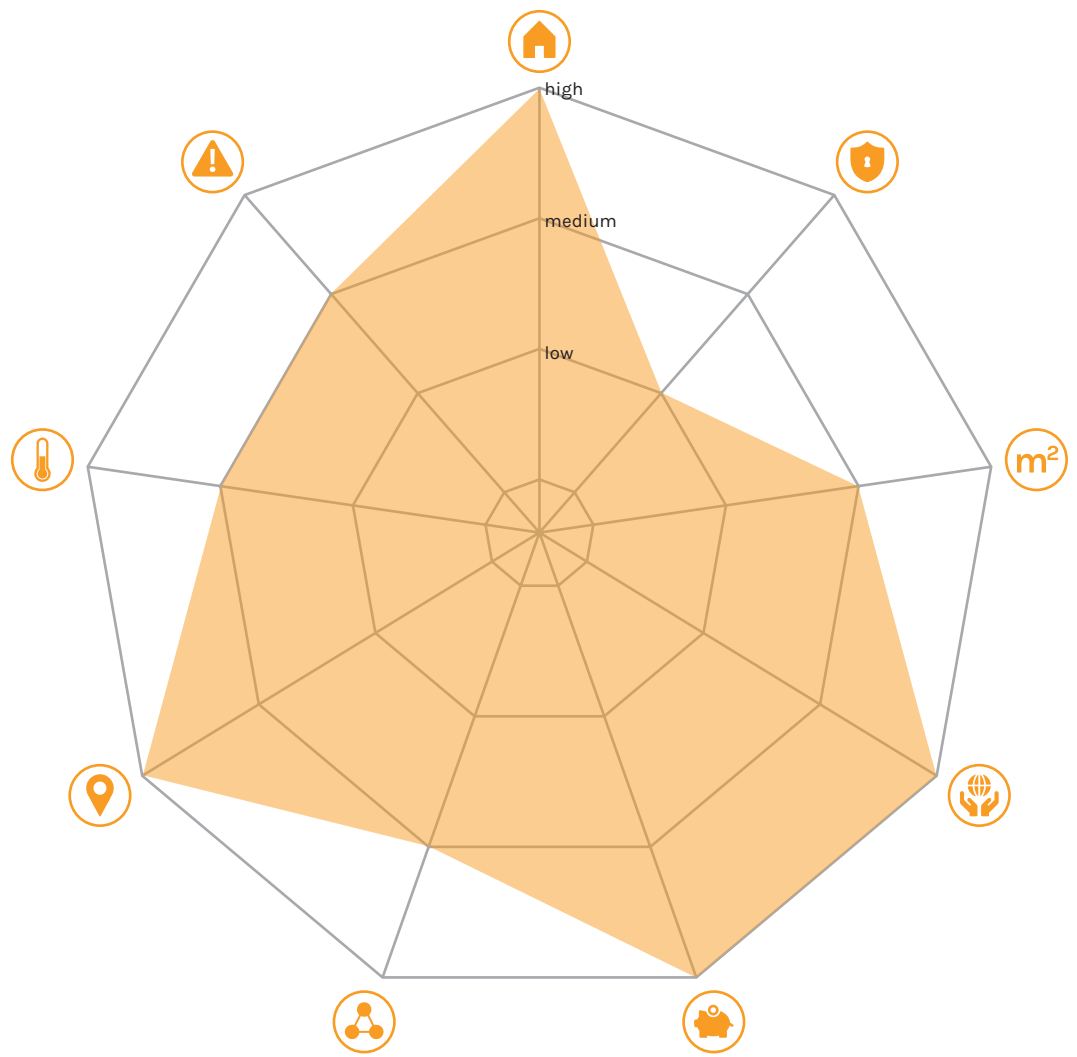
7a. "Homeless Shelter of Porto" by Nuno Valentim

WEATHER-RESPONSE AND PROTECTION FROM EXTREME CONDITIONS

The dormitory is hosted inside a proper building, so protection from weather and extreme conditions can be held even for longer periods because of the durability of the structure.

LOW-THRESHOLD ACCESSIBILITY AND ADMISSION CRITERIA

The dormitory is open to support all who ask for help without any distinction. Spots for sleepers are limited and temporary solutions (even for longer stays) can potentially be offered.

QUALITATIVE AND "HUMANISED" ACCOMODATION SUITABLE FOR LONG-TERM TENANCY

Despite its renovation, the service still does not offer adequate square meters per person and privacy for the users since homeless people sleep together in a common room. The access is free and the environment seems to be positive.

SUPPORT PROVISION ADDRESSING MULTIPLE NEEDS

The "Homeless Shelter" is able to address several needs starting from the basic ones and ending up with support for developing personal skills, healthcare and independent living.
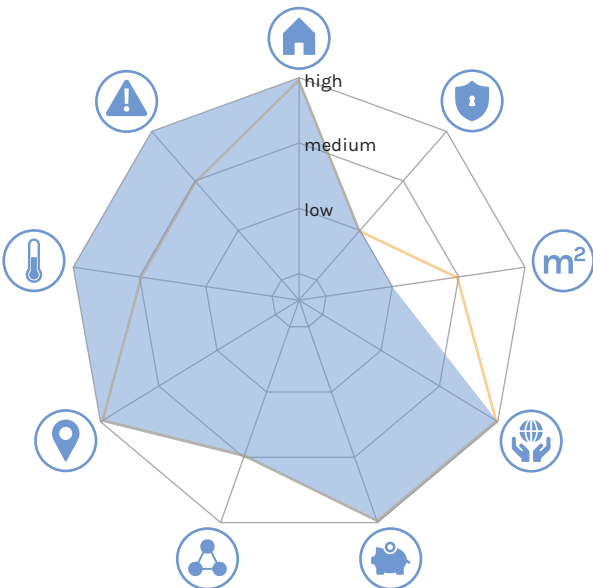
8a. "The Hermes Boat" by Prague City Hall

WEATHER-RESPONSE AND PROTECTION FROM EXTREME CONDITIONS

The boat has been renovated but it cannot offer the same level of protection as a solid building. However, for emergency occasions, homeless people can rely on it.

LOW-THRESHOLD ACCESSIBILITY AND ADMISSION CRITERIA

This dormitory presents some requirements regarding age, addictions and nationality. According to rules, moreover, users must leave the boat in the early morning to, eventually, come back in the evening.

QUALITATIVE AND "HUMANISED" ACCOMODATION SUITABLE FOR LONG-TERM TENANCY

No homeless expects to live in a boat. Square meters are low and there is no privacy. Users are charged a very small fee for sleeping.

SUPPORT PROVISION ADDRESSING MULTIPLE NEEDS

Other than the basic one, support like housing counseling or medical advice in foreseen and held in external structures, but it is limited to some groups of people, i.e. those who are able to make an application for a spot.
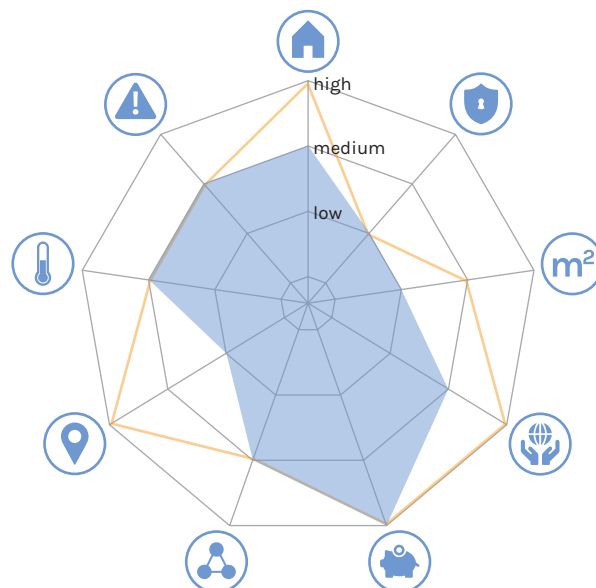
9a. "Shelter Home for the Homeless" by Javier Larraz Arquitectos

WEATHER-RESPONSE AND PROTECTION FROM EXTREME CONDITIONS

This building, recently built from skretch, responds very well to weather issues. Users are fully protected from extreme conditions even in the long term.

LOW-THRESHOLD ACCESSIBILITY AND ADMISSION CRITERIA

No criteria for admission are mentioned. What the project requires is people willing to work in exchange of hospitality. The accessibility seems to be good and open but spots are very limited.

QUALITATIVE AND "HUMANISED" ACCOMODATION SUITABLE FOR LONG-TERM TENANCY

The modern design of the building also reflects a better quality environment in the inside: multiple types of homelessness are addressed and every group has its own rooms (also private rooms) and spaces. Security and privacy are good, and so is affordability. In general, though, the quality is still

not optimal, but is able to deal with long stays.

SUPPORT PROVISION ADDRESSING MULTIPLE NEEDS

Different needs of different groups are met. While offering basic needs, the program offers, for those who stay for longer, the opportunity of imrpoving social and working skills.
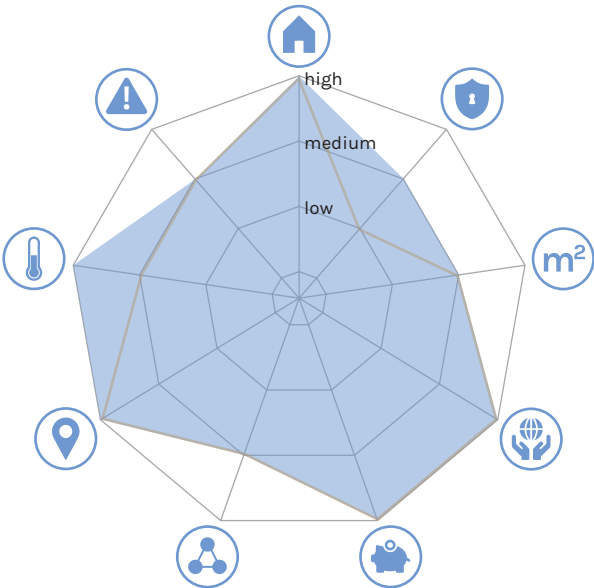
10a. "Day Centers" by Praksis and the Stavros Niarchos Foundation

WEATHER-RESPONSE AND PROTECTION FROM EXTREME CONDITIONS

Homeless can find good protection at Praksis Day Centers, but the service is intended to work over daily hours and does not foresee overnight stay.

LOW-THRESHOLD ACCESSIBILITY AND ADMISSION CRITERIA

The service is open to everyone without any distinction aof age, gender or nationality. Since it is a day center, tenancy is something that cannot be evaluated.

QUALITATIVE AND "HUMANISED" ACCOMODATION SUITABLE FOR LONG-TERM TENANCY

It is hard, if not impossible, to assess the quality of the service. Offering day services, square meters per person and privacy have no reason to be evaluated, since most of the space is common. However, accessing the program is free.

SUPPORT PROVISION ADDRESSING MULTIPLE NEEDS

Despite the lack of sleeping spots, the support carried out is complete: direct and free of charge Primary Health Care and pharmaceutical provision, basic hygiene services (showers, hygiene kits, clothing, etc.), psychological support, social support, work counseling and promotion to labor, legal counseling, financial support in specific programs and legal aid.
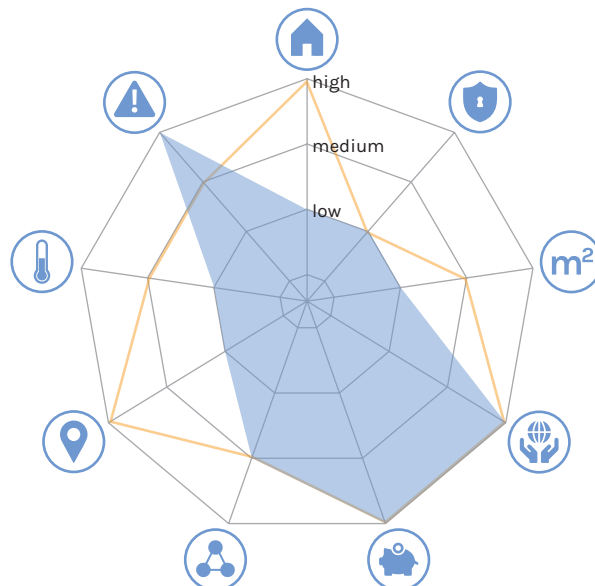
11a. "Shelter for Migrants and Travelers" by Atelier RITA

WEATHER-RESPONSE AND PROTECTION FROM EXTREME CONDITIONS

The shelter has a good level of protection against weather. No details have been released in regard of insulation or energetic performances, so it is not sure whether it could be resilient to extreme conditions.

LOW-THRESHOLD ACCESSIBILITY AND ADMISSION CRITERIA

The project intends to address migrants and travelers and it is not clear if other groups of homeless people could be accommodated. The nature of the project is transitional, and people can remain for maximum six months.

QUALITATIVE AND "HUMANISED" ACCOMODATION SUITABLE FOR LONG-TERM TENANCY

Levels of protection are good, since each individual has a private room, but square meteres can be either adequate or insufficient according to the number of people inhabiting together in the same room. Evironment is friendly but there is no mention of fees.

SUPPORT PROVISION ADDRESSING MULTIPLE NEEDS

Support provision is fine. The ONG that runs the service has the ultimate goal of promoting an independent lifestyle offering medical, working and societal support other than dedicated rooms for several purposes (childcare, education, training).
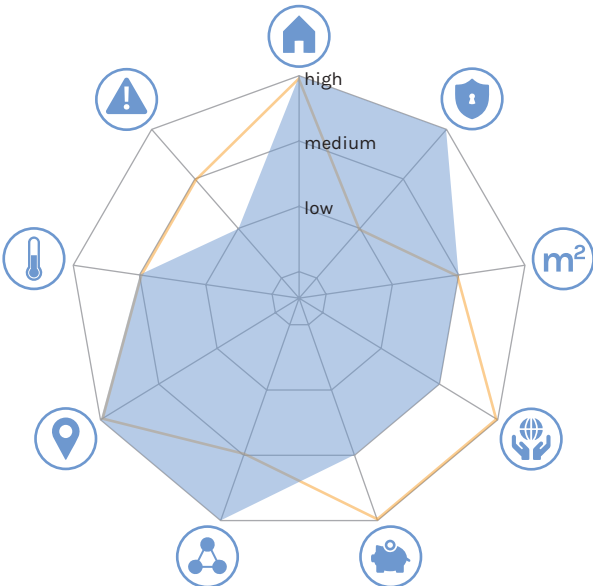
(Ch) COHOUSING

12a. "Y:Cube" by Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners
13a. "Stepping Stones" by Morris + Company
14a. "Herzberg Public Housing" by AllesWirdGut Architektur + feld72
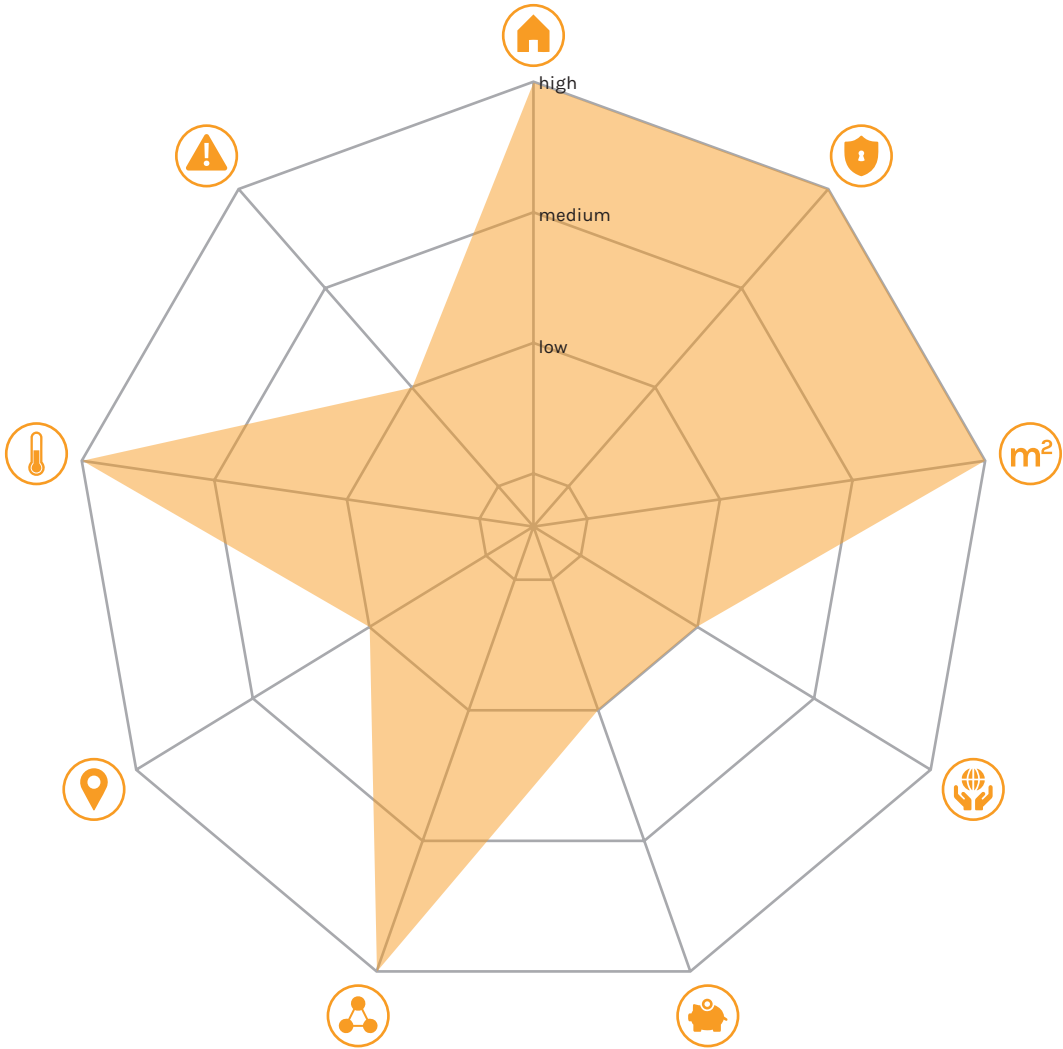
12a. "Y:Cube" by Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners

WEATHER-RESPONSE AND PROTECTION FROM EXTREME CONDITIONS

As a proper housing unit, Y:Cube represents a great option for being protected from weather and extreme conditions all year long.

LOW-THRESHOLD ACCESSIBILITY AND ADMISSION CRITERIA

There are no specific criteria set for accessing the service, and YMCA is really committed to help young homeless in need. The structure is intended to be as a transition between temporary and permanent accommodation, but a monthly rent is required, and most homeless cannot afford it.

QUALITATIVE AND "HUMANISED" ACCOMODATION SUITABLE FOR LONG-TERM TENANCY

The quality of housing is high. Protection is guaranteed not only in terms of privacy but also in terms of community, which is a shared goal by all cohousing projects. Unfortunely, the rental system makes it unaffordable for the mosts.

