

PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS

The Resource Center for Roma Communities (RCRC)

Cluj-Napoca, Romania; A member of the Soros Open Network

Website <http://www.romacenter.ro>

The Resource Center for Roma Communities aims to become the most important partner of Roma NGOs and Roma communities in Romania, through the preparation and implementation of coherent programmes designed for improvement of the situation of Roma and the development of the communities where they live. The mission of the RCRC is to contribute to the improvement of the life conditions of the Roma communities in Romania. The Center supports initiatives made by Roma communities to solve the specific problems they face, and contributes to the identification and prevention of the different forms of discrimination encountered by the Roma. It also contributes to the improvement of communication between Roma and non-Roma, and supports a network of Roma NGOs capable of developing, in partnership with the authorities and local communities, concrete solutions to the problems they face.

The EU Monitoring and Advocacy Program (EUMAP)

Budapest, Hungary; an OSI Network Program

Website <http://www.eumap.org>

EUMAP, formerly the EU Accession Monitoring Program, monitors the development of selected human rights and rule of law issues in both the European Union and in its candidate and potential candidate countries. The Program works with national experts and NGOs to compile reports which are distributed widely throughout Europe and internationally. The reports are designed to encourage broader participation in the process of articulating the EU's common democratic values as well as in ongoing monitoring of compliance with human rights standards throughout the union. At present EUMAP is working on two projects, on the rights of people with intellectual disability and on media policy.

The Roma Participation Program (RPP)

Budapest, Hungary; an OSI Network Program

Website http://www.soros.org/initiatives/roma/focus_areas/rpp

The Roma Participation Program is a grants program that supports Roma activism in Central and Eastern Europe and encourages the Roma to take charge of their lives; participate in decisions that affect them; and advocate for their rights as equal citizens of their own countries. RPP provides institutional support and training to ‘grass-roots’ Romani NGOs engaged in advocacy on community issues. In addition, RPP supports broad-based campaigns aimed at systemic policy reform at the national level through funding projects run by Romani NGOs which have the requisite professionalism to operate on the national and international levels. The desegregation of schools is the primary, current example of this type of funding. Roma political leadership training is another.