

European Roma Rights Centre

KEY ERRC ACTIVITIES

Campaigning through Domestic and International Advocacy

The ERRC campaigns for Roma rights justice across Europe. Some recent and ongoing ERRC campaigns include:

- ❖ Redress for victims of racially motivated crime;
- ❖ School desegregation;
- ❖ Implementing comprehensive anti-discrimination law;
- ❖ Justice for victims of coercive sterilizations;
- ❖ Campaigning for adequate housing;
- ❖ Romani women's rights; and
- ❖ Children's rights.

Strategic Litigation and Legal Research

The ERRC engages in strategic litigation seeking to reverse patterns of human rights abuse and discrimination against Roma. Legal work of the ERRC focuses on building strategies, based on analysis of existing laws to empower Roma through law and strengthen the network of legal advocates working on behalf of Roma.

The ERRC disseminates information concerning Roma rights and undertakes change-oriented litigation and law reform by conducting seminars for Romani activists, lawyers and community leaders. It also maintains a documentation archive of Roma-related, human rights and legal material.

The ERRC is active in both domestic and international litigation. The ERRC supports local lawyers in their legal proceedings in both professional and financial terms. When possibilities for domestic remedy are exhausted, the ERRC prepares legal submissions to international tribunals, most notably the Strasbourg-based European Court of Human Rights (ECHR).

The ERRC is also involved in cases through the submission of so-called "amicus curiae" briefs, clarifying a particular aspect of fact or law. Details of the cases in which ERRC has been substantially involved can be found on the ERRC's website.

Research and Advocacy

The ERRC aims to provide reliable information about the state of human rights of Roma in various countries which can lead to strategic litigation as well as to influence national and EU policies on the integration of Roma.

In the early period of the ERRC's work, the primary focus of the organisation's research activities was on racially-motivated violence against Roma. This has been gradually expanded to include research and documentation of the impact of individual practices and structural forms of racial discrimination on the access of Roma to economic and social rights.

Over the last several years, the ERRC has enhanced its policy focus through assessing the impact of government policies and developing policy recommendations on Roma in a number of fields such as education, housing, employment and health care.



The European Roma Rights Centre (ERRC) is an international public interest law organisation engaging in a range of activities aimed at combating anti-Romani racism and human rights abuse of Roma.

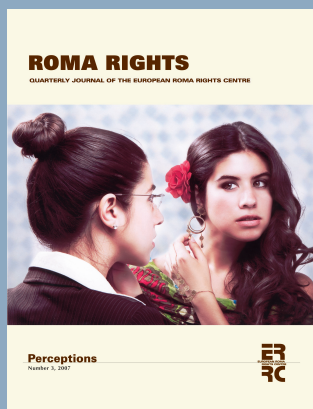
The approach of the ERRC involves, in particular, strategic litigation, international advocacy, training, research and policy development.

Since its establishment in 1996, the ERRC has endeavoured to provide Roma with the tools necessary to combat discrimination and achieve equal access to government, education, employment, health care, housing and public services.

The ERRC received the 2007 Max van der Stoel Award instituted by the Netherlands Foreign Ministry. The organisation was also awarded the Geuzenpenning award (the Geuzen medal of honour) in 2001.

Publishing Activities

The ERRC publishes press releases, reports on the situation of Roma in various countries, thematic reports comparing the situation of Roma in different countries, the prestigious journal Roma Rights, pamphlets, position papers, and the ERRC internet website.



One of the flagships of the ERRC print publications is Roma Rights. Each issue of Roma Rights is dedicated to one specific theme but also contains a news section, reports on ERRC advocacy and legal activities, human rights education news

and developments, Romani language translations, and other information.

Since 1996, the ERRC has published 16 book-length Country Reports documenting the human rights situation of Roma in Albania, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, France, Greece, Italy, Macedonia, Poland, Romania (2 reports), Russia, Slovakia, and Ukraine (2 reports).

Since 1999, the ERRC has undertaken a number of print, audio and electronic publications in Romani.

Human Rights Training

ERRC human rights training activities aim primarily to empower Romani activists, and secondarily, other targeted groups which include Romani university students and graduates. In addition, the ERRC targets specific groups within wider society, such as judges and lawyers, police officers, teachers, NGO activists, journalists and members of public administration.

The methodological approach of the ERRC's human rights training programming comprises:

- ❖ An internship programme providing Roma rights activists with training;
- ❖ Workshops on human rights issues directed at Roma and other specific groups;
- ❖ Annual Summer Workshop; and
- ❖ Public discussions and presentations.

The ERRC is governed by an international board of directors.

Major sponsors of the ERRC:

European Commission ✦ Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom ✦ Netherlands Foreign Ministry ✦ Open Society Institute ✦ Sigrid Rausing Trust ✦ Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency

Your financial contribution will enable the ERRC to continue its vital role in ending the racist abuse of Roma in Europe. Donations can be made via bank transfer to:

**European Roma Rights Centre
Budapest Bank Rt.
1054 Budapest
Báthory utca 1
Hungary**

**USD Bank Account Number:
99P00402686**

(USD IBAN: HU21-10103173-40268600-00000998)

**EUR Bank Account Number:
30P00-402686**

(EUR IBAN: HU54-10103173-40268600-00000307)

SWIFT (BIC) code: BUDAHUHB

The ERRC may also receive donations via PayPal on its website.

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