

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000071/25
to the Commission
Nikolaos Anadiotis (NI)
(10 January 2025)**

Subject: The problem of housing for young people in the EU

Leaving the family home and moving to a new place is a crucial milestone in the transition from youth to adulthood. Decisions of this kind are crucially influenced by, among other things, the state of the job market, cultural conventions, and the economic factors linked to the cost of housing and the cost of living generally.

According to recent Eurostat data, the average age of young people (aged 15-29) leaving their family home in 2023 in the EU was 26.3 years, while the corresponding average in Greece was 30.6 years. Furthermore, 26% of young people were living in overcrowded flats, i.e. 9.2% more than the percentage for the general population.

In view of the above:

1. Is the Commission satisfied with the results achieved to date through the strategies and policies that have been implemented to support young people with housing issues?
2. What funding proposals and tools is it considering in order to help young people overcome the difficulties associated with access to quality, affordable housing?
3. How does it intend to adapt its strategies to ensure that young Europeans have the necessary support to achieve a smooth transition to an independent life?

Submitted: 10.1.2025

**Answer given by Mr Jørgensen on behalf of the European Commission
(6 May 2025)**

The Commission shares the Honourable Member's concerns about the housing situation in the EU. The high overburden rate ⁽¹⁾ of households shows the seriousness of the situation.

The Commission has therefore appointed for the first time a Commissioner responsible for Housing and established a Task Force for Housing to coordinate the different work streams.

The Commission will support Member States and local authorities to address structural drivers of the housing crisis and unlock public and private investment for affordable and sustainable housing.

The Commission will put forward a European Affordable Housing Plan. To develop the Plan, the Commission will consult extensively stakeholders in 2025 to further consider all the issues on housing, including through a Youth Dialogue on housing.

In respect of funding and financing, various EU funds are already available for Member States and local authorities to support social and affordable housing and student housing ⁽²⁾. The Commission already proposed to double the amount of cohesion policy funding dedicated to affordable housing ⁽³⁾.

However, EU funds will not be enough to overcome the housing crisis and there is a need to attract more public and private investment for housing.

This is why, the Commission works closely with financial institutions such as the European Investment Bank (EIB), national promotional banks and other relevant stakeholders on this matter.

⁽¹⁾ The housing cost overburden rate is the percentage of the population living in households where the total housing costs ('net' of housing allowances) represent more than 40% of disposable income ('net' of housing allowances). https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Glossary:Housing_cost_overburden_rate

⁽²⁾ To assist Member States, the Commission has published a toolkit that provides an overview of available EU funding opportunities in housing: Social Housing and beyond. <https://european-social-fund-plus.ec.europa.eu/en/news/commission-launches-toolkit-support-social-housing-member-states>; The Recovery and Resilience Facility; the European Regional Development Fund; the European Social Fund Plus; the InvestEU; the Horizon Europe; the Technical Support Instrument; the Single Market Programme; the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund; the Social Climate Fund. Details on each EU support in the toolkit. In addition, the Cohesion Fund and the Just Transition Fund also support the investments in the energy efficiency of housing stock. Details are available in story 'how cohesion policy supports housing' at the Cohesion open data platform.

⁽³⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_929/ — Proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulations (EU) 2021/1058 and (EU) 2021/1056 as regards specific measures to address strategic challenges in the context of the mid-term review (COM(2025) 123).

As a first step, the Commission and the EIB group have recently laid foundations for a new pan-European investment platform for affordable and sustainable housing ⁽⁴⁾.

The Commission will continue to strengthen its contribution to mitigating the housing crisis, including for youth in its future actions.

⁽⁴⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_671