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**14th Meeting of the Council of Europe  
Dialogue with Roma and Traveller Civil Society**

**Mid-term Review on the implementation of  
the Council of Europe Strategic Action Plan for Roma  
and Traveller Inclusion (2020-2025)**

Strasbourg, 11-12 October 2022 / Hybrid meeting

**REPORT**

prepared by Marina Csikós, General Rapporteur

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## Executive Summary

The 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Council of Europe Dialogue with Roma and Traveller civil society focused on the Mid-term Review of the implementation of the [Council of Europe Strategic Action Plan for Roma and Traveller Inclusion \(2020-2025\)](#) and offered a good platform for Roma and Traveller civil society to share their feedback on the mid-term review report. The general report is that equal treatment by public servants and health providers could be still improved, since the COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the negative impact of racism against Roma and Traveller communities and individuals.

Concerning the cross-cutting issues and the different marginalised groups within the Roma and Traveller communities, the participants flagged the necessity of addressing the mental health of groups which are more exposed to trauma, such as Roma LGBTI and women refugees. It was also raised by several civil society members that the experiences and needs of Roma women and LGBTI groups could be addressed more effectively in the Strategic Action Plan.

When it comes to combating antigypsyism, it was concluded that even though there are many achievements made, there is still lack of awareness among politicians and national, regional and local authorities on what antigypsyism and hate speech actually represent. **It was recommended that the definition and legal sanctioning of antigypsyism and hate speech should be harmonised throughout the member states.** Spain and Romania have adopted legislation on combating antigypsyism and while these are positive developments, the existing laws should be critically discussed, potential gaps identified, and the application of the law reinforced.

Roma and Traveller civil society echoed the idea that nurturing Roma and Traveller arts and culture is a key factor in combating antigypsyism. Roma and Traveller communities continuously express the need to create spaces where they can cultivate their traditions and culture and organise diverse artistic events. Since Roma and Traveller history and culture are not always included in the national school curricula (or if they are, they may be misrepresented), Roma and Traveller civil society pushes for including in the school curricula history, arts, and culture of Roma and Travellers based on dignity, diversity, and self-representation.

Among the observations and requests expressed by Roma and Traveller civil society is that the ROMACT and ROMACTED Programmes are highly appreciated and that they should be implemented in more countries. The implementation would be relevant in other countries (including Greece where they intend to ask for the introduction of the ROMACT Programme), since local authorities sometimes face challenges in addressing Roma inclusion. The participants were also very much interested in how and who to express their interests to in order participate in these Programmes.

## Introduction

The 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Council of Europe Dialogue with Roma and Traveller civil society focused on the Mid-term Review on the implementation of the Council of Europe Strategic Action Plan for Roma and Traveller Inclusion (2020-2025).

The conclusions and recommendations of the 14<sup>th</sup> Dialogue Meeting aim to contribute to a better implementation of the Strategic Action Plan and to maintaining effective co-operation between the Council of Europe and Roma and Traveller civil society.

The Council of Europe Strategic Action Plan for Roma and Traveller Inclusion (2020-2025) aims to combat antigypsyism and discrimination and to support equality. The Plan also fosters democratic participation, promotes public trust and accountability and supports access to inclusive quality education and training. This policy framework document reinforces progress made following the implementation of the Council of Europe's Thematic Action Plan on the Inclusion of Roma and Travellers (2016-2019), which tackled anti-

Roma and anti-Traveller prejudice, discrimination, and crimes (“antigypsyism”) with innovative models for local-level solutions and inclusive policies. In addition, the intersectional needs of specific groups of Roma and Travellers who are particularly vulnerable or suffer from multiple discrimination, have been taken into account as a cross-cutting issue in all actions under this Plan.

## **Recommendations**

### **Roma and Traveller groups facing intersectional discrimination, such as Roma and Traveller youth, women and LGBTI persons**

