

25

YEARS OF

EUR•PE

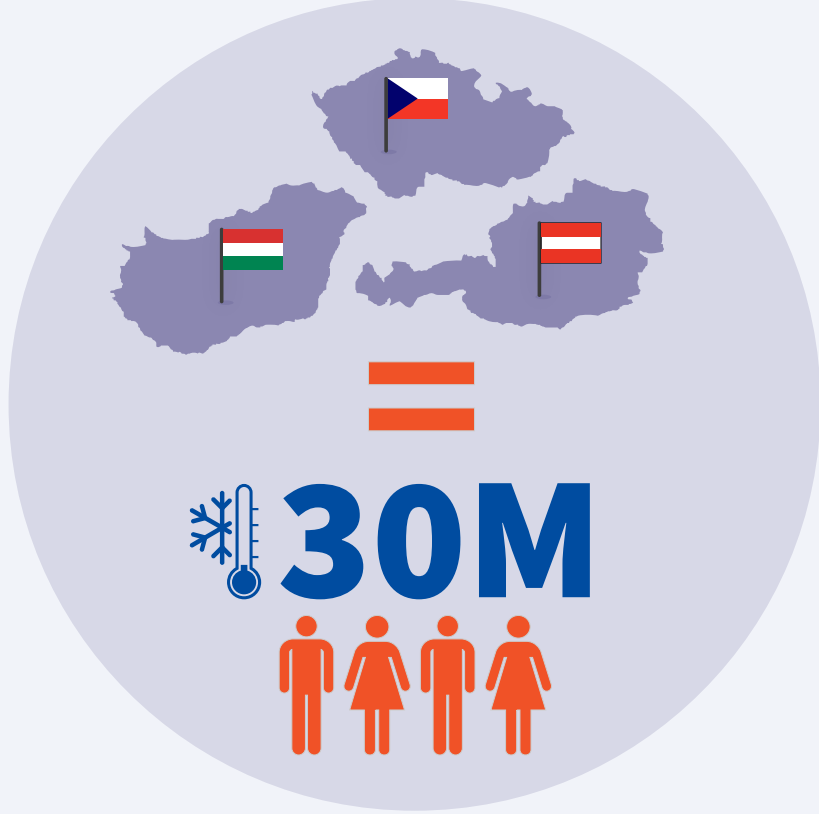
JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE

How to lift 30 million Europeans out of energy poverty?

1. What is energy poverty?

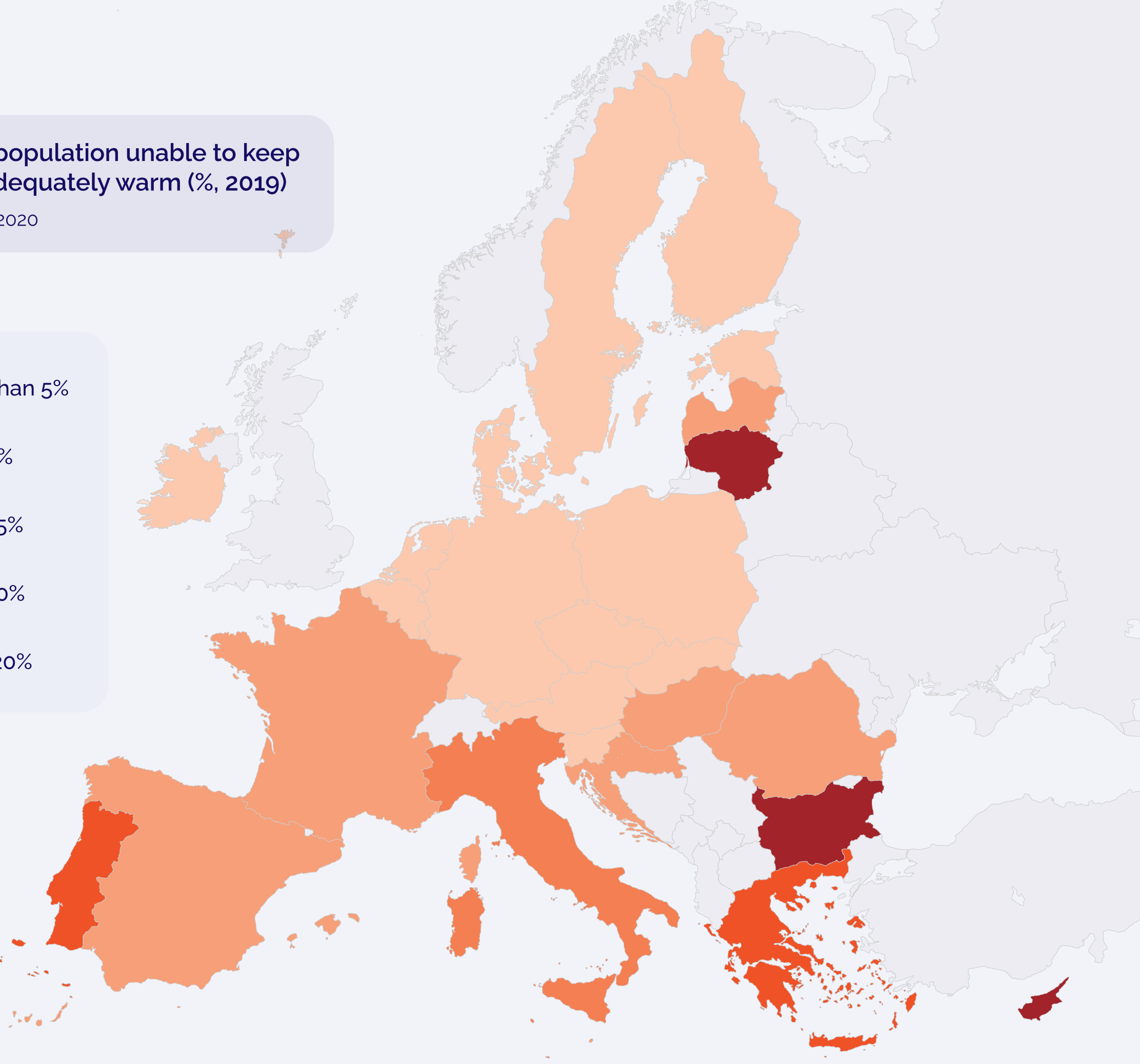
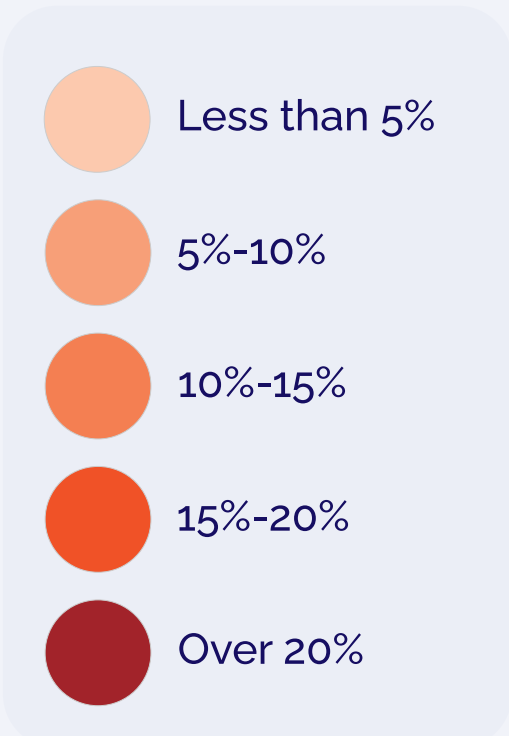


