

Annual Report 2017

ERGO
Network





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About us

ERGO Network is a young and dynamic organisation established in 2008 by a small group of NGOs who shared the observation that everyday realities of Roma communities were hardly taken into account in policy development and implementation. Today we have almost 30 member organisations all over Europe. Founded on the philosophy of active citizenship, shared responsibility and grassroots empowerment, ERGO Network members aim to convince policy makers that positive change for Roma is possible when antigypsyism is recognised and tackled as the root cause for inequality and when Roma can take part in civic life as equal stakeholders.

To achieve this, we advocate for better policies and policy implementation on national and European level based on evidence-based research, we organise public campaigns, build the capacity of Roma activists and provide spaces for networking and mutual learning.

Cover photo: ERGO Network Campaign 'Investing in our Future' on Roma youth employment, launched at the EU Roma Platform 2017

European
Roma
Grassroots
Organisations
Network

Looking back

It was a year of big changes for the organisation. After many years of stable leadership, Ruus Dijksterhuis, an extraordinary director of ERGO Network and a strong woman who gave the Network more than ten years of her life, left the organisation. She was the engine behind tons of projects, strategies, initiatives and growth. I worked with her in a tandem for quite some time before having been selected as her successor and I feel I am at the right place. I have the opportunity to build on what we have started and received the blessing and support to bring my own ideas and transform the leadership of the organisation.

The biggest opportunity and challenge was to gain another four years of financial support from the European Commission that financed ERGO's work programme 'Roma Included' since 2014. And yes, in a great team effort we succeeded to sign a partnership agreement with DG Employment for another four years. Through 'Roma Included in Social Europe' (RIISE) we will continue our cooperation – building bridges between EU institutions and the grassroots level– with our members in the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Bulgaria and Romania.

ERGO also remained a strong partner in the 'Joint Initiative to Empower Roma Civil Society in the Western Balkans and Turkey', coordinated by Roma Active Albania. Under this project 39 organisations form national coalitions in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, FYROM, Montenegro and Turkey. We are especially proud of the seven shadow reports that our members produced in seven coun-

tries. With these reports we exercise bottom up pressure on national and regional institutions to include Romani voices in policy-making.

The Roma Civil Monitor is another great example for our effective partnerships. ERGO Network is a partner of the Central European University, working together with the European Roma Rights Center, Roma Education Fund and Fundacion Secetariado Gitano. ERGO leads the work on a chapter dedicated to the fight against antigypsyism. Our efforts are based on our work in the Alliance Against Antigypsyism, aiming to ensure that antigypsyism is well understood and that measures against antigypsyism are implemented.

Looking back at 2017, ERGO invested in building a strong team with Romani leadership and in strengthening its membership. This was reflected in the Annual Members Meeting, where we discussed how to forge a closer connection between members and the ERGO secretariat and how to form a strong network that plays its role on all levels – EU, national and local.

In these days, the new EU agenda for the period 2020-2027 is being shaped. ERGO and its members play a key role in voicing the needs of Roma across the EU and beyond. This time is crucial and building alliances is of utmost importance in order to have an impact on future policies and budgets.

I believe we can build our future together!

ERGO Director Gabriela Hrabanova





Our Team

Board members

Stanislav Daniel
Adriatik Hasantari
Biser Alekov
Lili Makaveeva
Karlien de Ruiter (treasurer)



Staff

Jamen Gabriela Hrabanova (Executive Director)
Ruus Dijksterhuis (Executive Director until April 2017)
Carmen Tanasie (Policy Officer)
Christine Sudbrock (Programme and Communications Coordinator)
Jelena Jovanovic (Policy and Research Coordinator)
Jozsef Rostas (EVS Volunteer)
Paolo Ferraresi (Financial Manager)



Advisory Committee

RROMA, Macedonia
Life Together, Czech Republic
Integro, Bulgaria
Roma Active Albania
Policy Centre for Roma and Minorities, Romania



Life Together



Policy Center
for Roma and Minorities



ERGO Members met for their annual members meeting on 26 November 2017 to further develop the network together, share updates from their organisations, learn from and inspire each other. This year, the main discussion focused on how to reform the governance of ERGO Network and to transform the network into a truly membership-based organisation. Furthermore groups worked on planning common projects and developing ideas on how to strengthen our work against antigypsyism.