SUPPORT PROVISION ADDRESSING MULTIPLE NEEDS

Support is fundamental as one of the NGO' goals is to promote independent life. For this purpose, basic needs, lifeskill training, medical advice and housing counseling are included in the program.
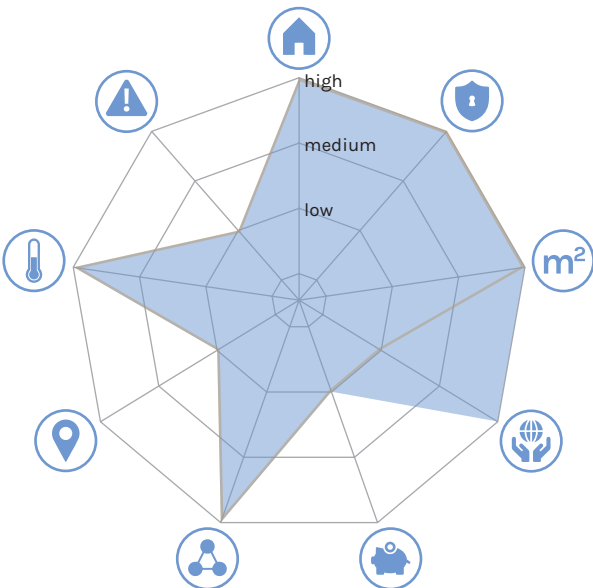
13a. "Stepping Stones" by Morris + Company

WEATHER-RESPONSE AND PROTECTION FROM EXTREME CONDITIONS

Stepping Stones is a still on-going project, but the structure that hosts the service is solid and is able to guarantee weather protection in case of need in any situation.

LOW-THRESHOLD ACCESSIBILITY AND ADMISSION CRITERIA

No specific criteria have already been established, but the building has been designed to host all short, mid and long-term accommodations. Unfortuneley, though, spots are numbered, which usually means that some limitations for the access could be applied.

QUALITATIVE AND "HUMANISED" ACCOMODATION SUITABLE FOR LONG-TERM TENANCY

The overall quality of the project is good. As a mixed-used program, sometimes private space and security can be compromised depending on the service (dormitory o private room) and the number of people users share their room with (coliving option). The environment is designed to be friendly and fees, even if not mentioned, may vary according to the service used.

SUPPORT PROVISION ADDRESSING MULTIPLE NEEDS

Support is good and addresses different groups of homeless. It covers basic needs, targeted care and coworking spaces.
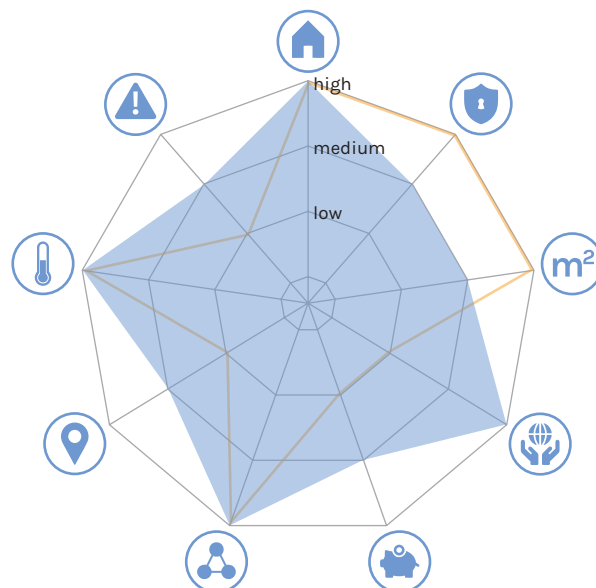
14a. "Herzberg Public Housing" by AllesWirdGut Architektur + feld72

WEATHER-RESPONSE AND PROTECTION FROM EXTREME CONDITIONS

The housing block has been designed for long-term accommodation and that makes the structure solid and adequate enough to protect people from every threat, even for longer periods.

LOW-THRESHOLD ACCESSIBILITY AND ADMISSION CRITERIA

The nature of the program is meant to be long-term, and therefore it is unsuitable for addressing emergency needs. In addition, applications' lists and a rent payement limit the access.

QUALITATIVE AND "HUMANISED" ACCOMODATION SUITABLE FOR LONG-TERM TENANCY

The overall quality of the apartments is very high, they have all dignified sizes and private space enough to conduct a safe life. No mention has been given for prices, but rents are unaffordable for many homeless people.

SUPPORT PROVISION ADDRESSING MULTIPLE NEEDS

The only form of support is, eventually, some aids for payments, but no other kind of support provision is foreseen.
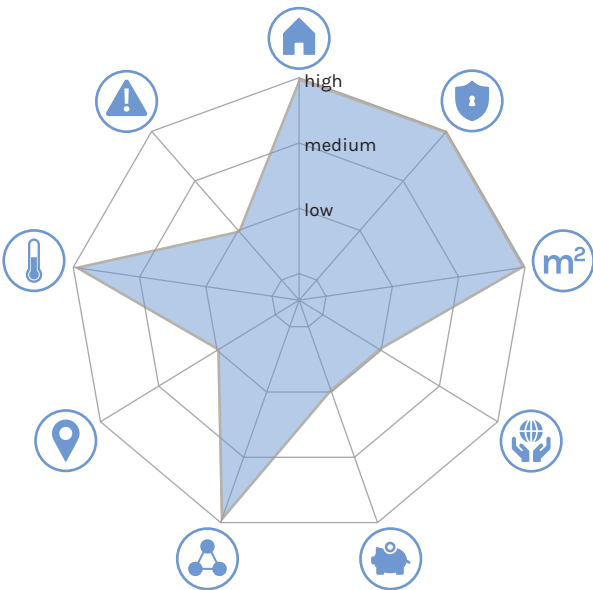
(Sh**) SOCIAL HOUSING**

15. "Santa Madrona" by Pich-Aguilera Architects
16. "Dortheavej Residence" by BIG
17. "Social Housing Poljane" by Bevk Perović arhi-
tekti
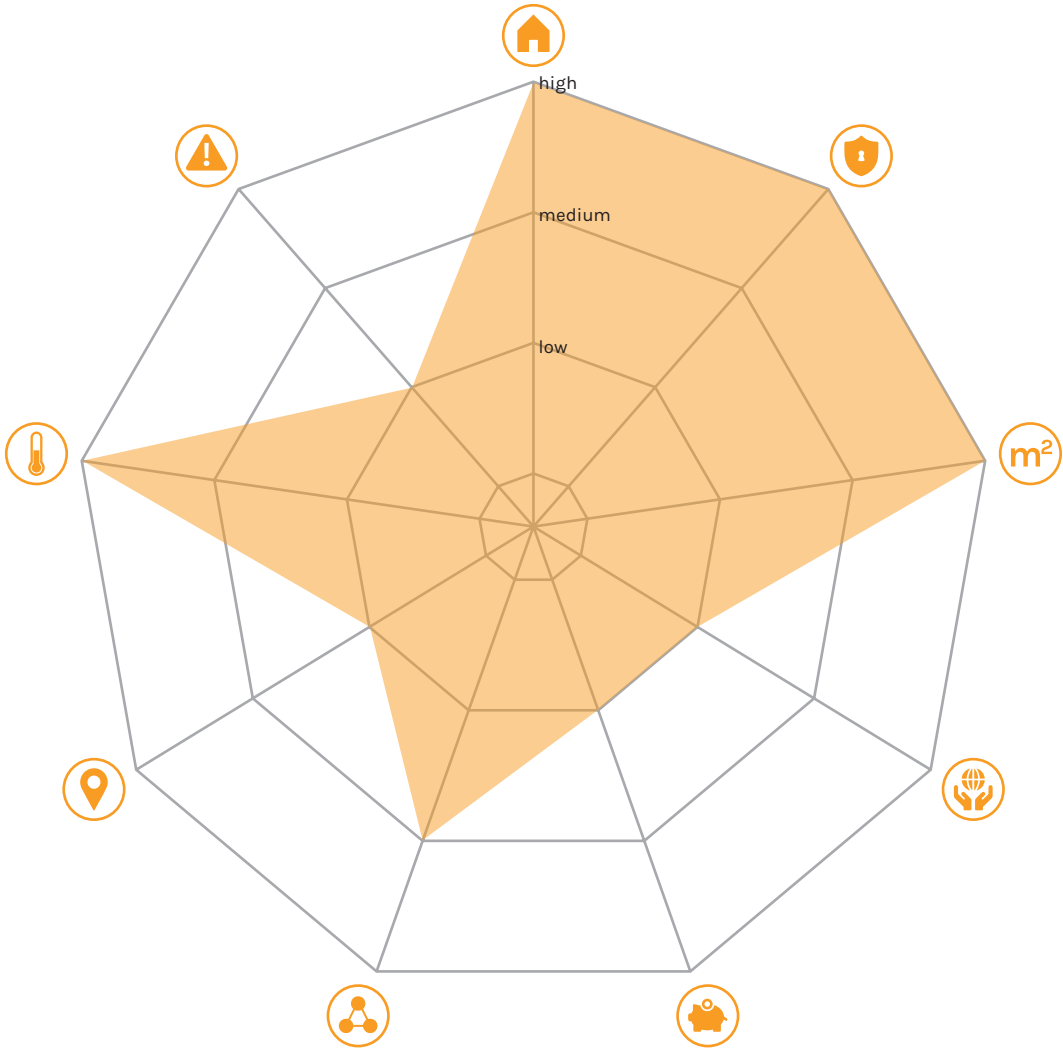
15a. "Santa Madrona" by Pich-Aguilera Architects

WEATHER-RESPONSE AND PROTECTION FROM EXTREME CONDITIONS

The design of the building is simple but efficient in terms of protection. Concieved as a permanent accommodation, Santa Madrona is able to protect its inhabitants from weather and extreme conditions.

LOW-THRESHOLD ACCESSIBILITY AND ADMISSION CRITERIA

No requirements have been mentioned for being accepted in the program, but the highest wall to climb remains the monthly rent. As a permanent solution, the structure cannot meet high emergency needs.

QUALITATIVE AND "HUMANISED" ACCOMODATION SUITABLE FOR LONG-TERM TENANCY

The quality of the building is optimal: the size of the apartments is adequate and safety and privacy are met. Owning an apartment, though, is too expensive.

SUPPORT PROVISION ADDRESSING MULTIPLE NEEDS

The housing service is managed by "La Caixa", an organization that provides support in different ways: not only subsidization thanks to the multiple partnerships, but also social and education development and empowerment of individual skills.
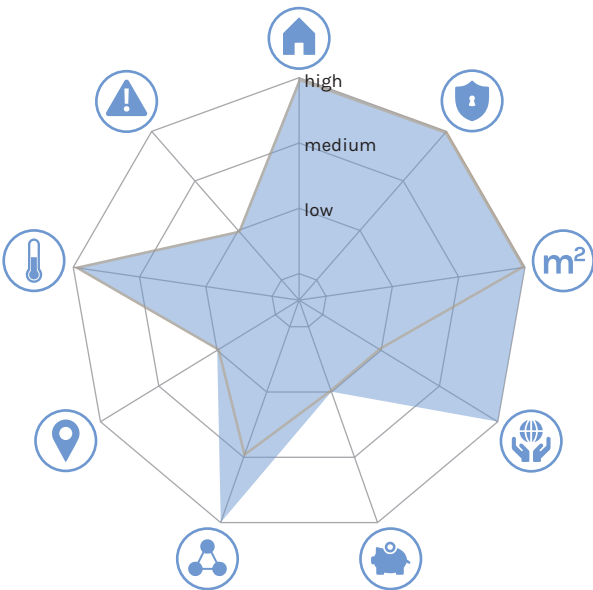
16a. "Dortheavej Residence" by BIG

WEATHER-RESPONSE AND PROTECTION FROM EXTREME CONDITIONS

The building, in its simplicity, is resilient to weather conditions and extreme situations.

LOW-THRESHOLD ACCESSIBILITY AND ADMISSION CRITERIA

Even though admission criteria have not been declared, the accessibility is limited, like other social housing programmes, by the presence of the rent.

QUALITATIVE AND "HUMANISED" ACCOMODATION SUITABLE FOR LONG-TERM TENANCY

The quality of the structure is undoubtedly good, square meters are more than sufficient to live in comfort and adequate privacy and security. The environment seems fine, but prices, even with subsides, are still too high.

SUPPORT PROVISION ADDRESSING MULTIPLE NEEDS

Lejerbo, the association in charge of the management, works to promote equality by giving people the opportunity to choose their apartments and trying to meet different groups' needs with typology differentiation. However, no other type of service seems foreseen.
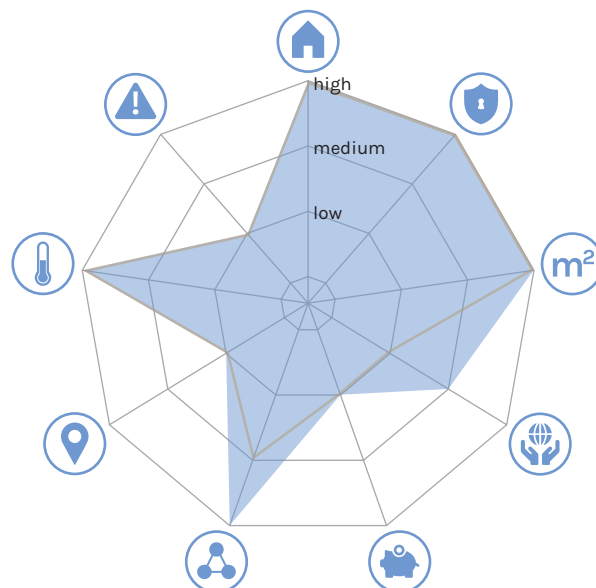
17a. "Social Housing Poljane" by Bevk Perović arhitekti

WEATHER-RESPONSE AND PROTECTION FROM EXTREME CONDITIONS

The housing complex responds well in terms of protection. People living both in the slabs or in the towers have adequate shelter to weather conditions, even extreme.

LOW-THRESHOLD ACCESSIBILITY AND ADMISSION CRITERIA

Rent and limited spots are always the main problem for social housing programs.

QUALITATIVE AND "HUMANISED" ACCOMODATION SUITABLE FOR LONG-TERM TENANCY

Design, materials and choices about apartment dimensions (which vary in order to meet different needs) result in a very qualitative building, with the only drawback of being too expensive in terms of emergency provision.

SUPPORT PROVISION ADDRESSING MULTIPLE NEEDS

According to the available informations, the only support foreseen is subsidization thanks to the Housing Fund of Slovenia, that commisioned this project.
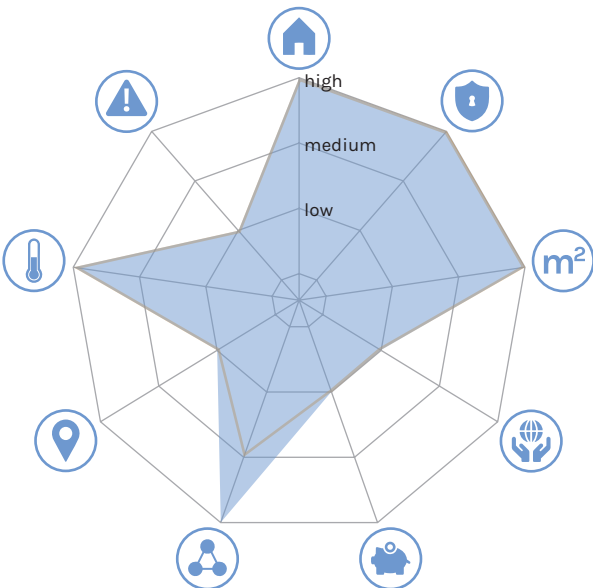
(**H**f) **HOUSING FIRST**

18a. HVO Querido - Discusstraat
19a. Väinölä Housing First
20a. Housing First for families in Brno
21a. neunerhaus - Housing First in Vienna

m²
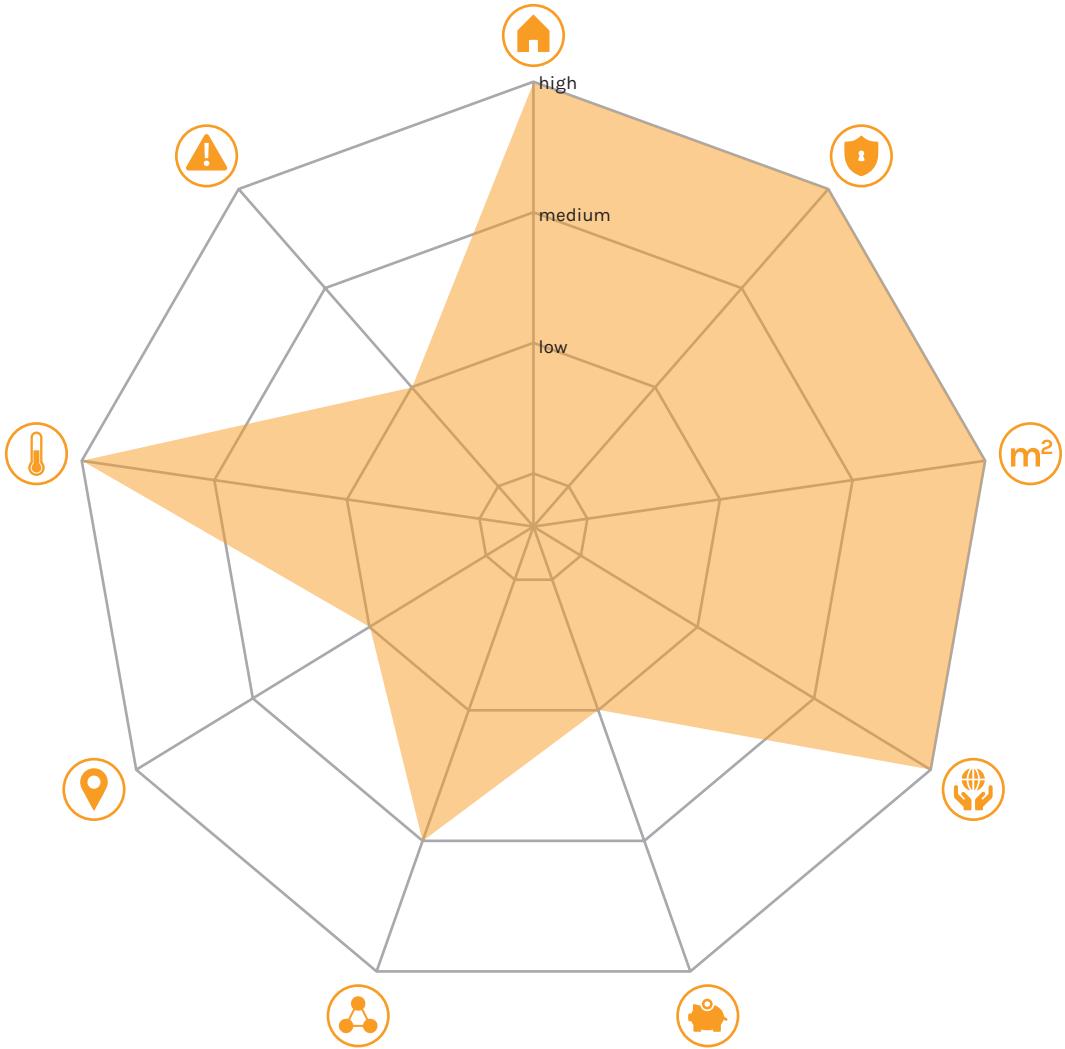
18a. HVO Querido - Discusstraat

WEATHER-RESPONSE AND PROTECTION FROM EXTREME CONDITIONS

Apartments provided by HVO are all in good conditions and provide full protection from weather and extreme conditions.

