

Netherlands Institute for Human Rights



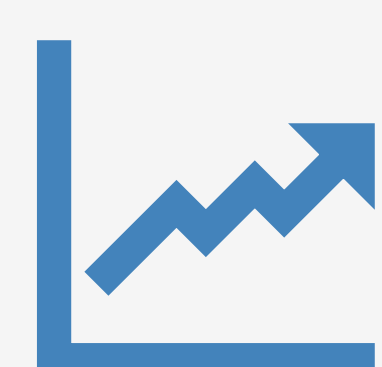
ESR Issue

Homelessness violates the right to adequate housing and limits the realisation of other rights. It has been a growing problem in the Netherlands, especially for young people. Over the past five years, the estimated number of homeless youth in the Netherlands has increased by 50%.



NHRI Action

Together with a Dutch youth-homelessness foundation, the NHRI facilitated a meeting between the state authorities and a homeless youth group on the issues they face to create a space to share stories and experiences and convey the magnitude of the problem. The NHRI also dedicated a prize to a renowned activist in the field to underline the importance of the issue.



Impact

Based in part on the NHRI's recommendation, the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport has drafted an action plan to tackle youth homelessness. Human rights, specifically realising the right to housing, form the foundation of this plan. Homeless people have been and are still involved in the process by participating in the monitoring and execution of the plan.



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