

Having a roof over one's head is one of the basic human needs. Decent housing conditions allow for the proper functioning of individuals, families and communities. The housing crisis – felt in many European countries (e.g. in Poland, Spain, Portugal, France and Belgium) – proves that the housing needs of the population have not been fulfilled. It is also visible in the statistics concerning the problem of homelessness. This situation appears as a challenge for researchers and for professionals connected with housing. There is not only a lack of creditworthiness and budgetary means for financing expensive housing investments, but also a lack of any concept of housing policy development in the 21st century. The development of a housing policy vision which is capable of addressing modern housing problems is possible only with the use of theoretical tools and data obtained from research. The participation of social actors in shaping and implementing housing policy is an important element of this policy. However, within the theory of housing research there is a lack of theoretical and analytical tools to study the above mentioned issues. In this situation the concept of housing policy democracy (CHPD) developed in the project may be useful for studying the legitimacy of housing policy and its influence on the effectiveness and innovativeness of public policy within the sphere of housing. The research will include housing policy of the capital city of Warsaw between 2000 and 2016. The results of the research will make it possible to explain the social reaction to political measures in the scope of meeting the housing needs of the population, which in turn may contribute to the improvement of the design of these measures.