

PC.DEL/348/09  
14 May 2009

ENGLISH only

**Prohlášení**  
Statement  
Déclaration

Vienna 14 May 2009

**Permanent Council No.761**  
**EU Statement on Roma and Sinti**

The European Union thanks the United States for its statement.

The European Union believes that increased efforts are needed to address the situation of Roma and Sinti. Consequently, the EU is currently addressing the situation of Roma and Sinti from a comprehensive perspective, approach that reflects the commitments undertaken by the EU Member States including in the framework the Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti within the OSCE Area.

In this respect, we take the opportunity to draw your attention to the launch of the EU Platform for Roma Inclusion on 24 April 2009 in Prague. The Platform provides a flexible framework in which EU institutions, national governments, international organizations and NGOs can interact and formulate strategic advice for decision-makers on the effective inclusion of Roma aspects into European and national policies.

Furthermore, we would like to highlight the decision of the future Spanish Presidency of the EU and the European Commission to organize the second EU Roma Summit on 8 April 2010 in Córdoba, building on the achievements of the first EU Roma Summit, which took place in Brussels in 2008. The EU Fundamental Rights Agency continues to develop

initiatives that address issues related to combating intolerance of and discrimination against Roma and Sinti.

The European Union deplores the violent incidents raised by the United States. We are confident that all cases of violence will be investigated and brought to justice in all participating States.

We welcome the inclusion of Roma and Sinti among the Chairmanship's-in-Office priorities and we look forward to contributing to the specific topic of early education for Roma and Sinti children at the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting.