

Annual Report 2019

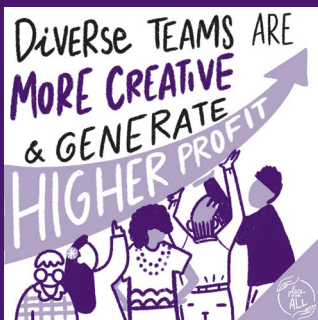
ERGO
Network

WORKING
IN AN
INTERCULTURAL TEAM
INCREASES the
EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE



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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.



Gabriela Hrabanova
ERGO Director

Looking back

a word from the Director

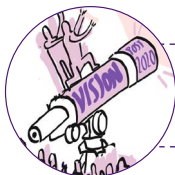
2019 continued to be a year of growth for ERGO Network. We invested in the capacities of the secretariat and membership, built on our experiences and explored new fields of cooperation. Most importantly, we worked very hard towards building a strong Post 2020 EU Roma Strategy and made sure that fighting antigypsyism and mainstreaming of Roma in social and employment policies as well as in EU funding schemes are becoming a priority.

In 2019, the ERGO Network secretariat team has grown. Our colleague Jelena left to become coordinator of the European Parliament Anti-Racism and Diversity Intergroup, but two new great personalities – Amana and Isabela – boosted our team and support the delivery of our challenging work. ERGO has also grown in terms of members: The Federation of Catalan Roma Associations (FAGIC) and the Voice of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians (VORAE) from Kosovo joined our network. To support exchange among our members, we organized an inspiring visit to Nevo Parudimos in Resita, Romania.

We continued the implementation of our work programme 'Roma Included in Social Europe (RIISE)', funded through a Framework Partnership Agreement with DG Employment. RIISE focuses on our input in EU policy processes and grassroots empowerment.

Under the 'Joint Initiative to Empower Roma Civil Society in the Western Balkans and Turkey', coordinated by Roma Active Albania with partners from Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Northern Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey ERGO kept a strong partnership in the region. The 2019 highlight of the project was the selection of the 'Most Roma Friendly Mayor'.

We also continued the Roma Civil Monitor pilot project, connecting more than 90 organizations to monitor Roma inclusion policies across the EU and delivering the chapter on antigypsyism and we started an exciting new cooperation with the European Environmental Bureau to map environmental discrimination of Roma communities: Creating the ground for policy change to reduce negative health impacts.



And finally, we invested in new projects and ideas that we can all look forward to in 2020.





Our team

Board members

Soraya Post (co-chair)
 Stanislav Daniel (co-chair)
 Adriatik Hasantari (vice-chair)
 Biser Alekov
 Lili Makaveeva
 Martin Mata (treasurer)

2019 saw lots of changes in the ERGO team: Jelena Jovanovic left ERGO to become the coordinator of the Anti-Racism and Diversity Intergroup (ARDI) in the European Parliament, and the team was joined by the excellent Amana Ferro and Isabela Mihalache. Amana Ferro works mainly on social and employment policies, while Isabela Mihalache focuses on antigypsyism and the Post-2020 EU Roma Framework. ERGO Network also said good-bye to the former financial manager Paolo Ferraresi, who was replaced by Said el Harchi.



Staff

Jamen Gabriela Hrabanova (Executive Director)
 Carmen Tanasie (Policy Officer)
 Christine Sudbrock (Programme and Communications Manager)
 Jelena Jovanovic (Policy and Research Coordinator until November)
 Amana Ferro (Senior Advocacy Advisor from September)
 Isabela Mihalache (Senior Policy Officer from December)
 Said el Harchi (Financial Manager)
 Shannon MacDonald (European Solidarity Corps Volunteer)

