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**PRÉSIDENTE DE LA FINLANDE**  
Conseil de l'Europe  
Novembre 2018 – Mai 2019



**MINISTRY OF  
SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND HEALTH**



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## **7<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL ROMA WOMEN'S CONFERENCE**

### **ROMA AND TRAVELLER WOMEN'S ACCESS TO JUSTICE AND RIGHTS**

**INCLUDING TAKING STOCK OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE  
THEMATIC ACTION PLAN ON THE INCLUSION OF ROMA AND TRAVELLERS (2016-2019)  
AND POINTING THE WAY FORWARD FOR THE  
POST-2019 STRATEGIC POLICY DOCUMENT ON ROMA AND TRAVELLER INCLUSION**

organised under the Finnish Presidency of the Committee of the Ministers  
of the Council of Europe

**25-27 March 2019  
HANAHOLMEN  
Swedish-Finnish Cultural Centre  
Hanasaarenranta 5  
Espoo (Finland)  
Conference Room Tetra, 1<sup>st</sup> floor**

### **DRAFT PROGRAMME**

**Webstreaming:** <http://videonet.fi/web/irwconference/>

**Hashtags:** #IRWConference and #FinlandCoE and #WeSupportHumanRights

**TAKING STOCK OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE  
THEMATIC ACTION PLAN ON THE INCLUSION OF ROMA AND TRAVELLERS  
(2016-2019)  
POINTING THE WAY FORWARD FOR THE POST-2019 STRATEGIC POLICY  
DOCUMENT ON ROMA AND TRAVELLER INCLUSION**

**Monday, 25 March 2019**

07.30                      Shuttle bus from Grand Marina Hotel (Centre of Helsinki) to the Hanasaari Conference Centre

08.00 – 09.00           Registration of participants

**OPENING STATEMENTS**

Practical information: Ms Henna Huttu, Ministry of Health and Social Affairs of Finland

Chair:                      Ms Sirpa Pietikäinen, MEP, Finland, National Coalition Party, Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats)  
*Opening remarks*

09.00-09.45              Ms Tarja Halonen, Former President of Finland

Mr Hallvard Gorseth, Head of Anti-Discrimination Department  
Head of Department *a.i.* for the Roma and Travellers Team  
Directorate General of Democracy, Council of Europe

Ms Soraya Post, MEP, Sweden, Feminist party

Ms Vivian Isberg, young Finnish Roma woman

**TAKING STOCK OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE THEMATIC ACTION PLAN ON THE INCLUSION  
OF ROMA AND TRAVELLERS (2016-2019) CONCERNING ROMA AND TRAVELLER WOMEN**

09.45-11.00              Mr Thorsten Afflerbach, Head of Division for the Roma and Travellers Team, Council of Europe  
*Presentation of the Thematic Action Plan on the Inclusion of Roma and Travellers (2016-2019) and its implementation*

Ms Miranda Vuolasranta, President of the European Roma and Travellers Forum (ERTF) and the International Roma Women Network (IRWN/Phenjalipe), and Ms Manjola Veizi, Vice-President of the International Roma Women Network (IRWN/Phenjalipe)  
*Overview of activities carried out for and with Roma and Traveller women by the International Romani Women's Network (IRWN) and the European Roma and Travellers Forum (ERTF)*

Mr Rauno Merisaari, Ambassador on Human Rights and Democracy, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Finland  
*Finland's vision concerning the development of Council of Europe Roma Integration Policy*

Discussion

11.00-11.30                      Tea / Coffee break

**POINTING THE WAY FORWARD: IDENTIFYING AND PROPOSING PRIORITIES FOR THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE POST-2019 STRATEGIC POLICY DOCUMENT ON ROMA AND TRAVELLER INCLUSION**

11.30-13.00                      First session of Working Groups

**Building for Success - Parallel Working groups**

**Expected Outcomes:** Participants will examine in working groups the implementation of the Council of Europe's Thematic Action Plan on the Inclusion of Roma and Travellers (2016-2019) and identify and propose topics that should be included in the Council of Europe's post-2019 Strategic Policy Document on Roma and Traveller inclusion.

