

Roma Week 2019

Policymakers, experts, activists and organisations concerned with persistent anti-Gypsyism in Europe are planning to collaborate for a fourth consecutive year to organise a Roma Week in the European Parliament and other EU institutions ahead of International Roma Day to coincide with the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

In the framework of the Roma Week 2019, there will be a program on Anti-Racism and the European Elections which will bring together different groups to organise and strategize ahead of the elections and the next European Union mandate 2019-2024.

Patronages:

European Parliament
European Commission

Hosts:

Soraya Post, Romeo Franz, Benedek Javor, Cornelia Ernst, Dietmar Koster, Barbara Lochbihler, Peter Niedermuller, Terry Reintke and Bodil Valero

European Economic and Social Committee and European Parliament Anti-Racism and Diversity Intergroup

BAG RomnoKher, Central Council of German Sinti and Roma, European Network Against Racism (ENAR), European Public Health Alliance (EPHA), European Roma Grassroots Organisations (ERGO) Network, FSG Fundación Secretariado Gitano (FSG), Open Society European Policy Institute (OSEPI), Roma Active Albania (RAA), Roma Education Fund (REF), ternYpe International Roma Youth Network and the Documentation and Cultural Centre of German Sinti and Roma

Description:

Roma Week 2019 aims to build on the work done during previous Roma Weeks and build on the landmark own-initiative report that the European Parliament adopted in October 2017 on “Fundamental rights aspects in Roma integration in the EU: fighting anti-Gypsyism” which called upon the European Commission and EU Member States to put the fight against anti-Gypsyism at the forefront of efforts for the social and economic inclusion of Roma. Roma Week aims to do this by raising the voices of people who are victims of anti-Gypsyism.

The week will consist of a series of events which will provide recommendations on combatting anti-Gypsyism and continued structural discrimination. Each event will be sponsored by one or more MEPs and co-organised by civil society organisations, and the European Parliament Anti-Racism and Diversity Intergroup.

Aims:

1. **Platform to raise concerns and knowledge exchange:** To facilitate exchange and capacity building between Roma, civil society, policymakers and officials.
2. **Advocacy for specific thematic areas:** Different thematic areas including a general overlapping anti-racism theme to be covered in the European elections and the next European Union mandate 2019-2024.
3. **Recognition of anti-Gypsyism:** The week will be an opportunity for experts and activists on the issue to advocate European and national policymakers to strengthen the recognition of anti-Gypsyism as well as develop strategic and coherent responses.

4. **Evaluation of the EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies:** There will be an opportunity to discuss the evaluation of the current EU Framework and the successes and shortcomings of the National Roma Integration Strategies.
5. **Truth, Recognition and Reconciliation Commission:** During the week, there will be discussions to advance the follow-up to the 2015 report of the Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues and the 2017 European Parliament Resolution, and in particular to explore possibilities for Europe-level and State-level to address anti-Gypsyism, and to advance truth, recognition, remedy, trust and reconciliation processes in this regard.

Attendees and speakers:

1. Policymakers and officials from European and national levels
2. Representatives of local authorities and large cities in Europe
3. Civil Society
4. Roma youth

Event	Date	Time	Room (All European Parliament unless written)	Organisers
Workshop: Let's Make Roma Voice Heard	18/03/2019	14:00	TRE 7701, European Economic and Social Committee	European Economic and Social Committee
RomnoPower: Opening and Concert	18/03/2019	18:30	State representation of Baden-Württemberg	Romeo Franz MEP
Reality Check: Evaluating the EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies	19/03/2019	09:00-15:00	ASP A1G3	Romeo Franz MEP, Benedek Javor MEP, European Commission and EPHA
European Civil Rights Prize of Sinti and Roma	19/03/2019	17:00	European House of History	Central Council of German Sinti and Roma
Roma Award (Western Balkan and Turkey)	19/03/2019	18:00	Concert Noble	European Commission and Roma Active Albania
Breakfast between MEPs and young Roma	20/03/2018	08:00	Members Salon	Peter Niedermuller MEP, ERGO Network and ternYpe
Roma Included: Can the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals contribute to combatting antigypsyism?	20/03/2018	11:00-13:00	ASP 3G2	Cornelia Ernst MEP, Soraya Post MEP, GUE/NGL, S&D, ERGO Network, Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP) and SDG Watch Europe
Combatting racism/discrimination: Evaluating 2014-2019 and recommendations for 2019-2024	20/03/2019	13:00-14:30	ASP 3G3	European Parliament Anti-Racism and Diversity Intergroup, European Commission and European

				Network Against Racism (ENAR)
Creating Trust through Uncovering and Recognising the Truth: Advancing Recognition and Remedy for Anti-Gypsyism Part I	20/03/2019	14:45-18:00 followed by reception at 18:00	ASP 3G2 followed by reception at 18:00 in the Members salon	UN Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner, Soraya Post MEP, Central Council of German Sinti and Roma, ERGO Network and Fundacion Secretariado Gitano
BOZAR lecture on anti-racism and discrimination with David Lammy MP		18:30	BOZAR	European Parliament Anti-Racism and Diversity Intergroup, BOZAR and European Network Against Racism (ENAR)
Creating Trust through Uncovering and Recognising the Truth: Advancing Recognition and Remedy for Anti-Gypsyism Part 2	21/03/2019	09:00 - 12:00	ASP 5E2	UN Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner, Soraya Post MEP, Central Council of German Sinti and Roma, ERGO Network and Fundacion Secretariado Gitano
Supporting the effective reintegration of Roma Returnees in the Western Balkans	21/03/2019	13:00-15:00	ASP 1G3	Bodil Valero MEP and European Commission
Closing remarks and declaration	21/03/2019	Afternoon		All