Advisory Committee

RROMA
 North Macedonia

Life Together
 Czech Republic

Integro
 Bulgaria

Roma Active
 Albania

**Policy Centre for
 Roma and Minorities**
 Romania

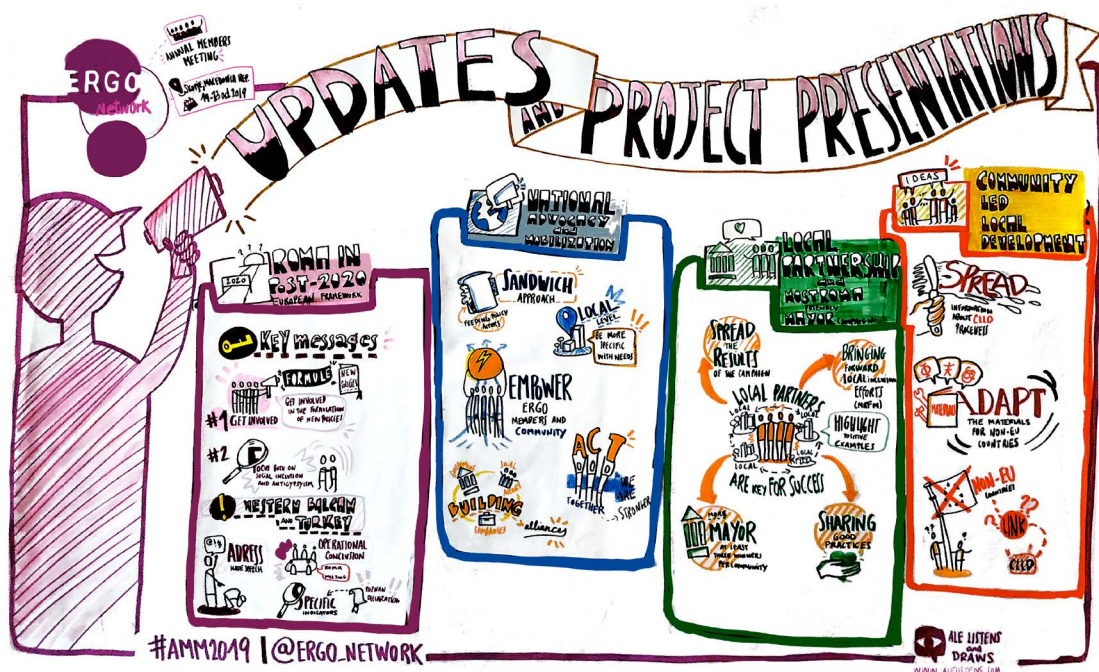


Annual Members Meeting

The ERGO Network Annual Members Meeting took place from 20-23 October 2019 in Skopje, North Macedonia, hosted by ERGO member RROMA.

ERGO members discussed ongoing projects and policy developments, shared their own work and had the opportunity to learn about online fundraising and visual facilitation. In specific working groups, the membership dedicated one day to work on the topics of governance, data collection and employment.

Two new members were welcomed into the network: The Federation of Catalan Roma Associations (FAGIC) and the organisation Voice of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians (VORAE) from Kosovo.



ERGO Network members

- Roma Active Albania
- Romano Centro, Austria
- Centre de Médiation des Gens du Voyage et des Roms, Belgium
- OTHARIN, 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 Roms, France
- Pro Cseherat, Hungary
- Autonomia Foundation, Hungary
- Pavee Point, Ireland
- Upre Roma, Italy
- Advancing Together, Kosovo
- Voice of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians, Kosovo
- Vilnius Roma Community Centre, Lithuania
- Rroma, Macedonia
- Mladi Romi, Montenegro
- Utrecht Roma Association, Netherlands
- Policy Centre for Roma and Minorities, Romania
- Nevo Parudimos, Romania
- Centre of Resources for Social Inclusion, Romania
- Roma Advocacy and Research Centre, Slovakia
- FAGIC, Spain
- Kaskosan, UK
- National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups, UK
- Roma Forum, Serbia
- Roma Women Fund Chiricli, Ukraine



Exchange visit to Nevo Parudimos

In May 2019, ERGO Network organised its second exchange visit to one of its member organisations. This time a group of members visited Nevo Parudimos in Resita, Romania, to see their successful work with their own eyes, learn from Nevo Parudimos staff and volunteers about useful working methods and get to know more about the local context the organization is working in.



