

Capacity Building Workshop
of the EUUA Housing Partnership, hosted by the Committee of the Regions
on
„State Aid and Affordable Housing investments“

Wednesday, 23 May 2018
9.00 – 17:00
Committee of the Regions
VMA Building, 2nd floor, Room VMA 1
Rue van Maerlant 2, 1000 Brussels

Programme

8:30	Registration , coffee & tea
9:00	Introduction: CoR Member Hicham Imane , "The challenges of social housing providers in European cities and regions and the need for a European Agenda for Housing"
9:15	Introduction: Henrik Morch, Director DG COMP : "Raison d'être of target group for social housing in state aid rules" Followed by Q&A
10:00	Keynote: Dr. Orna Rosenfeld, Urban Studies, Sciences Politiques, Paris , "Fragmentation of the Housing Markets and the State Intervention" Followed by Q&A
10:45	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:00	Practical examples from the ground: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anna Harasimowicz, City of Poznan, Poland (tbc) • Knut Höller, Housing Initiative for Eastern Europe • Laurent Ghekiere, Union Sociale pour l'Habitat, France • Ronald Paping, Woonbond, Netherlands
12.30	Reactions from legal experts on EU level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barbara Cattrysse, Senior Legal Counsel, State aid Expert, EIB Corporate Legal Department • Viktor Kreuschitz, judge at the General Court • MEP Evelyn Regner, JURI Committee, European Parliament
13.00	<i>Lunch break</i> <i>upon friendly invitation of Union Sociale pour l'Habitat</i>
13:45	Splitting up into smaller groups Several moderators will facilitate discussions
14.00	Interactive group discussions: "In the shoes of Commissioner Vestager" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How EU state aid regulation affects housing investment • What guidance is needed for use of SGEI rules • How to increase legal certainty of SGEI Decision for local responsables
15:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
15.30	Interactive group discussions: "In the shoes of a Mayor" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to develop EU-proof affordable housing policies on local level • How cities can organise decision making process and EU compliance • Which methods for state aid assessment exist on local level
16:30	Reports from group discussions and conclusions
16:50	Closing remarks: MEP Agnes Jongerius, EMPL Committee (tbc)
17:00	End of meeting

Additional information

This capacity building workshop of the Urban Partnership for Affordable Housing aims at showcasing how the prevailing legal uncertainty in state aid law creates obstacles for public investment in housing. It wishes to contribute to develop knowledge and mutual understanding on the use of state support in the housing sector in general and the multi-story apartment buildings in particular. Speakers and participants from the legal field and affordable housing scene will discuss how regulations and/or guidance can be improved to increase the supply of affordable housing. With this event, Housing Partnership is delivering one of its core actions in the work strand for "better legislation" in the EU Urban Agenda.

Language:

The conference will be held in English.

Conference moderator:

Michaela Kauer, Co-Coordinator of the Housing Partnership, City of Vienna

Group discussion moderators:

Susanne Bauer, City of Vienna

Silvia Ganzerla, EUROCITIES

Sebastien Garnier, axHa

Matthieu Hornung, CoR

Registrations:

Please, note that **space is limited to 55 participants**, and **register until Monday, May 7th, 2018** to Andrea König at Vienna House Brussels:

andrea.koenig@wien.gv.at

Due to formal procedures at the host organisation CoR, you will receive a **confirmation mail** and be asked to **submit details for the formal registration** procedure shortly after your request, as function, ID type and number, birth date and contact details.

Media coverage:

This is a public event hosted by CoR. Press will be invited, photographers and a camera team will be present for (social) media coverage as well as Housing Partnership and CoR publications. With your confirmation to attend you agree to publication of your participation.

Useful links:

- Background information on the work of the Housing Partnership on better regulation can be found here:
<https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/housing/partnership-housing-delivers-guidance-state-aid-and-toolkit-affordable-housing>
- Guidance paper on EU regulation and public support for housing, adopted by the Housing Partnership in March 2017 is available here:
<https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/housing/guidance-paper-eu-regulation-and-public-support-housing-0>

Contact:

For additional information or other queries, you may contact the organisers at the Brussels Liaison Office of the City of Vienna:

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