LOW-THRESHOLD ACCESSIBILITY AND ADMISSION CRITERIA

Housing First is a system which focuses on long-term stays and is based upon rents, so every accomodation offered (even if other criteria for admission are very low) becomes anavailable when someone cannot afford it. The only strict rule that may cause eviction is to behave properly in respect of the neighbours.

QUALITATIVE AND "HUMANISED" ACCOMODATION SUITABLE FOR LONG-TERM TENANCY

All the apartments guarantee security, protection and adequate space for conducting a private life in the long term. Apartments are scattered across the city of Amsterdam.

SUPPORT PROVISION ADDRESSING MULTIPLE NEEDS

Every single user is followed by staff members every day at every hour upon call. Services include medical support, psychological treatment, common activities and lifeskill learning.
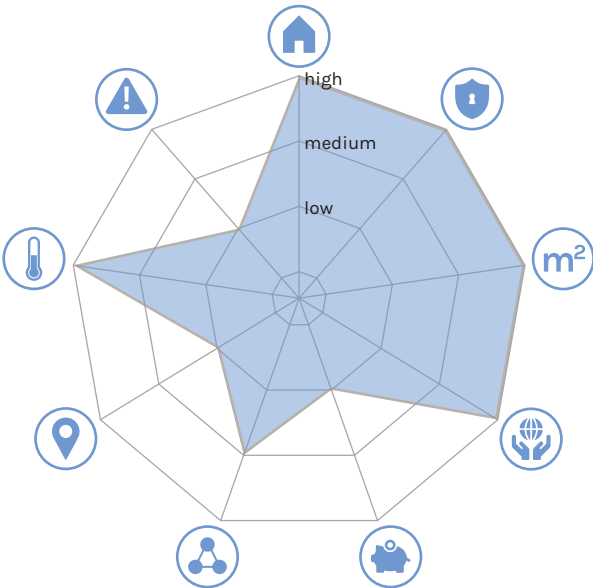
19a. Väinölä Housing First

WEATHER-RESPONSE AND PROTECTION FROM EXTREME CONDITIONS

The housing complex derives from a recent renovation, which makes the building very responsive to all weather conditions, granting protection every time of the year for every situation.

LOW-THRESHOLD ACCESSIBILITY AND ADMISSION CRITERIA

Also Väinölä is part of a Housing First program, which means that apartments are rented on a long-term basis with low-threshold requirements.

QUALITATIVE AND "HUMANISED" ACCOMODATION SUITABLE FOR LONG-TERM TENANCY

Apartments are all new and their adequate size accounts for security and privacy. In this case, they are not scattered but hosted in a housing complex with the aim of fostering community life. Rents are kept low, but still unaffordable in emergency.

SUPPORT PROVISION ADDRESSING MULTIPLE NEEDS

Like HVO, the Y-Foundation aims to help homeless people in a holistic way offering every kind of support to all without age, gender or status distinction.
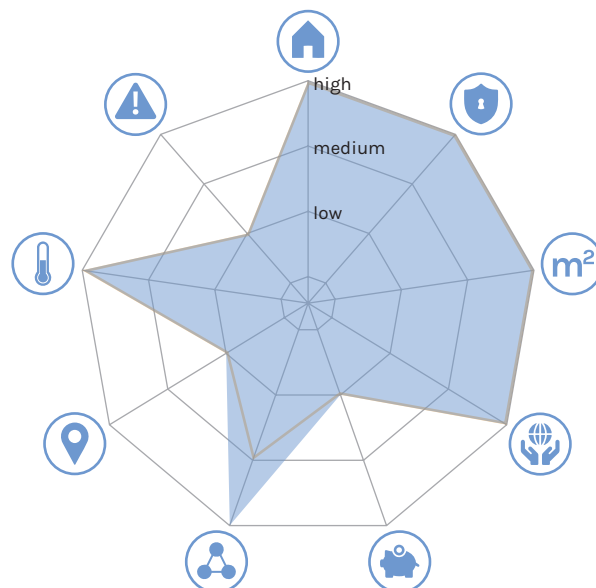
20a. Housing First for families in Brno

WEATHER-RESPONSE AND PROTECTION FROM EXTREME CONDITIONS

Despite of being a pilot project, Housing First in Brno is really committed to deliver good quality services, especially for families. Apartments are all suitable for extreme weather protection.

LOW-THRESHOLD ACCESSIBILITY AND ADMISSION CRITERIA

This project in particular addresses families with children and admission in general was restricted to former residents with atleast one child under 18. However, long-term tenancy was guaranteed.

QUALITATIVE AND "HUMANISED" ACCOMODATION SUITABLE FOR LONG-TERM TENANCY

The size of the apartments is variable according to the number of family members, so that children and parents have their own spaces. Privacy and security are good and flats are scattered across the city. Rents are relatively low, but still present.

SUPPORT PROVISION ADDRESSING MULTIPLE NEEDS

Support provision in particularly focused on activities between parents and children in order to develop family habits and foster education. Also basic needs are covered.
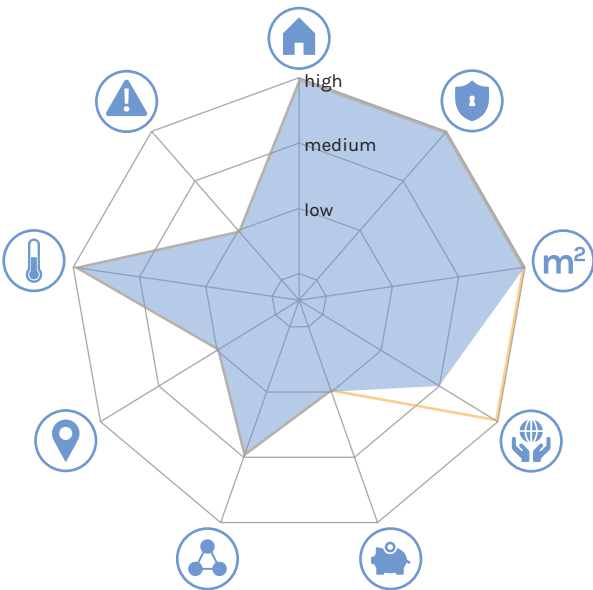
21a. neunerhaus - Housing First in Vienna

WEATHER-RESPONSE AND PROTECTION FROM EXTREME CONDITIONS

The organization behind the service provision acquires apartments in good conditions from the market and if they are too old they undergo some renovations. Protection from weather and extreme conditions is always guaranteed.

LOW-THRESHOLD ACCESSIBILITY AND ADMISSION CRITERIA

The aim of Nuenerhaus ir promoting long-term tenancies as a fight against homelessness, but appliants are always bound to rent payment and some criteria for acceptance.

QUALITATIVE AND "HUMANISED" ACCOMODATION SUITABLE FOR LONG-TERM TENANCY

Apartments are properly sized according to the number of inhabitants so that privacy and security are respected for each individual. Apartments are scattered and the rent to pay, of course, is still beyond affordability in emergency cases.

SUPPORT PROVISION ADDRESSING MULTIPLE NEEDS

Support is mainly focused on **self-determination and participation** rather than solving mental illnesses or addiction problems. What homeless people are called to do is actively participate to problem solving tasks, but during emergency periods this would not be feasible other than wrong as first.
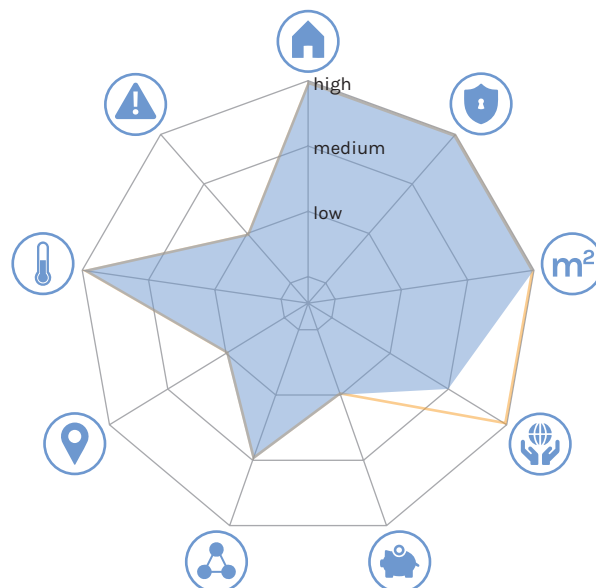
overview

The following scheme has been made with the purpose of having a complete overlook of the emergency evaluation of the projects.
The analysis of both typologies and single cases allows comparisons among groups and further considerations explained later in this chapter.

Ts **TINY SHELTERS**

1a. Commonweal Pods
2a. ORIG-AMI
3a. The Homeless Cabin
4a. Iglou
5a. BALISE
6a. Jagtvej 69 - Vendepunktet

D **DORMITORIES**

7a. Homeless Shelter of Porto
8a. The Hermes Boat
9a. Shelter Home for the Homeless
10a. Praksis Day Centers
11a. Shelter for Migrants and Travelers

Ch **COHOUSING**

12a. Y:Cube
13a. Stepping Stones
14a. Herzberg Public Housing

Sh **SOCIAL HOUSING**

15a. Santa Madrona
16a. Dortheavej Residence
17a. Social Housing Poljane

Hf **HOUSING FIRST**

18a. HVO-Querido - Discusstraat
19a. Väinölä Housing First
20a. Housinf First for families in Brno
21a. neunerhaus

4.4 comparing results
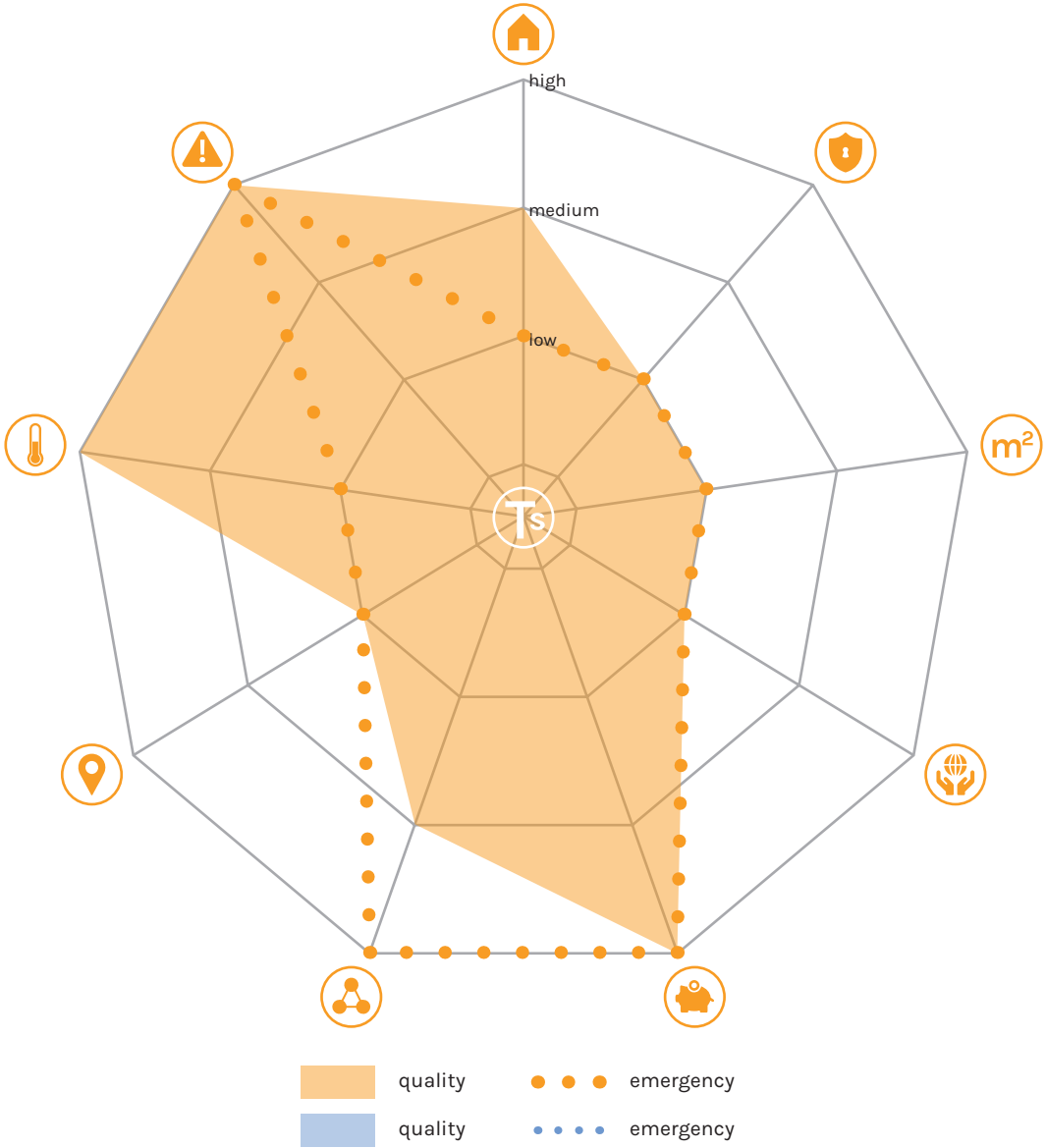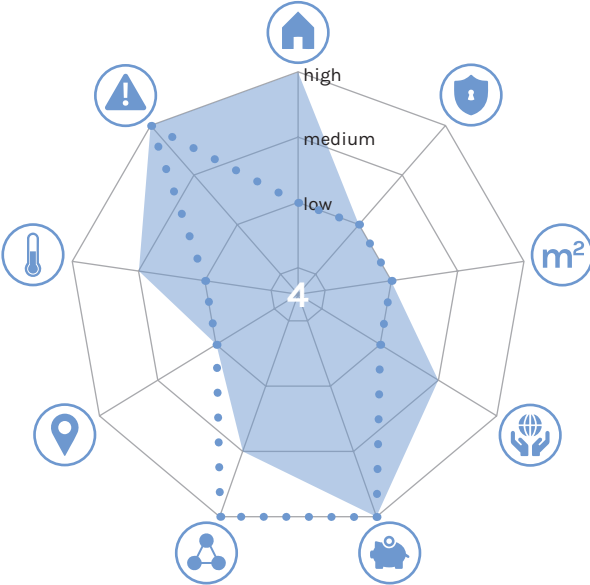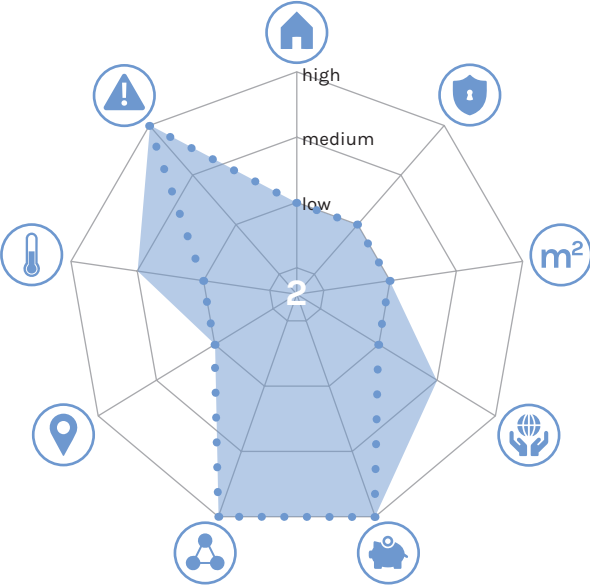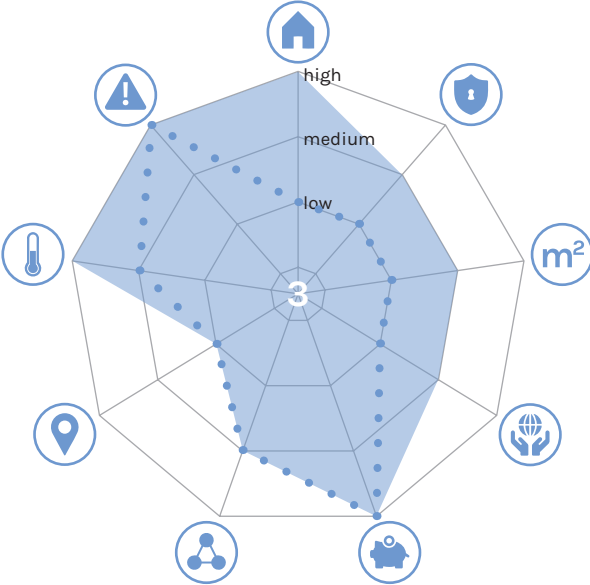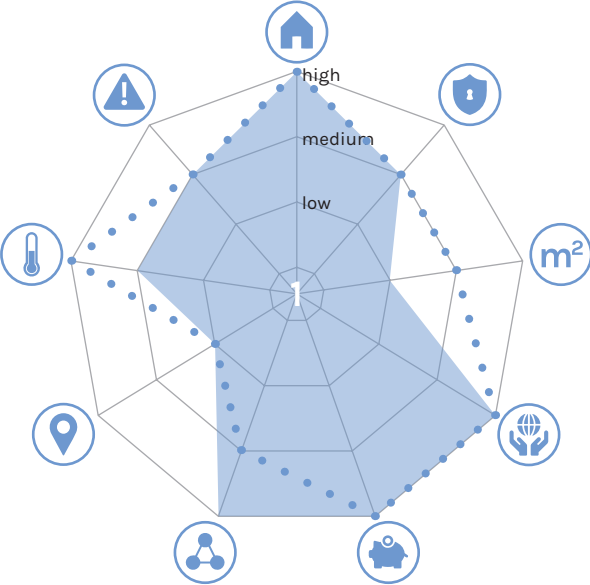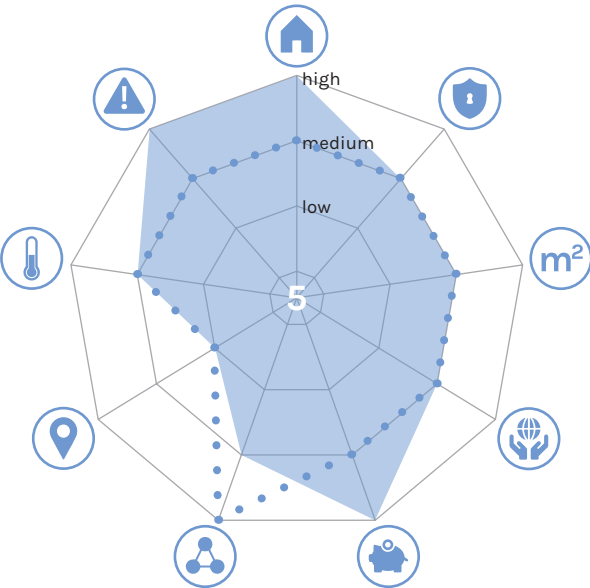
From the comparison of projects in terms of both quality and emergency response, some conclusions can be drawn.

