

THANK YOU ... ?!

**PARTNERSHIP FOR ROMA
INCLUSION**

Life for Roma may change whenever governments adopt policies and programmes to promote social inclusion and equal opportunities. But does it?

Roma themselves play a key role in ensuring that commitments translate into results – if they can express their common voice and share the responsibility to find solutions. The international campaign **“Thank you ...?! Partnering for Roma inclusion”** wants to boost the visibility of Roma as citizens of their societies – with equal rights and duties – and draw attention to the role of grassroots organizations as watchdogs and partners for policy implementation.

The campaign explores combinations of policy monitoring – at community level – targeted advocacy and the mobilization of citizens, Roma and non-Roma, to make cities and towns a better place for all.

The “Thank You... ?!”-campaign is an initiative of ERGO Network and its member organizations in Albania, Bulgaria, Moldova, Serbia and Turkey. From October 2010 they take a close look at the state of affairs in their own countries and act together to improve the results of Roma Inclusion policies.

RAA (Albania): Thank you, Mr Mayor!

What if mayors take such different approaches to address Roma issues in their cities – one active, one reluctant? Roma Active Albania (RAA) campaigns for “Local Partnership for Roma Inclusion” and encourages municipalities to look at each other’s approaches and results. The campaign explores what effects can be reached when communities and local administrations create a partnership to find solutions and commit to carry them out. The campaign also wants to strengthen the capacity and presence of local Roma groups to keep an active eye on what their municipalities are doing. Mobilization and awareness raising actions are an indispensable part of the campaign, to create public support for positive action.

**FALEMINDERIT
Z. KRYETARI!**

Integro (Bulgaria): Thank you, Mayor!

Many people in Bulgaria take for granted that Roma integration is bound to fail. Even Roma themselves have come to believe this. Integro wants to challenge this idea with the message “Roma – Fellow-citizens with untapped potential”. It conveys that cities can fare better when Roma are taken as equal citizens and when problems are not bemoaned, but solved. Integro’s campaign combines local policy monitoring and advocacy with mobilization actions to promote positive effects at local level and the participation of Roma in civic life. Integro also wants to initiate a wider debate in the media on how Roma issues are depicted, in particular by mobilizing and involving Roma and non-Roma students.

**БЛАГОДАРИМ ТИ,
КМЕТЕ!**

Tarna Rom (Moldova): Thank you, Mr. Prime Minister!

Although many more Roma than officially recognised live in Moldova, the issue of Roma exclusion is largely absent from the political agenda. The Moldovan Coalition of Roma Voices, in which Tarna Rom plays a central role, will produce a short film to portray the contrast between official reports and the reality of Roma life in Moldova. With parliamentary elections coming up, their actions want to encourage voters and political parties to take Roma issues into consideration. Crucially, the campaign aims to make the government aware it needs to adopt a new national Roma strategy when the current one expires at the end of 2010.

**MULTUMESC, DOMNULE
PRIM MINISTRU!**

Democratic Union of Roma (Serbia): Thank you ... Decade Parade

The Decade of Roma Inclusion 2005-2015 is halfway. DUR compares the Decade Action Plan, adopted by the government, and the Decade Watch reports with the actual situation of families in seven municipalities across Serbia. Do they know of the Decade and has it made any difference to their lives? DUR will use this pilot research to identify what difference distinct regional approaches to Roma inclusion make. Actions to disseminate their findings wider, aim to strengthen DUR's call for a more transparent and committed approach to addressing Roma exclusion.

**HVALA ZA...
PARADU DEKADE!**

EDROM (Turkey): Thank you, Mr. Governor!

In December 2009 the Turkish government took the initiative to improve the situation of Roma. EDROM and its partners in the Thrakya Network closely monitor the government's plans and promises in their communities. During the second national Roma meeting on 10 December 2010, they will present their findings to officials, Roma representatives and NGOs. To inspire others to follow suit, EDROM wants to advertise the positive approach of the Governor of Edirne in the field of education; street actions and media will bring his approach to the attention of the wider public.

**TEŞEKKÜRLER,
SAYIN VALİ**

The European Roma Grassroots Organisations (ERGO) Network brings together and supports organizations with a common perspective on Roma grassroots empowerment and equal citizenship, and expresses their concerns to European policy makers.

For more information, visit our website:
www.ergonetWORK.org/thankyou



"Thank you ... ?! Partnering for Roma Inclusion" is part of the ERGO campaign "REACT – Make Europe an Equal Place for Roma"

Responsibility Empowerment
Activism Citizenship Transparency

REACT

**Make Europe an
equal place for Roma**



With support from
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