



GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
Office for Human Rights
and Rights of National Minorities



CHAIRMANSHIP OF
CROATIA
PRÉSIDENTE DE LA
CROATIE

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

25/09/2018

INTERNATIONAL EXPERT SEMINAR

TRANSITION FROM EDUCATION TO EMPLOYMENT FOR ROMA YOUTH A Key step in Roma Inclusion

25-26 September 2018
Brijuni Islands, Croatia

AGENDA

Tuesday, 25 September 2018	
08.30 - 09.00	Registration of participants
09.00 - 09.30	Opening, Welcome Addresses and Introductory Statements Chair: Mr Alen Tahiri , Director of the Government Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities, Croatia <u>Welcome Addresses:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr Amir Muharemi, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs ▪ Mr Thorsten Afflerbach, Head of Division, Roma and Travellers Team, Directorate of Anti-Discrimination, DGII Directorate General of Democracy, Council of Europe <u>Introductory Statements:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr Veljko Kajtazi, Roma Member of Parliament, Croatia ▪ Ms Tatjana Andjelić, Chair of the Council of Europe Ad hoc Committee of Experts on Roma and Traveller Issues (CAHROM) ▪ Ms Suzana Krčmar, President of the Union of Roma in Croatia „Kali Sara“
09.30 – 12.30	PLENARY SESSION 1: SETTING-UP THE SCENE: main conclusions and recommendations from previous events and assessment of the situation of Roma in Europe and Croatia in (vocational) education and training and employment compared to the majority population

09.30 - 10.30	<p>Plenary Session Outcomes: <i>Profound exclusion and discrimination inhibit Roma in accessing quality education, employment, standard housing conditions and healthcare, thus creating a cycle of poverty. The session aims to initiate discussion of the factors and barriers that are holding Roma back from receiving a good education and jobs (discrimination and anti-Gypsyism, illiteracy, social, housing and school segregation, child marriage, etc.).</i></p> <p>1.1 In Europe Moderator: Mr Ján Hero, CAHROM Vice-Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr Thorsten Afflerbach, Head of Division, Roma and Travellers Team, Directorate of Anti-Discrimination, DGII Directorate General of Democracy, Council of Europe: <i>main conclusions and recommendations of the 4th Council of Europe Dialogue with Roma and Traveller civil society “Transition from education to employment” (Strasbourg, October 2017)</i> ▪ Mr Orhan Usein, Head of the Roma Integration Action Team, Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) : NEET population in candidate countries <p>Discussion</p> <p>Reference documents CAHROM thematic reports Report and recommendations of the 4th Council of Europe Dialogue meeting with Roma and Traveller civil society “Transition from education to employment Report and recommendations of the 11th meeting of the EU Platform for Roma Inclusion “Transition from education to employment” FRA report: ‘Transition from Education to Employment of Young Roma in Nine EU Member States’ European Commission's Mid Term Review of the EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies for Croatia and indicators on education and employment</p>
10.30 - 11.00 11.00 – 13.00	<p>Tea/coffee break</p> <p>1.2 In Croatia Moderator: Mr Aleksa Đokić, Assistant Director, Government Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities, Croatia</p> <p>Mr Alen Tahiri, Director, the Government Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities, Croatia: <i>Contribution of the Government Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities to the implementation of NRIS</i></p> <p>Employment-related aspects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ms Nada Trgovčić Letica, Head of Sector, Ministry of Labour and Pension System, Croatia ▪ Ms Kristina Alerić, Manager of the Employment Intermediation Department, Croatian Employment Service) <p>Discussion</p>

Education-related aspects

- **Mr Momir Karin**, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Science and Education, Croatia
- **Ms Marija Lovreković**, Senior Expert Advisor, Ministry of Demography, Family, Youth, and Social Policies
- **Mr Nadir Redžepi**, Executive Director, Roma Education Fund (REF) and
Mr Siniša Senad Musić, REF-Croatia : *REF reports' conclusions: Key indicators for Education of Roma Children in Croatia Setting the foundations for quality education through early education*

Discussion

Reference documents:

[Roma Education Fund \(REF\) - Early Education for Roma Children in Croatia - Setting the foundations for quality education](#)
[Office of the Croatian Ombudsman Survey on discrimination in Croatia](#)
[Roma Inclusion: What We Can Learn from Croatia](#)

13.00 – 14.30

Lunch offered by the Croatian organisers

14.30 – 16.00

PLENARY SESSION 2: ADDRESSING (VOCATIONAL) EDUCATION, TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT AND CHALLENGING THE PRESENT SITUATION: FINDING PATHWAYS AND ALTERNATIVES TO IMPROVE ROMA INCLUSION

Moderator: **Mr Branko Sočanac**, Assistant Director, Government Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities, Croatia

Plenary Session Outcomes: *For Roma who are able to access educational opportunities, the consequences can be life changing, but how might broader change facilitate and extend the chances for all Roma? The session aims to initiate discussion of the link between education and social and economic inclusion.*

14.30 – 15.30

- **Mr Andrew Ryder**, Associate Professor, Corvinus University of Budapest, Hungary: "[Roma in Social Europe- Alternatives to Poverty and Exclusion](#)"
- **Ms Chrisoula Arcoudis**, Member of the National Council of Experts on Roma Inclusion, Greece: presentation of the [Cedefop self-reflection tool for policy-makers](#)

Questions and answers

15.30 – 16.00

Interactive session: What kind of policies should be in place to tackle early leaving of Roma youth?

- **Ms Chrisoula Arcoudis**, Member of the National Council of Experts on Roma Inclusion, Greece: an interactive session using [Cedefop self-reflection tool for policy-makers](#)

	<p>Reference documents: Eurofound: country profiles - see page 10 for Croatia Eurofound: Long-term unemployed youth: Characteristics and policy responses Andrew Ryder: “Roma Education and Employment- Alternatives to Poverty and Exclusion” Roma and a Social Europe: the role of redistribution, intervention and emancipatory politics - Journal of Poverty and Social Justice, Volume 26, Number 1, February 2018, pp. 59-75(17) International Labour Organization: Promoting decent work opportunities for Roma youth in Central and Eastern Europe European Center for the development of Vocational Training (Cedefop) Interactive self-reflection tools developed by Cedefop</p>
16.00 – 16.30	Tea/coffee break
16.30 – 18.00	<p>PLENARY SESSION 3 –Improving educational outcomes and securing labour market access with a focus on Roma youth and women Moderator: Ms Tatjana Andjelić, Chair of the CAHROM and Ms Henna Huttu, CAHROM Rapporteur on Gender Equality</p> <p>Plenary Session Outcomes: <i>Compulsory and post compulsory educational completion is a vital parameter in securing access to the labour market. The session will examine the barriers and identify approaches to reduce drop-out rates and sustain maximum educational participation and outcomes for Roma youth, boys and girls. Even when securing educational attainment and skills related competencies, Roma women face direct discrimination in the labour market in either accessing employment or in sustaining employability. The session will address Roma women and girls’ access to the labour market.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ms Carmen Tanasie, European Roma Grassroots Organisations Network (ERGO): <i>How successful is the “Youth Guarantee” programme in reaching and creating meaningful opportunities for young Roma?</i> ▪ Ms Neringa Tumėnaitė, Council of Europe Joint Council on Youth ▪ Mr Siniša Senad Musić, REF-Croatia: <i>child/early marriage: an obstacle to educational outcomes and employment of Roma women/men and girls/boys?</i> <p>Questions and answers and general discussion</p>
	<p>Reference documents: Council of Europe Roma Youth Action Plan Roma youth-related CAHROM thematic reports FRA: Understanding the gender gap in Roma education and employment UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment for Women: Obstacles for Roma women in Employment Stephan Müller: Croatian National Policies towards Romani Women European Parliament: Empowerment of Romani Women within the EU Framework of the NRIS in Croatia Roma women-related CAHROM thematic reports</p>
18.00	End of the First Working Day
20.00	Dinner offered by the Croatian organisers

Wednesday, 26 September 2018

09.00 - 10.30

PLENARY SESSION 4: POLICY INITIATIVES AT LOCAL, NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS TO SUSTAIN ROMA EMPLOYABILITY AND LABOUR MARKET INSERTION

