




DJS/Roma Conf. (2011) 6

Strasbourg, 21 September 2011

ROMA YOUTH CONFERENCE
TERNE ROMENGI RI KONFERENCIJA

*Voicing the aspirations
and projects of Roma youth
in the Council of Europe*

*Vazen o glasos e aspiracijenge
thaj projektonge katar e terne
Roma ande Europako Konsilo*



26 – 30/09/2011

European Youth Centre Strasbourg
Europako Ternengo Centro ande Strazburgo

Programme

26 September 2011

Arrival of participants

19:00 Dinner

21:00 Welcome activities in the European Youth Centre

27 September 2011

09:15 Official opening of the meeting

Ralf-René WEINGÄRTNER, Director of Youth and Sport of the Council of Europe

Jeroen SCHOKKENBROEK, Special Representative of the Secretary General on Roma Issues

Ramiza SAKIP, representative of the Advisory Council on Youth of the Directorate of Youth and Sport of the Council of Europe

Session chaired by **Antonia WULFF**, chairperson of the Joint Council on Youth

10:00 Introduction of participants and presentation of the aim and objectives of the meeting

Getting to know each other; sharing expectations

11:00 Break

11:30 Introduction to the Council of Europe's action with Roma in the youth field

Rui GOMES, Head of the Education and Training Division, Directorate of Youth and Sport of the Council of Europe

12:00 Panel discussion on experiences and challenges with participation of Roma youth at the European level, with:

Alexandra RAYKOVA, Forum of European Roma Young People (FERYP)

Jonathan MACK, TernYpe – International Roma Youth Network

Emil METODIEV, Pakiv European Network

Gabriela HRABANOVA, ERGO

Violeta NAYDENOVA, Open Society Foundations

13:00 Lunch

14:30 Current challenges faced by Roma youth in Europe, introductions by:

Aline USANASE, European Commission against Racism and Intolerance

Anca SANDESCU, European Roma Rights Centre

15:00 Working groups about needs and challenges faced by Roma youth in Europe today (I)

16:00 Break

16: 30 Working groups about needs and challenges faced by Roma youth in Europe today (II)

17:45 Plenary presentation of the conclusions the working groups

18:30 Summing up and closing of the day

19:00 Dinner

20:30 Informal information session about organisations and programmes

28 September 2011

09:15 The youth policy of the Council of Europe and its role with issues and need of Roma youth, by **Manfred ZENTNER**, youth researcher

11:00 Break

11:30 Setting priorities for the future: the role of youth work and youth organisations

13:00 Lunch

14:30 The Strasbourg Declaration on Roma and its relevance for Roma youth, by **Sixto MOLINA**, Team of the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Roma Issues

16:00 Break

16:30 Introduction to and working groups on the Roma Youth Action Plan

19:00 Dinner

20:30 Social, educational, cultural evening

29 September 2011

09:15 Working groups on guidelines for a Roma Youth Action Plan

11:00 Break

11:30 Working groups on guidelines for a Roma Youth Action Plan

13:00 Lunch

14:30 Working groups on guidelines for a Roma Youth Action Plan (conclusion)

16:00 Free time

20:00 Dinner in town

30 September 2011

09:15 Presentation and debate of the conclusions of the working groups on the Roma Youth Action Plan

10:30 Working groups on the follow-up to the Conference

11:30 Break

12:00 Plenary discussion on the follow-up of the Conference, with:

Gyorgy LISSAUER, Open Society Foundations

Nicolae RADITA, Council of Europe Ad-Hoc Committee on Roma

Anita DANKA, OSCE, Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

Robert RUSTEM, European Roma and Travellers Forum

13:00 Evaluation of the Conference

13:15 Conclusions by **Ivan IVANOV**, general rapporteur of the conference

13:30 Closing of the conference, with

Antonia WULFF, Chairperson of the Joint Council on Youth

Eleni TSETSEKOU, Team of the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Roma Issues

Gabriella BATTAINI-DRAGONI, Director General for Education, Culture and Heritage, Youth and Sport at the Council of Europe

14:00 Lunch

Departure of participants

Aims and objectives of the conference

The Roma Youth Conference aims at bringing together Roma youth organisations and Roma youth representatives to discuss the priority needs and objectives for a Roma Youth Action Plan within the Council of Europe.

The main objectives of the Conference are:

- to share and explore the situation of Roma young people in Europe, particularly in relation to discrimination and access to human rights;
- to discuss the meaning and relevance of the Strasbourg Declaration on Roma for young Roma today and ways to contribute to its implementation;
- to identify youth policy responses to the situation of Roma young people today, particularly at European level;
- to develop proposals and priorities for activities involving Roma young people and youth organisations in the Council of Europe's youth sector and beyond;

- to bring together and facilitate the dialogue between different stakeholders on Roma youth issues in Europe;
- to enhance the participation of Roma youth in the activities of the Council of Europe.