

# EU Roma Week 2018

Policymakers, experts, activists and organisations concerned with persistent anti-Gypsyism in Europe are planning to collaborate for a third consecutive year to organise an EU Roma Week in the European Parliament and other EU institutions to coincide with International Roma Day.

The International Roma Day in 2018 will commemorate the 47th anniversary of the first Romani Congress that was organised in London in 1971 and that marked 8th April as International Roma Day.

## Hosts:

European Commission  
European Parliament  
European Economic and Social Committee  
Council of Europe

Soraya Post, Brando Benifei, Damian Draghici, Cornelia Ernst, Marina Albiol Guzmán, Benedek Javor, Dietmar Koster, Barbara Lochbihler, Peter Niedermuller, Tania González Peñas, Terry Reintke, Barbara Spinelli, Bodil Valero and Tomáš Zdechovský

ADC Memorial, Ara ART, Balkan LGBTQIA, Central Council of German Sinti and Roma, European Grassroots Roma Organisation Network (ERGO), Open Society European Policy Institute (OSEPI), Fundación Secretariado Gitano (FSG), European Network Against Racism (ENAR), European Roma Rights Centre (ERRC), EUROCITIES, International Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Trans, Queer and Intersex Youth and Students Organisation (IGLYO), Roma Entrepreneurship Development Organisation (REDI), Roma Education Fund (REF), ternYpe International Roma Youth Network and Think-Film

## Description:

EU Roma Week 2018 aims to build on the work done during previous Roma Weeks and build on the landmark own-initiative report that the European Parliament adopted in October 2017 on “Fundamental rights aspects in Roma integration in the EU: fighting anti-Gypsyism” which called upon the European Commission and EU Member States to put the fight against anti-Gypsyism at the forefront of efforts for the social and economic inclusion of Roma. The report was another step towards more efficient policies and programmes that can help to create real change by addressing anti-Gypsyism as a specific form of racism in its various forms and by fighting it at all levels of our societies.

The week will consist of a series of events which will provide recommendations on combatting anti-Gypsyism and continued structural discrimination. Each event will be sponsored by one or more MEPs and co-organised by civil society organisations, and the European Parliament Anti-Racism and Diversity Intergroup.

## Aims:

1. **Recognition of anti-Gypsyism:** The week will be an opportunity for experts and activists on the issue to advocate European and national policymakers to strengthen the recognition of anti-Gypsyism as well as develop strategic and coherent responses.
2. **Advocacy for specific thematic areas:** Specific events will be held on different thematic areas including on the Roma Framework and its renewal post 2020.
3. **Networking and knowledge exchange:** To facilitate exchange and capacity building between and amongst experts from civil society and policymakers and officials in the European and national Institutions, including Roma with the aim of building capacity of activists and inspiring similar activities in Member States.

**Suggested outline:**

1. One core hearing/briefing on anti-Gypsyism: To introduce the concept of the issue at the outset of the week, summarise the situation in Europe and highlight the need for greater recognition at the European level.
2. Smaller thematic events: Organised by issue, panel discussions or workshops on
  - Assessment of Roma Framework and way forward for 2020
  - Education and employment
  - Intersectionality
  - Policy implications of the results of the returnee study and Roma Survey in the Western Balkans and Turkey
3. Breakfast briefing between activists and MEPs: A space for activists to advocate directly on anti-Gypsyism with policymakers
4. Exhibitions/Award ceremony
5. Oral question
6. Media outreach/communication: Flyers to be designed and distributed around the EP, Voxbox, blogs, oped, # and scheduling media interviews

**Attendees and speakers:**

1. Policymakers: Officials from the European Institutions, MEPs, national MPs and others working in international institutions (CoE, OSCE, ODIHR and UN)
2. Representatives of local authorities and large cities in Europe
3. Civil Society
4. Roma youth

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Room</b>	<b>Organisers</b>	<b>Type of event</b>
International Roma Day: Community commemoration	08/04/2018	15:00		Municipality of Anderlecht, Central Council of German Sinti and Roma and ERGO	Open: Registration via link
International Roma Day Celebration	08/04/2018	18:00	Mundo-B	ERGO Network and ternYpe	Open: Registration via link
The Most Roma Friendly Mayor Award (Western Balkan and Turkey)	09/04/2018	12:30-14:00	Members Salon	DG NEAR, ERGO and Roma Active Albania	Closed: Registration via invitation
Policy implications of the results of the returnee study and Roma Survey in the Western Balkans and Turkey	09/04/2018	14:00-17:30	ASP3G2	DG NEAR, World Bank, UNDP and ERGO	Open: Registration via link
Roma Week opening	09/04/2017	17:45	Members Salon	DG NEAR, World Bank, UNDP and ERGO	Open: Registration via link
From quality education to decent employment	10/04/2018	AM	ASP1G3	Benedek Javor MEP, Terry Reintke MEP, DG JUST, ERGO, FSG and REF	Open: Registration via link
Anti-Gypsysim	10/04/2018	12:00-14:00	ASP5E2	Soraya Post MEP, Bodil Valero MEP, DG JUST, Central Council of German Sinti and Roma, ENAR and ERGO	Open: Registration via link
Exhibition	10/04/2018	14:30	ASP5G	Greens/EFA	Open: Registration via link

Theatre performance: Historical remembrance	10/04/2018			Municipality of Anderlecht, Ara ART and Central Council of German Sinti and Roma	Open: Registration via link
Intersectionality	11/04/2018	AM	ASP5E1	Dietmar Koster MEP, Ara ART, Balkan LGBTQIA and IGLYO	Open: Registration via link
Assessment of Roma Framework and ways forward for 2020	11/04/2018	12:00- 14:30	ASP3G3	Soraya Post MEP, DG JUST, DG NEAR, ERGO, EUROCITIES and FSG	Open: Registration via link
Criminal justice, policing and racial profiling	11/04/2018	PM	VMA 3 14:45- 18:00	EESC, Tomáš Zdechovský MEP, Central Council of German Sinti and Roma, ENAR and FSG	Open: Registration via link
Breakfast	12/04/2018	08:00- 10:00	Members restaurant	Central Council of German Sinti and Roma and ERGO	Closed: Registration via invitation
Roma Youth in the Policy Agenda Post 2018/2020	12/04/2018	10:00- 12:00	Members restaurant		Closed: Registration via invitation