



## Looking at deinstitutionalization practices in EU national contexts: Spotlight on Czechia, Malta and Spain

EEG study session

[Register here](#)

12 October 2023, 14:00 to 16:00 CEST

This study session organised by the [European Expert Group](#) on the transition from institutional to community-based care will take place in the afternoon of 12 October 2023. It aims to bring together professionals, people who are institutionalised, their families and representative organisations to discuss the shift toward meaningful inclusion in the community.

A diverse group of people in the European Union are still institutionalised, and deinstitutionalisation processes are at different stages. The study session is an opportunity to help improve understanding of the deinstitutionalisation (DI) process in the EU where participants will discuss the initiatives in place in their country to advance the DI process for several concerned communities. We have invited expert speakers from both civil society and governments from Czechia, Malta and Spain to present and discuss with the audience the different deinstitutionalisation processes in their countries.

More specifically, the study session will focus on large-scale mental health reforms in Czechia, deinstitutionalisation of people with disabilities in Malta, and a pilot project on deinstitutionalisation of people who are homeless in Spain.

The aim of this study session is to trigger an open discussion on how to best ensure that reforms and support measures reach groups in vulnerable situations such as persons with disabilities, persons who are homeless and that they promote inclusive living in compliance with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

**You can register by following this link:**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_9widzMqFRSmaonK\\_XqHO7A](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_9widzMqFRSmaonK_XqHO7A)

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**Programme**

- 14:00-14:10**      **Welcome and introduction**
- Camille Roux, EEG co-chair, and Senior Policy and Advocacy Officer, COFACE Families Europe.
- 14:10-14:45**      **Mental Health reforms and DI in Czechia**
- Speakers:
- Pavel Říčan, Director, Centre for Mental Health Care Development.
  - Ivana Svobodová, Head of systemic reform unit and secretary of National Council for Mental Health
- Q&A
- 14:45-15:20**      **Presentation of the Maltese Strategy of Deinstitutionalisation of People with Disabilities**
- Speakers:
- Marthese Mugliette, President of the national voluntary umbrella organisation for the disability sector in Malta, Malta Federation of Organisations Persons with Disability
  - Christine Sant, Senior Executive within Quality Audit, Research and Innovation Team of Agenzija Support
- Q&A
- 15:20-15:55**      **Ongoing pilot project on the deinstitutionalisation of people who are homeless in Spain**
- Speakers:
- Damaris Barajas, Planning Director in Provivienda, HOGAR Sí
  - Marco A. Luengo Castro, Social Services Director, Municipality of Gijon
- Q&A
- 15:55-16:00**      **Conclusions and closing remarks**
- Haydn Hammersley, EEG co-chair, and Social Policy Officer, European Disability Forum.

## **European Expert Group on the Transition from Institutional to Community-based Care (EEG)**

*The European Expert Group on the Transition from Institutional to Community-based Care (EEG) is a broad coalition gathering stakeholders representing children and their families, people with disabilities and their families, homeless people, people experiencing mental health problems, service providers, public authorities and UN organisations. The EEG advocates to replace institutionalisation with family- and community-based support and provides expertise on this transition. It focuses on how EU funding, law and policy should be used to facilitate DI, in compliance with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the European Charter of Fundamental Rights. It facilitates development of quality family- and community-based support which respects human rights of all people with care or support needs, is person-centred and empowering.*

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