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NEWS REPORT

Country:	Slovakia
Title:	The Slovak Government adopted the updated action plans of the Strategy for integration of Roma up to 2020 for the period of 2016 – 2018 in the areas of education, employment, health, housing, and financial inclusion
Date:	18 April 2017
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<u>Context</u>	
Issue at stake:	Implementation of policies and measures on integration of socially excluded members of Roma minority
Ground of discrimination:	Race/ethnic origin
Source:	Policy development
Field:	Education, employment, social protection (health) and housing
Applicable law:	Strategy of the Slovak republic for integration of Roma up to 2020 adopted by the resolution of the Government of the Slovak republic n. 1/2012 on 11 January 2012 Resolution of the Slovak Government n. 87/2017 to the updated action plans of the Strategy of the Slovak republic for integration of Roma up to 2020 for the years 2016 – 2018 for the areas: D.2.1 Area of education, D.2.2 Area of employment, D.2.3. Area of health, D.2.4 Area of housing and a new action plan for the area D.2.5 Area of financial inclusion

Content

Policy development: On 22 February 2017, the Slovak Government by the resolution n. 87/2017 adopted the updated action plans of the Strategy of the Slovak republic for integration of Roma up to 2020 for the period of 2016 – 2018 in the areas of education, employment, health, housing and financial inclusion. The updated action plans were prepared and proposed by the Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak republic for Roma Communities (The Office of the Roma Plenipotentiary) in accordance with the Government's resolution n. 1/2012 to the Strategy of the Slovak republic for integration of Roma up to 2020 from 11 January 2012.

According to the information publicly reported by the Office of Roma Plenipotentiary, the updated action plans supplement the existing Strategy for the integration of Roma up to 2020, which is an initial document for the integration of Roma in Slovakia. The updated action plans elaborate on the strategic scopes of the existing Strategy and also react to the program of the new Government, which was formed after the parliamentary elections in March 2016 in Slovakia. The updated action plans are meant to have a direct impact on policies supporting the creation of workplaces as well as impact on school policies, in particular education at primary and secondary schools, pre-school education and development of inclusive education. They aim to significantly contribute to the inclusion

of marginalized Roma communities and contribute to the Government's effort to fight against poverty.

The updated action plans contain 31 goals divided into 5 thematic areas - education, employment, health, housing, and financial inclusion. They also contain 59 concrete measures and 95 detailed activities. The concrete measures are linked to the quantitative indicators, which will enable the Office of Roma Plenipotentiary to monitor and evaluate the implementation of these measures.

The Slovak Government by the same resolution n. 87/2017 assigned the Office of the Roma Plenipotentiary to prepare and propose to the Government the updated action plans to the Strategy for integration of Roma up to 2020 for the next period of 2019 – 2020, by 31 December 2018.

Key points of analysis: The updated action plans to the Strategy for integration of Roma up to 2020 for the period of 2016 – 2018 in the areas of education, employment, health, housing and financial inclusion contain a number of policy measures that can contribute to the inclusion and equal opportunities of socially excluded members of Roma minority in Slovakia, provided that they are effectively implemented and their long-term sustainability in the future is secured.

Internet link source: Resolution of the Slovak Government n. 87/2017 to the updated action plans of the Strategy for the integration of Roma up to 2020 for the years 2016 – 2018 and the proposal of the adopted action plans (in Slovak only):
<http://www.rokovania.sk/Rokovanie.aspx/BodRokovaniaDetail?idMaterial=26278>.