**WORKING GROUP 1: IRWN-Phenjalipe strategy document "Making early marriage in Roma communities a global concern"**

*Room: Dynamit, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor*

*Language(s): English/Finnish*

Chair and presenter: Ms Sonja Barbul, Director of Papusza (NGO), member of IRWN-Phenjalipe

Rapporteur: *to be appointed at the beginning of the meeting*

**WORKING GROUP 2: Council of Europe Gender Equality Strategy 2018-2023 in relation to its strategic objective 3: Ensure the equal access of women to justice**

*Room: Tetra, 1<sup>st</sup> floor*

*Language(s): English/French/Romani*

Chair and presenter: Ms Mabera Kamberi, CAHROM member of North Macedonia and CAHROM Gender Equality Rapporteur

Rapporteur: *to be appointed at the beginning of the meeting*

**WORKING GROUP 3: The role of national equality bodies and EQUINET in relation to monitoring and enforcing women's equal access to justice and rights**

*Room: Propeller, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor*

*Language(s): English/French*

Chair and presenter: Ms Norica Costache, Secretary of IRWN-Phenjalipe

Rapporteur: *to be appointed at the beginning of the meeting*

**WORKING GROUP 4: Possibilities for Roma women networks of partnership or co-operation with CoE-EU joint programmes ROMACT and ROMACTED**

*Room: Ultraljud, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor*

*Language(s): English/French*

Co-chairs and presenters: Ms Daniela Mihaylova, ROMACT Facilitator (Bulgaria) - Ms Dora Margarit, ROMACT National Facilitators' Coordinator (Romania) and Ms Tanja Djordjevic, ROMACTED National Facilitator (Serbia)

Rapporteur: *to be appointed at the beginning of the meeting*

13.00-14.30                      Lunch offered by the Finnish authorities

14.30-16.00                      Continuation of the Working Group sessions  
*Same rooms as in the morning*

16.10-17.00                      Conclusions and recommendations of the Working Groups  
Presentations by the Working Group Rapporteurs  
*Conference room Tetra, 1<sup>st</sup> floor*

17.00                    **End of first working day**

19.00                    *Dinner offered by the Finnish authorities*  
*Hanaholmen Cultural Centre*

21.00                    Shuttle bus to the Scandic Grand Marina hotel in the centre of Helsinki

Those who wish to leave earlier for the city centre can book their own taxis at the hotel reception after the end of the meeting.

# ROMA AND TRAVELLER WOMEN'S ACCESS TO JUSTICE AND RIGHTS

**Tuesday, 26 March 2019**

8.15 Shuttle bus from Grand Marina Hotel (Centre of Helsinki) to the Hanasaari Conference Centre

## **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTORY STATEMENTS**

Chair: Mr Hallvard Gorseth, Head of Anti-Discrimination Department, Head of Department *a.i.* for the Roma and Travellers Team, Directorate General of Democracy, Council of Europe

09.00-09.30 Welcoming words by the Chair of the session

Introductory statement by Ms Marja Ruotanen, Director of the Committees, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE)  
*Setting the scene*

Introductory statement by Ms Miranda Vuolasranta, President of European Roma and Travellers Forum (ERTF) and of the International Roma Women Network (IRWN) / Phenjalipe

## **FOLLOW-UP GIVEN TO THE 6<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL ROMA WOMEN CONFERENCE ON POLITICAL PARTICIPATION AND REPRESENTATION**

09.30-10.00 Mr Thorsten Afflerbach, Head of Division, Roma and Travellers Team, Council of Europe  
*Conclusions and recommendations of the 6th International Roma women conference on political participation and representation*

Ms Katju Aro, Chair of the Feminist Party, Finland  
*Developments since the signature of the Pledge on political representation of Roma women at the 6th International Roma Women Conference*

## **KEYNOTE SPEECH**

10.00-10.30 Ms Kirsi Pimiä, Non-Discrimination Ombudsperson, Finland  
*The efforts of the Non-Discrimination Ombudsman's Office in preventing and tackling Roma discrimination and advancing Roma equality in Finland*

## **COMMENTARIES**

10.30-11:10 Mr Ioannis Dimitrakopoulos, Scientific Adviser, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)

Mr Dan Doghi, Chief of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) Contact Point for Roma and Sinti

11.10-11.30 *Tea / coffee break*

## **PLENARY SESSION 1: IMPROVING ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR ROMA AND TRAVELLER WOMEN**

Chair: Mia Spolander, Deputy to the Permanent Representative, Permanent Representation of Finland to the Council of Europe

11.30-13.00 Ms Michèle Bergdoll, JUSTROM Programme Manager, Roma and Travellers Team, Council of Europe  
*Presentation of the EU-CoE Joint programme on Roma and Traveller women's access to justice (JUSTROM)*

Ms Alexandra Karagianni (JUSTROM Greece)  
Ms Teodora Krumova (JUSTROM Bulgaria)  
Ms Argentina Dragutinovic (JUSTROM Italy)

*Presentation and discussion of their work*

Ms Henna Huttu, Ministerial Adviser, Advisory Board on Roma Affairs, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Finland, Finnish CAHROM member and CAHROM Rapporteur on Roma children: *Main conclusions and lessons learnt from the CAHROM thematic report on improving access to justice for Roma and Travellers in Europe*

Ms Mervi Sarimo, Ministerial Adviser, Ministry of Justice, Finland  
*Victim Support as a step towards equal access to justice*

