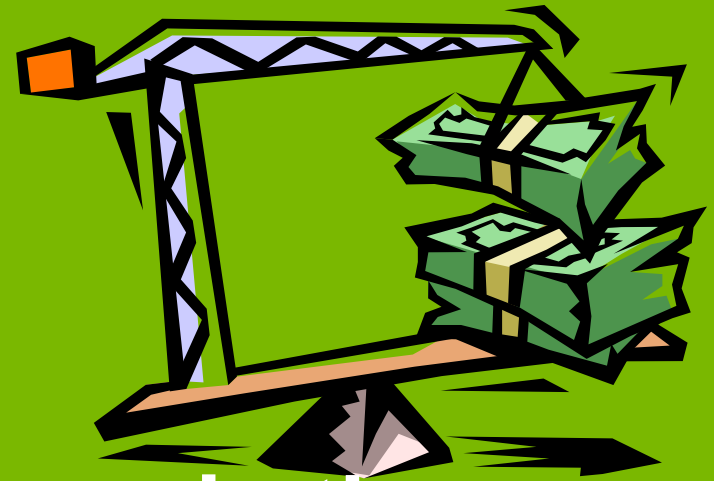


ara

Asumisen rahoitus-
ja kehittämiskeskus



Measuring Homelessness in the Nordic Countries

Asunnottomuus ja sen mittaaminen Pohjoismaissa

15.10.2018

Johtaja Jarmo Lindén

Asumisen rahoitus- ja kehittämiskeskus



Government Housing Agency –

Since 1949 over 1 million homes built with government loans and interest subsidy loans



1949 Housing Production Committee

- Government housing loan programme started 1.4.1949 ”to abolish temporary housing shortage in cities”
- Production loan system was named **ARAVA**

1966 National Housing Board (NHB)

- NHB was transferred under new Ministry of Environment 1983
- NHB was closed down in 1993, it had around 180 employees

1993 Housing Fund of Finland (ARA)

- ARA concentrated on social housing loans
- Agency had 70 employees at its best

2008 Housing Finance and Development Centre of Finland (New ARA)

- 58 employees – regionalised to Lahti (100 km North)

Picture: First ARAVA House 1949, Helsinki, Mannerheimintie 81

ara

Housing Finance and Development Centre of Finland (ARA)



- Current Government housing agency since 2008
- Operating under the Ministry of the Environment
- Implement government housing policy (loans, grants, guarantees)
- Guiding and monitoring the stock of Social Housing
- Providing housing market information (e.g. Homelessness)
- ARA have responsibilities of different government housing programs: program for reducing long term homelessness, program for improve elderly housing etc
- 58 employees



Action Plan for Preventing Homelessness in Finland 2016–2019

- **During the former programme to reduce long-term homelessness (2008–2015), the *Housing First principle* has been implemented**
 - homelessness and shelters have been replaced by housing units based on supported rental housing.
 - long-term homelessness decreased by 1,345 persons (35%). In 2015, homelessness decreased for the first time to fewer than 7,000 people.
 - Finland is the only EU country in which homelessness continues to decrease despite the economic recession and social pressures.
- **The goal of the new action plan is to link the work on homelessness more extensively to the whole of the work on preventing social exclusion based on the Housing First principle. Measures of the action plan:**
 - A. Preventing homelessness, B. Preventing the recurrence of homelessness, C. Agreements, and D. Coordination and joint development.



Municipal strategies to prevent homelessness

- **Project co-ordinated by ARA and funded by European social fund (2016-2018)**
 - Ensuring that the prevention of homelessness will take root in the cities
 - City-specific strategies aimed at preventing homelessness, the strategy process in the cities will be implemented in cooperation with multisectoral network and experts through experience
 - The project will help in the preparation, development and practical application of tools preventing homelessness
- **Shift of focus from targeted homelessness service to preventive actions and housing in normal housing stock**



Municipal strategies to prevent Homelessness

– early intervention, social inclusion and support



- Municipal Strategies to Prevent Homelessness
 - › Objectives
 - › Target groups
 - › Strategy work
 - › Expertise through experience
 - › Contact information

project duration : 3.2016-28.2.2019

Leverage from the EU 2014–2020



Home > Housing programs > Municipal Strategies to Prevent Homelessness > Objectives

Objectives

The overall objective of the project is to ensure that the prevention of homelessness will take root in the cities taking part in the project. City-specific strategies aimed at preventing homelessness working practices strengthening social inclusion of the customers are used as the tools in the project. The project will help in the preparation, development and practical application of these tools.

