

The ERRC combats racism and discrimination against Roma and empowers Roma to defend their own rights.

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ERRC commences work on four European research projects

IN DECEMBER 2008, the ERRC was awarded contracts to conduct four separate studies on important Roma rights issues across the EU.

The first is a study on behalf of the European Commission (EC) entitled, ‘Activities to Improve the Impact of Policies, Programmes, and Projects Aimed at the Social Inclusion and Non-Discrimination of Roma People in the EU.’ The ERRC, in consortium with the Roma Education Fund (REF), will conduct the study over an 18-month period in 18 EU Member States with a team of 22 country researchers. The purpose of the study is to identify successful models for Roma inclusion policy, to identify the characteristics of successful financial programmes and projects and to formulate recommendations to inform the preparation of future policies, programmes and projects targeting Roma. For information on the study, contact: stano.daniel@errc.org.

Trafficking of Roma

The second study, financed through the EC DAPHNE programme, addressing trafficking of Roma, will be implemented in partnership with People in Need Slovakia (PiN). In this study, the ERRC and PiN will map the existing anti-trafficking laws, policies, data collection and support services and trends in Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania and Slovakia. Spanning two years, the study includes legislative and policy analysis and field research resulting in the publication of a report and recommendations to the relevant governments. The results will be disseminated in a closing conference in Budapest. For further information, contact: ostalinda.maya@errc.org.

Finally, the ERRC will implement two studies on behalf of the Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) addressing the housing situation of Roma and Travellers in the EU, as well as freedom of movement and residence of Roma within the EU.

The housing study, conducted in partnership with Pavee Point Irish Travellers Centre, will explore the housing problems of Roma and Travellers across the EU, as well as highlight significant initiatives that would improve their living conditions. The study is intended to provide the Agency with the essential evidence to develop conclusions and opinions for the EU institutions and Member States and assist them in developing appropriate evidence-based policies and measures to improve the housing situation of Roma and Travellers. For information on this study, contact: catherine.twigg@errc.org.

Free movement within the EU

The free movement study, conducted in consortium with [Fundación Secretariado Gitano](#), [Fédération nationale des associations solidaires d’action avec les Tsiganes et les Gens du voyage](#), [Bolton Traveller Education Service](#), [Finnish League for Human Rights](#) and [European Roma Information Office](#), comprises qualitative field research on the respect, protection and promotion of the right of Roma EU citizens to move freely and reside in other EU Member States, with an emphasis on promotion. The study will provide the FRA, EU institutions and Member States with important information for the development of effective policies and measures to address the needs of this population. For information on this study, contact: catherine.twigg@errc.org.

European Court of Human Rights agrees to hear appeal in important school discrimination case against Croatia

In December 2008, the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) agreed to hear an appeal in an important case of discrimination on the basis of ethnicity involving Romani children forced into segregated classes in Croatia. The case, *Oršuš and Others v. Croatia*, was originally submitted in December 2004 by the ERRC and the [Croatian Helsinki Committee](#) on behalf of 14 Croatian children of Romani origin who, at that time, attended separate Roma-only classes in Croatian primary schools. Their placement in segregated classes stemmed from a blatant practice of discrimination based on race/ethnicity, the pervasive anti-Romani sentiment of the majority community and the unwillingness of the Croatian authorities to remedy these illegal acts. Data provided by Croatian education officials confirmed this practice of segregation. In some communities, over 80% of the

Romani children were confined to segregated classes. Lawyers for the children praised the Court's action. Lovorka Kušan, representing the applicants, said: 'With Croatia aspiring to join the European Union, it is important that the European Court expands its protection of Romani children from illegal discrimination. There should be no tolerance for ghetto classrooms, in Croatia or anywhere else in Europe.' Andi Dobrushki, counsel for the ERRC, stated, 'The Court has another opportunity to reinforce and further clarify its stance regarding equality and integration in education.'

