

Crimean Tatar Resource Center
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Working Session 15
PROVISION OF RIGHTS OF ROMA MINORITY IN UKRAINE
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Being a representative of the Crimean Tatar people, who is experiencing repressions in Crimea occupied by the Russian Federation, it is important that the rights and freedoms of the Roma minority in Ukraine to be ensured.

It has become a resonant event in Ukraine, when on August 27 at the village Loschinovka after the arrest of Roma suspect in the murder of a girl massive Roma riots took place. The Ukrainian public and human rights organizations responded to these events. The situation that has emerged in connection with the illegal eviction of Roma from the village Loschinovka (Odessa region), actualized a number of issues connected with the problem of the integration of the Roma minority, and also with the implementation of state ethno-national policy.

In order to prevent similar incidents in the future it is necessary to unite the efforts of public authorities with civil society representatives.

Recommendations:

1. It is necessary to have legislative regulation of this issue: to adopt a law on the concept of ethnic policy of Ukraine, which was registered by the leader of the Crimean Tatar people, MP M.Dzhemilev, as there is no law on indigenous peoples of Ukraine up to present moment;
2. To create a central state executive body that should deal with the issues of ethnic policy in Ukraine;
3. The Ministry of Culture of Ukraine should intensify their efforts in the implementation of state policy aimed at the integration of the Roma population. The interdepartmental working group set up in December 2015, which was composed of representatives of relevant ministries and representatives of regional authorities, should begin its work immediately;
4. To enhance the efficiency of inter-agency body it is necessary to ensure representation in the work of civil society organizations that represent the interests of the Roma national minority, as well as human rights organizations. Involving experts from the Roma and public sector will provide a complete and versatile learning needs of the Roma population in different regions of the country, as well as the development of effective solutions to these problems;
5. The effectiveness of the Interagency Working Group will be provided with its proper administration. The Ministry of Culture of Ukraine together with the relevant ministries should ensure its administration and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, should provide human and financial resources to carry out its activities. International organizations, in particular should join the contact point for Roma and Sinti issues, OSCE experts who will help the existing international practices of implementation of the state policy towards the Romani to the Ukrainian realities;
6. It is necessary to establish a hierarchy of interaction with the regional authorities to provide timely information on the real needs of Roma communities in the region, as well as to develop appropriate implementation plans for Roma integration strategies, taking into account regional specificities;
7. Interagency Working Group, should improve the existing action plan in accordance with international standards: a) setting Plan tasks in connection with the real needs of the Roma population, in view of the

problems associated with the existing public perceptions and stereotypes towards Roma; b) Development of indicators of effectiveness of the Action Plan; c) temporary work framework. To improve the action plan we recommend to involve experts and specialists from the international environment, as well as the experience of the OSCE;

8. In the areas with the largest Roma population, to create councils at regional state administration or an adviser on Roma population at the head of the Regional State Administration;

9. For law enforcement officers to conduct training sessions on the issues of specifics of the interaction with the Roma communities and carrying out preventive work based on the principles of non-discrimination.