DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF DEMOCRACY

Directorate of Anti-Discrimination Roma and Travellers Team



ADI-ROM(2020)5-final

Strasbourg, 17 August 2020

STEERING COMMITTEE ON ANTI-DISCRIMINATION, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION (CDADI)

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON ROMA AND TRAVELLER¹ ISSUES (ADI-ROM)

1st meeting

Strasbourg, 20-21 February 2020

Council of Europe, Agora Building, Room G02

Abridged Report

1. Opening of the meeting and tour de table (introduction of ADI-ROM members)

Mr Jeroen SCHOKKENBROEK, Director of Anti-Discrimination, Directorate General of Democracy, welcomed all participants and opened the meeting.

Apologies were noted. The list of participants is set out in Appendix 1 to this report.

Members briefly introduced themselves in a *tour de table* and indicated their expectations, special interests and priorities.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted as set out in document ADI-ROM(2020)3prov.

3. Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI)

The Committee

- took note of the terms of reference 2020-2021 of the CDADI (doc. ref. CDADI(2020)1 Final) as adopted by the Committee of Ministers and presented by the Secretariat, and in particular of the fact that it tackled non-discrimination, national minorities and diversity, and inclusion issues in a wide context;
- 2. noted with satisfaction that Roma and Traveller issues were a key priority of this committee and that its main tasks included fighting anti-Gypsyism and improving the active participation and inclusion of Roma and Travellers in society, as well as supporting the implementation of the new Council of Europe Strategic Action Plan for Roma and Traveller Inclusion (2020-2025);
- 3. noted with particular interest that the CDADI was tasked with analysing and evaluating, through an exchange of member States' experiences, specific issues or areas related to Roma and Traveller inclusion and prepare thematic reports, and hold thematic discussions at regular intervals, including contributions from Roma and Traveller civil society, through hearings or otherwise;

¹ The term "Roma and Travellers" is used at the Council of Europe to encompass the wide diversity of the groups covered by the work of the Council of Europe in this field: on the one hand a) Roma, Sinti/Manush, Calé, Kaale, Romanichals, Boyash/Rudari; b) Balkan Egyptians (Egyptians and Ashkali); c) Eastern groups (Dom, Lom and Abdal); and, on the other hand, groups such as Travellers, Yenish, and the populations designated under the administrative term "Gens du voyage", as well as persons who identify themselves as Gypsies. The present is an explanatory footnote, not a definition of Roma and/or Travellers.

4. welcomed the fact that the Council of Europe has strengthened its intergovernmental capacity to fight discrimination and promote diversity and inclusion, and welcomed its role in preparing the CDADI's work as the expert committee on Roma and Traveller issues.

4. ADI-ROM Terms of Reference and Work Programme 2020-2021

The Committee

- 1. took note of its terms of reference 2020-2021 (doc. ref., ADI-ROM(2020)1) as adopted by the Committee of Ministers and as presented by the Secretariat, in particular of its specific tasks and working methods and agreed to discuss in detail under each agenda item below how to accomplish each task;
- 2. clarified that as per its Terms of Reference, it could also prepare recommendations, advice and opinions, including on emerging issues, to the CDADI;
- 3. took note of the interest in observer status with the ADI-ROM as expressed by the representative of the Roma youth organisation Phiren Amenca and clarified the procedure to request such a status;
- 4. took note of the proposal by some ADI-ROM members that the travel and subsistence expenses of NGO representatives participating in ADI-ROM meetings should be reimbursed by the Council of Europe and recalled that this was not foreseen in CM Resolution CM/Res(2011)24;
- 5. agreed on the preliminary work programme and timetable as set out in Appendix 2 to this report.

4.1. Implementation of the Strategic Action Plan of Roma and Traveller Inclusion (2020-2025)

The Committee

- 1. took note of the Strategic Action Plan for Roma and Traveller Inclusion (2020-2025) (doc. ref. CM(2019)161-final) as approved by the Committee of Ministers on 22 January 2020, and as presented by the Secretariat;
- 2. welcomed the fact that fighting anti-Gypsyism and discrimination, promoting education and training, and increasing the active participation of Roma in public and political life constituted the main priority areas of the new plan, which would provide the conceptual framework for Council of Europe action on Roma and Traveller issues for the next 6 years;
- 3. welcomed the fact that the protection of those Roma and Travellers who may suffer from discrimination on multiple grounds is tackled as cross-cutting issues throughout the whole plan:
- 4. took note of the request by the representative of the Joint Council on Youth (CMJ) that Roma youth be not only regarded as a vulnerable group but also as a source or expertise, and the CMJ offer to assist in strengthening the Roma youth component in the Plan;
- 5. took note of the fact that the Plan was available in English and French, and that a translation into Romani was currently being proofread by the Secretariat, and encouraged all member States to translate the Plan into their respective national languages;
- 6. took note of the fact that is was tasked with overseeing the implementation of the priority actions and agreed to keep this point as a recurrent item on its agenda.