The objectives of the project are interlinked at four concrete levels:

1) At customer level, preventive solutions for housing, care and support meeting the needs of individuals and groups will be built

The emphasis will be on preventive housing advice and work forms encouraging customer initiative. These include expertise through experience and the promotion of rehabilitative work meaningful daily life.

Homelessness often leads to passivity and social exclusion, which can be prevented if the models helping to strengthen social inclusion and life management are part of the process everybody with housing.

2) At local level, preventive measures across service sectors and professional boundaries will be launched

Such preventive measures across boundaries will help to build solutions that are sustainable from the customer's perspective. The solutions can be achieved through cooperation between the professionals engaged in housing advisory services, social work, debt counselling, intoxicant and mental health employment subsidies and expertise through experience. The resulting savings will be invested in preventive work.

3) At national level, the aim is to ensure the development, dissemination and introduction of workable and promising solutions

In addition to making comprehensive use of the solutions, the aim is also to identify administrative and professional practices that promote or interfere with the prevention of homelessness. The project will help in the preparation, development and practical application of these tools.



ARA is participating EU-COST Action "Measuring Homelessness in Europe" MEHO since 2017 (2016-2020)

e-COST

Home | COST Actions | COST Association | CA15218

CA COST Action CA15218

Measuring homelessness in Europe

There is no consensus yet concerning the most valid and reliable methods to measure and monitor homelessness in Europe. A coordinated European approach, as will be achieved in this COST Action is necessary to tackle these limitations in research and make progress on the development of a European wide scientifically based methodology to measure homelessness. More specifically, the purpose of this network is (1) to bring together the expertise and knowledge with regard to measuring homelessness, (2) to tackle specific measurement challenges (such as hidden homelessness, homelessness careers and the diffusion between homelessness and migration) and (3) to create a common European framework on measuring homelessness.

(Descriptions are provided by the Actions directly via e-COST.)



COST Association COST Action CA15218

► Description

► Parties

► Management Committee

General Information*

Chair of the Action:

[Prof Koen HERMANS](#) (BE)

Vice Chair of the Action:

[Prof Volker BUSCH-GEERTSEMA](#) (DE)

Science officer of the Action:

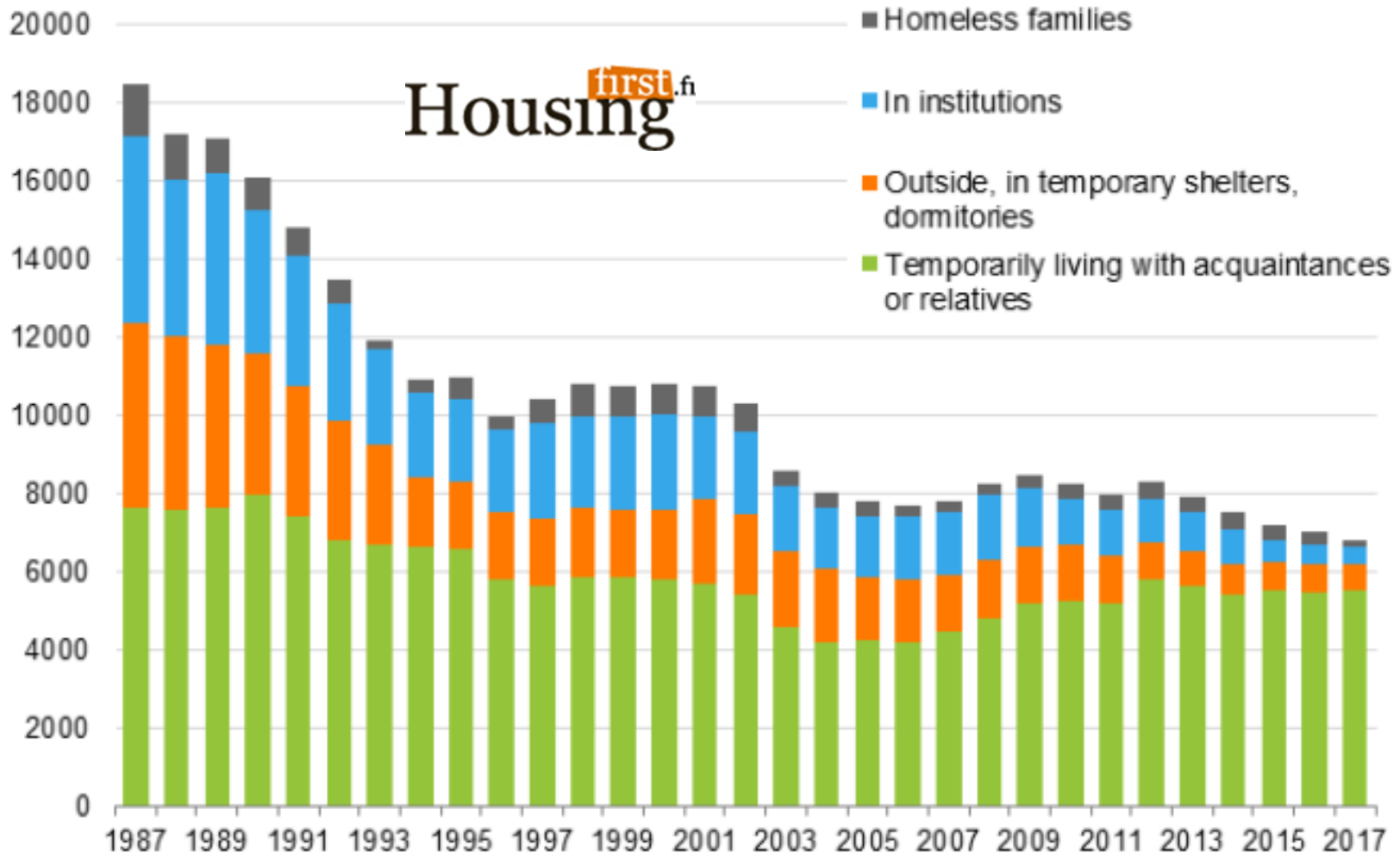
[Dr Rossella MAGLI](#)

Administrative officer of the Action:

[Ms Svetlana VOINOVA](#)



ARA Homelessness Reports has been published since 1987 – 31th Edition was released in February





Measuring Homelessness has been established in all Nordic Countries

- **Norway** **Denmark** **Sweden** Only in **Finland** Homelessness has been measured **annually since 1987**
- 1996 2007 1993
- 2003 2009 1999 Other Nordic countries have started later.
- 2005 2011 2005
- 2008 2013 2011 Nowadays measuring is done every second year in Denmark, every fourth in Norway, every sixth in Sweden
- 2012 2015 2017
- 2016 2017



Who is measuring?- Tiedonkeruun ja analysoinnin toteuttajat:

- **Norjassa** toteuttaja Oslon korkeakoulun kaupunki- ja aluetutkimusinstituutti (NIBR), projektinjohtaja **Evelyn Dyb**. Selvityksellä ollut laaja seurantaryhmä. Raportti (217 s.): <http://www.hioa.no/Om-HiOA/Senter-for-velferds-og-arbeidslivsforskning/NIBR/Publikasjoner/Bostedsloese-i-Norge-2016>
- Tanskassa Kansallinen hyvinvoinnin tutkimus- ja analyysikeskus (VIVE, muodostettu hiljattain fuusioimalla tutkimuslaitoksia). Projektinjohtajana vanhempi tutkija **Lars Benjaminsen** + seurantaryhmä tukena. Raportti (146 s): <https://www.sfi.dk/publikationer/hjemloeshed-i-danmark-2017-13453/>
- Ruotsissa Sosiaalhallitus (SOS).Projektinjohtajina **Charlotta Fondén** ja **Nina Frohm**. Raportti (109 s): <http://www.socialstyrelsen.se/publikationer2017/2017-11-15>

Muissa pohjoismaissa tiedonkeruu tehdään Suomea korkeammalla profiililla – Who is mandating the task?

