



PRESIDENCY OF FINLAND
Council of Europe
November 2018 – May 2019
PRÉSIDENTE DE LA FINLANDE
Conseil de l'Europe
Novembre 2018 – Mai 2019



ICRW(2019)1

25.03.2019

7th 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, 1st floor**

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

Prize award to Ms Tarja Halonen, Former President of Finland, and Ms Miranda Vuolasranta, President of the European Roma and Travellers Forum (ERTF) by Ashmet Elezovski from the National Roma Centrum, North Macedonia

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 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, 2nd floor

Language(s): English/Finnish

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

Rapporteur: Ms Anu Sivaganesan, President of the Swiss Centre of Competence for Forced and Child Marriages, Switzerland

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, 1st floor

Language(s): English/French/Romani

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

Rapporteur: Ms Elvira Hasan, Roma Med, Belgium

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, 2nd floor

Language(s): English/French

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

Rapporteur: Ms Beata Bislim Olahova, IRWN Phenjalipe, Slovak Republic

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

Room: Ultraljuda, 2nd floor

Language(s): English

Co-chairs and presenters: Ms Daniela Mihaylova, ROMACT Facilitator (Bulgaria) -

Ms Poliana Catalin, ROMACT National Facilitators' Coordinator (Romania) and Ms Tanja Djordjevic, ROMACTED National Facilitator (Serbia)

Rapporteur: Ms Daniela Mihaylova, Bulgaria and Ms Tanja Djordjevic, Serbia

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, 1st 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 6TH 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 possibilities for the Non-Discrimination Ombudsman to prevent and tackle Roma discrimination and to promote 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: Mr Thorsten Afflerbach, Head of Division, Roma and Travellers Team, 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, 2nd floor
Languages: English and Finnish

Chair and moderator: 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, 1st 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, Head of Roma Women Network in Moldova, 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 Achterlating, 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, 2nd 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, 2nd 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, Head of Roma Women Network in Moldova, 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, 1st floor)
Possibility to view a documentary film by Ms Katriina Haikala, Visual Artist, Hirundo Centre, Finland

Presentation on the traditional dress of Romani women in Finland by Miranda Vuolasranta, President of the European Roma and Travellers Forum (ERTF)

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

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 and Ms Christina Kerrigan, 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

Discussion

10.30-11.00

Tea / Coffee break

11.00-11.30

Contribution of the 7th International Roma Women Conference to the CoE-Finnish CM Presidency Conference on “Gender stereotypes and sexism” on 28-29 March 2019

Ms Maberka 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 Cristina Raducan, Head of Roma Women Network in Moldova, Gender and innovation expert
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.).