



## Finland, Romania, Roma integration - Learning from each other

### Seminar on Roma people's Integration in Finland

Date: Monday, 9 October 2017

Venue: Romanian Diplomatic Institute, Bdul. Primăverii 17, Bucharest

Moderator: PhD Silviu Miloiu, Professor Valahia University, President of RABNS

#### Background & aim:

The Embassy of Finland in Bucharest together with The Romanian Association for Baltic and Nordic Studies wished to arrange this seminar on Roma people's integration in Finland and in Romania this autumn. Finland celebrates its 100 years of independency, and Roma integration in Finland started 50 years ago, though Finnish Roma history dates back already over 500 years. Romania has likewise its own interesting historical narrative. The key-note Finnish speaker is Mr. Pekka Haavisto, Member of the Finnish Parliament. Mr. Haavisto has served as Minister of Government twice and has held a large variety of high level international and national responsibilities, also on Roma issues. The purpose of the Seminar is to share good practices in Roma policies in both countries and to learn from each other.

#### **09.00 - 09.30 Arrival of the participants. Welcome coffee**

Visit of the photo exhibition with the artist, Mrs. Irmeli Huhtala, presenting her works.

#### **09.30 - 10.00 Opening session**

Mr. Dan Petre, Director General of Romanian Diplomatic Institute - Welcoming words

Mrs. Päivi Pohjanheimo, Ambassador of Finland - Opening words

Mr. Pekka Haavisto, Member of Finnish Parliament, former Minister - Key note address

Mrs. Andreea Păstîrnac, Minister for Romanians Living Abroad - Key note address

Mrs. Henna Huttu, Ministerial Advisor, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Advisory Board on Roma Affairs - Introduction on Roma History in Finland

#### **10.00 - 10.45 First Panel**

**National Roma Integration Strategy: what has been reached, what are the shortcomings.  
Focus on Education & Employment**

## Panelists

Finland: Mrs. Susanna Rajala / Mrs. Satu Blomerus (Finnish Ministry of Education), Mrs. Henna Huttu, Mr. Ahti Avikainen (Finnish Ministry of Labour) (TBC)

Romania: Delia Grigore (University of Bucharest) Mrs. Dana Varga (State Counsellor, PM's Office), Mr. Daniel Rădulescu (President, National Agency for Roma), Mrs. Carmen Gheorghe (President, E-Romnja), Mr. Dinu Adam (Counsellor of the EU Funds Minister), Mr. Mircea Toma (President, Active Watch)

**10.45 – 11.00 Discussion**

**11.00 - 11.15 Coffee break**

**11.15 - 12.00 Second Panel**

**Roma rights - legislation, implementation**

**What is the role of Roma NGO's and other NGO's working with the Roma people**

## Panelists

Finland: Mr. Pekka Haavisto, Mrs. Anca Enache (President, Hirundo), Mrs. Henna Huttu

Romania: TBC Mr. Asztalos Csaba (President, National Council for Combating Discrimination), Mr. Gelu Duminica (Executive Director, Impreuna), Mr Ciprian Necula TITLE

**12:00 - 12:30 Discussion and Wrap-up by the moderator**

**12.30 - 13.00 Buffet lunch**

**13:00 - 13:30 Visit of the exhibition with the artist, Mrs. Irmeli Huhtala, presenting her works.**

**13:30 - 14.00 YLE documentary film**

**End of the seminar**

**Simultaneous translation will be provided.**

**To confirm your participation RSVP at [catalina.sandu@formin.fi](mailto:catalina.sandu@formin.fi) or 021 230 75 04 latest 2<sup>nd</sup> of October.**