- Tanskassa selvityksen tilaa Lapsi- ja sosiaaliministeriö (noin 150 000 € määräraha)
- Ruotsissa Sosiaalihallitus saa selvitystehtävän hallituksen ohjauskirjeessä (Regleringsbrev), jossa myös määritellään voimavarat
- Norjassa hallitus tilaa selvityksen ja osoittaa siihen 1,5 miljoonaa NOK (= 155 000 €)



Muissa pohjoismaissa yksilökohtainen tiedonkeruumenetelmä

- *Tiedonkerääjä* (VIVE, NIBR, SOS) kerää ja ylläpitää respondenttien luetteloa = tahot joiden kanssa asunnottomat tekemisissä
- Respondentti täyttää yhdessä tai ilman *kustakin asunnottomasta kyselylomakkeen* (sähköinen tai paperilomake): 2 sivua (Ruotsi 9 s)
- Kukin *asunnoton yksilöidään*, mutta tietosuoja otetaan huomioon: nimen alkukirjaimet, syntymäaikana, henkilötunnus tai UNO-koodi (Ruotsi)

- **Norja:** vastaajia **1059**, tärkein NAV (työvoima- ja hyvinvointihallinto, joka on sekä valtiollinen että kunnallinen fuusioviranomainen)
- **Ruotsi:** vastaajia **1489**, joista 1070 kuntasektorilta (socialtjänst yleisin), 5 % asunnottomat itse olleet mukana... *"Det finns hemlösa som inte har kontakt med någon myndighet eller organisation"*
- **Tanska:** vastaajia **1210**, joka oli 85% kaikista luetteloiduista 1428 yksiköistä, jotka edustavat *"sociale tilbud og myndigheter"*



Definition of Homelessness based on ETHOS LIGHT

OPERATIONAL CATEGORY		LIVING SITUATION		DEFINITION
1	People living rough	1	Public spaces / external spaces	Living in the streets or public spaces without a shelter that can be defined as living quarters
2	People in emergency accommodation	2	Overnight shelters	People with no place of usual residence who move frequently between various types of accommodation
3	People living in accommodation for the homeless	3	Homeless hostels	Where the period of stay is time-limited and no long-term housing is provided
		4	Temporary accommodation	
		5	Transitional supported accommodation	
		6	Women's shelters or refuge accommodation	
4	People living in institutions	7	Health care institutions	Stay longer than needed due to lack of housing
		8	Penal institutions	No housing available prior to release
5	People living in non-conventional dwellings due to lack of housing	9	Mobile homes	Where the accommodation is used due to a lack of housing and is not the person's usual place of residence
		10	Non-conventional buildings	
		11	Temporary structures	
6	Homeless people living temporarily in conventional housing with family and friends (due to lack of housing)	12	Conventional housing, but not the person's usual place of residence	Where the accommodation is used due to a lack of housing and is not the person's usual place of residence