#### **Recommendations to the Council of Europe**

- work with existing expert platforms on Roma LGBTI issues, such as the [International LGBTIQ-Roma Platform](#);
- mainstream the needs and challenges of Roma and Traveller youth, women, and LGBTI persons while keeping in mind the specificities faced by these groups;
- ensure that future Committee of Ministers Recommendations to member States concerning Roma and Traveller groups facing intersectional discrimination (e.g., the Draft Recommendation on equality for Roma and Traveller Women) include a roadmap on how to be implemented by the member States as well as a plan on how the Council of Europe can support its implementation;
- ensure the sustainability of existing activities targeting these groups and provide flexible support;
- make CoE projects flexible enough, so that models can be later developed, adapted and transposed in the member States following the implementation period;
- reach out to existing Roma gender expert collectives, such as the Feminist Collective of Romani Gender Experts, for consultation and co-operation purposes
- to specifically mention Roma and Traveller youth, women, and LGBTI persons in all strategic documents;
- encourage and initiate discussions with the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights and other data-collection agencies to update data about the situation of Roma and Traveller youth, women, and LGBTI persons;
- support initiatives that offer safe spaces for groups facing intersectional discrimination within the Roma and Traveller communities;
- provide targeted training on fundraising and project proposal development for organisations working with Roma and Traveller youth, women, and LGBTI persons;
- initiate joint actions plans with the Gender Equality Division of the Council of Europe and with the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Unit.

#### **Recommendations to Council of Europe member States**

- mainstream the needs and challenges of Roma and Traveller youth, women, and LGBTI persons while keeping in mind the specificities faced by these groups;
- reach out to existing Roma gender expert collectives, such as the Feminist Collective of Romani Gender Experts, for consultation and co-operation purposes;
- ensure that there is a combined and coordinated approach at the national and community level for all initiatives;
- ensure that vulnerable groups can participate effectively in decision making processes, also by extending the reach of the European Union and Council of Europe Joint Programmes, such as, ROMACT, ROMACTED and INSCHOOL or Council of Europe initiatives such as Roma Political Schools.

#### **Recommendations to Civil society organisations**

- work with existing expert platforms on Roma LGBTI issues, such as the [International LGBTIQ-Roma Platform](#)
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- while keeping in mind the specificities faced by these groups;
- mention specifically Roma and Traveller youth, women, and LGBTI persons in all strategic documents.

### **Combating antigypsyism and discrimination and supporting real and effective equality**

#### **Recommendations to the Council of Europe**

- change discourse around Roma and Traveller issues: from victims to human rights defenders;
- raise more awareness among the Roma and Traveller communities on how they can report discrimination and human rights violations;
- build the capacity of Roma and Traveller CSOs to use existing reporting tools and to make use of the Council of Europe standards in their work;
- support the continuation of the European Union and Council of Europe Joint Programme “JUSTROM” in more member States since it proved to be a good example on how to effectively address human rights violations;
- use antigypsyism, intolerance, xenophobia, and other terminologies consistently for more coherence and common understanding;
- support initiatives that specifically combat online hate speech;
- pay special attention to groups which face intersectional discrimination compounded to antigypsyism, such as sexism, homophobia, transphobia, etc.;
- build the capacities of Roma and Traveller NGOs to recognise, report, and take legal steps against antigypsyism;
- mainstream antigypsyism throughout all relevant Council of Europe strategies and policy documents;
- recognise good practices in member States which focus on combating antigypsyism and promote these practices across all member States;
- monitor closely and stand up for the rights of Roma and Traveller in crisis situations, such as the Russian war against Ukraine

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- carry out specific trainings for Equality Bodies and National Human Rights Institutions on the issue of antigypsyism;
- closely monitor and stand up for the rights of Roma and Travellers in crisis situations, such as the Russian war against Ukraine;
- use the example of North Macedonia on *actio popularis* which allows civil society organisations to take legal cases to the court in the name of an individual or group;
- put existing plans, materials and legislation into practice, and create new ones only when legislative or policy gaps are identified.

## **Recommendations to civil society organisations**

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- support initiatives that specifically combat online hate speech;
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## **Supporting democratic Roma and Traveller participation and promoting public trust and accountability**

### **Recommendations to Council of Europe**

- make more visible the work of Roma Political Schools and promote mandatory quota for women participants;
- create Roma Political School Alumni Network to ensure connectivity and networking among the participants;
- ensure better co-ordination among Roma and Traveller organisations and stakeholders by organising regular meetings;
- ensure sustainability and ownership of achievements of the ROMACT and ROMACTED programmes within the local self-governments and other partners;
- further build capacities of local authorities and self-governments to develop and implement projects and relevant policies and measures for social inclusion of Roma;
- conduct a needs assessment and establish a baseline to ensure an adequate and relevant format prior to launching Roma Political Schools in other countries;
- to pre-define the type of school and target group on a case-by-case basis (civic engagement, voters' empowerment, preparation for future candidates, census outreach, etc.);
- ensure follow-up after the close of each Roma Political School.

