



Social Housing Revisited

Towards a Housing Europe *Mythbuster* Series

The idea

- To prove that arguments that are commonly used in public debate about social housing across Europe are just myths/stereotypes.
- It's a communication activity that can feed into both the policy and the research work of Housing Europe.
- Online tool that can be automatically translated
- Focus:
 - Diversity of tenure is needed for a working “housing ecosystem”
 - Housing as a platform for care in our changing societies
- The whole tool may be developed as a deliverable of the ENLIGHTEN project, in which Housing Europe is a partner.



The tool

#MILIONIDIPASSI  MEDICINS SANS FRONTIERES
MEDICI SENZA FRONTIERE

L'ANTI-SLOGAN

Le dieci leggende più diffuse sulla migrazione sfatate una a una.



LEGGENDA n°1
Ci portano le malattie

Malattie come Ebola, Tubercolosi e scabbia potrebbero diffondersi nel nostro Paese insieme agli immigrati. La mancanza di controlli sulle navi espone al contagio gli operatori impegnati nelle operazioni di soccorso e accoglienza dei migranti in Italia. Alla polizia non vengono forniti neppure gli strumenti minimi di profilassi. Stiamo correndo il rischio che malattie debellate da secoli in Italia ritornino a contagiarci e per molte di queste malattie non esiste nemmeno il vaccino.

SCOPRI LA VERITÀ



FIRMA L'APPELLO >

LEGGENDA n°5
Vengono tutti in Italia. Sono troppi!



Ormai siamo invasi dagli immigrati. Per le strade delle



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IN REALTÀ

Allarmismo, No grazie

I migranti non rappresentano un rischio per la salute pubblica. È allarmismo che continuano a diffondere notizie false a questo proposito. Nel corso di oltre dieci anni di attività mediche in Italia, MSF non ha memoria di un solo caso in cui la presenza di immigrati sul territorio sia stata causa di un'emergenza di salute pubblica. Spesso, associate all'arrivo dei migranti, vengono citate malattie come Tubercolosi, Ebola e scabbia. Siamo sicuri di conoscerle?

Leggi tutto

    CONDIVIDI



An example

***Social housing is too expensive for the public purse
and cuts are inevitable in times of crisis***

Building social and affordable housing can actually help reducing other areas of public spending such as healthcare, social protection and social services, while at the same time stimulating growth and local employment.

(Read more)

Data to support the counterargument

- **In England for instance** four times as much is spent on Housing Benefit as on actually building homes, although lack of affordable homes is thought to be in part responsible for increases in rents that feed into higher social security costs. While housing development expenditure has fallen from £11 billion in 2009/10 to just £5 billion in 2013/14 and £6 billion in 2014/15, housing benefit expenditure grew from £20 billion to £24.3 billion over the same period despite the introduction of caps on benefits, with highest increase in the amount that goes to private sector tenants.
- **Investing in good quality social and affordable housing can also help reducing costs of the national health system.** According to a recent Eurofound report, inadequate housing costs EU economies nearly €194 billion per year – in direct costs associated with healthcare and related medical and social services, and indirect costs such as lost productivity and reduced opportunities. To bring the standard of housing up to an acceptable level would cost about €295 billion, an investment which would be repaid within 18 months by savings in healthcare and better social outcomes, according to the report.
- Furthermore, **integrated housing support is an efficient tool to improve protection of vulnerable groups.** As an example, the public service cost of caring for the chronically homeless can be up to three times higher than a supported housing response where care services are provided in the home.
- **Positive outcomes of investment in affordable homes include** a stimulation of the local economy through its multiplier effect on the economy as well as a gain in purchasing power for residents who can benefit from reduced housing costs.

Your role

Add your voice and your ideas to this initiative that aims to make the case for facts instead of stereotypes, for figures instead of myths

Timeline

- ***Late March-April***
Send us your input as part of your contribution to the 'State of Housing in the EU 2017' report
- ***Until then*** you may share any thoughts with us via e-mail
- ***Once the tool is online***, help us spread the word!