QUALITATIVE EVALUATION

The general evaluation of the typology identifies more weaknesses than strengths, classifying the **tiny shelters as a type of architecture that offers an insufficient level of well-being for the homeless**. The most deficient aspects concern:

- **THE LEVEL OF PRIVACY AND SECURITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL**. The tiny shelter is designed as a makeshift shelter and therefore does not have, even if it should, adequate systems to protect people from external threats such as physical and psychological violence and abuse;
- **THE DIMENSIONS**. There are many variants of this typology, but the dimensions of tiny shelters always tend to embrace the philosophy of existence minimum, sometimes taking it to the extreme, with measurements that are limited to the size of a bed or a little more. Certainly, the person who uses this service does not have the space necessary to carry out any daily activity;
- **THE SUPPORT**. The type itself does not provide any kind of support to the individual, but simply

provides a covered place to spend the night;
- **TENANCY**. The nature of this solution and the poor architectural quality do not allow to have guarantees on the permanence of housing, which is highly discouraged.

On the other hand, however, there are some positive aspects:

- **ACCESSIBILITY**. The use of tiny shelters is programmed to accommodate people in the moment of need without any request, payment or access requirement. The service, therefore, is always open to everyone at any time (subject to availability);
- **SUSTAINABILITY**. The small size and popularity in the field of Architecture lead, respectively, to savings in construction costs (given also the ease of dismantling and reuse of structures) and a certain attention in the materials used, in favor of environmental sustainability.

Analysing the individual cases, it can be seen how, depending on the circumstances, the qualitative aspects can change, some in a positive way, others in a negative way. In particular, there are two important considerations. The first concerns the management of this hou-

sing solution, which often comes from private projects but whose distribution is entrusted to NGOs that deal full-time with the fight against homelessness. In these cases, in addition to the overnight service, the homeless person is provided with basic services, i.e. the distribution of food and clothing. For this reason, the role of NGOs, even if limited, becomes fundamental. The second derives from the spatial organization of the modules on the urban territory. In the graphs of projects 5 and 6, it is possible to find values that differ markedly from the rest of the cases. This is because the peculiar configuration of the village allows not only an increase in security dictated by an attempt to create communities, but also the provision of rooms and buildings for common use (such as canteens, bookstores, workshops) for an increase in well-being and adaptability in order to fill the empty urban spaces, a very topical issue in Architecture.

EMERGENCY EVALUATION

According to the evaluation, **tiny shelters are not a valid solution for emergency situations**. This consideration is mainly due to the fact that structures that do not have sufficient quality to provide a level of well-being that could poten-

tially provide for an extended duration of service, regardless of the level of support, cannot be considered reliable and efficient to respond to the continuous increase in the phenomenon and the improvement of the living conditions of the homeless community. Banally, such a simple structure is not able to protect the people inside it from extreme weather conditions if not for a very short period of time (since there are no systems of controlled air conditioning). In general, the graphs show how, in fact, the low quality of the projects is reflected in the same way in the emergency evaluation, going, in some cases, to improve the impact of some indicators,

but in most cases to decrease it. The only points in favour of this typology remain:

- **HIGH ECONOMIC AND HABITATIVE ACCESSIBILITY**;
- **EASE OF USE IN ARCHITECTURAL AND URBAN SPACE**;
- **MODULAR FLEXIBILITY AND RAPID ASSEMBLY AND DISMANTLING**.

All these features make tiny shelters a highly sustainable type, but which is not able to meet actual needs.
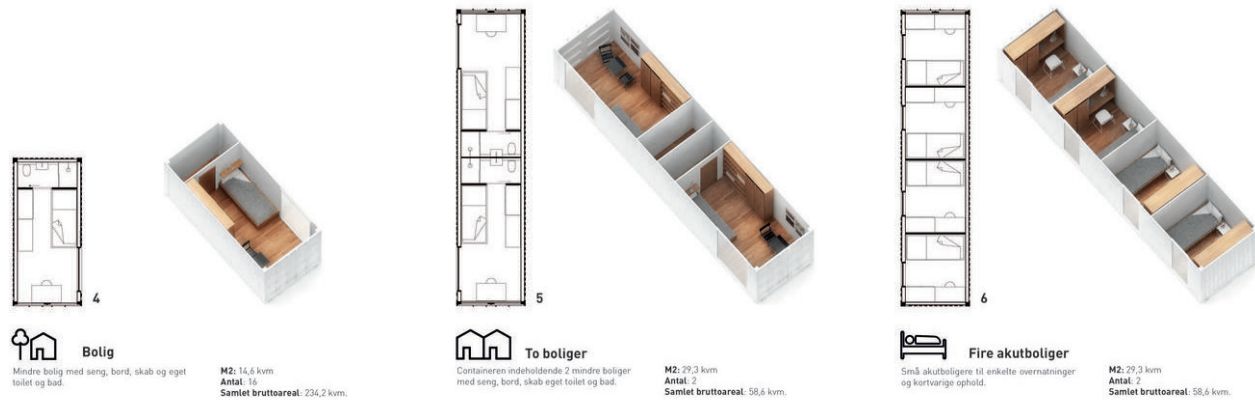
FIG. 69 | Plans and renders of Jagtvej 69 living units
Image Credit: (edit of) WE Architecture via ArchDaily (https://www.archdaily.com/867338/we-architecture-plus-erik-juuls-urban-garden-and-housing-to-provide-turning-point-for-copenhagens-homeless)

Also in this case there are some distinctions to be made, determined by the circumstances. Unlike projects 2, 3 and 4, which show units used individually, projects 1, 5 and 6 show a more positive impact. In particular, in the case of the Commonweal Pods, the inclusion of modules within a dormitory ensures firstly greater security from external threats (but not completely from internal ones), and secondly a greater number of services in support of the individual established by the policies of the dormitory itself (basic services such as food, toilets and clothing and others more targeted if provided). In the case of Balise and Copenhagen, on the other hand, as already stated, the larger sizes and the presence of community activities allow potentially longer stays. (fig. 69, 70)
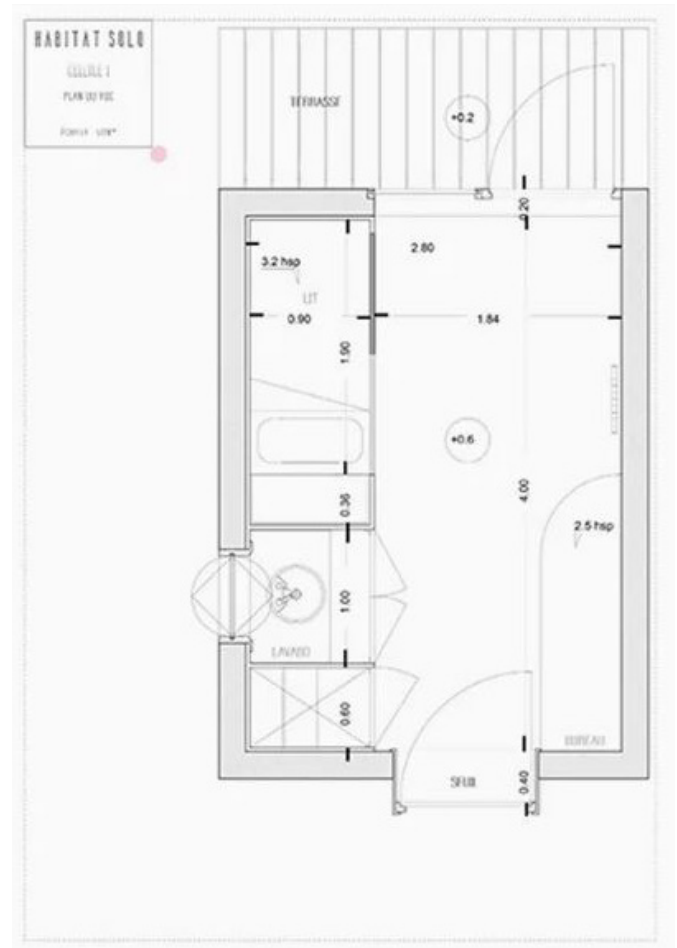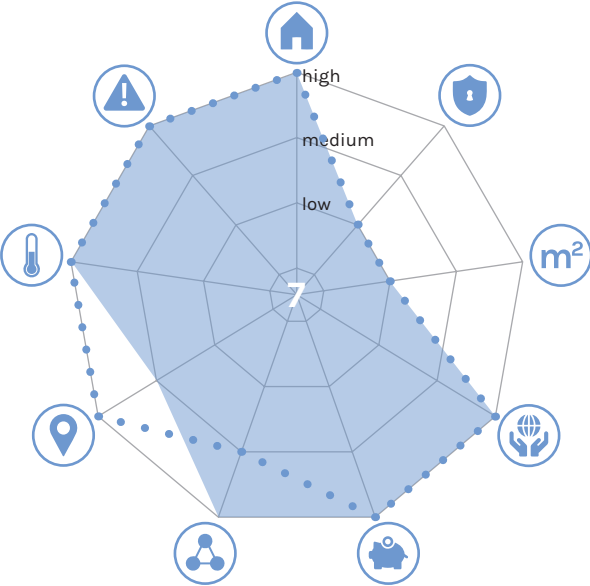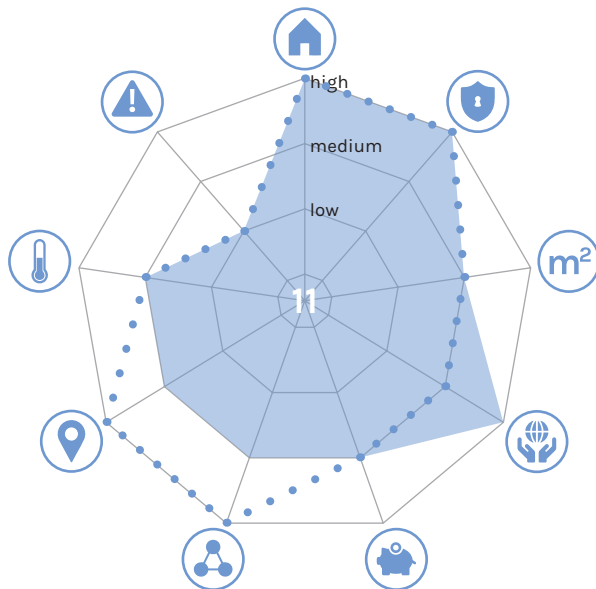

FIG. 70 | Plan of Balise's "Habitat Solo", the single living unit
Image Credit: (edit of) judith angel & martial marquet via designboom (https://www. designboom.com/architecture/judith-angel-martial-marquet-balise-homeless-com- munity-02-21-2016/)

| quality | emergency |
| quality | emergency |
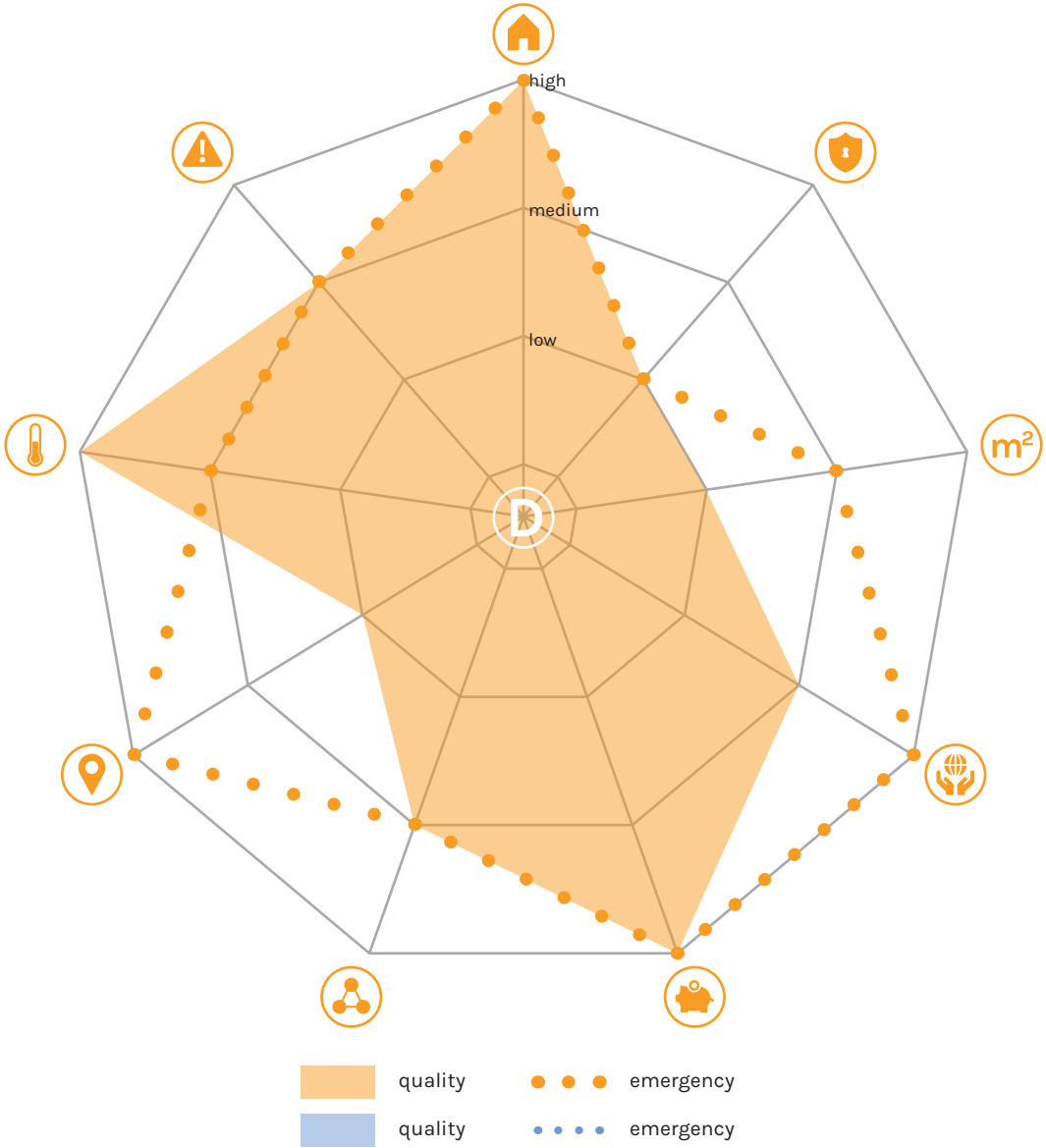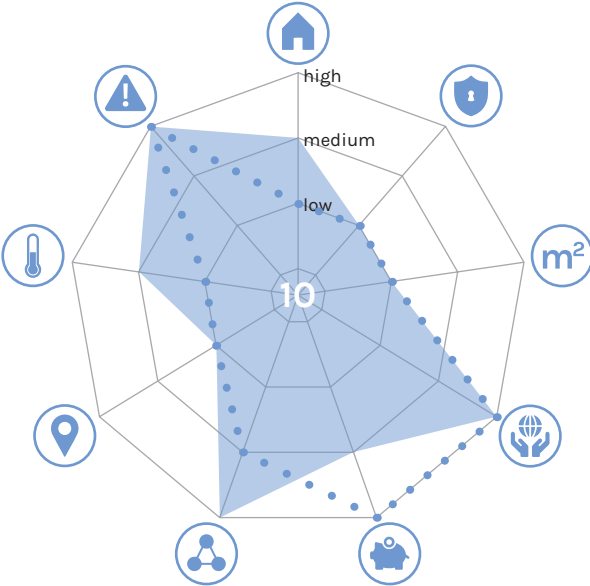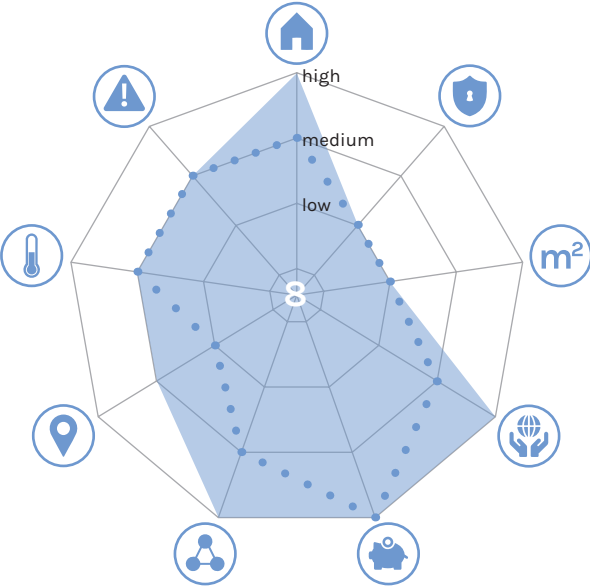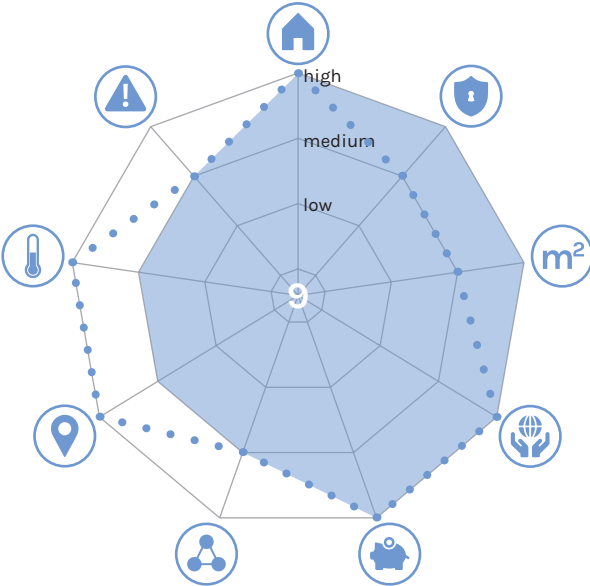
Overall, the evaluations of the dormitories have led, as in the section on the tiny shelters, to sometimes discordant results and sometimes consistent in terms of both quality and emergency, highlighting some important aspects with regard to this type.