### **Recommendations to Council of Europe member States**

- provide Roma and Traveller communities timely and adequate information and education about political and decision-making processes;
- ensure effective participation of all groups of society and include them in decision making processes at all levels by using ROMACT / ROMACTED methodologies;
- ensure sustainability and ownership of achievements of the ROMACT and ROMACTED programmes within the local self-governments and other partners;
- include Roma and Travellers in digital enterprises, and green deal agendas

### **Recommendations to civil society organisations**

- provide Roma and Traveller communities timely and adequate information and education about political and decision-making processes.

## **Supporting Roma and Traveller access to inclusive and quality education and training**

### **Recommendations to the Council of Europe**

- train teachers, social workers, and the police on artificial intelligence, digital literacy, other innovative skills, and equip them with human rights and multicultural competencies;
- promote Romani language courses at all levels of education in CoE member States;
- ensure quality work of and efficient number of Roma school mediators by monitoring their needs and challenges they face;
- promote and showcase successful Roma and Traveller students at all levels of education;
- create more initiatives that aim to ensure successful transition from education to employment;
- follow upon CoE and EU educational projects, such as INSCHOOL, and promote practices that make school child-friendly.

### **Recommendations to Council of Europe member States**

- focus on the needs and interactions of the entire school community and environment, including students, parents, and teachers;
- ; address the issue of teacher shortage in the member States;
- train teachers, social workers, and the police on artificial intelligence, digital literacy, other innovative skills, and equip them with human rights and multicultural competencies;
- create focused schemes targeting literacy and digital literacy of Roma and Traveller parents to support the education of their children;
- take more efforts on increasing the number of Roma and Traveller teachers by offering them reserved seats at the universities, offering them scholarships, and mentoring programmes;
- promote Romani language courses at all levels of education in the member States;
- ensure quality education in segregated areas where Roma and Traveller children are subject to explicit or implicit segregation;
- build synergies between schools and civil society to include children with special education needs by using a common framework, codes of ethics and guidelines for educators;
- ensure quality education of Roma and Traveller children during crisis, by equipping them with digital learning tools and competencies;
- raise the compulsory pre-school education to 4 years in order to improve socio-emotional skills before starting elementary school;
- ensure quality work of and efficient number of Roma school mediators by monitoring their needs and challenges they face;
- ensure that Roma and Traveller children are not left behind due to language barriers by providing them with free language classes (both Romani and majority language);
- encourage Roma and Traveller and non-Roma and Traveller teachers to use existing teaching materials on Roma and Traveller history, arts, and culture;
- promote and showcase successful Roma and Traveller students at all levels of education;
- create more initiatives that aim to ensure successful transition from education to employment.

### **Recommendations to Civil society organisations**

- train teachers, social workers, and the police on artificial intelligence, digital literacy, other innovative skills, and equip them with human rights and multicultural competencies;
- build synergies between schools and civil society to include children with special education needs by using a common framework, codes of ethics and guidelines for educators.

## Conclusions

### Taking stock of the implementation of the Council of Europe Strategic Action Plan for Roma and Traveller Inclusion (2020-2025)

