

Please quote: SRSG/Roma/4th Dialogue /CA/RR

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GUIDELINES FOR AD HOC RAPPORTEURS OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE'S DIALOGUE WITH ROMA AND TRAVELLER CIVIL SOCIETY

Background:

At its 13th plenary meeting (Prague, Czech Republic, 31 May-3 June 2017), the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts on Roma and Traveller Issues (CAHROM) endorsed the proposed reform of the Council of Europe's Dialogue with Roma and Traveller civil Society (hereforth referred to as "the Dialogue") presented by the Special Representative of the Secretary General (SRSG) for Roma Issues [[CAHROM\(2017\)16](#)]. It was agreed that the new methodology would be tested as from autumn 2017.

Amended Dialogue Objectives:

- a) Reinforce regular dialogue and consultation between the Council of Europe and Roma and Traveller civil society, including those working at grassroots level, on policies and practices relevant for the inclusion of Roma and Travellers, as identified in the Council of Europe Thematic Action Plan on the Inclusion of Roma and Travellers (2016-2019) and additional priorities identified in consultation with the Council of Europe's entities and monitoring bodies;
- b) Channel the outcomes/conclusions/follow-up proposals of this regular dialogue prepared by two appointed civil society rapporteurs through member States (via the CAHROM) and the (National) European (Union) Platform for Roma Inclusion with a view to multiplying the impact of the Dialogue;
- c) Timeframe permitting, for any future revision of the Council of Europe Thematic Action Plan on the Inclusion of Roma and Travellers (2016-2019), the Roma and Traveller civil society could be consulted through the Dialogue before new Council of Europe priorities are set. [alternatively: Act as civil society consultative body on the implementation of the Council of Europe Thematic Action Plan on the Inclusion of Roma and Travellers (2016-2019)].

New participation and selection procedures:

The new concept of the Dialogue reinforces the need to focus on Roma and Traveller issues with the involvement of *individual expertise*, whether or not part of international or national

organisations, in this way benefiting from the hands-on experience of independent experts working at grassroots level.

Each Dialogue meeting will focus on specific topics chosen by the Council of Europe Secretariat based on priorities and actions contained in the Council of Europe Thematic Action Plan on the Inclusion of Roma and Travellers (2016-2019), or additional Council of Europe relevant priorities. Within the pre-identified topics, priority issues can be chosen at national level and working groups should be created accordingly. On an exceptional basis, additional topics for discussion could also be identified in order to respond to emergency/crisis situations in Europe/member States which require immediate dialogue with civil society and action. Cooperative work between all stakeholders is encouraged.

In order to ensure maximum expert input and sustainable follow-up activities, Roma and Traveller individuals and other experts from civil society will need to respond to a call for application, different for each Dialogue meeting, through which participants should clearly state their expertise on the particular topic(s) and their motivation to participate in the respective Dialogue meeting.

A rotation of participants is encouraged as a means of increasing capacity and expertise, widening the spectrum of participation, multiplying different view points, perspectives and inputs and promoting innovation within the Dialogue.

Designation of two *ad hoc* Dialogue rapporteurs to report back to the CAHROM:

Following review recommendations, instead of a joint day between the CAHROM and Roma and Traveller civil society, two *ad hoc* Dialogue rapporteurs from amongst the selected Dialogue meeting participants will report to the CAHROM the results, conclusions and follow-up proposals of the Dialogue meeting.

The call for application will include a specific question whether the participant would like to take the role of rapporteur for that specific Dialogue meeting. The SRSG Roma Support Team will examine the proposals and will proceed with the designation of the two *ad hoc* Dialogue rapporteurs from Roma and/or Traveller civil society, especially in case of more than two expressions of interest received.

The Dialogue rapporteurs will be invited, on an *ad hoc* basis, to the relevant agenda item(s) of the CAHROM plenary meetings to report and exchange views with the CAHROM members and participants about issues resulting from the Dialogue meeting. The CAHROM will examine the conclusions with a view to incorporating them into its work and promoting their implementation.

The travel and subsistence expenses of the two Dialogue rapporteurs will be covered by the Council of Europe budget.

GUIDELINES FOR THE *AD HOC* DIALOGUE RAPPORTEURS

I. THE CAHROM DECISION

At its 13th plenary meeting in Prague on 31 May-3 June 2017, the the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts on Roma and Traveller Issues (CAHROM) endorsed the proposal made by the Special Representative of the Secretary General (SRSG) for Roma Issues in the context of reforming the Dialogue with Roma and Traveller civil society¹ to invite two Dialogue rapporteurs, on an *ad hoc* basis, to its future CAHROM plenary meetings.

Two *ad hoc* rapporteurs will be designated from amongst the participants of every Dialogue meeting, and be invited on an *ad hoc* basis to the CAHROM plenary meetings to report and present the Dialogue meeting results, conclusions and envisaged follow-up in an exchange with the CAHROM members and participants. The CAHROM will examine how to incorporate the Dialogue conclusions and proposals into its future work and how to ensure their implementation.

