



## Centre for Roma Studies and Cultural Relations

### ROMA NEWSLETTER

Roma: Connecting with Indian Roots  
New Delhi

5<sup>th</sup> August, 2022

ANTAR-RASHTRIYA SAHAYOG PARISHAD  
Issue: 25

### Roma Community still Being Marginalized

German lawmaker and Premier for the State of Thuringer Bodo Ramelow called for an end to the exclusion of Sinti and Roma people in a speech to mark the European Roma Holocaust Memorial Day at the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp. He said that Roma were still being marginalized and they experience hatred, exclusion, racism, violence and the denial of civil and social rights in many countries. The law maker further stated that Roma/Sinti were murdered during the Nazi dictatorship like Jews and other minorities and persecuted to their deaths because a racist ideology denied them the right to live.

#### Read More at

<https://www.dw.com/en/german-lawmaker-says-roma-community-is-again-being-marginalized/a-62685224>

### One-third of Romani Refugees from Ukraine Experienced Discrimination

According to the PAQ Research survey, one-third of the Romani refugees from Ukraine in the Czech Republic have faced intolerance and every sixth Romani refugee has experienced discrimination from the authorities. The survey also investigated the health issues, housing and education of Romani refugees. It also pointed out the financial and material deprivation experienced by a large number of Romani households. Most of the Romani refugee children from Ukraine have not enrolled in Czech schools.

#### Read More at

<http://www.romea.cz/en/news/czech/czech-research-finds-one-third-of-romani-refugees-from-ukraine-have-experienced-discrimination-here-most-children-are-not-2?fbclid=IwAR1paO2GQNuOz2RAG2sODLFaTWRBShwRBI8WQO9lj8IH7zWy-UabXNXgi8w>

## **European Commission Pressures Slovak Government not to Take Roma Inclusion Lightly**

European Commission pressurizes Slovakia to draft a completely new system for receiving European funds for Roma inclusion projects. During the visit of the delegation of European Parliamentarians to east of Slovakia for seeing the conditions under which the Roma live there, the conditions were captured in a short video. Members of European Commission were shocked to see images of existence of extreme poverty in one of its member states despite transfer of substantial European funds to improve conditions of the marginalized Roma community. During the negotiations of the European Commission with the Slovak government for getting almost 13 billion euro package of European funds for the period of 2021 to 2027, the Commission called upon the Slovak government not to take Roma inclusion lightly. Consequently, the concerned Slovak authorities have convinced the Commission that it plans to adopt a new system, which would solve the problem.

### **Read More at**

[https://euractiv.sk/section/ekonomika-a-euro/news/ako-jedno-video-slovensku-zmenilo-nove-eurofondy/?fbclid=IwAR0BvN\\_VDj6uQi2frhJYF38QNUPKZ4xemurkPuN7TPt8gVcJLNGKd1clPuQ](https://euractiv.sk/section/ekonomika-a-euro/news/ako-jedno-video-slovensku-zmenilo-nove-eurofondy/?fbclid=IwAR0BvN_VDj6uQi2frhJYF38QNUPKZ4xemurkPuN7TPt8gVcJLNGKd1clPuQ)

## **The Romani Movie "Hurjasa" Released on 22 July**

The film Hurjasa, meaning “We Will Fly, features 30 Roma role models who have succeeded in their respective professions and aims at persuading Romani people across the Western Balkans to declare their Roma ethnicity with pride. The movie was written, produced and directed by British Romani journalist Jake Bowers who took inspiration from the Black American poet Maya Angelou’s civil rights anthem “Still I Rise”. The film is a beautiful cinematic portrait of Europe’s largest and most misunderstood ethnic group, having come from India as shot by award-winning British cinematographer Stuart White. The film is narrated in Romani language by Romani teacher Alen Umer from Skopje and activist Fatma Azemi from Tirana.

### **Read More at**

[https://www.travellerstimes.org.uk/index.php/features/hurjasa-we-will-fly?fbclid=IwAR1GIQXN1zn8IBWpWdNIFnuDvNr7-WbaR8ZOHLIJ5T4s7xz\\_RSWW\\_6JIF\\_c](https://www.travellerstimes.org.uk/index.php/features/hurjasa-we-will-fly?fbclid=IwAR1GIQXN1zn8IBWpWdNIFnuDvNr7-WbaR8ZOHLIJ5T4s7xz_RSWW_6JIF_c)

## **Spanish Gypsy Groups Call for Protection**

Spanish Roma/Gypsy groups are pleading for protection after dozens of people were forced to leave their homes in a small Andalusian town following a racist rampage in which some residents targeted houses and properties belonging to Gypsies. The racist violence was

sparked following a killing of Alvaro Soto, a pub doorman, on 17<sup>th</sup> July after an argument with four members of the local Gypsy community, though the attackers were later arrested. Kamira, a federation composed of associations of Gypsy women, offered its “condolences, sympathies and solidarity” to Soto’s family, but said his death simply could not excuse the anti-Gypsy violence.

**Read More at**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/jul/28/spanish-gypsy-groups-call-for-protection-after-families-flee-racist-mob>

**Recent Migration of Roma to Europe: Preservation of Romani Language and Identity- Causes and Consequences**

Centre for Roma Studies and Cultural Relations-ARSP hosted the fifteenth virtual lecture of its monthly lecture series on the topic “The Recent Migration of Roma to Europe: Preservation of Romani Language and Identity- Causes and Consequences” on 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2022. The lecture was delivered by Dr. Diana Kirilova (France) who spoke about migration of Roma from Serbia and Kosovo to France as overseas workers in 1975 when there was economic turbulence. This was the first wave of the 20<sup>th</sup> century migration of Roma in France. The second wave of Romani migration was to France as asylum seekers in 1998-99 owing to war in Kosovo where the persecution of Roma on ground of religious and ethnic origin took place. She said that Roma, who migrated from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Serbia and North Macedonia to France in 1975, preserved their language and identity besides being socially and economically integrated. However Romani migrants from Bulgaria and Romania to France generally do not speak Romani language that they find an obstacle to getting a good job and better social status.

**Watch Full Lecture at**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-b\\_ebTrN3d0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-b_ebTrN3d0)

**Racism in France: From School to University**

In fact, the tolerance towards minorities is growing in France but the Roma populations still remain stigmatized. So, the National Consultative Commission on Human Rights (CNCDH) calls for "training and raising awareness" in the fight against prejudice, "from school to university". According to annual report of CNCDH, the acceptance of minorities has improved in France and the level of tolerance seems to go up. The report further pointed out the index of tolerance stands at 52% with regards to Roma people, which is low compared to figures for other minorities Blacks, Jews, North Africans and Muslims. In its twelve “priority” recommendations, the CNCDH is also calling for "human and financial resources devoted to

the fight against anti-Gypsyism ", with a "commitment from the government to change the outlook and practices along with the Roma populations".

**Read More at**

<https://fr.euronews.com/2022/07/18/racisme-en-france-la-cncdh-appelle-a-lutter-contre-les-prejuges-de-lecole-a-luniversite?fbclid=IwAR2KQ0wDIAzkUU0F57GsbVVPbgHVteCoPYVtRp7mRw6wsCOiBNtB2awcfaw>