

SOCIAL POLICIES FOR HOMELESS IN LATIN AMERICA: A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS CHILE – URUGUAY

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Presentation

1. Homelessness in Context: Global – Local
2. The context of our social policies for homeless
3. Discussion
4. Challenges for Latin America based on the experience of Chile - Uruguay and the countries of the North

Homelessness in Context



| Country | Population | Homeless population | Homeless population rate |
|----------------|-------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| United Kingdom | 65.637.200 | 20.000 | 0.030 |
| Portugal | 10.324.600 | 4.420 | 0.043 |
| Spain | 46.560.000 | 22.939 | 0.049 |
| United States | 323.100.000 | 549.928 | 0.170 |
| Argentina | 43.850.000 | 5.872 | 0.013 |
| Chile | 17.762.700 | 12.255 | 0.069 |
| Uruguay | 3.444.000 | 1.651 | 0.048 |

Sources: World Bank, 2017; FEANTSA, 2017

Main Characteristics of Homelessness in Chile and Uruguay

Higher prevalence of men than women

Concentration of the population in adults
(30 to 59 years)

People are distributed proportionally
between those who live on the street and
those who go to shelters

The focus is on those who are literally homeless, **but it is not clear which population is at risk** of becoming homeless

In South America, the people living at risk to be homeless are living in contexts **of high poverty, social exclusion, and vulnerability. There is no integral social housing policy.** Therefore, the lack of housing or its characteristics are not the main differences



The context of our social policies for homeless

1970

2000

2018

The **MILITARY DICTATORSHIPS** of the seventies and eighties, implemented neoliberal economic reforms that have determined the way in which social policy was developed from the recovery of democracy

SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEMS in the late 1990s have determined the approach and institutional framework in which current social programs for people in street situation are implemented.

HOMELESS POPULATION WAS ONLY OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED in the first decade of the 21st century

Development of **SOCIAL PROGRAMS** based on Staircase Model (2005 – 2018)

Social programs in Chile and Uruguay

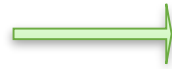
Focused on the protection of life and interrupt homelessness trajectories



Discussion

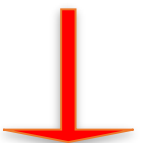
Balance of the first 12 years

Integrity of Social Policy



Chile and Uruguay not have an integral well defined policy on homelessness neither integrated strategies to prevent it

1. We have Plan focused on the protection of life but not to overcome homelessness. The housing policies is not implicated in the intervention with homeless.
2. No strategies to prevent the homelessness
3. We have an incomplete system to overcome situations of individual homelessness
4. We do not have a housing policy that prevents and protects vulnerable groups from homelessness.



Challenges for Latin America

Based on the experience of Chile - Uruguay and the countries of the North

Incorporate the human rights approach into the practice of our social policies

Create a social policy with resources and infrastructure

Develop the principles of the Housing First model adapted to Latin American culture and context

Costs of homelessness: lack of prevention, comprehensive interagency prevents from a new policy