



WORK PACKAGE 4

Empowerment of Roma for participation and defence of rights

Project R-HOME

Roma: Housing, Opportunities, Mobilisation and Empowerment



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OBJECTIVE

Promotion of active citizenship among the Roma communities and empowering Roma people to enforce and defend their rights and become aware and proactive citizens participating in political, social, cultural and civil life.



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ACTIVITIES

1. Short videos with interviews to Roma about their housing situation;
2. Video documentary on Roma housing situation in partner countries;
3. Meeting with Roma people



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IMPORTANCE OF EMPOWERMENT

- To have the power, right and authority to do something;
- Represent own interests
- Active role in society



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SITUATION OF EXCLUSION

- It's not part of the Roma culture (heterogeneity of the communities)
- Consequences of a long history of antigypsyism in Europe
- It's a political will.



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ROMA EMPOWERMENT

- FIRST ROMANI CONGRESS – 1971
- GERMANY – DACHAU HUNGER STRIKE - 1980
- SPAIN /CATALONIA



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SPANISH/CATALONIAN CONTEXT

- End Dictatorship / beginning democracy
- Boom of associations movement – followed by a Roma movement
- Aims changed over the years



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SPANISH/CATALONIAN CASE

- Roma State Council – advisory body
- Department of Roma Issues – Government of Catalonia
- Barcelona Roma Municipal Council



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CHALLENGES

- It's not an own model
- Dependency on public funding/limitations
- Political powerless
- New generations



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POLITICAL COMMITMENT

- Political will is needed
- Roma people into political life is needed
- After nearly 40 years – 3 Roma in the Spanish Parliament



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CONCLUSIONS

- Roma must speak with their own voice
- Heterogeneity of the Roma people and communities
- Different social and political context
- Diversity of priorities – not 1 solution to all
- I don't want your HELP – I need your SUPPORT!



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NAIS TUQE!

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