



FRA Roundtable Roma inclusion and human rights implementation at the local level

**Hotel Howard Johnson Grand Plaza Forum
5-7 Calea Dorobantilor, District 1, 010551**

**Bucharest, 27-28 May 2010
AGENDA**

27 May 2010

12.30-13:30 Registration

13:30 Welcome by the FRA and RCA

13:40-14.30 Implementing Human Rights in practice

Speakers:

Elena Udrea, Minister for Regional Development and Tourism
Yesim M. Oruc Kaya, UN Resident Representative
Eva Sobotka, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights
David Mark, Roma Civic Alliance of Romania

14:30-15:00 Questions and Answers

15:00 -15.30 Research and data on the Housing Conditions of Roma in the EU and in Romania

Speakers:

Michail Beis, FRA
Dezideriu Gergely, National Council for Combating Discrimination
Georgiana Iorgulescu, Center for Legal Resources
Nicu Ion Stoica, Roma ACCESS – Roma Civic Alliance

15.30-16.30 EU policies and instruments – how to use them to ensure implementation of human rights at the local level: focus on the European Social Fund

Speakers:

Dominique Be, European Commission
Humberto García, Fundación Secretariado Gitano (FSG)

Q&A



**Roma Civic Alliance of
Romania**



16.30-17.00 Coffee Break

17:00-18:00 EU policies and instruments – how to use them to ensure implementation of human rights at the local level: focus on the European Regional Development Fund for housing interventions for extremely poor and marginalized communities

Speakers:

Alekos Tsolakis, European Commission

Gabriel Friptu, Managing Authority of Regional Development OP

18:00 – 18:30 Sustainable policies and human rights implementation – role of local authorities: examples of cooperation networks and good practice

Speakers:

Nicoleta Bitu, Romani Criss

Jeroen Hoogbergen, Nijbod Consultancy

Mona Prisacariu, Habitat for Humanity

Florin Motoi, Divano Rromano

28 May 2010

Parallel workshops:

9:30 – 10:00 Introduction to Workshops: Realizing the right to housing and access to services

Eva Sobotka, FRA

10:00 – 11:30 Parallel workshops

A. How can local authorities prevent and address discrimination in housing and forced evictions?

Moderator: Michail Beis, FRA

Speakers:

Humberto García, Fundación Secretariado Gitano (FSG)

Vasile Galbea, Romani Criss

Robert Vaszi, Equal Chances Zalău- Roma Civic Alliance

B. How can local authorities mainstream the equality principle in development programming?

Moderator: Iulian Stoian, Roma Civic Alliance



**Roma Civic Alliance of
Romania**



Speakers:

Florin Botonogu, ERGO Network
Gabriel Friptu, Managing Authority of Regional Development OP

C. How can local authorities develop sustainable programs, and improve access to housing and infrastructure?

Moderator: Alekos Tsolakis, European Commission

Speakers:

Marian Daragiu, Ruhama Foundation –Roma Civic Alliance
Geert van Loosdrecht, Nijbod Consultancy

11:30 -12:00 Coffee Break

12:00-13:00 Continuation of parallel workshops

A. How can local authorities prevent and address discrimination in housing, prevent forced evictions and consequences

Moderator: Michail Beis

B. How can local authorities mainstream the equality principle in development programming

Moderator: Iulian Stoian, Roma Civic Alliance

C. How can local authorities develop sustainable programs, access to housing and infrastructure development

Moderator: Alekos Tsolakis, European Commission

13:00-14:30 Lunch

14:30-15:30 Reporting back from workshops and discussion

15:30-16:00 Conclusions of the Roundtable

Eva Sobotka, FRA
David Mark, Roma Civic Alliance



**Roma Civic Alliance of
Romania**



Background Information:

The issue of the **Roma** has **acquired political relevance** on the **European agenda** in recent years. In addition to various **resolutions by the European Parliament**, it has been included on the **agenda of the Council, the Commission** has taken a number of measures and new political instruments and institutional mechanisms have been developed. The **FRA** has addressed the situation of the Roma since late 1990s (under EUMC) **through research and informing policy**. More recently, the FRA has been mandated to conduct **awareness-raising of fundamental rights** and has engaged in **stakeholder consultation** on its future work on Roma and Travellers in 2008 **and networking**, liaising its operation, especially with **Romani women networks (2005-2008)**. Most recently, last year, the FRA held a **Joint international conference on Roma and freedom of movement** and migration and a **Roundtable on Housing**, where it presented **results of its research** on the two areas.

Key issues addressed at FRA Roundtable include:

- ✓ EU policies on Roma progress and opportunities
- ✓ Awareness of the gender dimension. Gender, inequalities and discrimination
- ✓ Cooperation with the Romani grassroots and local authorities
- ✓ Roma health and social inequalities
- ✓ Anti-Gypsyism, hate crime and other forms of intolerance

Objectives of the Roundtable:

- ✓ To present approaches to implementation of policies on Roma at local and regional level.
- ✓ To illustrate how the approaches could be considered as part of the model on joined up governance on human rights.
- ✓ To inform about FRA findings of good practice on housing and access to public health care.
- ✓ To explore best use of EU Structural Funds.
- ✓ To assess the needs of local authorities, and allow for learning among local authorities.
- ✓ To address the issue of anti-Gypsyism.
- ✓ To discuss models of good practice of provision of service at the local level.

Questions to answer at the Roundtable:

1. How can the FRA reach out to grassroots and local authorities?
2. How can local authorities draw from Structural Funds and develop policies, which are inclusive of needs of Roma?
3. How to implement human rights at the local level?