

# EU Second Roma Integration Award for the Western Balkans and Turkey



Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina,  
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia,  
Kosovo\*, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey

## APPLICATION FORM

(ANNEX 1 OF THE CONTEST RULES)

### Did you know?

It is estimated that about 1 million Roma<sup>1</sup> live in the Western Balkans, 2.8 million in Turkey and 6.2 million in the EU. Roma are Europe's largest ethnic minority. They face continued exclusion, segregation and discrimination.

The EU's policy on Roma inclusion, integration and empowerment is placed within an EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies up to 2020 adopted by the European Commission in 2011. Within that framework, all 28 EU Member States and all 7 candidate countries and potential candidates for EU membership adopted their National Roma Integration Strategies which they now put in practice.

In June 2016, the Commission adopted its annual report on Roma integration that stresses the following as regards the candidate countries and potential candidates:

- Roma integration continues to be a priority in the enlargement process.
- Enough funding must be ensured to carry out integration measures.
- Attention should focus on implementation by local authorities.
- Roma community should be involved in planning, implementation and monitoring.
- Focus on results on the ground to reduce the gap between Roma and non-Roma.

Find out more: [http://ec.europa.eu/justice/discrimination/roma/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/justice/discrimination/roma/index_en.htm)

Watch a film about Roma: <http://romahomeland.org/>

Watch a short video "A Better Future for Roma" in candidate countries and potential candidates: <https://vimeo.com/143848472>

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<sup>1</sup> As it is most commonly used in EU policy documents and discussions, the term "Roma" refers to a variety of different groups of people who describe themselves as Roma, Sinti, Kale, Gypsies, Romanichels, Boyash, Ashkali, Egyptians, Yenish, Dom, Lom, Manouches and other, and also includes Travellers, without denying the specificities and varieties of lifestyles and situations of these groups.

\*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

**Before filling out this Application Form, please read carefully the Contest Rules. You also have to fill out, date and sign the Declaration of Honour.**

*Please fill out this Application Form and send it, together with the Declaration of Honour (Annex 2 of the Contest Rules), by e-mail to [NEAR-ROMA-INTEGRATION-AWARD@ec.europa.eu](mailto:NEAR-ROMA-INTEGRATION-AWARD@ec.europa.eu) by 31 October 2016 23:59:59 of Brussels time (the time of registration in the European Commission's IT system is decisive). ("NEAR" is the abbreviation for the European Commission department responsible for the Second Roma Integration Award: the Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations.) Please make sure that where the Contest Rules require quantified data, e.g. a specific duration or number of staff or beneficiaries, this Application Form contains this data. Where this Application Form requires a limit on the number of words, any words in excess of that limit will be disregarded in the evaluation. Adjust the size of the table cells where necessary to fit the text.*

## 1. THE PARTICIPANT

Full official name of the participant	Udruzenje gradjana Radovi U Toku (Citizens' Association Work In Progress), RUT
Official legal form of the participant. This legal form must be suitable for an NGO.	Private, non profit-making, membership based
Participant's history, aim and main activities (no more than 300 words). Demonstrate in particular the eligibility criteria under Section 3 points 2. and 3. of the Contest Rules	The Citizens' association Work In Progress (RUT), was funded by young activists, who wanted to be active part of the ongoing changes, at the beginning of the 2000s. RUT's projects were always aiming at favouring inclusion of vulnerable, mainly Roma. A part from emergency projects, also targeting Roma IDPs, in 2004 RUT implemented a training targeting young Roma. From 2005 up to 2010 a

Staff count: approximate number of people, voluntary or paid, full-time or part-time, directly carrying out <u>all</u> the activities of the participant, i.e. not just the project	The project's team was formed by 4 people but the implementation of the project also involved 2 trainers and 13 volunteers and/or people supporting the project that had an active role in the realization of the project's activities. The total number, in Serbia, was of about 19 people.
Full official address, notably street/post box, postal code, city, country	Balzakova, 67 21000 – Novi Sad, Serbia.
E-mail address	radutoku@gmail.com
Website	<a href="http://www.radutoku.wordpress.com">http://www.radutoku.wordpress.com</a>
Statutory registration number, VAT registration number (whichever available)	National ID 08850607 VAT 104112322
<b>CONTACT PERSON:</b>	
Name (Ms, Mr)	Mrs. Marzia Clucher
Telephone number	+381 63 544 960
E-mail address	clucher.radutoku@gmail.com

