



## AGENDA

### FOR A JOINT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICIES /ACTION PLANS FOR ROMA, SINTI AND TRAVELLERS, AND MEASURES AGAINST THE ANTI-GYPSYISM PHENOMENON IN EUROPE

Warsaw, Poland, 20-21 October 2005

#### DAY ONE

##### Morning session

9.30-10.15 **Opening and introductory remarks**

*Chair: Mr. Toralv Nordbo, First Deputy Director OSCE ODIHR*

##### **Opening remarks by:**

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland - Mr. Jan Truszczyński, Secretary of State;
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia, OSCE Chair-in-Office (CiO) – Ambassador Boris Frlec, Head of the OSCE Task Force;
- Council of Europe – Mr. Henry Scicluna, Coordinator of the Secretary General on issues related to Roma and Travellers;
- European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC) – Mrs. Beate Winkler, Director.

10.15-13.00 **First Plenary Session**

*Chair: Mrs. Vera Klopčič, Senior Researcher, Institute for Ethnic Studies, Ljubljana, Slovenia*

Topic: Concrete implementation practices at national and/or local levels responding to requirements of the OSCE Action Plan for the Improvement of the Situation of the Roma and Sinti (in particular Chapter III) and of relevant legal instruments and recommendations of the Council of Europe, the European Union and other international organisations/institutions.

10.30-12.00	<p><b>Presentations</b> (<u>maximum 10 minutes each</u>) by States’ delegations that should elaborate on one or several of the following items, referring also to concrete good practices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Partnership between local authorities and Roma <i>(existing practice: Mr. Robin Oakley, consultant for European Dialogue, UK, on the experience of RRAJE programme in several municipalities, including Pardubice);</i></li> <li>b) Partnership between local authorities and Roma: ensuring effective and multiple partnership /avoiding conflict situations between various players <i>(existing practice: Croatia – Mr. Josip Posavec, Prefect, County of Medjmurje, Croatia);</i></li> <li>c) Control mechanisms to enforce the implementation of measures, especially when local authorities and/or local population oppose the implementation of policies for Roma, Sinti and Travellers <i>(existing practices: Greece – Mr. Theos Athanasios, Special Secretary of the Mayor of Sophades, on Roma Social housing project; France – Mr. Xavier Denis – Counsellor at the Delegation of France to the OSCE on Organizing winter areas for Gens du voyage (Travellers) within a suburban environment);</i></li> <li>d) Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to assess the effective implementation of measures and their impact on the grass-root community level <i>(existing practice: Poland – Mr. Andrzej Czajkowski, Advisory Office for the Joint Programme between the Polish Ministry of Interior and the British Embassy in Warsaw).</i></li> </ul>
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12.00-13.00     **Open discussion about other national experiences, questions and answers**

13.00-14.30     **Break**

14.30-18.00     **Three working group sessions held in parallel**

<p><b><u>Working Group I</u></b> Update on the situation of Roma minorities, refugees, IDPs and returnees: the need for a common strategy, with a special focus on Kosovo <i><u>Moderator:</u> Mr. Andrzej Mirga, Chair of the CoE Group of Specialists on Roma, Gypsies and Travellers (MG-S-ROM) and Director for Roma Programs of Project on Ethnic Relations (PER)</i> <i><u>Rapporteur:</u> Mr. Robert Rustem, Senior Assistant on Roma Issues, OSCE Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje</i></p>	<p><b><u>Working Group II</u></b> How to desegregate classes and schools and promote equal access to quality education for Roma and Sinti children and youth? <i><u>Moderator:</u> Mrs. Eva Sobotka, Administrator for Communication and External Relations, EUMC</i> <i><u>Rapporteur:</u> Mrs. Alexandra Raykova, President of the Forum of European Roma Young People (FERYP)</i></p>	<p><b><u>Working Group III</u></b> Participatory approach to improve the situation of Roma, Sinti and Travellers: lessons learned from Roma working in public/local administration <i><u>Moderator:</u> Mr. Nezdet Mustafa, Member of Parliament, “the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” (FYROM)</i> <i><u>Rapporteur:</u> Mrs. Vera Klopčič, Senior Researcher, Institute for Ethnic Studies, Slovenia</i></p>
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<p><b>14.30-16.00 Speakers (10-15 min):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mr. PhD Jens Modvig, Deputy Head D/DSRSG of OSCE Mission in Kosovo</li> <li>- Mrs. Laura Wiseberg, UNMIK Office for Returns, Communities and Minorities, about the situation in Mitrovica/ë (UNMIK)</li> <li>- Mrs. Gwendolyn Albert, Director of the League of Human Rights (Czech Republic)</li> <li>- Mr. Henry Scicluna, Coordinator of the Secretary General on Roma Issues, Council of Europe</li> </ul>	<p><b>14.30-16.00 Speakers (10-15 min):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mr. Claude Cahn, Acting Executive Director of the European Roma Rights Centre (ERRC): about various forms and cases of school segregation</li> <li>- Mr. Bernard Rorke, Director of Roma Participation Program, Open Society Institute (OSI): projects to desegregate schools</li> <li>- Mrs. Miranda Vuolasranta, Adviser to Council of Europe on Roma Issues: the importance of Romani teaching materials and Romani language</li> <li>- Mr. Herbert Heuß, external expert, CARE Bulgaria: using Roma teachers' assistants to desegregate</li> <li>- Ms. Anna Mirga, Roma Educational Association Harangos, Poland: Evaluation of the Implementation of Educational part of the Pilot Government Programme for Roma in Małopolska region</li> </ul>	<p><b>14.30-16.00 Speakers (10-15 min):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mrs. Charlotta Wickman, Director of Minority Policy, Ministry of Justice: the role and impact of the Council on Roma Issues in Sweden</li> <li>- Ms. Ellen Mongan, Traveller Liaison Officer and Ms. Mary Forde, Senior Social Worker, Galway County Council: the role and impact of Liaison Offices for Travellers in Ireland</li> <li>- Mr. Bumbu Ioan Gruia, Adviser, Department of Education and Culture, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, Romania: the role and impact of Roma County Officers in Romania</li> <li>- Mr. Albert Kováč, Regional Officer in Rimavská Sobota municipality: the role and impact of Regional Offices of the Plenipotentiary of the Slovak Government for Roma Communities</li> </ul>
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<b>16.00-16.30 Coffee break</b>
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<p>16.30-18.00 <b>Discussion, questions and answers</b></p>	<p>16.00-18.00 <b>Discussion, questions and answers</b></p>	<p>16.00-18.00 <b>Discussion, questions and answers</b></p>
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**DAY TWO**