ERGO network members

- Roma Active Albania
- Romano Centro, Austria
- Centre de Médiation des Gens du Voyage et des Roms, Belgium
- OTAHARIN, Bosnia-Herzegovina
- Integro Association, Bulgaria
- Slovo 21, Czech Republic
- Life Together, Czech Republic
- Roma Association Zagreb and Zagreb Country, Croatia
- Amaro Drom, Germany
- La Voix des Rroms, France
- Pro Cseherat, Hungary
- Autonomia Foundation, Hungary
- Pavee Point, Ireland
- Vilnius Roma Community Centre, Lithuania
- Roma, Macedonia
- Mladi Romi, Montenegro

- Policy Centre for Roma and Minorities, Romania
- Nevo Parudimos, Romania
- Centre of Resources for Social Inclusion, Romania
- Roma Advocacy and Research Centre, Slovakia
- Kaskosan, UK
- National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups, UK

In 2017 we welcomed the following organisations for the first time into our family:

- Advancing Together, Kosovo
- Roma Forum, Serbia
- Roma Women Fund Chiricli, Ukraine
- Upre Roma, Italy
- Utrecht Roma Association, Netherlands

Roma Included Annual Work Programme under DG Employment



Since 2014 ERGO Network is supported by the EU Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI) through a Partnership Framework Agreement concluded with European Commission's Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion. Thanks to this support, ERGO Network was able to implement a rich annual programme which focused on capacity-building of Roma grassroots organisations, advocacy at national and EU level and research.

In this work programme, ERGO works closely together with its members in the countries with the biggest Roma population Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, Czech Republic and Slovakia who, together with the ERGO secretariat in Brussels, build bridges between the EU institutions and the grassroots level. The cooperation focuses on three areas:

- Coalition-building
- Capacity-building
- Evidence-based advocacy

ERGO members set up and coordinate National Coalitions that gather (pro) Roma organisations to exchange experiences and implement joint campaigns and advocacy initiatives. At European level, ERGO Network brings the views of its members to all its advocacy work and sets up meetings between them and desk officers of the European Commission to give insights into what is happening at member-state level.

The capacity-building in 2017 focused mainly on bringing together Local Action Groups and Roma in order to learn together on how to better include Roma in the Community-Led Local Development process both as beneficiaries and in Local Action Groups.

The research component put the spotlight on Roma youth employment, identifying useful employment measures and barriers to employment together with young Roma themselves. The results formed the basis for a campaign that was launched at the EU Roma Platform.

As 2017 was the last year in this 4-year Framework Partnership Agreement with DG Employment, ERGO concluded the programme with a thorough external evaluation and the production of a short video summarising the work that has been done with the members.



JOINT INITIATIVE to Empower Roma Civil Society on the Western Balkans & Turkey

The 'Joint Initiative to Empower Roma Civil Society on the Western Balkans and Turkey' sets up a supporting structure for (pro) Roma civil society to actively participate in the local and national policy and decision making process. It addresses the generally weak position of civil society organisations (CSOs) aiming at promoting Roma integration or represent the voice of communities, which mostly lack the capacity to make their case effectively and act as a reliable counterpart for public authorities and other stakeholders.

The overall aim is to establish a constructive and systematic dialogue between local and national authorities and Roma CSOs in order to improve policies for Roma integration, social inclusion, non-discrimination, interethnic dialogue, socio-economic development and citizens' rights.

The project's activities are implemented by the project partners OTAHARIN - Bosnia and Hercegovina, RROMA – Macedonia,

NGO Young Roma – Montenegro, Association of Roma Students (ARS) – Serbia, Zero Discrimination Association (ZDA) – Turkey. They are leading the regional support structure, as they play a key role in their countries and have strong links and networks with organisations at local and national level. They are therefore well placed both to support local CSOs and to bring them together in national coalitions. They contribute to the project with their knowledge of the national context, as well as their expertise on monitoring policies and steering advocacy at local and national level.

The coordinator of the Joint Initiative is ERGO member Roma Active Albania. ERGO Network has a supporting and advisory role by bringing its expertise of a European network and project implementation and creating the link between the national work and the European arena.

In 2017, the partners submitted shadow reports on national Roma integration strategies and used ERGO's Online Local Policy Scorecards to collect grassroots opinions on local inclusion policies. The project furthermore kicked off their work on 'transparency and accountability criteria' together with ERGO members in the Visegrad countries and participated in the EU Roma Week in Brussels in several events co-organised with DG NEAR.





