



EAPN IRELAND

NEWSFLASH

SEPTEMBER 2026

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Dear Friend,

September took off with a bang following the Summer break with a range of important events & initiatives, and plans are afoot for a busy October with the UN International Day for the Eradication of Poverty & the new Irish & European Anti-Poverty Strategies.

We are delighted to announce that Clare Daly has been appointed by the Board as our new Director and will commence in her new role on October 1st. As a result, a vacancy has opened up in her present position of Policy & Communications Officer, see details below.

To learn more about our work, and to keep up to date, please visit our [website](#), or follow us on [Twitter/X](#), [Bluesky](#), [Facebook](#), or [Instagram](#).

If you are in a position to support our work please [DONATE](#) by clicking this link. Every amount no matter how small, makes a difference. Go Raibh Maith Agat!

In solidarity,
Trishna and Clare
The EAPN Ireland Team

EAPN IRELAND NEWS

RIISING GLOBAL INEQUALITY IS THREATENING THE WORLD!

WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT IT?



EAPN
Ireland

PROF. KATRIONA O'SULLIVAN

Senior lecturer digital skills, Maynooth University & bestselling author of the memoirs *Poor* and *Hungry*

DR. JOE WHELAN

Assistant Professor, School of Social Work and Social Policy Trinity College & author of *Welfare, deservingness and the logic of poverty: Who deserves?* and *Hidden Voices: Lived experiences in the Irish Welfare Space*

CIARÁN NUGENT

Economist with Nevin Economic Research Institute

DR. NITA MISHRA

Associate Professor, Dept of Politics University of Limerick

**PANEL
DISCUSSION
AND Q&A**

**14.10.26
7PM**

**THE NEW THEATRE
TEMPLE BAR**

REGISTER BY EMAILING
ENQUIRIES@EAPN.IE

The Department of Social Protection supports this project as part of its funding initiative for the United Nations International Day for the Eradication of Poverty



An Roinn Coimircí Sóisialaí
Department of Social Protection



ÉIRE2026.EU
IRELAND2026.EU



United Nations



Global wealth inequality has reached unimaginable levels, with 10% of the world's population now owning three quarters of global assets, while the bottom half holds just 2%, often denied access to even basic resources. Much of this wealth is untaxed, used to buy up land, railways, buildings, energy resources - all the things we need, which they then rent back to us at exorbitant prices. The gap is getting greater! Join our panel discussion on how we can close it, and how inaction is an option we cannot afford.

Our expert speakers come from a range of economic backgrounds and lived experience of poverty, and will discuss the situation in Ireland and beyond. Introductions will be followed by an audience Q&A, with plenty of time for discussion and a post meeting reception & chat.

"The Department of Social Protection supports this project as part of its funding initiative for the United Nations International Day for the Eradication of Poverty".

To Book Your Place Contact enquiries@eapn.ie

**STOP
PUNISHING
POVERTY!**

**EAPN
Ireland**

POVERTY leads to CRIMINALISATION
harder to exit

Macro Resource Centre
1 Green St. D.7
Thursday Oct 15th
9.30 am - 1 pm

Contact: enquiries@eapn.ie
to book your place (lunch included)

An Roinn Coimirce Sóisialaí
Department of Social Protection

ÉIRE2026.EU
IRELAND2026.EU

United Nations

END
POVERTY

The Department of Social Protection supports this project as part of its funding initiative for the United Nations
International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

Many people who end up in prison, particularly women, do so because of poverty. Criminalising them makes it even harder to escape poverty, with difficulties getting a job, homelessness, & even more entrenched poverty, along with trauma for children, repeating the cycle. We have to change tack. We are delighted to host a workshop & discussion entitled 'Stop Punishing Poverty!' aimed at women involved, or in danger of being involved, with the criminal justice system, organisations working alongside them, community activists and policy makers. This half-day workshop is structured to facilitate dialogue and to especially hear the voices of

those affected. The meeting will be followed by lunch to encourage informal networking. All welcome but space is limited so you must register!