Moderator: **Mr Thorsten Afflerbach**, Head of Division, Roma and Travellers Team, Directorate of Anti-Discrimination, DGII Directorate General of Democracy, Council of Europe

- **Mr Dominique Bé**, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission : *EU support to overcome barriers to employment of Roma*
- **Mr Luca Schio**, Director of Department, International Cooperation & Partnerships, Directorate for European Cooperation & Strategy, Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB) : *Roma-related activities of the Council of Europe Development Bank*
- **Mr Tobias Mayr**, Task Force of the European Alliance of Cities and Regions for Roma Inclusion, Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe: *good practices to sustain Roma employability identified at local and regional level*
- **CAHROM members (tour de table)**: *good policies identified from CAHROM thematic visits/reports related to Roma (vocational) education and training and employment*

Discussion

Reference documents:

[OSCE/ODIHR report: Mapping of participation of Roma and Sinti children in early education processes in the OSCE region](#)

[Council of Europe online database of good practices](#)

[CAHROM thematic reports](#)

10.30 -11.00

Tea/coffee break

11.00 – 13.00

PLENARY SESSION 5: CONCRETE PRACTICES AND SUPPORT INITIATIVES AT LOCAL, NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS TO SUSTAIN ROMA EMPLOYABILITY AND LABOUR MARKET INSERTION

Moderator: **Mr Stanko Baluh**, CAHROM Rapporteur on Roma Youth

Plenary Session Outcomes: *Active labour market policies should go beyond mere short-term reinsertion in the work place for Roma. What is required are proven initiatives that will promote integration in the primary labour market with identified long term support. Participants in the session will discuss ways of interpreting these best practices into sustainable Roma employment policy implementation.*

- **Mr Štefan Simončič**, President of the Association EPEKA, Slovenia: *Roma Youth Social Entrepreneurship initiatives*
- **Ms Nadire Redjepi**, Country Manager, FYROM: *Roma Entrepreneurship Development Initiative (REDI)*
- **Mr Vasil Davaliev**, Horizonti Executive Director, “the former Yugoslav Republic

	<p>of Macedonia”: <i>Promoting Roma self-employment through microcredit programmes</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ms Margit Schütt, Board member, Kiútprogramme, Hungary: <i>Roma Self Employment, Mentoring and Microcredit Programmes</i> ▪ Mr Boyan Zahariev, Lead Researcher, OSF-Bulgaria “Bridge to Business Programme: <i>Bridging Young Roma and Business: Intervention for inclusion of Roma youth through employment in the private sector in Bulgaria and Hungary</i> ▪ CAHROM members (tour de table): <i>good practices (projects) identified from CAHROM visits/reports related to Roma (vocational) education and training and employment</i>
	<p>Discussion</p> <p>Reference documents:</p> <p>KIUT</p> <p>KIUT programme evaluation (summary – December 2011</p> <p>Central European University</p> <p>CAHROM thematic reports</p>
13.00-13.30	<p>PLENARY SESSION 6: CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS AND CLOSING REMARKS</p> <p>Moderator: Ms Tatjana Andjelić, Chair of the Council of Europe Ad hoc Committee of Experts on Roma and Traveller Issues (CAHROM)</p> <p>Outcomes: <i>Understanding the magnitude of the issues and interpreting them into concrete priorities is fundamental in any action based agenda. Participants will take stock of issues discussed during the meeting and identify key action priorities for further development in the area of Roma education and employment.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ms Chrisoula Arcoudis, Member of the National Council of Experts on Roma Inclusion, Greece: <i>summary of the conclusions and recommendations from the various plenary sessions</i> ▪ Mr Thorsten Afflerbach, Head of Division, Roma and Travellers Team, Directorate of Anti-Discrimination, DGII Directorate General of Democracy, Council of Europe ▪ Mr Branko Sočanac, Assistant Director, Government Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities, Croatia
13.30-14.30	<i>Lunch offered by the Croatian organisers</i>
14.30	<i>End of the meeting</i>
15.00	<i>Departure by boat from Brijuni</i>