

STATELESSNESS, DISCRIMINATION AND MARGINALISATION OF THE ROMA PEOPLE IN THE WESTERN BALKANS AND UKRAINE

Marriot Hotel, Skopje; 26-27 October 2017

#ROMABELONG

How to register: Please note that the conference registration is free of charge but places are limited and will be awarded on a first come first served basis, and participants will need to be able to cover their own travel and accommodation costs. To register email Senada Sali senada.sali@errc.org with your name, position/organization, country of residence and motivation for attending the conference. The registration deadline is Tuesday 10 October.

Thursday 26 October

09.30 – 10.00 **Registration**

10.00 – 10.15 **Welcome and introduction**

- Dorde Jovanovic, President of the European Roma Rights Centre
- Adam Weiss, Managing Director of the European Roma Rights Centre

10.15 – 10.45 **Keynote Presentations**

- Rita Izsák-Ndiaye, member of the UN CERD Committee and former UN Special Rapporteur on minority issues
- Vaska Bajramoska- Mustafa, Macedonian Deputy Ombudsman

10.45 – 11.00 **Presentation of research findings**

- Nina Murray, European Network on Statelessness

11.00 – 11.30 **Coffee break**

11.30 – 13.00 **Roma Statelessness & Roma Discrimination – closing the knowledge gap**

The session will present the research findings on the causes and contexts of Roma statelessness and how these relate to the discrimination faced by the Roma. Drawing on both challenges and good practices, it will explore what changes in law, policy and practice are required to address discrimination, statelessness and marginalization among Roma.

Moderated by Adam Weiss, ERRC

- Amal de Chickera, Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion
- Andrea Spitalšzky, Minority Rights Group
- Dr Aidan McGarry, University of Brighton
- Julija Sardelic, University of Leuven
- Yuliia Nosenko, Desyate Kvitnya (The Tenth Of April)

13.00 – 14.00 **Lunch**

14.00 – 15.30

Taking action to address Roma statelessness - Choice of three parallel workshops

- **Workshop A: Good practices in facilitating access to birth registration and identity documentation**
Facilitated by Milan Radojev, Praxis Serbia, Edita Avdibegovic, Vasha Prava BiH and Anisa Metalla, Tirana Legal Aid Association
- **Workshop B: Mobilisation and community engagement**
Facilitated by Senada Sali, European Roma Rights Centre, Ivan Kochovski, Macedonian Young Lawyers Association and Manuela Demir, Roma community empowerment and organizing association "Romano Avazi"
- **Workshop C: Understanding and tackling discrimination**
Facilitated by Amal de Chickera, Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion, Nina Murray, European Network on Statelessness and Andrea Spital'szky, Minority Rights Group

15.30 – 16.00 **Coffee break**

16.00 – 17.30

An agenda for inclusion - Working together to address Roma statelessness

This session will present perspectives from key regional stakeholders and actors. Building on discussion during the workshops, it will seek to map priority actions necessary to deliver an agenda for inclusion as well as ways to better mainstream statelessness and identity within existing regional processes and campaigns.

Moderated by Nina Murray, European Network on Statelessness

- Mr Nicola BERTOLINI, Head of Cooperation, EUD Skopje, European Commission
- Rashid Khasanov, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights
- Ljatifa Shikovska, NGO Ambrela
- Mario Pavlovic, UNHCR Regional Liaison Officer
- Samir Jaha, NGO Mladi Romi Montenegro
- Robert Rustem, Council of Europe Roma and Traveller Section

17.30

Conference close

Friday 27 October

The external conference will be followed on Friday, 27 October by an internal planning session on the next advocacy phase of the project. While ostensibly only for existing project partners, if you/your organization would be interested to attend/stay for this in order to help support ongoing advocacy and awareness-raising efforts in support of recommendations from the research then please contact Senada Sali senada.sali@errc.org at ERRC for further information.

