



Fourth cycle Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Sweden 2025

**Factsheet on the status of the human rights
situation in Sweden**



**SWEDISH
FOUNDATION
FOR
HUMAN RIGHTS**

Background: The Roma people have been part of Swedish society for over 500 years and are recognized as a national minority. However, despite formal recognition and policy initiatives, Roma in Sweden continue to face discrimination, social exclusion, and systemic barriers in key areas such as education, employment, housing, health, and political participation. Sweden's National Roma Integration Strategy (2012–2032) aimed to ensure that a Roma child born in 2012 would have the same opportunities as any other citizen by 2032. However, at more than halfway mark, progress has been slow, and serious shortcomings remain.

Lack of measurable goals and sustainable Implementation

The National Roma Integration Strategy (NRIS) lacks concrete and measurable targets, making it difficult to assess progress.

Many initiatives have been short-term, project-based efforts rather than structural reforms.

Antigypsyism and barriers in education

Many Roma children lack adequate educational support, and Roma history and culture are poorly integrated into the curriculum.

Roma children often attend underperforming schools where they face discrimination and antigypsyism.

Recommendation:

The Swedish government must introduce measurable targets to the NRIS, align with the EU Roma Strategic Framework 2020-2030, and ensure long-term funding for Roma inclusion efforts.

Recommendation:

Ensure Roma children's right to education by strengthen oversight, applying targeted measures and ensure schools comply with minority education rights, including providing Roma language and history education and increasing support for Roma children.

Systemic Discrimination in Employment and Housing

Roma face significant discrimination in the job market and are often excluded from employment opportunities.

Housing discrimination remains widespread, with Roma frequently denied rental contracts.

Insufficient Roma Participation in Decision-Making

Roma representatives are often consulted in a superficial manner without real influence over decisions.

The consultation process lacks transparency, and Roma concerns are not adequately addressed in policy development.

Recommendation: Implement affirmative action policies in employment and ensure effective legal enforcement against discrimination in the housing sector.

Recommendation: Ensure structured and meaningful participation mechanisms for Roma organizations in decision-making processes at all levels.