



DDP-YD/ETD (2022) 87

Strasbourg, 3 May 2022

Drafting Group

PROJECT OF RECOMMENDATION ON ROMA YOUTH PARTICIPATION

First Presential Meeting

2-3 May 2022

European Youth Centre, Strasbourg

Room 5.1

REPORT

Introduction to the meeting

The meeting started with an introduction of the 10 participants (list appended at the end of this report). Some participants joined online which is also specified in the appended list. The agenda following agenda was adopted and there were no comments for additional points. This first presentational meeting aimed to draft the first version of the Recommendation on Roma Youth Participation.

Agenda:

1. Opening and adoption of the agenda of the meeting
2. Recalling the mandate and composition of the drafting group
3. Recalling of the conclusions and feedback of the consultation with partners and stakeholders
4. Recalling of the Guidelines and good practices when drafting a Recommendation of the Committee of Ministers to the governments of member states
5. Presentation of the draft structure and organisation of the project of Recommendation, by Margareta Matache, consultant
 - Feedback and proposals on the structure
 - Feedback and proposals on content
6. Proposals issued from the participants in the seminar *Roma Youth Together 2022*
7. Working methods and procedure for a consolidated draft of the recommendation
8. Next steps and date of the second meeting
9. Any other business

Updates from the Council of Europe and participants' organisations since the last meeting

Youth Department updates:

- Task force conclusions were recalled;
- Outcomes of the Informal consultation with partners and stakeholders which took place on 22 February and First Meeting of the Drafting Group on 22 February 2022 (online) were recalled;
- Seminar on Roma Youth Together 2022 on 6-8 April 2022 was mentioned and the inputs of the participants to the content of the Recommendation, as well as willingness to update the participants on the state of work on the Recommendation;
- Draft 0 of the Recommendation was prepared by the consultant Margareta Matache and previously sent to the participants of the meeting.

Roma and Travellers Division updates - ADI-ROM deliverables were mentioned in relevance to the Recommendation, such as:

- Mid-term review report on the implementation of the Strategic Action Plan for Roma and Traveller Inclusion (2020-2025) with a deadline of 31.12.2022;
- Draft Recommendation on equality for Roma and Traveller women and girls with a deadline of 31.12.2023;
- Capacity-building programme and tools supporting the implementation of Recommendation CM/Rec(2020)2 at national level;
- Feasibility study and possible draft Recommendation on desegregation and inclusion policies and practices in the field of education including Roma and Traveller children;
- Handbook on democratic governance as well as representation and participation of Roma and Travellers in public and political life;
- Final evaluation report on the implementation of the Strategic Action Plan for Roma and Traveller Inclusion 2020-2025;

- At least two thematic reports per year, emanating from the two, possibly three, thematic visits foreseen per year (to be adopted by ADI-ROM and transmitted to CDADI for discussion and follow-up).

Recalling the mandate and composition of the drafting group

The decision to prepare a draft CM recommendation on Roma youth participation was recalled and its indication that the drafting group in charge of preparing the recommendation would include up to two CDEJ (Steering Committee) members and up to two CCJ (AC) members, with the participation of a representative of the European Youth Forum and a scientific expert; and entrusted the secretariat, under the authority of the CDEJ and CCJ chairs, to undertake the necessary formalities with regard to the appointment process in due course.

The Joint Council decided at its last meeting to add a representative of Roma youth organisations to the drafting group of the recommendation on Roma Youth Participation, which was reflected in inviting representative of ERGO Network and Phiren Amenca.

Timeline of work of the Drafting Group was recalled:

- October 2022 – draft of the Recommendation in the CMJ (Joint Council on Youth),
- September 2022 - meeting of Drafting Group,
- June – September 2022 – consultations,
- June 2022 – second meeting of Drafting Group,
- May 2022 – first presential meeting of the Drafting Group;
- February 2022 – first online meeting of the Drafting Group.

Recalling of the conclusions and feedback of the consultation with partners and stakeholders

The participants recalled the conclusions of the previous meetings and steps taken after the Meetings which took part on 22 February 2022.

Recalling of the Guidelines and good practices when drafting a Recommendation of the Committee of Ministers to the governments of member states

The Drafting Group recalled the guidelines and good practices when drafting a Recommendation of the Committee of Ministers to the governments of member states, with the focus on the following information:

- Structure of the Recommendation is at least 2 parts: preamble and operative part, however also the part of appendices can be added, as well as Explanatory Memorandum,
- Preamble: can include the nature of the problem, studies, legal documents, existing instruments,
- Operative Part: state the issues and recommendations to members states (list the actions),
- Appendices (there can be several of them): it can include Guidelines for implementation, glossary of terms, good practices,
- Explanatory memorandum tells the history of the drafting of the memorandum, it explains the preparatory work of the Recommendation, it is not adapted by the CM, it has not the same value as the Recommendation.

The Drafting Group discussed the need of Explanatory Memorandum. A few members expressed that they see the need to draft also the Explanatory Memorandum, which would support the Recommendation users in understanding the process behind.

