

# Centre for Roma Studies and Cultural Relations

## ROMA NEWSLETTER

Roma: Connecting with Indian Roots

ANTAR-RASHTRIYA SAHAYOG PARISHAD

20<sup>th</sup> October, 2020

Issue: 4

### Combating Racism and Discrimination against the Roma and Sinti Rights

In a statement issued by US Mission to OSCE at the Human Dimension Webinar organised on 5<sup>th</sup> October by Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), US recognized that COVID-19 pandemic had intensified the already existing discrimination suffered by many Roma communities. It urged all OSCE (Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe) participating States to take resolute steps to prevent violence that threatens the displacement of Roma.

#### Read More at

<https://osce.usmission.gov/statement-at-the-human-dimension-webinar-combating-racism-and-discrimination-against-the-roma-and-sinti-rights/>

### The Emilio Lussu Lifetime Achievement Award Confered on Santino Spinelli

On 2<sup>nd</sup> October, the prestigious Emilio Lussu Lifetime Achievement Award was given to Santino Spinelli who holds different laurels to his credit like Commendatore Order of Merit of the Italian Republic. He was selected for this award for giving a voice to all the populations and communities that use the Romani language and practice and preserve Romani traditions and cultures.

#### Read More at

<http://www.logoscultura.it/conferito-il-premio-emilio-lussu-alla-carriera-a-santino-spinelli/>

**Hungarian-speaking Roma, living in Transylvania, constitutes 8.4 percent of the Hungarian-speaking Population**

According to the findings of an analysis, there are two extensive Hungarian-speaking Roma blocks in Transylvania: one is located in Szeklerland and includes the Târgu Mureş catchment area, the other covers most of the Hungarian partisan block - Partium. In Szeklerland the proportion of Roma in the Hungarian-speaking population is to 10% while in Partium, it is close to 15%. In Romania, the study identified 2,315 Roma settlements. Nationwide, 59 percent of Roma and 64 percent of Transylvania live separately from the majority.

**Read More at**

<https://www.maszol.ro/index.php/tarsadalom/133163-elemzes-erdelyben-tobb-mint-szazezer-magyar-nyelv-roma-el>

### **Examining the Affinity of Romani Chib with Indian Languages**

The article outlines the relationship between Romani and Indian languages on the basis of comparative analysis of grammar and vocabulary of Romani with Indian languages. It indicates that Romani language is a member of the Indo-Aryan language family, especially intrinsically linked with the Sanskrit, besides establishing the relation between the inflectional morphology of Romani and that of Sanskrit.

**Read More at**

<http://arspindia.org/pdf/ARSP-Bulletin-15-10-2020.pdf>

### **Memorial Monument of Roma in Lanciano, Italy**

The monument is dedicated to the memory of the extermination of Roma and Sinti in Italy and Germany between 1935 and 1945 in order to remember the racial persecution and horrors inflicted on Roma/Sinti. The monument, made of Majella stone, has been sculpted by the renowned Italian artist Mr. Tonino Santeusano. Owing to Dr. Santino Spinelli's efforts in fundraising through an international committee, the monument saw the light, belonging to the minority along with the Jewish people who were the victims of the racial genocide.

**Read More at**

[https://www.ilmessaggero.it/abruzzo/sterminio\\_rom\\_sinti\\_monumento\\_memoria\\_lanciano\\_samudaripen\\_foto\\_video\\_santino\\_spinelli-4019320.html](https://www.ilmessaggero.it/abruzzo/sterminio_rom_sinti_monumento_memoria_lanciano_samudaripen_foto_video_santino_spinelli-4019320.html)

## **Why European Union's New Roma Strategy is Welcome, but Toothless ?**

Member of European Parliament, Mr. Romeo Franz of Romani origin, welcomed Post-2020 EU Roma Strategic Framework and expressed his optimism in achieving equality and justice for over six million of Romani people in the European Union. He further added that this important step would not only change the course of political debate from so called 'Roma issues' to a perspective that would address the racist stereotypes against Romani people and also provide the yardsticks to monitor future progress by member states in the inclusion of Romani people by 2030. However, the new Roma strategy misses the binding character of a legislative act.

### **Read More at**

<https://euobserver.com/opinion/149677?fbclid=IwAR3B6SgOWn5H3A-sLyBcG8UtYmS0m1gppkH6pB7zgDcnR0s7WFLVBlyjBz0>

## **Members of European Parliament Call for Blocking EU Funds, Following Interior Ministry's Roma Radicalization Police Training**

On the backdrop of new 10-year EU Roma Strategic Framework, launched by the European Commission, It has been pointed out that Interior Ministry of Bulgaria is spending EU funds on a radicalization awareness project that stigmatizes the Roma as a security threat. Members of European Parliament protested against the use of EU funds to train police officers in radicalization awareness targeting Romani neighbourhoods and called for a halt to EU funding for the Ministry of the Interior, until its policies and practice get proactively anti-racist.

### **Read More at**

<http://www.errc.org/news/racism-in-bulgaria-meps-call-for-eu-funding-to-be-blocked-following-interior-ministris-roma-radicalization-police-training>