

**Comments by the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia on the
“Memorandum on the human rights of Roma and on issues related to the right to a clean and healthy
environment in North Macedonia”**

**by Michael O’Flaherty, the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights,
following his visit to North Macedonia from 22 to 25 April 2025**

General comment

North Macedonia highly values its membership in the Council of Europe in which this year we will celebrate our 30th anniversary. We remain committed to the values and standards of the Organization, its mission to promote democracy, human rights and the rule of law, as well as to the obligations arising from the membership. North Macedonia attaches great significance to the institution of the Commissioner for Human Rights and the visit to North Macedonia of the Commissioner O’Flaherty from 22 to 25 April 2025 was highly appreciated. We are thankful for his kind acknowledgement of the cooperation received during his visit. We also welcome the Commissioner’s initiative to publish a Memorandum on the human rights of Roma and on issues related to the right to a clean and healthy environment in North Macedonia, and the opportunity to submit comments regarding the Memorandum. North Macedonia affirms that the recommendations made by the Commissioner will be given careful attention by the relevant authorities. We remain open for constructive dialogue and continued cooperation with the Commissioner for Human Rights and the Council of Europe in general.

The Ministry of Education and Science of North Macedonia

In relation to paragraph 16 of the Memorandum, in addition to the already highlighted commitment of the Ministry of Education and Science to increase access to education for Roma, the Ministry of Education and Science wishes to inform the Commissioner that it is the first ministry that has succeeded in introducing all measures from the National Roma Strategy and Action Plans for education as sustainable Roma educational policies, by embedding them within the Law on Education.