

# KEY DATES IN THE ROMA CALENDAR

JEKHIPE RESEARCH FINDINGS 2025

Based on research conducted  
in Germany, Spain, Italy,  
Romania, Czechia, and Sweden  
under the JEKHIPE Project

## Roma Memory and Pride: Key Dates That Shape Collective Identity

*Roma history, resistance, and political identity are marked by important commemorative and mobilizing dates. Communicating around these moments strengthens visibility, solidarity, and public awareness.*

*These dates are not symbolic gestures, they are political and educational opportunities.*

***They are moments to speak in the first person, not about Roma, but with Roma.***

**Roma history is European history.**

### APRIL 8 – International Roma Day

Commemorates the First World Romani Congress (London, 1971) and the adoption of the Roma flag and anthem **Gelem, Gelem**.

A celebration of Roma identity, unity, and transnational belonging.

**Communication focus:**

***Pride, culture, political subjectivity and self-determination, European citizenship***

### MAY 16 – Roma Resistance Day

Commemorates the 1944 uprising of Roma prisoners at Auschwitz-Birkenau.

A symbol of dignity and resistance against extermination.

**Communication focus:  
Agency, resistance, courage**

**Avoid portraying Roma only as passive victims.**

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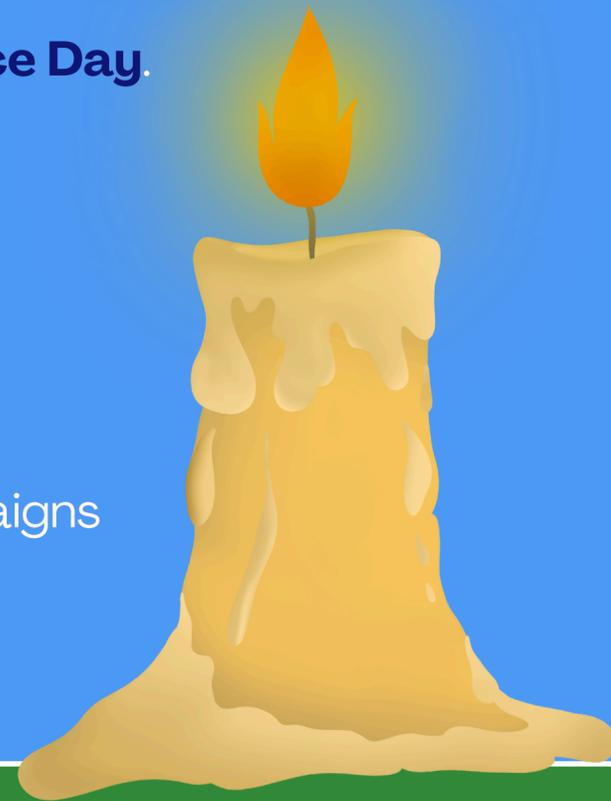
## AUGUST 2 – Roma Holocaust Memorial Day

Marks the liquidation of the so-called “Gypsy family camp”  
in Auschwitz (1944).

Recognized across Europe as **Roma Holocaust Remembrance Day**.

**Communication focus:**  
**Memory, justice, historical responsibility,**  
**link to contemporary antigypsyism**

Educational initiatives such as youth-led remembrance campaigns  
and public commemorations reinforce historical awareness.



## NOVEMBER 5 – Romani Language Day

Celebrates the Romani language as a core  
element of cultural identity.

Highlights linguistic rights and cultural  
preservation.

**Communication focus:**

**Cultural heritage, diversity, belonging,**  
**intergenerational transmission**

PHENJALPE **ČHIB** ROMANI KHETANO  
DUENDE **BAXT** AMARI

## Why These Dates Matter

Strategic communication  
around these moments can:

- Anchor Roma history  
within European memory  
culture
- Highlight centuries of  
presence and contribution
- Connect past injustices  
with present structural  
exclusion
- Promote agency instead of  
victimization