ROMA CIVIL MONITOR

Since 2017 ERGO Network is a partner in the pilot project 'Capacity building for Roma civil society and strengthening its involvement in the monitoring of national Roma integration strategies'.

The pilot project is managed by the European Commission, Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers (DG Justice). It is coordinated by the Central European University Centre for Policy Studies (CPS), in partnership with ERGO Network, the European Roma Rights Centre (ERRC), the Fundación Secretariado Gitano (FSG) and the Roma Education Fund (REF), and is implemented with active participation of around 90 NGOs from 27 EU Member States.

The objective of the pilot project is to contribute to strengthening the monitoring mechanisms of the implementation of the National Roma Integration Strategies through systematic civil society monitoring.

The additional value of civil society monitoring comes from the independent status and the field experience of participating NGOs. The pilot project aims to enhance civil society monitoring in two key ways: by developing the policy monitoring capacities of civil society actors, and by supporting the preparation of high-quality, comprehensive annual civil society monitoring reports.

Each year, coalitions of local and national NGOs publish shadow reports on the efforts undertaken in their countries and therewith push national actors and the EU to increase their efforts for Roma integration. The first monitoring cycle (2017) of the National Roma Integration Strategies reviewed key structural preconditions of successful implementation: fighting discrimination and antigypsyism, governance and overall policy framework (including Roma participation, coordination structures, use of European and Structural Funds) and for the countries with largest Roma communities (Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia) also the impact of mainstream education policies on Roma. The reports can be downloaded from the ERGO Network website. The next monitoring cycle will focus on the sectoral issues education, employment, health and housing.

ERGO Network supports the civil society organisations from Germany, Austria, the UK, Belgium, Ireland, Estonia, Netherlands, Lithuania and Poland in their monitoring efforts. In addition, ERGO supported NGOs from all 27 Member States in drafting the chapter on antigypsyism and prepared the synthesis report. Moreover, through the report we support bottom up advocacy regarding the fight against antigypsyism.



EU ADVOCACY

In 2017 ERGO Network continued to foster strategic partnerships with the relevant stakeholders in the field of Roma inclusion. ERGO Network regularly takes part in civil society consultations of the European Commission as well as in discussions hosted by Members of the European Parliament and the political groups in the Parliament.

Mid-term Evaluation of the EU Roma Framework

2017 was an important year for the EU Roma Framework, as the European Commission undertook its mid-term evaluation of the implementation and achievements so far. The results were used to design the Post-2020 EU Roma Framework. ERGO Network was an important civil society partner in this effort, taking part in consultations and supporting its national members in contributing to consultations on the implementation of National Roma Integration Strategies. Together with its civil society partners, ERGO started its own elaboration process of the Post 2020 EU Roma policy and involved key stakeholders in assessing the shortcomings of the current Framework as a basis for sketching an approach to elaborate a new policy as well as Roma specific targets in mainstream policies that take into account antigypsyism as the ultimate source of disadvantages of Roma in Europe. The recommendations have been published in the beginning of 2018.

EU Roma Platform on Transition from Education to Employment

The 2017 European Platform for Roma inclusion promoted the participatory interaction among relevant stakeholders, including representatives of European and national Roma and pro-Roma civil society organisations, national and local authorities of the EU Member States and enlargement countries, European institutions, international organisations and academia on the topic of transition from education to employment for Roma. This topic is of utmost relevance since Roma still remain the most underrepresented group on the labour market, with high numbers of people falling in unemployment. ERGO Network greatly contributed to the planning and facilitation of the Platform and led the coordination of civil society participation together with OSEPI. Several ERGO members were invited to the Platform as speakers or rapporteurs for both the employment and education workshops and ERGO Director Jamen Gabriela Hrabanova acted as facilitator. ERGO also had a prominent place at the Platform through launching its campaign on Roma youth employment 'Investing in our future – what work(s) for young Roma'.





EU ADVOCACY

European Pillar of Social Rights

In 2017, the European Commission launched its European Pillar of Social Rights to deliver 'new and more effective rights for citizens' in the categories (1) equal opportunities and access to the labour market, (2) fair working conditions and (3) social protection and inclusion.

