



European  
Commission



# A NEW EU ROMA STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

Factsheet – October 2020

#EU4Roma  
#UnionOfEquality

*“Where is the essence of humanity when every single day Roma people are excluded from society and others are held back simply because of the colour of their skin or their religious belief?”*



President von der Leyen,  
State of the Union Address 2020

The Roma are Europe’s largest ethnic minority. Out of an estimated 10-12 million Roma in Europe, some 6 million live in the EU. Many Roma in the EU are victims of prejudice and social exclusion, despite the fact that EU countries have banned discrimination. The EU has long stressed the need for better Roma inclusion, but overall progress has been limited over the past 10 years. The European institutions and every EU country have a joint responsibility to improve the living conditions and inclusion of the Roma.

The new EU Roma strategic framework sets a number of targets up until 2030, which aim to promote **effective equality**, **socio-economic inclusion** and **meaningful participation of Roma**.



**41%** of Roma have experienced discrimination over the past 5 years



**85%** of Roma children are at risk of poverty compared to 20% of children in the general population



**62%** of Roma youth are not in education, employment or training compared to 10% of youth in the general population



Simona, Romania  
Global Teaching Fellow at Bard College Berlin

*“As a Roma student myself, I experienced the lack of Roma representation in the content we were taught in school. This makes it harder for Roma to be open about revealing their Romani identity.”*

## 2030 TARGETS

The EU Roma strategic framework sets out a number of targets on **minimum progress** to be achieved by 2030 and provides guidance to EU Member States on how to do this.



### Fighting and preventing antigypsyism and discrimination

- ▶ Halve the number of Roma who experience discrimination
- ▶ Decrease by at least a third the proportion of the general population who feel uncomfortable having Roma neighbours



### Healthcare

- ▶ Cut the life expectancy gap by at least half



### Education

- ▶ Cut the gap in participation in early childhood education and care by at least half
- ▶ Reduce the gap in upper secondary completion by at least one third
- ▶ Work towards eliminating segregation by halving (at least) the proportion of Roma children attending segregated primary schools



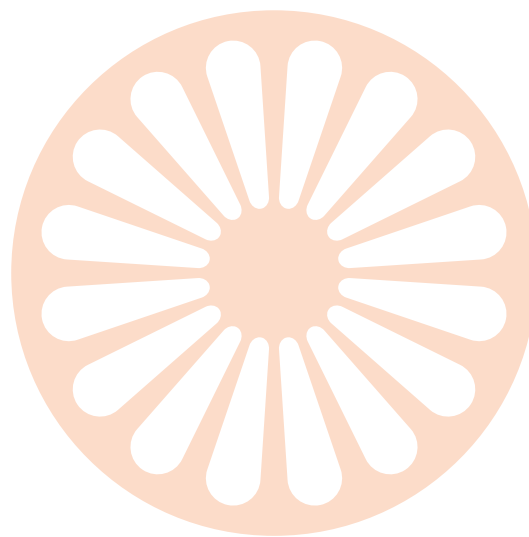
### Reducing poverty and exclusion

- ▶ Cut the poverty gap and the child poverty gap by at least half



### Promoting participation through empowerment, cooperation and trust

- ▶ Engage NGOs in EU-wide coordinated Roma civil society monitoring
- ▶ Ensure participation of Roma NGOs as full members in national monitoring committees
- ▶ Double the proportion of Roma who file a report when they experience discrimination
- ▶ Encourage the participation of Roma in local, regional, national and European politics



### Employment

- ▶ Cut the employment gap by at least half
- ▶ Cut the gender employment gap for Roma by at least half
- ▶ Cut the gap in the rate of young people not in education, employment or training by at least half



### Housing

- ▶ Reduce the gap in housing deprivation by at least one third
- ▶ Cut the gap in overcrowding by at least half
- ▶ Ensure that at least 95% of Roma have access to tap water

# Roma on the EU's agenda

## Target towards Roma equality, inclusion and participation

**Mid-term review of the 10-year plan**  
Commission to review the EU Roma strategic framework

**Member States to report on implementation of national Roma strategies** every two years from 2023 onwards

**Commission to take stock of national Roma strategies**

**Member States to submit national Roma strategies**

### The EU Roma strategic framework

The first deliverable of the EU anti-racism action plan



### EU anti-racism action plan 2020-2025



### EU framework for national Roma integration strategies

Commission calls for national strategies for Roma integration

2030



2023



2022



2021



2020:  
OCTOBER



2020:  
SEPTEMBER



2011



## Examples of good practices at the national level over the last 10 years

**Educational programmes** to prevent school drop-out of Roma (girls)



**Training and employment of Roma health mediators**



**Regional or local employment programmes**



**Roma history and/or culture in national curricula**



## Examples of EU funding

Over €21.5 billion was dedicated to support Roma integration measures at the regional level between 2014 - 2020.

For example, Slovakia dedicated €52.4 million of this funding to address a lack of access to water, sewage and waste treatment in Roma communities.