

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002475/25
to the Commission
Afroditi Latinopoulou (PfE)
(18 June 2025)**

Subject: Impact of illegal immigration on housing and urban centres in the EU

In addition to surging crime rates, the ghettoisation of urban centres and social unrest, the uncontrolled influx of illegal immigrants on the European continent has led to a serious lack of available housing, and thus skyrocketing rental prices. Will the Commission therefore answer the following:

1. What data does it have on the correlation between the increase in the number of illegal immigrants and asylum seekers and the availability of housing in the EU cities where concentrations thereof have been observed?
2. What measures has it taken to support Member States and cities in which the housing problem has demonstrably worsened as a direct consequence of illegal immigration?
3. Does it intend to propose financial instruments aimed at relieving urban centres that shoulder a disproportionate burden due to the concentration of illegal immigrants and asylum seekers, in order to ensure social cohesion and affordable housing for European citizens?

Submitted: 18.6.2025

**Answer given by Mr Jørgensen on behalf of the European Commission
(24 September 2025)**

The Commission does not possess evidence on the correlation between data on irregular migration and asylum seekers and the availability of housing in EU cities.

At the same time, available data show that migrants are increasingly affected by the ongoing housing crisis as they face obstacles in securing stable and affordable living conditions ⁽¹⁾.

While housing is largely a competence of Member States, the Commission will put forward a European Affordable Housing Plan to support EU countries, regions and cities in increasing the supply of affordable and sustainable housing and improve access to housing for people in need.

Regarding financing, various EU funds are available for Member States and local authorities to support affordable and social housing ⁽²⁾. In addition, the Commission put forward a proposal ⁽³⁾ to enable Member States and regions to increase their investments in affordable housing under Cohesion policy.

The Commission services also put forward a new financial instrument model for affordable housing ⁽⁴⁾. The Commission works with the European Investment Bank, national promotional banks and international financial institutions on a pan-European investment platform to attract more private and public investment for affordable and sustainable housing.

Moreover, the Commission plans to amend its state aid rules related to services of general economic interest to give Member States a flexible tool to subsidise affordable housing projects without undue distortion in the private housing market or detrimental effect on social housing initiatives.

⁽¹⁾ Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)/European Commission (2023), *Indicators of Immigrant Integration 2023: Settling In*, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/1d5020a6-en> (4. Living conditions of immigrants).

⁽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>), including: 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. 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: https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/whats-new/panorama/2025/03/03-12-2025-how-cohesion-policy-helps-solve-europe-s-housing-crisis_en.

⁽³⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:52025DC0163>.

⁽⁴⁾ For combining Cohesion policy funding with resources from the European Investment Bank and other financial institutions) https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/communication/mid-term-review-2025/swd-affordable-housing-2025_en.pdf.