*Romani people are European citizens. Equal and Diverse!*

**EU Framework for Roma Equality, Inclusion and Participation:**
**Adopting National Roma Strategic Frameworks 2021-2030**

**27 September 2021**
**15:00 - 17:30**

[redacted]

**Watch live on Facebook**: https://fb.me/e/1EBdy7hUG

## Background

The new EU Framework for Roma Equality, Inclusion and Participation (hereinafter the EU Framework) is a step forward toward achieving better equality and social justice for Roma[1] in the European Union and Enlargement Countries. The fight against institutional antigypsyism is for the first time at the centre of the EU Framework, marking the important shift in policy development approach on Roma inclusion at EU and national level. In addition, promoting participation of Roma and combating poverty are additional new horizontal priorities to the areas of education, employment, health and social services and housing.

This comprehensive approach to improving the lives of Roma across Europe and attitudes and actions towards them paves the way for national governments in developing more robust, viable and integrated measures and programmes addressing challenges and shortcoming at local, national and regional level to achieving the set targets and proposed indicators by the EU Framework.

The objective of this event is to take stock of the progress made by national governments in the EU and Enlargement region in adopting sound and all-inclusive national Roma strategic frameworks in consultation with Roma civil society and in line with the full policy package adopted by the EU regarding the EU Framework, including the Council Recommendation,

[1] The reference to 'Roma', as an umbrella term, encompasses a wide range of different people of Romani origin such as: Roma, Sinti, Kale, Romanichels and Boyash/Rudari. It also encompasses groups such as Ashkali, Egyptians, Yenish, Dom, Lom, Rom and Abdal, as well as traveller populations, including ethnic Travellers or those designated under the administrative term gens du voyage and people who identify as Gypsies, Tsiganes or Tziganes, without denying their specificities.

Guidelines and Portfolio of indicators. In particular, the event will discuss about the way in which the horizontal priorities, namely "fighting and preventing antigypsyism and discrimination", "reducing poverty and exclusion and closing the socio-economic gap between Roma and the general population" and "participation by empowerment, cooperation and trust" have been integrated into the national frameworks, by looking also at country examples and the involvement of Roma civil society organisations. In addition, the event will assess the adequacy of the national mechanisms put in place at national and EU level to monitor the implementation of the EU Framework and national strategic frameworks up to 2030; and not lastly, it will assess whether national governments made concrete budget allocations for the implementation of the national strategic frameworks.

This event aims to build on the results of the EU Platform for Roma Inclusion taking place on 21-22 September 2021.

The results of this event will be used to inform the follow-up steps by the European Commission in providing guidelines to Member States and Enlargement region and of the civil society and other key stakeholders in the implementation and monitoring of the national Roma strategic frameworks.

## AGENDA

**15:00 – 15:10 Welcoming remarks**

**Moderator**: Gabriela Hrabanova, Director, ERGO Network

MEP Romeo Franz, EFA/Greens, Co-President ARDI Intergroup, Member LIBE, EMPL, CULT Committees

MEP Peter Pollak, EPP, Co-President ARDI Intergroup, Member CULT and LIBE Committees – VIDEO

**15:10 – 15:50 First panel: The status of adoption of the national Roma strategic frameworks**

**Moderator**: Gabriela Hrabanova, Director, ERGO Network

Ms Lavinia Banu, Policy Officer, Non-discrimination and Roma coordination, DG Justice

Mr. Orhan Usein, Head of Office, Roma Integration 2020, Regional Cooperation Council

Ms. Isabela Mihalache, Senior Advocacy Officer, ERGO Network

Q&A

**15:50 – 17:10 Second panel: Essential elements in the implementation of the national Roma strategic frameworks: horizontal priorities, monitoring and evaluation and funding allocation**

**Moderator:** Mr. Stephan Muller, Adviser, Central Council for German Sinti and Roma, Germany

Mr. Andrey Ivanov, Project Manager – Roma Integration, Fundamental Rights Agency

Mr. Tamás Kádár, Deputy Director, Equinet

Mr. Bernard Rorke, Advocacy and Policy Manager, European Roma Rights Centre

Ms. Abriel Schieffelers, Policy and Membership Development Officer, Eurodiaconia

Mr. Atanas Stoyanov, Phiren Amenca International Network

Q&A

**17:10 – 17:30 Conclusions and way forward**

**Moderator**: Adriatik Hasantari, Roma Active Albania

Mr. Szabolcs Schmidt, Head of Unit, Non-discrimination and Roma coordination, DG Justice

Ms. Marta Garcia Fidalgo, Adviser, Roma integration and Equality Coordinator, DG Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations

Ms. Anna Mirga-Kruszelnicka, European Roma Institute for Arts and Culture