

## **NICOLAS SCHMIT**

MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION JOBS AND SOCIAL RIGHTS

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Brussels, 02, 06, 2021 Ares (2021)

Dear Ms. Avonto,

Thank you for your letter of 23 April 2021. I would like to express my gratitude for the work that fio.PSD - Italian Federation of Organizations Working with Homeless People pursues to fight against severe adult marginalisation and homelessness in Italy.

The fight against poverty and social exclusion of vulnerable and marginalised groups is a priority within my mandate. The European Commission is constantly engaged in coordinating and encouraging national actions and policy instruments to fight poverty and social exclusion. The 20 principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights guide our actions towards a strong Social Europe that is fair, inclusive and full of opportunities, along with the new 2030 headline targets announced in the Pillar Action Plan presented by the European Commission earlier in March. The headline targets were welcomed by Heads of State and Government at the Porto Social Summit, including the target of reducing the number of persons at risk of poverty or social exclusion by at least 15 million.

Fighting against severe adult marginalisation, homelessness and housing exclusion requires a joint effort between European institutions, national, regional and local authorities, social partners and civil society. The Commission will launch the European Platform for Combatting Homelessness on 21 June in Lisbon, in cooperation with the Portuguese Presidency. The Platform aims to bring attention and galvanise action towards eradicating homelessness in the EU.

I welcome your offer of cooperation and dialogue in order to achieve tangible progress in this field.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Cristina Avonto, fio.PSD President

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