

Dear all,

Let me first appreciate OSCE for providing to NGO-s the space to present our concerns and recommendations HDIM.

Segregation and discrimination in education is important negative issue that has huge impact in the education of marginalized communities. There are few schools in Kosovo that are mainly attended by Roma community. The quality of education in these schools is not acceptable for many standards. Many children leave the school after 5th grade. But almost all of them do not continue with secondary at all.

There are many individual cases of discrimination and segregation. Government / schools does not admit and accept that officially. Usually, no so much importance is given to those individual cases by our school / government. But, in the end of the school year, every year, those individual cases accumulate and there are hundreds of dropouts. All these children become parents very fast. The wheel of not being appropriately educated is rolling on from parents to children.

As you know, EU obliged many countries to prepare national strategies for integration of Roma and other minority groups. These strategies are usually (always) not drafted properly and therefore implementation fails. Based on the NGO reports in the field, but based on the OSCE reports as well, strategies and action plans are failing because of lack of financial allocations, lack of political willingness, lack of human and professional capacities, and lack of communication and coordination among stakeholders related to the implementation of the policies. The main failure of not implementation of the policies is in local level.

Since the implementation of these policies (strategies) is failing, the best solution will be to to make pressure on the governments to revise legal framework and accommodate the needs of the Roma, and other non-majority communities, as part of their national legal framework. Also, there is need to create proper mechanisms for monitoring and reporting of the implementation of legal framework.

Our Governments prepare different reports annually. EU and many other international mechanisms read those reports and take actions in relation with them. These reports are usually positive and show good results done by Government. Usually, information from these reports are not verified and reports are not realistic.

One of the most important actions of the OSCE may be to contribute in the reporting. With realistic reporting, and acceptance from the Government that there are problems, there is much higher and more realistic possibility to plan and take appropriate actions that will help sustainable integration of non-majority groups.

As result of failure of the implementation of the policies and existing legal framework, hundreds of families left Kosovo, but many of them are ready to leave as well in daily basis. I am sure other countries in South East Balkan are facing this problem as well. Governments are not taking any step to prevent this flood of the departures. This negative phenomenon will have long-term effect in the near future. Europe, be ready for them.