Discussion

13.00-14.30 *Lunch offered by the Finnish authorities*

### **PARALLEL WORKSHOPS**

14.30-16.30 **WORKSHOP 1: Forced removal of Roma and Traveller children from their parents**

Room: Propeller, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
Languages: English and Finnish

**Chair and moderator:** Ms Marja Ruotanen, Ms Marja Ruotanen, Director of the Committees, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE)

**Rapporteur:** Mr Dan Doghi, Chief of the ODIHR Contact Point for Roma and Sinti, OSCE-ODIHR

#### **PANELISTS**

Mr Philip Brown, Professor of Social Change in the Sustainable Housing & Urban Studies Unit (SHUSU), School of Nursing, Midwifery, Social Work and Social Sciences at the University of Salford, United Kingdom

Mr Thomas Huonker, Historian and senior researcher, Switzerland

Ms Rosita Grönfors, International Romnja and Travelling Women's Center, Sweden

Ms Aniko Orsos, expert, European Roma Rights Center (ERRC)

Ms Inka Hetemäki, Director, Advocacy and Programmes, UNICEF

Mr Anssi Pirttijärvi, Senior Officer at the Office of the Ombudsman for Children, Finland

## **WORKSHOP 2: Forced and child marriages in Roma and Traveller communities**

Room: Tetra, 1<sup>st</sup> floor

Languages: English and Romani

**Chair and moderator:** Ms Merete Bjerregaard, Secretary of the former Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH) Drafting Group on Female Genital Mutilation and Forced Marriage

**Rapporteur:** Ms Cristina Raducan, Gender and Innovation expert, Republic of Moldova

### **PANELISTS**

Ms Najwa Duzdar, Orient Express, Vienna, Austria

Ms Béatrice Fresko-Rolfo (Monaco, ALDE). Rapporteur for the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly report on forced marriage (Resolution 2233 (2018), General Rapporteur on Violence Against Women, member of the PACE Equality and Anti-Discrimination Committee

Ms Diny Flierman, Manager Landelijk Knooppunt, Huwelijksdwang en Achterlaten, the Netherlands

Ms Saška Jovanović, Ternibori, Italy, *Marry when you are ready*

Ms Teodora Krumova, Amalipe, Bulgaria

Ms Nataša Milenkovic, *Nowhere to turn - Gender-based violence against Roma women*, UNDP Europe and Central Asia

Ms Anu Sivaganesan, President of the Swiss National Centre of Competence against Forced Marriage, Switzerland

Ms Ursula Till-Tentschert, Deputy Head of Unit, Technical Assistance & Capacity Building Unit, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)

## **WORKSHOP 3: Preventing and combatting violence against Roma and Traveller women and domestic violence, and protecting their reproductive rights**

Room: Dynamit, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor

Language: English

**Chair and moderator:** Ms Iris Luarasi, Head of Board and Manager, Counseling Line for Women and Girls, Expert of the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO)

**Rapporteur:** Ms Gwendolyn Albert, journalist, Romea, Czech Republic

### **PANELISTS**

Ms Vanda Durbakova, Lawyer, Slovak Centre for Civil and Human rights

Testimony by Ms Elena Gorolová, NGO Group of Women Harmed by Forced Sterilization in the Czech Republic and victim of forced sterilisation

Mr Ciprian Ionita, independent human rights activist, Romania

Ms Ana María Segovia Montoya, Fundación Secretariado Gitano, Spain

Ms Sonja Tihveräinen, Social Worker, Naisten Linja (Women's Line telephone services for the victims of domestic violence), Finland

**WORKSHOP 4: Pogroms and evictions motivated by anti-Gypsyism and anti-Nomadism and their effects on Roma and Traveller women and communities**

Venue: Room Ultraljud, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor

Languages: English and French

**Chair and moderator:** Ms Anca Enache-Toiviainen, Head of Development, at the International Affairs Unit of Helsinki Deaconess Institute

**Rapporteur:** Ms Norica Costache, Secretary of IRWN-Phenjalipe, Romania

**PANELISTS**

Ms Miriam Attias, Conflict resolution between population groups, 2018 Winner of the European Prize, Finland

Ms Marie Pichault, Policy Officer, Centre de Médiation des Gens du Voyage et des Roms, Namur, Belgium

Mr Milan Antonijević, Director, Open Society Foundation Serbia

Ms Tessa Collins, Senior Community Development Worker, Violence Against Women Programme, Pavee Point Traveller and Roma Centre, Ireland

Ms Yulia Kondur, President, Roma Women Fund "Chiricli", Ukraine

Ms Martine Serlinger, member of the Commission nationale consultative des gens du voyage and member of IRWN-Phenjalipe, France

