



PLATFORM of LOCAL COMMUNITIES along the DANUBE RIVER in ROMANIA (CLDR)

*Initiative of the International Honorary Chair "Jean Bart"
in support of the EU Strategy for Danube Region (CIO-SUERD)*

Coordinator: EUROLINK-House of Europe



The role of negotiation and social mediation in favour of Roma minorities' inclusion

Sever AVRAM
Coordinator of the Platform of Local Communities along the Danube River
CLDR - Romania



José Manuel Barroso



José Manuel Durão Barroso
President of the European Commission

(...) we need to make sure European funds are used and are better used. That we must continue to commit all players to respecting European Union law – and that the Commission must react as we have done in the past and we must also act if some players don't respect the principles and rules of Europe. That transnational cooperation and sharing of experiences is indeed the way forward.

Speech by President Barroso at the European Roma Summit, Brussels, 4 April 2014
http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_SPEECH-14-288_en.htm

Elmas Arus

We thought that our school uniforms would make us equal to all other school children. Unfortunately our Roma origin was such a strong uniform that it separated us from our friends, and our teachers settled us in the last rows in the classrooms. These uniforms are the ones that we have to wear for a lifetime.

We had to hide that we are Roma to have a “normal school uniform” like the other children had. We had to deny our identity! Today, we came here to demonstrate that our Roma identity, our lifetime uniform should not separate us from the others but make us come together. This is who we are!



Elmas Arus

Film Director / Chairwoman of the
Zero-Discrimination Association

Istanbul, March 14, 2010
<http://www.romadecade.org>

Viviane Reding



Viviane Reding

Vice-President, EU Commissioner
for Justice

“As a next step, I could therefore imagine more targeted rules and a funding facility specifically dedicated to Roma - a centralised EU fund that would be reserved for concrete projects benefitting Roma.”

Speech delivered at the European Roma Summit, Brussels, 4 April 2014
http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_SPEECH-14-291_en.htm

Traian Băsescu

Therefore, a credible strategy should meet the following: to benefit open dialogue with the majority so that the solution itself is legitimized through genuine public debate; to highlight the targeted measures that take into account the great variety of problems faced by Roma communities; to focus on the crucial role of local authorities' actions; to be based on the community's ownership to whom it is addressed.



Traian Băsescu
President of Romania

Speech delivered at the European Roma Summit, Brussels, 4 April 2014
<http://romareact.org/news/view/1721>

George Soros

Currently, many of the governments with large Roma populations use only a small fraction of the funds allocated to them. The rest of the money remains unused. The Commission ought to establish a Special Fund, administered directly from Brussels, to support proposals from local service providers in the countries concerned. This might be hard to arrange, but it would ensure that the funds are put to good use.



George SOROS
Investor and philanthropist
Founder & Chairman
Open Society foundations

Remarks delivered at the EU Roma Summit, Brussels, Belgium, April 04, 2014
http://www.georgesoros.com/interviews-speeches/entry/remarks_delivered_at_the_eu_roma_summit_04_04_14_in_brussels_belgium/

Bernard Rorke



The forthcoming 2014–20 round of EU funding will bring much needed improvements. But reforms will take years to have any impact. When it comes to educational opportunities, these will be lost years for hundreds of thousands of disadvantaged children. Europe cannot afford a lost generation. Immediate action is needed.

Bernard RORKE
International Researcher

Source:

<http://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/voices/roma-education-2013-time-europe-remedy-its-democratic-deficit>



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