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CPRSI WORKSHOP ON VIOLENCE AGAINST ROMA **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Warsaw, 19 - 23 January 1996

International "Workshop on Violence against Roma" took place on 19 January 1996 in Warsaw. The meeting was organised by the Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues (CPRSI) within the ODIHR and was attended by 35 representatives of Roma and Sinti associations and NGOs. Representatives of the Council of Europe and the UNHCR were also present.

In the course of discussion the participants reconfirmed that a special emphasis in the activities of the CPRSI should be continuously placed on discrimination and violence against Roma. In this context a specific need for prompt and reliable information about all cases of violence available in the CPRSI was underscored. Such information would facilitate substantially also the preparation of a special report on cases of violence against Roma and Sinti for the information of the OSCE Permanent Council.

While addressing the situation of Roma and Sinti in different countries several common levels were indicated for violent and racist actions against Roma and Sinti: individual citizens committing criminal offense; skinheads or extreme-right groups; collective actions of ethnic nature at the community level; police and other law enforcement institutions.

That violence against Roma and Sinti is an all-European phenomenon, was pinpointed in many contributions. It has been manifested in many areas of public and social life in various countries, i.e. inter-ethnic relations in the society, functioning of governmental institutions and administration, practice applied in the system of justice, education, behavior of

police, attitude of media, language used to describe violence main characteristics. A view of close interrelationship between violence against Roma and general living standards in the society was commonly shared.

Participants also focused their attention on the issue of lack of legal assistance to Roma and Sinti in view of the growing numbers of violent attacks and ethnic tensions around Roma refugees and displaced persons. Better coordination of different existing legal assistance programmes dedicated to Roma as well as education and training were strongly recommended to be intensified in this field.

The participants furthermore indicated the need for effective continuation of the liaison function of the CPRSI and its cooperation on Roma and Sinti issues with the Council of Europe and the European Commission. Several proposals were made to strengthen the CPRSI, in terms of its staff and resources. An expectation was expressed that it might be examined at the OSCE review conference later this year.

During an exchange of views on the urgent need for increasing prevention of violence, the CPRSI proposal for convening a "Workshop on Roma and Sinti and the Media" was welcomed.

The participants recommended also that future workshops on violence against Roma take place in other countries.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS Error! Bookmark not defined.

WORKSHOP ON VIOLENCE AGAINST ROMA

1. Adamajtis Bozena - Roma National Congress - Hamburg, Germany
2. Bajda Piotr - Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights - Warsaw, Poland

3. Bitu Nicoleta - Rromani CRISS - Bucharest, Romania
4. Blaha Bohuslav - Inforoma - Bratislava, Slovakia
5. Danova Savelina - Human Rights Project - Sofia, Bulgaria
6. Djuric Rajko - International Romani Union - Berlin, Germany
7. Emerson Martin - Minority Rights Group International - London, UK
8. Farkas Florian - Association Lungo Drom - Budapest, Hungary
9. Galjus Orhan - Patrin - Presov, Slovakia
10. Georgiev Peter - Bulgarian Parliament, Roma Confederation - Sofia, Bulgaria
11. Gheorge Nicolae - Rromani CRISS - Bucharest, Romania
12. Gina Ondrej - Fund of Hope and Understanding - Czech Republic
13. Graven Mieke - Sinti-Werk - Best, Netherlands
14. Grigorichenko Petr - Ukrainian Association of Roma - Kiev, Ukraine
15. Jevremovic Dragan - Romano Centro - Vienna, Austria
16. Jimenez Nicolas - Rromani Cexrain and F.A.G.E.X - Zafra, Spain
17. Kawczynski Rudko - Roma National Congress - Hamburg, Germany
18. Kjutchkov Christo - Ministry of Education - Sofia, Bulgaria
19. Kocze Angela - Autonomia Foundation - Budapest, Hungary
20. Kruck Christina - Soros Roma Foundation - Zurich, Switzerland
21. Liegeois Jean - Pierre - Centre de Recherché Tsiganes - Clichy, France
22. Lodzinski Slawomir - Helsinki Foundation - Warsaw, Poland
23. Mirga Andrzej - PER Romani Advisory Council - Krakow, Poland
24. Raducanu Gheorge - Partida Romilor - Romania
25. Russinov Rumyan - Human Rights Project - Sofia, Bulgaria

26. Rooker Marcia - Catholic University - Nijmegen, Netherlands
 27. Rossberg Arnold - Zentralrat Deutscher Sinti und Roma - Heidelberg, Germany
 28. Sarkozy Rudolf - Association of Austrian Roma - Wien, Austria
 29. Scuka Emil - ROI - Czech Republic
 30. Stankiewicz Stanislaw - Soros Roma Foundation - Bialystok, Poland
 31. Vasecka Michel - Inforoma - Bratislava, Slovakia
 32. Valama Helge - Ministry of Labour - Helsinki, Finland
 33. Weiss Lalla - Landelijke Sinti Organisatie - Best, Netherlands
 34. Wierzycka Lucja - Helsinki Foundation - Warsaw, Poland
 35. Zolotorenko Vladimir - Open Society Fund - Kyiv, Ukraine
- Alfredo Miccio, John Murray - Council of Europe - Strasbourg, France
- Luigi Cabrini, Hy Shelow, Jakub Boratynski - UNHCR - Warsaw, Poland
- Paulina Merino, Elizabeth Winship, Jacek Paliszewski, Ilya Belkin, Ireneusz Stepinski, Tanja Koch - Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues - OSCE/ODIHR - Warsaw, Poland

