



Centre for Roma Studies and Cultural Relations

ROMA NEWSLETTER

Roma: Connecting with Indian Roots

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Support of the Non-profit Sector is Important to the Integration of the Roma

Excerpt from the interview of Czech MP Eva Fialová by the News Server Romea.cz covers various issues faced by the Czech Roma. During recent elections for the lower house in the Czech Republic, the Romani issues like the immunization against COVID-19, candidature of Romani people in the election, the lower turnout of Romani voters, the inclusion of Romani people and so on and so forth come to the fore. The Czech MP Eva Fialová said that ruling party ANO movement supported Non-profit organizations in the Czech Republic, which were playing an important role in integrating Romani people. The party also supports the increased accessibility of Roma to social housing and education through various scholarships.

Find the Full Interview at

<http://www.romea.cz/en/news/czech/czech-mp-for-governing-ano-movement-support-for-the-nonprofit-sector-is-important-to-the-integration-of-the-roma>

Empowering the Roma communities to stand against discrimination in Ukraine

The Ukrainian local NGO, Lacho Drome Roma Center with the support of the EU – Council of Europe carried out a training program in the first half of the year 2021 for protection of human rights of Roma community in 4 cities of the Zaporizhzhia and Dnepropetrovsk regions of Ukraine where the big Roma population lives. The training aimed at building bridges between representatives of local authorities and police and Roma people. This program was designed to address the problems; non communication of their human rights violations through the formal channels to local authorities and sensitizing the local authorities to respond to the violations. This program has three objectives; train Roma mediators in teams of two persons in each of the 4 cities, build communication bridges between teams of mediators

and local authorities and monitoring of human rights violations as well as raising awareness amongst Roma communities.

Read More at

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/inclusion-and-antidiscrimination/-/empowering-the-roma-communities-to-stand-against-discrimination-in-ukraine>

The Nomad Camps: The Ethical-Moral Issues

The article argues that Roma and Sinti people are not nomads by culture as history had shown that their mobility has always been forced. It considers such camps in Italy as horrendous form of racial segregation and is against their continuation. 65 percent out of 180,000 Roma and Sinti hold Italian citizenship and only 26,000 live in these Nomadic Camps. It is imperative to integrate these Roma and Sinti people and provide them with decent housing alternatives as well as education, work and medical assistance. It calls for making public aware of living conditions in such camps so as to put pressure on politics and government to overcome this harmful and shameful situation.

Read More at

https://www.eguaglianza.it/i-campi-nomadi-sono-una-questione-etico-morale/?fbclid=IwAR1emD73HhkhBLiuSManVtrqQfx51nL3YzKmNX-iSqrI5JYSqQ_gS6p9C2E

EU Awards for Roma Integration a Source of Hope

The European Commission announced 14 winners out of 67 applications submitted for the integration in the Western Balkans and Turkey. 14 projects have been chosen for their outstanding contribution in the field of employment including gender equality, vocational training, empowerment and the funding to micro-businesses. This year's award recognised Extraordinary People Promoting Equality through Employment. This award aims at highlighting the significance of Roma integration in the EU Enlargement process and showing the EU's commitment to improving the social inclusion of Roma people.

Read More at

<https://www.brusselstimes.com/news/eu-affairs/187521/eu-awards-for-roma-integration-a-source-of-hope/>

59th International Art Exhibition Held at La Biennale di Venezia, Venice

The competition for the curatorial exhibition of the 59th International Art Exhibition took place at the Polish Pavilion in Venice. The jury selected Polish-Romani artist and activist, Małgorzata Mirga-Tas, whose work "Przeczarowaję świat" as winner. She was declared as the best artist of Polish pavilion because of her works which take up the issues of anti-Gypsy stereotypes, building an affirmative iconography of the Roma communities. The jury noted that her works were an extremely attractive visual form combined with an original and thoughtful ideological structure.

Read More at

<https://labiennale.art.pl/wyniki-konkursu-biennale2022/?fbclid=IwAR3PaGLI Msvcdx75cyvu04i59-RdU0byQf0 OJB OY33RxA4L-VhblqVSO>

On his Meeting with Roma in Slovakia, Pope Calls Out Prejudice

Pope Francis condemned prejudice and discrimination against Europe's Romani people during his visit to one of the most impoverished communities in Slovakia. There are around 440,000 Roma living in Slovakia, most of them in the eastern part of the country. Addressing residents of Lunik IX settlement on the outskirts of Slovakia's second biggest city Kosice, the Pope asked the Roma to go forward "step by step, with honest work, in the dignity of earning your daily bread."

Read More at

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/pope-calls-out-prejudice-he-meets-roma-slovakia-2021-09-14/?fbclid=IwAR2g5vD0vkLUG1N0McDJuRajocjIU3ZNR4rQJf5BwHZeFM4IJdSnw54DiuY>

Victims and Perpetrators Part of Austrian Society

The Austrian President Alexander Van der Bellen attended the inauguration of a new Austrian exhibition at the State Museum Auschwitz-Birkenau where the concentration camp was built by Nazi German in 1940 to imprison and exterminate not only Jews but also Poles, Roma, Soviet prisoners and people of other nationalities. In his address at the site, the President said that it was the duty of the Austrian people to remember the victims and to remind the world that perpetrators were also part of Austrian society.

Read More at

<https://www.thefirstnews.com/article/victims-perpetrators-part-of-our-society-austrian-president-at-auschwitz-25132>

7th Virtual Lecture was Held

Centre for Roma Studies and Cultural Relations (CRSCR) – ARSP, organized the seventh virtual lecture of its monthly lecture series on the topic "The Future Role of Romani Communities in the Context of Global Value Transformation" on 30th September, 2021. The special lecture, delivered by Ms. Gilda Horvath, Member, European Roma Institute for Arts and Culture, which featured psychological model for human development and position of Roma in the global value system. She said that Indian and Romani heritage meet at a point where spirituality and science get fused. The Indian heritage of Roma has much more to contribute to the human development in the world.

Listen to the Full Lecture at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vkhF64lUFhk&t=87s>

The 14 Platform for Roma Inclusion – an Opportunity to Bring Inequalities to the Political Agenda

The Platform for Roma Inclusion is a major initiative taken by the European Commission to provide a space for a dialogue between European national policymakers and civil society to evolve policy for resolving long-standing inequalities between Roma and the general population. This initiative may play an important role in bridging the gap in education and alleviating the health and housing inequalities which have been further exacerbated by COVID-19 pandemic. These issues require a timely response from European and national policymakers through National Roma Strategies which should promote comprehensive measures towards social inclusion as well as address the challenges that the Roma face in access to essential rights and services.

Read More at

https://epha.org/the-14th-platform-for-roma-inclusion-an-opportunity-to-bring-inequalities-to-the-political-agenda/?fbclid=IwAR3CT2zTQw0bek-axOLUoQ0 umrObqvpBpw26e4rHI-roJKOb2D_0xsf1Co