



Round table recommendations
“Coalition Building: Roma and People with Disabilities”

4-5th of November 2019

Hotel “Ibis”

Polzunova, 6 str.

This meeting has been conducted within a framework of joint project of the Minority Rights Group International and the Roma Women’s Fund “Chiricli” aimed at exploring the situation of Roma with disabilities, which in particular concerns their access to basic rights and interaction with human rights organizations, inclusion of issues of Roma with disabilities into a broader and mainstream agenda.

In the course of a lively discussion during the meeting, a set of recommendations has been developed aimed at scrutinizing and improving the situation of Roma with disabilities and persons belonging to the Roma national minority in general.

1. Conducting a thorough research regarding number of persons with disabilities among the Roma national minority, in particular: to determine the percentage of persons with disabilities and the percentage of persons requiring disability registration from total Roma population (men, women and children);
2. Ensuring of full access to personal documents for persons belonging to the Roma national minority;
3. Providing support for Roma children with special needs, starting from pre-school education;
4. Ensuring inclusion of persons belonging to the Roma national minority in decision making (in particular in settlements with compact residence);
5. Strengthening of the work on combating stereotypes towards persons belonging to the Roma national minority;
6. Increasing the level of legal culture and legal awareness among persons belonging to the Roma national minority;
7. Carrying out the enlightenment work among Roma NGOs and increasing qualifications of Roma mediators regarding the types of services and ways of providing them;



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8. Creation of a methodical center for training/increasing qualifications of Roma mediators on the basis of the ICO Roma Women Fund "Chiricli";
9. To continue debate with the Ministry of Social Policy on the inclusion into the classifier of professions the profession of social mediator for work with national minorities (based on the principle: equal to equal);
10. Ensuring inclusion of the issues related to the situation of local residents belonging to the Roma national minority (in particular, in places of compact settlement) into local of socio-economic development programs;
11. Carrying out work with local and national media on broadcasting positive life stories about persons belonging to Roma national minority, in particular who: have achieved some success, are showing active civic engagement, etc.;
12. Support the initiation of a pilot project in several amalgamated territorial communities to work out a mechanism of interaction between the local population and persons belonging to the Roma national minority (including the inclusion of Roma representatives in the decision-making processes);
13. To create a Roma NGO primarily working with people with disabilities, with the consequent inclusion into the National Assembly of People with Disabilities for lobbying the interests of Roma people with disabilities at national and international levels;
14. Developing a social diagnosis system for studying the needs of Roma with disabilities (as one of the elements of a general research regarding Roma with disabilities);
15. To include the issue of Roma with disabilities in the Ombudsman's annual report on the state of compliance with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in order to pay attention and highlight issues of intersectional categories;
16. Establishment of support groups for Roma with disabilities.
17. Promoting the acquisition of skills and knowledge among the persons belonging to the Roma national minority, through existing Roma mediators (where available), in independent communication with central authorities and local authorities and with other institutions, organizations and enterprises.
18. To introduce the position of teacher's assistant for inclusive education. Developing the versatility of assistant as a specialist who has skills in



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working with both a Roma child, a child with a disability, and a Roma child with a disability.

19. When developing an upcoming State policy on integration of Roma national minority into Ukrainian society to develop an Action Plan, in close consultation with civil society, with the inclusion and separate allocation of categories such as: youth, women and men, people with disabilities, taking into account their special needs.