

# GERMANY

## FROM MEMORY TO ACTION: CONFRONTING ANTIGYPSYISM IN MODERN GERMANY

JEKHIPE RESEARCH FINDINGS 2025

Based on research conducted in  
Germany under the JEKHIPE Project

### Deeply Rooted Antigypsyism

*Germany is home to both German Sinti and Roma, one of the oldest Roma communities in Europe.*

- First recorded mention in Germany: **1407**
- **1995**: German Sinti and Roma officially recognized as a **national minority**
- During the Holocaust, **over 500,000** Roma were murdered across Europe

*Recognition has improved minority rights protections, but antigypsyism remains deeply rooted in social attitudes and institutions.*

*Antigypsyist incidents have increased significantly in recent years.*

**1,678** antigypsyist incidents recorded in 2024

Almost



Many incidents remain unreported, meaning the real number is likely higher

### Public Attitudes

**Antigypsyism continues to influence public perceptions in Germany.** Research shows:

More than



*Sinti and Roma communities continue to face discrimination in housing, employment, and public services.*

### Institutional Responses

**Germany has developed several monitoring and policy mechanisms to address antigypsyism.**

Key initiatives include:

- MIA – Reporting and Information Office on Antigypsyism
- Federal Commissioner against Antigypsyism
- Standing Federal-State Commission on Antigypsyism

### Policy Impact and Challenges

*Despite institutional progress, many stakeholders believe current policies remain insufficient.*

Survey findings show:

**Effectiveness of the National Roma Strategy rated 4.5 / 10**

**Impact on reducing antigypsyism rated 3.5 / 10**

Key obstacles identified:

**40% cite lack of funding**

**40% cite persistent societal prejudice**

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### Education and Memory

Education about the Sinti and Roma Holocaust is considered a key tool in combating antigypsyism. Survey results show: **Importance of Holocaust education rated 8.33 / 10**. Strengthening historical awareness is seen as essential to addressing prejudice and discrimination.

### Key Milestones in Roma Civil Rights in Germany

Important steps in recognition and justice include:

- 1982: German government recognizes the Sinti and Roma genocide
- 2012: Memorial to the Sinti and Roma victims of National Socialism inaugurated in Berlin
- 2019–2021: Independent Commission on Antigypsyism established
- 2022: Creation of MIA reporting system



STAND UP FOR  
YOUR RIGHTS!

### Key Structural Challenges Identified

Research highlights several systemic issues:

- persistent antigypsyist prejudice
- rising hate incidents
- underreporting of discrimination
- limited funding for anti-discrimination measures
- gaps between policy commitments and implementation

**These challenges demonstrate that antigypsyism in Germany remains both social and institutional.**



### Why This Matters

Addressing antigypsyism in Germany requires:

- stronger enforcement of anti-discrimination laws
- increased funding for Sinti and Roma inclusion policies
- expanded education on Sinti and Roma history and the Holocaust
- improved monitoring of hate speech and hate crimes
- greater participation of Sinti and Roma communities in policymaking

**Without stronger implementation, existing frameworks risk remaining symbolic rather than transformative.**