Push

Ruth Owen, Deputy Director of FEANTSA
Ruth Owen is Deputy Director of the European Federation of National Associations Working with the Homeless (FEANTSA). She leads on a range of policy issues including housing. She holds a BA in Geography from University College London and is also an alumna of the UK TeachFirst programme.

Sorcha Edwards, Secretary General of Housing Europe
Sorcha Edwards is convinced of the need for decent housing for all in order for our societies to function. Housing Europe members have a key role in achieving that. She has a dedicated past in promoting inclusive housing policies and a fair energy transition in the EU and across Europe. She is skilled in international project management, policy analysis and influence, as well as social, cooperative and public housing promotion.

Anne-Sophie Dupont, Project Manager of RBDH
Anne-Sophie Dupont studied Political Science at the Université Libre de Bruxelles. Following this, she obtained a Masters degree in Human Rights at the Université Saint-Louis. She first worked for Samusocial Brussels, an organisation that offers emergency care and solutions for homeless people. She has been in her current position as a project manager at RBDH-BBTrW for 4 years. Her work includes raising awareness about the housing crisis among differing audiences. This is a strategy to grow the movement for the right to housing within Brussels.

Frédéric J.Saliez, Deputy Chief of UN-Habitat Office
Frédéric Saliez is a qualified Architect and Civil Engineer who has contributed to designing and implementing public policies in the fields of urban planning and design, social cohesion, environmental protection and cultural heritage, in a variety of countries. He started his career with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme in 2001. Since 2012 he has been the Deputy Chief of UN-Habitat Office for Europe and European Institutions, based in Brussels.

Carlos Jimenez, Spanish Desk Officer, the United Nations Regional Information Centre
Carlos Jimenez is the Desk Officer for Spain and Andorra at UNRIC, the United Nations Regional Information Centre in Brussels. He started his career at the United Nations in 1984 and has since worked at UN offices in New York, Madrid and Geneva. He studied journalism at the School of Communications of American University in Washington and was a correspondent at EFE, Spanish News Agency.

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World Day of Social Justice

World Day of Social Justice takes place on February, 20 2020. For the United Nations, the pursuit of social justice for all is at the core of our global mission to promote development and human dignity.

'Push' and our partner organisations focus particularly on Sustainable Development Goals 10 and 11

SDG 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries
SDG 11: Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

OHCHR

The Special Rapporteur on adequate housing is a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, one of the thematic special procedures overseen by the United Nations Human Rights Council. The Special Rapporteur is an independent expert who reports on the realization of the right to housing by identifying best practices, challenges, obstacles, and protection gaps related to housing. Leilani Farha is the current special rapporteur, she is also the Executive Director of the NGO Canada without poverty.

Housing Europe

Housing Europe is the European Federation of Public, Cooperative and Social Housing. Established in 1988, it is a network of 45 national and regional federations which together gather about 43,000 public, social and cooperative housing providers in 24 countries. Altogether they manage around 25 million homes. Social, public and co-operative housing providers have a vision of a Europe which provides access to decent and affordable housing for all in communities which are socially, economically and environmentally sustainable and where everyone is enabled to reach their full potential.

RBDH

Rassemblement Bruxellois pour le Droit à l'Habitat is a network of 55 Brussels non-profit organisations fighting for the right to housing within Brussels. RBDH works for the defense and realisation of the right to housing for all, with particular attention to vulnerable people. RBDH fight against all forms of discrimination in housing. RBDH wants to be a lever for change and for wider social justice, working on greater public awareness and wider support for the right to housing.

FEANTSA

FEANTSA is the European Federation of National Organisations Working with the Homeless, the only European NGO focusing exclusively on the fight against homelessness. FEANTSA's ultimate goal is an end to homelessness in Europe. Established in 1989, FEANTSA brings together non-profit services that support homeless people in Europe. They have over 130 member organisations from 30 countries, including 28 Member States. FEANTSA engage in constant dialogue with the European institutions, national and regional governments to promote the development and implementation of effective measures to end homelessness.

UN-HABITAT

UN-Habitat supports countries to implement the urban dimensions of the sustainable development agenda to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. The world urban forum which is convened by UN-Habitat has just taken place in Abu Dhabi, UAE. Running from the 9th - 13th February the forum was the 10th of its kind. The Forum is a way for the United Nations to address one of the most pressing issues facing the world today: rapid urbanization and its impact on communities, cities, economies, climate change and policies.