



European network of legal experts in gender equality and non-discrimination

NEWS REPORT

Country:	Romania
Title:	Report of the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights on mission to Romania
Date:	12 August 2016
Expert:	Iordache, Romanița
<u>Context</u>	
Issue at stake:	Report finding systemic and deep-rooted discrimination against Roma and children and adults with disabilities
Ground of discrimination:	Roma, age, disability, multiple discrimination
Source:	Miscellaneous: A/HRC/32/31/Add.2
Field:	Employment, social protection, social advantages, access to goods and services, education, housing, other
Applicable law:	n/a

Content

Policy development: Between 2-11 November 2015, the UN Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights was in a mission in Romania. The report prepared for the Human Rights Council by Professor Philip Alston and released in April 2016 was communicated to the Romanian authorities in July. It highlights "systemic and deep-rooted discrimination against the extremely poor, particularly the Roma" as well as against children and adults with disabilities. In a very critical report challenging "the official state of denial about poverty and inequality" and encouraging a paradigm shift in looking at social protection not as charity but as a right, the UN Special Rapporteur focused on three of the most vulnerable categories of population: the Roma, children and persons with disabilities. The report analyses in depth housing, education, including "special education", access to employment, the "social safety net" and the conditionalities embedded in order to access cash transfers and social services.

Key points of analysis:

The recommendations made to the Romanian authorities regard acknowledging the severe discrimination against Roma and taking "special measures to assist the Roma population... in areas such as education, health care, employment and housing", collecting equality data, providing adequate procedural safeguards against forced evictions, including Roma as a category of priority beneficiaries in the allocation of social housing. In regards of persons with disabilities, the report recommends to adopt a definition of "person with disabilities" harmonized with the UNCPRD, to encourage inclusive education "and ensure that special schools are used only as a last resort."

Internet link source:

http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage_e.aspx?si=A/HRC/32/31/Add.2.