



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights**

OSCE/ODIHR Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues

CALL FOR IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

Supporting inclusion of Roma and related communities through tackling the lack of civil registration and identity documents and reducing the risk of statelessness in Georgia

The Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) is publishing a call for implementing partner applications aimed at **supporting the inclusion of Roma and related communities through tackling the lack of civil registration and identity documents and reducing the risk of statelessness in Georgia.**

The OSCE commitments regarding Roma and Sinti in the 2003 Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti within the OSCE Area¹ and subsequent OSCE Ministerial Council decisions² contain a comprehensive set of commitments to eradicating discrimination against Roma and to tackling, among other things, the lack of civil registration and personal identification documents.

Since 2013, the OSCE/ODIHR Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues (CPRSI) has engaged in a number of activities relating to the situation of Roma and related groups in the South Caucasus and Central Asia regions. The Contact Point convened the first international consultation meeting on the socio-economic situation of Roma and related groups in the South Caucasus and Central Asia regions, held in Tbilisi in 2016. Participants in this event recognized the particularly vulnerable situation of Roma in accessing their social and economic rights due to a lack of personal documents, and called on state authorities, international organizations and civil society to intensify targeted efforts to ensure access to civil registration and identity documents to prevent and reduce statelessness, including through raising awareness of the necessity to obtain such documents. Additionally, in 2016, ODIHR supported civil society research on challenges faced by Roma youth in Georgia,

¹ OSCE Ministerial Council, Decision No. 3/03, “Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti within the OSCE Area”, Maastricht, 1–2 December 2003, para. 87, <<http://osce.org/odihr/17554>>.

² OSCE Ministerial Council, Decision No. 6/08 “Enhancing OSCE Efforts to Implement the Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti within the OSCE Area”, Helsinki, 5 December 2008, <<http://www.osce.org/mc/35488>>; OSCE Ministerial Council, Decision No. 8/09 “Enhancing OSCE efforts to ensure Roma and Sinti sustainable integration”, Athens, 2 December 2009, <<http://www.osce.org/cio/40857?download=true>>, and OSCE Ministerial Council, Decision No. 4/13, “Enhancing OSCE efforts to implement the Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti Within the OSCE Area, With a Particular Focus on Roma and Sinti Women, Youth and Children”, Kyiv, 6 December 2013, <<http://www.osce.org/mc/109340>>.

which found that a proportion of Roma community lack identity documents, which precludes their access to education, employment and social services.³ Currently, ODIHR is also conducting an analysis of the legal and procedural framework regulating the issuance of civil registration and identity documents in Georgia. This analysis will complement the research to be conducted by the selected organization under the current call for project proposals.

Building on the previous efforts, the Contact Point intends to engage a civil society organization to carry out in-depth research and prepare a report on the scope of the issue of lack of personal documents and its consequences among Roma in Georgia, including a focus on access for women and youth. Following the finalization of the research, the Contact Point will also organize an expert meeting in Tbilisi to discuss possible next steps with Georgian authorities, civil society organizations, Roma community representatives and other relevant stakeholders.

Expected results

The purpose of the current call for proposals assignment is **to conduct research and prepare a report mapping the problem of lacking civil registration and identity documents among Roma in Georgia**, with a focus on impact on enjoyment of their rights. The final report should contain recommendations to tackle the lack of documentation among Roma in Georgia. All objectives under the assignment should take into account the geographic and ethnic diversity of Roma and related communities in the country. Activities proposed under the project proposal should include, but not be limited to, field visits to Roma communities, and conducting focus group meetings and interviews with representatives of Roma communities, responsible authorities, civil society organizations and activists. **Promoting direct engagement with Roma communities and partnership with Roma civil society activists and organizations will be considered an asset.**

Who can apply?

Legally registered non-governmental organizations based in Georgia, with a proven record of conducting field research, are eligible for this call for project proposals. Experience on issues relating to statelessness and working with Roma, national minorities and/or marginalized communities and on managing projects is highly desirable. ODIHR will accept one application per organization only. The applicant organizations must have bank accounts in the name of the organization.

Gender mainstreaming

In line with the 2003 OSCE Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti within the OSCE Area, all objectives and activities must be fully [gender mainstreamed](#). Active engagement of Roma women and youth will be considered an asset.

Duration and timeframe

The accepted proposal is expected to be implemented in the period of 1 May 2018 to 30 September 2018, at the latest, and subject to budget availability at that time.

Budget

Submitted project proposals should have a budget of not more than EUR 6,000. The following categories of costs can be considered: project personnel, travel, accommodation,

³ Sandra Velay Mateu, "Roma youth in Georgia: What are the challenges?", Georgia Reforms Associates GRASS, 2017, <http://grass.org.ge/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Grass_Book_Eng.pdf>.

supplies and translation services. All costs proposed must be borne directly by the implementing organization and in direct connection with the project activities. Overhead administrative costs are not eligible.

How to apply

Applications should be sent in English using the attached project proposal template, with the subject line “Access to personal documents for Roma in Georgia”, to the following e-mail address: roma@odhr.pl no later than **15 March 2018 23:59 CET**. Applications received after this deadline will not be taken into consideration. The organization whose project proposal is selected is subject to the completion of a due diligence review and will be required to submit additional information in that regard.