

ERIANC
EUROPEAN ROMA
INSTITUTE FOR ARTS
AND CULTURE



CENTRAL COUNCIL [of German
Sinti & Roma]

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

“Hate speech and Antigypsyism in the Media”

10-11 March 2021

Online on ZOOM and live-streamed on Facebook

hosted by the European Roma Institute for Arts and Culture (ERIANC)
in cooperation with
the Council of Europe Roma and Travellers Team
and
the Central Council of German Sinti and Roma

CONCEPT

Hate speech remains a global phenomenon which disproportionately affects Sinti and Roma around Europe and the world. Both in the traditional media outlets as well as online, in particular on social media, Sinti and Roma are victims of discriminatory and hateful discourses, misinformation, misrepresentation and fake news, all considered as manifestations of antigypsyism.

The International Conference “Hate speech and Antigypsyism in the Media”, hosted by the European Roma Institute for Arts and Culture (ERIANC) in cooperation with the Council of Europe Roma and Travellers Team and the Central Council of German Sinti and Roma, will aim at examining the phenomenon of hate speech against Sinti and Roma communities and individuals. The event, held in the framework of the German Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, will build on the conclusions of the Digital Conference “UNBOXING HATE SPEECH. European Impulses for Respect and Solidarity on the Web” hosted by the German Federal Foreign Office, the Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection and the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) on 18 February 2021. The international conference will bring together Roma and non-Roma stakeholders with relevant expertise and experience in this field as well as mainstream media stakeholders including media professionals, journalists and representatives of social media platforms, to jointly discuss the experiences of Sinti and Roma communities and individuals. The conference is divided into three thematic blocks and will focus on multiple and complementary strategies to combat hate speech and antigypsyism through reactive

and preventive approaches. The conference will also reflect explicitly on the role of social media and the strategies of fighting against hate-speech online.

DRAFT PROGRAMME

MARCH 10 2021

10:00 – 10:20 WELCOMING REMARKS

Snežana Samardžić-Marković, Director General, DG Democracy, Council of Europe

Romani Rose, Chairman of the Central Council of German Sinti and Roma

Zeljko Jovanovic, Chairman of the Board of the European Roma Institute for Arts and Culture

10: 20 – 13:00 REACTIVE APPROACHES IN FIGHTING HATE SPEECH AND ANTIGYPSYISM IN THE MEDIA

10:20 – 11:40 PANEL 1: Uncovering, monitoring and documenting hate speech and antigypsyism in the media

What are the local, national and international experiences of uncovering hate speech and antigypsyism in the media? What strategies at the intersection of academic research, grassroots activism, public policy and intergovernmental work exist that ensure systematic monitoring and measuring of the scale of hate speech and antigypsyism in the media?

SPEAKERS:

- **Alen Tahiri**, Substitute Rapporteur on Anti-Gypsyism, Hate Speech and Violence, Council of Europe Committee of Experts on Roma and Traveller Issues (ADI-ROM)
- **Dan Doghi**, Chief of the CPRSI, Senior Adviser on Roma and Sinti Issues, “Roma and Sinti in the Media – 2020 Monitoring Report”
- **Isabela Mihalache**, Roma Civil Monitor, “Civil society monitoring of the media and public discourses”
- **Markus End**, Center for Research on Antisemitism, Technical University Berlin, “Antigypsyism in Media Coverage Today”
- **Radmila Mladenova**, Research Centre on Antigypsyism, Heidelberg University, “500 years of fake news”

Moderated by **Anna Mirga-Kruszelnicka**, ERIAC Deputy Director

11:40 – 11:50

BREAK

[each break will feature a selection of videos presenting relevant initiatives as well as trailers and promotion videos of Roma media-related projects]

11:50 – 13:00

PANEL 2: Taking action against hate speech and antigypsyism in the media

What can be done when hate speech in the media happens? What is the role of Roma in denouncing and litigation? What is the level of participation of Roma in media self-regulating bodies? Is existing legislation enough?

SPEAKERS:

- **Ismael Cortes**, Member of the Spanish Congress, “Antigypsyism in the Spanish media and the possibility of institutional responses”
- **Roberto Bortone**, Coordinator, National Anti-Racial Discrimination Office (UNAR), Italy, Member of the Council of Europe Committee of Experts on Combating Hate Speech (ADI/MSI-DIS), “National observatory on hate speech in media”
- **Vivien Brassóí**, European Roma Rights Centre (ERRC), “Strategic litigation of hate speech cases”
- **Anja Reuss**, Central Council of German Sinti and Roma, “Tackling antigypsyism in the media through the participation of Sinti and Roma in self-regulatory media boards”

Moderated by **Iulius Rostas**, scholar, ERIAC Board Member

13:00 – 14:00

BREAK

14:00 - 17:00

PREVENTIVE APPROACHES IN FIGHTING HATE SPEECH IN THE MEDIA

14:00 – 15:15

PANEL 3: Strategies of challenging and preventing hate speech in the media. Building a counter-narrative through Roma-led media initiatives

What role do positive stories play in challenging and preventing hate speech in the media? How can we support counter-discourses in the media? What is the role Roma-led media initiatives can play?