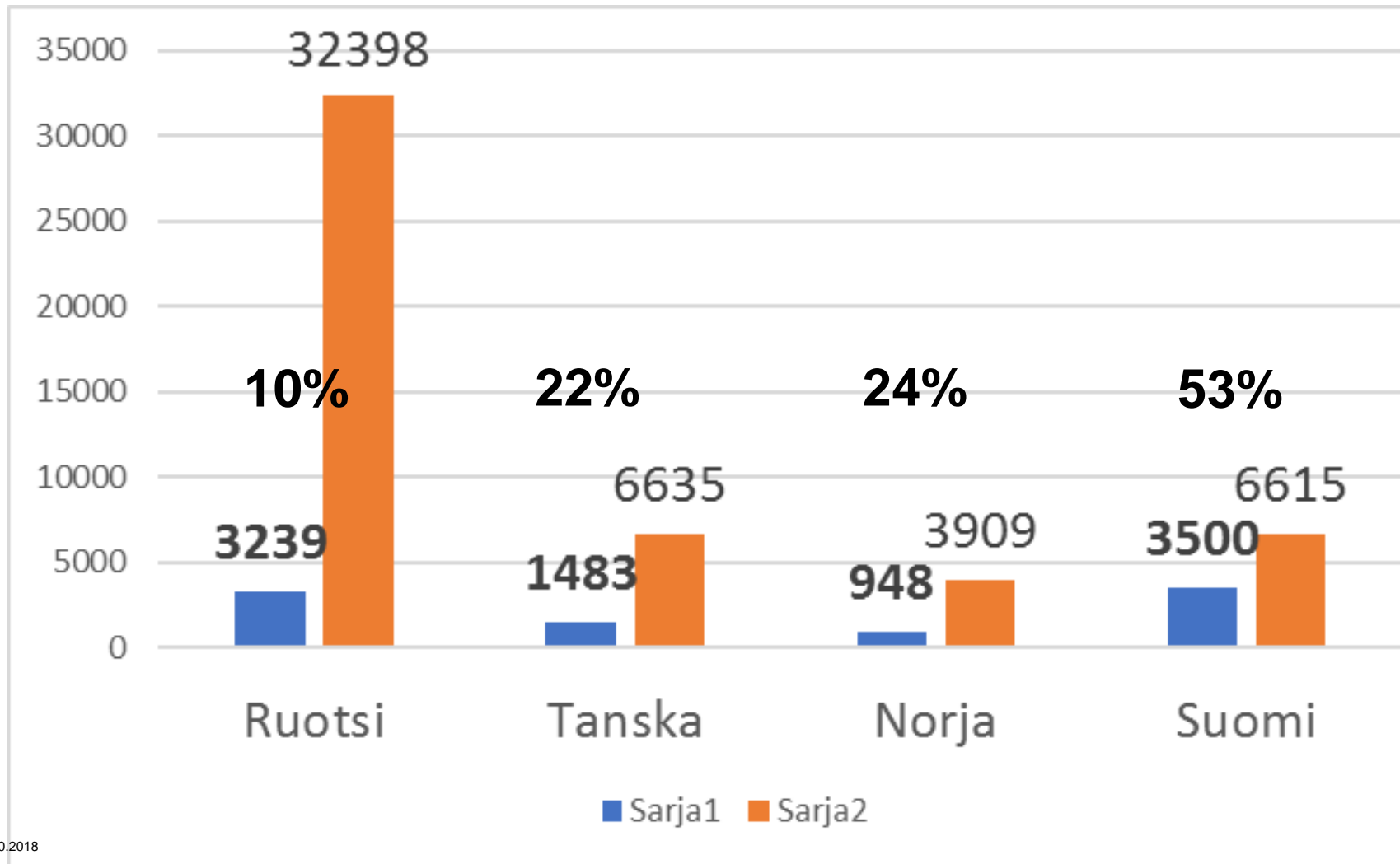


All Point in Time (PIT) monitoring of Homelessness

Kaikki poikkileikkaustutkimuksia Point in Time:

- Norja: Viikko 48 vuonna 2016 (28.11-4.12.2016)
- Tanska: Viikko 6 vuonna 2017 (6.-12.2.2017)
- Ruotsi: Viikko 14 vuonna 2017 (3.-9.4.2017)
- Suomi: 15.11.2017

Homelessness in Nordic Countries and the share of the capital city



ara

Even in Iceland Homelessness is rising!