4.2. Study on the causes, prevalence and consequences of anti-Gypsyism, and possible responses

The Committee

- took note of the fact that one of its specific tasks was the elaboration of a study on the causes, prevalence
 and consequences of anti-Gypsyism, and possible responses thereto, taking into account the findings and
 recommendations of ECRI, with a view to giving guidance to the CDADI in this field;
- 2. agreed that the focus and scope of the report, and the data collection methodology, should be defined more clearly, and that the final report should be of operational use to member states' governments by identifying practical measures that could easily be applied by member states;
- 3. took note of the offer of the representative of the European Centre for Minority Issues (ECMI) that the Centre could assist in the research;
- 4. noted with interest that in 2019 the German Government had established an independent commission on anti-Gypsyism, whose report would be due at the beginning of 2021;
- 5. noted that the task could possibly be dealt with by the Rapporteur(s), or a small ad hoc drafting group from amongst its members, while taking note of the fact that no funding was available for physical meetings outside of the context of the Committee meetings, or an external consultant, subject to the availability of financial resources;
- 6. entrusted the Secretariat with the task of elaborating a more detailed proposal in co-operation with the Chair, Vice-Chair and Rapporteur on anti-Gypsyism, and submit it to the committee **by 31 March 2020** for discussion at the 2nd ADI-ROM meeting.

4.3. Implementation of national legislation, policies and practice

The Committee

- 1. took note of the fact that it should review the implementation of national legislation and policies, and practice concerning Roma and Traveller inclusion, through thematic reports based on visits, with a view to promoting relevant Council of Europe standards;
- 2. noted that the number of thematic visits was limited to a maximum of 3 per year, and that only on condition that one of the two annual ADI-ROM meetings would take place in a member State, otherwise 2 visits would be held;
- 3. took note of the fact that the number of experts participating in a thematic visit was limited to 5 (1 from the requesting country and a maximum of 4 from the partner countries, whose travel and subsistence expenses would be reimbursed by the Council of Europe);
- 4. noted that the duration of each thematic visit was limited to two and a half days;
- 5. agreed on a preliminary list of thematic groups, visits and reports 2020-2021 as set out in Appendix 3 to this report;
- 6. noted that the thematic reports would be discussed and endorsed in ADI-ROM meetings and submitted to the CDADI for decision on the follow-up;
- 7. agreed to entrust the Secretariat with the task of elaborating, in co-operation with the Chair and Vice-Chair, a note on the purpose, scope and format of those visits and a template for contributions to the thematic reports, and to submit it to the Committee **by 31 March 2020** for adoption by correspondence;

8. agreed to add an exchange of examples of good practice and effective measures at national level to the agenda of its next meeting.

4.4. Contribute to the development of a legal instrument on combating hate speech

The Committee

- took note of the fact that one of its specific tasks was to contribute to the development of a new and comprehensive legal instrument on combating hate speech, which will be developed in 2020-2021 by the Committee of Experts on Combating Hate Speech (ADI/MSI-DIS) operating under the aegis of the Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI) and the Steering Committee on Media and Information Society (CDMSI);
- agreed to contribute to the drafting process by commenting on the text of the draft CM Recommendation once circulated for comments to the ADI-ROM, and by submitting a position paper on combating hate speech from a Roma and Traveller perspective to the Committee of Experts on Combating Hate Speech (ADI-MSI-DIS) in order to assist them in their drafting;
- 3. thanked the Rapporteur and the Substitute for their offer to submit a first draft position paper to the committee by 31 March 2020 for adoption by written procedure by 30 April 2020 and submission to the Committee of Experts ADI/MSI-DIS;
- 4. agreed to continue contributing to the drafting process by submitting comments on draft versions of the forthcoming legal instrument when circulated by the ADI/MSI-DIS;
- 5. proposed that its Rapporteur on Anti-Gypsyism, Hate Speech and Violence be invited to take part in the meetings of the Committee of Experts on Combating Hate Speech (ADI/MSI-DIS) on a regular basis.