ERGO Network took part in the consultations on the Pillar with DG Employment, including a meeting with Commissioner Marianne Thyssen. While welcoming the Pillar as an important step to strengthen the social component of the European Union, ERGO asked the EU institutions and Member States to put dedicated budgets in place to make social Europe a reality. The principles of the Pillar touch on issues such as protection against forced eviction, access to essential services, inclusive education and the right for children to protection from poverty – all issues that can mean a real advancement for the social inclusion of Roma, but only if they do not remain a mere lip service.

European Pillar
of **#SocialRights**

Alliance Against Antigypsyism

The 'Alliance against Antigypsyism' is a coalition of organisations that promote equality of rights for Roma and a racism-free society. The aim of the Alliance is to advance a better understanding of antigypsyism as a specific form of racism, and to strengthen the political will, institutional mechanisms and civil society in order to address, monitor, combat and sanction antigypsyism in Europe.

In 2017, a key advocacy event for the Alliance was the EU High-Level Group on combating racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance, bringing together representatives of EU Member States and civil society representatives. The 4th High-Level Meeting put special emphasis on discussing antigypsyism.

Together with the Alliance ERGO urged EU Member States to take targeted measures against antigypsyism. These should be included in the National Roma Integration Strategies and the National Action Plans against Racism. Disaggregated data on hate crimes against Roma and their property needs to be collected and antigypsyism must be recognised to allow national authorities to analyse trends of hate crimes affecting Roma and to develop effective responses to ensure recording, prosecution and adequate support to victims of racist violence and hate speech.

www.antigypsyism.eu

EU ROMA WEEK

The **EU Roma Week 2017** was held from 27th March to 3rd April 2017 to mark the occasion of the **International Roma Day** on 8th April.



The second EU Roma Week was a joint initiative of the European Commission and the European Parliament, together with civil society and international organisations. Between 27 and 29 March, numerous Members of the European Parliament hosted events on antigypsyism, political participation of Roma, funding for civil society, recognition of the Roma Holocaust and litigation to fight school segregation. An exhibition and reception in the European Parliament closed the week on 3rd April in Strasbourg.

Roma in Europe

The EU Roma Week furthers the recognition of antigypsyism as the root-cause of the exclusion and marginalisation of Roma in Europe. The first step towards a new

generation of more efficient policies and programmes that will make a real change for the Roma in Europe is to recognise antigypsyism as a specific form of racism in its various forms and to fight it at all levels of our societies. Without systematic and long-term efforts of public institutions to address antigypsyism, EU and governmental policies on Roma inclusion will remain without impact.

Roma Holocaust Memorial Day

It furthermore aimed to establish a Roma Holocaust Memorial Day to recognise the extermination of 500,000 Roma during World War II. The Roma Week was also an important step for the mid-term review of the EU Roma Framework and the planning towards the Post 2020 process.

EU ROMA WEEK



Breakfast meeting



Advocacy Training

Preceding the Roma Week, a group of young Roma activists took part in an advocacy training organised by ERGO Network, the youth organisation TernYpe, Central Council of German Sinti and Roma and the Dokumentations-und Kulturzentrum Deutscher Sinti und Roma, to prepare their contributions to the Roma Week. The young people received a mini-advocacy training, met different stakeholders and – in three groups focusing on the topics social inclusion, participation and anti-gypsyism – discussed their messages for meetings with EU decision makers.

EU Roma Integration Award

Activists from enlargement countries were present as well for a common programme with DG NEAR and to receive the Second EU Roma Integration Award for the Western Balkans and Turkey.

Breakfast Meeting

One of the highlights of the week was a breakfast meeting between young people and MEPs to discuss the views of young people on the most pressing issues of Roma inclusion. ERGO Network co-organised several thematic sessions, for example on ‘Taking stock of the EU Roma Framework and National Roma Integration Strategies’ and hosted a big Roma Week Party.



Roma Week Party

INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE



In order to understand the underlying causes of Roma youth unemployment, but also to inspire practitioners and policy makers to invest in employment opportunities for young Roma, ERGO Network, in cooperation with its member organisations, engaged in a fact-finding research in five EU countries: Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania and Slovakia.

