



High Level Event on Roma Youth Empowerment

Promoting the key role of Roma youth  
as a driving force in the Roma  
integration process 😊

9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> October 2016



Hotel Crowne Plaza, Hodžovo námestie 2, Bratislava, Slovakia

## Sunday 09<sup>th</sup> October 2016

### 14.00 – 14.30 Welcoming of the youth participants

Chair: Mr Michal Šľachta, *Youth Work Coordinator, Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma communities*

Opening: Mrs Lina Papamichalopoulou, *Head of Unit on Non Discrimination policies and Roma coordination, European Commission*

Mr Ján Hero, *Director of the Department of the Conceptions and Analysis, Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities*

Mrs Eva Masárová, *Director of the Department of Youth, Ministry of the Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic*

### 14.30 – 16.00 Let's start! (Introduction of participants and expectations from the conference)

### 16.00 – 16.30 ☕ Coffee Break

### 16.30 – 18.00 Roma in the Youth Policies (Information session on policies which are in place)

### 19.00 – 20.00 🍴 Networking dinner (All participants)

### 20.00 – 22.00 Cultural program (All participants)

# Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2016

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**08.00 – 09.00**     **Registration of participants**

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**09.00 – 10.00**     **Political opening**

Chair:     Mrs Lina Papamichalopoulou, *Head of Unit on Non Discrimination Policies and Roma Coordination, the European Commission*

Opening: Mrs Věra Jourová, *Commissioner for Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality, European Commission*  
Mrs Lucia Žitňanská, *Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Justice, the Slovak Republic*  
Mr Ján Richter, *Minister of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic*  
Mr Jiří Dienstbier, *Minister for Human Rights and Equal Opportunities, the Czech Republic*  
Mr Ábel Ravasz, *Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak republic for Roma Communities*

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**10.00 – 10.15**     **The outcomes of the European Youth Conference in Košice**

Presentation by Mr Peter Krajňák, *State Secretary of the Ministry of the Education, Science, Research and Sport of the SR*

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**10.15 – 10.30**     **Situation of Roma Youth in Europe**

Presentation by Valeriu Nicolae, *Special Representative of the Secretary General for Roma Issues, Council of Europe*

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**10.30 – 11.00**     ☕ **Coffee break**

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**11.00 – 13.00**     **Parallel Workshops**

**Workshop 1: Roma Youth Leadership and Participation**

Kick-off speakers: Mrs Soraya Post, *Member of the European Parliament*  
Mrs Raluca Diroescu, *SALTO-YOUTH Participation Resource Centre*  
Mrs Shejla Fidani, *Roma Initiative Office, Open Society Foundations*  
Rapporteur: Mrs Henriett Dinok, *Organisation for Security and Co-Operation in Europe – Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights*

**Workshop 2: Roma Youth Personal Empowerment and Identity**

Kick-off speakers: Mr Damian Draghici, *Member of the European Parliament*  
Mr Conor O'Neill, *European Youth Forum*  
Mrs Cristina Marian, *Forum of European Roma Young People*  
Rapporteur: Mrs Karolina Mirga, *Roma Youth Network TERNYPE*

**Workshop 3: Access to Social Rights: Education and Employment**

Kick-off speakers: Mr Péter Niedermuller, *Member of the European Parliament*  
Mr Michael O'Flaherty, *Director of EU Fundamental Rights Agency*  
Mr Juraj Vozár, *Association of Young Roma*  
Rapporteur: Mr Marek Baláž, *European Roma Rights Centre*

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**13.00 – 14.30**     🍴 **Buffet lunch**

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**14.30 – 16.00**     **Continuation of the discussions within the parallel workshops**

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**16.00 – 16.30**     ☕ **Coffee Break**

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**16.30 – 17.30**     **Conclusions from the workshops by rapporteurs**

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**17.30 – 19.00**     🍴 **Buffet dinner**

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**19.00**     *Transfer to the venue of the European Roma Spirit Award (walking distance)*

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**19.30 – 22.00**     **European Roma Spirit Award**

*Cultural event organised by the Association for Culture, Education and Communication (ACEC), Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic and the Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities*

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# Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2016

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## 09.00 – 09.45 Political opening

Chair: Mr Ján Hero, *Director of the Department of Conceptions and Analysis, Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities*

Opening: Mr Štefan Rozkopál, *Head of Cabinet of the President of the Slovak Republic*  
Mr Peter Krajňák, *State Secretary of the Ministry of the Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic*  
Mr Ábel Ravasz, *Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities*  
Mrs Lina Papamichalopolou, *Head of Unit on Non-discrimination policies and Roma coordination Unit, the European Commission*

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## 09.45 – 11.15 Panel 1 – Roma Youth as the Leaders of the Roma Integration Process

Moderated by Mr Ábel Ravasz, *Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities*

Rapporteurs: Mrs Henriett Dinok, *Organisation for Security and Co-Operation in Europe – Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights*  
Mrs Karolina Mirga, *Roma youth Network TERNYPE*

Panellists: Mr Károly Czibere, *Minister of State for Social Affairs and Inclusion, Hungary*  
Mr Andis Geizans, *Chief of Staff of the Minister's Office, Latvia*  
Mrs Soraya Post, *Member of the European Parliament*  
Mr Valeriu Nicolay, *Special Representative of Secretary General of the Council of Europe*  
Mr Ivan Ivanov, *Director of the European Roma Information Office*

Plenary Discussion

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## 11.15 – 11.45 ☕ Coffee Break

## 11.45 – 13.30 Panel 2 – Access to the Social Rights: Education and Employment

Moderated by Mrs Lina Papamichalopolou, *Head of Unit on Non Discrimination policies and Roma coordination, European Commission*

Rapporteurs: Mr Marek Baláž, *European Roma Rights Centre*  
Ms Reneta Krivonozova, *Representative of Roma youth, Bulgaria*

Panellists: Mr Stanislav Štech, *State Secretary of Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, the Czech Republic*  
Mr Peter Krajňák, *State Secretary of the Ministry of the Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic*  
Mr Lucian Mircescu, *Subsecretary of State on Youth, Ministry of Youth and Sports, Romania*  
Mrs Livia Jaróka, *Former Member of the European Parliament*  
Mr Michael O'Flaherty, *Director of EU Fundamental Rights Agency*

Plenary Discussion

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## 13.30 – 14.00 Conclusions from the discussions on the way forward and closing remarks

Mr Ábel Ravasz, *Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities*  
Lina Papamichalopolou, *Head of Unit on Non Discrimination policies and Roma coordination, European Commission*

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## 14.00 🍴 Buffet lunch followed by departure of the participants

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