4.5. Council of Europe Dialogue with Roma and Traveller civil society

The Committee

- took note of the fact that one of its specific tasks was to hold exchanges during its meetings with the ad hoc rapporteurs of the biannual Council of Europe Dialogue meetings with Roma and Travellers civil society on the outcome of the Dialogue, in order to strengthen their involvement and participation in the implementation and review of Council of Europe action;
- 2. welcomed the idea to establish regular working relations with the Council of Europe Dialogue meetings with Roma and Traveller civil society;
- 3. noted that the next meeting of the Council of Europe Dialogue with Roma and Traveller civil society would take place in Strasbourg on 4-5 May 2020 and proposed that the ADI-ROM Chair and/or Vice-Chair should be invited to take part in that meeting;
- 4. agreed to start holding such exchanges at the 2nd ADI-ROM meeting, scheduled to take place in Autumn 2020, to which the ad hoc rapporteur of the May Dialogue meeting should be invited.

4.6. Organisation of the International Roma Women's Conference (2021)

The Committee

1. took note of the fact that it should support the organisation of the 8th International Roma Women's Conference (IRWC) scheduled to take place in 2021;

- 2. noted that six out of the seven previous conferences were hosted by Council of Europe member States and only one took place at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg;
- 3. noted that the 2021 conference would need to be funded by extrabudgetary resources (e.g. voluntary contributions from member states);
- 4. welcomed the offer of the representative of Croatia to host the 8th IRWC on 8 March 2021, and of the representative of the ECMI to participate and play an active role in the event;
- 5. invited member States wishing to contribute to the financing of the conference through voluntary contributions to inform the Secretariat and the ADI-ROM;
- 6. proposed that Roma and Traveller women organisations and networks be consulted on the possible title and topics for this conference in close liaison with the ADI-ROM, the host country, and the Council of Europe Secretariat.

5. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair

Upon proposal by the representative of Switzerland the Committee elected Ms Tatjana ANDJELIC (Montenegro) as Chair, and upon proposal by the representative of Croatia it elected Mr Jan HERO (Slovak Republic) as Vice-Chair, upon request by a member of the committee by secret ballot.

The term of office of the Chair and Vice-Chair shall be one year, renewable once.

6. Working methods

Rapporteurs

The Committee

1. appointed from amongst its member the following Rapporteurs:

Gender Equality Rapporteur: Ms Mabera KAMBERI (North Macedonia); substitute: Ms Aleksandra JARIC (Bosnia and Herzegovina);

Roma Youth Rapporteur: Ms Berill BARANYAI (Portugal), subject to confirmation;

Roma Children Rapporteur: Ms Malgorzata MILEWSKA (Poland); substitute: Ms Georgia PANAGIOTOU (Greece); Rapporteur on Anti-Gyspyism, Hate Speech and Violence: Mr Nicolae RADITA (Republic of Moldova); substitute: Mr Alen TAHIRI (Croatia);

- entrusted the Secretariat with the task of elaborating guidelines for the Rapporteurs for discussion and adoption by the ADI-ROM at the next meeting; in that context noted the proposal by the representative of IRWN/Phenjalipe that the portfolio of the Rapporteur on Anti-Gypsyism, Hate Speech and Violence also includes anti-nomadism;
- 3. took note of the proposal of the representative of the Republic of Moldova to appoint a Rapporteur on the Romani Language and a Rapporteur on the Roma Holocaust;
- 4. noted with satisfaction that the Committee of Ministers wished to mainstream Roma and Traveller issues into all work streams of the Council of Europe and welcomed the fact that the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH), the European Committee on Democracy and Governance (CDDG), and the Joint Council on Youth (CMJ) had appointed Roma and Traveller Rapporteurs;
- 5. encouraged other Council of Europe intergovernmental committees to also appoint Roma and Traveller Rapporteurs;

6. entrusted the Secretariat with elaborating an information note for possible candidates to the position of Roma and Traveller Rapporteur in other intergovernmental committees explaining their role and tasks.

7. Relevant recent developments at European level (exchange with ADI-ROM participants and observers)

The Committee held an exchange with participants and observers and took note of recent developments in the field of Roma and Traveller inclusion at European level, as presented by the representatives of the European Union, the Holy See, the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC), the European Centre for Minority Issues (ECMI), the Office of the Human Rights Commissioner, the European Commission against Racisms and Intolerance (ECRI), the Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB), the Children's Rights Division, the Joint Council on Youth (CMJ), the Council of Europe Conference of International Non-Governmental Organisations (INGO Conference), and the International Roma Women's Network IRWN/Phenjalipe.

