

GO REQUISITION! STOP EXPULSION

Call to demonstration 23rd March at 3h30 pm
In front of the evicted squat at 1 place Sadi Carnot

Few days before the end of the winter break, we, squatters, precarious, housed at 115, or solidarians, will take the street once again to denounce the catastrophic housing situation in Marseille and ask the City council to requisition empty houses. We will walk to les Réformés church to meet the mobilization against the SIAO and the 115 which will take place here.

We will leave from place Sadi Carnot, a symbolic squat in which several of us lived. We have been evicted a year ago without real project. This place is still empty today, although the landlords dared to ask for an emergency eviction of the building without any construction work !

Regarding housing, France's second city (Marseille), has nothing to be proud of : On the last count, 14,000 people are homeless. And 30,000 houses are empty ! Yet we are constantly told that there is no room.

No room at 115. Only 0.4% of the calls to 115 end up to a placement in emergency accommodation and this number is likely to increase with the removal of 700 places in 2022.

No room in C.A.D.A. (Asylum seeker hostels) or in worker hostels. The people who request it wait for months without solutions. And ones who are there can sometimes be evicted without reasonable notice.

No room in social housing. There is a real housing access inequality regarding the administrative situation of the applicant. And if recently the D.A.H.O. requests (Enforceable right to accommodation) finally succeeded, it is a struggle to submit a file, the system is clogged. And the situation will worsen with the signing of the A.N.R.U. (National agency for urban renovation) conventions.

No place for unaccompanied minors "demineorized" in appeal. There is no solution for housing these young people between their return to the street by Aide Sociale à l'Enfance (ASE) and the final decision of the judge, often in their favour.

Many people have no other choice than trusting slumlords. Others occupy empty place. There are between 5,000 and 9,000 people who live in squats in Marseille, either in free or paying squats.

We are tired of seeing the anti-squat doors of empty buildings in Marseille, because the landlords speculate with impunity. We are tired of seeing the inaction of the public authorities despite our many alerts !

While we undergo an increasing repression between the expulsion orders multiplied these last weeks and their unpredictable, fast and sometimes dangerous enforcement from the police. The City council had however made great promises in 2020. Page 9 of its program :states : "Le Printemps Marseillais is committed to identify, re-rent or help to re-rent empty housing, under the penalty of implementing procedures legal requisition (over 30,000 vacant homes in Marseille)"

We request Marseille City council to stop to evict squats and rentals without proper rehousing. We have been living in empty building for years, but most of the time those solutions are very precarious and the threat of violent and humiliating evictions is real. And when we do get

evicted, if by miracle we are rehoused, the living conditions are so unrighteous that we end up going back to squatting. People housed in hotels condemn the shameful conditions they live in : no kitchen, bedbugs, overcrowded rooms, and the fear of the lost of their precarious accommodation overnight.

We request Marseille Council to recognize State of Emergency concerning Housing in Marseille, and to start requisitioning vacant building owned by local authorities, administrations, the French State, banks, insurance companies, large landowner and real estate professionals. Every person who apply should get access to a roof. Most of us are willing to pay a rightful price for water and electricity as well as a participation for house maintenance, even though the French State wont let us work.

With the Ukrainians refugees arriving, the question of requisition is put back in the public debate. We welcome this attention. We are waiting for an exemplary gesture, for everybody, no matter their administrative or marital situation, and no matter their country of origin !

We request City council to do requisition of empty buildings. The end of winter break is, as every year, a source of many anxieties concerning our household and our children's education. We wish to stay in the buildings in which we are currently living, because we know that most of them will be empty again for years after our eviction and it does not make any sense.

We request Marseille City Council requisition of empty buildings, but if they keep ignoring us, we will requisition those buildings by ourselves ! Our dignity is at stake !