



## Centre for Roma Studies and Cultural Relations

ANTAR-RASHTRIYA SAHAYOG PARISHAD

ROMA NEWSLETTER

Roma: Connecting with Indians

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### Roma's Political Party of North Macedonia Demands Early Parliamentary Elections

The Democratic Forces of the Roma (DSR), which is a Roma's political party in the Republic of North Macedonia, demands an early parliamentary election since in the proposed Cabinet reshuffle no Roma representative is being included. DSR party has appealed to MPs not to support the Cabinet reshuffling proposal of the Government. In view of inadequate representation of Roma in governmental institutions, it has urged the Romani people to think carefully about who they will vote for in the next parliamentary elections.

#### Read More at

[https://kurir.mk/makedonija/vesti/demokratskite-sili-na-romite-nitu-edem-rom-ne-se-najde-vo-rekonstruiranata-vlada-sdsm-gi-iskoristuva-romite-samo-za-glasovi-barame-predvremeni-izbori/?fbclid=IwAR0A6mtLaKdPLNijWc3pa65yJ4dByxveDoT\\_8vzeecZNNNOTYrO3RBLWuq8](https://kurir.mk/makedonija/vesti/demokratskite-sili-na-romite-nitu-edem-rom-ne-se-najde-vo-rekonstruiranata-vlada-sdsm-gi-iskoristuva-romite-samo-za-glasovi-barame-predvremeni-izbori/?fbclid=IwAR0A6mtLaKdPLNijWc3pa65yJ4dByxveDoT_8vzeecZNNNOTYrO3RBLWuq8)

### Roma Girl among the finalist for Miss Slovakia Beauty Contest

Twenty-year-old Romani student Ms. Vanessa Gaborova is a finalist in a beauty contest of the Republic of Slovakia. She is also an activist and a member of the Roma Youth Leadership Academy. Ms. Vanessa believes that her winning the title of Miss Slovakia would help in

breaking the prejudices and stereotypes about Roma in the country as well as motivate young Romani people.

**Read More at**

[https://www.dnes24.sk/krasna-vanessa-ide-do-miss-slovensko-s-jasnym-cielom-burat-predsudky-voci-romom-429451?fbclid=IwAR1A\\_cMVCJArx05dP3nv2hcd2m6buOua9-xSutp8lqjfgeeCulhUZ5Rb9lc](https://www.dnes24.sk/krasna-vanessa-ide-do-miss-slovensko-s-jasnym-cielom-burat-predsudky-voci-romom-429451?fbclid=IwAR1A_cMVCJArx05dP3nv2hcd2m6buOua9-xSutp8lqjfgeeCulhUZ5Rb9lc)

**Church Part of the Problem in Discrimination against Gypsy and Roma Community**

Speaking at a conference in Union Chapel, Highbury and Islington north London in the last week of January, Lord Boateng, who was the first black cabinet minister appointed in 2002, pointed out that the Church of England shares a part in the discrimination against Roma, Gypsy and Traveller. He told that Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people were the least-liked group of England as 44.6 per cent of society held negative views against them. Additionally, Roma and Gypsy are the least likely groups to get higher education. Romani children are the most disadvantaged of all groups of children in school. They are faced with the lowest rates of attendance and the highest rates of permanent exclusion. A spokesperson for the Church of England acknowledged that the church has in the past failed to respond to the needs of different UK Minorities, including Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) communities.

**Read More at**

<https://www.standard.co.uk/news/politics/gypsy-england-stephen-cottrell-london-union-chapel-b1056155.html?fbclid=IwAR1yP1EBHM0MHs7UV4LHd-1pFFF1ol7mpngqgevuC7xbuR5LVTH3qZyfuynM>

**TV Series of Disappeared Roma Settlements in Burgenland, Austria**

Austrian TV Station ORF Burgenland is starting a new series as part of the TV folk group program "Romano Dikipe (On the trail of disappeared Roma settlements)". The new program is based on comprehensive research works by two prominent historians Herbert Brettl and Gerhard Baumgartner. The show is broadcast six times a year on the second Sunday in February, April, June, August, October and December at 13.05 on ORF 2/B. The series aims at examining the present situations of Roma in Burgenland, Austria as well as searching the traces for the disappeared Roma settlements in Burgenland.

**Read More at**

[https://www.ots.at/presseaussendung/OTS\\_20230210\\_OTS0012/orf-burgenland-neue-serie-ueber-verschwundene-roma-siedlungen-im-tv-volksgruppenmagazin-romano-dikipe?fbclid=IwAR2pgi5r4HFmFWUPkNP20UNF9PEz6YJ5q3wDktHrB-KzOf9\\_nJln9kllJys](https://www.ots.at/presseaussendung/OTS_20230210_OTS0012/orf-burgenland-neue-serie-ueber-verschwundene-roma-siedlungen-im-tv-volksgruppenmagazin-romano-dikipe?fbclid=IwAR2pgi5r4HFmFWUPkNP20UNF9PEz6YJ5q3wDktHrB-KzOf9_nJln9kllJys)

### **Federal Criminal Police Office & Central Council of Sinti and Roma decide to Work together in Germany**

An agreement between Federal Criminal Police Office and Central Council of Sinti and Roma was signed for initiating the joint action against antigypsyism and counteracting racism against them. The Federal Interior Minister Nancy Faeser noted that there are more than 100 anti-gypsy crimes in Germany every year, besides higher number of unreported crimes. She termed the agreement as a significant step in sensitizing the police in fight against anti-gypsyism. The President of Central Council of German Sinti and Roma, Romani Rose said that the agreement would bring about changes in a way the German police have been dealing with the Sinti and Roma minority since 1945.

