



**EUROPEAN CONFERENCE**  
**Working with Roma families:**  
**a key towards the success of their children at school**

**Launch of a transnational guide for professionals working in education**

**Brussels, 21st March 2013**

European Economic and Social Committee  
Rue Belliard, 99  
B-1040 Brussels (Belgium)

The partners of the European project “Roma Families Get Involved” invite you to reflect and exchange views and experiences on **Roma families’ involvement in the educational process of their children**. What is the role of Roma families and how is it taken into consideration in the interventions in the education field? What is the state-of-play in different countries? What are the main challenges and possible approaches to address them? What is and could be the role of public and private actors at national and European level?

These will be some of the questions discussed by participants, which will include representatives of national and European institutions, international organisations, non-profit organisations, researchers and experts and other actors with knowledge and expertise in the areas covered. Experiences and practices from the countries involved in the project - Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania and Spain- as well as others will be showcased at the event and serve as basis for discussion.

The event will also feature the presentation of the methodological **“Guide for working with Roma Families towards achieving the success of their children at school. A transnational methodological proposal for professionals”**, developed in the context of the project, which aims to provide guidance for professionals working on the ground to involve Roma families in the educational processes of their children. By disseminating this guide we aim to share with relevant stakeholders a useful which could help improve the interventions in the education field, and therefore improve the educational situation of Roma across Europe.

The event, hosted by the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC), is the final transnational conference of the **EU project “Roma Families Get Involved”**, which counts on the financial support of the Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP) of the European Commission as well as national co-funds. The project has brought together during 2012-2013 public and private stakeholders with a wide knowledge and expertise regarding Roma and education and/or with competences in education from Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania and Spain with the aim of promoting Roma parents’ involvement in education in order to improve Roma children performance and reduce early dropout. Further information on the project is available at: <http://romafamiliesgetinvolved.org/>

**We look forward to welcoming you on the 21st March 2013!**

## PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

<b>9.30</b>	<b><i>Registration</i></b>
<b>10.00</b>	<b><i>Welcoming words and presentation</i></b>
<b>10.10</b>	<p><b>Institutional presentations on Roma education:</b> current initiatives and approaches regarding intervention in education and Roma</p> <p>Ákos Topolánszky, Member of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)</p> <p>Frank Pierobon, European Commission, DG Education and Culture. Unit A1, Education and Training in Europe 2020 governance.</p> <p>European Parliament representative (TBC)</p> <p>Representative of Fundación Secretariado Gitano, Project leader</p>
<b>11.00</b>	<b><i>Coffee Break</i></b>
<b>11.20</b>	<p><b>Setting the context: The role of Roma families in the educational process of their children</b> Zorica Trikić, expert in education and Roma</p> <p><i>Question and answer</i></p>
<b>11.50</b>	<p><b>Presentation of the Transnational “Guide for Working with Roma Families towards Achieving the Success of their Children in School. A transnational methodological proposal for professionals”.</b></p> <p><i>Round of questions and debate</i></p>
<b>12.45</b>	<b><i>Lunch break</i></b>
<b>13.45</b>	<p><b><i>Family intervention in programmes for Roma Inclusion/education in Member States</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview of general framework in Europe</li> <li>• State of play and examples of experiences in participating Member States: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Hungary</li> <li>○ Romania</li> <li>○ Spain</li> <li>○ Bulgaria</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Round of discussion with participants regarding practices in other countries</li> </ul>
	<b><i>Coffee break in between</i></b>
<b>16.15-16.30</b>	<b><i>Closing remarks</i></b>

## Project partners



Fundación Secretariado Gitano, FSG  
(Spain)



Roma Education Fund, REF  
(Hungary, Romania and Switzerland)



Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport-  
National Centre for Educational Innovation and Research, CNIIE  
(Spain)



Ministry of Education, Research,  
Youth and Sport (Romania)



Ministry of Education, Youth and Science,  
Centre for Educational Integration of Children and  
Students from Ethnic Minorities, COIDUEM (Bulgaria)



Local Government of Ács  
(Hungary)



Fundația Secretariatul Romilor, FSR  
(Romania)