“The Department of Social Protection supports this project as part of its funding initiative for the United Nations International Day for the Eradication of Poverty”.

To Book Your Place Contact enquiries@eapn.ie

EAPN Ireland

People, Policy, Place...
1st EU Anti-Poverty Strategy
Workshops & Discussion

Portershed Galway
Fri 16th Oct
9.30am- 4.30pm

MICHAEL D. HIGGINS

OLIVIER DE SCHUTTER
Former UN Special Rapporteur Poverty & Human Rights

JOAO OLIVEIRA
Portuguese MEP

The European Union's Anti-Poverty Strategy
Addressing and preventing poverty from childhood to old age

CONTACT ENQUIRIES@EAPN.IE TO REGISTER. SPACES LIMITED. LUNCH INCLUDED

communicating europe

1st EU ANTI-POVERTY STRATEGY - Workshops & Discussion in Galway Friday October 16th

We are excited to announce a key citizen led discussion on the first EU Anti-Poverty Strategy, in the Portershed in Galway, (behind Boots, in Market Street, a short walk from the train station), on Friday October 16th from 9.30am to 4.30pm. The initiative is possible because of the support of the Department of Foreign Affairs under the Communicating Europe Initiative, and sincere thanks to them for the support. The meeting will hear from the European Parliament's rapporteur on the Anti-Poverty Strategy, **Joao Oliveira** from Portugal, the excellent **Olivier DeSchutter** former UN Special Rapporteur on Poverty & Human Rights, and the highlight, an address by former President of Ireland **Michael D Higgins**. The meeting will allow maximum participation discussing what needs to be done to achieve the targets of eliminating poverty by 2050, and critically how the voices of people experiencing poverty can be brought to the heart of the strategy. Lunch will be provided. Please register today as places are limited - enquiries@eapn.ie



IRISH PRESIDENCY HOSTS EU SOCIAL PROTECTION COMMITTEES IN CROKE PARK

EAPN was absolutely delighted to address the informal meeting of the EU's Social Protection Committees which was held in Croke Park on Sept 23rd as part of the Irish Presidency of the Council of the European Union, for a discussion on the EU's first Anti-Poverty Strategy. It is very welcome that the Irish Department of Social Protection put this issue at the top of their agenda. This is absolutely necessary in a Europe which is well behind on reaching its existing poverty reduction targets, with

almost one in five citizens at risk of poverty on the world's wealthiest continent. With the escalating cost of living & housing crises, this is beyond urgent.

The European Anti-Poverty Strategy correctly identifies the multi-dimensional nature of poverty, that preventative action should be taken across the whole life cycle, that discrimination is a driver of poverty, & calls for the establishment of national Anti-Poverty Strategies and identified personnel to deal with it in every country. It is very strong on the need to have people experiencing poverty at the heart of the plan.

Best selling author Katriona O'Sullivan demonstrated this point powerfully with her presentation of the story of her journey out of poverty & how many of the supports which benefited her, no longer exist. If the strategy is to succeed, it must have dedicated funding. We are calling on all countries and MEPs to reinstate the European Social Fund, with ring-fenced budgets for tackling poverty and social exclusion and earmarked funding for the most marginalised groups who are structurally more likely to experience poverty.

WE ARE RECRUITING!

EAPN Ireland Policy and Communications Officer (Part-time)

The European Anti-Poverty Network (EAPN) Ireland is recruiting a Policy and Communications Officer

– Part time (2.5 days per week). The successful candidate will be responsible to the Director for delivering EAPN Ireland's policy and communications work and contribute to the organisations mission of putting the eradication of poverty at the top of the Irish and European policy agenda and empowering groups working to end poverty to understand and influence policy-making.

The position is permanent, subject to the availability of resources, with a six months' probation.