## 2. THE PROJECT

Title of the project	VET4 Mediation With Roma
Period covered by the project (Section 4 point 3. of the Contest Rules)	From 01/11/2013 to 31/10/2015
Geographical location of the project (Section 4 point 2. of the Contest Rules)	<p><i>Identify a precise location of the project, including the candidate country or potential candidate for EU membership</i></p> <p>In the project VET4Roma were involved 5 countries (Spain, Belgium, Serbia, Italy and Romania), in Serbia the project was implemented in Novi Sad but the campaign launched, to professionally recognize, and support, Roma mediation involved Europe and some countries of the American continent.</p>
Source of financing of the project	<p><i>It can be internal (participant's own funds) or external (one or more donors). Please specify.</i></p> <p>The project was co-financed, in cash, by the European Commission (EACEA), the Central European Initiative (Trieste, Italy), the Open Society (Soros Foundation, under the PGF programme Project Generation Facility), own funds and, through in-kind contributions received, by the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, the Provincial Office for Roma Inclusion, the Protector of Citizens – the Ombudswoman, the European Affairs Fund, of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina and the Know-How Centar, from Novi Sad.</p>
<p>Objectives, design, planning and activities of the project (Section 4 point 1., Section 5, criterion 1 of the Contest Rules):</p> <p><i>Please explain in no more than 500 words how the objectives, design, planning and activities (completed by the date of submission of this application) of the project can directly positively affect the Roma children and youth (below 18 years) and/or young adults (18-30 years) in terms of inclusion, integration and/or empowerment, with expected long-term effects on their lives. If the beneficiaries of the project belong to various age groups, please explain and confirm that Roma children and youth and/or young adults are a majority of the beneficiaries.</i></p>	

### **The project objectives were**

1. to launch a new mediator certification (developing a training curriculum based in the main four work areas established according to the European Strategy for Roma Inclusion 2020). The main goal of this action was to offer natural mediators a professional certifiable pathway according to the European Reference Framework. These certification new brand solution was developed in all the consortium partners' countries (ES, BE, IT, RO, RS) and was transculturalized to all the countries developing the project.
2. to promote a real and effective mediation in Roma neighbourhood by the own community and promoting professional mediators from the grassroots.
3. to develop transversal modules of mediation with final digital certificate to assess the competences developed.
4. empowerment of Roma people to access to digital literacy.
5. to train and certificate directly through the project 125 mediators.

The project's activities were logically built one on the other. VET4Roma was monitored during the whole implementation in order to readjust it if, and when, needed. A state of art review on mediation in Europe and of its analyses in every country involved was elaborated and, based on it the transversal modules of mediation have been developed. National Referents were trained. Trainers were trained and the training for 25 Roma Intercultural Mediators organized. The overall dissemination of the project lasted 22 months and was spread through social media (Twitter, FB Close Group - 225 members -, the project's website, Flickr, newsletters, YouTube and the websites' and FB pages of the members of the consortium), traditional media (TV channels, Radios, newspapers), leaflets and gadgets. The sustainability of the project started, in some of the countries involved, earlier than foreseen by the project (18 month). In Serbia, the project was supported by relevant actors that also contributed in fostering, and recognizing, Roma mediation professionally recognizing, Roma mediation and Roma mediators. 116 mediators were trained in the countries involved, 60% were Roma, the majority were young Roma women. In Serbia the majority of Roma mediators attending the training (3 face to face meetings + the online part) were male and female young Roma attending university, nearly 80% were Roma women. The training was mainly targeting Roma and non Roma mediators/volunteers and people working in CSOs. Being people attending the training, Roma and non Roma - the training itself can be considered the first bridge, linking Roma and non Roma communities, built. Roma mediators mostly knew each other. The training developed a high level of empathy among all the participants therefore it contributed in crashing possible stereotypes/barriers. The number of mediators finishing, within the end of the project, the training were 23, many mediators did not finished the online part. Several people registered were interested in taking part in other trainings, the limited financial resources and the lack of additional synergies did not allow the organization of other trainings. 5 mediators, that intended to collaborate with RUT, were part of activities realized, 2 mediators, taking part into activities of inclusion, were part of the project's teams and were employed. It is foreseen that all the trainees, those that finished as well

