

On October 30, 2024, a study visit took place by **Mr. Alexander Daško**, Plenipotentiary of the Slovak Republic responsible for Roma communities, at the offices of the General Secretariat for Social Solidarity and Fight Against Poverty with Mr. Prodomos Pyrros, the General Secretary for Social Solidarity and Fight Against Poverty. The visit was accommodated by the Embassy of the Slovak Republic in Greece and officials from the Office of the Slovak Government for Roma Inclusion issues.

Mr Dasko was accompanied by H.E. Ms. Marcela Hanusová, the Ambassador of the Slovak Republic to Greece alongside Mr. Juraj Balogh, Deputy Head of the Diplomatic Mission of the Slovak Republic. From the Office of the Slovak Republic for Roma Inclusion Issues, Mr. Tibor Škrabský, Director of the Department of Planning, Monitoring, and Evaluation of Policies, Ms. Ingrid Zubková, General Director of the Department of European Programs, and Ms. Angeliqué Bobříková member of Mr. Daško's office attended the meetings.

The National Strategy for the Social Inclusion of Roma 2021-2030 was presented by officials from the General Secretariat, the National Roma Contact Point, outlining the goals regarding Roma social inclusion. This was followed by a discussion led by General Secretary Mr. Prodomos Pyrros with representatives from the Slovak Republic and Greek organizations involved in Roma inclusion, with the aim to exchange best practices. Contributions were made by Mr. K. Paiteris, President of the Association of Greek Roma Mediators & Collaborators, and Ms. Ch. Halilopoulou, Representative of the Forum Roma.

The meeting was followed by visits to the Child and Family Support Center in Kolonos, the Roma community "Nomismatokopecio" in Chalandri and to the Roma Branch of the Municipality of Chalandri, where Deputy Mayor, Mr. Kostas Efthimiou and staff from the Roma Branch informed them about the municipality's actions with regard to improving living conditions for Roma in Chalandri.

The meeting highlighted the common challenges and issues faced by both countries regarding Roma social inclusion. Both sides agreed to strengthen cooperation in exchanging best practices for equality, inclusion, and participation of Roma communities.



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