The Mid-Term Review Report of the Implementation of Strategic Action Plan for Roma and Traveller Inclusion (2020-2025) aims to provide an overview of the achievements and activities under each priority area from the Plan's adoption on 22 January 2020 to 31 December 2022. Even though the negative effects of Covid-19 caused some delays in the implementation, significant progress was achieved in the three priority areas and in better mainstreaming Roma and Traveller issues across the work of the entire Organisation. Through building capacity of local authorities and member States to better respond to the needs of the Roma and Travellers during the pandemic, empowering Roma and Traveller women and increasing the participation of Roma and Traveller people in decision making processes, the Strategic Action Plan has contributed to positively changing the situation of Roma and Travellers in the past two years. Several publications and recommendations have been published or are being drafted. Adopted recommendations were presented and are further detailed below. Some of the upcoming recommendations include standards on equality for Roma and Traveller women and girls and the active political participation of national minority on a capacity-building programme and the active political participation of national minority youth. The Committee of Experts on Roma and Traveller Issues (ADI-ROM) is working CM/Rec (2020)2 on the inclusion of the history of Roma and/or Travellers in school curricula and teaching materials at national level. Other important updates include decisions by the European Court of Human Rights with regards to Roma and Travellers such as on school segregation, ethnic profiling and police violence, the prohibition of begging, forced evictions and discrimination. The joint European Union / Council of Europe Programme "Roma Women's Access to Justice" (JUSTROM) concluded in February 2022 and has received positive feedback from the participants. The activities of the [JUSTROM Programme](#) were organised around four pillars: empowerment of Roma women, provision of information and legal assistance, enhancement of professional resources and increase of synergies and partnerships. During its implementation it reached over 20 000 beneficiaries and raised the awareness, skills and knowledge of many Roma women. It built the capacity of numerous legal professionals, with the objective of leaving a legacy to all relevant national and international stakeholders and partners of the JUSTROM programme to take ownership and continue the work in a different format. During the reporting period, the planned peer-to-peer exchanges and intergovernmental face-to-face meetings suffered from the lockdown and travel ban across Europe. However, many were replaced with online meetings and webinars to the extent possible and by working more closely with local communities most affected by the consequences of the pandemic. Moreover, despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Roma and Traveller Team managed to organise an important event, namely the [8th International Roma Women's Conference](#) in Strasbourg in November 2021.

On 20 May 2020, Recommendation CM/Rec(2022)16[1] of the Committee of Ministers to member States on combating hate speech was adopted. During the [10th Meeting of the Council of Europe Dialogue with Roma and Traveller Civil Society](#) hate speech and its impact on Roma and Traveller communities was discussed, as well as efficient and comprehensive measures to combat hate speech, in particular measures to strengthen the role of and tools used by Roma and Traveller civil society.

The 14<sup>th</sup> Dialogue Meeting provided a good opportunity for Roma and Traveller civil society to share their feedback regarding the mid-term review report. It was reported by the civil society organisations attending the meeting that equal treatment by public servants and health providers could be still improved, since the COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the negative impact of racism against Roma and Traveller communities and individuals. The implementation of the [12 Principles of Good Governance](#) was highly appreciated, as they aim to strengthen democratic values, such as human rights, cultural diversity and social cohesion, which are in line with the Strategic Action Plan's priority to promote public trust and accountability.

While adopting national implementation plans is a positive step towards a higher political commitment to improve the situation of Roma and Travellers in member States, monitoring the results remains an important issue to be improved, along with making implemented programmes and projects more

sustainable. Although the Strategic Action Plan takes into consideration the intersectional needs of the specific groups within the Roma and Traveller communities, civil society also expressed the urgent need to develop and finance programmes which are more targeted to the specificities of Roma women and LGBTI groups in particular.

Progress on cross-cutting issues - Multiple discrimination and intersectionality in its implementation

A Draft Recommendation on Roma Youth Participation was prepared to be proposed for adoption by the Committee of Ministers. The urgent need for adopting such a recommendation lays in the fact that Roma young people can face multiple discrimination based on their ethnic origin, age, gender, sexual identity, religion, social condition etc. Roma youth are among the most vulnerable groups (especially Roma girls and LGBTI Roma) and they lack access to political and public participation. This recommendation aims to address the diverse needs of Roma youth and provide concrete recommendations to the Council of Europe member States to ensure the participation of Roma young people.

During the [13<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Council of Europe Dialogue with the Roma and Traveller civil society on defending the rights of Roma and Traveller children](#) on 10-11 May 2022, the rights of the child as a specific category of human rights was the main theme, and responded to the fact that many children in Europe, including Roma and Traveller children, find themselves in particularly vulnerable situations today, including due to crisis and emergency situations – economic hardship, the global pandemic and the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Children’s rights and rule of law-based approaches must be ensured by governments, by the Council of Europe, and by Roma and Traveller civil society organisations. The recommendations highlighted the need to create joint action plans between the member States, the Council of Europe, and Roma and Traveller civil society, to apply anti-discrimination approaches and responses to current Roma and children’s rights violations in Ukraine and in the member States, to call on international organisations and Roma and Traveller civil society to protect and promote the rights of the Roma and Traveller children in crisis, and to apply gender-sensitive approaches in promoting their rights.

