

EU Framework for National Roma Strategies

with a focus on education

Overview

- EU Roma policy
- Roma inclusion policy in Austria

EU and Roma – most relevant policy documents

- COM Communication on the economic and social integration of the Roma in Europe (2010)
- COM Communication on an EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies by 2020 (2011)
- Council Conclusions on EU Roma Framework (2011)
- Council Recommendation on effective Roma integration measures in the Member States (2013)

EU Roma Framework Policy Pillar Education

- „ensure that all Roma children have access to quality education and are not subject to discrimination or segregation“
- „Widen access to quality early childhood education and care“
- „Reduce the number of early school leavers“
- „Strongly encourage Roma youngsters to participate in secondary and tertiary education“

Council Recommendation

- „Consider the needs of individual pupils and addressing those accordingly, in close cooperation with their families“
- „Use inclusive and tailor-made teaching and learning methods to fight illiteracy“
- „Widen access to second-chance education and adult learning“

Progress Assessment

COM Progress Report April 2014

- Most MS concentrated efforts to improve access to early childhood education and care
- Few systemic measures to encourage participation of youngsters in further education
- Few systemic measures assisting Roma students to reintegrate after drop out

FRA Annual Report

- Segregation remains a widespread problem in some MS

Roma in Austria

Roma in Austria include

- Community of indigenous Roma
- Community/ies of immigrant Roma/Roma with migration background predominately stemming from former Yugoslavia who arrived over the past 40 years
- Recently arrived Roma from Rumania and Bulgaria
- Various degrees of integration
- Most diverse needs

Roma inclusion in Austria

- Mainstream Roma inclusion into the broader social inclusion policy („*explicit but not exclusive targeting*“)
- Measures ensuring equal opportunities target all disadvantaged groups, including disadvantaged Roma
- No segregation measures in education sector
- Yet, some tailor-made measures for Roma pupils

Roma inclusion in Austria – early childhood education and care

- General measures include
 - Free compulsory pre-school year for 5-6 year olds
 - Free kindergarten in Vienna and Lower Austria
 - Compulsory early language support to prepare for school
- 2014 Government Programme
 - Introduce a second free kindergarten year for 4-5 year olds
 - Extend existing early language to prepare for pupils for school enrolment

Roma inclusion in Austria – primary and secondary education

- General measures include
 - Targeted language promotion
 - Native language classes
 - Extension of school daycare
 - Measures to prevent early school leaving
- Roma specific measures include
 - Roma school assistants providing learning support
 - Roma school mediators
 - Learning cafes

Thank you

for your attention!

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