The aim of the research was to identify good practice measures of Roma youth employment and to reality-check with young people whether the identified measures are indeed best practices or not and what obstacles they face on the labour market. The young people interviewed expressed as greatest obstacles

the lack of quality education and training, which is in many cases influenced by school segregation of Roma, and a high drop-out rate. But also the generally bad labour market situation in their area with salaries below a living wage and antigypsyism by employers play a big role for their situation.

INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE



At a panel debate organised by ERGO Network preceding the 11th Meeting of the EU Roma Platform, European policy makers and civil society representatives discussed the results of the study and what is needed to better support young Roma on the labour market.

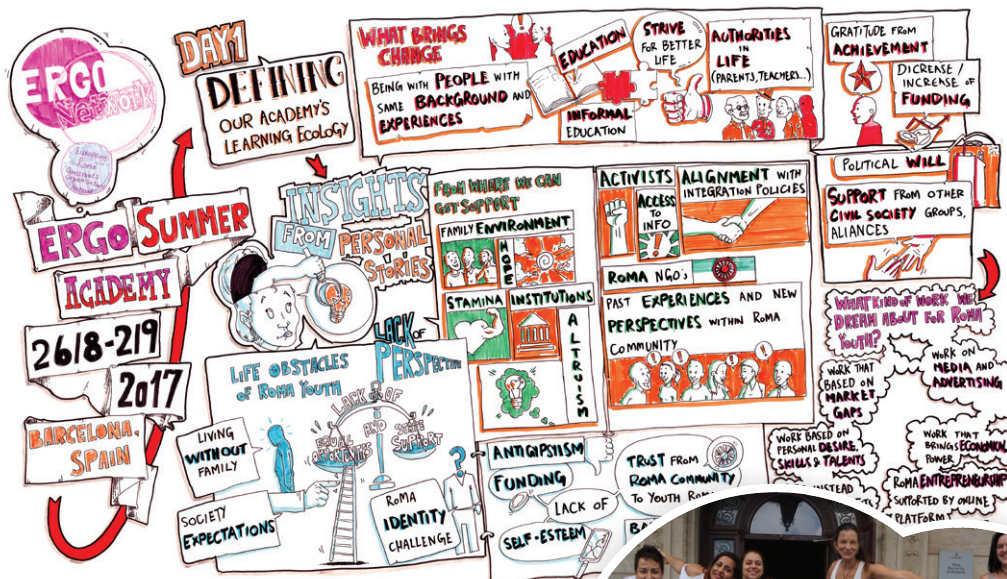
Young Roma Involved

For ERGO Network it is essential that young Roma themselves are involved in the design of effective policies and measures, as beneficiaries know best what support they need. In the framework of the research project, young Roma ask their national governments to invest more in youth entrepreneurship, improve the cooperation between public employment services, NGOs and educational institutions, ensure a decent level of wages and combat antigypsyism on the labour market.

EU's Support

Such measures would not be possible without the EU's support and assistance to the Member States through its key actions and financing. ERGO Network passed on these messages to the 11th EU Roma Platform and urges the European Union to put greater emphasis on young Roma in its employment, education and Roma policies and programmes. This includes a revision of the European Youth Guarantee and the Youth Employment Initiative to give particular attention to hard-to-reach groups, inclusion of specific targets for Roma employment in the Social Scoreboard of the European Pillar of Social Rights and concrete strategies to combat antigypsyism on the labour market.





Summer Academy

Building on the successful outcomes of its first Summer Academy in 2016, ERGO organized the second edition of the ERGO Network Summer Academy which took place from 26th August to 2nd of September 2017 in Barcelona, Spain. It brought together young staff and volunteers of ERGO member organisations for a week of reflection and deliberations in a relaxed environment outside of pressing day-to-day matters of the network.

ERGO's Summer Academy is a dynamic space for staff and volunteers of ERGO's member organisations and our allies to learn from each other, share experiences from the ground and form a strong network of activists working towards a world where Roma have a strong say and an equal place in society.

An important aspect of ERGO's summer academy is the active participation of the participants in all stages of the academy.



The programme has been outlined by an experienced team of facilitators beforehand, but the participants have had the chance to re-shape the objectives and contribute to the delivery of the programme during the week.

The broad topic of this year's Academy was "Investing in our future: What work(s) for young Roma". The participants explored the issue from different angles and discussed how to campaign for more investment in employment measures for young Roma. The discussions contributed to ERGO's 2017 work on youth employment and now shape a campaign on Roma youth employment.

