**[UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Adequate Housing](https://www.facebook.com/righttohousing/?__cft__%5b0%5d=AZXQUssLz42-T6LTLqMo5lvp5uPEDQMTHY7-C8G_Nf0rxrpBwoj3lv7X7ncjGlQJQ5mTKBkSXfK5Fg-uD4x1GfCSfv9dN3ztLEpAaqa_68AnrSCjIG2bEE1gXIYTtTWPntMLpXD1MUUfs3eTLX58iK0J&__tn__=kK-R)**

**Housing Discrimination and Spatial Segregation session 12-4-2021**

Lisbon/Portugal, case

With the covid, important measures were taken by the Portuguese Social State: the moratorium on evictions, the moratorium on the payment of mortgages and support for the payment of rent. We still have serious cases of residential segregation with the Roma population, immigrants from Africa, the elderly and the poorest.

Portugal is one of the European Union countries with the lowest percentage of social housing. It only has 2%. Lisbon has 7%.

The largest governmental program for the creation of social housing was the so-called Special Re-housing Program, created in the 1990s to eradicate tents on the outskirts of large cities.

This program had a noble mission, which was to create tens of thousands of houses for the poorest, but the mass production of social housing was done in one-off and fragmented deployments and in disarticulation of the existing city, without access to trade and services, which it has sometimes aggravated the socio-territorial problems of integrating poor communities.

In this moment of housing crisis that has worsened over the last few years, it is categorical imperative that the State makes urban rehabilitation and the rental market accessible an attractive sector for real estate dynamics, attracting the largest number of private properties possible, through of more drastic tax exemptions and stimuli at the level of fiscal policy for the private and private sector where the overwhelming majority of vacant housing stock is concentrated. 15% of the national housing stock is empty. There are more than 700 thousand houses that do not fulfill any economic or social function.

But the State at the central and local level must also create a stock of houses for rent at affordable and social costs, based on dispersed public assets, mainly financed by public funds, not excluding the creation of incentives for individuals to place their assets in this area. As the distribution of this housing stock is dispersed across the urban fabric, it allows combating residential segregation and social and spatial inclusion, which is a hypothesis of social mixing and interclassism in the urban space.

Currently, the expectation is at the level of money that comes from the European Union with the post-covid economy recovery program. It is already called the European bazooka, as this will be a historic moment for investment in public housing, given the very high volume of capital invested in the residential sector. Hopefully, this capital will be invested in urban rehabilitation.

It will be an important measure to combat gentrification, real estate speculation and financialization of housing.

Morar em Lisboa social movement

and

Lisbon Tenants Association

Eminent domain – direito de expropriação