



**CIVIL
RIGHTS
DEFENDERS**



PERSPECTIVE FROM THE GROUND:

Opportunities for Roma Inclusion
in the Western Balkans

2021 WESTERN BALKANS ROMA SUMMIT

17- 18 November 2021

Hybrid format offline and online on KUDO platform

Translation available in Albanian, BCMS, Macedonian,
Romani, and Turkish

17 November 2021

09:00 - 09:15

Welcome Address

Goran Miletic, Director for Europe and MENA, Civil Rights Defenders
Karin Hernmarck Ahliny, Ambassador, Embassy of Sweden in Pristina

09:15 - 09:35

Keynote Speeches

Mr. Peter Pollak, Member of the European Parliament – Video Message
Mrs. Evin Incir, Member of the European Parliament

Moderator: **Tommaso Nodari**, Civil Rights Defenders

09:40 - 10:50

Panel Discussion: Jurisprudence related to Roma community before the European Court of Human Rights: Practice and Challenges

Panelists:

Lilla Farkas, Migration Policy Group
Goran Miletic, Director for Europe and MENA, Civil Rights Defenders
Senada Sali, Legal Manager, European Roma Rights Center

Moderator: **Ljubisa Bascarevic**, Senior Project Officer, Council of Europe Office in Pristina

Questions / Discussion

10:50 - 11:05

Coffee Break

11:10 - 12:15

Panel Discussion: Challenges with the Inclusion of Roma in Institutional Dealing with the Past Processes in Kosovo

Panelists:

Sakibe Jashari, Consultant
Baki Svirca, Head of Division, Ministry of Justice

Moderator: **Vincent Hug**, Human Security Adviser of Swiss Embassy, Pristina

12:20 – 13:30

Lunch

13:30 – 14:40

Panel Discussion: Empowering Roma Youth

Panelists:

Jelena Reljic, Opre Roma Serbia, Serbia

Avni Mustafa, Executive Director, Roma Versitas Kosovo – RKV, Kosovo

Mustafa Jakupov, Regional Roma Youth Education Association – RROMA, North Macedonia

Questions / Discussion

Moderator: **Marigona Shabiu**, Executive Director, Youth Initiative for Human Rights Kosovo

14:40 – 15:00

Coffee Break

15:00 – 17:00

Workshop: Advocating for Human Rights at the EU

Facilitator: **Tommaso Nodari**, Civil Rights Defenders

Participants will get an overview of the European Institutions and the role they play, especially for what concerns the EU's foreign action. Participants will also get a sense of which institutions are interesting avenues for human rights advocacy, how to approach them and what they can do for human rights defenders from the Western Balkans and Turkey.



18 November 2021

09:30 – 10:45 Panel Discussion: Report on the Situation of Roma in Turkey by Civil Rights Defenders

Panelists:

Beril Eski, Researcher

Elmas Kockun, Roma Rights Activist

Moderator: **Sinan Gokcen**, Civil Rights Defenders

10:45 – 11:00 Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:15 Panel Discussion: Human Rights of Roma LGBTI+

Panelists:

Cornelia Ernst, Member of European Parliament

Dr. Dezso Mate, Academy in Exile Fellow at Kulturwissenschaftliche Institut Essen (KWI)

Xheni Karaj, Executive director, Alliance Against LGBT Discrimination, Albania

Moderator: **Marko Mihailovic**, Director, Pride Society

12:15 - 12:25 Conclusions, Sinan Gocken, Civil Rights Defenders

12:30 – 13:45 Lunch

14:00 – 18:00 Workshop: Roma and the LGBTI+ Community Facilitated by Rajmonda Sylbije (closed participation, by Civil Rights Defenders invitation only)

The Roma LGBTI+ workshop will convene members from the Roma LGBTI+ community in the region to discuss challenges and issues related to identifying and addressing multiple discrimination. This interactive workshop will provide a safe environment to share skills and experiences and identify the community's needs and priorities. The workshop will be facilitated by Rajmonda Sylbije.