Homelessness increases



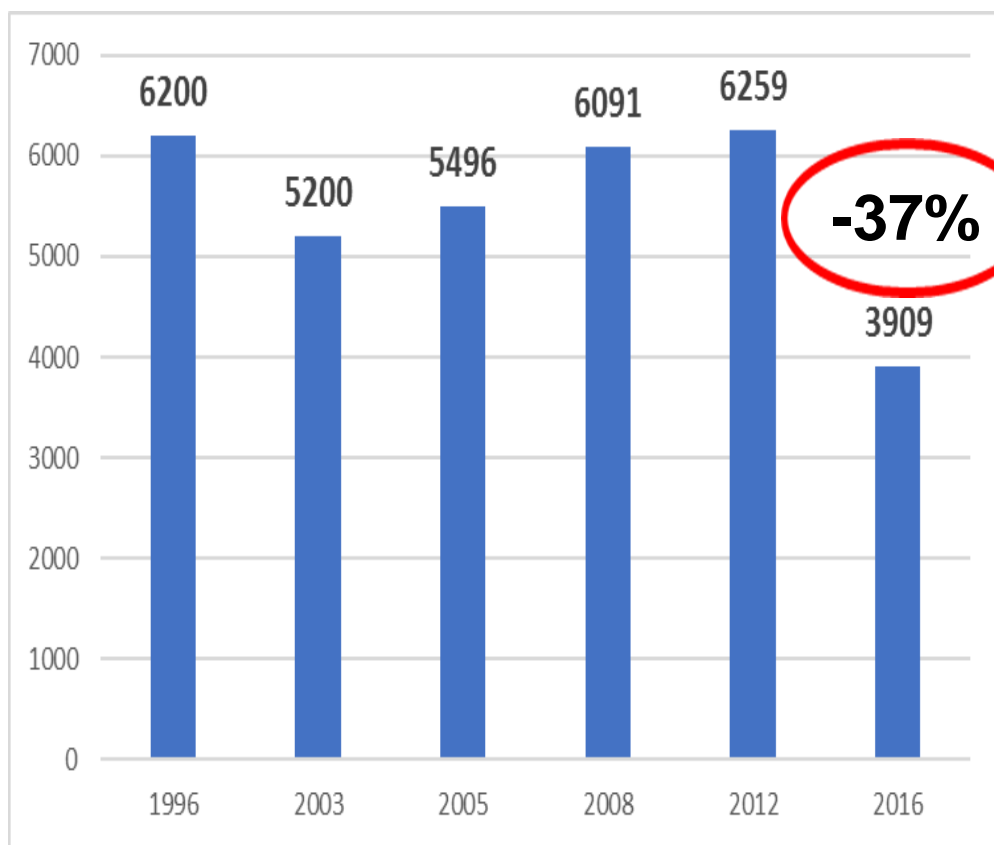
349 people are homeless or experiencing housing exclusion

95% increase since 2012

Parliamentary commissioner for administration recommends the Minister of Social Affairs and Equality take a position towards whether or not the ministry pay closer attention to the status of homelessness.



In Norway there has been long-term and committed work against homelessness with the help of Husbanken



- **Satsing på boligsosialt arbeid og kompetense:**
- Prosjekt bostedsløse 2001-2004
- Nasjonal strategi mot bostedsløshet 2005-2007
- Boligsosialt utviklingsprogram
- Bolig for velferd 2014 – 2020
- tyngre forankring i kommunene

- **boligledet strategi:** bostedsløshet blir forstått som et boligproblem og ikke primært eller utelukkende som et sosialt problem

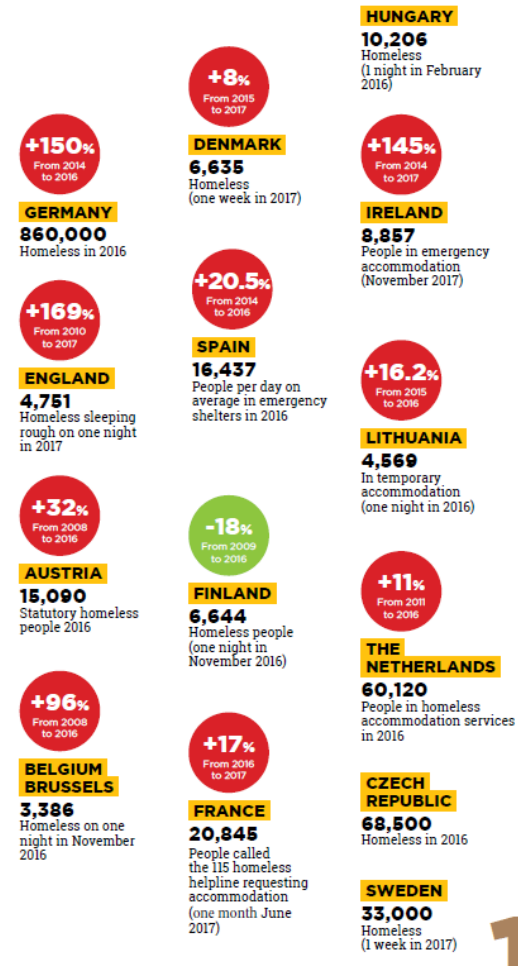
ara

Homelessness is rising in Europe ... except in Finland (and Norway)

Feantsa: The Third Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe (2018)

THE OTHER EUROPE

COLD REALITY
FIGURES ON HOMELESSNESS
*NON-COMPARABLE



0

See sources and more detailed information in appendices, page 100.

1