Results achieved of the project (Section 5, criterion 2 of the Contest Rules):

*Please explain in no more than 500 words the results (achieved by the date of submission of this application): how the project was able to directly positively affect the Roma children and youth (below 18 years) and/or young adults (18-30 years) in terms of inclusion, integration and/or empowerment, with expected long-term effects on their lives. Explain how you have measured these results and how these findings have been or will be used to adjust the objectives, design, planning or activities of the project.*

**The results achieved** by the project are

1. Roma intercultural mediators empowered (thanks to the involvement of national/regional and international actors – CEI – of institutions/authorities – Provincial Office for Roma Integration, the Protector of Citizens, the Ombudswoman, the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, the European Affairs Fund, Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, the Know-how center – the social and traditional media, the exchange of experiences/good practices).
2. Training transculturalized to Spain, Republic of Serbia, Italy, Belgium and Romania, countries involved in the project.
3. Professional mediators empowered and fostered (thanks to the several articles published on local media, in the magazine The Roma Decade in the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina and TV and Radio programmes).
4. Mediation empowered, fostered and promoted.
5. Employability expanded and increased.
6. Possibility to be employable in the SMART economy increased.
7. Level of discrimination decreased.
8. Social cohesion fostered.

RUT, when implementing projects, is paying a strong attention to favour the flourishing of a positive atmosphere able to welcome everybody, to favour social cohesion reducing the level of discrimination and improving the inter-cultural/interethnic dialogue. To favour a proper integration, nowadays, it is needed to find proper tools able to develop social, but above all, economic pathways of integration avoiding clashes. Without any doubts it is needed to foster education, at all levels, and employability. In Serbia results of positive policies implemented, and under implementation, are visible, 600 Roma, male and female, ended the university. It is now needed to invest on this new generation since they are a positive example for communities. RUT created a data base where are indicated the skills and the attitude of mediators involved in the training. Some mediators already volunteered in some actions/projects (the policy of RUT foresees a period of volunteering before being employed), 2 Roma mediators were employed (on project) and new partnerships were created. All people taking part into the project were empowered. At the end of every face to face session an anonymous survey was submitted to people attending the training. Results of the surveys are part of the elements that contributed in measuring the results.

Quantitative and qualitative indicators have been used to measure the results achieved. At European level, the project brought together a pool of organizations/networks and, indirectly, institutions that otherwise do not collaborate with each other. This led to experience sharing, partnerships creating and resources multiplication that would otherwise not happen, The project opened the doors to new training practices, such as e-learning, that will be used in the future.

Share of Roma staff carrying out (implementing) the project (Section 5, criterion 3 of the Contest Rules):

*Please describe, in no more than 300 words, how many people – paid or volunteer, full-time or part-time – are directly carrying out (implementing) the project. What is the share in % of Roma among these people?*

*Do not confuse the people who carry out (implement) the project and the people who benefit from the project! For example, teachers and social assistants carry out a project while children benefit from it. However, sometimes it may be difficult to distinguish: for example, unemployed people may receive training as beneficiaries of the project and at the same time they can be employed by the project or do volunteer work to carry out the project. Therefore, describe clearly the people who carry out (implement) the project.*

**The staff** carrying out the project was formed by the project's team (Project Manager, Technical/Researcher, Technician, Administrator - 4 people), the trainers (2), the national referents (2) part of the volunteers involved (13). The total number of people contributing in the implementation of the project was 19, some of them were working on the project, full time some other were working part-time focusing on certain activities. The share of Roma was 0%. During the implementation of the project the consortium decided to train 2 national referents in every country, RUT was looking for a National Referent among the Roma communities. It was impossible to select one because or had all the needed requirements but was busy (university) and could not take part into the training or some requirements (i.e. knowledge of English language, IT literacy, previous experience as trainer) were lacking. RUT asked the Provincial Office for Roma Inclusion to indicate possible candidates unfortunately no one of those indicated had the needed skills/knowledge/competences or availability to attend the training. The selection for the second national referent was made considering the ToR elaborated.

