



**PRESIDENCY OF FINLAND**  
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**PRÉSIDENCE DE LA FINLANDE**  
Conseil de l'Europe  
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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)**

## **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS and ARTICLES**

## **Concept paper**

[7<sup>th</sup> International Roma Women's Conference Roma and Traveller Women's Access to Justice and Rights concept note](#)

## **Draft programme**

### **Thematic Action Plan for the Inclusion of Roma and Travellers (2016-2019)**

[Thematic Action Plan on the Inclusion of Roma and Travellers \(2016-2019\)](#)  
[CoE Thematic Action Plan on the Inclusion of Roma and Travellers -1<sup>st</sup> report](#)  
[CoE Thematic Action Plan on the Inclusion of Roma and Travellers – 2<sup>nd</sup> report](#)  
<https://rm.coe.int/dialogue-6th-mtg-assessment-of-tap-final-report-en-14-12-18/1680932306>

6<sup>th</sup> Council of Europe Dialogue with Roma and Traveller Civil society [assessment of the implementation of the Council of Europe Thematic Action Plan on the Inclusion of Roma and Travellers \(2016-2019\)](#)

### **Texts adopted by the Committee of Ministers**

[Recommendation CM/Rec\(2017\)10 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on improving access to justice for Roma and Travellers in Europe](#)

### **ECRI**

[ECRI General Policy Recommendation N°13 on combating anti-Gypsyism and discrimination against Roma](#)

[ECRI General Policy Recommendation N°3 on combating racism and intolerance against Roma/Gypsies](#)

### **Access to Justice**

Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2017\)10](#) on improving access to justice for Roma and Travellers in Europe

Committee of Ministers [Guidelines of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights in Culturally Diverse Societies](#)<sup>1</sup>

European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights– [Fundamental Rights Report 2018](#)

OSCE-ODIHR - <https://www.osce.org/roma-and-sinti>

### **JUSTROM**

### **National equality bodies and ombudsperson**

ECRI [Revised General Policy Recommendation No.2, General Policy Recommendation on Equality bodies to combat racism and intolerance at national level,](#)

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<sup>1</sup> Human Rights in culturally diverse societies “Guidelines of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights in Culturally Diverse Societies” Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 2 March 2016 at the 1249th meeting of the Ministers’ Deputies

European Commission [Recommendation on standards for equality bodies](#) in order to ensure the independence and effectiveness of national equality bodies. The Recommendation, a legal act of the Commission, sets minimum standards concerning the mandate of equality bodies; their independence; their effectiveness, including sufficient resources and appropriate powers; and the national institutional architecture for equality.

Venice Commission [25 "Venice Principles"](#) - Democratic ABCs for ombudsman institutions

## **Gender equality strategy**

[Council of Europe Gender Equality Strategy \(2018-2023\)](#)

## **ROMACT**

<http://coe-romact.org/>

## **ROMACTED**

<https://pjp-eu.coe.int/en/web/roma-local-governance>

## **6th International Roma Women Conference: "Women and Political Representation: The Case of Roma and Traveller Women"**

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/roma-and-travellers/international-roma-women-s-rights-conferences>

## **Removal of Roma and Traveller children from their parents**

[PACE Resolution 2232 \(2018\) Striking a balance between the best interest of the child and the need to keep families together](#)

Written comments of the European Roma Rights Centre, Articles 2, 23 (1), 24 (1)– Right To Family And Non-Discrimination: Romani Children In State Care, [https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/Treaties/CCPR/Shared%20Documents/HUN/INT\\_CCPR\\_CSS\\_HUN\\_30228\\_E.pdf](https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/Treaties/CCPR/Shared%20Documents/HUN/INT_CCPR_CSS_HUN_30228_E.pdf)

Question tabled in the European Parliament in April 2018 about the removal of Roma children from their families in Hungary

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+WQ+E-2018-001800+0+DOC+XML+V0//EN&language=en>

and the respective answer by the EP

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getAllAnswers.do?reference=E-2018-001800&language=EN>

Forced Removal of Romani Children from the Care of their Families, <http://www.errc.org/roma-rights-journal/forced-removal-of-romani-children-from-the-care-of-their-families>

