

**Question for oral answer O-00022/2022
to the Council**

Rule 136

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on behalf of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

Subject: The situation of Roma people living in settlements in the EU

Thousands of people in Roma settlements in the EU live in social exclusion, extreme poverty and undignified conditions and are deprived of their fundamental rights, which is in stark contrast with the values enshrined in the Treaties and despite the significant resources available via the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF), in particular the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+).

The Committee on Employment and Social Affairs would like to ask the Council:

1. How does it intend to support Member States' actions and measure their progress on improving the human rights and socio-economic conditions of Roma people living in settlements, in particular regarding access to safe and adequate housing and decent living conditions, as well as combating anti-Gypsyism?
2. How does it intend to ensure the principles of non-discrimination and equal treatment are respected for Roma people in all Member States, in particular concerning their employment, social inclusion and education? How will the Council make sure these principles are upheld in the use of the ESIF, in particular the ESF+? How does the Council intend to follow up on its recommendation to Member States to include and promote the rights of and equal opportunities for Roma people in their national recovery and resilience plans?
3. How will the Council contribute towards an enhanced implementation of the EU Roma Strategic Framework and its Recommendation on Roma equality, inclusion and participation, particularly regarding the organisation and maintenance of structured participation mechanisms for civil society?
4. How does the Council intend to support Member States in safeguarding the rights of Roma children? In particular, how will Member States ensure that children from these communities are properly included in their national Child Guarantee action plans? Will they include policies targeting the root causes of the vulnerability of Roma children and above all the structural discrimination against Roma people in access to education, key services, employment and other incentives supporting social inclusion? What is the Council's systemic policy and legislative response to segregation in the education of Roma children, which persists in several Member States?

Submitted: 15.6.2022

Lapses: 16.9.2022