

Romani CRISS

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Romani CRISS welcomes the OSCE commitment towards facilitating the implementation of policies, expressed through drafting and recently evaluating the OSCE Action Plan for Roma and Sinti, implementation of regional projects, and most important for us contributing to the developments of partnership between institutions and NGOs.

In Romania the ODIHR contribution was concretized in the signature of the 3 cooperation agreements among ODIHR, Roma NGOs and Romanian Ministry of Public Health, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Internal Affairs.

Encourage both by your support and by the Ministry of Education support in increasing the quality of education of Roma in Romania through the anti segregation and intercultural ministerial Orders in 2007,

after one year of implementation, Romani CRISS express its concerns related to the actual implementation of this policy, as 63% of the schools monitored in 10 counties in 2008 did not start the desegregation process and the quality of education is very low.

As the ODIHR report on the implementation of the Action Plan mentions, in order to transform **good intentions into genuine progress**, we call upon the Romanian delegation to evaluate the implementation of the policies related to the improvement of the quality of education and to ensure that in the school year 2008-2009 those policies are actually implemented at local level.

We call upon the CPRSI, to continue the dialogue carried with the Romanian Ministry of Education and contribute to the development of the **Permanent Working Group** within the Ministry as stated in the Desegregation Ministerial Order and which is responsible for monitoring and advice in relation to the quality of education.

Moving to the issue of **extremism**, we would like to draw Member States' attention on the hostile actions and intimidating messages against Roma population promoted by extremist organization in different countries, including Romania, Bulgaria and Hungary.

In Romania, one of the messages promoted by an extremist group called Noua Dreapta/New Right to the population and not sanctioned by Romanian justice is:

"We are fed up with bearing the Gypsy aggression! To this danger of death that threatens our existence as people itself, we have the holy duty to fire an alarm signal and take URGENT measures.

We call upon the Romanian, Bulgarian and Hungarian Delegations to provide information about concrete measures and penalties imposed against violent acts, discriminatory practices and hate speeches .

We draw attention to the OSCE that such situations are a major risk of extremism proliferation and we **urge** the (OSCE), in conformity with its mandate to prevent tensions to respond effectively, in a proactive manner, to ensure the protection of the Roma people at risk.

Nevertheless, we remind to the Italian delegation that at the OSCE meeting in Viena in June 2008, we called upon the Italian government to report on the progress made in administrating justice in racist attacks targeted at Roma, at the next Human Dimension Meeting by the OSCE.

As the report of the implementation of the Action Plan for Roma and Sinti should be regard as a work in progress and I cite from the report,

And because by its mandate, the OSCE/ODIHR supports consultation and partnership with Roma and Sinti NGOs I would like to propose that organisations' involved in the development in this action plan to have the opportunity to contribute also to the report.

At the end of my statement I would like to remind to the ODIHR, to the delegation for European Union, to the Council of Europe, European Roma Networks that one of the principles we were guided by was "for Roma with the Roma" and as the process of consultation of these institutions with the Roma decreased recently, as we noticed at the first Roma Summit in Brussels we call upon the representatives of these institutions' to formalize again this process and make it more transparent.