Share of women and men (girls and boys) among beneficiaries of the project (Section 5, criterion 4 of the Contest Rules):

*Please state, in no more than 300 words, what the share of women and men (girls and boys) is among the beneficiaries of the project. If there are gender imbalances, please explain them and explain how these findings have been or will be used to adjust the objectives, design, planning or activities of the project. If the project is intended to benefit one gender only, please justify why that is appropriate to achieve the objectives of the project.*

Beneficiaries of the training for Roma Intercultural Mediators were about 50 people. 46 (13 males and 33 females) were registered in the e-learning platform, 10 out of the 13 males registered were Roma, 24 out of the 33 females registered were Roma. The majority were young mediators attending the university. Looking at numbers it is clear that there is a gender imbalances, being female participants higher than males.

The project's team, also considering the peculiarities of the country, decided to set a gender quota to facilitate the involvement of Roma female mediators it turned that it was not needed because the majority of participants were Roma women, more numerous than men. It seems that women, including Roma, are more conscious of the power of education to be included, without any form of discrimination, in society.

Considering the experience gained from this project RUT will always specifically targeting Roma women since it is believed that women can bring big differences.

### **3. COOPERATING ENTITIES (fill out only if applicable – Section 3, point 4. of the Contest Rules)**

Describe in no more than 300 words the share of implementation of the project by the participant, i.e. without the cooperating entities. This share must be meaningful and substantial.

The Citizens' Association Work In Progress was in charge of the tasks that were defined during the elaboration of the project proposal, it led the WP 8 Sustainability Plan. The WP was supposed to start during the 18<sup>th</sup> month (to 24<sup>th</sup>, 6 months) but it started earlier than foreseen because sustainability is the bigger challenge in any project and it is needed to identify relevant stakeholders that could favour its sustainability. The EC criticised the decision to start sustainability earlier than foreseen. RUT also put at disposal of the project the experiences gained during the implementation of other project.

List the cooperating entities. For each entity, provide its full official name, its legal form, its official address and its statutory and/or VAT registration number.

Project Consortium:

1. **Fundació Privada Pere Closa**, non profit making, is a Roma association that promotes the education and the development of the Roma Community in Catalonia. Carrer Francesc Macià 36 entl.- 08912 Badalona (Barcelona) - Tel. 93 389 33 41,89 14 73, e-mail: [europa@fundaciopereclosa.org](mailto:europa@fundaciopereclosa.org), contact person for the project: Pedro Aguilera Cortes, e-mail: [paguilera@fundacionesplai.org](mailto:paguilera@fundacionesplai.org)

2. **Fundación Esplai**, NGO, Calle Riu Anoia 42-54 08820 El Prat de Llobregat Barcelona. Tel.: 93 474 55 46 . e - mail: [fundacion@fundacionesplai.org](mailto:fundacion@fundacionesplai.org), contact (involved in the project) Miguel Angel Franconetti Andrade, e-mail: [mfrancon@xtec.cat](mailto:mfrancon@xtec.cat). In the activities, and projects, implemented by the partner, are involved many Roma people playing different roles.

3. **The Intercultural Institute of Timisoara** is a non-governmental, not-for-profit and autonomous organisation, with cultural, civic and scientific activity, without political goals, that accepts and promotes the values and principles of the Council of Europe concerning interculturalism. Address: Bd. 16 Decembrie 1989 nr. 8, 300173 Timisoara, Romania, Tel/fax:+ (40) 256 498457and + (40) 256 203942, e-mail: [iit@intercultural.ro](mailto:iit@intercultural.ro), contact person for the project: Calin Rus. Director of the Intercultural Institute of Timisoara, e-mail: [calin.rus@intercultural.ro](mailto:calin.rus@intercultural.ro)

4. **EARCS** (Romania) is a public entity, supervised by the Timis Council School Inspectorate and co-founded by the Timis county Council. Str. C. Brediceanu, nr. 37, Camin 2 al Colegiului Tehnic Henri Coanda, **Tel.:** +40-256-495.005. Contact Alina Rus, **e-mail:** [Alinarus2003@yahoo.com](mailto:Alinarus2003@yahoo.com).

**5.ARCI Solidarieta' Onlus** (IT) is a non profit making association, working for, and with, Roma and other categories. It promotes the social and cultural development of the environment. Address: Via Goito 3B, 00100 Rome (IT), telephone: +39 06/89566589, +39 06/89566579, e-mail: [solidarietaarci@lazio.it](mailto:solidarietaarci@lazio.it), contact person for the project: Maria Calabrese, [mariacalabrese23@gmail.com](mailto:mariacalabrese23@gmail.com).

