



Co-funded by
the European Union

ONLINE TRAINING ON ROMANI IDENTITY, HISTORY AND CULTURE

“ROMA(NI) PAST - EUROPE’S FUTURE. WHY EMBRACING EU’S LARGEST ETHNIC MINORITY MATTERS II”

Hosted by
European Roma Institute for Arts and Culture (ERiac)
10:00 – 17:00 CET
SEPTEMBER 10, 2024
ONLINE

Registration form: <https://forms.gle/B2vnLWe7ywMfhkKs5>

Context

The Roma have been an integral part of Europe for over seven centuries, contributing significantly to the continent's cultural, social, and economic fabric. Despite their longstanding presence, the Roma remain one of the most marginalized and misunderstood groups in Europe. Antigypsyism—a deep-seated and pervasive form of racism against Roma people—continues to manifest in various forms, including systemic discrimination, social exclusion, and negative stereotypes. These issues are compounded by a lack of awareness and understanding of Roma identity, history, and culture within mainstream European societies.

To address these challenges, the European Roma Institute for Arts and Culture (ERiac) is organizing this training course aimed at enhancing the knowledge and sensitivity of public officials, educators, and cultural workers regarding Roma identity and heritage. This training will provide participants with an in-depth exploration of Roma history, the cultural contributions of Roma communities, and the persistent issue of antigypsyism.

Objectives

The primary objectives of this training course are:

- 1. Increase Understanding of Roma Identity and History**
 - Provide participants with a comprehensive overview of the origins and evolution of Roma identity, examining the historical contexts that have shaped Roma communities across Europe.

- Highlight the resilience and adaptability of the Roma people in the face of centuries of marginalization and exclusion.
- 2. **Recognize and Celebrate Roma Cultural Contributions**
 - Illuminate the rich and diverse cultural heritage of the Roma, showcasing their contributions to European arts.
 - Encourage appreciation and integration of Roma cultural elements into broader European cultural narratives.
- 3. **Address Antigypsyism and Promote Inclusion**
 - Explore the roots and manifestations of antigypsyism, equipping participants with the knowledge to recognize and challenge this form of racism in their professional and personal environments.
 - Discuss effective strategies for combating antigypsyism and fostering an inclusive society that respects and values Roma people.
- 4. **Empower Participants with Knowledge and Tools for Advocacy**
 - Provide actionable insights and resources to support participants in advocating for Roma rights and promoting cultural understanding in their respective fields.
 - Encourage participants to engage with and support Roma communities through informed and culturally sensitive practices.

Expected Outcomes

By the end of the training, participants will:

1. **Enhanced Awareness and Knowledge**
 - Gain a deeper understanding of Roma identity, history, and the socio-cultural dynamics that influence Roma communities today.
 - Acquire knowledge of the historical and ongoing contributions of Roma to European culture and society.
2. **Improved Sensitivity and Competence**
 - Develop a greater sensitivity to the issues facing Roma communities, particularly in the context of antigypsyism and other forms of discrimination.
 - Build competence in recognizing and addressing antigypsyism within institutional and societal contexts.
3. **Empowered to Act and Advocate**
 - Be equipped with practical tools and strategies to advocate for Roma rights and inclusion in their professional roles.
 - Leave the training with a commitment to fostering a more inclusive and equitable society for the Roma and other marginalized communities.
4. **Stronger Networks for Collaboration**
 - Establish connections with other participants, trainers, and Roma communities, fostering a network of individuals committed to promoting Roma inclusion and cultural understanding.
 - Identify opportunities for future collaboration and continued learning on Roma issues.

AGENDA

Registration form: <https://forms.gle/B2vnLWe7ywMfhkKs5>

09:50 – 10:00 CET Meeting opening

10:00 – 10:10 CET Welcome address and opening remarks

- Presenting the agenda/speakers

10:10 – 11:30 CET **“Exploring Roma Identity: Historical Context and Modern Perspectives”**
By - TBD

- Overview of the development of Roma identity over centuries, the impact of historical events, and contemporary interpretations.

11:30 – 11:40 CET Coffee break

11:40 – 13:00 CET **“Cultural Heritage of Roma: Contributions and Influences in Europe”**
By - TBD

- Examination of the Roma's contributions to European arts, music, and how these are integral to European cultural heritage.

13:00 – 14:00 CET Lunch break

14:00 – 14:20 CET **“Understanding Antigypsyism: Origins, Manifestations, and Countermeasures”** by - TBD

- Analysis of antigypsyism, its historical roots, contemporary manifestations, and strategies for addressing it within society.

14:20 – 14:30 CET Coffee break

14:30 – 15:50 CET **“Roma Agency and Resilience: Case Studies and Current Initiatives”**
By - TBD

- Discussion on how Roma communities have resisted discrimination and have become active agents in promoting their rights and culture.

15:50 – 16:00 CET Closing remarks



**Co-funded by
the European Union**