In order to discuss the protection of human rights and dignity of Roma and Traveller women, the [8<sup>th</sup> International Roma Women’s Conference was organised on 24-26 November, 2021](#). Making progress towards greater inclusion of Roma and Traveller women and girls is not only a human rights imperative, but also a key component of how states can respond to the challenges they face. During the conference some notable conclusions were drawn, and recommendations were addressed to all levels. For example the lack of identity documents of many Roma women refugees prevents them from accessing their basic rights and puts them at risk of violence or being trafficked, therefore issuing birth certificates to babies regardless of the mother’s registration status is fundamental. Moreover, limited access to learning puts girls at risk of school dropout and increases their likelihood of falling victim to early marriages. This should be prevented by providing Roma girls with the necessary learning tools and governmental measures which ensure principles of non-discrimination and gender equality. The low representation of Roma and Traveller women in public and political life continue to affect how their voice is heard. Since civil society participation and political representation of minority groups is elementary in a functioning democracy it requires from the authorities continuous strengthening and commitment in the work of different structures, including by setting quotas to be represented on local councils and national parliaments.

The participants flagged the necessity of addressing the mental health of groups which are more exposed to trauma, such as Roma LGBTI and women refugees. It was raised by several civil society members that the experiences and needs of Roma women and LGBTI groups could be addressed more effectively in the strategy. Particularly, instruments are needed to improve the situation of Roma and Traveller transwomen, sex workers, and disabled people.

### **Combating antigypsyism and discrimination and supporting real and effective equality**

As a key priority area, the Council of Europe Strategic Action Plan for Roma and Traveller Inclusion (2020-2025) aims to combat antigypsyism using a human-rights approach through the Organisation’s standards



and instruments, and by fostering their application, implementation and monitoring with the desired impact of supporting access to justice. It further aims to combat antigypsyism by building the capacity of national, regional and local level authorities and civil society, and empowering particular groups, such as Roma and Traveller women and youth.

Racial or ethnic profiling in policing has been defined by the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI), in its General Policy Recommendation No 11 on Combating Racism and Racial Discrimination in Policing as “the use by the police, with no objective and reasonable justification, of grounds such as race, colour, languages, religion, nationality or national or ethnic origin in control, surveillance or investigation activities”. Though by no means new, this phenomenon is still widespread across the Council of Europe area, despite a growing awareness of the need to confront it supported by an evolving body of case-law. The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe recognised the importance of taking action against this issue, which disproportionately concerns Roma and Travellers, by adopting the [Resolution on Ethnic profiling in Europe: a matter of great concern](#). During the meeting it was emphasised that taking actions against racial and ethnic profiling is inevitable in the fight against antigypsyism.

The Committee of experts on Roma and Traveller Issues (ADI-ROM) was consulted in the drafting process of the Recommendation of the Committee of Ministers to member States on combating hate speech, and its Rapporteur on Antigypsyism and Hate Speech recalled how Roma and Travellers are affected by hate speech and presented the Recommendation. The [CM/Rec \(2022\)16 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on combating hate speech, which was drafted by ADI/MSI-DIS Committee of Experts on Combating Hate Speech](#), was adopted in May 2022 and includes guidelines to member States on: raising awareness about hate speech and offering a common understanding of the concept; combating hate speech by using appropriate and proportionate measures or a combination of different approaches to prevent human rights violations; ensuring a safe and enabling environment for public debate and communication as well as in private areas; securing legal measures to combat hate speech offline and online; providing a clear set of recommendations for state and non-state actors; and finally continuing to support the reporting of hate speech. However, while there are great achievements in this matter, it was concluded that there is still lack of awareness among politicians and national, regional and local authorities on what antigypsyism and hate speech actually represent. It was reported by some civil society representatives that some politicians still make openly antigypsyist remarks with no consequences. **It was recommended that the definition and legal sanctioning of antigypsyism and hate speech should be harmonised throughout the member States.** Spain and Romania have adopted legislation on combating antigypsyism and while these are positive developments, the existing laws should be critically discussed, potential gaps identified and the application of the law reinforced.

In 2020, the Council of Europe’s Roma and Travellers Team published the Toolkit for Police Officers: Council of Europe standards on racially motivated crimes and non-discrimination, including relevant case law of the European Court of Human Rights with the aim of supporting police officers to better understand, investigate and prosecute human rights violations. The major impact of such police training, emphasized by the co-author of the Toolkit, Dezideriu Gergely is that the police officers have a better understanding on the interplay of vulnerability, discrimination and related obligations relevant for the police. Further, they get to have better understanding of the European and national context and practice relating to discrimination, racially motivated crimes.

