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**COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN
PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS**

**Report on the implementation of the EU Framework for National Roma Integration
Strategies**

{ COM(2014) 209 final }

HUNGARY

	Key steps since 2011	Assessment
Education	<p>Broad range of measures to ensure equal access to quality education for the disadvantaged (integrated pedagogical system, Sure Start houses, scholarship programmes, etc.).</p> <p>School centralisation including harmonisation of curriculum, centralised textbook publishing, professional services, financing and aspects of human resource management</p> <p>Reduction of mandatory age limit in compulsory education (to the age of 16) accompanied with shortening of vocational cycle and the introduction of a dual system.</p> <p>Planned introduction of compulsory pre-school attendance from age three with measures to encourage participation in including cash incentives and the extension of Sure Start Children Centres.</p>	<p><i>The integrated Pedagogical System contributes positively to Roma pupils' education, nevertheless, more efforts are needed to promote their access to the mainstream education system.. The impact of recent reforms needs to be closely monitored in this regard.</i></p> <p><i>A systematic approach to desegregation needs to be put in place, building on the opportunities presented by the school centralisation.</i></p> <p><i>Early school leaving should be carefully tackled, particularly in Vocational Education and Training.</i></p> <p><i>Focus on basic skills and key competences should be reinforced in general and vocational schools. Increased participation of Roma pupils in pre-school should be accompanied by qualified staff, necessary infrastructure and sustainable funding.</i></p>
Employment	<p>Wide range of mainstream actions aimed at increasing the employability of disadvantaged groups with due consideration to gender aspects.</p> <p>Roma mentors in Public Employment Services.</p>	<p><i>Continuous and individualised supporting services of temporary public work schemes should be reinforced with a view to effective integration in the open labour market.</i></p> <p><i>A comprehensive package of measures targeting private employers including extending social considerations in public procurement, promoting diversity in the workplace, coupled by job trials, recruitment subsidies, targeting Roma under the Youth Guarantee should be considered.</i></p> <p><i>Fighting and monitoring discrimination in the labour market needs to be ensured.</i></p>
Health	<p>Healthcare measures aimed at reducing inequalities, including preventive health care.</p> <p>Special focus on early childhood development (screening tests), youth</p>	<p><i>Evidence gathering should be developed to measure the situation and the impact of measures on the Roma.</i></p>

	<p>and Roma women.</p> <p>Incentives for paediatricians, general practitioners to fill empty practices in most disadvantaged regions.</p> <p>Training of healthcare professionals.</p> <p>Awareness-rising campaigns among Roma.</p>	
Housing	<p>Systematic and integrated approach with the long-term objective of desegregation.</p> <p>In the Programme <i>Trust and Work</i> as well as in the <i>Complex estate programme</i> housing interventions complementary to employment, training, health care and social work activities. Additional pilot housing measures launched.</p>	<p><i>Evidence gathering should be developed to enable measuring the situation and the impact of mainstream measures and activities undertaken on the Roma.</i></p> <p><i>Spatial desegregation should be strengthened.</i></p>
Anti-discrimination	<p>Financial support to municipalities provided under the condition that they observe the principles of equal treatment and long term desegregation.</p> <p>Amendment of the penal law related to violence against the members of ethnic communities.</p> <p>A range of measures have been launched to contribute to the empowerment of Roma (such as the establishment of the <i>Roma Public Life Academy of Politics</i>, promoting Roma journalists).</p>	<p><i>The effective practical enforcement of anti-discrimination legislation needs to be ensured.</i></p> <p><i>Effective measures should also be taken to combat anti-Roma rhetoric and hate speech.</i></p> <p><i>Desegregation measures should be accompanied by awareness-raising activities for both Roma and non-Roma.</i></p> <p><i>Attention need to be paid to eliminating discriminatory practices in the public work scheme. Close cooperation with the media is recommended.</i></p>
Funding	<p>Roma inclusion has been supported by national and EU funds under various types of mainstream measures, including social inclusion measures. Main support has been provided via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - European Regional Development Fund;_Housing supported by € 8.6 million + €3.46 Million (Operation Programme housing projects) = € 12.06 million EUR. <p>In the 2007-2013 financial period, Hungary has allocated 8,8 % (~€ 319 million) of its total ESF budget for</p>	<p><i>Sufficient allocation of European Structural and Investment Funds, including in the specific investment priority for integration of marginalised communities such as Roma should be ensured in the 2014-2020 programming period. Roma inclusion should be mainstreamed into all relevant policy areas including under the thematic objectives on social inclusion, education and employment.</i></p> <p><i>All existing possibilities to support Roma inclusion, including under the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD), should be considered.</i></p>

	<p>integrating disadvantaged people.</p>	<p><i>The synergy between actions supported by EU funds and national funds and mainstream policies should be ensured.</i></p> <p><i>Strong cooperation and coordination between the National Roma Contact Point and the authorities responsible for the management of European Structural and Investment Funds is necessary to ensure the successful mobilisation of EU funds for Roma integration, efficiency and sustainability of measures as well as proper monitoring of their impact.</i></p>
<p>Structural priorities that should be considered</p>	<p><i>The monitoring mechanism should have a stronger focus on assessing the impact. The conclusions of the monitoring should be channelled into policy developments. Cooperation with all segments of Roma civil society and local and regional authorities should be reinforced. Mainstream policy reforms should be more coordinated to support Roma inclusion. Anti-discrimination campaigns and targeted actions should be developed.</i></p>	