SPEAKERS:

- **Gwendolyn Albert**, Romea.cz
- **Lisa Smith**, Travellers' Times
- **Dalibor Tanić**, Portal UDAR
- **Katalin Barsony**, Romedia Foundation

Moderated by **Maria Bogdan**, Media theorist, Roma Barvalipe Academy Chair

15.15 – 15.30 BREAK

15:30 – 16:45 PANEL 4: Hearing the Roma voices in the mainstream media – challenges, opportunities and past experiences

How can we strengthen Romani voices in mainstream media? How can we ensure more self-representation in the media? What are some positive experiences of Roma engaging with mainstream media outlets?

SPEAKERS:

- **Lela Savic**, SVATO/ La Converse
- **Jake Bowers**, journalist, filmmaker, Roma media producer
- **Scott Griffen**, Deputy Director, International Press Institute (IPI)

Moderated by **Gilda Horvath**, journalist, ERIAC Board Member

16.45 – 17.00 CLOSING OF THE DAY

Ambassador Michaela Küchler, the Special Representative for Relations with Jewish Organisations, Issues Relating to Antisemitism, International Sinti and Roma Affairs, and Holocaust Remembrance; Chair of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance

Tatjana Anđelić, Chair of the Council of Europe Committee of Experts on Roma and Traveller Issues (ADI-ROM)

MARCH 11 2021

10:00 – 13:00 ANTIGYPSYISM AND SOCIAL MEDIA/ HATE-SPEECH ONLINE

10.00 – 10.20 INTRODUCTIONS

Nicolae Radita, Rapporteur on Antigypsyism, Hate Speech and Violence, Council of Europe Committee of Experts on Roma and Traveller Issues (ADI-ROM)

Sina Laubenstein, Conclusions from “UNBOXING HATE SPEECH. European Impulses for Respect and Solidarity on the Web”

10:20 – 11:30 **PANEL 5: Hate speech and antigypsyism online – Sinti and Roma experiences and counter-strategies**

What are the experiences of Sinti and Roma in online spaces?

What strategies exist to act against hate speech on social media?

How can we build effective alliances across different stakeholders?

SPEAKERS:

- **Maria Bogdan**, “The media representation of Roma in the age of Social Media – from the position of the Stranger to community building self-representation”
- **Mustafa Jakupov**, ERGO Network, “Peer Education To Counter Antigypsyist Online Hate Speech (PECAO) Project”
- **Lois Brookes-Jones**, Phiren Amenca/ Travellers Times, “Roma experiences online – addressing intersectionality in the context of hate speech online”
- **Taisiya Schumacher**, Sinti Roma Pride, “Online activist network to counter hate speech online”
- **Iñaki Vázquez**, Plataforma Khetane, “Monitoring hate speech online”

Moderated by **Miguel Angel Vargas**, member of ERIAC Barvalipe Academy

11:30 – 12:45 **PANEL 6: Building safe and respectful social media environment**

Hate speech, in particular on social media, disproportionately affects Sinti and Roma as well as other minorities and vulnerable groups.

What is the role intergovernmental organizations, internet companies as well as governments in ensuring the internet is a safe space for all? How can we guarantee Sinti and Roma participation in future initiatives aiming at regulating social media environments?

SPEAKERS:

- **Tommaso Chiamparino**, EU Code of Conduct to prevent and counter the spread of illegal hate speech online

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- **Bastiaan Winkel**, Vice-Chair of the Council of Europe Committee of Experts on Combatting Hate Speech (ADI/MSI-DIS)
- **Selma Muhic Dizdarevic**, Board member of the International Network Against Cyber Hate (INACH), “Bridging the online with human rights”
- **Gilda Horvath**, journalist, ERIAC Board Member

Moderated by **Lela Savic**, SVATO/ La Converse

12.45 – 13.00 CLOSING OF THE CONFERENCE

Michael Roth, Minister of State for Europe, German Federal Foreign Office

Hallvard Gorseth, Head of Anti-discrimination Department, Head of Department a.i. for the Roma and Travellers Team, Council of Europe

Timea Junghaus, ERIAC Executive Director