2019 was the second year of ERGO Network's new 4-year work programme 'Roma Included in Social Europe' (RIISE), supported through a Framework Partnership Agreement with the European Commission's Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion. Thanks to this financial support, ERGO Network can implement a rich annual programme focusing on capacity-building of Roma grassroots organisations, advocacy at national and EU level and research.

Besides activities organized on EU-level, the work programme supports research and capacity-building in the 'Big 5', the EU Member States with the highest Roma population (Romania, Bulgaria, Slovakia, Hungary and Czech Republic). RIISE aims to ensure that mainstream social policies work for Roma, one of the most marginalised communities in Europe.

In 2019 the focus was on advocacy towards a strong Post 2020 EU Strategic Framework for Roma, as well as on the policy areas employment and education.

Main objectives:

- ★ To support the development, implementation monitoring and evaluation of EU social policies in order to make them effective for the social inclusion of Roma.
- ★ To offer EU institutions a direct link to Roma grassroots NGOs who provide evidence of social problems on local level
- ★ To build the capacity of ERGO members and partners to get involved in policy processes on all levels.
- ★ To strengthen the network as a learning organisation.



Funded by the European Union

Main activities:

- ★ Inputting into the EU policy process through research, participating in civil society dialogues, position papers and creating platforms for dialogue between stakeholders;
- ★ Capacity-building for ERGO members and partners on organisational management, advocacy, EU policies and processes;
- ★ Supporting Roma grassroots NGOs in monitoring of policies, fundraising and participation in local policy processes;
- ★ Raising awareness of social problems faced by Roma and supporting stakeholders in addressing these issues and working with Roma communities;
- ★ Peer-learning between ERGO members in order to develop greater expertise to serve their members and empower Roma.

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

The 'Joint Initiative to Empower Roma Civil Society in the Western Balkans and Turkey' is a 4-year project funded by the European Commission's DG for Neighbourhood and Enlargement and is coordinated by ERGO Network founding member, Roma Active Albania. It 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 aiming at promoting Roma integration or represent the voice of communities.

The partners are OTAHARIN (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Voice of Roma Ashkali and Egyptians (Kosovo), RROMA (Republic of North Macedonia), NGO Young Roma (Montenegro), Roma Forum Serbia and Zero Discrimination Association (Turkey). 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.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE JOINT INITIATIVE IN 2019



Each implementing partner of the JIERCSWBT provided financial support for 26 local projects in Western Balkans and Turkey through a sub-granting scheme. The projects contributed to the fields of Roma women and youth empowerment, education, employment, access to human rights, combating antigypsyism, and sustainable dialogue with local governments.

28 local grassroots CSOs were engaged in the implementation of these small projects, reaching out to 30 local communities in different towns and cities, addressing

issues of school attendance and quality learning, human rights education, early marriages, research and monitoring of policies, gender based violence and anti-discrimination.

The small-scale projects were developed by members of the national coalitions that have been set up in the seven partner countries. They are implemented in the framework of the overall project aim, enabling Roma civil society to actively participate in the local and national policy and decision-making process.



**MOST
ROMA-
FRIENDLY
MAYOR**

Most Roma-friendly mayor campaign

The highlight of the Joint Initiative project was the award ceremony in the European Parliament to acknowledge positive examples of local authorities – efforts of seven Mayors from the Western Balkans and Turkey – to improve the lives of Roma in their municipalities.

The awards were given to the following mayors: Ms Majlinda Bufi, Municipality of Roskovec, Albania; Mr Aldin Šljivo, Municipality of Kakanj, Bosnia and Herzegovina; Mr Kurto Dudush, Municipality of Shuto Orizari, North Macedonia; Mr Imri Ahmeti, Municipality of Lipjan, Kosovo; Mr Petar Smolović, Municipality of Bijelo Polje, Montenegro; Mr Vladan Glišić, City of Belgrade, Serbia; Mr Abdül Batur, Municipality of Konak, Turkey.

Seven independent juries were established in the respective countries, assessing the applications. The juries pointed out the following achievements: progress in Roma participation in local authority structures; efforts in creating education-related opportunities; increasing employability



of Roma and especially of Roma women; building infrastructure and housing units and many more.