<p><b>Morning session</b></p> <p><b>9.00-10.00 Second Plenary Session</b></p> <p><i>Chair: Mr. Jan Schön, Undersecretary of State, Ministry of Interior and Administration of the Republic of Poland</i></p> <p>Working group rapporteurs present a summary of the previous day's discussions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Working group 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Robert Rustem <i>Senior Assistant on Roma Issues, OSCE Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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- Working group 2:  
Mrs. Alexandra Raykova *President of the Forum of European Roma Young People (FERYP)*
- Working group 3:  
Mrs. Vera Klopčič, *Senior Researcher, Institute for Ethnic Studies, Slovenia*

**Comments and answers**

10.00-10.30 **Coffee break**

10.30-13.00 **Third Plenary Session**

*Chair: Dr. Anastasia Crickley, Chair of the Management Board of the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC), and the Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office on Combating Racism, Xenophobia and Discrimination, also focusing on Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians and Members of other Religions*

*Rapporteur: Mr. Herbert Heuß, Germany*

Topic: Combating prejudices and hate speech against Roma, Sinti and Travellers: “Anti-Gypsyism” as a phenomenon throughout Europe

10.40-12.00 **Presentations** (maximum 15-20 minutes each) by:

- Mr. Valeriu Nicolae, Deputy Director of the European Roma Information Office (ERIO): Presentation of a report on Anti-Gypsyism in the media;
- Mrs. Isil Gachet, Executive Secretary to the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI): what is common and different when addressing racism against Roma, Sinti and Travellers compared to other forms of racism and intolerance?
- Mr. Marko D. Knudsen, First Chairman of the European Center for Anti-ziganism Research (EZAF): Conclusions of the International Anti-Tziganism Conference held in Hamburg on 8-9 October;
- Mr. Lauri Sivonen, Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights, Council of Europe regarding the Commissioner’s preliminary report on the human rights situation of Roma, Sinti and Travellers in Europe.

12.00-13.00 **Discussion, questions and answers**

13.00-14.00 **Break**

14.00-16.00 **Fourth Plenary Session**

*Chair: Mr. Nicolae Gheorghe, Adviser on Roma and Sinti Issues, OSCE-ODIHR (CPRSI)*

*Rapporteur: Mr. Andrzej Mirga, Chair of the Council of Europe Group of Specialists on Roma, Gypsies and Travellers (MG-S-ROM)*

**Topic:** How to better use and co-ordinate initiatives to help local authorities and Roma working together at the local level, including funding mechanisms of local actions

14.00-15.00 **Presentations** (maximum 10 minutes each) by:

- Mr. Detlev Boeing (DG Enlargement) about an assessment of the use of EU Structural Funds for Roma Projects;
- Mr. Julius Varallyay, Director ad interim of the Roma Education Fund;
- Mrs. Victoria Damyanova, Director, European Integration, International Cooperation & Investments, Sofia municipality, Bulgaria, about the Municipal Approach to Roma Community in Sofia;
- Dr. Andor Ürmös, Director for Roma Integration, Government Office for Equal Opportunities of Hungary, about financing the implementation of measures at the local level (state and local authorities' respective contributions/loans/contributions in kind/European and national public funds);
- Ms. Jennifer Tanaka, PAKIV European Roma Fund, about the proposal made at the OSCE Roma and Sinti Side Events to create a fund for sustainable development of local Roma communities.

15.00-16.00 **Discussion, questions and answers**

16.00-18.00 **CLOSING SESSION:** Towards a common vision and implementation guidelines (manual) at international level (OSCE, CoE, EU, Decade of Roma Inclusion) for national policies /action plans for Roma, Sinti and Travellers and towards Concrete Measures against Anti-Gypsyism

*Chair:* OSCE ODIHR - Ambassador Christian Strohal

- Council of Europe – Mr. Michaël Guet, Head of Roma and Travellers Division;
- EUMC – Mrs. Anastasia Crickley, Chair of the Management Board;
- Ministry of Interior and Administration of the Republic of Poland: Mr. Jan Schön, Undersecretary of State.

18.00 **Departure of participants**