Stealing children: institutionalising Romani children in Italy, <http://www.errc.org/roma-rights-journal/stealing-children-institutionalising-romani-children-in-italy>

Orphaned and Vulnerable Romany Children and their Protection: Child Adoption, Foster Care, and Child Rights, [https://ddd.uab.cat/pub/afin/afinENG/afin\\_a2017m6n95iENG.pdf](https://ddd.uab.cat/pub/afin/afinENG/afin_a2017m6n95iENG.pdf)

Ethnic cleansing in Scandinavia, <http://www.vepsen.no/monitorarkiv/english/4apr01.htm>

EMMI sued for taking away too many Roma children from their families due to poverty, <https://budapestbeacon.com/emmi-sued-for-taking-too-many-roma-children-taken-away-from-their-families-due-to-poverty/>

Prevention of forced removal of Roma children from their parents through support of families and dialogue with state institutions, <https://ec.europa.eu/justice/grants/results/daphne-toolkit/en/content/prevention-forced-removal-roma-children-their-parents-through-support-families-and-dialogue>

Gypsy, Roma and Traveller children in care – a TT investigation, <https://www.travellerstimes.org.uk/features/gypsy-roma-and-traveller-children-care-tt-investigation>

Britain takes 'thousands of migrant children' into care, <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/12156044/Britain-takes-thousands-of-migrant-children-into-care.html>

The Traveller Movement, The care system and Gypsies, Roma and Travellers: an investigation [http://travellermovement.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/TTM-The-care-system-and-Gypsies-Roma-and-Travellers\\_web.pdf](http://travellermovement.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/TTM-The-care-system-and-Gypsies-Roma-and-Travellers_web.pdf)

## **Child and early marriages**

[PACE Resolution 2233 \(2018\) Forced marriage in Europe](#)

[Making early marriage in Roma communities a global concern](#) by the European Roma and Traveller Forum and IRWN-Phenjalipe

[Thematic report on Child/early and forced marriages within Roma communities in the context of the promotion of gender equality](#)

[Declaration of the Committee of Ministers on the need to intensify the efforts to prevent and combat female genital mutilation and forced marriage in Europe](#)

## **Violence against women and Reproductive health**

[Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence](#)

[Recommendation Rec\(2006\)10 of the Committee of Ministers on better access to health care for Roma and Travellers in Europe](#)

[Statement](#) by the Commissioner for Human Rights on the occasion of International Women's Day 2019

Article 11 of the [European Social Charter \(revised\)](#)<sup>2</sup> states that "Everyone has the right to benefit from any measures enabling him to enjoy the highest possible standard of health attainable". Point 2 specifies "to provide advisory and educational facilities for the promotion of health and the encouragement of individual responsibility in matters of health"

The [UN Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women](#)<sup>3</sup> (CEDAW) states that States have obligations to respect, protect and fulfill rights related to women's sexual and reproductive health.

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<sup>2</sup> European Social Charter (revised) <https://rm.coe.int/168007cf93>

<sup>3</sup> UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women New York, 18 December 1979

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

[Recommendation Rec\(2005\)4 of the Committee of Ministers on improving the housing conditions of Roma and Travellers in Europe](#)

[Recommendation Rec\(2004\)14 of the Committee of Ministers on the movement and encampment of Travellers in Europe](#)

[Thematic report on legalisation of Roma informal settlements, rehousing solutions and alternative measures to evictions](#)

[Addendum to the thematic report on legalisation of Roma informal settlements, rehousing solutions and alternative measures to evictions](#)

[Thematic report on social housing for Roma and legalisation of Roma settlements and houses](#)

[Thematic report on encampment areas and other issues relating to travellers](#)

[Thematic report on social housing for Roma](#)

<http://www.errc.org/press-releases/roma-sue-national-police-in-ukraine-after-far-right-attacks>

<http://www.errc.org/press-releases/serbian-court-issues-emergency-order-to-turn-the-lights-back-on-in-roma-neighbourhood>

### **Other publications**

[Brochure - Strategy on the advancement of Romani women and girls \(2014-2020\) \(2016\)](#)