The speakers at the award ceremony – Member of the European Parliament Romeo Franz, ERGO Director Gabriela Hrabanova, ERGO co-chair Soraya Post, Marta Garcia Fidalgo of DG NEAR and Director of Roma Active Albania Adriatik Hasantari – pointed out the importance of partnerships between local authorities and Roma civil society. All awarded mayors put great emphasis on this cooperation and can act as role models for other municipalities. They are proof that change on local level is possible if there is a political will.




 ROMA CIVIL
MONITOR

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 and experts 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. **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 value of the annual civil society monitoring reports also comes from the independent status and the field experience of participating experts and 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.

In the end of 2019 the monitoring reports of the second cycle were published. This second cycle focused on the four traditional thematic policy fields of education, employment, health-care and housing. The consortium also decided on the topic of the third cycle, for which reports will be published in mid-2020. Civil society organisations will analyse public policies or their absence and will report on the 'blind spots'. The third cycle is based on a bottom-up approach using investigations conducted by the NGOs to determine the issues to be analysed depending on the needs in their country, as identified through their professional experience and consultation with wider civil society. It is hoped that the findings will be used as a constructive contribution to the design of the national post-2020 strategies as well as to the EU's own Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies.

The reports are available on the website:
<https://cps.ceu.edu/roma-civil-monitor-reports>

EU ADVOCACY

2019 was a crucial year for the development of the Post 2020 strategic EU Framework, which will replace the current EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies after 2020.



Post 2020 EU Roma Framework

ERGO Network put great emphasis on coordinating civil society and ensuring that the voices of Roma civil society were heard and reflected in the negotiations of the next Framework. Key demands of civil society from the start of the negotiation period were that the next Framework should have the fight against antigypsyism at its core and that it must be based on measurable targets and related indicators. The European Commission has taken up these demands in their Roadmap towards the new Framework.

To achieve this, ERGO Network met with numerous stakeholders throughout the year both bilaterally and as speakers during public events, including several Members

of the European Parliament, European Commission representatives and partners of civil society and international institutions. During six civil society coordination meetings, common standpoints were developed together with ERGO's members and partners. This cooperation led to the development of the joint 'Policy Option 7' – an answer to the policy options proposed by the European Commission. The Alliance against Antigypsyism also contributed to the process by creating recommendations on 'Combating antigypsyism in the Post-2020 EU Roma Framework'.

The EU Council will decide on the Post 2020 EU Roma Framework in the second half of 2020.

EU ADVOCACY

European Semester

The [European Semester](#) is an employment and economic policy coordination framework, which involves both the European Union and its Member States. It lasts roughly from November to June every year. One of its main purposes is to allow coordination between Member States and the European Commission on monetary policy and public budgets, in the context of the Stability and Growth Pact. It also serves as implementation mechanism for a wide range of social policy initiatives which are very relevant for ERGO Network's work and for Roma inclusion, such as **the Europe 2020 Strategy, the European Pillar of Social Rights, the Sustainable Development Goals** and partly also **the EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies**.

It is **crucial to ensure that the Roma are not forgotten** in the EU's leading economic, social, and employment strategies and initiatives, rather than boxed away in a separate process, and that these strategies deliver on Roma rights and inclusion. The strategies

implemented through the Semester are **direct drivers for EU funding opportunities** and Cohesion Policy objectives, as the European Union seeks an alignment between its overall policy objectives and the way its budget is being spent. Stakeholders, including civil society, are supposed to be key partners in the delivery at national and EU level. This provides **unique opportunities for (pro-)Roma civil society organisations to gain access to decision-makers** and engage with policy processes.

ERGO Network therefore closely follows the process, supports its members in understanding its importance and relevant mechanisms, inputs at strategic points such as the preparation of country reports and reacts to communications by the European Commission.

In 2019, ERGO Network analysed the European Commission's Autumn Package from the standpoint of Roma inclusion, which is available [here](#).



EU ROMA WEEK

Traditionally the EU Roma Week started with a Roma Youth Advocacy Training organized together with the Central Council of German Sinti and Roma, the Documentation, Cultural Centre and ternType, which prepared young people for their active participation at the different events. Besides supporting young participants, ERGO also coordinated the participation of Roma civil society activists in Europe under the umbrella of the 'Alliance against Antigypsyism' together with the Central Council of German Sinti and Roma.