The Court scheduled oral argument in the case for 1 April 2009.

The request for Grand Chamber referral is available at: [View it \(Acrobat pdf format\)!](#)

UN Discrimination Committee reviews Bulgaria, Montenegro and Turkey

The ERRC, in partnership with national organisations, submitted written comments on the situation of Roma in Bulgaria, Montenegro and Turkey to the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD), for consideration during its 16 February to 9 March 2009 review.

In their submission on **Bulgaria**, the ERRC and the **Bulgarian Helsinki Committee** (BHC) highlighted human rights concerns with regard to the situation of Roma, as well as members of the Turkish and Macedonian minorities in Bulgaria. Some of the most pressing issues addressed in the report include:

- *Racially motivated crimes* against Roma by both police and private individuals and the deficiencies of the Bulgarian criminal justice system in prosecuting these crimes;
- *Education*: Practices of racial segregation of Roma and other forms of discrimination in this area are still widespread in the Bulgarian education system.
- *Housing*: Implementation of housing policies in Bulgaria is to a great degree infected with racial animus.
- *Health care*: The Bulgarian Health Insurance Act, which guarantees state-provided health insurance to registered unemployed individuals and those receiving social assistance, leaves many Roma without health care services.
- *Social assistance*: Amendments to the Social Assistance Act in 2006 had a disparate impact

on Roma, many of whom lost the right to social assistance.

In their submission on **Montenegro**, the ERRC and the Niksic-based Centre for Roma Initiatives (CRI) submitted information to the Committee focused primarily on discrimination in the areas of employment, education and access to health care and issues of violence against women. In addition, the report recalled the absence of comprehensive anti-discrimination law, while noting the adoption of the new “Roma Strategy” which includes a commitment of 0.2% of the state budget for its implementation.

In their submission on **Turkey**, the ERRC and the **Edirne Roma Association** (EDROM) underlined that domestic legislation in Turkey does not provide comprehensive protection against discrimination, and that the government had made no moves to remedy this. The submission, based on field research undertaken between July 2006 and January 2008 by the ERRC, EDROM and the Helsinki Citizen’s Assembly (hCa), notes a number of concerns related to discrimination against Roma in various sectoral fields including education, employment, housing and health care. In addition it highlights that Roma in Turkey are frequently victims of violence by both police and non-state actors. The reports are available for download on the ERRC website at: <http://www.errc.org/cikk.php?cikk=2129>.

For further information, contact: idaver.memedov@errc.org (Bulgaria and Turkey) and ostalinda.maya@errc.org (Montenegro).

ERRC highlights from 2008

The year 2008 witnessed a surge of racial unrest throughout Europe and anti-Romani manifestations were particularly disturbing. The fact that such acts against Roma in places like Italy and the Czech Republic, at times resembling pogroms, sounded an alarm bell for those willing to hear it. The year 2008 saw a group of eight NGOs, including the ERRC, launch the European Roma Policy Coalition to lobby for the adoption of an EU Framework Strategy on Roma Inclusion. Meanwhile, the European Union held the first-ever EU Roma Summit, but made only

small steps towards the creation of a European-wide, institutionalised Roma policy.

The ERRC was active at the grassroots level, conducting field research to document Roma rights abuses, compiling reports to communicate the situation highlighted during research, initiating and supporting strategic and remedial legal litigation and offering human rights training sessions throughout Europe.

The following is a synthesised account of the ERRC's main activities and achievements during 2008.

Strategic litigation and legal advocacy highlights

In 2008, the ERRC's legal programme yielded numerous victories in courts and tribunals at various levels. In addition to ongoing case work, the ERRC also focused increased attention in 2008 on the implementation of past judgments.

