



CENTRAL COUNCIL of German Sinti & Roma



50th International Roma Day:

Towards justice and building trust



CHACHIPEN

Remembrance, Recognition,
Justice and Trust-Building

CEPS, Brussels-based think tank, together with the Central Council of German Sinti and Roma, the European Roma Grassroots Organisations (ERGO) Network, the Federaci3n de Asociaciones Gitanas de Catalu1a (FAGiC) in Spain, the Asocia1ia Fast Forward and the ARESEL Network in Romania, launch a new project called CHACHIPEN (meaning truth in Romani language). The launch is organised in the run-up to the 50th International Roma Day, which takes place on 8 April.

Follow the discussion on Twitter :

@ChachipenEU
#noAntigypsyism
#TruthReconciliation
#EU4Roma
#EUAntiRacism

Live webstreaming on the event page and YouTube: [50th International Roma Day: Towards justice and building trust – CEPS](#)

Listen in Romani language: This event will be interpreted from English into Romani language by experienced interpreters Mr Gyula Vamosi and Mr Sejdo Jasarov.



AGENDA

29 of March 2021, via Zoom / 9:00 – 15:15

9:00 Opening Panel

Moderators

Dr Sergio Carrera

Senior Research Fellow, CEPS/EUI

Gabriela Hrabanova

Director, ERGO

The opening panel will situate the discussion on recognising historically rooted antigypsyism within the wider EU and national policy context and provide some individual testimonies. The panellists will elaborate how EU values, namely fundamental rights, the rule of law and democratic accountability, are or could be better utilised to advance remembrance of Romani history and contributions to society, recognition of 'antigypsyism' as a key term to capture and remedy past and ongoing antigypsyism. The personal testimony of Romani victim of institutionalised antigypsyism will illustrate the importance and urgency for European and national authorities to deliver equality, non-discrimination and justice and to rebuild the broken trust between Roma and non-Roma.

Speakers

Ms Vera Jourova

Vice President of the European Commission for Values and Transparency

Mr Romani Rose

Chairperson, Central Council of German Sinti and Roma (video address)

Ms Dunja Mijatovic

Commissioner for Human Rights, Council of Europe

Ms Elena Gorolová*

Social worker, a survivor of forced sterilisation, Czech Republic

Ms Michaela Küchler

The Special Representative of the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs for Relations with Jewish Organisations, Issues Relating to Antisemitism, International Sinti and Roma Affairs, and Holocaust Remembrance/ President of IHRA

**Translation from CZ to EN by Ms Gwendolyn Albert.*

9:45 Session 1: Taking stock – Transitional justice approach for addressing a long history of antigypsyism

Moderators

Mr Jonathan Mack

Central Council of German Sinti and Roma

CHACHIPEN projects partners have piloted the transitional justice-like approach to recognise antigypsyism and transform the shared historical narrative that also acknowledges the contribution of Roma to Europe. In cooperation with the Alliance against Antigypsyism, CEPS has produced a landmark study entitled "[Scaling up Roma Inclusion strategies: Truth, reconciliation and justice for addressing antigypsyism](#)". It aimed at learning from South African, Canadian, Australian Truth and Reconciliation Processes as well as from the Swedish

Commission on Antigypsyism. These lessons informed and innovated the envisioning of a post-2020 EU Roma policy. This session will discuss - what's next? How to increase recognition of antigypsyism? How can we rebuild trust between Roma and non-Roma, and what's the mainstream institutions' role?

