

**Generation of Change?  
How to achieve equal opportunities for young Roma, starting now!**

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2015**

<b>Breakfast of Champions &amp; Knowledge Fair</b>	<b>8.30 – 12.00</b>
<b>Networking Lunch</b>	<b>12.00 – 13.30</b>
<b>Expert Workshops</b>	<b>13.30 – 16.30</b>

**Venue: Mundo B, Rue d'Edimbourg 26, 1050 Brussels**

Can today's young Roma be the generation of change? Can they shake off the poverty and stigmatization that paralyzed earlier generations and present a more positive portrait of their communities?

The ERGO Network and ternype Knowledge Fair showcases that there are no reasons left to postpone the actions needed to break the vicious cycle of Roma exclusion. Take the opportunity to meet young activists and experts from across Europe, who share their experiences and bring alive the arguments for more resolute action.

**8.30 - 10.00: Breakfast of champions**

Policy makers and activists in dialogue about the key challenges for a Generation of Change.  
With:

**Péter Niedermüller**, Member of European Parliament (Hungary, S&D)  
**Soraya Post**, Member of the European Parliament (Sweden, S&D) (tbc)

**Stefan De Keersmaecker**, Head of Unit (Acting) ESF and FEAD: Policy & Legislation, European Commission, DG Employment.

**Jan Jarab**, Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

*in dialogue with:*

**Karolina Mirga**, chair of ternype International Roma Youth Network  
**Ivanka Čonkova**, ERGO Network's Young Roma Advocate  
**Atanas Stoyanov**, Young Roma Activist

Moderator: **Gabriela Hrabanova**, Deputy Director ERGO Network

*We serve coffee, tea, juice and croissants.*

### **10.00 - 12.00: Knowledge fair**

Experience the 'Generation of Change': a parallel programme of crisp, succinct and interactive pitches by activists and experts in four rounds. They share key insights from recent work. Pick your topic of interest and discover opportunities and obstacles for the 'Generation of Change'.

#### **I - Occupational Opportunities:**

##### **Does the Youth Guarantee reach the 'hard to reach'?**

*Presentation of a practice test of Youth Guarantee measures in five countries and suggestions for improvements (ERGO Network, European Youth Forum)*

##### **Volunteering your way forward**

*The EVS as jumping board for international involvement (Phiren Amenca)*

##### **Good practice in labour market mediation**

*Examples of employment measures for Roma (City of Gent, FOYER Brussels)*

#### **II – Activism for a generation of change:**

##### **Digital Empowerment**

*Mobile and social mobilize youth as active citizens (ERGO Network)*

##### **Youth counters hate speech**

*How media monitoring can bring about slow change press representation of Roma (Integro Association)*

##### **Remember the past, act in the present and change the future!**

*On the importance of remembering the Roma Genocide to foster solidarity among young people (ternype International Roma Youth Network)*

#### **III - Policy approaches for equal opportunities:**

##### **Moderating local change**

*The crucial challenge of establishing the expertise needed to make inclusive strategy planning a success (Life Together - Ostrava)*

##### **#FightUnfair – Roma Children Inclusion Goals”**

*Policy coherence from early age to adulthood as key to successful promotion of equal opportunities (UNICEF)*

##### **Monitoring for quality**

*ERGO Network's Quality Audit mobilizes communities to monitor and improve CLLD strategies (ERGO Network)*

**12.00 – 13.30: Networking lunch**

**13.30 – 16.30: Expert Workshops**  
(separate registration required)

Focusing on activists and civil society representative at EU or national level, two experts workshops explore in depth the arguments that can drive policy debate forward.

**1. Equality of Opportunity for Roma in Europe**

Your choices, efforts and talents should decide what you can achieve in life, not your circumstances at birth. Drawing on in depth research, the World Bank applies its 'Equality of opportunity approach' to the situation of Europe's Roma and makes the case that bridging the gap between Roma and non-Roma can and must be done.

*In cooperation with the World Bank*

**2. Understanding anti-Gypsyism and making anti-Gypsyism understood**

To face discrimination is not unique to Roma; yet the enduring prejudice and racism that Roma experience has certain specific characteristics and effects. Anti-Gypsyism is widespread, but takes many guises that all require a specific answer. This workshop aims to make the concept 'actionable', by unraveling what it means and what can be done about it.

*In cooperation with the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), with special contribution from ENAR and the Zentralrat Deutscher Sinti und Roma.*