In March 2008, the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) delivered its judgment in the case of *Stoica v. Romania* concerning the racially motivated beating by police officers of Constantin Stoica, a Romani youth aged 14 at the time of the incident. The Court held that Romania was responsible for breaches of the prohibition of inhuman and degrading treatment (Article 3) in conjunction with the prohibition of discrimination (Article 14) of the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms. The Court granted the applicant, represented by the ERRC and Romani CRISS, 15,000 EUR in respect of non-pecuniary damages. Further information is available at: <http://www.errc.org/cikk.php?cikk=2940&archiv=1>.

In April 2008, the ECtHR ruled that Macedonia violated Article 3 of the ECHR in connection with the ill-treatment by police of Mr Amdi Dzeladinov, Mr Dudzihan Kamilov, Ms Remzie Durmišova, Mr Dagistan Alilov and Mr Mefail (Meta) Asanovski, Macedonian nationals of Romani ethnic origin. The Court awarded the applicants, represented by the ERRC and the Association for the Protection of Roma Rights – Štip, 3,000 EUR each in respect of non-pecuniary damages. Background information can be accessed at: <http://www.errc.org/cikk.php?cikk=2951&archiv=1>.

In June 2008, the Council of Europe's Committee of Social Rights (ECSR), which monitors the implementation of the (Revised) European Social Charter,

declared admissible a collective complaint submitted by the ERRC against Bulgaria (No 48/2008). The complaint, prepared in cooperation with the Bulgarian Helsinki Committee, alleged that, as of January 2008, Bulgarian legislation no longer ensured the right to adequate social assistance, disproportionately impacting Roma and women. Throughout the year, the ERRC was also in communication with the ECSR regarding another complaint against Bulgaria (No 46/2008), concerning violations of the right to health and discrimination against Roma in access to medical insurance. Both complaints can be found online at: http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/socialcharter/Complaints/Complaints_en.asp.

In September 2008, the ERRC, together with the Roma Education Fund, the Open Society Justice Initiative and the Open Society Institute, submitted a communication to the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on the implementation of the landmark judgment *D.H. and Others v. the Czech Republic*. The submitting organisations noted that despite the judgment and changes in legislation, racial segregation of Romani children remains a fixture of education in the Czech Republic, and recommended a series of measures that the Czech government must take, including enacting new legislation, to desegregate the country's schools. The full text of the communication can be found at: <http://www.errc.org/cikk.php?cikk=2982>.

Also in September 2008, the ECSR declared admissible the collective complaint filed by the ERRC against France (No 51/2008). Based on extensive field research in 2005-2008, the ERRC alleged that Travelers (a term used in the complaint to refer to Travellers, Roma and Gypsies that have lived in France for many years and have French citizenship) are discriminated

against with regard to access to housing (being the victims of forced evictions, residential segregation, substandard housing conditions and lack of security of tenure) and are socially excluded. The ERRC also alleged that France failed to take measures to address

the deplorable living conditions of Romani migrants from other Council of Europe Member States. Further information on the complaint can be found at: http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/socialcharter/Complaints/CC51Admiss_en.pdf.

Research and policy development

In 2008, the ERRC's research and policy development programme undertook in-depth first hand research on different themes in a range of countries. The results of this effort contributed to the development and publication of five full length reports by the ERRC, acting alone or in partnership with a host of organisations.

Italy

In response to the escalating human rights emergency in Italy in 2008, the ERRC undertook a number of field missions to the country to document extreme human rights violations in the context of the security measures adopted and the ensuing census in camps for Roma and Sinti.

In July 2008, the report '*Security a la Italiana: Fingerprinting, Extreme Violence and Harassment of Roma in Italy*' was launched by a coalition of NGOs including the ERRC, the Open Society Institute, the Centre on Housing Rights and Evictions, Romani CRISS and the Roma Civic Alliance of Romania. The report concludes with a series of recommendations for actions to be undertaken by the Italian government, the Romanian government and inter-governmental actors to end the ongoing human rights crisis in Italy and ensure respect for the rights of Roma in the country. The full report is available in English, Italian and Romanian at: <http://www.errc.org/db/03/4D/m0000034D.pdf>.

