



Centre for Roma Studies and Cultural Relations

ROMA NEWSLETTER

Roma: Connecting with Indian Roots

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Improve Education of Roma Children & Support to National Minority Cultures in Slovakia

The Council of Europe's Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities urged the Slovak authorities to eradicate discrimination of Roma children in education as well as to improve the mechanism for supporting national minority culture. It has been further suggested to promote inclusive and quality education for Roma children as well as address the issue of school segregation and implement a sustainable housing policy in order to eliminate spatial segregation of Roma communities. It has also pointed out the importance of investigating cases of forced sterilization of Roma women and compensating the victims.

Read More at

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/slovakia-should-improve-education-of-roma-children-and-support-to-national-minority-cultures>

Workshop on Romani History in Czech Capital

A two-day workshop was held in Prague with an aim to promote Romani history and their origin on the occasion of the sixth anniversary of the Prague Forum for Romani Histories. Romani and non-Romani researchers from all over the world attended the workshop and dealt with the different periods of Romani history. The workshop pointed out how examining the past of

Roma can enrich their identity with the help of historical research. The discussions also raised both methodological and ethical questions related to day-to-day discrimination of Romani people.

Read More at

<http://www.romea.cz/en/news/czech/czech-capital-sees-workshop-on-the-history-of-romani-people-with-academics-from-all-over-the-world>

Mane Event: Roma/Gypsies and Travellers Flock to Appleby Horse Fair

Despite the delay by a week in the celebration of Romani culture in order to avoid a clash with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee weekend celebrations, thousands of Roma and travellers gathered in the town of Appleby in Westmorland for attending the biggest gypsy horse fair in Europe. The annual four-day festival dates back more 250 years. The washing of horses is the very popular sight at the fair, so the visitors gather to see the animals taking a splash in the River Eden. Roma and Travellers come from miles away to attend the fair and ride with a pony pulling a trap, while others opt to ride on horseback.

Read More at

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2022/06/09/mane-event-gypsies-travellers-flock-appleby-horse-fair/?fbclid=IwAR0Ko7pd1xW0a9u1EdBWbCpiiDBxds70Jn1u3vUye4-BoKXWZavQGgMipQM>

None Calls Romani Men Fighting in Ukraine Heroes

Maria Yarosh is a project coordinator for the Roma community at Salam Lab - an organization that helps excluded people and fights for their human rights. She came to Krakow, Poland at the beginning of March from Bucza near Kiev, Ukraine. She said, Roma of Ukrainian nationality feel discriminated against in Poland and the stereotypes about them like they are lazy, dirty and stealer continue. According to the report of International organization Minority Rights Group, there were about 400,000 Roma living in Ukraine prior to the Russian invasion. Whereas, the LGBT research shows, the Roma community has been facing exclusion, lack of access to education and public services for years. In recent years, white people have committed pogroms

against Ukrainian Roma - their houses were set on fire and people were killed. Because of the persecution, Roma often had to change their place of residence. Now some of them took advantage of the war to leave the country.

Read More at

<https://plus.gazetakrakowska.pl/ukrainscy-romowie-uciekli-my-przed-ta-sama-wojna/ar/c15-16412611?fbclid=IwAR1POTV5s3VWPRFUixL6xSTfmMSG8lhVca7sAiEWhNjghBMalxMJYDAvmy4>

KHAMORO World Roma Festival Resumed Parade in Czech Capital

The festival began on 29 May and offered a cornucopia of concerts, exhibitions and theater performances. About 200 artists and performers assembled on Wenceslas Square and proceeded to the Old Town Square, where they were accompanied by residents and tourists. The parade of Romani dance and music ensembles passed through the center of Prague. The procession was led by a decorated horse-drawn carriage and people with Romani flags. The festival also featured a performance by Ukrainian Romani theater ensemble. The KHAMORO, the biggest festival of musicians, held every year in Prague since 1999, ended with a Gala Concert by Romani musicians on 4 June.

