

## REPORT TO THE JOINT ASSEMBLY OF THE COMMON COMMUNITY COMMISSION

### Assessment of the aid policy towards the homeless in the Brussels-Capital Region



The Court of Audit undertook to assess the aid policy adopted by the Brussels authorities after the number of homeless people in the Brussels-Capital Region grew from 1,800 in 2008 to 4,180 in 2018).

In the field, the fight against homelessness is led by many actors, usually subsidised by various public authorities, both federal and regional. Their action consists in preventing people from ending up on the streets and helping them to reintegrate into society and also, in accommodating them.

First, the Court notes a lack of consultation between the various actors, who each develop their own approach, and points out the scarcely accurate and up-to-date information. It is therefore impossible to devise a consequent strategy and implementation instruments, and also to determine the extent of the necessary financial resources. Furthermore, it becomes difficult to manage the incoming (people ending up on the streets) and outgoing flows (homeless reinserted into society and benefiting from housing again). Finally, the housing infrastructures are overwhelmed, just like emergency housing and reinsertion circuits.

In short, the Court recommends to improve consultation between the different parties and to elaborate a database containing management information allowing them to set clear, coordinate and measurable objectives. The Court also urges the parties to implement the measures that will definitely reach the homeless and to regularly assess their effectiveness.