Speakers

Ms Gabriela Hrabanova
Executive Director, ERGO Network

Ms Lina Vosyliute
Research Fellow, CEPS

Dr Iulius Rostas
former chair of Romani studies at CEU/Part of CHACHIPEN Researchers Team

Dr Mirjam Karoly
expert to the Austrian IHRA Delegation Committee on the Roma genocide, former chief of the OSCE ODIHR Contact Point on Roma and Sinti Issues (2012 -2017)/ CHACHIPEN Advisory Board

Dr Markus End
chair of the society for the Research on Antigypsyism, Member of the Independent Commission on Antigypsyism established by the German government/ CHACHIPEN Advisory Board

The panel followed by a discussion with the participants

11:00 Break

11:15 Session 2: Learning from Expert Commissions on Antigypsyism in Sweden and Germany and paving the way for Truth and Reconciliation Processes in Romania and Spain

Moderators

Ms Lina Vosyliute
Research Fellow, CEPS)

The CHACHIPEN project aims to learn from **Truth and Reconciliation Processes (TRP)** started by **Expert Commissions on Antigypsyism in Sweden and Germany** and to pave the way for the **TRP in Romania and Spain**. This session will aim at understanding the underlying structures and concepts behind the German and Swedish commissions. What are the differences between the approaches of Truth and Reconciliation Commissions and the Expert Commissions on antigypsyism? What are the key issues and challenges? For instance, how about calling out the law-enforcement institutions?

Speakers

Mr Thomas Hammarberg
Member of the Swedish Parliament, former Chair of the Swedish Antigypsyism Commission

Dr Ismael Cortes
Member of Parliament in Spain/ CHACHIPEN Advisory Board Member

Ms Anja Reuss
independent expert/ political advisor, Central council of German Sinti and Roma

Dr Florin Manole
former Member of Parliament in Romania/ CHACHIPEN Advisory Board Member

The panel followed by a discussion with the participants

12:15 Lunch break with short documentaries



13:15 **Session 3: The Roma and Sinti civil rights struggle: Empowerment, Mobilisation and Responses to Antigypsyism**

Moderators **Ms Isabela Mihalache**
Senior Advocacy Officer, ERGO Network

CHACHIPEN project aims to **empower Romani activists to advocate for Truth and Reconciliation processes**. The project ensures their co-ownership of such process by building up advocacy capacity in designing, implementing and monitoring such transitional justice-like processes and promoting EU fundamental rights and rule-of-law approaches needed to capture institutional manifestations at the EU, national, regional or local levels. Thus, this panel will also discuss the new EU Roma Strategic Framework for equality, inclusion and participation and the new EU anti-racism plan.

Speakers **Mr Đorđe Jovanovic**
President, European Roma Rights Centre

Ms Timea Junghaus
Director, European Roma Institute for Arts and Culture

Ms Julie Pascoet
Senior Advocacy Officer, European Network against Racism

Ms Marietta Herfort
Director of Phiren Amenca International Network

Mr Pedro Aguilera
Director of FAGIC (Federación de Asociaciones Gitanas de Cataluña)

Mr Adrian Tudor
President of Asociatia Fast Forward

The panel followed by a discussion with the participants

14.30 **Closing Remarks and the way forward**

Moderators **Gabriela Hrabanova**
Executive Director, ERGO Network

Institutional stakeholders and partners will provide their closing remarks on addressing antigypsyism from a historical and transitional justice approaches and how it relates to their mandates.

Speakers **Mr Szabolcs Schmidt**
Head of Unit, Non-discrimination and Roma coordination (JUST.D.1), European Commission

Mr Thorsten Afflerbach
Head of Division, Council of Europe, Roma and Travellers Team

Mr Dan Pavel Doghi
Chief of the Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues, OSCE ODIHR

Ms Birgit Van Hout
Regional Representative of Europe, UN Human Rights Office

Dr Alenka Janko Spreizer
IHRA Committee Chair on the Genocide of the Roma

15:00

CHACHIPEN project: looking ahead to advocate transitional justice approaches

Speakers

Ms Lina Vosyliute

Research Fellow, CEPS

Mr Guillermo Ruiz

Political Advisor, Central Council of German Sinti and Roma

Ms Gabriela Hrabanova

Executive Director, ERGO Network



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Auswärtiges Amt

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