



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

### **FLASH REPORT**

<b>Country:</b>	Slovakia
<b>Title:</b>	The Slovak Government adopted the updated action plans of the Strategy for integration of Roma up to 2020 for the period of 2019 – 2020 in the areas of education, employment, health, housing and financial inclusion
<b>Date:</b>	27 February 2019
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<b><u>Context</u></b>	
<b>Issue at stake:</b>	Implementation of policies and measures on integration of persons living in marginalized Roma communities Racial or ethnic origin
<b>Grounds of discrimination:</b>	
<b>Field of application:</b>	Education, Employment, Housing, Social protection
<b>Source:</b>	Policy development
<b>Applicable law:</b>	Act no. 365/2004 Coll. on Equal Treatment in Certain Areas and Protection against Discrimination, amending and supplementing certain other laws (Antidiscrimination Act); Section 2 para 3

### **Content**

**Policy development:** On 17 January 2019 the Slovak Government by its resolution n. 25/2019 adopted the updated action plans of the Strategy of the Slovak republic for integration of Roma up to 2020 for the period of 2019 – 2020 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). The proposals of the action plans followed from the work of thematic working groups that included also representatives of civil society organizations.

According to the information publicly reported by the Office of the 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 programme of the current Government, which was formed after the parliamentary elections in March 2016 in Slovakia. It is already the second update of the existing Strategy and it is expected that after its termination in 2020 the Strategy will be replaced by a new framework document.

The updated action plans contain 26 goals divided into 5 thematic areas. They also contain 52 concrete measures and 93 detailed activities. The updated action plans are backed by an overall financial investment of 215 million Euro for the given two years in the areas of education, employment, housing, health and financial inclusion. The majority of the funding comes from EU funds. The updated plans mostly provide for continuation of already running

integration programmes. Its concrete measures are linked to quantitative indicators, which will enable the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of these measures.

The Office of Roma Plenipotentiary in its press release highlights some of the most important priorities of the updated action plans. As for the area of education it is a measure supporting the introduction of compulsory pre-school education as well as increased funding for education of marginalized Roma children in primary schools. As for the area of employment it is continuous support of field social work and community centres. As for the area of health it is a measure to improve access to drinkable water and the work of health assistants. Almost half of the whole budget is allocated for the area of housing and this funding will be used among others for supporting multi-stage system of social housing and building infrastructure.

**Key points of analysis:** The Slovak Government adopted the updated action plans of the Strategy for integration of Roma up to 2020 for the period of 2019 – 2020 in the areas of education, employment, health, housing and financial inclusion. A number of policy measures of the updated action plans can contribute to the inclusion and equal opportunities of socially excluded members of the Roma minority in Slovakia, provided that they will be effectively implemented and their long-term sustainability in the future will be secured.

**Internet link source:** The reported resolution of the Government of Slovak republic n. 25/2019 from 17 January 2019 is available in Slovak language at:  
<http://www.rokovania.sk/Rokovanie.aspx/RokovanieDetail/998>.