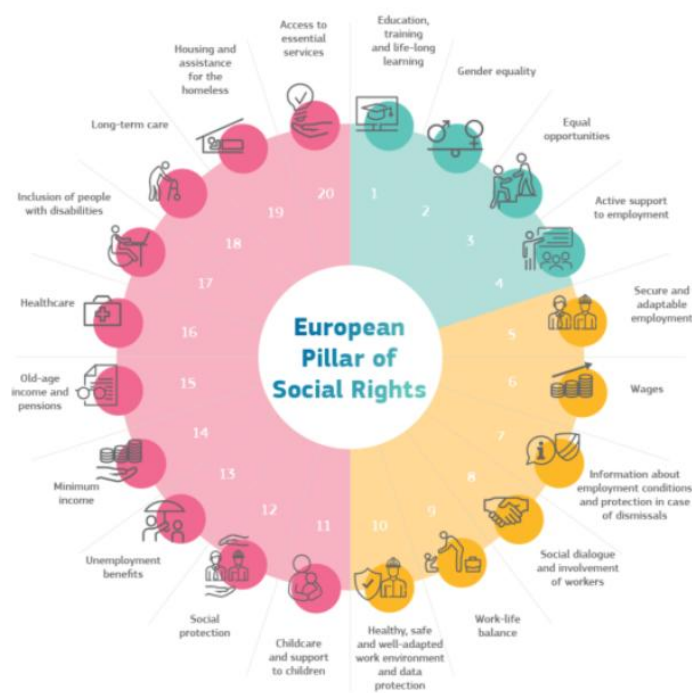
Salary will be on a scale from €43,000 to €50,000 (full time equivalent) or €21,500 to €25,000 half time. The position is based in Dublin, but EAPN Ireland has a home/work hybrid Policy.

Applicants should send a CV and cover letter, outlining their interest and suitability for the post to enquiries@eapn.ie by **Sunday 25th October 2026**. Interviews will take place at the beginning of November 2026.

RENEWED EUROPEAN PILLAR OF SOCIAL RIGHTS

On July 2026, the European Commission published its renewed European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan. While it largely revises the existing framework rather than introducing a more ambitious new approach, it includes several welcome developments.

The renewed EPSR gives greater attention to the **cost-of-living crisis, housing and energy poverty, in-work poverty and minimum income adequacy**, alongside a proposed Quality Jobs Act, to be published at the end of the year.



But the underlying narrative remains unchanged. Social rights are still presented primarily as tools for competitiveness and security, justified by the “cost of inaction”, rather than as rights that should be guaranteed to all. In particular, **the fight against poverty and people experiencing poverty continue to be viewed mainly through an economic lens.**

Most importantly, poverty eradication is still missing from the renewed framework, with **no commitment to ending poverty by 2050.**

OTHER NEWS

“Uniting Communities to End Poverty and Guarantee Everyone an Adequate Home”



UN International Day for the Eradication of Poverty
Irish 17 October Committee

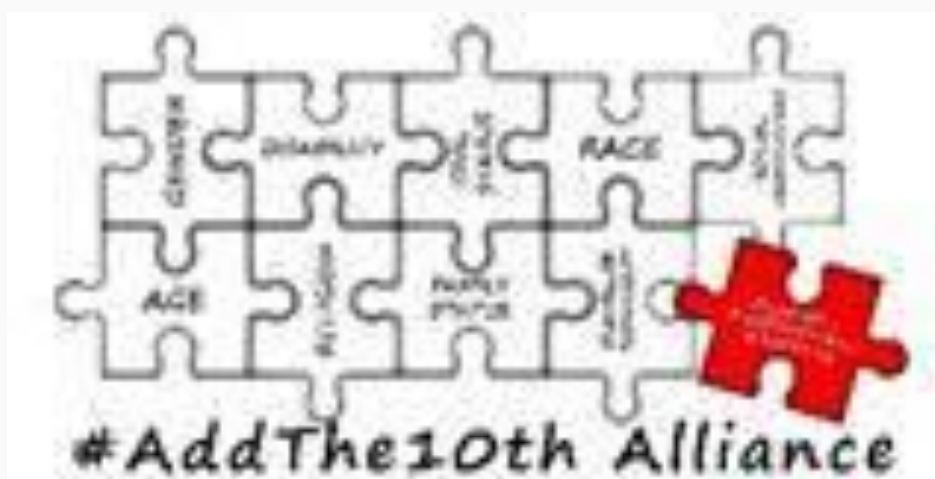
Saturday October 17
11.00am - 12.30pm
Human Rights and Poverty Stone,
Famine Statues, Custom House Quay, Dublin 1

