



*Roma Youth*

# Together for Emancipation and Empowerment

The role of history in the participation  
and inclusion of Roma young people

ENGLISH

Online conference  
7-8-9 April 2021



Presidency of Germany  
Council of Europe  
November 2020 – May 2021  
Présidence de l'Allemagne  
Conseil de l'Europe

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Wednesday **7** April

# ROMA HISTORY AND CULTURE

**10:00 Words of welcome (live stream)**

Musical introduction

**10:10 Opening statements, with:**

- IRINA SAPATRU, Ternype International Roma Youth Network
- BJØRN BERGE, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe
- ANDREA UGRINOSKA, Chair of the Joint Council on Youth
- Ambassador MICHAELA KÜCHLER, Special Representative for Relations with Jewish Organisations, Issues Relating to Antisemitism, International Sinti and Roma Affairs, and Holocaust Remembrance, on behalf of the German Presidency of the Council of Europe
- TIMEA JUNGHAUS, European Roma Institute for Arts and Culture
- TATJANA ANĐELIĆ, Chair of the Committee of Experts on Roma and Traveller Issues (ADI-ROM)

**11:00 Roma history and culture – young people across Europe (live stream)**

**11:15 Break**

**11:30 Learning Roma history and culture: elements for a common and diverse heritage, in break up sessions**

**12:30 End of the morning session**

**Optional streaming by ERIAC / Gather.town for informal discussions**

**14:30 Musical introduction**

**14:40 Presentation of the afternoon programme (by ERIAC), including**

- Testimonial(s) from protagonists of the 1971 Roma conference
- Roma identity and culture: what are the challenges and the opportunities?
- The role of youth in the programme of ERIAC

**17:00 End of the afternoon session**

**18:00 Extra informal session:**

Virtual tour of Block 13 of the Auschwitz concentration camp or exhibition of the Documentation Centre of the German Central Council

Thursday **8** April

# CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL ROMA DAY

**10:00 Words of welcome**

Musical introduction

**10:10 Presentation of the statement on International Roma Day**

**10:15 Roma Movement and the history of the International Roma Day - Intergenerational dialogue – roundtable format**

- The ground-breaking function of the 1st Roma Congress
- Testimonies about the role of the Roma congresses in advancing the human rights of Roma and Travellers

**11:15 Break**

**11:30 More on history and challenges of the Roma movement(s) today – break-up sessions**

**12:30 End of the morning session**

In parallel:

**12:00 Casting of flowers – webcast ceremony with local authorities and dignitaries in Strasbourg**

Optional streaming ERIAC / Gather.town for informal discussions

**14:30 Musical introduction and video of the flower casting ceremony**

**14:40 Tasks and priorities for Roma Rights today – in break-up sessions that include:**

1. Remembrance of the Roma Holocaust – with MARIA ATANASOVA (Young European of the Year 2020) and KAROLA FINGS
2. Strengthening Roma Movements, with ATANAS STOYANOV (Roma Youth Voices) and ZELJKO JOVANONIVC
3. Access to Rights for Roma Women, with intersectional approaches, with LOIS BROOKS and ANGELA KOCZE
4. Education as a fundamental right for all, with NN Roma Education Fund and IN-SCHOOL
5. Resisting and combating antigypsyism and hate speech, with SAIMIR MILE, ANNA MIRGA and IULIUS ROSTAS
6. Defending and accessing human rights / human rights education, with GEORGINA LABODA and ĐORĐE JOVANOVIĆ (ERRC)
7. The impact of COVID 19 pandemic on Roma communities, with NN, ERGO Network (tbc)
8. Access to cultural rights – with TIMEA JUNGHAUS and an expert from the Barvalipe Academy

**17:00 End of the afternoon session**

**18:00 Extra informal session:**

“Festival” of Roma music and literature/culture and Achievements of Roma communities

Friday **9** April

# ROMA YOUTH: AN AGENDA FOR EMPOWERMENT

**10:00 Words of welcome**

Musical introduction

**10:10 Roma youth today: Diversity and empowerment, introductory notes by speakers of:**

- ERGO Network
- Phiren Amenca
- Ternype

**10:30 An agenda for Roma youth participation and combating antigypsyism, presentation of the study of the Council of Europe Youth Department by MARGARETA MATACHE**

**10:45 Three examples of Roma youth in action for empowerment**

**11:15 Break up sessions/workshops on an agenda for Roma youth empowerment**

1. Roma youth participation – Phiren Amenca
2. Combating antigypsyism and anti-Roma racism – ERGO
3. Remembrance - Ternype
4. Identity and Culture – ERIAC
5. The Council of Europe Recommendation on History Teaching – ANNA MIRGA
6. Youth Policy and Youth Work - PIA ŠLOGAR

**12:30 End of the morning session**

**14:00 Continuation and conclusion of the morning workshops**

**14:30 Presentation of the outcomes of the workshops**

**15:00 Conclusions and reflections on the conference, by SIMONA TOROTCOI, rapporteur of the conference**

**15:30 Closing session with:**

- GEORGINA LABODA, Roma rapporteur at the Joint Council on Youth
- BERILL BARANYAI, Youth rapporteur in ADI-ROM
- ROMANI ROSE, Central Council of German Sinti and Roma
- ROLF MAFAEL Permanent Representative of Germany (tbc)
- HARRY ALEX RUSZ, Permanent Representative of Hungary (tbc)
- SNEZANA SAMARDZIC-MARKOVIC, Director General for Democracy, Council of Europe

**16:15 Closing with a musical touch**

**16:30 Evaluation (online)**



International Roma Youth Network

**ZENTRAL  
RAT** [Deutscher  
Sinti & Roma



**ERIAN**  
EUROPEAN ROMA  
INSTITUTE FOR ARTS  
AND CULTURE

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