ERGO members from the project Joint Initiative to Empower Roma Civil Society in the Western Balkans and Turkey started the week with the conference Roma Inclusion in the Western Balkans: The Forward Look, Policy vs Reality, with the launch of a new World Bank report "[Breaking the Cycle of Roma Exclusion in the Western Balkans](#)". It was followed by an award ceremony where 14 inspiring women activists received the EU Award for Roma Integration in the Western Balkans and Turkey under the theme 'Unknown Heroes'

ERGO Network played a key role in the following events:

- The **Reality Check: Evaluating the EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies**, where results of the [Roma Civil Monitor](#) were discussed.
- **Sustainable Development Goals as a tool for Roma Inclusion**, jointly hosted with MEP Cornelia Ernst and the Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP).



- The panelists discussed recommendations to civil society on how to use the 2030 Agenda, brought by ERGO Network in the new paper '[Roma Included](#)'.
- The flagship event of the week: The conference '**Creating trust through uncovering and recognising the truth: Advancing recognition and remedy for antigypsyism**', jointly hosted by Soraya Post MEP and civil society. The stock-taking conference focused on discussing the state-of-play and efforts to advance the fight against antigypsyism enforced by the voice of several survivors of acts of antigypsyism who highlighted the urgency for recognition, remedy, trust and reconciliation processes.

At the end of the Week members of the European Parliament from different political groups signed a pledge affirming that they will continue to work to achieve non-racist EU elections, an effective Post-2020 EU Roma Framework and a continuation of the fight against antigypsyism in the new legislative period.



ERGO NETWORK ANNUAL CONFERENCE: Roma access to mainstream education

In November 2019 ERGO Network organized its annual public event, dedicated to debating how to ensure that Roma pupils and students can access mainstream education on equal footing and how to make education systems and establishments more inclusive, by combating segregation and discrimination in education settings. The event was co-organized by the two MEPs of Romani origin Romeo Franz and Peter Pollák and hosted at the premises of the Representation of the State of Baden-Württemberg to the European Union.

The event was very well attended with over 80 participants, bringing together ERGO members from the grassroots level in 14 European countries, European civil society organisations and other Brussels-level stakeholders, as well as EU policy-makers from across the institutional spectrum and EU institutions.



Education is an increasingly important topic in the European public and political discourse, as an explicit objective of the Europe 2020 Strategy, the European Pillar of Social Rights, the Sustainable Development Goals, and the EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies. However, this positive rhetoric still lacks the desired implementation, and the Roma are still too often left behind when it comes to accessing educational opportunities on equal footing with majority groups, due to structural antigypsyism and its manifestations in education, such as segregation. Existing legal

and policy tools, including targeted actions on Roma education, as well as infringement procedures, are not as effective as they could be in challenging ingrained patterns of Roma exclusion and discrimination.

The event included thought-provoking interventions which fostered a debate aimed at identifying positive solutions and policy proposals based on best practices, in order to feed into the post-2020 policy and funding European frameworks relevant for Roma inclusion.



A Place for All

ERGO Network's employment campaign

Throughout 2019 ERGO Network prepared its new campaign on Roma youth employment, which was launched in the beginning of 2020. #APlace4All sheds light on the important role that employers play in supporting the employment of Roma and other ethnic minorities, as well as on the benefits of an inclusive workforce.



Through the Place for All campaign, ERGO Network will therefore raise employers' awareness of the benefits of an inclusive and diverse workplace as well as of the motivation and competencies of young Roma. It will also highlight employers' good practices in diversity and inclusion and encourage others to follow their example.

How will the campaign work?

The main focus of the campaign will be on employers who have been approved by ERGO Network members as inclusive employers and who sign the Place for All

pledge, reaffirming their commitment to making their workplace a place for all. These employers will be awarded a badge and will be promoted by the ERGO Network. This will include sharing of their good practices, providing further support and generally giving them visibility. In the future, once a group of employers in several countries has been awarded the badge, ERGO Network members can furthermore organize peer learning, networking and exchanges between these employers.