Listen to the Voice, Experience & Expertise of People Living with Poverty, Displacement and Discrimination



OCTOBER 17th- UN DAY FOR ERADICATION OF POVERTY

The National Commemoration of the UN International Day for the Eradication of Poverty will take place at the Human Rights & Poverty Stone, Custom House Quay in Dublin at 11am. The event will feature artists and testimonies from people experiencing poverty. This year's theme is 'United for Peace & Human Rights - Secure Homes for All.' Everyone welcome and encouraged to attend!



OUTLAW SOCIO-ECONOMIC DISCRIMINATION NOW!

The #AddThe10th Alliance welcomes the inclusion of the Equality (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill 2024 in the Oireachtas Autumn Legislative Programme. The absence of socio-economic disadvantage as a ground for discrimination in Equality legislation continues to cause huge harm to so many people and it is beyond time that it was addressed. There is almost unanimous agreement among political parties and it is supported by the Committee on Equality. It would be really fitting if it was to be enacted during Ireland's Presidency of the Council of the European Union. So let's all keep up the pressure. Contact your TDs and Councillors TODAY!

TEN THOUSAND DAYS: LIFE LIVED WHILE WAITING

Well done Nasc, the Migrant and Refugee Rights Centre, in Cork on the launch of **Ten Thousand Days: Life Lived While Waiting**, an advocacy booklet co-created with women who have spent years navigating Ireland's international protection system. The booklet brings together the experiences, reflections and recommendations of women who have lived through Direct Provision and International Protection accommodation. A fantastic insight and useful tool.

Contact NASC for more details.

SOLIDARITY NETWORK

The Solidarity Network now has a number of video resources which can be accessed from the YouTube channel: Click [HERE](#)

We would encourage everyone to view and share these videos, find out more about the Network and get involved. Discussion papers are available on our website [HERE](#)

Only principled, determined collective action can bring about the social change that is so badly needed. Time to unite and organise!

AUTONOMOUS COMMUNITY WORK IN ACTION

Congratulations to the Community Developments Projects Network on the launch of their really engaged short film “Autonomous Community Work in Action” which gives a great insight into the important activities they are engaged in at community level. Ten CDPs involved in the film, really capture the importance of participation, collective action and power, and bring to life some of the critical issues emerging the communities.

The film is available [HERE](#) and is really well worth a watch! Well Done All!

ONE FAMILY ANNUAL REPORT

One-parent families have the highest deprivation rate of all households and account for nearly 60% of families in emergency accommodation. They also have the highest consistent poverty rate of all households, rising by 4% in the last 12 months. One in five lone parent families went without heating in 2024 due to a lack of money and almost 4 in 10 were in arrears with their utility bills. It's welcome beyond time for serious action. We welcome the publication of One Family's Annual Report which is available [HERE](#)

BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!

Membership is open to individuals and organisations who support our aim to put the eradication of poverty at the top of the Irish and European Agenda. Click [HERE](#) to join!

EAPN Ireland, Carmichael House, 4 Brunswick Street North, Dublin, D07 RHA8, Ireland

Tel: + 353 (0) 1 8745737 / +353 (0)87 6402200

EAPN (European Anti-Poverty Network) Ireland is a network of anti-poverty groups working to put the eradication of poverty at the top of the EU and Irish agenda through information, training, advocacy and networking. Web: www.eapn.ie

EAPN Ireland staff e-mail addresses are:

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Trishna Guha, Administration and Finance Officer: trishna@eapn.ie

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Government of Ireland



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