



## **The future of community mental health from a European perspective. Policy and practice**

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In a recent report entitled “Mapping and Understanding Exclusion - Institutional, coercive and community based services and practices across Europe”, Mental Health Europe looks at the state of mental health services across Europe (35+ countries). The report provides exclusive data and testimonies about European mental health systems, ongoing human rights violations and the changes on the horizon. A unique feature of the report is the inclusion of the voices of people who have experienced institutionalisation and coercion in mental health services, providing an understanding of the exclusion these individuals face in society.

The report shows that while the situation has changed somewhat over the past years, there is still a substantial number of people with mental health problems living in institutions across Europe and in need of community-based services. Despite reforms, several barriers persist such as the poor cooperation between social and health authorities, lack of human rights compliant community-based services, trans-institutionalisation and austerity. Throughout this presentation, an overview of some main findings of the report will be presented, as well as recommendations for national and European stakeholders.