QUALITATIVE EVALUATION

The general qualitative analysis detects a **type of structure with potential but which still has some gaps from an architectural point of view**. Obviously, this potential changes as the type of spatial and management organisation of the projects varies. Among the most positive aspects are to be found:

- **ADEQUATE PROTECTION**. Whether new or old, the dormitories are always built inside buildings and equipped with air conditioning systems, always ensuring maximum protection from the weather outside;
- **ECONOMIC ACCESSIBILITY**. Depending on the country, the service offered by the dormitories may either be completely free or require a small amount of money that does not exceed, in the worst case, €5 per night. In some cases, weekly or monthly rates may be stipulated;

- **ARCHITECTURAL SUSTAINABILITY**. A common practice for the construction of dormitories is the renovation of old structures already used for the same purpose or the reuse of abandoned buildings. In this way the costs are slightly amortised and excessive construction in urban areas is avoided;
- **THE PROVISION OF BASIC AND COMMUNITY SERVICES**. In general, homeless dormitories all provide customer support ranging from the distribution of food and clothing to group activities aimed at improving personal skills.

As far as the negative aspects are concerned, it can be noted:

- **LACK OF PRIVATE SPACE AND PRIVACY**. The principle of the dormitory is based on the placement of people in large dormitories where homeless people forcibly share the living space. Despite the presence of some lockers, however, the absence of private space threatens privacy and the consequent security of the user;
- **THE DURATION OF THE SERVICE**. The use of dormitories is often limited to overnight stay and requires that, once awake, people leave the facility to return in the evening reopening hours;
- **ACCESSIBILITY**. It is common to find some limitations during acceptance in the dormitory, especially with regard to nationality, age and gender.

It is necessary to explain that a case of a day centre has been included in the evaluation with the aim of analysing the behaviour of a structure that could be complementary to the dormitories, as it offers service during the hours of the day (project number 10). The analysis shows that, in reality, the quality of the centre is more or less similar to that of the type itself, with the only fundamental difference of the absence of places for overnight stay. Particular attention should be paid to the Pamplona project, number 9. Unlike the others, the structure is built from scratch, losing a few points in sustainability, but provides a type of mixed reception with dedicated areas: in this way homeless passing through or with a more extended stay are placed in private rooms and separate areas of the building, which are accessed through several entrances and that offer dedicated services. Although the space per person is still small but better than other examples, thanks to this solution, privacy and security increase. (fig. 28, 29)

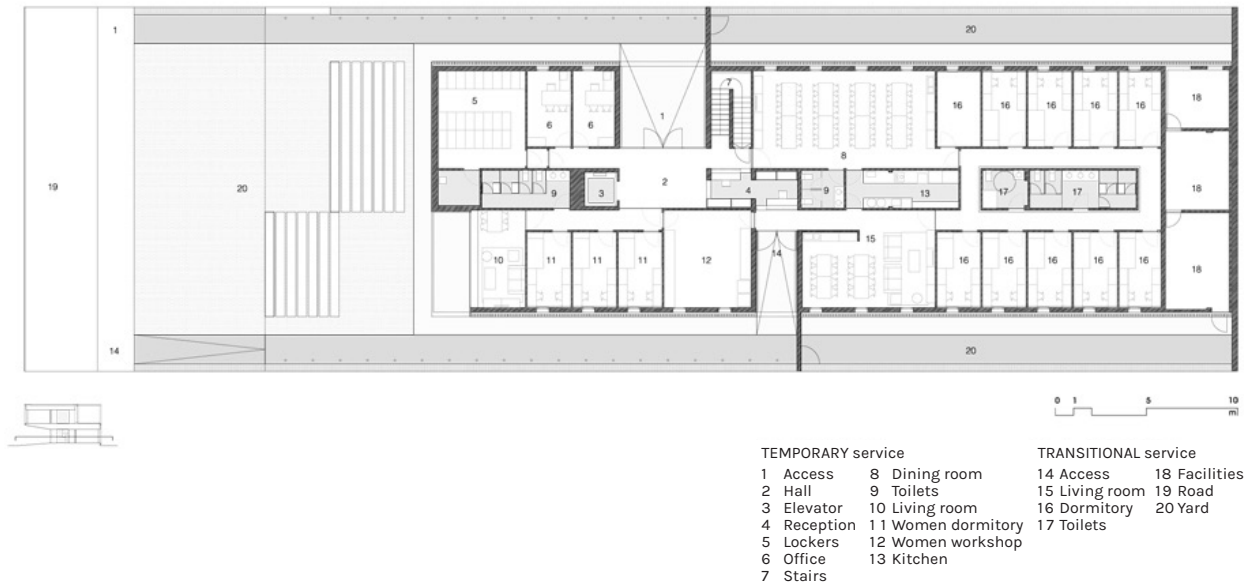## EMERGENCY EVALUATION

The graphs show a fairly balanced difference

TEMPORARY service
1	Access	8	Dining room
2	Hall	9	Toilets
3	Elevator	10	Living room
4	Reception	11	Women dormitory
5	Lockers	12	Women workshop
6	Office	13	Kitchen
7	Stairs		

TRANSITIONAL service
14	Access	18	Facilities
15	Living room	19	Road
16	Dormitory	20	Yard
17	Toilets		

FIG. 71 | "Shelter Home for the Homeless" ground floor plan
Image Credit: (edit of) Javier Larraz via ArchDaily (https://www.archdaily.com/124688/shelter-home-for-the-homeless-javier-larraz)

TEMPORARY service
1	Elevator	5	Living room
2	Stairs	6	Workshop
3	Dormitory	7	Staff room
4	Toilets	8	Storage

FIG. 72 | "Shelter Home for the Homeless" first floor plan
Image Credit: (edit of) Javier Larraz via ArchDaily (https://www.archdaily.com/124688/shelter-home-for-the-homeless-javier-larraz)

between quality and emergency, with some values matching and others completely opposite.
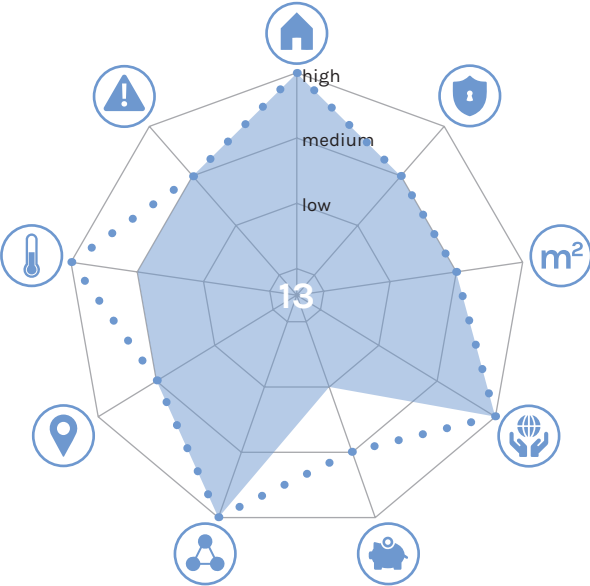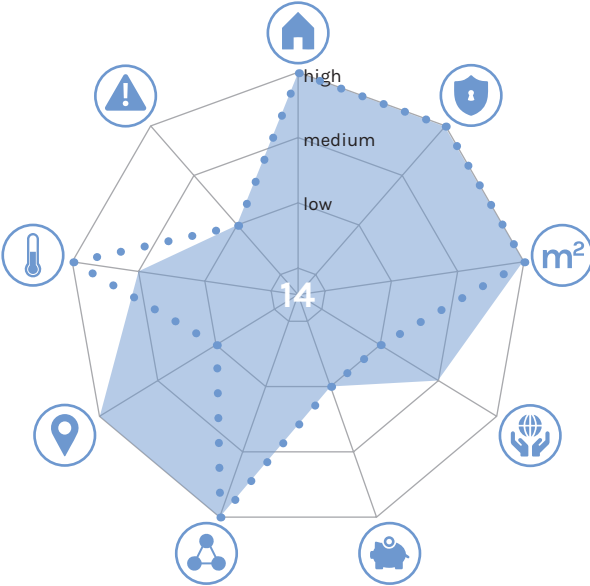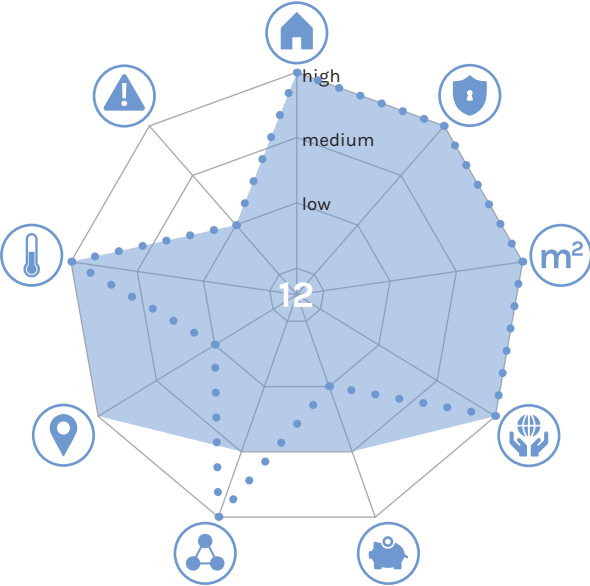
The evaluation of the emergency reveals how **the dormitory type has the potential to respond to the needs of homelessness but still has gaps in quality**. The merit of dormitories is that they maintain a fairly accessible structure that offers services with the aim of improving the conditions of the homeless, involving them in paths of strengthening community identity. The indicators that have a more positive impact than the qualitative evaluation are, in fact, those of services, the size, to be understood as additional common spaces where people spend most of their time, and protection against external weather conditions. The latter derives from the fact that the structure of the building is solid and organized, which can also lead to a further increase in the time spent by individuals.

Despite this, this typology still shows:

- **LIMITED ACCESSIBILITY**. People in a state of emergency must find as few barriers as possible to inclusion in programmes against homelessness;
- **A LOW LEVEL OF PRIVACY**;
- **PRIVATE SIZE PER PERSON NON-EXISTENT**.

Some projects show how these gaps can be filled. Project 1 in Porto, for example, has no access restrictions. The organization that runs it aims to help all homeless people without the need for any requirement of age, gender or nationality. For privacy and size, however, you can refer to the Pamplona project described above.

€ / h

m²

quality   ● ● ● emergency
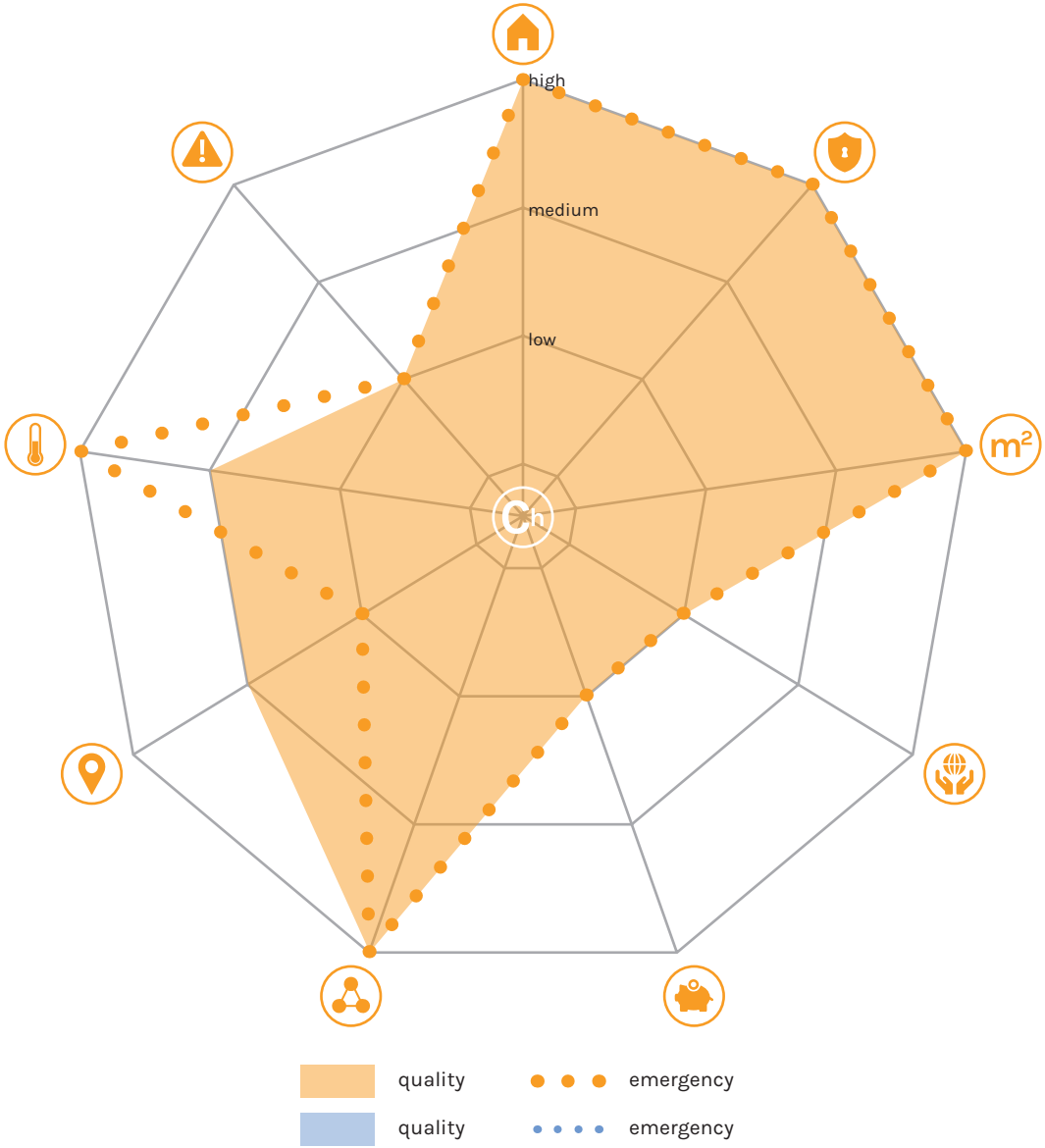
quality   ● ● ● ● emergency

The evaluations of the cohousing show that, in general, this typology presents some differences in terms of quality according to the architectural choices adopted, while it is rather consistent with regard to the emergency.

QUALITATIVE EVALUATION

Cohousing, in reality, is not a solution that is often used to fight homelessness but more by young people in search for vibrant environment. It was decided to include it in the evaluations because it is, in some cases, a cheaper alternative to normal apartments on the market and because it aims to promote community life. From the qualitative evaluation it emerges that, **although it is still a suitable typology to offer a good quality of space and a prolonged stay, it has some fairly important drawbacks more about management issues rather than architectural**. Among the positive aspects is to be found:

- **GOOD PROTECTION**. Cohousing projects can be included in the category of "Housing Led" solutions. According to this principle, people are placed in apartments and houses similar to those that can be found on the market, thus obtaining a suitable place to live in order to be protected from external weather conditions (even extreme) and being guaranteed good privacy and security. In most cases, tenants pay monthly rates, and as a result the apartments become their own;
- **THE DIMENSIONS**. Within a cohousing the spaces are designed in such a way as to promote community life and at the same time balance it with private life. For this reason, the dimensions of the apartments are generally quite good, although, in some cases, they may vary depending on the architectural structure;
- **THE COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT**. One of the main objectives of a cohousing building is to recreate the conditions necessary for a good community life. Within the same structure, users have the possibility to use common areas, sharing spaces and work places.

On the other hand, this typology has some weaknesses:

- **LACK OF INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT**. Cohousing was born as a place of sharing, where people are driven to collaborate. However, there is no provision for any type of individual support such as dedicated health service, housing counselling or psychological treatment;
- **PRICES**. The programs provide free use of all ser-

vices in the structure under payment of a monthly fee. Since there is no economic amortization, often the sums to be paid are unaffordable for many;

- **ACCESSIBILITY TO THE PROGRAMME**. Entering a cohousing program is not easy. Firstly, it is not yet a properly developed type and the facilities are not yet sufficient, and secondly there is the great barrier of monthly rents.

Depending on the projects analysed, however, some considerations must be made, since not all the structures respond in the same way.