#### **Read More at**

[https://www.zeit.de/politik/deutschland/2023-01/antiziganismus-sinti-roma-bka-zusammenarbeit?utm\\_referrer=https%3A%2F%2Ffacebook.com%2F](https://www.zeit.de/politik/deutschland/2023-01/antiziganismus-sinti-roma-bka-zusammenarbeit?utm_referrer=https%3A%2F%2Ffacebook.com%2F)

### **The Roma Artist Sewing a New History for Her People**

Mirga-Tas, a Polish Roma artist, is the first Roma artist to represent any country at the art event. She commissioned the portraits under the theme of "I Have a Dream" at the Goteborgs Konsthall in Gothenburg, Sweden. Mirga-Tas was one of the few artists whose work was showcased in both the Venice Biennale and Documenta, arguably the two most important contemporary art exhibitions. She said that European artists have portrayed Roma people in a way, perpetuating myths and creating excuses for hate and discrimination for centuries. She creates vibrant textile works which offer an opportunity to see the Roma on their own terms, both as a contemporary community and as people with an extraordinary heritage.

#### **Read More at**

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/02/07/arts/design/malgorzata-mirga-tas.html?fbclid=IwAR1CpnC6vpqH5BuYgSkGDP1qS2TJ8BWkliEiRvzfCE68Oqa-GuzcOFlzjUQ>

## **The Fate of the Roma Gypsies in Europe: From Nazi Holocaust to Continuous Marginalization**

Roma in Europe were the victims of Nazi genocide during the Second World War, but their persecution did not end in 1945. Roma survivors of World War 2 were frequently left in lurch by forced labour and violent treatment in the camps, or suffered the consistent post effects of sickness and malnutrition, besides some were subjected to sterilisation or medical experiments. Roma, who escaped death from mass shootings, gassing, disease or starvation often went back to find their property destroyed or stolen, their families and communities scattered. The psychological legacies of genocide passed on to the children and grandchildren of the victims. Discrimination against Roma still remains embedded in the everyday practices of police forces, teachers and social and healthcare workers even today.

### **Read More at**

<https://thuppahis.com/2023/02/02/the-fate-of-the-roma-gypsies-in-europe-from-nazi-holocaust-to-continuous-marginalization/>

## **Historical Outline of Roma in Poland**

Centre for Roma Studies and Cultural Relations (CRSCR)-Antar Rashtriya Sahayog Parishad (ARSP) hosted the Twentieth Virtual Lecture of the Lecture Series on 31 January, 2023. The lecture was delivered by Mr. Karol Kwiatkowski. He spoke about stereotypes attached with Romani culture as well as the role of Media, which present Roma in demonic light and ignite stereotypical images of Roma being associated with impure forces and criminal tendencies. He talked in detail about moral principles and cultural attributes of Roma including purity and impurity, hierarchy in family, respect for elders, public and private behavioural code, etc. Mr. Kwiatkowski also pointed out the historical relation of Roma with India and how Roma are similar to Indians.

### **Watch Full Lecture at**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rUvRh8znV7Y&t=1296s>

## **The Boyars Disposed of Romani Slaves**

The article, written by Mariana Iancu, notes the history and difficulties in the emancipation of Roma from slavery in Wallachia, Moldova and Romania. According to the 1818 Criminal Code of Wallachia, All Gypsies are born slaves and Gypsies without a master are the property of the state. In Wallachia, the liberal boyars Ion Campineanu and the Golescu brothers freed their

enslaved Roma in 1834, where as in Moldova, on January 31, 1844, the ruler Mihail Sturdza, supported by the metropolitan, freed the princely and monastic Roma from slavery. Historians support the hypothesis that the Gypsies were already slaves when they arrived in the Romanian countries, because in the Byzantine Empire the institution of slavery was a feature of the whole area. But, it was only in 1848 that the emancipation of the Gypsies was demanded and in 1856 the legislation for the emancipation of all Gypsies from the Principality of Wallachia was implemented.

**Read More at**

[https://adevarul.ro/stil-de-viata/magazin/cum-dispuneau-boierii-de-tiganii-robi-am-dat-2238556.html?utm\\_source=HISTORIA&utm\\_medium=facebook&utm\\_campaign=adevarul&fbclid=IwAR2hcdocWuJFViFGeJPzG7IEh0jyYOAiQrdmuakThDWnQbG7nRP6Ox8LLqw](https://adevarul.ro/stil-de-viata/magazin/cum-dispuneau-boierii-de-tiganii-robi-am-dat-2238556.html?utm_source=HISTORIA&utm_medium=facebook&utm_campaign=adevarul&fbclid=IwAR2hcdocWuJFViFGeJPzG7IEh0jyYOAiQrdmuakThDWnQbG7nRP6Ox8LLqw)