



International Union of Tenants

Association Internationale des Locataires

www.iut.nu

June 3, 2014

1 (1)

IUT meets with Commissioner Mimica, European Commissioner for Consumer Protection

Today, on June 3, IUT President, Mr. Sven Bergensträhle together with Mr. Kurt Eliasson, CECODHAS Housing Europe President, meet with Commissioner Neven Mimica to discuss access to affordable rental housing, the current housing crises and homelessness in many EU countries.

Mr. Bergensträhle and Mr. Eliasson will bring up homeownership across the EU vs. the importance of access to affordable rental housing as an appropriate option for housing consumers.

Also, they will point out the result of states having relied too much on homeownership, and the very 'generous' supply of money from banks to the purchase of homes – which have caused housing bubbles in many countries across Europe.

As a result, hundreds of thousands of households, who have no longer been able to meet their mortgage commitments, have lost their homes.

Homes which are now often empty, at the same time as homelessness has become a reality for so many Europeans in the aftermath of the financial crises. How could these empty homes again become inhabited, by the now homeless of Europe?

A report from the meeting will be published on www.iut.nu

For questions, please contact:

Barbara Steenbergen, Head of the IUT liaison office to the EU
barbara.steenbergen@iut.nu

IUT head office
P.O. Box 7514
SE-103 92 Stockholm
Sweden
tel. +46 8 791 02 25
fax: +46 8 20 43 44
info@iut.nu

IUT liaison office to the EU
23, rue du Luxembourg
B-1000 Bruxelles
Belgium
tel. +32 2 51 30 784
fax: +32 2 51 30 955
barbara.steenbergen@iut.nu