Presentation of the draft structure and organisation of the project of Recommendation, by Margareta Matache, consultant

Margareta Matache presented structure of the Recommendation proposing 4 main topics on which the Recommendation could focus:

- I. Participation in democratic processes and structures;
- II. Policy level (focuses on 3 fields: youth policies, Roma policies, mainstream policies silent on Roma);
- III. Structural racism and antigypsyism;
- IV. Access to fundamental rights (including right to remember).

Margareta Matache presented briefly also the proposed content of the Recommendation mentioning inter alia:

- list of legal instruments already existing in the field of Roma and Roma Youth as well as general legal instruments relevant for the Recommendation;
- glossary of terms.

After the presentation of the structure and content of the Recommendation the Drafting Group discussed the scope of the Recommendation as for:

- group of young people that Recommendation considers: Roma, or Roma and Travellers. The conclusion was to include both groups in the Recommendation;
- topic: Participation and/or combating antigypsyism – concluded to focus on participation and with emphasis that antigypsyism is hindering participation, as well as measures that support participation;
- topic: Racism and antigypsyism – Drafting Group discussed the need to refer to both terms or only one in the Recommendation. It was emphasized that there is a need to understand the difference between those terms was expressed, and the clear definitions on both need to be added to the Recommendation and to Explanatory Memorandum to add the why we use both;
- Age: the question of age scope was discussed when referring to Roma Youth and it was concluded to stick to the age of youth operating in Youth Sector which is usually 16-30 year old;
- Covid Pandemic: Group discussed if there is any particular issue to be taken into account as for the COVID 19 pandemic and any other crises;
- Matters address in the Recommendation: it was emphasized to mostly focus on participation in democratic processes. It was admitted that in the Draft O the following matters were not emphasised, though they can be added at more detailed draft: participation in youth councils and youth organisations (as the Recommendation focuses recommendations to governments. Some members of the Drafting Group expressed willingness to add the following matters to the Recommendation:
 - the participation in youth assemblies and youth councils to the Recommendation;
 - importance of the language,

- cultural activities and festivities;
- right to assembly,
- encouragement for creation of the Roma Youth Networks.

Proposals issued from the participants in the seminar *Roma Youth Together 2022*

Members of the Drafting Group have received the proposals on the content of the Recommendation issued by the participants in the seminar Roma Youth Together 2022. It was planned to take them into consideration when drafting further the Recommendation.

Working methods and procedure for a consolidated draft of the recommendation

Drafting Group decided to revised the elements of the Draft 0 of the Recommendation in the following order:

- Preamble of the Recommendation
- Recommendation`s operative part
- Appendix to the Recommendation – part on the Guidelines

Glossary Terms and Explanatory Memorandum (including examples of practice) were decided to be discussed at later stage of Recommendation Drafting.

The Draft 0 of the Recommendation was consulted, commented and contributions were added to it.

It was discussed to shape the Recommendation`s Guidelines in 4 elements which would address the answers to the questions:

1. What we ask for?
2. How we would do it?
3. What are the obstacles to be removed?
4. Factors which needs to be addressed?

There was an alternative proposal to structure the Recommendation`s Guidelines based on the structure of:

1. Research
2. Outreach

It was decided that the consultant will propose the most suitable structure.

Next steps and date of the second meeting

- The Drafting Group is following the below timeline of work:
 - October 2022 – draft of the Recommendation in the CMJ (Joint Council on Youth),
 - September 2022 - meeting of Drafting Group – **12-13 September 2022, EYCB**
 - June – September 2022 – consultations,
 - June 2022 – second meeting of Drafting Group – **8 June 2022, 14:00 – 18:00, online**
 - May 2022 – first presential meeting of the Drafting Group – **2-3 May 2022, EYCS**
- DG agreed to send possible additional comments on the Recommendation content to consultant Margareta Matache till the end of May.

- Draft 1 of the Recommendation will be send out to the members of the Drafting Group by the consultant Margareta Matache till 31st May 2022.
- Next meetings planned:
 - 8 June, 14:00 – 18:00, online meeting of Drafting Group
 - 12-13 September 2022, EYCB – second presential meeting of the Drafting Group (12 September from 14:00, 13 Sept all day)
- For the next meeting the Secretariat will make sure to invite also the member of the Advisory Council assigned as the Rapporteur on Roma Issues.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

The meeting was attended by:

PIA SLOGAR	Advisory Council on Youth (CCJ) and European Youth Forum
KRISTINA KAPANADZE	European Steering Committee for Youth (CDEJ)
RICCARDO VENTURINI	European Steering Committee for Youth (CDEJ)
MUSTAFA JAKUPOV	European Roma Grassroots Organisations Network (online)
MARINA CSIKÓS	Phiren Amenca
BERIL BARANYAI	Youth rapporteur in ADI-ROM (online)
MARGARETA MATAACHE	Consultant

Council of Europe secretariat

OANA-LUIZA TABA	Roma and Travellers Team
AGATA STAJER	Educational Advisor, Youth Department
RUI GOMES	Head of Division Education and Training, Youth Department