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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Mînzatu
on behalf of the European Commission
(26.8.2025)

The Commission is acting on affordable student housing in various ways: the first-ever European Affordable Housing Plan will support countries, regions & cities in increasing the supply of affordable and sustainable housing, including for students. Through InvestEU's Advisory Hub¹ and Fund, the EU has been helping higher education institutions design, implement and fund the construction and renovation of student accommodation.

Under Cohesion Policy², EUR 7.5 billion of EU budget support is planned for housing (2021–2027). Member States can allocate funding for social housing, including student housing. In April 2025, the Commission has encouraged and enabled Member States to double the amounts currently planned, offering a 100% co-financing rate and 30% pre-financing, if allocating in 2025.

The Recovery and Resilience Facility³ is supporting investments and reforms with over EUR 22 billion allocated to social housing and other social infrastructure.

The Commission adopted a Communication on a comprehensive approach to mental health⁴, with 20 flagships and financing opportunities worth EUR 1.23 billion to support Member States. In particular for youth, European programmes already provide targeted support to help overcome the barriers to participation, including mental health-related challenges. Erasmus+ fosters inclusive approaches to higher education, mobility, and cooperation activities including through promoting support for the mental health.

Both of these issues will remain central in shaping EU recommendations and funding programmes. The Commission is committed to continue its work on student welfare, addressing especially equal access to higher education, student housing and living conditions, and health.

¹ https://investeu.europa.eu/investeu-programme_en.

² 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://commission.europa.eu/business-economy-euro/economic-recovery_en.

⁴ https://health.ec.europa.eu/publications/comprehensive-approach-mental-health_en?prefLang=ro.