In October 2008, the ERRC observed the implementation of the census in several camps in Rome and made additional inquiries of the Italian authorities.

Turkey

Following two years of field research in Turkey, in April 2008 the book entitled '*We Are Here! Discriminatory Exclusion of Roma in Turkey*' was launched by the ERRC, the [Helsinki Citizen's Assembly](#) and [Edirne Roma Association](#). The report draws on research undertaken by the partners and reflects upon the experiences gained in the implementation of the project 'Promoting Roma Rights in Turkey', the partners' expertise in Roma rights advocacy, the promotion of civil society values and the grassroots mobilisation of Romani communities. One of the key focuses is the emergence and development of Romani civil society organisations in

Turkey. The report is available in English and Turkish on the ERRC website at: <http://www.errc.org/cikk.php?cikk=2975&archiv=1>.

Czech Republic

In November 2008, the ERRC issued a report developed in cooperation with the Roma Education Fund entitled '*Persistent Segregation of Roma in the Czech Education System*.' The report, based on first hand research in a sample of 20 practical schools in the Czech Republic, outlines the continued overrepresentation of Romani children in schools following a curriculum for children with mental disabilities. The report was launched at a conference co-hosted by the ERRC, OSI and REF in Prague on 13 November 2008 on the first anniversary of the landmark European Court ruling in *D.H and others v. the Czech Republic*. The full report is available on the ERRC website at: <http://www.errc.org/cikk.php?cikk=2992>.

Positive action to ensure equality

Throughout 2008, the ERRC conducted research on positive action measures in Hungary, Slovakia and Sweden, within a wider study on positive action measures in the EU conducted on behalf of the EC by a consortium including Bradford University, the ERRC and the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights. In Slovakia and Hungary, the research focused on positive action measures targeting Roma while in Sweden the research explored positive action for individuals disadvantaged on the basis of age, race or ethnicity, religion or belief, sexuality, gender or disability. The findings of this work contributed to a comparative report on positive action to be published by the European Commission in early 2009.

Roma Rights

Last year also saw the publication of an issue of *Roma Rights* entitled, '*Roma Education: The Promise of D.H.*' This edition of *Roma Rights* outlined the immediate follow up advocacy on the implementation of the judgment and examined its anticipated impacts. Furthermore, the journal aimed to spark debate on how *D.H.* can be used to fuel the development of the Roma rights discourse in Europe. The journal is available electronically at: <http://www.errc.org/cikk.php?cikk=2987>.

International advocacy

In 2008, the ERRC continued its close monitoring of European countries, issuing letters of concerns and addressing policy makers on problematic developments. Additionally, the ERRC took the initiative of organising various events to highlight and evaluate certain Roma rights abuses across Europe, and embarked on efforts to create a European-wide integrated policy approach.

European Roma Policy Coalition

In March 2008, the ERRC joined a coalition of nine NGOs to launch the **European Roma Policy Coalition** (ERPC) to lobby the EU to take decisive action to improve the situation of Roma in Europe. In a meeting held with Commissioner for Employment and Social Affairs Vladimir Spidla on the occasion of the launch, the Coalition expressed its concerns about the lack of a coherent EU policy for Roma inclusion and presented its recommendations for a more effective approach.

In July 2008, the ERPC issued a statement highlighting the failure of the EU's Social Agenda to propose any long term strategy aimed at Roma inclusion. In its statement, the ERPC called on the European Commission to devise an ambitious Framework Strategy for Roma Inclusion, matched by a Community Action Programme and supported by an institutional coordination mechanism with quantifiable targets and benchmarks; introduce an effective monitoring mechanism; and build upon current initiatives such as the Decade of Roma Inclusion, devised in close cooperation with member states and civil society.

On the occasion of the first ever EU Roma Summit, organised by the EC in September 2008 in Brussels, the ERPC called on the EU to commit to the development of a European Framework Strategy on Roma Inclusion.

