

The OSCE/ODIHR Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues invites interested individuals to apply for up to six junior experts on papers on Roma and Sinti youth initiatives.

The youth of Roma and Sinti communities represent a demographic of growing importance in many participating States of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). Nevertheless, exclusionary mechanisms due to stigmatization in employment and education stop young Roma and Sinti from developing their full potential. In 2013, in its Decision No. 4/2014, the OSCE Ministerial Council confirmed that Roma and Sinti youth need to be provided with more opportunities to act as agents of change in their communities.

The OSCE/ODIHR Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues continues its engagement on empowering young Roma and Sinti in the OSCE region. Its Roma and Sinti Youth Conference, taking place on 8-9 December 2014 in Belgrade, will bring together youth representatives of Roma and Sinti from across the OSCE region, to discuss engagement of Roma and Sinti youth at local level addressing the following three fields:

1. Empowerment and social inclusion of Roma and Sinti communities through youth activism (e.g. influence of youth campaigns, programs and activities on fostering youth activism, mobilization to empower marginalized communities, possible policy measures meant to address challenges, reflections on community building, role models and the personal role and responsibility of individuals to overcome obstacles, key challenges and obstacles that hinder Roma and Sinti youth activism and particularly of Roma and Sinti female youth on grassroots level).
2. The participation of Roma and Sinti youth in politics and democratic processes (e.g. the processes that hinder or advance the participation of Roma and Sinti youth in public and political life, the challenges – but also opportunities – facing young Roma and Sinti women in this area, initiatives aiming to improve the current situation, etc.)
3. Roma and Sinti youth and security (within the cross-dimensional understanding of security, addressing the politico-military, economic and environmental and human dimension Roma and Sinti and particularly women from these communities face in the OSCE area, in particular in crisis and post-crisis situations. Possible themes could range from transnational threats – such as trafficking or international crime – to economic development, tolerance and

non-discrimination, hate crimes, forced evictions, and minority rights).

The OSCE/ODIHR Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues is calling for applicants to fill up to six positions for junior experts on Roma and Sinti youth issues. Each consultant will prepare a 10-15 page background paper or case study on issues affecting Roma and Sinti youth, in one of the abovementioned thematic areas. The applicants are invited to submit their own proposals for the specific themes their papers will address, falling within the overall thematic framework of the conference presented above. We welcome proposals on a wide area of issues; local or regional case studies, regional and comparative overviews, social research, presentations of existing civil society initiatives. Paper proposals can also include proposals for artistic work, performances, documentary clips and films, etc. which would accompany their conference presentations.

Timeline: First drafts of background papers must be submitted by 30 November 2014. The expert will present the papers at the Roma and Sinti Youth Conference on 8-9 December 2014 in Belgrade. Final versions of the papers must be submitted by 23 December 2014.

Location: The experts would be home-based, in addition to travel to Belgrade to participate in the Roma and Sinti Youth Conference.

Qualifications:

- Initiated or completed university degree in sociology, political science or a related field;
- Minimum two (2) years of work experience on Roma and Sinti issues;
- Documented ability to research and analyze complex social matters as well as to present them in an audience-appropriate and user-friendly manner;

- Knowledge of issues affecting Roma and Sinti youth, direct experience of working in Roma and Sinti communities on youth issues is an asset;
- Excellent knowledge of English (speaking and writing skills);
- Excellent writing and presentation skills;
- Microsoft Office proficiency (including Word, Excel and PowerPoint);
- Flexibility, ability to work under minimum supervision and deliver against tight deadlines;
- Availability to attend and actively participate in the Roma and Sinti Youth Conference.

"For Roma, with Roma": ODIHR promotes Roma and Sinti inclusion with active participation of Roma and Sinti. Therefore, young Roma and Sinti activists and scholars, including women, are strongly encouraged to apply.

Please send your application, consisting of a cover letter, CV and your paper proposal (maximum two pages) in English to torecruit@odihr.pl, no later than 9 November 2014. Please state "Call for Junior Experts" in the subject line of your message; please note that this call for junior experts and our current call for conference participants are not mutually exclusive, yet each call requires a separate application. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Junior experts' fees will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Link: <http://www.osce.org/odihr/126192>