II – THE ROLE OF THE *AD HOC* DIALOGUE RAPPORTEURS

The *Ad Hoc* DIALOGUE RAPPORTEURS should ensure that outcomes, conclusions and proposals for follow-up resulting from the Dialogue meeting be properly presented to the CAHROM. As a result, the *Ad Hoc* DIALOGUE RAPPORTEURS should:

- a. Draft the Dialogue meeting's conclusions, including results and proposals for possible follow-up, and have them endorsed by the participants of the relevant Dialogue meeting;
- b. Commit to attend and present to the Committee for consideration the endorsed conclusions and results of the Dialogue meeting at the plenary meeting of the Ad hoc Committee of Experts on Roma and Traveller Issues (CAHROM) which follows the Dialogue meeting;
- c. Take part, during the exchange with CAHROM participants, in the process of identifying possible working priorities and activity proposals for the Council of Europe, international observers and CAHROM members by raising awareness of the Committee about existing good practices or serious drawbacks regarding the topic covered at the respective Dialogue meeting; by submitting thematic concept and/or pilot project proposals; and by proposing to the Committee, if necessary, to draft opinions or recommendations addressing the topic(s) examined by the respective Dialogue meeting;
- d. Ensure feedback of the exchange with the CAHROM towards the participants of the Dialogue meeting.

¹ See document CAHROM (2017)11 Concept for the Reform of the Council of Europe Dialogue with Roma and Traveller Civil Society.

III – EXPECTED KNOWLEDGE, COMPETENCIES AND PROFESSIONAL/WORKING ETHICS OF THE *Ad Hoc* DIALOGUE RAPPOORTEURS

1. The *Ad Hoc* DIALOGUE RAPPOORTEURS, with a view to properly performing their tasks, should get acquainted before the meetings of the Dialogue and of the CAHROM with the most relevant Council of Europe texts, projects and priorities, such as (non-exhaustive list):
 - The Concept Paper for the Reform of the Council of Europe Dialogue with Roma and Traveller Civil Society [[CAHROM \(2017\)16](#)]
 - The CAHROM Terms of Reference and CAHROM thematic reports² that are relevant for the topic(s) discussed in the Dialogue;
 - The 2010 Strasbourg Declaration on Roma [document CM(2010)133 final]³;
 - The Council of Europe Thematic Action Plan on the Inclusion of Roma and Travellers 2016-2019 [document SG/IN(2015)38]⁴;
 - The Implementation Report of the Council of Europe Thematic Action Plan on the Inclusion of Roma and Travellers 2016-2019) [document SG/IN(2017)21]⁵;
 - Updating the Council of Europe agenda on Roma inclusion (2015-2019) [document SG/INF (2015)16rev];
 - The annual reports of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on the “*State of Democracy, Human Rights and the Rule of Law in Europe*”⁶ ;
 - Roma and Traveller-related Recommendations of the Committee of Ministers to member States that are relevant for the topic(s) discussed in the Dialogue⁷;
 - The Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (as amended by Protocols 11 and 14)⁸;
 - The European Social Charter⁹ (Revised)¹⁰;
 - The Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (FCNM)¹¹;

² Consult the CAHROM website: <http://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/cahrom>

³ <https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?id=1691607>.

⁴ https://search.coe.int/cm/Pages/result_details.aspx?ObjectID=09000016805c5a1d.

⁵ Not yet public at the time of the redaction of these Guidelines.

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⁷ Consult the SRSG Roma Portal under Texts of Reference: www.coe.int/roma

⁸ <http://conventions.coe.int/treaty/en/treaties/html/005.htm>.

⁹ <http://conventions.coe.int/Treaty/en/Treaties/Html/035.htm>.

¹⁰ <http://conventions.coe.int/Treaty/en/Treaties/Html/163.htm>.

¹¹ <http://conventions.coe.int/Treaty/en/Treaties/Html/157.htm>.

- ECRI General Policy Recommendation No. 13 on combating anti-Gypsyism and discrimination against Roma¹²;
 - ECRI General Policy Recommendation N°3 on Combating racism and intolerance against Roma/Gypsies¹³;
 - The Dosta! campaign for combating stereotypes and prejudice towards Roma¹⁴;
 - The No Hate Speech movement and campaign¹⁵;
 - The Speak Out Against Discrimination campaign¹⁶;
 - Joint programmes between the Council of Europe and the European Commission, such as ROMED, ROMACT, ROMACTED, JUSTROM, INSCHOOL¹⁷.
2. The *Ad Hoc* DIALOGUE RAPPOORTEURS should present at the CAHROM plenary meeting, conclusions, recommendations, proposals for follow-up endorsed by the Dialogue participants without bias.
 3. The *Ad Hoc* DIALOGUE RAPPOORTEURS should work closely with the Support Team of the Special Representative of the Secretary General for Roma Issues in the context of the preparation of the Dialogue meeting conclusions and their presentation at the CAHROM plenary meeting and for any immediate follow-up proposals.
 4. Between the Dialogue meeting and the CAHROM plenary meeting, the *Ad Hoc* DIALOGUE RAPPOORTEURS should keep abreast of and inform the Support Team of the Special Representative of the Secretary General for Roma Issues and the CAHROM Secretariat about any relevant developments regarding their area of expertise and steps made by Roma and Traveller activists, associations and networks on the topic of the respective Dialogue meeting in which they were designated as *Ad Hoc* Dialogue Rapporteurs.

¹²[https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?Ref=CM\(2011\)99&Ver=add2&Language=lanEnglish&Site=CM&BackColorIntranet=FD864&BackColorLogged=FD864](https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?Ref=CM(2011)99&Ver=add2&Language=lanEnglish&Site=CM&BackColorIntranet=FD864&BackColorLogged=FD864).

¹³ See these annual reports at: <http://www.coe.int/en/web/secretary-general/reports>.
http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/ecri/activities/GPR/EN/Recommendation_N3/Recommendation_3_en.asp#TopOfPage.

¹⁴ www.dosta.org.

¹⁵ <http://www.nohatespeechmovement.org/>.

¹⁶ <http://www.coe.int/t/DG4/ANTI-DISCRIMINATION-CAMPAIGN/>.

¹⁷ Consult respective entries of the SRSG Roma Portal: www.coe.int/roma