A big difference is given by the level of support provided by the structures. In the first two cases (projects 12 and 13), in fact, it is evident that the organization of the service by NGOs or charities plays a fundamental role in the care of individuals. The latter have the opportunity to be included in social reintegration pathways, being able to take advantage of medical and psychological assistance, advice and strengthening of personal skills. The opposite situation occurs for project 14, where the only help provided is economic. As far as accessibility is concerned, Stepping Stones (project 13) is the most appropriate, although no access requirements have been defined, thanks to the diversity of rooms designed to accommo-
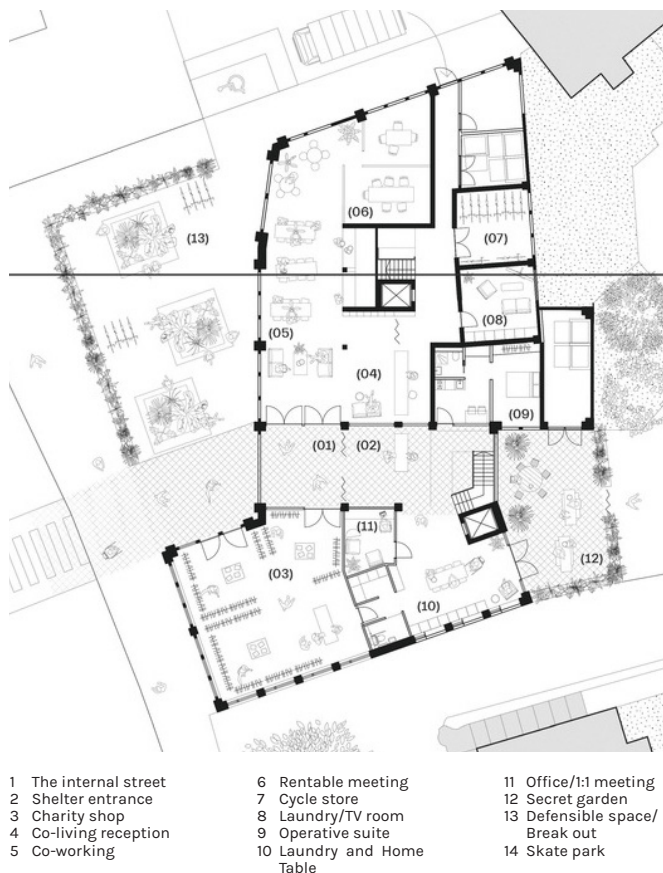
date people with different needs. (fig. 73, 74, 75)

1	The internal street	6	Rentable meeting	11	Office/1:1 meeting
2	Shelter entrance	7	Cycle store	12	Secret garden
3	Charity shop	8	Laundry/TV room	13	Defensible space/
4	Co-living reception	9	Operative suite		Break out
5	Co-working	10	Laundry and Home	14	Skate park
			Table		

FIG. 73 | Stepping Stones' ground floor plan
Image Credit: (edit of) Morris + Company via ArchDaily (https://www.archdaily.com/909115/morris-plus-company-imagines-london-tube-station-repurposed-for-the-homeless)
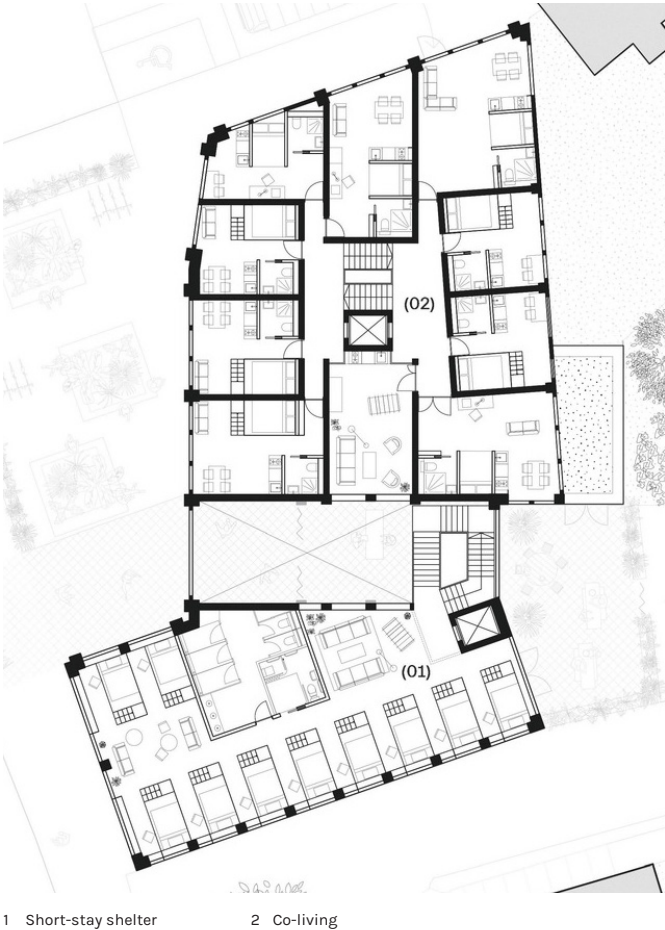
1   Short-stay shelter   2   Co-living

FIG. 74 | Stepping Stones' typical floor plan
Image Credit: (edit of) Morris + Company via ArchDaily (https://www.archdaily.com/909115/morris-plus-company-imagines-london-tube-station-repurposed-for-the-homeless)

1   Mid-stay shelter   2   Co-living

FIG. 75 | Stepping Stones' top floor plan
Image Credit: (edit of) Morris + Company via ArchDaily (https://www.archdaily.com/909115/morris-plus-company-imagines-london-tube-station-repurposed-for-the-homeless)

EMERGENCY EVALUATION

The evaluation of the emergency coincides quite well with the qualitative one, classifying the **cohousing as not suitable for the housing response.** There are several reasons for this:

- **THE SCARCITY OF SERVICES**. Holistic support for the individual is a fundamental requirement that reception facilities must provide if they intend to contribute to the fight against homelessness;
- **BARRIERS UPON ACCESS**. In the case of cohousing, the main barriers are rent prices, which in case they might be even cheaper than those expected by the market, are still too high, the level of tenancy, which is more directed to a long-term stay, and the availability of real estate, still insufficient.

In addition to these limitations resulting from the analyses, there are further possible problems linked to the nature of the programme. According to the previous chapter, the particularity of cohousing is to have a structure designed in collaboration with future tenants in order to obtain an environment properly oriented to community life. In an emergency context, in reality, it is very difficult for this situation to happen: it is almost impossible to involve the homeless population in the planning process, because it would take a very long time and those who need a house cannot afford to wait. Secondly, community life is not always the best solution. Each individual has a different background and from a psychological point of view sharing some spaces with other people could be more of a threat than an advantage. As far as projects are concerned, none of them can meet the emergency needs of homeless people. As stated above, Stepping Stones (Project 13) has a slightly better reception, but needs to be improved in terms of the size of the areas and the level of security and privacy. On the other hand, the remaining examples have been designed with more adequate privacy and metrature, but with poor support (project 14) and low accessibility to the programme (projects 12 and 14).

m²

Sʰ

quality   ● ● ●   emergency

quality   ● ● ● ●   emergency
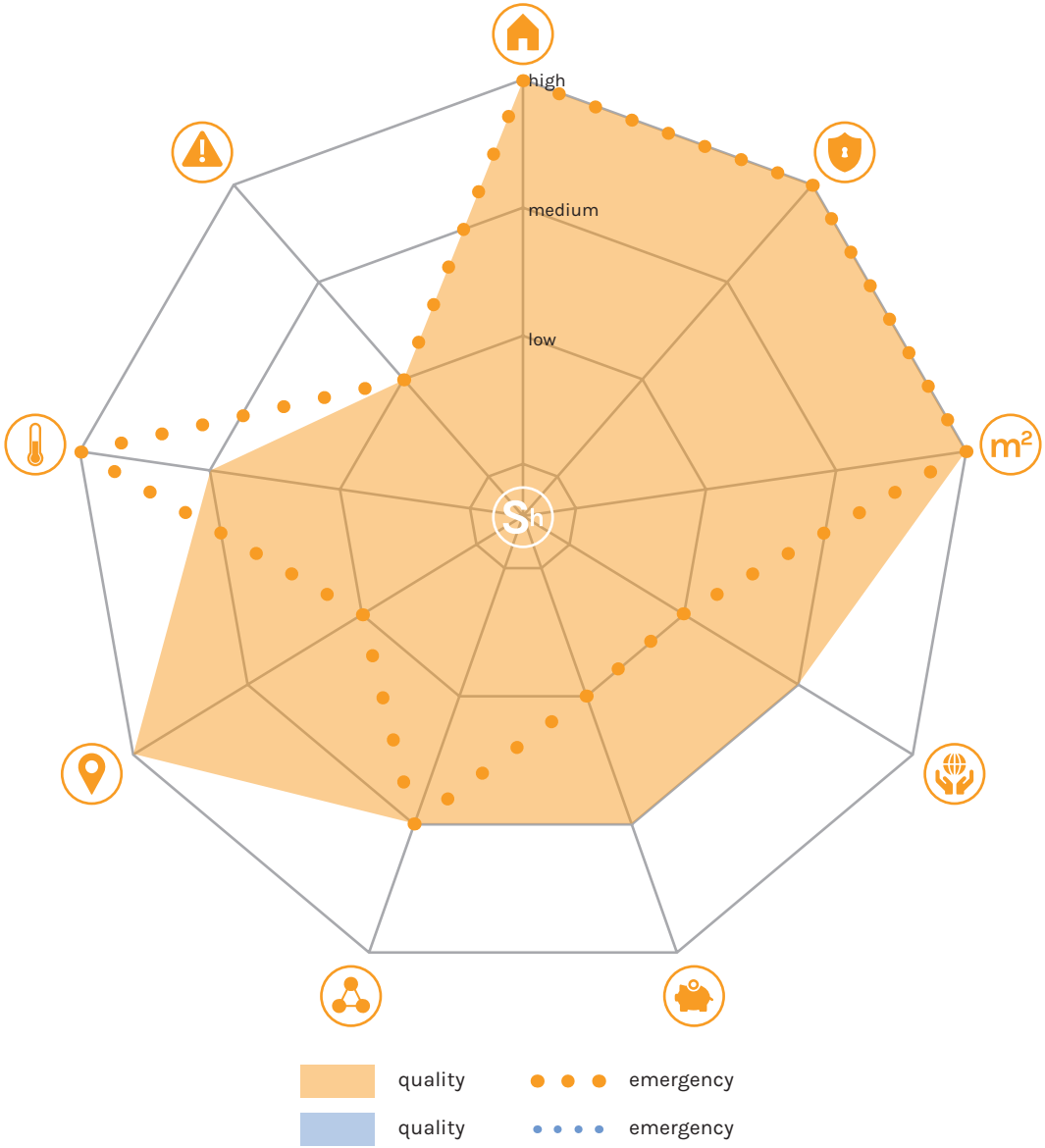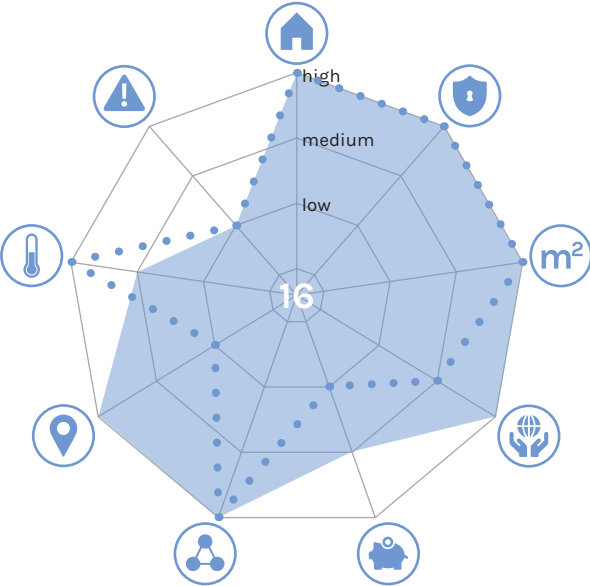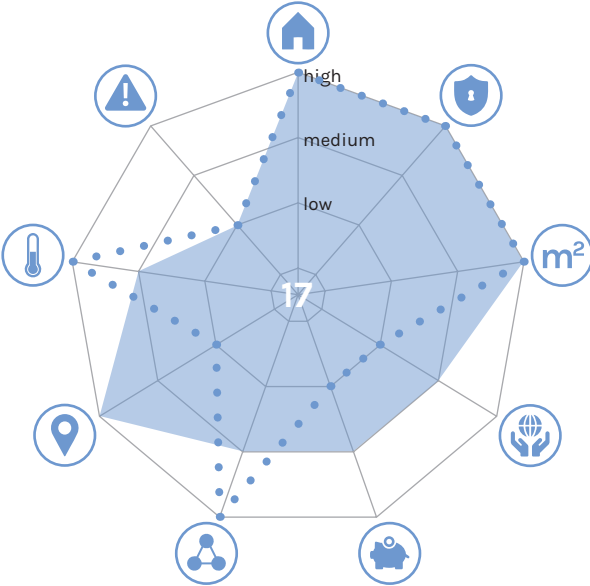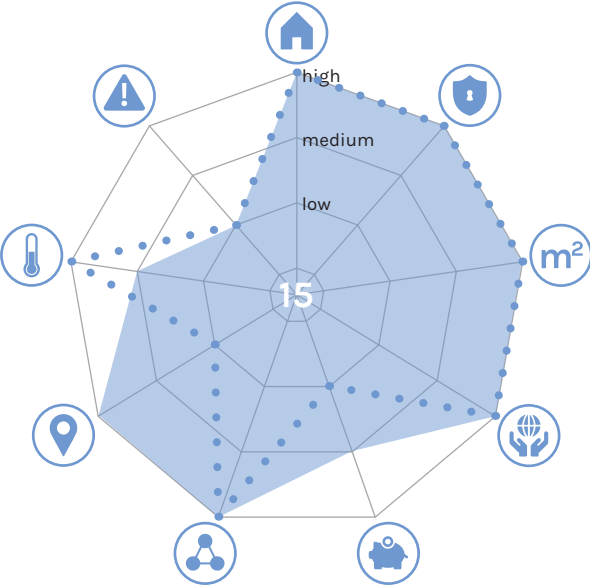
Social Housing practices have already been tried and tested for some time in many countries, both in Europe and worldwide. Their use, as described in Chapter 2, is already common within some national housing policies. From the analysis of the typology and the different projects it emerges that Social Housing is a fairly coherent typology in all aspects. The only substantial differences, especially as regards the comparison between the two evaluations, can be found in the management part of the programme, since from an architectural point of view the design choices are more or less similar to each other.

QUALITATIVE EVALUATION

The qualitative analysis shows that **this solution is suitable for hosting people in difficulty, especially in cases where the provision of services is entrusted to humanitarian associations or, in general, with objectives in line with the Agenda 2030 program**. The positive aspects are:

- **THE PROTECTION**. The architectural design of the Social Housing is designed to accommodate people for extended periods. To achieve this, the structure must be designed to protect people from the outside environment, especially from extreme weather conditions;
- **THE SIZE OF THE APARTMENTS**. Each unit has the appropriate size to accommodate either individuals or entire families;
- **THE LEVEL OF PRIVACY**. Each user is given, on a contractual basis, a private apartment. By not sharing their home with strangers, homeless people have the possibility to build a life in security and respect for their privacy;
- **THE EXTENDED STAY**. Social Housing buildings are designed to offer a permanent housing solution to those who need it;
- AMORTIZED COSTS. The structures provide financial and money management aid.

The only markedly negative aspect concerns:

- **THE LOW ACCESSIBILITY TO SERVICE**. The biggest problem of this type is the very high demand for accommodation, as it involves amortized rental costs and is therefore seen as a valuable solution for those who cannot afford the prices of the market. Being accepted is often difficult, especially for waiting lists.

As far as support for the person is concerned, it is not right to classify it either as positive or negative, because it depends a lot on a case by case

basis. In projects 15 and 16, for example, the management of the service is entrusted to associations that have as their objective humanitarian aid, and consequently the level of support rises, while project 17 provides only financial aid, which can always be useful but not enough to deal with some extreme situations (cases of people with disorders, addictions or other reasons).

EMERGENCY EVALUATION

Although the overall quality of the facilities is high, the nature of Social Housing does not allow to welcome homeless people in a state of emergency. Unlike the previous evaluation, in fact, some factors that were previously considered as positive now constitute disadvantages and others simply are not adequate. These include:

- **ACCESSIBILITY**. In addition to the very high number of applications for acceptance, as described in the quality assessment, the periodic payment of a rent, even if supported, is not something that can be afforded by anyone, especially among the homeless population;
- **THE TENANCY**. Social Housing programs are born with the intention of accommodating people for a long period (permanent structures) right

from the start, and as a result are not structured to work in a shorter time or provide immediate shelter.

Again in line with what was stated above, the projects analyzed most suitable to the fight against homelessness, all other indicators being equal, are those that provide a higher level of support.

| quality | | emergency |
| quality | | emergency |
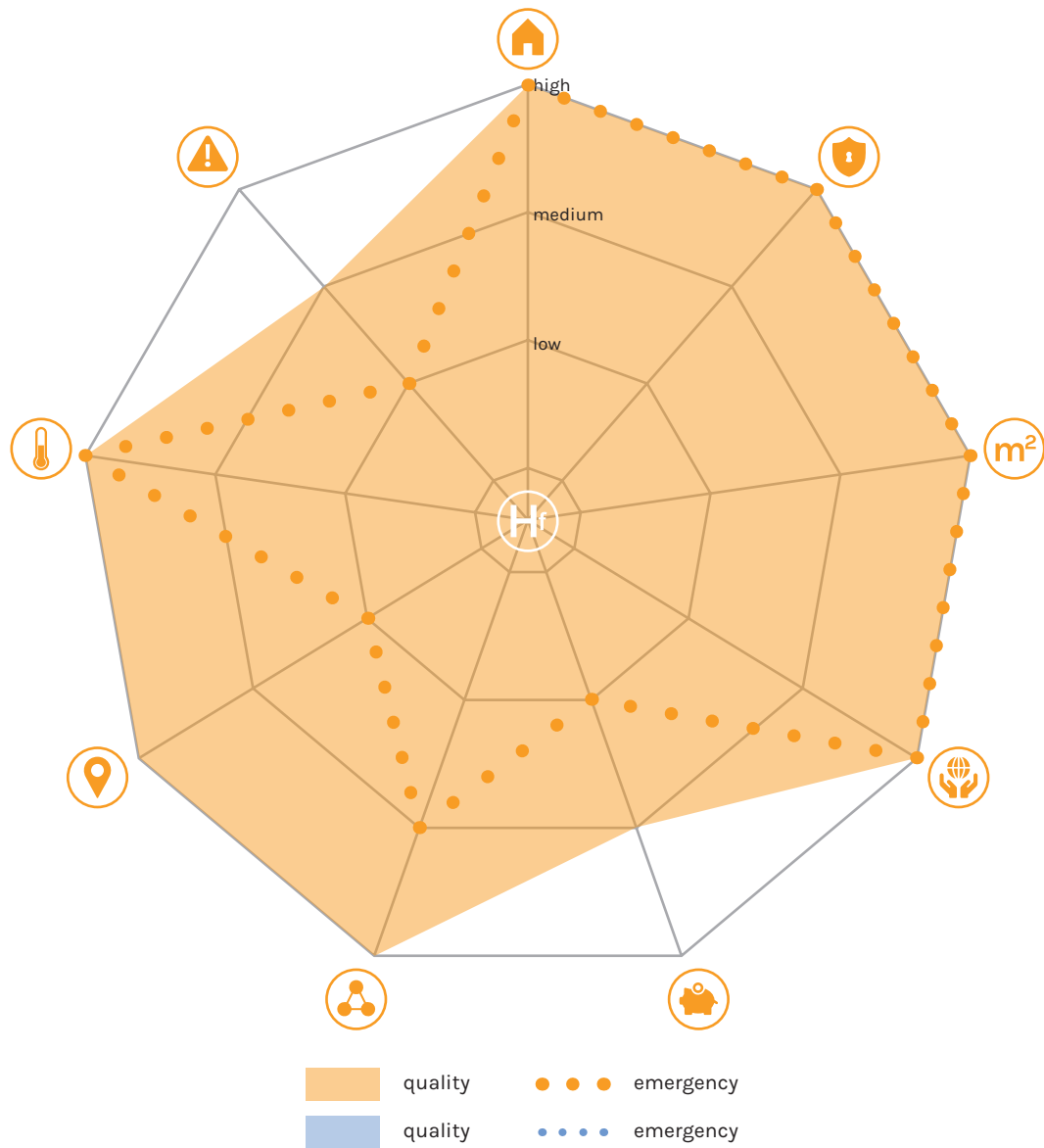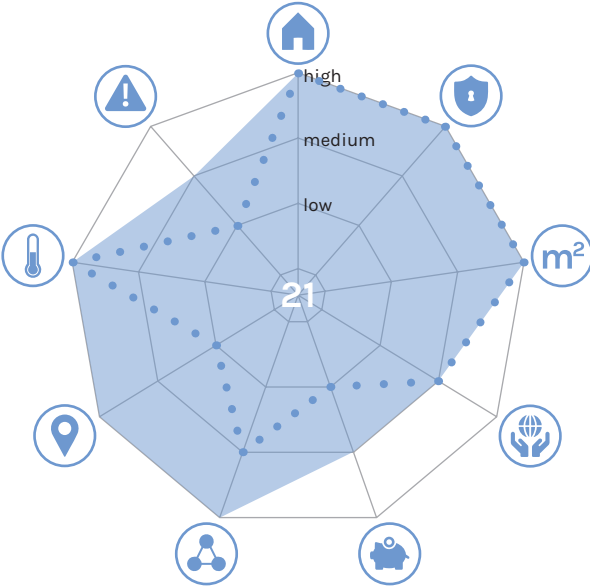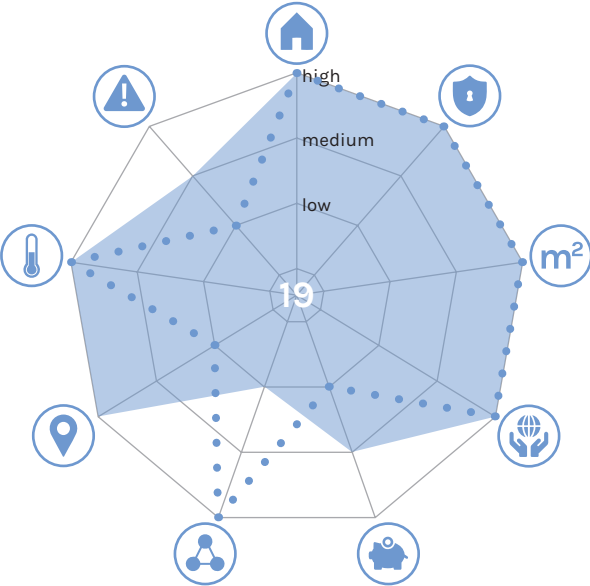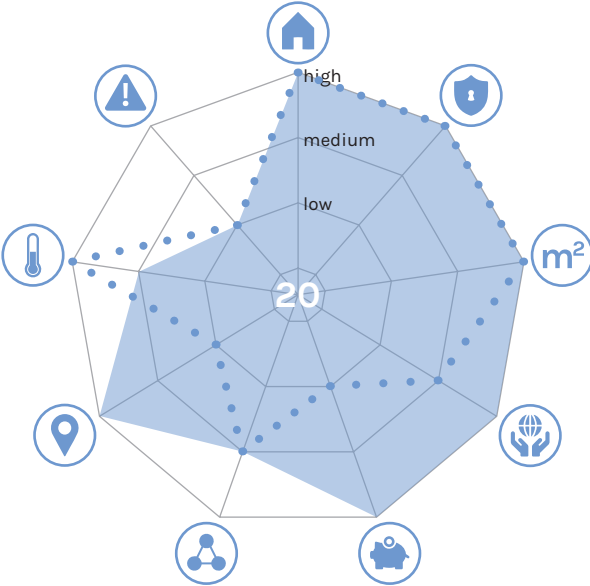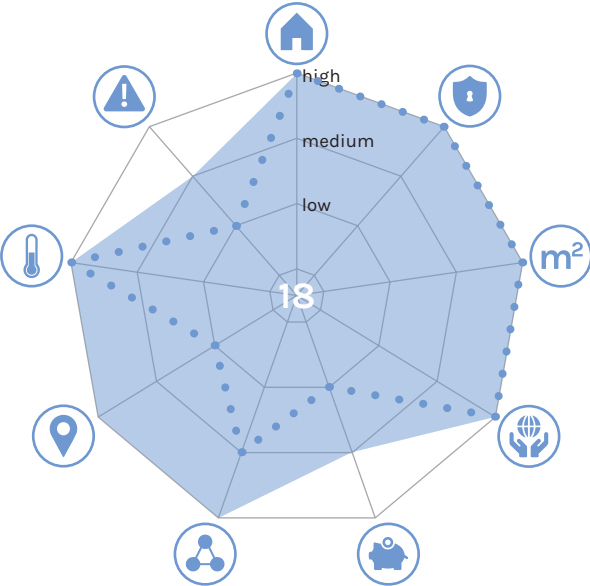
Among the Housing Led practices for the fight against homelessness, in the last thirty years Housing First has established itself as the most innovative and effective solution. In line with this statement, the qualitative study of the typology actually shows how on almost all fronts the impact is very positive, while we notice marked discrepancies once studied the suitability for the housing emergency. In general, however, on both fronts, the projects always remain very coherent between them, highlighting a certain solidity of work and sharing of common principles.