Community-led Local Development



For many years, ERGO members in Romania, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary and Slovakia are very active in promoting Roma inclusion in Community-led local development, a bottom-up approach to accessing EU funds. Their work encompasses coaching of Roma NGOs, working with Local Action Group and advocacy on national and EU-level. ERGO and its members are seen as experts in the process and are regularly invited to speak at related events.

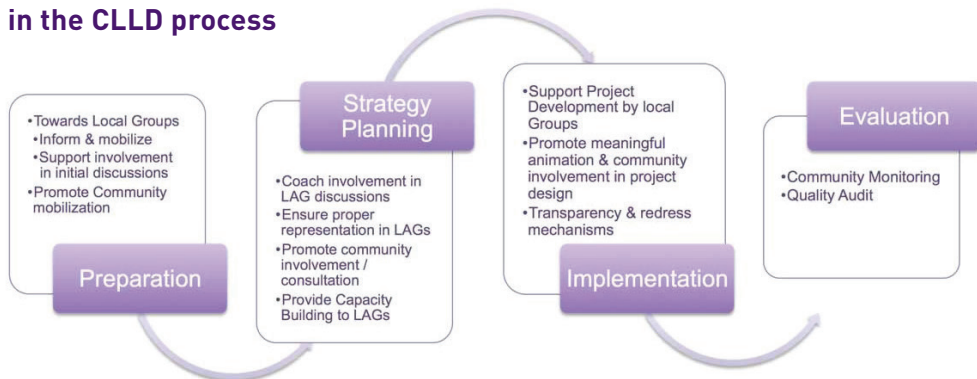
In 2017, ERGO Network member Nevo Parudimos developed a training trajectory that brings together Roma NGOs and Local Action Groups in a common training workshop in order to increase understanding of the CLLD process, of Roma participation and of each other. The two groups are partly trained in separate sessions, and partly come together to learn from each other and to develop common project ideas.

The training was trialled in Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary and Czech Republic. In 2018 it will also be used in Slovakia and it will be adapted to the new urban CLLD.

ERGO members in these five countries furthermore produced an analysis of the state of CLLD and Roma inclusion. The CLLD process in general is lacking behind in most cases, and even though CLLD offers in theory good opportunities for Roma participation, this opportunity is hardly used by LAGs.

Finally, they presented their work on CLLD and Roma inclusion at the European Network for Rural Development's (ENRD) Workshop 'Social Hubs in Rural Europe' to other actors in the field.

Possible involvement in the CLLD process





ZOOMING INTO OUR MEMBERS

National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups United Kingdom

In 2017 ERGO Network's British member organisation the National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups completed the 'No Space for Hate' project funded by Awards for All. Whilst organised by a Gypsy-led organisation, this project brought together a wide range of ethnic and faith communities, culminating in an event (held in Birmingham on 15th September 2017) focusing on race hate crime and what we as citizens and community members can do to combat it in order to produce communities that are safer, more integrated and better for all those living in them. The National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups is also the lead organisation in a coalition of four Roma NGOs working on the two year-long project: 'Capacity-building for Roma civil society and strengthening its involvement in the monitoring of National Roma Integration Strategies'. The first year report (focusing on structural and horizontal preconditions for successful implementation of the strategy) is available on the website: www.nationalgypsytravellerfederation.org

Audience members
"No Space for Hate" event,
Birmingham



Amaro Drom, Germany



Since April 2015 the organisation develops methods for the empowerment of young Romani and the sensitization of non-Romani youngsters. The methods are based on the knowledge of young Roma who participate in the project and create its content. The main goal of "Dikhen amen!" is the education of 20 Romani youngsters as multipliers. Starting in October 2018 they will learn to give empowerment workshop for other young Roma and to sensitize non-Romani youngsters for anti-Romani racism. Dealing with the history of European Roma has been an important part of the project. During the annual youth exchange on 2 August called "Dikh angle! Look ahead!" youngsters from all over Germany came together to attend a commemorative event and to learn more about the history of persecution and resistance of their ancestors. In 2017 the youth exchange was awarded with the "Lars Day Prize – Future of Remembrance" of the Lars Day Foundation and the Academy Programs of the Jewish Museum Berlin. The project "Dikhen amen! See us!" is funded by the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth within the federal program "Democracy Live!".

