



FACTSHEET

Roma Holocaust Remembrance
and Education

RomaMemory



Roma and Travellers



Co-funded
by the European Union



COUNCIL OF EUROPE



Co-funded and implemented
by the Council of Europe



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ABOUT ROMAMEMORY

The joint programme “Roma Holocaust Remembrance and Education (RomaMemory)” aims at advancing the fight against discrimination and antigypsyism, which is a key objective and cross cutting priority in the EU Roma Strategic Framework, in the Council of Europe Strategic Action Plan for Roma and Traveller Inclusion (2020-2025). It also aims to raise awareness of broad audience about Roma history and culture, and the Roma Holocaust.

PROGRAMME RATIONALE

Roma and Travellers’ presence in Europe, their contributions to the European cultural heritage and their history are not yet adequately reflected in formal and non-formal education and are known in a very limited degree by the general public.

Baseline data in this area: findings of Council of Europe bodies such as ECRI and ACFC that are used in the current project, to guide the type of support needed by Member States and to orient the strategic directions of this co-operation project.

“ —
Overcoming stereotypes requires adequate teaching of Roma history and culture in schools ([ECRI fifth report on Finland](#))

“ —
ACFC urges the authorities to extend intercultural education and introduce Romani history and culture into school curricula, textbooks and teaching materials at state level and in all Autonomous Communities with a view to increasing knowledge among the general population and reducing the prevalence of negative stereotypes; and to provide teacher training accordingly ([ACFC Fifth Opinion on Spain](#))

“ —
Taking inspiration from ECRI General Policy Recommendation No. 13 on combating antigypsyism and discrimination against Roma, authorities should ensure that school textbooks contain information on Roma language, culture and history and present the benefits brought by Roma to society ([ECRI fourth report on Portugal](#))



Complementarity with relevant policy frameworks and other ongoing actions



EU Roma Strategic Framework for Equality, Inclusion and Participation for 2020-2030, EU Anti-Racism Action Plan 2020-2025 and the Council of Europe Strategic Action Plan for Roma and Traveller Inclusion 2020 – 2025



Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI): Capacity building programme and tools supporting the implementation of Recommendation CM/Rec(2020)2 at national level



International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Recommendations for Teaching and Learning about the Persecution and Genocide of the Roma during the Nazi Era



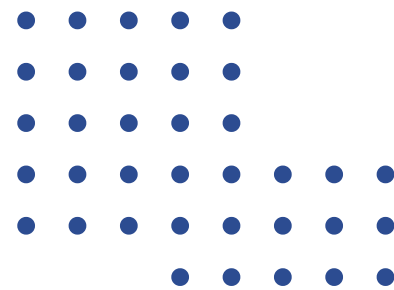
Roma Genocide website, developed jointly by the Council of Europe and ODIHR



Commemoration activities for the 2 August (European Roma and Sinti Holocaust Memorial Day), in the context of the 80th anniversary organised by Central Council of German Sinti and Roma and the Association of Roma in Poland in cooperation with the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum



The “Dikh He Na Bister” international youth remembrance event, organised by ternYpe International Roma Youth Network and the Documentation and Cultural Centre of German Sinti and Roma





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OUTCOMES

Established effective co-ordination and management of a European coalition of inter-governmental organisations and Roma and Sinti organisations, which aligns priorities and co-ordinates initiatives in the area of Roma Holocaust remembrance and education.

Enhanced co-operation with the media, public authorities, and Roma youth organisations for a better outreach to general public on the topic of Roma Holocaust and for the advancement of recognition and remembrance of the Roma Holocaust across the EU Member States.

Increased awareness, capacities and availability of tools to promote and advance with the inclusion of Roma history teaching in schools, including on Roma Holocaust, in EU Member States.

Activities

- Kick-off event during the 17th Dialogue Meeting of the Council of Europe with Roma and Traveller civil society organisations
- Establishment of the Coalition for the Roma Holocaust Remembrance. In close cooperation with the main stakeholders working on Roma Holocaust remembrance (such as International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), European Roma Institute for Arts and Culture (ERIAC), and Central Council of German Sinti and Roma)
- Establishment of a Working Group with interested EU Member States
- Organise a roundtable event with high level officials from the Member States and members of the European Coalition, to discuss the state of play of the recognition of the Roma Holocaust and the way forward, inclusion of the Roma Holocaust in the school curricula and national commemoration practices and the fight against antigypsyism today
- Support the update of the website on the overview of Roma Genocide in the Member States, developed by Council of Europe and ODIHR

- Develop and implement one training for journalists and media representatives in close cooperation with civil society organisations
- Develop and implement one training for representatives of public authorities
- Support the organisation of a training for youth, which should contribute to enriching the knowledge and awareness of the Roma and non-Roma young people about the Roma Holocaust and its consequences on human rights and antigypsyism
- Support the organisation of the European Roma and Sinti Holocaust Memorial ceremony on 2 August, in Auschwitz-Birkenau
- Support the organisation of a ceremony to mark the Romani Resistance Day (16 May).
- Support the use of toolkits and teaching materials to help guide educators and policymakers when they develop curricula and training programmes on the Roma Holocaust component.