When tackling the negative effects of antigypsyism, Roma and Travellers arts and culture should not be left out from the conversation. The European Roma Institute for Arts and Culture (ERIAC), co-founded by the Council of Europe, is a key actor in contributing to achieving the Strategic Action Plan key priority on combating antigypsyism. Since the past two years, ERIAC has carried out several events and contributed to different publications and works with its expertise on Roma arts and culture. One of the activities presented during the meeting was the [International Conference “Hate Speech and Antigypsyism in the Media”](#) (March 2021) which was co-hosted by the Council of Europe. ERIAC is also a Member of the Drafting Group for developing a Capacity building programme and tools supporting the implementation of [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2020\)2](#) at national level (inclusion of the history of Roma and/or Travellers in school curricula and

teaching materials). It has co-hosted a commemorative session under the theme “[Overcoming Antigypsyism in Europe](#)” in Belgrade in April 2021.

Roma and Traveller civil society echoed the idea that nurturing Roma and Traveller arts and culture is a key factor in combating antigypsyism. Roma and Traveller communities continuously express the need to create spaces where they can cultivate their traditions and culture and organise diverse artistic events. Since Roma and Traveller history and culture are not always included in the national school curricula (or if they are, they may be misrepresented), Roma and Traveller civil society pushes for including in the school curricula history, arts, and culture of Roma and Travellers based on dignity, diversity, and self-representation.

### **Supporting democratic Roma and Traveller participation and promoting public trust and accountability**

Through the Council of Europe – European Commission Joint Programmes [ROMACTED](#) and [ROMACT](#), the Council of Europe aims to enhance democratic local governance, build up political will and capacity of local administrations, as well as stimulate the empowerment of local Roma communities to contribute to the design, implementation, and monitoring of plans and projects for their social inclusion. The Programmes are implemented in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Türkiye, and Kosovo\* (ROMACTED), and respectively in Bulgaria and Romania (ROMACT). The Programme Managers of ROMACT and ROMACTED within the Roma and Travellers Team gave an overview about the structure and current implementation of the Programmes in the different countries, presenting some of the achievements which included: in Bulgaria and Romania, where ROMACT has been implemented in 148 municipalities, ROMACT conducted a total of 827 training and coaching sessions for local authorities and community members and supported municipalities to apply to funding for 225 projects aiming to improve the living conditions of the Roma. In addition, North Macedonia was presented as a sample Beneficiary of the ROMACTED Programme, providing milestones and lessons learnt during the first two year of Phase II.

Among the observations and requests expressed by Roma and Traveller Civil Society was that the ROMACT and ROMACTED Programmes are highly appreciated and that they should be implemented in more countries. The implementation would be relevant in other countries (including Greece where they intend to ask for the introduction of the ROMACT Programme), since local authorities sometimes face challenges in addressing Roma inclusion. The participants were also very much interested in how and who to express their interests to in order participate in these Programmes.

When it comes to the [Roma Political Schools](#) (which aims to train Roma citizens to bring them closer local, national, European decision making bodies), the Roma civil society expressed the need to implement this programme in other countries as well. Since the outcomes of the Roma Political Schools are quite promising and show real effect within the Roma communities and in decision making processes, the Roma civil society insists on extending the list of beneficiary countries where the programme operates. The Roma and Travellers Team representatives agreed that this is an action which can be further discussed.

### **Supporting Roma and Traveller access to inclusive and quality education and training**

In order to recognise the longstanding historical presence and contribution of the Roma and Traveller communities, the Committee of Ministers adopted in July 2020 the [CM/Rec\(2020\)2 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the inclusion of the history of Roma and/or Travellers\[1\] in school curricula and teaching materials](#). The [INSCHOOL project](#) of the Council of Europe got positive feedback from the civil society, since many of the participants agreed that educational support and empowerment is the key to improve the situation of Roma and Traveller children. Some of the INSCHOOL achievements reported during the meeting: from March to June 2021, an INSCHOOL international training course was designed and implemented to raise participants’ understanding of the benefits of inclusive education development of training resources and producing the Czech and Romanian translations and graphic redesign of the Index for Inclusion: A Guide to School Development Led by Inclusive Values to enable a better understanding of the main values and approaches for inclusive education among teachers and education professionals; alleviation of difficulties faced by schools following the outbreak of COVID-19, by offering grants following

a needs assessment process and re-adjustment of its granting scheme.