



European Roma Information Office

# ERIO Newsletter

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## NEWS

### Slovakia struggles with the segregation of Roma and disabled children



*By The Slovak Spectator*

Slovakia continues segregating Roma children and children with disabilities in education. This stems from the findings of the Council of Europe’s Commissioner for Human Rights Nils Muižnieks, who came to Slovakia in mid-March.

Muižnieks last visited Slovakia in 2015, claiming that the country must do more to combat discrimination in law and in practice, and take effective measures to improve the protection of Roma, persons with disabilities and LGBTI people.

Read more [here](#).

### The big picture: Romany children in Slovakia



*By The Guardian*

Ericson started photographing the Roma in 2009, and the title of his book, *Non Grata* (Latin for “not welcome”), speaks volumes about their continuing plight in a Europe that has become less tolerant of outsiders. His project began in Břeclav in the Czech Republic in 2009, and continued into Hungary, Serbia, Kosovo,

Romania and Slovakia, where he photographed many of the scattered communities in which an estimated 10-12 million Roma now live.

Read more [here](#).

## **Spišská Nová Ves discriminated against a Roma woman**



*By The Slovak Spectator*

The town of Spišská Nová Ves (Košice Region) discriminated against a Roma woman who wanted to become a social field worker; they now have to compensate her.

This stems from the ruling issued by the Košice Region Court, which only confirmed the previous verdict of the district court in Spišská Nová Ves from March 2017, the SITA newswire reported.

It is one of the first valid rulings issued in such a case.

Read more [here](#).

## **Denisa Gannon: ‘Roma people are not getting justice’**



*By The Guardian*

The first Roma person to qualify as a solicitor in England and Wales wants to empower others by improving access to the law

Denisa Gannon foresees an “immigration crisis” when Roma people in Britain apply to stay here in advance of Brexit. As the first Roma person to qualify as a solicitor in England and Wales, she wants to do whatever she can to help.

Read more [here](#).

## **CAHROM thematic visit on the teaching of Roma history, including Roma Holocaust, in the textbooks and school curricula**



*By Council of Europe*

Experts of the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts on Roma and Traveller Issues (CAHROM), representing the Czech Republic, Hungary, the Republic of Moldova, Romania and the Slovak Republic met in Košice (Slovak Republic) on 7-9 November 2017 to discuss the presence of Roma history and culture in textbooks and school curricula in Europe.

The thematic visit helped identifying existing gaps in education systems relating to this topic and preparing the basis for a draft CoE Committee of Ministers' recommendation on the inclusion of the teaching of Roma history, including Roma Holocaust, in textbooks and school curricula. Special attention was given to the Roma Holocaust as it is an important part of Roma history.

Read more [here](#).

### Minorities in Hungary #8 – Romani people



*By Daily News Hungary*

Most historians agree that the Romani people are originated from India and that they appeared in Europe in the late 14th century. Their immigration became significant when the Ottomans began their conquest in the South, as Gypsies were either fleeing or following the army. Until the end of the 15th century, Gypsies were considered “tolerated” people in Eastern Europe, including Hungary. There were attempts in Western Europe to limit their spreading to Eastern Europe, introducing harsh sanctions against them. Still, Romani and Hungarians coexisted in peace until the 16th century. Most of the Hungarian Gypsies were working in agriculture and industry, especially in metalwork.

Read more [here](#).

### Will the Rhetoric become Reality for Roma in 2018?



*By Marius Tudor, EPHA*

Over the past 20 years, while the process of accession to and membership of the European Union may have changed the lives of a small number of Roma living in central or Eastern Europe, there is still seems to be a lack of political will to take action to improve the daily lives of most of the Roma community: for example in Romania, 40.79% of Roma children are unable to access kindergarten, around 42% have never been vaccinated and almost 47% of Roma suffer discrimination in access to health and early childhood development services based on their ethnicity, according to a recent EPHA survey.

Read more [here](#).

## **Empowering Roma and Traveller women and girls to access leadership positions is the key towards inclusion**



*By Council of Europe*

When it comes to Roma and/or Traveller women, the percentage of women in elected positions both at national and European levels is close to zero compared to the total estimated Roma and Traveller population.

The Council of Europe has for years observed that women are change makers and empowering Roma and Traveller women and girls to access leadership positions is the key towards the inclusion of Roma and Travellers into society.

How then can women, and particularly Roma and Traveller women be justly represented?

Read more [here](#).

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS**

### **Hidden Roma Masterpieces' an exhibition of masterpieces of Roma contemporary art**



*By Council of Europe*

Strasbourg. The exhibition “Hidden Roma Masterpieces”, curated by the European Roma Institute for Arts and Culture (ERIAC) and jointly organised by the Council of Europe and the European Parliament, took place in the Palais de l’Europe on 13 March 2018.

The exhibition presented a selection of masterpieces of Roma contemporary art from all over Europe. The paintings, sculptures, mixed media artworks, videos and textiles constituted treasures of Roma cultural heritage currently hidden or inaccessible. Many of the artworks were publicly shown for the very first time. Roma contemporary art is currently acquired, collected, archived, and studied by several major public institutions, state museums and archives but most of these artworks are still hidden to the public.

Read more [here](#).