National Roma Strategies:
Ensuring a Comprehensive and Effective European Approach to Roma

Conference hosted under the patronage of President Jerzy BUZEK and political groups

8 November 2011, room A1G3, European Parliament

AGENDA

09:00 Opening remarks

- Jerzy BUZEK President of the European Parliament
- Marian-Jean MARINESCU Vice-President of the EPP group, European Parliament
- Rebecca HARMS Chair of the Greens/EFA group, European Parliament
- Françoise LE BAI Director General, DG Justice, European Commission
- George SOROS Chairman of the Open Society Foundations
- Željko JOVANOVIC Director of Roma Initiatives, OSF - Budapest

Moderator: Heather GRABBE, Director of the Open Society Institute-Brussels

10:00 Are the Roma benefiting from European policies? What was achieved and what are the basic requirements for future success on Roma Inclusion in Europe

Speakers:

- Livia JAROKA Member of the European Parliament (video message)
- Lenia SAMUEL Deputy-Director General of DG Employment and Social Affairs
- Aurel CIOBANU-DORDEA Director, Equality Directoriat, DG Justice, European Commission
- Kinga GÖNCZ Member of the European Parliament
- Dolores RUIZ BAUTISTA Deputy Director for Social Programs, Ministry of Education, Social Policy and Equality, Spain
- Valeriu NICOLAE Roma and Minority Policy Center, Romania

Moderator: Rob KUSHEN, Board chair of the European Roma Rights Center

DISCUSSION
11:15   Building on the experience from the Decade of Roma Inclusions: How to develop, implement and improve existing national Roma strategies

Speakers:

• Neždet MUSTAFA   Presidency of the Decade of Roma Inclusion, Macedonia
• Gabriela HRABANOVA   European Roma Grassroots Organisation Network
• Jasenko SELIMOVIĆ   State Secretary at the Ministry for Employment, Sweden
• Zoltan BALOG   State Secretary, Government of Hungary
• Katarina MATHERNOVA   Senior Adviser on Roma Inclusion, World Bank
• Ondrej LISKA   OSF Fellow/Former Minister for Education, Czech Republic

Moderator: Kalman MIZSEI, Making the Most of EU funds

DISCUSSION

12:30   Lunch

14:00   Role of the European Parliament in monitoring the EU Framework and ensuring a role for Roma in the creation, implementation and evaluation of national Roma strategies

Speakers:

• Hannes SWOBODA   Member of the European Parliament
• Dezideriu GERGELY   Director of European Roma Rights Center
• Raul ROMEVA   Member of the European Parliament
• Magda MATACHE   Romani CRISS
• Lambert van NISTELROOIJ   Member of the European Parliament

Moderator: Željko JOVANOVIĆ, Director of Roma Initiatives, Open Society Institute-Budapest

DISCUSSION

15:30   Closing remarks by Martin SCHULZ (S&D group) and Guy VERHOFSTADT (ALDE group)

Moderator: Heather GRABBE, Director of the Open Society Institute-Brussels

16:00   Cocktail in the European Parliament hosted by the Open Society Foundations