Read More at

<http://www.romea.cz/en/news/czech/khamoro-world-roma-festival-resumes-parade-in-czech-capital?fbclid=IwAR2AdyS0PYeeWP-HWtggpOP5vlqYf22dPJpMHfuj54rcL1a1lylzp9LTZNQ>

The Action Plan for the Development of the Romani Language and Culture in Slovakia

Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic took measures to support the culture, language and identity of the Roma as part of the action plan for 2022-2024, based on the EU Roma strategic framework of Equality, Inclusion and Roma Participation until 2030. The proposed plan for three years focuses on stabilizing and developing institutions dedicated to Romani culture, and supporting Romani media, language and raising awareness of the rights of the Roma. The plan also aims at initiating a joint research project with several institutions in order to carry out research on history, culture and a way of life of the Roma.

Read More at

https://www.teraz.sk/najnovsie/mk-sr-akcny-plan-rozvoja-romskeho-i/638077-clanok.html?fbclid=IwAR2Q_84BqPLiTCjEmglJSbGskoqUQ5P2tadoXaEZ-GVYekDzNQ5Hpc-zt9Q

Roma in a Situation of Mental Distress

Several factors including lower life expectancy, limited access to health services, violation of human rights, so on and so forth are affecting the mental health of some 10 million Roma in Europe. The Roma Health Network at the European Public Health Alliance (EPHA) sounded alarm. According to Ms Belen Soto Pence, pre doctoral researcher at University of Seville, 'Antigypsyism' that has been recently included in the list of discriminations by Council of Europe is the historically constructed racism against Roma. Ms. Ponce further added that the community suffers from a lack of access to fundamental rights and freedoms such as poor access to employment, health, education and decent housing. According to spokesperson of European Commission, Roma face various forms of discrimination due to poverty and structural anti-Gypsyism within healthcare systems. In October 2020, the Commission presented a 10-year plan to support Roma in Europe as part of the EU Action Plan 2020-2025 against racism. This plan also aims to improve the situation of Roma in terms of health, housing and essential services.

Read More at

https://www.euractiv.fr/section/sante-modes-de-vie/news/droits-bafoues-acces-a-la-sante-neglige-les-roms-en-situation-de-detresse-mentale/?fbclid=IwAR0ztt4NBHUzZDAx3T2nhM4bfi9aeGwN3S9iouz5DWheFxMLfwzCWnG_VX0

Discrimination against Roma is an Echo from Back

The first commissioner of Germany for combating discrimination against Roma and Sinti, Mehmet Daimaguler said that ending discrimination against these communities was a task for all Germans. He examined the historical legacies of racism and discrimination and their repercussion on the state institutions in Germany. Daimaguler said, that the stereotypes still continue in the work of police, judges and persecutor. Through professional training and teachings, it is possible to change the mindset of the next generation of officials. Because of

negative experiences and lack of trust in police, Roma and Sinti are less likely to report the crimes. Daimaguler further added that Roma who arrived in Germany as refugees were frequently treated with more suspicion and some of them have been here for decades with uncertain residency status.

Read More at

<https://www.dw.com/en/daimag%C3%BCler-anti-gypsy-discrimination-is-every-germans-problem/a-61964288?fbclid=IwAR0x3LBDL4KT433ax-vBWf8m6iaz-PnJVbyJwCKT5Kxql3Flp0wsPRkOCCY>

Roma Summit Renews the Turkish Government's Commitment to the Community

The Minister of Family and Social Services, Government of Turkey, Derya Jannik informed about the new Action Plan for Rights of Roma citizens. The Plan covers 5 important areas including education, employment, health care, housing, social services and social Help in order to enhance the life of Romani people who are scattered throughout the country. Yanik said that there was a plan between 2006 and 2021 with the focus on raising living standards of the community, especially for their full social Inclusion, combating bias and possible discrimination against them. The Minister further added that the purpose of setting up Social Solidarity Centers (Sodam) was to initiate cultural, psychological and social developments as well as to impart professional training and family education program, etc. for enabling them to get jobs, reducing early marriages and domestic violence and drug addiction amongst the community.

Read More at

https://www.habertusba.com/roma-summit-renews-the-turkish-governments-commitment-to-community/?fbclid=IwAR0hc1fUJ_AQmXMF1souNPeHWECh-r3i0qEJ01Q8ZBZrG6mFuZ3jxO3EmW0