QUALITATIVE EVALUATION

Qualitatively, with a chart showing a positive impact for almost all indicators, **Housing First is a very valuable option in the fight against poverty**. The biggest benefits are:

- **COMPLETE PROTECTION FROM THE EXTERNAL ENVIRONMENT**. The apartments provided by the NGOs involved in the service are directly purchased from the property market and re-rented, and consequently also suitable for protection against the most extreme weather conditions;
- **RESPECT FOR PRIVACY**. At the moment of acceptance, the homeless person receives the keys to what will become in all respects his private apartment;
- **THE ADEQUACY OF THE SPACES**. Each housing unit has a high number of square meters. In this way, the interior space is adequate, on the one hand, for the user, who has the opportunity to build a life in living comfort, and on the other hand for the staff of Housing First for the provision of its support services;
- **A 360-DEGREE SUPPORT**. Whether provided in specialised centres or directly at an individual's home, the Housing First service focuses entirely on the person and is designed and offered according to the individual needs of each user thanks to a staff available at any time;
- **A SOLID STAY**. The program was created with the intention of providing a solid and lasting stay;
- **HABITATIVE ACCESSIBILITY**. Anyone can ask to be admitted. The purpose of Housing First is to reduce barriers to a minimum.

The only negative point, but of great weight, concerns:

- **ECONOMIC ACCESSIBILITY**. The apartments are rented on a contractual basis and require the payment of a monthly rent. In general, organisations try to keep house costs below 30% of income, re-

cognised by European bodies as the poverty line above which housing maintenance is unsustainable.

As stated above, there are no marked differences between the various projects, but a certain conformity. It should be noted that you can find the apartments of Housing First in two different forms: apartments scattered around the city or apartments collected in a single residential complex. In this respect, the case of Väinölä (number 19), which belongs to the second category, is different. (fig. 76, 77)

The advantage that this conformation can bring is an increase in the feeling of community. In the specific case of Finland, the complex also includes a park to which users have free access and where group activities are carried out.

EMERGENCY EVALUATION

Differently from qualitative graphs, the impact of indicators on emergencies has fallen sharply, particularly with regard to:

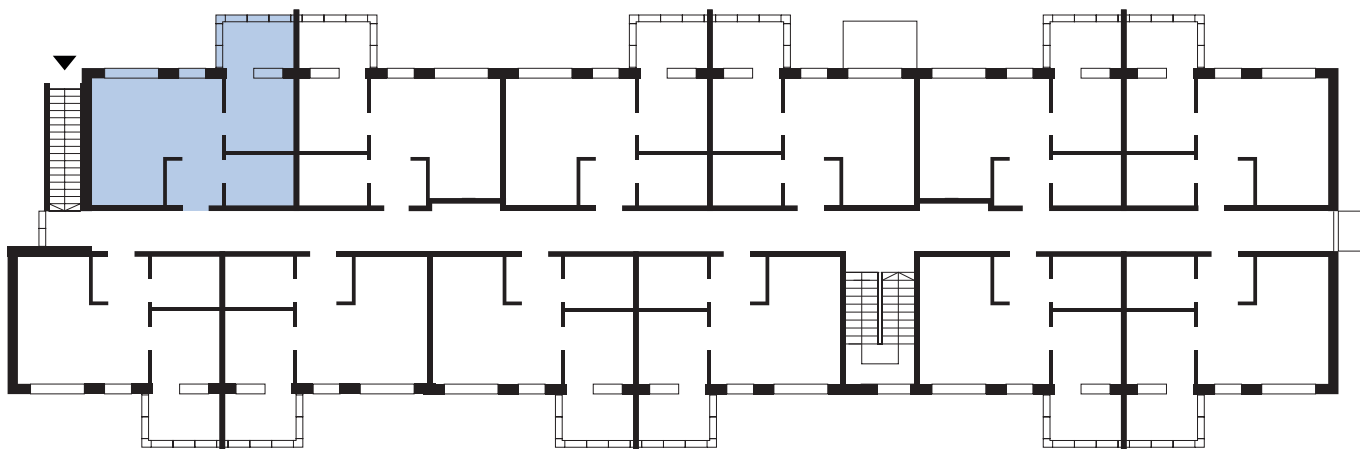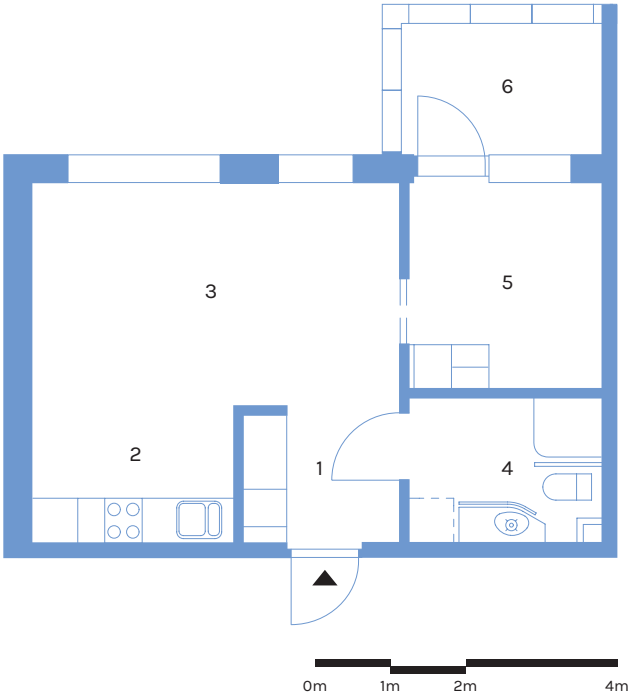- **ACCESSIBILITY**. Individuals seeking to obtain

apartments, the second is, once accepted, the constant payment of a monthly rent, which not all the homeless population is able to afford;

- **TENANCY**. Housing First was born as a service that deals with the care of the homeless on a long-term basis, and therefore operates in ways different from those to deal with the emergency.

Although the other qualities remain more or less unchanged, these two factors have such an impact on the evaluation to affirm that **Housing First is not a valid program to deal with the housing emergency**.

TYPICAL APARTMENT
1   Hallway   4   Bathroom
2   Kitchenette   5   Bedroom
3   Living room   6   Glazed balcony

FIG. 77 | Väinölä housing complex typical apartment's plan
Image Credit: (edit of) The Y-Foundation

a home through Housing First have to overcome two important barriers: the first is the very long waiting lists that are formed as a result of the numerous requests and the scarcity of available

5. conclusions

5.1 answering the questions

Overall, the research and analysis carried out have made it possible to answer and clarify the initial doubts about the phenomenon. The results obtained have not always been positive, but in most cases the negative results must be taken as a warning and an example to improve the current situation.

WHAT IS HOMELESSNESS?

FIG. 78 | Cardboard leftover used as a matress along the street
Photo Credit: London Government (https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing-and-land/homelessness/information-rough-sleeping-london)

Homelessness is a social phenomenon that affects more than 150 million people (about 2% of the global population) without distinction of age, nationality and gender worldwide and that is triggered mainly by three causes:

- **structural factors**, i.e. economic and social pro-blems that threaten the health, opportunities and the very nature of each individual who is unfortunately involved in it. The most common consequence of this point is poverty, understood as a circumstance in which it is difficult, if not sometimes impossible, to see one's fundamental human rights respected;
- **system failures**, i.e. situations in which services and policies dedicated to the fight against poverty fail and promote, absurdly, the increase of the phenomenon itself. Often, this condition arises from a lack of available data;
- **individual circumstances**. Unlike the other two, this factor directly touches the personal sphere of the person, classifying family crises, relational crises, mental or health problems in general, traumas, violence of any kind, addictions and stereotyping as both important causes as well as heavy consequences of homelessness.

At European level, there are many different types of homelessness, as indicated by the ETHOS classification (discussed in the first chapter), and this means that the needs of the homeless population to be addressed are multiple and very complex. Starting from the meaning of the word itself, **homelessness (which literally indicates a condition of absence of dwelling) must be ad-**

dressed by providing a home, in its most symbolic meaning as well as physical, to those who do not own it, putting each individual in appropriate conditions of privacy, health and public and private relations in order to lead a life of dignity and autonomy with respect for fundamental human rights.

IS IT POSSIBLE TO QUANTIFY IT THROUGH DATA BANKS OR TARGETED SERVICES?

Unfortunately, at the moment, local and larger scale data collection systems are not able to provide reliable data on the numbers involved. Having detailed information about the issue becomes a necessary step in the creation of ad hoc policies to counteract it. In the European context, a large number of EU countries have not yet adopted, for various reasons, a well-defined national strategy against homelessness and this inevitably leads to the lack of necessary measures. As a consequence, many homeless people remain "hidden" (guests in the home of friends or family, permanently in transit from one place to another or living in crowded and makeshift places) and therefore not being officially recognized as such, they have neither the opportunity to use the services provided by the State nor to contribute to the numbering during the censuses, indirectly misle-

ading policymakers. It is important to underline that this choice is not made on a voluntary basis, apart from in some particular cases, but is caused mainly by system failures and a lack of adequate prevention.

What a State must rely on within this framework is, therefore, the numerous free services offered by voluntary associations and NGOs at local level (canteens, places of clothes distribution and goods in general) to keep track as much as possible of the flows of people and contribute to the construction of transparent and accessible databases. (fig. 79)

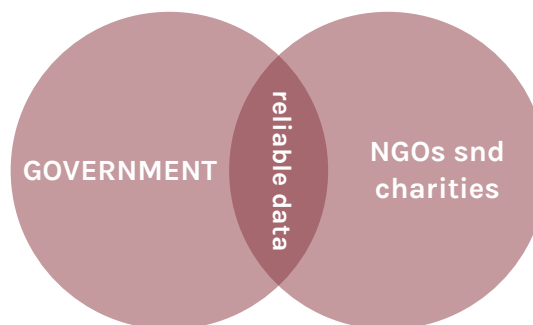**NGOs play a key role in the management of services.** Modern NGOs, in fact, «are complex organi-

FIG. 79 | Data survey functioning
Image Credit: Scheme by the author

sations with a range of functions - Fundraising, Human Resources, Communications, Marketing and Advocacy as well as Services»[278], characteristics that allow them to invest funds and time in research against homelessness. Sometimes on behalf of the government (where national policies are more developed) and sometimes independently, these associations make agreements with other sectors of society, such as the real estate market, in order to offer services and housing solutions with greater accessibility and lower costs. In Chapter 4, it can be seen that most of the projects analysed are managed by non-governmental associations, especially those offering more dedicated services. **Partnerships between parties are therefore necessary**.

WHAT ROLE PLAYS ARCHITECTURE IN FIGHTING AGAINST POVERTY? IS THERE JUST ONE SOLUTION OR MANY?
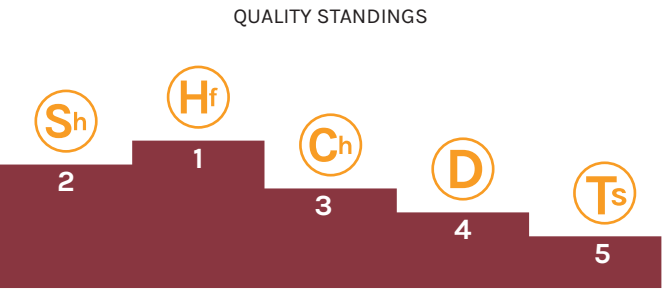
The role that Architecture plays is of fundamental importance, since it has the task and the duty to

provide a home that meets the quality standards for a dignified life and the needs related to the emergency of people in poverty.
In this sense, the Architect is called to deal not only with matters related to the material aspect of the discipline but also to the sociological and psychological.
There are several solutions that have already been tested and some are still being refined, but not all of them meet the same needs. Depending on the context, it is necessary to try to understand which architectural approach can best contribute to the containment and the consequent decrease of the homelessness phenomenon. If it were possible to draw up two separate rankings from the data of the projects analyzed both from the point of view of quality and emergency, they would present themselves as follows.

QUALITY STANDINGS

278. Mike Allen, *Homeless Non-Governmental Organisations and the Role of Research*, in European Observatory on Homelessness, *European Journal of Homelessness*, Volume 10, No. 3, 2016, p. 147, https://www.feantsaresearch.org/download/10-3_article_75673411487434998562.pdf
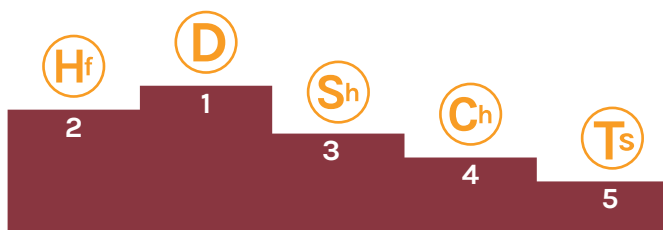
EMERGENCY STANDINGS

As can be seen, carrying out two different types of analysis in parallel was necessary on the final judgement of the projects collected. **The emergency factor, which allows each individual solution to be filtered through the parameter of architectural adequacy in a given TIME (i.e. the efficiency), becomes fundamental in order to determine which of the types analyzed is the most suitable** to cope with the constant growth trend of the phenomenon.

Despite «throughout Europe, emergency accommodation is becoming the only solution for homeless people due to the lack of decent and affordable housing»[279], **unfortunately none of the**

279. FEANTSA and Abbé Pierre Foundation, *Fourth Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2019*, p. 38, https://www.feantsa.org/download/oheeu_2019_eng_web5120646087993915253.pdf

types analyzed is qualitatively adequate to cope entirely with the housing emergency. This does not mean that every solution adopted should not be taken into account, but, on the contrary, it was necessary to understand their functioning as a starting point for the development of further considerations and suggestions in favour of dedicated policies.

TINY SHELTERS
The tiny shelter has proved to be an **inadequate solution for the fight against homelessness**, both in terms of quality and emergency, while it seems to be more suitable and interesting as an architectural exercise on the use of urban space. This is demonstrated by several factors. First of all, all the official European documents analysed during this research have never mentioned this typology, probably because of its obvious ineffectiveness.

In fact, the most evident weaknesses are many: the dimensions, which are often limited to those of a double bed or little more, the level of support to the individual, which is zero if the management of the shelter is not entrusted to associations that provide basic services (food, clothing and hygiene), privacy and security, which can not be guaranteed given the small size and the absence of

adequate protection systems such as solid walls or security doors, and, above all, the impossibility of prolonged stays, given the characteristics listed above, which would allow extremely limited use. For this reason, **the homeless who make use of these facilities have no chance to see their condition improve, but rather, «These services can perpetuate the cycle of rejection and exclusion in which some homeless people are trapped, and they can trigger harmful symptoms and defence mechanisms (e.g. drug and alcohol abuse, etc.).»**[280]

On the other hand, however, the small size and the use of prefabricated modules for construction, makes the pods extremely flexible as architectural elements, so much so that they are often the subject of competitions. It is quite common, in fact, to find this type with different conformations (fig. 80), ranging from single use in open or closed environments to mass production for filling urban voids. As the possible combinations vary, the analysis shows a slight improvement in user management in "village-shaped" projects,

where also common areas are provided to encourage community life.

