

Question for written answer E-001095/2022
to the Commission
Rule 138
Ibán García Del Blanco (S&D)

Subject: Rules targeting the homeless.

On 16 February, the Alicante City Council adopted a municipal ordinance allowing fines of up to EUR 750 to be imposed on those sleeping rough 'on roadways or in public spaces by day or night' and up to EUR 3 000 for 'behaviour taking the form of begging'.

Homelessness and all other forms of poverty run counter to basic rights and demonstrate the inadequacies of public welfare systems. The criminalisation of poverty merely serves to exacerbate the marginalisation of those affected. Prosecuting them under legislation deliberately targeting the poor increases this injustice and encourages the normalisation of hate crimes against them.

Equality and respect for human dignity and fundamental rights, as enshrined in Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union, are core values of the Union, which the Commission is committed to upholding, as evidenced by the legal action taken against Hungary and Poland for violations of the fundamental rights of the LGBTIQ community.

Does the Commission consider the adoption of legislation targeting the poor to be consistent with EU values?