



Petition text

We are calling for concrete actions to achieve the **progressive realisation of adequate, accessible and enabling Minimum Income Schemes** as part of comprehensive social protection systems supported by an **EU Framework Directive**.

Why is this important?

Almost 119 million people, or 23.7 % of the EU population, are at risk of poverty or social exclusion. [1]

We, members of [the European Minimum Income Network](#), are convinced that this is not inevitable, but the consequence of political choices. One of these political choices to be made is the progressive realisation of well-designed Minimum Income

Schemes: **guaranteeing income support for everybody who needs it, for as long as they need it, enough to live a life in dignity and fully participate in society, adapted to the cost of living in every European country.**

Today, we are asking you to **show your support for the fight against poverty and for Guaranteed Minimum Income**

Schemes because:

- Well-designed Minimum Income Schemes **support people and families with limited financial means to live in dignity.**
- Well-designed Minimum Income Schemes support people to **be active in society** and facilitate their **progressive (re)integration into the labour market.**
- Well-designed Minimum Income Schemes are essential to **ensure cohesion and to manage transitions in the current changing world of work.**
- Well-designed Minimum Income Schemes set a **minimum floor for income levels** and therefore help to **ensure decent wages** and help to **reverse the dangerous trend of 'working poor'**.
- Well-designed Minimum Income Schemes are indispensable for **more equal societies** and more equal societies are better for the whole of society.

The money from Minimum Income is immediately spent in local shops and on local services so is crucial to **maintain economic activity** particularly in areas experiencing high levels of disadvantage.

- Minimum Income Schemes represent a **small percentage of social spending** and have a **high return on investment**, while the cost of non-investment has enormous negative impacts for individuals concerned and high long-term costs for society.
- In cash-based societies the **absence of good quality Minimum Income Schemes** exposes people to **take intolerable risks.**

The European Pillar of Social Rights [2] sets out *"the right to adequate minimum income benefits ensuring a life in dignity at all stages of life for everyone lacking sufficient resources"*; ensuring progress on the access to this right, affirmed in the European Charter of Fundamental Rights [3], is essential for the credibility of the EU.

Well-designed Minimum Income Schemes are **adequate to live in dignity**, providing **comprehensive coverage for all people who need the schemes for as long as they need it**, and **promote people's empowerment and participation in society.**

Follow our campaign on www.eminbus.eu

Show your support and sign the petition!