ZOOMING INTO OUR MEMBERS

RROMA, Macedonia

The Regional Roma Educational Youth Association-RROMA from Kratovo (Macedonia) found itself among the winners of the second EU Roma Integration Award organized by the European Commission. The aim of this award, launched in 2014, is to shed a spotlight on the political importance of Roma integration in the EU enlargement process, to enhance the role of the civil society and to show the EU's determination and commitment to enhance social inclusion of Roma people.

RROMA received the second prize for the project supported by MTV Staying Alive, "Aids doesn't know about Discrimination... Protect yourself!"

The 13 winning projects were selected for their contributions to the inclusion, integration and empowerment of Roma children and young adults, who represent the future

of their communities and are best-placed to drive integration forward locally.

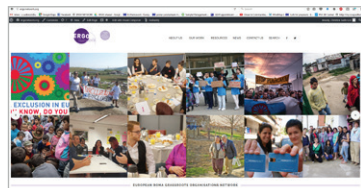
MTV SAF supported RROMA from 2010 to 2014 for their creative project addressing and raising awareness about HIV/AIDS among young Roma and their communities. Sex is often considered a taboo topic among Roma communities, which can lead to low levels of awareness with regards to AIDS, HIV and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). RROMA carried out a survey to assess these awareness levels, with the aim of producing a database for healthcare institutions. In parallel with the data collection, RROMA started an awareness-raising campaign about AIDS, HIV and STDs and promoted Roma girls as empowered individuals who could lead workshops for their peers on these subjects. In that sense, the awareness campaign was not only improving knowledge about STDs, but also encouraging young Roma to become agents of change in their communities.



COMMUNICATION

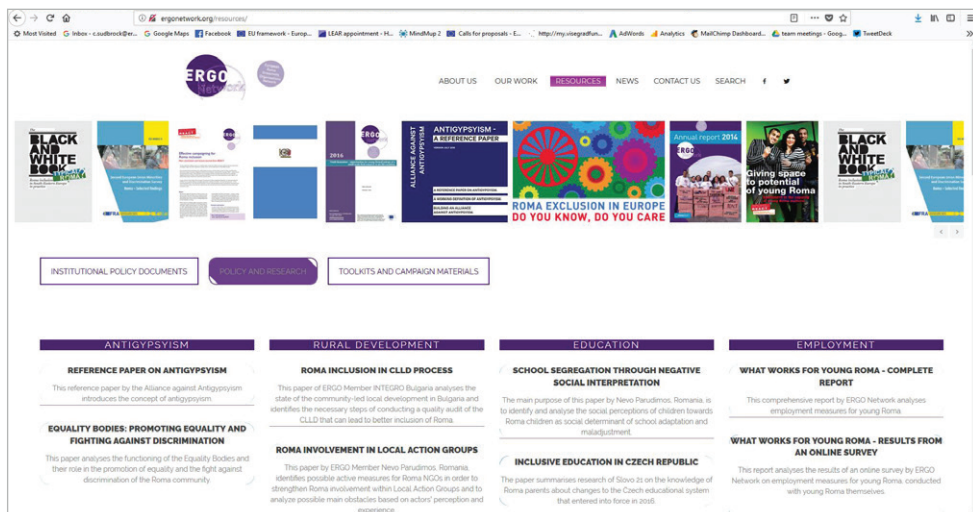
ERGO Network has a new Website

Since summer 2017, ERGO Network has a new website! www.ergonetwork.org does not only have a new, more colourful design, it also provides a better overview over ERGO's structure and work areas and serves as a hub for a lot more information and documents than before.



Visitors can browse through ERGO's and its members policy papers and find institutional policy documents on the Resources page. They have the possibility to find out which organisations belong to the network on the Membership page. They can read more about ERGO's work in the fields of Monitoring, Networking, Campaigning and Empowering.

The aim is to create a new online face of ERGO Network for regular visitors.



COMMUNICATION

Roma React

The website www.RomaReact.org with its corresponding social media accounts on facebook and twitter is an important hub for opinion and information sharing among Roma activists across Europe. It is a space for Roma and non-Roma who want to shape the public debate on Roma inclusion, share everyday Roma realities and challenge stereotypes and prejudices. Through RomaReact, more young people are mobilised to actively participate in society, to become agents in their own lives as well as equal and respected citizens.