Ms Manjola Veizi, Vice-President of IRWN-Phenjalipe, Albania

16.30-17.00

*Tea / coffee break*

**PLENARY SESSION 2: CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKSHOPS**

Moderator: Mr Thorsten Afflerbach, Head of Division, Roma and Travellers Team, Council of Europe

17.00-18.00 Working Group 1 Rapporteur: Mr Dan Doghi, Chief of the ODIHR Contact Point for Roma and Sinti, OSCE-ODIHR

Working Group 2 Rapporteur: Ms Cristina Raducan, Gender and innovation expert, Republic of Moldova



Working Group 3 Rapporteur: Ms Gwendolyn Albert, journalist, Romea.CZ

Working Group 4 Rapporteur: Ms Norica Costache, Secretary of IRWN-Phenjalipe, Romania

18.00                    **End of second working day**

18.00                    Visual interlude before dinner (Conference Room Tetra, 1<sup>st</sup> floor)  
Possibility to view a documentary film by Ms Katriina Haikala, Visual Artist, Hirundo Centre, Finland

Performance by Alina Serban, actress, organised by the European Roma Institute for Arts and Culture [tbc]

19.00                    Cultural event and dinner hosted by the ministry of Social Affairs and Health and the City of Espoo in Hanasaari

Music by Joni Ehnroth and his band

20.45                    Shuttle bus from the Hanasaari Hotel to the Grand Marina Hotel (Centre of Helsinki)

## **Wednesday, 27 March 2019**

8.15                    Shuttle bus from Grand Marina Hotel (Centre of Helsinki) to the Hanasaari Conference Centre

### **PLENARY SESSION 3: NEW TECHNOLOGIES, DIGITALISATION POTENTIAL EQUALIZERS OR THREATS TO ROMA AND TRAVELLERS**

Moderator: Ms Mia Spolander, Deputy to the Permanent Representative of Finland to the Council of Europe

09.00-9.45            Ms Ursula Till-Tentschert, Deputy Head of Unit, Technical Assistance & Capacity Building Unit, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) *Big Data: Discrimination in data-supported decision making*

Ms Carmen Santiago Reyes, Spain  
*SOS Kamira smartphone application lowering the threshold for reporting discrimination cases*

Ms Yvonne MacNamara, Chief Officer, Ms Jenni Berlin, The Traveller Movement, United Kingdom  
#Operationreporthate Campaign

Ms Jenita Rauta, POLAMK: *Digital database research on hate crime against Roma in Finland*, HERTGATE *smartphone application*

9.45 – 10.30           **Visual interlude**

Ms Carmen Baltzar, documentarist:  
*Public Images of Roma and Traveller Women in Media - reflection on unbalanced and distorted representations*

Ms Katriina Haikala, Visual Artist

*Artist as a facilitator – Introduction to Lupta Femeilor- Women's Fight art project executed together with Roma women in Finland*

Ms Timea Junghaus, Executive Director / Anna Mirga-Kruszelnica, Deputy Director, The European Roma Institute for Arts and Culture (ERAC),  
*ERAC and organisation's support to Roma women artists and Roma women*

Discussion

10.30-11.00      *Tea / Coffee break*

11.00-11.30      Contribution of the 7<sup>th</sup> International Roma Women Conference to the CoE-Finnish CM Presidency Conference on "Gender stereotypes and sexism" on 28-29 March 2019

Ms Mabera Kamberi, CAHROM member in respect of North Macedonia and Gender Equality Rapporteur

#### **PLENARY SESSION 4: CONCLUSIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND CLOSING REMARKS**

Moderator: Ms Valerie Poppe-Muess, Project Manager, Roma and Travellers Team, Council of Europe

11.30-13.00      Ms Gwendolyn Albert, General Rapporteur  
*Conclusions and recommendations*

Ms Christina Chalilopoulou, Senior Adviser in Human Rights, KEDE Central Union of Municipalities of Greece  
*The perspective of Roma and Traveller women*

#### ***Concluding statements***

Mr Thorsten Afflerbach, Head of Division, Roma and Travellers Team, Council of Europe

Ms Henna Huttu, Ministerial Adviser, Advisory Board on Roma Affairs, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Finland

13.00              **End of the Conference**

13.00-14.00      *Lunch offered by the Finnish authorities*

14.00-14.30      Shuttle bus Hanasaari Conference Centre  
- Grand Marina Hotel (Helsinki City Center).

14.30-15.30      The bus continues from Grand Marina- hotel (Helsinki City Center) directly to the Helsinki Airport.

NOTE: The organisers can book additional joint taxis from the hotel for those participants who need an earlier shuttle bus/taxi directly to the airport due to afternoon flights. We will do these reservations based on the list that you can find from the conference registration point on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings between 8.00-9.00 a.m. You can check the information concerning your shuttle booking from the list during Wednesday's Tea / Coffee break (between 10.30-11.00 a.m.).