**WHAT CHILDREN SAY**

“I don't like going to school, because I don't have school supplies such as a school bag.”
Khoren age 13 years – Gyumri, Armenia

“Why must I go to my mother’s home when there is no electricity and water there?”
Asen, age 11 years – a street child, from Ruse, Bulgaria

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**CARITAS ACTS ON THE GROUND TO ASSIST FAMILIES FACING POVERTY AND PROPOSES POLICY CHANGES**

Ensure an **adequate minimum income for families**, at least above the relative poverty threshold, to prevent and to combat child poverty. **Provide universal child benefit** paid directly to the child’s main carer.

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**THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION RECOMMENDS**

“Support **family incomes through adequate, coherent and efficient benefits**, including fiscal incentives, family and child benefits, housing benefits and minimum income schemes.”