Introducing the civil society monitoring reports

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AN IDEAL SYSTEM OF INTERNATIONAL MONITORING

1. INFORMATION GATHERING BY A COMMITTEE
   - (a) state report
   - (b) parallel report of NGOs
   - (c) other sources of information

2. EVALUATION BY A COMMITTEE
   - country rapporteurs/task forces
   - possible country visit

3. COMMENT OF STATE ON THE EVALUATION

4. CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE (PLENARY SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE)
   - between committee and state delegation
   - NGO input (pre-session, side-event, etc.)

5. RESOLUTION AND RECOMMENDATIONS BY AN INTERNATIONAL AUTHORITY

6. STATE ACKNOWLEDGES AND PUBLICIZES RECOMMENDATIONS
   - press conference
   - translation
   - NGO dissemination

7. FOLLOW UP
   - state task force
   - NGO input
   - follow up rapporteur
   - committee visit
EXISTING SYSTEMS OF MONITORING

Examples of complete systems

- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (UN)
- Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (CoE)

Incomplete systems

- Decade of Roma Inclusion
  - **missing**: committee of evaluation, weak international authority, recommendations, follow-up
- EU Framework
  - **missing**: committee of evaluation, mandatory state progress reports, mechanism to receive and review shadow reports, public country-specific recommendations, follow-up
WHAT IS SHADOW REPORTING?

- Shadow reports are a method for NGOs to supplement or present alternative information to periodic government reports that State parties submit within the framework of international agreements.
- Shadow reports cannot substitute quantitative monitoring and evaluation by state authorities but are vital tools to make states accountable.
- Within the EU2020 the compatibility of NRIS with mainstream policies can be assessed, but it does not allow for Roma specific state and NGO reports.
- Shadow reports can channel local knowledge into the policy process and reflect on the real, non-quantifiable social impact of government measures.
- Shadow reports are fundamental tools to involve civil society in the monitoring of policies and to foster the active participation of Roma.
PILOT YEAR OF SHADOW REPORTING

- **Coordinating:** Decade Secretariat, OSF: Roma Initiatives Office + Making the Most of EU Funds for Roma program
- Civil society coalitions selected after **open call**
- **8+8 countries:**
  - **first cycle:** Albania, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Macedonia, Romania, Slovakia, Spain
  - **second cycle:** Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, France, Germany, Italy, Montenegro, Serbia, United Kingdom
- Common template and **professional review**
- Monitoring both **mainstream** and **targeted** government measures
- **Summary report** in English and Romani; **country reports** in English and national languages

[www.romadecade.org/civilsocietymonitoring](http://www.romadecade.org/civilsocietymonitoring)
ASSESSING GOVERNMENT MEASURES

- Positive measures of the Roma strategies
- Positive mainstream measures
- *Positive but insufficiently designed or implemented measures*
- Largely negative measures of the strategy
- Largely negative mainstream measures
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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