

Equal opportunities for all children

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CAHROM I – our work

- CAHROM: Ad Hoc Committee of Experts for Roma issues covers in its work issues that address both the situation of sedentary and (semi) nomadic populations
- Activities/topics: thematic groups, Roma children's education, housing (e. g legislation of informal settlements), Romani language, culture and history, improving NRIS, early marriage and human trafficking, Roma women and youth, role of local authorities, anti-gypsyism, DOSTA campaign, ROMMED, ROMACT, ERI
- Rapporteurs: gender equality, Roma children, Roma youth, anti-Gypsyism and hate crime

CAHROM & DECS ENF

common ground

- Thematic groups/work
 - Thematic group on school drop-out and absenteeism of Roma children (NL - May 2012)
 - Thematic group on inclusive education of Roma children as opposed to special schools (CZ, SK – 2012)
 - Thematic group on school attendance of Roma children, girls in particular (FI 2012)
 - Thematic group on inclusive pre-school education for Roma children (CZ 2014, representative of DECS ENF)
 - Thematic group on gender equality, with a focus on the issue of early and/or forced marriage within Roma communities (BG 2015)
- DECS ENF
 - appointed new rapporteur for Roma children
 - Strategy includes a child-friendly version of the “Dosta” Campaign.

Challenges

- Addressing education
 - Inclusive as opposed to segregated
 - Equal chances and access to education
 - School drop out and absenteeism
- Addressing early marriages (Children rights perspective)
- **The best interest of the child in**
 - housing, migration, family reunion, segregation, expulsions, health, immunization,

STRATEGY FOR THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD & CAHROM expertise

- Tools:
 - Dosta Campaign (Stereotypes against Roma children will be addressed through developing a child-friendly version of the “Dosta” Campaign)
 - Involvement of mediators (CoE initiated the program ROMED)
 - Thematic work

STRATEGY - Recommendations

- Action plan should tackle the challenges specifically faced by Roma children
- Further development of action towards:
 - Children perspective, children rights perspective in relevant thematic work
 - Strengthening bilateral cooperation concerning the rights of the child (e.g. CZ & UK, FR & RO)
 - There are other topics where children rights need to be addressed – the best interest of the child (e.g. repatriation, migration, housing, etc.)

Thank you for your attention

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