8. Date and place of the next meeting

The Committee agreed to hold its 2^{nd} meeting on 1-2 October 2020 and welcome the offer of the ADI-ROM member from Croatia to host that meeting in Zagreb.²

9. Adoption of the list of decisions/abridged report

The Committee adopted the abridged report of its $1^{\rm st}$ meeting on 21 February 2020 at 17:25 hrs.

² In the meantime, the Croatian authorities have informed the Secretariat that to their great regret they are no longer in a position to host this meeting in Zagreb, as originally planned, due to the consequences of the COVID-19 crisis and of the earthquake. On 1 July 2020, the Secretariat informed all ADI-ROM members, participants and observers by email that the **2nd meeting of the ADI-ROM**, scheduled to take place on **1-2 October 2020**, will be held at the **Council of Europe in Strasbourg**.

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Spring 2021

2) Review 1st draft

Work Programme and Timetable

Mtg	Place, Date	Terms of Reference: specific tasks	Deliverables	Action
No				
1	Strasbourg,	1) Report on anti-Gypsyism	1) Draft report	Elect Chair and Vice-Chair;
	20-21 February 2020	2) Contribute to legal instrument on combating hate	2) Position paper/specific	Elect Rapporteurs;
		speech	comments on draft text	Agree on working methods and timetable.
		3) Review implementation of national legislation, policies	3) Thematic Reports	
		and practice based on thematic reports/visits	4) Exchange	
		4) Exchange examples of good practice	5) Exchange	
		5) Dialogue with Roma and Traveller civil society	6) Conference	
		6) 8 th International Roma Women's Conference (IRWC)	7) Review	
		2021		
act -		7) Oversee implementation of the Action Plan		
	·	8 th International Roma Women's Conference (IRWC), Strasbou		
		e on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI), Strask		
		ation and policies related to begging, with special focus on child		· ·
2	Strasbourg,	1) Report on anti-Gypsyism	1) Draft report	1) Review outline
	1-2 October 2020	2) Contribute to legal instrument on combating hate	2) Position paper/specific	2) Review outline
		speech	comments on draft text	3) Discuss thematic visit Sarajevo
		3) Review implementation of national legislation, policies	3) Thematic Reports	4) Exchange information on COVID-19
		and practice based on thematic reports/visits	4) Exchange	5) Prepare 9 th and 10 th Dialogue meetings
		4) Exchange examples of good practice	5) Exchange	6) Follow up the 1 st Preparatory meeting
		5) Dialogue with Roma and Traveller civil society	6) Conference	7) Exchange information
		6) 8 th International Roma Women's Conference (IRWC)	7) Review	
		2021		
		7) Oversee implementation of the Action Plan		
		e Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Incl		
	eeting Council of Europe I	Dialogue with Roma and Traveller civil society on the Strategic A	Action Plan for Roma and Traveller Inclu	sion (2020-2025), Strasbourg, 29-30 October
2020				
		ne Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inc		
		Dialogue with Roma and Traveller civil society on fighting anti-		2020
2 nd Pr	eparatory meeting for th	e 8 th International Roma Women's Conference (IRWC), Strasbou	urg, 1 December 2020	
2 nd m	eeting Steering Committe	ee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI), Stras	bourg, 8-10 December 2020	
2 nd Th	nematic Visit 2020: "Subs	tance use and trafficking: prevalence, prevention, and treatmen	nt. Target group-specific evidence and in	terventions", Warsaw, Poland, 14-16
Decer	mber 2020			
3	??,	1) Report on anti-Gypsyism	1) Draft report	1) Review 1 st draft
l	6 : 2024	1		2) 5 4 4 5 6