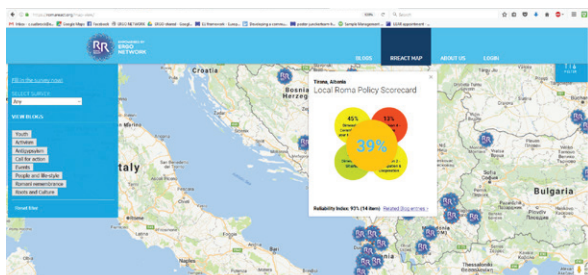
Everyone can open an account on RomaReact and post their stories in order to change the narrative on Roma inclusion. All blog posts can also be seen on the Rreact Map that let the reader check posts from specific parts of Europe.

Online Local Policy Scorecard

ERGO Network's local policy scorecard is a tool to quickly assess and compare how local authorities tackle Roma inclusion. Representatives of Roma communities, NGOs and individual activists are invited to use this online tool to assess the performance of their municipality and compare it with others.

The scorecard assesses performance in four dimensions:

1. How committed is your municipality?
2. Are Roma (communities) allowed to participate?
3. How good or bad is the overall situation?
4. Does anything change?



The results are shown on the Rreact Map on www.RomaReact.org.

FINANCES



This paragraph provides a summary of ERGO Network's Annual Financial Report 2017, namely the balance sheet, the profit and loss account and the auditor's report, which has been issued by Blömer accountants en advisers B.V.

SUMMARY BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2017 (IN EUROS)

ASSETS	31 December 2017
Fixed Assets	1.548,56
Other assets	3.112,82
Receivables	79.364,86
Cash and Short term deposits	102.953,21
Deferred Charges	595,29
Accrued Income	13.230,00
TOTAL ASSETS	200.804,74

LIABILITIES	31 December 2017
EQUITY (Reserves)	144.540,53
Result 2017	-35.230,95
Creditors	11.833,17
Remuneration and Social charges	25.611,75
Accrued charges	5.000,00
Deferred Income	49.050,24
TOTAL LIABILITIES	200.804,74

PROFIT AND LOSS	2017
INCOME	
Net Sales	456.292,24
Other revenues	0
TOTAL Operating revenues	456.292,24
Exceptional revenues	8.624,64
Financial revenues	69,78
TOTAL INCOME	464.986,66

EXPENDITURE	
Staff	223.399,30
Other operating costs	269.030,91
Depreciation	1.980,87
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE	494.411,08
Exceptional costs	5.387,64
Financial charges	418,89
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	500.217,61
PROFIT/LOSS 2017	-35.230,95



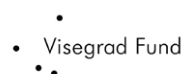


FINANCES

FUNDING



ERGO Network has received an operating grant of the European Commission's EaSi programme for the project "Roma Included".



ERGO Network has received a project grant for the project 'Strengthening Roma civil society as transparent and independent watchdog organisations' from the International Visegrad Fund.

ERGO Network is a partner of Roma Active Albania in the project "Joint initiative to empower Roma in Western Balkan and Turkey" awarded by DG Near of the European Commission.



ERGO Network is a consortium partner of Central European University in the Roma Civil Monitor project, funded by the European Commission DG Justice and Consumers Directorate D: Equality and Union Citizenship.

AUDITOR'S REPORT

In accordance with your instructions we have compiled the financial statements included in this report 2017 of Stichting ERGO Network, Utrecht, which comprise the balance sheet as at 31 December 2017, the statement of income and expenses for the year then ended and the notes.

Management's responsibility

The distinctive feature of a compilation engagement is that we compile financial information based on information provided by the board of directors of the entity. The board of directors is responsible for the accuracy and completeness of the information provided and the financial statements based thereon.

Accountant's responsibility

Our responsibility as accountant is to perform our engagement in accordance with Dutch Law, including the professional and ethical requirements applying to accountants.

In accordance with the professional standard applicable to compilation engagements, our procedures were limited primarily to gathering, processing, classifying and summarizing financial information. Furthermore we have evaluated the appropriateness of the accounting policies which are used to compile the financial statements, based on the information provided by management. The nature of our procedures does not enable us to express any assurance on the true and fair view of the financial statements.

Confirmation

Based on the information provided to us, we have compiled the financial statements using the accounting policies as included in Guideline RJ 640: Not for profit organisations.

Blömer accountants en advisers B.V.

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