



The human rights of Roma as communities discriminated on work and descent in Romania

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UPR Info Pre-session

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01

Intersectional anti-Roma racism

- More than 21 years since its adoption, the capacity of the Romanian antidiscrimination law to combat racial discrimination remains very limited.
 - The manifestations of antigypsyism significantly broader than the legal definition of discrimination.
 - On 4 January 2021, the Romanian Parliament adopted a law containing measures to combat antigypsyism yet it does not include provisions on what antigypsyism is and its manifestations (including cumulative and intersectional discrimination).
- Every third Roma older than 16 (33 %) felt discriminated against because of being Roma when looking for a job.
 - More Roma women than men experience discrimination in Romania
 - 16% of Roma women who had used experienced discrimination when accessing healthcare services than 13% Roma men

Source: Fundamental Rights Agency, 2022

Intersectional anti-Roma racism – Recommendations



Recognize antigypsyism as a specific form of racism against Roma, treat it as a horizontal issue in all policy areas and ensure its mainstreaming in all relevant policies and legislation, including funding instruments.



Monitor antigypsyism and to **collect gender-disaggregated data on antigypsyism and** include Romani women both in policy making mechanisms and consultation processes, and as targets in national programs and strategies.

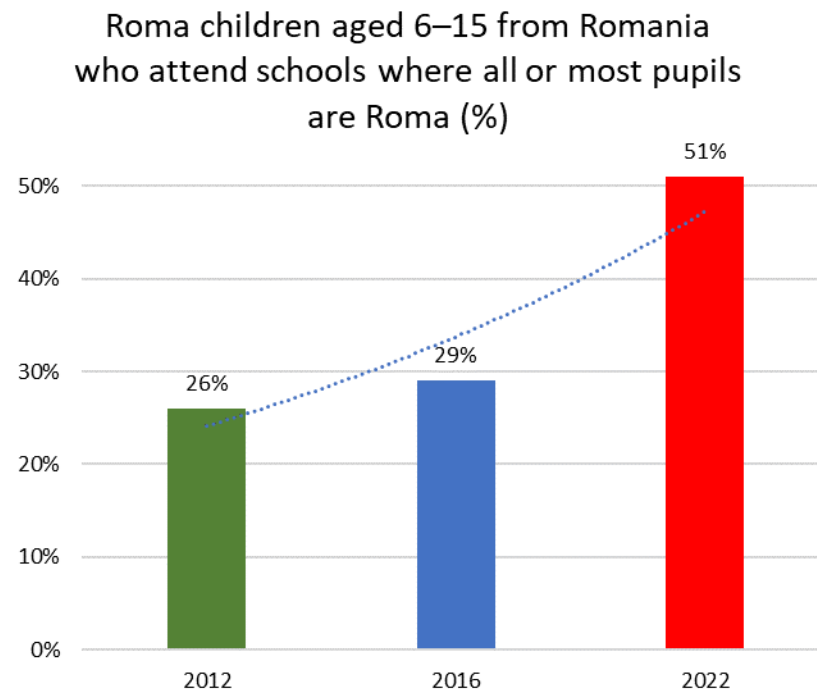


Strengthen the enforcement of anti-discrimination legislation and ensure access to justice for Roma.

02

School segregation of Roma children

- Racial segregation in education in Romania represents a clear manifestation of antigypsyism.
- The repeated adoption of administrative regulations indicates the persistence of segregation in the Romanian education system.
- No accurate data is available regarding the extent of school segregation; in spite of the legal obligation of the Ministry of Education to report annually on the state of education in Romania.



Source: Fundamental Rights Agency, 2022

School segregation in Romania – Recommendations



Implement the existing legal framework on school segregation and take sufficient **preventive measures to protect Roma children against discrimination** by reporting on the status of Roma children's education on an annual basis.



Stop delaying and apply nationally as soon as possible the Educational Ministerial Order no. 5.633/2019, which approved the Methodology for **monitoring school segregation and initiate the desegregation** process



Activate the **National Commission for Desegregation and Inclusive Education** established by Order no. 3,141 from 2019 and Order 4789 from 2019 of the Minister of Education which is mandated to coordinate the implementation of the Action Plan for school desegregation in pre-university education units.

03

Forced housing evictions

- The forced evictions of the Roma have become a common practice, with severe consequences on their health and safety.
- The main cases associated with evictions are the lack of property documents (highly associated with a lack of identity documents), the illegality of the construction, the development of touristic resorts, real estate, etc.
- In most cases, the authorities make no attempt to offer Roma residents adequate alternative housing, and many continue to live in temporary and makeshift accommodation for years after they have been evicted.

- About 70% of Romanian Roma live in housing deprivation
- 86% % of Romanian Roma live in overcrowded households
- On average, the share of Roma living in households that were forced to leave their homes is 5%

Source: Fundamental Rights Agency, 2022

Forced housing evictions in Romania - Recommendations



Adopt and implement legislation to **ensure that evictions are carried out in compliance with international human rights standards** and take safeguards against Roma discrimination and marginalisation.



Increase the annual budget allocation for social housing and immediately **relocate to safe and sanitary environments those who were forcibly evicted** and placed in unsuitable living conditions.



Amend law on public housing to establish a clear national framework of **allocation of social housing that prioritize vulnerable groups, including Roma people**, in line with human rights international standards.



Strengthen administrative support to Roma communities to **legalise their housing titles and increase access to alternative housing**, including social housing, making sure that there is no discrimination in the awarding of social housing leases.

Thank you

From all the members of our coalition:



Further questions:

- What steps has the Government of Romania taken to implement the 2022-2023 Roma Inclusion Strategy, in particular with regard to education, health care and employment as well as access to social housing, and how it plans to monitor its implementation?
- What measures has the Romanian Government taken to address Roma targeted discrimination and associated hate speech and violence and ensure that police and security forces are held to high standards in this regard, through both preventative measures as well as ensuring accountability in case of violations?
- Instances of discrimination against Roma continue to be reported. This continues to have a negative impact on broader integration efforts. How will the government ensure that Roma have equal rights?

Thank you for your attention!



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