On the eve of the Summit, the ERRC issued a public statement urging the EU to reaffirm human rights standards in policies on Roma. The statement drew on important points of law clarified in rulings on cases filed by the ERRC to various international human rights tribunals. The ERRC's statement is available at: <http://www.errc.org/cikk.php?cikk=2983>. Additional information on the Coalition and its activities are available at: www.rompolicy.eu.

Macedonia

In March 2008, the ERRC submitted a comprehensive parallel report on the human rights situation of Roma in the Republic of Macedonia to the United

Nations Human Rights Committee for use during the Committee's review of Macedonia's compliance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. The report is based on the results of monitoring the human rights problems of Roma in Macedonia by the ERRC and its partner organisations, including the National Roma Centrum, the Civil Society Research Center, the Roma Centre of Skopje and the Open Society Institute's Network Women's Program. Further information is available at: <http://www.errc.org/cikk.php?cikk=2946&archiv=1>.

Italy

In January and February 2008, a coalition of human rights organisations submitted a comprehensive parallel report on the human rights crisis of Roma and Sinti in Italy to the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, and held an oral briefing for the Committee's review of Italy's compliance with the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. Coalition members included international organisations ERRC and Centre on Housing Rights and Evictions (COHRE), and Italian organisations osservAzione and Sugar Drom. Featuring prominently in the report were high levels of anti-Romani hatred propagated by prominent Italian public officials and media, as well as the so-called "Pacts for Security" adopted in various Italian cities in 2006 and 2007, and November and December 2007 emergency decrees amending Italian legislation regulating the stay of EU citizens in Italy. The full report can be found on the ERRC website at: <http://www.errc.org/cikk.php?cikk=2932=#ERRC/COHRE/osservAzione/Sugar>.

Later, in May 2008, the ERRC sent a letter to high-ranking Italian government authorities demanding intervention following anti-Romani pogroms taking place in Naples in the same month. The letter, sent to the Italian Prime Minister, the Italian President, the Minister of Interior, the head of the Italy's National Office Against Racial Discrimination and the Public Prosecutor, pointed out to similarities between the recent events in Italy and anti-Romani pogroms taking place in Romania in the early 1990s. The ERRC also highlighted the responsibility of high ranking Italian politicians for contributing to the current climate of hostility against Roma in Italy. Further information and the letter itself is available at: <http://www.errc.org/cikk.php?cikk=2953&archiv=1>.

Following media reports that the European Commission had determined Italy's security package did not violate EU standards, in September 2008, the ERRC, together with the Open Society Justice Initiative, urged

the European Commissioner Jacques Barrot to clarify the EC's position on the fingerprinting of Roma in Italy. During meetings with Commissioner Barrot and his staff in September, the ERRC raised concerns about the *de facto* discriminatory nature of the measures and called on the Commission to hold Italy accountable for the practical application of the security measures. Detailed information on the issue and the communication are available at: <http://www.errc.org/cikk.php?cikk=2980>.

Russia

In June 2008, the ERRC submitted a comprehensive parallel report on the human rights situation of Roma in Russia to the United Nations CERD Committee, in advance of the Committee's July/August 2008 review of Russia's compliance with the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD). The report, based on extensive first hand research and media monitoring undertaken by the ERRC, is available at: <http://www.errc.org/cikk.php?cikk=2954&archiv=1>.

Croatia

In June 2008, the ERRC and the Roma Education Fund (REF) sent a letter to key Croatian authorities urging them to include protections against segregation as a form of discrimination within the scope of the comprehensive anti-discrimination law under development in Croatia. The draft law, discussed in the Croatian Parliament, would transpose the EU Race Equality Directive 2000/43/EC into the domestic legal framework, as required prior to Croatia's joining the European Union. The ERRC and REF urged Croatian authorities to include segregation as a specific form of discrimination in the law proposed for adoption. The Croatian parliament passed the anti-discrimination law in July 2008, including provisions on segregation, and it entered into force on 1 January 2009. Additional information and the letter are available at: <http://www.errc.org/cikk.php?cikk=2961&archiv=1>.

