

Beyond growth: the UN Roadmap as an advocacy tool for poverty eradication

Date 27 May 2026, 10h00–12h00 CEST

Venue Online, via Zoom:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81219354805?pwd=xu60s7eOwASjNq875FIGBW719Vhfa.1>

Objective Caritas Europa is organising an internal workshop to present the UN roadmap for Eradicating Poverty Beyond Growth & equip the member organisations to strengthen their advocacy through the use of this Roadmap. The Roadmap was developed by the former UN Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights, Olivier De Schutter who launched it on 22 April 2026. The webinar will provide an overview of the Roadmap's rationale and policy proposals, highlighting why growth-centred economic models have proven inadequate to eradicate poverty and reduce inequalities. Through expert input and interactive discussions, the event will also foster a shared understanding among Caritas members of how a post-growth approach can be translated into concrete policy recommendations across key areas of Caritas' work: social policy, international cooperation, and climate and environmental justice.

Background

Over the past couple of years, Caritas Europa has progressively deepened its reflection on the limits of growth-centred economic models, recognising them as a root cause of the multiple and interconnected inequalities our network seeks to address. The starting point is that, while economic growth has delivered benefits for some, it has also allowed poverty, inequalities and environmental degradation to persist and deepen, disproportionately affecting people experiencing poverty and marginalisation, both inside Europe and in the Global South.

This reflection, largely inspired by *Laudato Si*, culminated in the publication "[Going beyond economic growth: Europe's role in building a just economy for the common good](#)," which articulates Caritas Europa's vision of an economy centred on human dignity, wellbeing and the protection of our common home.

A key message of this work is that social justice and environmental justice are inseparable, and that as long as economic competitiveness and profit maximisation prevail over solidarity and fundamental rights, efforts to eradicate poverty will remain insufficient. In this context, the UN Roadmap developed by De Schutter aligns closely with Caritas Europa's point of view. The Roadmap provides a comprehensive set of concrete measures to operationalise the shift away from growth-dependent policies and towards a human rights economy. Ultimately,

the Roadmap aims to support international efforts towards reducing inequalities and ending poverty within planetary boundaries. It will be instrumental in shaping discussions leading up to the adoption of the next generation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the SDG Summit in September 2027.

27th May 2026

Opening and introductory remarks

10:00 Welcome by Eva Reina, Policy & Advocacy Director, Caritas Europa

10:05 Opening remarks by Maria Nyman, Secretary General, Caritas Europa

Part one: Conversation on the UN Roadmap with Praachi Khera, co-director of NEEP (New Economies for Eradicating Poverty) & Eva Reina, Policy and Advocacy Director, Caritas Europa

10:10 Political relevance, advocacy value, and key elements of the Roadmap: why moving beyond growth is necessary to eradicate poverty, core principles and policy directions

10:40 Q&A session

Part two: Breakout group discussions

10:55 Explanation of breakout rooms, objectives and guiding questions

11:00 **Social policy (group 1): Universal basic services with a focus on housing** – speaker Anna Coote, Principal Fellow at the New Economics Foundation, facilitator Peter Verhaeghe (online)

Climate and environment policy (group 2): Caps for resource use, emissions, and pollution – speaker Jonah Belitz, Project Manager at Systemiq, facilitator Lucy Anns (online)

International cooperation and development policy (group 3): Solidarity economy – Márcio Camargo, National Advisor at Caritas Brazil, facilitator Luísa Fondello (online)

Connection via separate zoom link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86136663053?pwd=NFXKEC03TPfF0aBCDVVc43HaVL8tVB.1>

Social policy (group 4): General discussion – facilitator Hannah Adazkpa (in person)

Closing remarks

11:50 Concluding reflections by Eva Reina, Policy & Advocacy Director, Caritas Europa

Language

The webinar will be conducted in English without interpretation.

Only the breakout group discussion on international cooperation will offer interpretation Brazilian Portuguese-English.

Audience

The webinar is designed for Caritas Europa member organisations, and open to anyone from the Caritas global Confederation and to partner Catholic organisations.



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