



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

### **FLASH REPORT**

<b>Country:</b>	France
<b>Title:</b>	Publication of CNDH Romeurope annual report relating to Roma evacuations in 2018, dated 18 March 2019
<b>Date:</b>	20 March 2019
<b>Expert:</b>	Sophie Latraverse
<b><u>Context</u></b>	
<b>Issue at stake:</b>	CNDH Romeurope national survey on Roma evacuations in 2018
<b>Grounds of discrimination:</b>	Racial or ethnic origin, other ground
<b>Field of application:</b>	Housing
<b>Source:</b>	Policy development
<b>Applicable law:</b>	Inter-ministerial instruction of 25 January 2018

### **Content**

On 18 March 2019, CNDH Romeurope<sup>1</sup> published its annual results collected by 48 NGOs, presenting civil society's national survey of Roma evacuations in 2018.

In 2018, 9 688 persons have been evicted from 171 different living areas. The number of persons who have been evacuated has slightly decreased in 2018 (5 %), but the number of operations of evacuation have massively increased (+45 %). The highest number of evacuations was recorded in October, just before the winter interruption, when 1884 persons were evicted from 29 living areas, i.e. 20 % of all evictions in 2018. In 2018, 14 800 persons were living in slums and squats in French territory excluding over-seas departments. Therefore, approximately 65 % of all persons concerned have been evicted from their home in 2018.

95 sites were slums, 62 sites were squats and 6 sites were other types of occupied areas. Some 77 sites were public property while 48 sites were owned by private persons. Some 63 % of the evictions occurred in the Paris region (Ile-de-France), i.e. 79 evacuations evicting at least 6132 women, men and children.

At least 8 189 persons (i.e. approximately 85 %) received no shelter or housing proposition after they were evicted.

Some stable housing solutions were proposed to persons who had been living in slums in some parts of the country. These operations had been prepared in advance in concertation with local authorities and NGOs in the context of specific reinsertion projects with selected individuals in application of the inter-ministerial instruction of 25 January 2018, which intended to offer a policy going beyond an approach based on strict evacuations, in the perspective of a strategy to eliminate slums and support reinsertion.

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<sup>1</sup> CNDH Romeurope is the NGO monitoring and coordinating the action of local NGOs in support of the rights of foreign Roma in France.

At least 25 evacuations (19 %) occurred without known legal basis, public authorities generally alleging *flagrante delicto*.

**Key points of analysis:** The massive increase of the number of evacuations reflects the “fragmentation” of living areas resulting from the Government’s systematic policy of repeated evictions since 2011, with dramatic consequences for the persons themselves, such as living on the street, wandering and attempting to organise successive places to live after the destruction of their belongings, interruption of schooling, etc.

**Internet link source:**

CNDH Romeurope Report relating to Roma evacuations in 2018, of 18 March 2019:  
[www.romeurope.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Expulsions-bidonvilles-squats-2018-Note-d%C3%A9taill%C3%A9e-VF.pdf](http://www.romeurope.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Expulsions-bidonvilles-squats-2018-Note-d%C3%A9taill%C3%A9e-VF.pdf).

Inter-ministerial instruction of 25 January 2018:  
<http://circulaire.legifrance.gouv.fr/index.php?action=afficherCirculaire&hit=1&r=42949>.