



# Symposium: Shaping a social future: Combating poverty in Hesse and Europe



14 October 2025



Hessian State Representation,  
Rue Montoyer 21,  
1000 Brussels & online



11:30 AM – 2:30 PM

## Event Details

This event marks the launch of the preparatory phase of the Action Plan Against Poverty by the Hessian Ministry of Labour, Integration, Youth, and Social Affairs, taking place within the framework of the European Week of Regions and Cities 2025 – in close cooperation with Pro Arbeit – Kreis Offenbach – AöR.

As part of this context, Pro Arbeit will present the European model project “Second Chance – Homeless People”, which will be introduced to a European audience for the first time during the event.

## ➔ Event type

Hybrid format – Join us in person or online

## ➔ Language

German and English  
(Simultaneous translation will be provided)

## ➔ Registration

**[Click here to register.](#)**

## ➔ Contact

If you have any questions, please contact:  
Pro Arbeit Organizing Team  
Judit Alema  
E-Mail: [j.alema@proarbeit-kreis-of.de](mailto:j.alema@proarbeit-kreis-of.de)



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# Programme

## Time

## Programme

From 11:30 a.m.	Reception and Lunch
12:00 a.m.	Opening Remarks by the Head of the Hessian State Representation
12:05 a.m.	Welcome and keynote speech <b>Heike Hofmann</b> , <i>Hessian Minister of State for Labour, Integration, Youth and Social Affairs</i>
12:15 a.m.	Keynote <b>Katarina Ivankovic Knezevic</b> , <i>Director, Social Rights and Inclusion, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission</i>
12:35 a.m.	Practical discussion: "What is Europe doing to overcome poverty?" <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Heike Hofmann</b>, <i>Hessian Minister of State for Labour, Integration, Youth and Social Affairs</i></li><li>• <b>Katarina Ivankovic Knezevic</b>, <i>Director, Social Rights and Inclusion, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission</i></li><li>• <b>Paulo Santos</b>, <i>Project Team Coordinator for the Municipal Plan for People without Homelessness 2024–2030, Câmara Municipal de Lisboa</i></li><li>• <b>Jürgen Schneider</b>, <i>Armutsnetzwerk e.V., Delegate for the European Anti-Poverty Network EAPN</i></li></ul> Question and answer session
1:20 p.m.	Current figures on homelessness: Significant increase in 2025 – young people particularly affected



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1:35 p.m.

Presentation of practical example: "Second chance – homeless people"

- **Pro Arbeit – Kreis Offenbach - AöR**
- **Paritätische Projekte GmbH**
- **City of Neu-Isenburg**

2:05 p.m.

Summary and closing remarks

**Heike Hofmann**, *Hessian Minister of State for Labour, Integration, Youth and Social Affairs*

2:10 - 2:30 p.m.

End of the event (cake buffet)



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