**FAX LIST OF ROMA NGO'S
PARTICIPATED IN THE CONFERENCE**

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1. Bitu Nicoleta - Rromani CRISS - Bucharest, Romania
2. Cartner Holly - Human Rights Watch/Helsinki - NY, USA - 012129720905
3. Courthiade Marcel - Rromani Baxt - Tirana, Albania - 3354235197
4. Djuric Rajko - International Romani Union - Berlin, Germany - 49308548075
5. Emerson Martin - Minority Rights Group - London, UK - 441818625708
6. Farkas Florian - Association Lungo Drom - Budapest, Hungary - 3611767435
7. Galjus Orhan - Patrin - Presov, Slovakia - 4291733902
8. Georgiev Peter - Bulgarian Parliament - Sofia, Bulgaria - 359394608
9. Gheorge Nicolae - Rromani CRISS - Bucharest, Romania - 4012117868
10. Gina Ondrej - Council for Minorities - Czech Republic - 421813011
11. Graven Myeke - Landelijke Sinti Organisatie - Best, Netherlands - 31498372915
12. Grigorichenko Petr - Ukrainian Association of Roma - Kyiv, Ukraine - 70444842358
13. Hancock Ian - Per Romani Advisory Council - Austin, USA - 015122954772
14. Hereida Juan de Dios Ramirez - Barcelona, Spain - 193434127040
15. Jevremovic Dragan - Roma Centro - Vienna, Austria - 4317496336
16. Jimenez Nicolas - Centro Sociocultural "Garcia de la Huerta" - Zafra, Spain - 3424552177
17. Kawczynski Rudko - RNC - Hamburg, Germany - 4940310475
18. Kjutchkov Christo - Ministry of Education - Sofia, Bulgaria - 3592882485
19. Kocze Angela - Budapest, Hungary - 3611767435
20. Koptova Anna - Romathan Theatre - Kosice, Slovakia - 4295435796
21. Kruck Christina I. - Soros Roma Foundation - Zurich, Switzerland - 4113836302
22. Liegeois Jean - Pierre - Centre de Recherché Tsiganes - Clichy, France - 33147312923
23. Mirga Andrzej - PER Romani Advisory Council - Krakow, Poland - 4812366932
24. Nickels John - International Romani Union - US Branch - 016097297768

25. Nowicki Marek - Helsinki Foundation - Poland - 6296996 / 6269875 / 6281008
26. Orgovanova Klara - Open Society Fund, INFOROMA - Bratislava, Slovakia - 4275314730
27. Paun Nicolae - Partida Romilor - Bucharest, Romania - 4013225199
28. Plaks Livia - Project on Ethnic Relations - Princeton, USA - 016096835888
29. Raducanu Gheorge - Partida Romilor - Romania - 4013225199
30. Rossberg Arnold - Zentralrat Deutcher Sinti und Roma - Heidelberg, Germany - 496221981190
31. Russinov Rumyan - Human Rights Project - Sofia, Bulgaria - 3592875577
32. Sarguera Jean - Rroma Association - Paris, France -
33. Sarkozi Rudolf - Association of Austrian Roma - Wien, Austria - 431375194
34. Scuka Emil - Prague, Czech Republic - 42224914690 ext. (faxova linka) 34504
35. Stankiewicz Stanislaw - Soros Roma Foundation - Bialystok, Poland - 85329607
36. Valama Helge - Ministry of Labour - Helsinki, Finland - 358018569202
37. Weiss Lala - Landelijke Sinti Organisatie - Best, Netherlands - 31499372915

EUROROMA HOLDS ORGANISATIONAL CONFERENCE IN BUDAPEST

An International meeting of Roma was organised in Budapest on 12 and 12 January by the Autonomy Foundation, ORS (Romani National News Service) reported on 15 January. Its goal was to establish a program called "Euroroma", supported by 350,000 ECU. Four countries - Bulgaria, Slovakia, Hungary and

Romania will participate in Euroroma. Besides setting up educational courses and Romani media in Romania and Slovakia, Euroroma will establish legal offices for Roma, which already function in the other two countries

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Regard to the Romany (Gypsy) Population, Tolerance Foundation, August 1993

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Judith Boda-Palok

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From 20th of September, County of
Chetani, District of Mures, Romania,**
Societatea Tanara Generatie A Promilor,
22 September 1993

**Report Concerning the Events Occurred
in Carpinis Village, County of Timis,
16th of March, 1993, Romania,**
Societatea Tanara Generatie A Promilor

**Report Concerning the Events Occurred
in Rahova Quarter Five District of
Bucharest,** Societatea Tanara Generatie A
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**Report on the Matter of the Cancellation
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International Helsinki Federation for
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**Resolution prepared by the Working
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The Use of Mother Tongue in Communicating with the Authorities, Rozalia Csipka

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Turning a Blind Eye to Racism, Amnesty International, September 1994

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Declaration Given to Costel Vasile By Baniat Minica, 43 Years Old, Living in Periam Village, Romani Street, No. 380, Baniat Minica

Declaration Given to Costel Vasile By Vincu Marta, Living in Periam Village, Coloniei Street No. 373, Vincu Marta

Declaration Given to Costel Vasile By Vincu Nicolae, Living in Periam Village, Coloniei Street No 379, Vincu Nicolae

Declaration Given to Costel Vasile By Marian Francisc , 28 Years Old, Living in Periam Village, Coloniei Street, No 3-75, Marian Francisc

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Letter to the Council of Europe by Helsinke obcanske shromazdeni v Ceske republice/ Helsinki Citizens' Assembly in the Czech Republic, Section of Human Rights, Prague, Helsinki Citizens Assembly, 13 July 1994

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