

Committee on Employment and Social Affairs Chair

To the Chairperson(s) of the committee(s) concerned

Subject: Invitation to the Interparliamentary Committee Meeting (ICM) -"Affordable Housing for All – Policy Approaches and Best Practice Cases in the Member States"

Dear Chair,

With the aim of discussing housing policies, the European Parliament's Committee on Employment and Social Affairs will hold an Interparliamentary Committee Meeting (ICM) entitled "Affordable Housing for All – Policy Approaches and Best Practice Cases in the Member States." This conference is organised in cooperation with the Special Committee on the Housing Crisis in the European Union (HOUS).

On behalf of the EMPL Committee, I would like to invite you to attend the ICM, which will be held at the European Parliament in Brussels on Wednesday, 9 April, 2025, from 14:30 to 17:30.

The event is organised in response to the escalating housing crisis across Europe, which demands a multifaceted policy approach at both the EU and Member State levels. Affordable housing is not only a fundamental human right but also plays a critical role in ensuring social stability, promoting employment, and enhancing overall social welfare in the EU. Rising housing costs, mass tourism, and the growth of short-term rentals have increasingly limited access to adequate housing, directly impacting citizens' quality of life, employment opportunities, and long-term financial security.

By bringing together representatives from the European Parliament, national parliaments, EU institutions, and key NGOs, this event will assess the diverse impacts of the housing crisis—particularly its connection to employment and social welfare—while exploring policy solutions. A key focus will be aligning these efforts with the European Affordable Housing Plan, recently announced by the European Commission, which aims to address structural issues related to housing supply, affordability, and sustainability in Member States.

The meeting will also serve as a platform to exchange successful strategies and best practices from various Member States, enabling participants to identify effective housing policies that can be adapted and implemented across the EU.

In this discussion, the role of national parliaments is crucial. I therefore count on your participation and look forward to your valuable contributions to these important topics.

Please find enclosed the preliminary draft agenda. Practical details regarding the meeting will be provided at a later stage.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Michal Chajn (michal.chajn@europarl.europa.eu) or Nicolas Troch (nicolas.troch@europarl.europa.eu).

I look forward to welcoming you to the European Parliament on 9 April, 2025.

Yours sincerely,

Li ANDERSSON

Inter-parliamentary Committee Meeting "Affordable Housing for All – Policy Approaches and Best Practice Cases in the Member States"

9 April 2025, afternoon (14:30-17:30 TBC)

European Parliament, Brussels

*** DRAFT AGENDA***

Opening session (30')

interventions by:

- Chair EMPL
- Chair HOUS
- Commissioner Jorgensen (TBC)
- Executive Director of UN Habitat (TBC)
- European Platform on Combating Homelessness (TBC)

1. The Financialisation of Housing and Its Social Consequences: Addressing Speculation, Housing Exclusion and Homelessness (50')

- 2 key note speakers
- debate/questions
- concluding remarks/ answers by the speakers

2. Inclusive Housing for Vulnerable Populations, Ageing Societies and Persons with Disabilities: Challenges, Solutions, and Investment Opportunities (50')

- 2 key note speakers
- debate/questions
- concluding remarks/ answers by the speakers

3. Scaling up Affordable, Sustainable and Climate-resilient Housing: Investment, Innovation, and Best Practices (50')

- 2 key note speakers
- debate/questions
- concluding remarks/ answers by the speakers