To not only highlight employers, but also Roma employees who overcame the huge hurdle of antigypsyism – manifesting itself in poverty, lack of education and discrimination by employers – ERGO Network will at the same time feature inspiring stories of Roma employees from different countries.

You can follow the campaign on its [facebook](#) page and ERGO Network's social media accounts to get to know the first awarded employers and inspiring stories!



HIGHLIGHTS OF ERGO MEMBERS

On national level, ERGO members work hard to make a change for Roma. Here are some examples of their achievements in 2019.



Butterfly Development, Hungary: Promotion of sustainable gardening and healthy food

Our basic goal is **to raise awareness of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in rural areas, to seek local and regional solutions, and to assist in their implementation.** As part of this endeavor, we teach chemical-free gardening and household planning to disadvantaged communities, including Roma people. They are free to use the vegetables they produce as they wish, that is, they can sell or give them away as gifts, so their work can be either a supplement to their livelihood or a means of networking.

A brochure with tips and recipes from our trainings as well as a booklet specifically about pulses and their usefulness for sustainability have been published as an outcome of the gardening programme.



FAGIC, Spain: Job Placement Programme

In the framework of FAGIC's job placement programme, the PICE project (Integral Programme of Employment Qualification) in collaboration with the Chamber of Commerce of Barcelona offers professional trainings for young Roma who are neither studying nor working.

In 2019 we organized 3 courses for around 75 Roma; one targeted young people interested in becoming an aesthetician and hairdresser and two focused on logistic & delivery. After the trainings, some of the young people decided to pursue more training, others want to start their own business or started their job search.

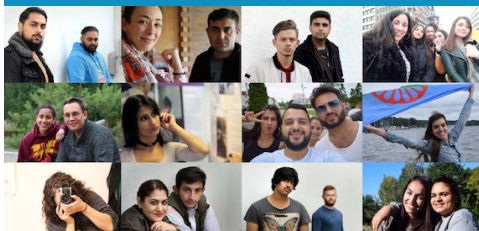
We would like to highlight the story of Nerea: once she finished her course for aestheticians and hairdressing, she won a fellowship of 1000 hours of further training to become a professional hairdresser in a local beauty academy. We are very proud to contribute to the empowerment of young Roma, especially Roma women to realize their professional careers!



HIGHLIGHTS OF ERGO MEMBERS



Amaro Drom, Germany: Dikhen Amen



Amaro Drom published a practice manual for empowerment and awareness raising towards racism from the perspective of Sinti and Roma youth. In the "Dikhen amen!" practice manual we share the experiences and results of our activities especially with everyone who want to empower Sinti and Roma youth groups.

The manual offers important general information, portraits of activists and practical descriptions of methods for empowerment of Sinti and Roma youth, as well as for raising awareness of anti-gypsyism.



Roma Utrecht, Netherlands: Exhibition on the Roma Holocaust

Together with students and teachers of schools and universities we commemorated the Roma Holocaust Memorial Day in order to raise awareness among young generations. An exhibition was set up to inform about the Roma Holocaust, which was visited by a high number of students, teachers and representatives of other networks.

Besides the commemoration, we also provided educational activities on the history of persecution and informed about contemporary activism of Roma grassroots in Europe.



National Federation of Gypsy Traveller Liaison Groups, UK

In July 2019 NFGLG representatives met with the Government's Race Disparity Unit to present "Key Equality Issues for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities in the UK – What does the data show us?"

NFGLG also facilitated the joint NFGLG/ Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government GRT (Gypsy, Roma

and Traveller) Liaison Group, led on the production of the Civil Society Monitoring reports and worked with Central and Local Government to raise awareness of (and, where possible, develop solutions for) issues of particular concern to GRT communities.



HIGHLIGHTS OF ERGO MEMBERS



Integro Association, Bulgaria: Partnership projects

In March 2019 Integro Association kicked off the implementation of 5 partnership projects with the Municipalities of Tvarditsa, Ispirih, Nikola Kozlevo, Borovan and Kubrat. The projects include activities providing qualifications and employment for unemployed Roma; activities to improve access to education; providing social and health services and activities for organizing the local Roma community.



