



NEWSLETTER

On Monday, July 8, 2024, the first meeting of the Forum Roma was held. The Forum was established within the framework of the National Roma Integration Strategy (N.R.I.S. 2021 – 2030) as an open consultation platform with the participation of representative Roma organizations. The main objective of the Forum is to strengthen the active participation of the Roma in the design of policies with respect to social inclusion, as well as to raise public awareness with the aim to increase acceptance and achieve equal treatment. The Roma Forum has a consultative role, formulating proposals both to the General Secretariat of Social Solidarity and Fight against Poverty, and to the Governmental and the Advisory Committee for the Social Integration of Roma, regarding key areas of intervention per sector of the N.R.I.S.

The majority of the members attended the meeting. Specifically, the following organisations were represented: the Panhellenic Confederation of Greek Roma "ELLAN PASSE", the Association of Greek Roma Mediators and Associates, the Federation of Macedonia "Alexander the Great", the Educational and Cultural Creative Association of Greek Gypsy Roma Destitute and Homeless Gypsy Women, AMKE REVMA, the Educational Association of Greek Gypsies, the Cultural Educational Association of Roma Women "Elpida", the Confederation of Greek Roma, the Cultural Association of Muslims of the Fero Region and the Alysos Alert Association.

The General Secretary of Social Solidarity made the introductory remarks. After welcoming the inauguration of the Forum, Mr Pyrros informed the members about the role of the platform in the assistance of the General Secretariat in the context of the implementation of the National Strategy for the Roma.

The representatives of the Roma bodies expressed their will for their active participation, pointing out some key challenges that should be prioritized, such as the inclusion of Roma in the labor market and the improvement of living conditions and infrastructure. In addition, they elected the Chair of the Forum who will coordinate the actions of the platform and submit the proposals of the Forum to the General Secretariat of Social Solidarity and Fight against Poverty.

The operation of the Roma Forum is expected, in conjunction with the other committees of NRIS, to assist the General Secretariat of Social Solidarity and Fight against Poverty of the Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family, in its role as the National Contact Point of the E.U. for the Social Inclusion of Roma within the framework of the project of the European program "Development of the National Platform for Consultation and Dialogue on Roma Issues of the National Contact Point for Roma", RomaPlatformEL —CERV-2022-NRCP (GA NO:101095343).



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