It is a situation where **families are unable to access essential energy services**, including to heat their home in winter.



In 2019, over **30 million Europeans** could not adequately heat their home. This amounts to the population of Czechia, Hungary and Austria added together!

Share of the population unable to keep their home adequately warm (% , 2019)
Source: Eurostat 2020

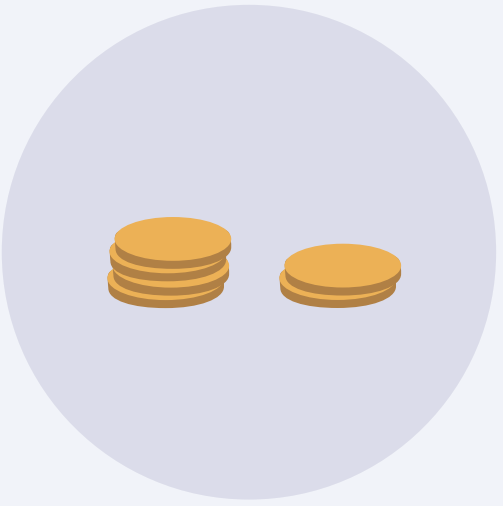


Main causes of energy poverty

Risk that the Covid-19 crisis undermines the progress made over recent years



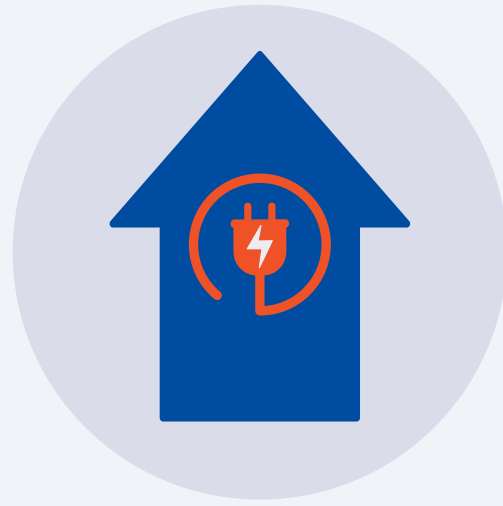
Poor energy performance of buildings



Low revenues



Revenue decrease: dismissals, short-time work schemes, etc.



Energy consumption increase: lockdown.

2. How to fight energy poverty?

At the national level, European states can adopt:

- Palliative measures:**
e.g. social benefits for vulnerable households.
- Preventive/curative measures:**
e.g. renovation of energy-inefficient buildings to tackle a root cause of the problem.



At the European level, there is a diversity of tools:



The European Energy Poverty Observatory gathers data and best practices to support decision-makers.



Legislation: each Member State has to assess the scope of energy poverty and implement adequate measures in their country.



Funding to lead innovative projects and stimulate investment in renovation.



The "Renovation Wave": an enabling framework to boost building renovation.

3. The EU needs a political strategy to tackle energy poverty



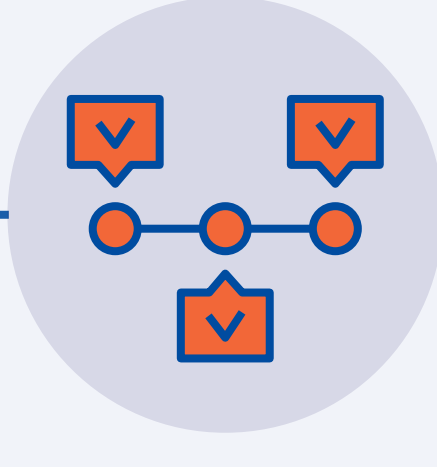
1

Strengthen the **coalition** against energy poverty (with stakeholders supporting the European Green Deal).



2

Build a **narrative**: A Green Deal that tangibly improves the daily life of European families.



3

Set concrete **proximate goals**, e.g. deep renovation of social housing.