The Roma are Europe’s largest ethnic minority. Out of an estimated 10-12 million Roma in Europe, some 6 million live in the EU. Many Roma in the EU are victims of prejudice and social exclusion, despite the fact that EU countries have banned discrimination. The EU has long stressed the need for better Roma inclusion, but overall progress has been limited over the past 10 years. The European institutions and every EU country have a joint responsibility to improve the living conditions and inclusion of the Roma.

The new EU Roma strategic framework sets a number of targets up until 2030, which aim to promote effective equality, socio-economic inclusion and meaningful participation of Roma.

41% of Roma have experienced discrimination over the past 5 years. 85% of Roma children are at risk of poverty compared to 20% of children in the general population. 62% of Roma youth are not in education, employment or training compared to 10% of youth in the general population.

“As a Roma student myself, I experienced the lack of Roma representation in the content we were taught in school. This makes it harder for Roma to be open about revealing their Romani identity.”

Simona, Romania
Global Teaching Fellow at Bard College Berlin

“Where is the essence of humanity when every single day Roma people are excluded from society and others are held back simply because of the colour of their skin or their religious belief?”

President von der Leyen,
State of the Union Address 2020
The EU Roma strategic framework sets out a number of targets on minimum progress to be achieved by 2030 and provides guidance to EU Member States on how to do this.

**Fighting and preventing antigypsyism and discrimination**
- Halve the number of Roma who experience discrimination
- Decrease by at least a third the proportion of the general population who feel uncomfortable having Roma neighbours

**Reducing poverty and exclusion**
- Cut the poverty gap and the child poverty gap by at least half

**Promoting participation through empowerment, cooperation and trust**
- Engage NGOs in EU-wide coordinated Roma civil society monitoring
- Ensure participation of Roma NGOs as full members in national monitoring committees
- Double the proportion of Roma who file a report when they experience discrimination
- Encourage the participation of Roma in local, regional, national and European politics

**Healthcare**
- Cut the life expectancy gap by at least half

**Education**
- Cut the gap in participation in early childhood education and care by at least half
- Reduce the gap in upper secondary completion by at least one third
- Work towards eliminating segregation by halving (at least) the proportion of Roma children attending segregated primary schools

**Employment**
- Cut the employment gap by at least half
- Cut the gender employment gap for Roma by at least half
- Cut the gap in the rate of young people not in education, employment or training by at least half

**Housing**
- Reduce the gap in housing deprivation by at least one third
- Cut the gap in overcrowding by at least half
- Ensure that at least 95% of Roma have access to tap water
Roma on the EU’s agenda

Target towards Roma equality, inclusion and participation

2030

Example of good practices at the national level over the last 10 years

Member States to report on implementation of national Roma strategies every two years from 2023 onwards

Commission to take stock of national Roma strategies

Member States to submit national Roma strategies

2023

2022

2021

The EU Roma strategic framework The first deliverable of the EU anti-racism action plan

EU anti-racism action plan 2020–2025

2020: OCTOBER

EU framework for national Roma integration strategies Commission calls for national strategies for Roma integration

2011

Examples of EU funding

Over €21.5 billion was dedicated to support Roma integration measures at the regional level between 2014 - 2020.

For example, Slovakia dedicated €52.4 million of this funding to address a lack of access to water, sewage and waste treatment in Roma communities.

Examples of good practices at the national level over the last 10 years

Educational programmes to prevent school dropout of Roma (girls)

Regional or local employment programmes

Training and employment of Roma health mediators

Roma history and/or culture in national curricula