Within the local partnerships Integro Association's community workers organise community action groups, toy libraries support early childhood development among Roma children and educational mediators tackle the challenge of school drop out of young people.



Roma Advocacy and Research Centre, Slovakia

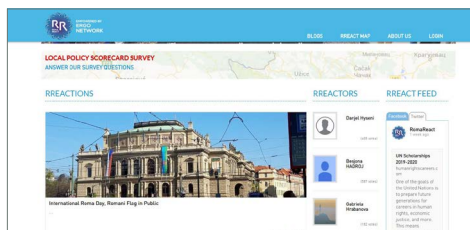
The campaign "Notadaptable" resulted from a situation in Krompachy, where the Minister of Interior Denisa Sakova said at a press conference that a new project had been necessitated by what she called "inadaptable Roma" living in Krompachy. The Interior Minister announced that police patrols would be able to immediately intervene in locations where criminal activity was most frequent and that state police patrols would be beefed up in the town.

RARC along with more than 30 activists and civil society organisations wrote an open letter to the Minister, calling out the dangerous antigypsyist language used by her against all Romani citizens, including children.

"The conviction that Romani men and women have the 'blood' of 'inadaptable criminals' was the basis for the Nazi 'solution' to the so-called 'gypsy question'. That solution consisted of criminalizing ethnic groups, then excluding them to such an extent as to dispose of them physically during the Holocaust. The ban on genocide is one of the most important principles of international law, espoused by all democratic countries worldwide," the Romani protesters have written to the ministry.



COMMUNICATION

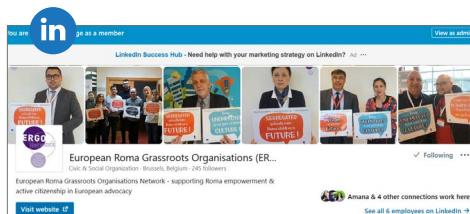
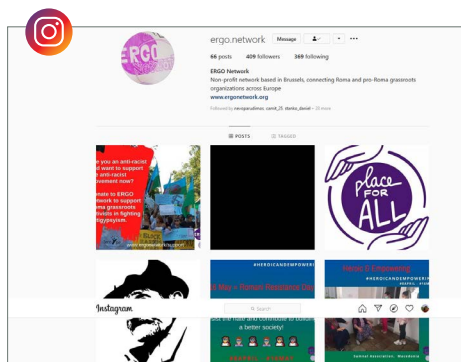


WWW.ERGONETWORK.ORG is the main source of information for visitors who are interested in ERGO's work. It provides a thorough overview of ERGO's areas of work and structure, a platform for institutional documents and policy papers and regularly shares news and issues happening in Europe in relation to Roma and antigypsyism.

Through our [facebook](#), [twitter](#), [instagram](#) and [linkedin](#) profiles the ERGO team can quickly share updates, react to political developments and engage with followers.

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 React Map that let the reader check posts from specific parts of Europe.





FINANCES

This paragraph provides a summary of ERGO Network's Annual Financial Report 2019, 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 2019 (IN EUROS)

ASSETS	31 December 2019	PROFIT AND LOSS	2019
Fixed Assets	5.801,00	INCOME	
Other assets	-	Net Sales	91.104,49
Receivables	7.064,00	Other revenues	440.457,51
Others receivables and accrued assets	120.430,00	Total Operating Revenues	531.562,00
Cash and short term deposits	316.803,00	Exceptional revenues	-
Deferred Charges	-	Financial revenues	-
Accrued Income	-	TOTAL INCOME	531.562,00
TOTAL ASSETS	450.098,00	EXPENDITURE	
		Staff	253.449,47
		Other operating costs	261.136,02
		Depreciation	1.542,00
		TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE	516.127,49
		Exceptional costs	12.206,69
		Financial charges	631,82
		TOTAL EXPENDITURE	528.966,00
		PROFIT/(-) LOSS 2019	2.596,00
LIABILITIES	31 December 2019		
Equity (Reserves)	94.435,00		
Result 2019	2.596,00		
Trade payables	13.312,00		
Payables relating to taxes & social security contributions	31.249,00		
Accrued charges	-		
Other liabilities & accrued expenses	308.506,00		
TOTAL LIABILITIES	450.098,00		





FINANCES

DONATIONS



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



ERGO Network has received a project grant for the project 'Roma Grassroots Advocacy Academy' from the International Visegrad Fund.