Bulgaria

In July 2008, the ERRC urged Bulgarian authorities to undertake urgent action to stop the forced eviction of approximately 180 Roma from the Batalova Vodenitsa neighbourhood in the Vazrazhdane district of Sofia. In its letter, addressed to Bulgaria's President Georgi Parvanov and Mayor of Sofia Boyko Borisov, the ERRC recalled that the Bulgarian state has a positive obligation to ensure that evictions, when carried out, satisfy respect for the dignity of the persons concerned, even when they are illegal occupants, and that alternative accommodation or other compensatory measures are available in order to ensure that the persons evicted

are not made homeless. The letter is available at: <http://www.errc.org/cikk.php?cikk=2962>.

Ukraine

In July 2008, the ERRC addressed the Ukrainian Minister of Interior, Mr Iurii Lutsenko, to express deep concern about the failure of the Ukrainian justice system with respect to serious breaches of the fundamental human rights of Roma in the Ukraine and urged him to use the full powers of his office to ensure justice for the Romani victims of racially-motivated violence in the Ukraine. The letter followed years of litigation effort in two separate cases in the Ukraine. The text of the letter may be found at: <http://www.errc.org/cikk.php?cikk=2974>.

In a separate matter, in August 2008, the ERRC addressed the Ukrainian Minister of Education and Science, Mr Ivan Vakarchiuk, to express deep concern regarding the denial of equal access to quality education for Romani children in the Ukraine and urged Minister Vakarchiuk to use the full powers of his office to ensure such access before the academic year 2008/2009 began by requesting the necessary measures be taken by the authorities. The communication, based on first hand documentation of education discrimination of Romani children in the Ukraine, can be found at: <http://www.errc.org/cikk.php?cikk=2977>.

Romania

In October 2008, the ERRC sent a letter of concern to Romanian authorities, drawing attention to the hunger strike of human rights activist Istvan Haller over the persistent failure of the Romanian government to address the serious rights violations caused by three anti-Romani pogroms in the early 1990s in Hadareni, Plaiesi de Jos and Casinul Nou, Romania. Following ECtHR judgments in these cases, brought by the ERRC, the Romanian government undertook to implement community development projects that included the setting up of infrastructure, as well as anti-discrimination, educational and other social measures. However, the Government had failed to fulfil its legal obligations at the time of Mr Haller's hunger strike. For further information, please see: <http://www.errc.org/cikk.php?cikk=2984>.

Czech Republic

In November 2008, one year after the groundbreaking judgment of the European Court of Human Rights in *D.H. and Others v. the Czech Republic*, the ERRC, Roma Education Fund, Open Society Fund Prague and the coalition of NGOs "Together to schools" for the Czech Republic co-hosted an international conference entitled, *Education without Barriers: Romani Children in the Czech Republic* in Prague.

The conference was organised under the patronage of the Czech Ministry of Education. With the participation of a dynamic group of educational experts, local and international civil society organisations and Czech officials, this meeting was an important step towards ensuring equal access to education for Roma. Further information on the Conference and the conference materials in English and Czech, see: <http://www.errc.org/cikk.php?cikk=2986&archiv=1>.

Also in November 2008, the ERRC sent a letter to Czech authorities expressing its concern regarding violent clashes between the police and anti-Romani protesters and the rise of anti-Romani hate speech in the Czech Republic. The ERRC urged Czech authorities to ensure that all those who participated in the riot are prosecuted to the full extent of the law and that the racial aspect of the incident is taken into account. Additional information can be found at: <http://www.errc.org/cikk.php?cikk=2993>.

Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

In February 2008, the ERRC hosted Mr Knut Vollebaek, OSCE High Commissioner for National Minorities, at its office in Budapest. The ERRC welcomed Mr Vollebaek and his advisers during a high level visit to Hungary, in which the Commissioner met Dr László Sólyom, President of Hungary, the Foreign Affairs Minister

Kinga Göncz, members of the Hungarian Parliament's foreign affairs committee and politicians of various parties. During the meeting, Mr Vollebaek and ERRC staff members discussed the most pressing concerns of Roma in Europe today, and explored possible avenues of co-operation. Additional information is available at: <http://www.errc.org/cikk.php?cikk=2937&archiv=1>.

Women's Worlds Congress

In July 2008, the ERRC, in coalition with the Ostrava-based Group of Women Harmed by Sterilisation and the Peacework Development Fund, launched a global campaign seeking support for Romani women victimised by coerced sterilisation practices in Czech Republic, Hungary and Slovakia. The campaign, *Compensation Now*, was launched around the 2008 Women's Worlds Congress in Madrid, Spain, which brought together thousands of women's rights advocates from around the world. During the Congress, supported by simultaneous actions in Czech Republic and Hungary, activists from more than 40 countries signed and sent hundreds of postcards and letters to the Czech, Hungarian and Slovak governments urging them to respond to calls for public apologies and compensation for coerced sterilisation survivors. Extensive information on the campaign can be found on the ERRC website at: <http://www.errc.org/cikk.php?cikk=2965>.

Human Rights Training

In 2008, the ERRC implemented a number of training programmes designed to develop the capacities of grassroots Roma & minority activists and legal professionals to undertake effective human rights work.

Hungary

In July 2008, the ERRC held its in-house training and capacitation Roma Rights summer workshop for Romani activists and students. The 10-day workshop was attended by 17 participants from Bulgaria, Hungary, Italy, Kosovo, Macedonia, Moldova, Romania, the Ukraine

and the United Kingdom. Additional information about the workshop can be accessed at: <http://www.errc.org/cikk.php?cikk=2949&archiv=1>.

Kosovo

In 2008, the ERRC conducted a total of seven training workshops in Kosovo. Three of the workshops were for minority activists on anti-discrimination law advocacy. An additional four seminars were conducted for judges/prosecutors and lawyers. The aim of the workshops was to develop an organic, coherent and robust approach to anti-discrimination work in Kosovo.

Research Officer – Catherine Twigg

Catherine Twigg joined the ERRC in January 2009 as Projects/Research Officer. Catherine works with senior ERRC researchers to ensure the smooth implementation of several ongoing Europe-wide research studies. She recently completed her Masters at New York University (NYU) in European Studies and was previously an intern at the ERRC. Prior to moving to Budapest, Catherine worked at NYU (Office of the Executive Vice President and Office of Legal Counsel) and at the Council on Foreign Relations.



Vacancy announcements

The ERRC is looking for **experienced lawyers** for its legal defense programme to litigate Roma rights, ethnic/race discrimination and related cases in domestic, European and international courts and to devise and conduct training sessions for Central and East European lawyers in public interest litigation strategies and techniques.

The ERRC is also seeking **four legal consultants** to work on a project it is currently implementing in partnership with People in Need Slovakia (PiN) on trafficking Romani youth and women in Eastern and Central Europe. Within this project, implemented in Hungary, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Romania and Bulgaria, the ERRC and PiN will analyse the effec-

tiveness of national laws and policies in prevention and victim support, and are looking for consultants to help analyse the legal frameworks in each country.

Additionally, the ERRC is seeking an experienced **Financial Manager** to provide efficient & professional management of the financial resources of the organisation. The selected candidate shall ensure financial resources are budgeted, expended, monitored, accounted for and reported under proper authority and control.

The full job ads are available on the ERRC website at: <http://www.errc.org/cikk.php?cikk=3003>. The ERRC is committed to equal opportunity for all. Romani candidates are particularly encouraged to apply.

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