



PUBLIC POLICIES FOR ROMA

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**Assessment report of national programs financed
by European Union for Roma inclusion**

Jointly for our common future

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PUBLIC POLICIES FOR ROMA



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ABOUT AUTHORS

Mariea IONESCU is a law graduate and holds a PhD in Sociology, is a civil servant currently holding the position of advisor in the National Agency for Roma. She has extensive experience in public administration, the management of institutions and non-governmental organizations, community development, project management, human rights, national and European public policies.

From 1992 to 2000 she worked for various non-governmental organizations as a human rights activist. She is a founding member of "Împreună" Agency for Community Development. She contributed to the development of Government Decision 137/2000 on the prevention and sanctioning of all forms of discrimination, later enacted in Law 48/ 2002. As an expert mandated by the Roma community, she helped draft the Government Strategy for improving the condition of the Roma, enforced as Government Decision 430/2001, and has made a valuable contribution to the development of public policies aimed at the Roma in Romania.

Mariea was the coordinator of the Office for Roma Victims of Deportation to Transnistria and consultant of the Association for the Defense of Human Rights (APADO) Braşov. She is currently a board member of various associations and foundations, such as Soros Foundation Romania and ACCEPT. Other organisations that she has worked with include: the Ecumenical Association of Churches in Romania– AIDRom, RROMANI CRISS Roma Center for Social Intervention and Studies, Aven Amentza, the Roma Party, the Roma Ethnic Community of Romania, Save the Children, CRCR, the Ethnocultural Diversity Resource Center in Cluj-Napoca, European Roma Rights Center – Budapest, Co-Operating Dutch Funds – The Netherlands, Spolu International – The Netherlands etc.

Between 2001 and 2005, as a civil servant with the National Office for the Roma, she acted as head of the Project Implementation Unit in charge of the implementation of programs targeting the Roma; in this capacity she

monitored and assessed the provision of technical assistance. She was appointed president of the newly-established National Agency for the Roma, and she held this office (the equivalent of a secretary of state) from 2005 to 2007.

Mariea has authored and coordinated a significant number of books, studies and articles on community development processes, social development, Roma access to the labour market and Roma inclusion. She was a member of teams working on various research reports on the condition of the Roma in Romania, relations between the Roma and public authorities and institutions, relations between the Roma and the police, instances of violence between the Roma and the majority population, and the situation of women.

Her distinguished service was recognised by the National Agency for the Roma (2007), "Împreună" Agency (2011), the Roma Civil Alliance of Romania (2005). In 2005, VIP magazine awarded her a special prize for "Sangre Ardiente", a cultural event created by Liza Panait and directed by Beatrice Rancea. In 2007 she received a prize from VIP and Amfiteatru magazines for fighting discrimination. In 2010 she was awarded a diploma of excellence by Catalactica Association for Social and Economic Development and Promotion.

Simona Maria STĂNESCU is a senior researcher within the Research Institute for Quality of Life, Romanian Academy. Simona is a sociologist and attended courses at Master and PhD level in Sweden and Denmark. Simona holds a PhD in sociology from the Faculty of Sociology and Social Assistance, Bucharest University, Romania with a thesis focusing on current challenges of the welfare state.

Simona is the chief editor of Social Innovation on-line Journal (<http://www.inovatiасociala.ro>) coordinated by the Research Institute for Quality of Life.

Simona coordinated national and international interdisciplinary research teams. Her main research interests include: welfare state, institution building in the social field, social policy, human rights, vulnerable groups, accession process to the European Union, and social economy.

Selected coordinated books: Romanian's Accession to the European Union: impact on the Romanian Welfare State (coordinator 2004); Encyclopedia of Social Development (co-coordinator 2007); Social Inclusion Policies during the Economic Crisis Period (co-coordinator 2010); Research Report on Social Economy in Romania from a Comparative European Perspective (coordinator 2010); Legal and Equal on Labour Market for Roma Communities: a Diagnosis of Factors Influencing Employment of the Roma Population in Romania (co-coordinator 2010); Solidarity, a new source of economic power: best practices in social economy (co-coordinator 2011); Profit for People – opening report within the project The Model of Social Economy in Romania (coordinator 2012); An Inclusive Labour Market in Rural Areas: Poverty, Social Exclusion and Labour Opportunities Among Youth Living in Rural Areas (co-coordinator 2012); A Guide on Setting Up Social Enterprises for Roma People (coordinator 2013); Recommendations Report for Social Economy: Romania 2013 (coordinator 2013), Welfare state between survival, reform and European accession (2013), and Demand and Supply of Social Economy - Two Development Regions of Romania (co-coordinator 2013).

**Part I. EVALUATION REPORT OF THE
NATIONAL PROGRAMS FINANCED BY THE
EUROPEAN UNION FOR THE ROMA
INCLUSION IN ROMANIA**

Mariea Ionescu

INTRODUCTION

The evaluation report of the national programs and of the financings for the Roma inclusion in Romania intended for the integration/inclusion of the Roma minority is an objective within the project *“Efficient programs for the active integration/inclusion of the Roma people in South-Eastern Europe”*. The priority axis: the development of the trans-national synergies for supporting the areas of sustainable growth, financed by the European Commission (CE) through the program of trans-national cooperation South-Eastern Europe, implemented in 18 partners from eight countries: Albania (AL), Bulgaria (BG), Italy (IT), Romania (RO), Hungary (HU), Ukraine, Slovakia, Serbia, Slovenia. The partners in Romania are the National Agency for the Roma (ANR) and the Agency for Community Development “Together”.

The objective of the analysis

The objective of the analysis is to identify and analyze the successes and the failures of the public policies from the partner countries, in order to identify the strength and the weaknesses, to analyze the financing frameworks of the projects intended for the social inclusion of the Roma people, and also to formulate recommendations for the social players interested at European and national level with the purpose of improving the financial programs and the national strategies.

The research methodology

The proposed methodology was based on the use of two main research methods.

For part I. The analysis of some official documents those are relevant from the perspective of the research theme. Alongside the data held by the ANR, including administrative and archive data that were turned to good account in this report and that contributed to reduce the costs intended for the project’s research, some additional data was collected. This means

public policies with an impact on the Roma minority from Romania, European and national strategies, primary and secondary legislative acts, programmatic documents enacted at national level, international and national specialized articles, other analysis, studies and research reports. The secondary analysis of some official statistic data or of some data that come from various researches carried out on the implementation of some projects within the Roma communities.

The second part of the report is based on desk research of national information provided by PAIRS reports. Complementarily international comparative reports were used as well as national public reports as well as secondary analysis of international data bases:

- 2009 European Union Minorities and Discrimination Survey (EU-MIDIS) carried out by European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights;
- 2011 Roma and non-Roma population survey¹ carried out by European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP);
- 2011 Regional Roma survey² carried out by UNDP, World Bank, European Commission.

A preliminary validation of the research findings occurred during the PAIRS workshop held in Sofia mid June 2013.

Research methods

For part 1. After the phases of *documenting and collecting the information*, in order to structure the report, we have used social indicators that have had an influence on the inclusion process of the Roma minority. Starting from the assumption that the **state intervention** that has own mechanisms and resources, through timely **planned projects**, can determine the integration/socio-economical and cultural inclusion³ of the Roma

¹ Bulgaria, Czech Republic, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, and Spain

² Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, and The former Yugoslavian Republic of Macedonia

³ The European Commission defines social inclusion as a process that is used to ensure that the persons who are facing the risk of poverty and exclusion acquire the necessary