

**Forced Expulsion of Kosovo Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians
from OSCE Participated state to Kosovo**

Thank you Mr. Chair,

I am taking the floor today not only as a representative of a Roma rights organization but also as a refugee deported from Macedonia to Kosovo via Serbia.

I know from my own experience and from the experience of my family that our rights are not protected in Kosovo. Unfortunately, we hear of an increasing number of deportations and threatened deportations of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians from the OSCE participating states, such as Germany, Sweden, Macedonia and other countries.

These expulsions take place to Kosovo, as well as to neighboring Serbia, where many displaced Roma from Kosovo already live in situations of extreme hardship.

Expulsion of Roma takes place in many cases in gross violation of human rights. One recent example is the case of Romani woman expelled to Serbia. According to information by the German organization Initiative Against Expulsion Detention, in August 2006, authorities in Berlin forcibly expelled a Muslim Romani woman to Serbia. The expulsion was executed disregarding medical experts opinion about the extreme psychological condition in the Romani family in question. At the time of the expulsion, the Romani woman was in an unstable psychic condition and had suicidal thoughts. Her husband had committed suicide in 2002 out of fear of expulsion from Germany.

Many states appear to have no hesitation in putting intense pressure on Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians from Kosovo to return there, even though it is not safe for them in Kosovo.

Two weeks ago I had a phone call from Germany where Ashkali family informed me that they are threaten with a forced deportation to Kosovo. Since the parents are sick the psychologist give them a permission to stay in Germany in the same time they psychologist appoint there son to be a guardian. After this decision the Ministry of Interior Affairs didn't accept the decision of the psychologist that their son should be a guardian. They are trying to deport their son to Kosovo even though the decision of the psychologist was not taken in consideration. The family told me that their traumas are not going away by they are just growing because of the threats that they are facing every day.

We have limited opportunities in Kosovo for adequate housing, education, employment and health care, and in a number of areas we cannot even move freely. The Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians were victims not only of the 1999 war but they are still victim today. Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians are also entirely excluded from the status talk about the future of Kosovo, meaning that we have little if any ability to shape processes affecting the future of Kosovo. If Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians are not involved in the status talks then why the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians are needed in Kosovo or just to fulfill one of the 8 standards which is requested by the international institutions?

The authorities of the OSCE participating states should immediately stop the deportation of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians to Kosovo, as well as to the rest of Serbia and Montenegro, because these forced expulsions violate our dignity and our fundamental human rights. These states should also cease, without delay, any forms of arbitrary pressure on Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians to go to Kosovo, Serbia or Montenegro.

Thank you Mr. Chairperson.

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Recommendation:

We are asking the OSCE to monitor and stop the forced deportation process from the OSCE participating states to Kosovo.

Requesting from Macedonian authorities to renew the asylum process because most of the applications are rejected for the same reason and this cannot be accepted because the asylum process is individual process.