ERGO Network has received funding for the project "Combatting antigypsyism through the EU Roma Framework" from the German Federal Foreign Office.



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

AUDITOR'S REPORT

In accordance with your instructions we have compiled the financial statements included in this report 2019 of Stichting ERGO Network, Utrecht, which comprise the balance sheet as at 31 December 2019, 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.

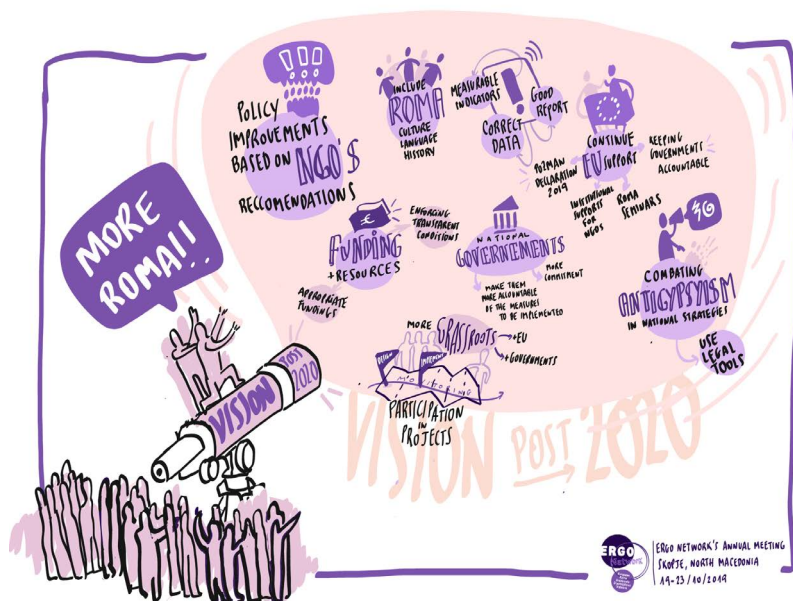
In accordance with the professional standard applicable to compilation engagements, our procedures were limited primarily to gathering, processing, classifying and summarizing financial information. Furthermore we have evaluated the appropriateness of the accounting policies which are used to compile 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.

On its behalf,
Mr. Dres. J.N. Witteveen RA
Krijtwal 1, 3430 Nieuwegein
The Netherlands



Looking forward

While our work towards a strong Post 2020 EU Roma Framework and mainstreaming of Roma in social and employment policies continues in 2020, we are also looking forward to exciting new projects in the years to come.

ERGO Network has received funding from the EU's Rights, Equality and Citizenship (REC) programme and the Google.Org Impact Challenge on Safety for our new project 'Peer education to counter antigypsyist online hate speech'! 10 member organisations will work with young Roma to monitor hate speech online, as well as to run peer education activities to raise awareness of the negative impact of hate speech and ways for young people to counter it. Follow the project on [facebook](#).

With the project "Romani women POWER of CHANGE in the Western Balkans and Turkey" we will be building upon the experiences of

the "Joint Initiative to Empower Roma Civil Society in the Western Balkans and Turkey" with the aim to empower Roma women to increase their participation in local and national policy.

We will also kick-off a very exciting multi-annual project funded by the EEA/Norway Grants, which will bring our member organisations closer together, identify and exchange good practices in the areas of social inclusion and combatting antigypsyism, and lobby for better and more funding for Roma inclusion that uses a bottom-up approach.

Besides these three new flagship projects, we are also actively working in new areas, such as environmental racism against Roma. ERGO Network goes from strength to strength and will continue to put all its energy into fighting antigypsyism, advocating for better policies for Roma in Europe, creating networks and empowering Roma activists.

ERGO Network Foundation

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