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Mtg	Place, Date	Terms of Reference: specific tasks	Deliverables	Action
No				
		2) Contribute to legal instrument on combating hate	2) Position paper/specific	3) Endorse thematic reports Sarajevo and
		speech	comments on draft text	Warsaw
		3) Review implementation of national legislation, policies	3) Thematic Reports	4) Finalise COVID-10 exchange
		and practice based on thematic reports/visits	4) Exchange	5) Follow up the 9th and 10th Dialogue
		4) Exchange examples of good practice	5) Exchange	mtgs
		5) Dialogue with Roma and Traveller civil society	6) Conference	6) Prepare the 8 th IRWC
		6) 8th International Roma Women's Conference (IRWC)	7) Review	7) Exchange information
		2021		(Re-)Elect Chair and Vice-Chair
		7) Oversee implementation of the Action Plan		(Re-)Elect Rapporteurs
8 th Inte	ernational Roma Wor	nen's Conference (IRWC) on [title tbc], 8-9 March 2021, Zagreb, Cr	oatia (tbc)	
3 rd me	eting Steering Comm	ittee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI), venue	e and date tbc	
11 th m	eeting Council of Euro	ppe Dialogue with Roma and Traveller civil society on combating h	ate speech, Strasbourg, Spring 202	1
1 st The	ematic Visit 2021: "Pro	omotion of Romani culture(s)", Russian Federation, May or June 20	021	
2 nd The	ematic Visit 2021: "Ho	ow to stimulate governments to employ Roma and Travellers in go	vernmental institutions", North Mo	acedonia, Autumn 2021
4	??,	1) Report on anti-Gypsyism	1) Draft report	1) Endorse final draft
	Autumn 2021	2) Contribute to legal instrument on combating hate	2) Position paper/specific	2) Endorse final draft
		speech	comments on draft text	3) Endorse thematic reports Russian
		3) Review implementation of national legislation, policies	3) Thematic Reports	Federation and North Macedonia
		and practice based on thematic reports/visits	4) Exchange	4) Endorse COVID-19 report
		4) Exchange examples of good practice	5) Exchange	5) Follow up the 11 th and prepare the 12 th
		5) Dialogue with Roma and Traveller civil society	6) Conference	Dialogue mtgs
		5) Dialogue With Roma and Traveller civil society	·, · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
		6) 8 th International Roma Women's Conference (IRWC)	7) Review	6) Follow up the 8 th IRWC

7) Oversee implementation of the Action Plan

12th meeting Council of Europe Dialogue with Roma and Traveller civil society on ...(tbc), Strasbourg, date tbc

^{4&}lt;sup>th</sup> meeting Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI), venue and date tbc

Thematic Groups and Visits 2020-2021

adopted by the ADI-ROM at its 1st meeting, Strasbourg, 20-21 February 2020³

Proposed thematic groups/visits 2020	Requesting country/ Host country	Partner countries ⁴ Other participants
Thematic group on legislation and policies related to begging, with special focus on children	Sarajevo	 Austria France Greece Switzerland
Thematic group on drug addiction and drug trafficking within Roma communities and preventive measures to be taken	Poland offered to explore possibility date and venue tbc	1. Greece 2. Hungary 3 4
3 rd Thematic Group in 2020 possible only if the Autumn 2020 ADI-ROM meeting is hosted by a member state	Croatia tbc	
Proposed thematic groups/visits 2021	Requesting country/ Host country	Partner countries ² Other participants
Thematic group on the promotion of Romani culture(s) and the impact of traditions on the development and implementation of national Roma integration policies, including how to address possible opposition between customary law and state legislation	May or June 2021 tbc	 Lithuania North Macedonia Poland Slovak Republic Slovenia Belgium (waiting list) Latvia (waiting list)
Thematic group on how to stimulate governments to employ Roma and Travellers in governmental institutions		1. Republic of Moldova 2. Portugal 3. Croatia 4 ECMI
3 rd Thematic Group in 2021 possible only if one 2021 ADI-ROM meeting is hosted by a member state		

³ In the meantime, new information concerning the Thematic Visits has been received by the Secretariat, so that an updated table is presented in Appendix 4 hereafter.

⁴ Maximum 4.

Thematic Groups and Visits 2020-2021

adopted by the ADI-ROM at its 1st meeting, Strasbourg, 20-21 February 2020, and updated by the Secretariat in the light of information received since February 2020

Proposed thematic groups/visits 2020 Thematic group on legislation and policies related to begging, with special focus on	16-18 September 2020	Partner countries ⁵ Other participants 1. Austria 2. France
children		3. Greece 4
Thematic group on substance use and trafficking: prevalence, prevention, and treatment. Target group-specific evidence and interventions	Poland Warsaw 14-16 December 2020	1. Greece 2. Hungary 3 4
Proposed thematic groups/visits 2021	Requesting country/ Host country	Partner countries ² Other participants
Thematic group on the promotion of Romani culture(s) and the impact of traditions on the development and implementation of national Roma integration policies, including how to address possible opposition between customary law and state legislation	Russian Federation Moscow May or June 2021	 Lithuania North Macedonia Poland Slovak Republic Slovenia (waiting list) Belgium (waiting list) Latvia (waiting list)
Thematic group on how to stimulate governments to employ Roma and Travellers in governmental institutions	North Macedonia date and venue tbc	1. Republic of Moldova 2. Portugal 3. Croatia 4 + ECMI
3 rd Thematic Group in 2021 possible only if one 2021 ADI-ROM meeting is hosted by a member state		

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⁵ Maximum 4.