On the whole, however, tiny shelters are not recommended for humanitarian purposes, except in exceptional situations.

inside   outside

between
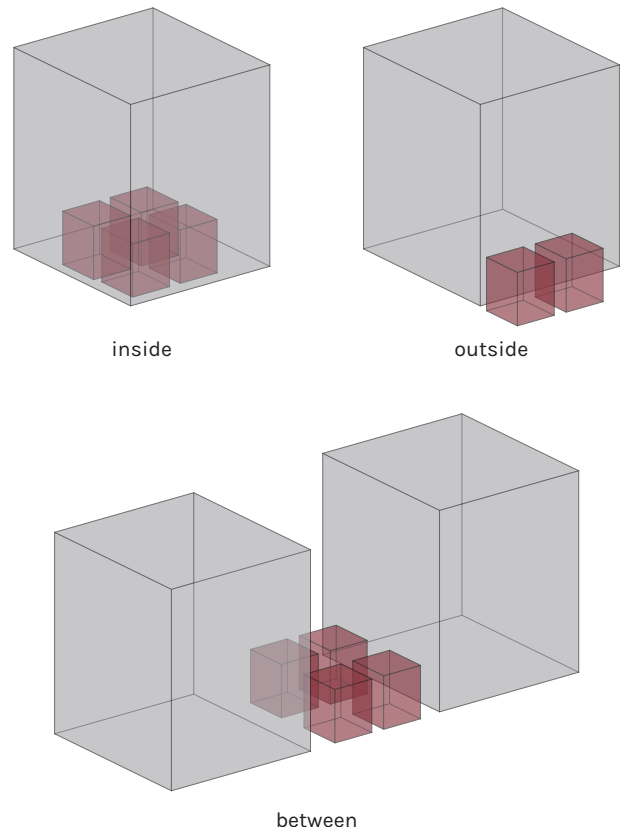
280. FEANTSA and Abbé Pierre Foundation, *Fourth Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2019*, pp. 32-33, https://www.feantsa.org/download/oheeu_2019_eng_web5120646087993915253.pdf
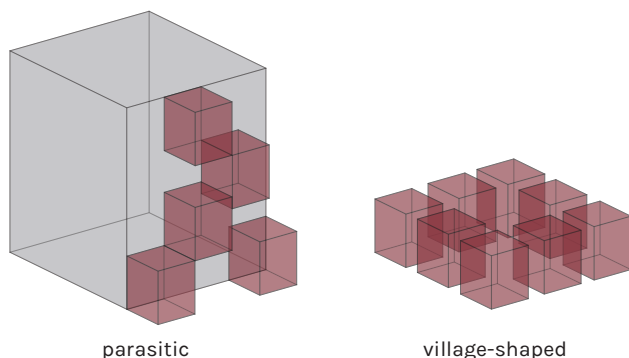
parasitic   village-shaped

FIG. 80 | Tiny shelters' felxible configurations
Image Credit: Scheme by the author

DORMITORIES

The dormitories, despite offering a medium architectural quality, are the structures with the highest potential to combat the housing emergency. This does not mean that the reception is totally adequate, but the spaces designed and the type of support offered with some improvements could be really effective.

The big difference from tiny shelters is the structure, which is no longer a single prefabricated module but a real building that houses dormitories for several people and common areas. This has its pros and cons: the structure itself protects users much better from external weather and the fact of having more space available, including the common one, increases the possibility of being able to offer homeless people a more comfortable and prolonged stay. At the same time, however, sleeping in shared rooms significantly reduces the level of privacy, as there is a lack of real private space. A solution to this problem could be to design dormitories, as in the case of project number 9 in Pamplona, with private accommodation, so that the person can take advantage of all types of community activities that take place in the facility without giving up a safe place to spend the night. In this case, the management also provides for **separate areas based on the type of stay of the users (shorter or longer), a feature not common in the scenario but which increases the level of reception and coverage of the different needs of the homeless population**.

Another point in favour is individual support (both basic and advanced), supported by NGOs or charities that are used to managing this type of activity. Assistance can take place either inside the building, if there are dedicated areas, or in external structures; this means that the dormitory must be placed in an easily accessible context in order to promote the creation of a social network and services' cooperation. (fig. 81)

Architectural sustainability also plays an important role. For a good design it is necessary to take into account the urban dynamics and since cities
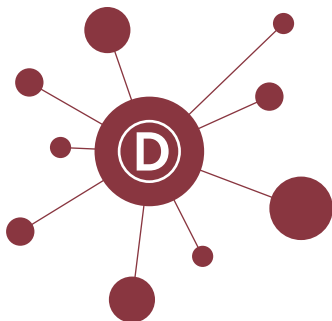
FIG. 81 | Dormitories' relationship with the surroundings
Image Credit: Scheme by the author

suffer from a strong sprawl and a large presence of vacant buildings, dormitories, often the result of renovations, are proposed as an excellent solution for regeneration of the built. (fig. 82)
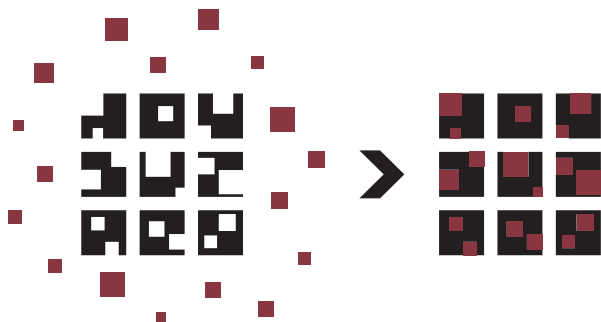

FIG. 82 | The effect of built regeneration against urban sprawl
Image Credit: Scheme by the author

This typology, being accessible from the economic point of view and, to some extents, also from the bureaucratic one, turns out to be fundamental, in particular in the early stages of homelessness, where there is a great need of reception on a large scale. They have the duty to present a "humanized" reception, i.e. «the importance of reflecting on how places can define the well-being of the people who inhabit them.»[281] In this regard, qualitative improvements about the amount of private space available for individuals, so as to increase the level of security, and the number of requirements for acceptance must be taken into account.

COHOUSING
The cohousing, despite being already included in the category Housing Led, proves to be a structure of medium quality and, in some ways, still too experimental and particular to address the problem of homelessness in emergency circumstances. This, like the tiny shelters, is demonstrated by the fact that this typology is very rarely

281. FEANTSA and Abbé Pierre Foundation, *Fourth Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2019*, p. 32, https://www.feantsa.org/download/oheeu_2019_eng_web5120646087993915253.pdf

mentioned in literature and in digital databases at European level and that the search for project examples dedicated to humanitarian aid is very difficult. At an architectural level, cohousing is a structure with ideological and community-related roots (participatory planning with tenants), where the spaces are designed to accommodate, in addition to private rooms for individuals, a series of common areas for coworking activities, seminars, workshops, educational activities or simply leisure. **The ultimate goal of cohousing is to create a thriving environment that balances private life with work and community**, and indeed the qualitative analysis shows how the characteristics of protection, security, and adequacy of space can allow all this.

However, the analysis of the emergency has revealed a number of problems. First of all, in the management field, the absence of support plans, both economic and medical-healthcare, fundamental in the path of reintegration of homeless people in society. Secondly, such a deep sense of collaboration starting from the design is certainly a very interesting theme (also because it actively contributes to the creation of a serene and peaceful environment) but almost impossible to achieve: homeless people, coming from different backgrounds, some very influential, are hardly willing to collaborate or to become familiar with strangers and certainly can not afford to submit to the long waiting times involved in the design process. Their needs are very different.

Last but not least, which generally characterises all Housing Led projects, there are numerous barriers, in particular rents, access requirements, availability of buildings and requests for admission, which severely limit acceptance of housing programmes.

The removal of barriers to access to housing services is one of the most discussed and vital issues within the Union. «The responses to homelessness should be integrated into the development and implementation of certain EU sectoral policies, such as policies on youth, gender equality, migration, health, disability, mobility, cohesion and urban development, as well as integration of Roma populations.»[282] No kind of classification should be allowed during reception procedures. The data in Chapter 2 and the considerations in Chapter 3 show that some population groups are clearly more subject to the

282. FEANTSA and Abbé Pierre Foundation, *Third Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2018*, p. 38, https://www.feantsa.org/download/full-report-en1029873431323901915.pdf

phenomenon, and if the structures are not able to meet their needs, homelessness risks remaining sectorialized and stagnant.

SOCIAL HOUSING AND HOUSING FIRST
Social Housing and Housing First are two types of distinct approaches that **represent, if well managed, the future of the fight against poverty** thanks to their characteristics, and for this reason it is worth analyzing them in parallel. **Given their long-term nature, unfortunately they are born as unsuitable to cope with the housing emergency, but in terms of investment they are the best resource in the overall picture**. From a qualitative point of view, in fact, according to the analyses, both typologies reach levels of protection, of offer of services (in the case of social housing only in the case in which the management of the property is entrusted to humanitarian organizations), of respect for privacy, of metrature per person and the possibility of residency second to none, creating a "humanized" environment for prolonged hospitality. On an urban scale, the system is different. Social housing residences are usually grouped into residential complexes, i.e. single volumes containing multiple apartments. This leads to two main considerations: the first is that the will of this type is to

maintain a certain degree of community experience in a limited area, the second concerns the location within the urban tissue, which must take place in strategic and well-defined points. On the
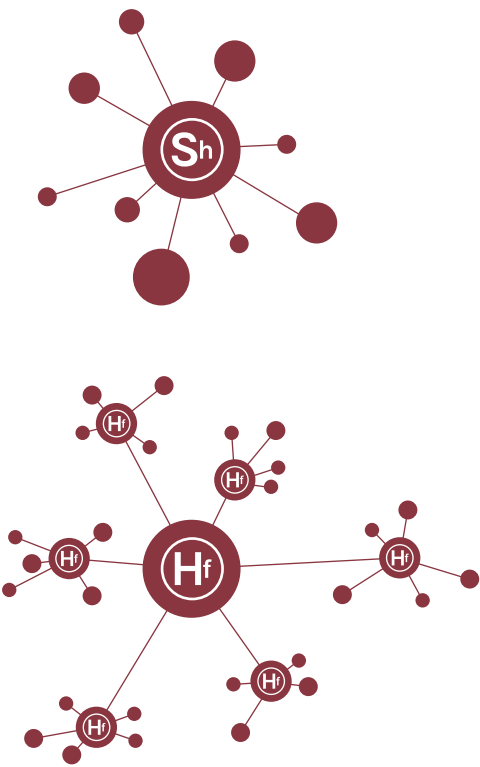

FIG. 83 | Differences between Social Housing and Housing First urban configuration
Image Credit: Scheme by the author

contrary, the apartments of Housing First, being managed by a central office through the partnership with several real estate agencies, it is difficult to concentrate them in a specific point (except for some cases), but it is much easier to find them scattered within the city. **This requires that the city itself be more structured so that tenants have the ability to move around easily and build relationships with the surrounding area and maintain those with service providers**. (fig. 83)

What compromises the effectiveness of the emergency response is the cost of rents (which, unlike cohousing, are amortised but are still too high for many), the reduced availability of accommodation facilities and, above all, the still **poor integration of these types of accommodation into national European strategies**.

The fight against homelessness cannot stop at the management of the emergency, destined for temporary structures, but must continue and take concrete form with investments aimed at improving existing accommodation structures and long-term housing solutions as a natural follow-up and as a system of prevention of the phenomenon. «The failure to combat homelessness and the maintenance of ineffective homelessness policies also have real economic costs,

which are sometimes greatly underestimated. When it becomes a long-term stop-gap solution and loses its primary function of responding to emergencies, accommodation inevitably entails very high costs.»[283]

For this reason it is necessary to act in this direction. A clear example of how effective long-term housing investment is, comes from Finland, the only country in the EU where there is a decline in the homeless population (fig. 84).

The Finnish government has adopted a policy of phasing out temporary services to make room for permanent ones. According to data[284] reported by the Y-Foundation, in Helsinki, between 1985 and 2016, supported housing increased from 127 to 1309 units, independent apartments on a rental basis from 65 to 2433 and hostels and night shelters decreased from 2121 to 52. **This drastic change is made possible by the fact that Finland has been investing for 20 years in integrative policies in favour of the less fortunate**. In parts of Europe such as the continental part, where awareness of the phenomenon is growing, or even in

283. FEANTSA and Abbé Pierre Foundation, *Fourth Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2019*, p. 45, https://www.feantsa.org/download/oheeu_2019_eng_web5120646087993915253.pdf
284. Y-Foundation, *A Home of your Own - Housing First and ending homelessness in Finland*, 2017, p. 30, https://ysaatio.fi/assets/files/2018/01/A_Home_of_Your_Own_lowres_spreads.pdf

NUMBER OF HOMELESS IN FINLAND 1987 - 2016
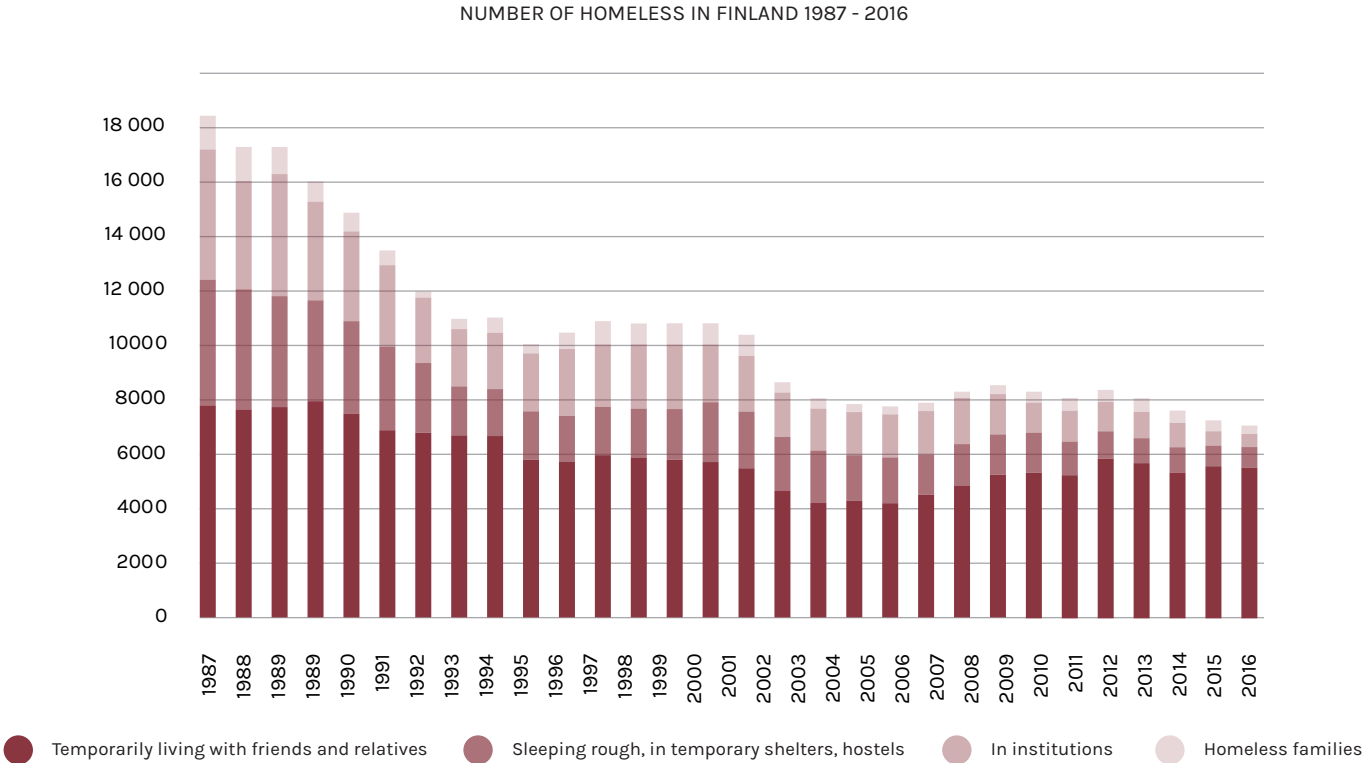
FIG. 84 | Number of homeless in Finland
Image Credit: (edit of) The Housing Finance and Development Centre of Finland via The Y-Foundation

the Eastern part, where a strong privatisation of the market and strong repercussions of the 2008 crisis still persists, there is still a long way to go, but not impossible.

Another important help comes from the funds that Europe allocates to Member States, such as the European Social Fund (ESF), of which at least 20% should be spent against discrimination and

the promotion of social inclusion, the European Regional Development Fund and the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived. According to FE-ANTSA, however, «**Unfortunately, investment in homelessness, whether from national or European funds, focuses on short-termist measures to manage the issue rather than strategic approaches that aim to end homelessness**. So far, we have, for example, noted a very small proportion of European funds being invested in housing infrastructure to provide a permanent home for homeless people. Generally speaking, European structural and investment funds very rarely reach the most vulnerable people.»[285]

285. FEANTSA and Abbé Pierre Foundation, *Fourth Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2019*, p. 54, https://www.feantsa.org/download/oheeu_2019_eng_web5120646087993915253.pdf

In conclusion, then, none of the types analyzed has the adequate characteristics to respond to the emergency demand, even if some approaches, but this does not mean that they are in themselves useless. If contextualized in particular circumstances, probably each of them is able to express its potential to the best of its ability. Tiny shelters, for example, could be useful as a refuge of fortune and transit for those who suddenly find themselves without shelter, or, if mass-produced, provide temporary shelter in the presence of large numbers of people (such as camps for refugees and migrants, which, however, were not investigated in this research) waiting for them to be distributed in safer structures. Otherwise, cohousing projects could be integrated into staircase pathways, so that users are gradually trained in an appropriate way to attempt participatory planning. Or, if dormitories were qualitatively ready to accommodate people for a prolonged period of time and more funds were invested in the construction of long-term structures, it is likely that the staircase system would also work properly and homelessness would no longer be seen as a vicious circle of people who periodically access and abandon support programs. In this way homeless people could hope to get a job and afford an apartment in Social Housing or Housing First.

All this to say that there is no single solution to the problem. As some case studies also show, structures that combine multiple types of reception (such as the *Stepping Stones* project in London or the dormitory in Pamplona) work better when compared to others in the same category because they address more groups of homeless trying to accommodate their different needs. In this direction, it would be interesting to study a hybrid architecture, which involves the collaboration of several types with the aim of concentrating and maximizing the effectiveness of reception.

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