**6. Centre de Mediation des Gens du Voyage et des Roms en Wallonie** was set in 2001 and initiated by the will of the regional government. It is an association that helps Roma people where also Roma are working. Rue des Relis Namurwès, 1, 5000 Namur, Tél : +32 (81) 24 18 14. Contact person: Admet Ahkim, director, e-mail: [aahkim@cmqv.be](mailto:aahkim@cmqv.be)

**7.Udruzenje gradjana Radovi U Toku**, private non-profit association working with marginalized and vulnerable groups developing pathways of inclusion. Balzakova, 67 Tel. +381 021 6367370, 21000 . Novi Sad, Serbia. Contact person: Aleksandar Pupin, director, e-mail: [pupin.radutoku@gmail.com](mailto:pupin.radutoku@gmail.com).

**Associated partner the Catalan Government Ministry of Education** from Spain.

In Serbia the project received the support of:

**1. The Central European Initiative (CEI, Italy)** founded in 1989, the CEI is a regional intergovernmental forum committed to supporting European integration through cooperation among its Member States. Via Genova, 9, tel. +39 0407786777, 34121 – Trieste (Italy), contact: Alberto Cozzi, project Manager, e-mail: [cozzi@cei.int](mailto:cozzi@cei.int)

**2. The Autonomous Province of Vojvodina** that put at disposal the premises for the organization of the second Coordination Meeting. Government of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina is an executive authority of the Province, Bulevar Mihaila Pupina, 16, 21000 – Novi Sad (Serbia), Tel. +381 021 487 4000, e-mail [presburo@vojvodina.gov.rs](mailto:presburo@vojvodina.gov.rs)

**3.The Provincial Office for Roma Inclusion** that was a key point in terms of implementation, realization and exchange of information/experiences. Bulevar Mihaila Pupina, 16, 21000 – Novi Sad (Serbia), Tel. +381 021 488 1723, e-mail: [dusko.jovanovic@vojvodina.gov.rs](mailto:dusko.jovanovic@vojvodina.gov.rs)

**4.The Provincial Office of the Protector of Citizens, the Ombudswoman** is an independent institution protecting and promoting human rights and freedoms. Bulevar Mihaila Pupina, 25 21000 – Novi Sad (Serbia), +381 (0) 21 487 41 44, e-mail

**5 The European Affairs Fund, Autonomous Province of Vojvodina** was established by the Provincial Assembly Decision on the Establishment of the European Affairs Fund of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina. Congress Center "Master"- Novi Sad Fair, Hajduk Veljkova 11, Tel: +381 21 483 06 73, 21000 Novi Sad, Republic of Serbia. Contact Ivana Djurica, deputy director, e-mail: [djurica@vojvodinahouse.eu](mailto:djurica@vojvodinahouse.eu)

**6.The Know-How Center**, private, non profit making organization, ID 28077076, VAT 107476298: Bulevar Jovana Ducica, 25, tel. 021/300-666-4, 060-565-0-111. Contact person: Tatjana Lazor Obradovic, e-mail: [tatjana.lazor@gmail.com](mailto:tatjana.lazor@gmail.com)

**7. Open Society** (Soros Foundation, under the PGF programme Project Generation Facility), the Open society foundations is a US-based **private** operating and grantmaking **foundation, phone** +1-212-548, 0600 224 West 57th Street, New York, NY 10019 - United States, e-mail: [contact@opensocietyfoundations.org](mailto:contact@opensocietyfoundations.org)

## 4. SUPPORTING VISUAL MATERIAL

In compliance with the Contest Rules (Section 6), visual material supporting this application (e.g. photos, videos, brochures) is only accepted if it is openly available on the internet in electronic format (a website, YouTube, Vimeo, Facebook etc.). Provide links below and explain the material, in particular how it shows various aspects of the project. The supporting visual material itself may be in any language.

Visual material can be seen consulting the following:

Project's website: <http://www.mediation4roma.eu> (the project together with its outcomes is presented in the website, active till 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016) and website of the Citizens' Association <http://www.radutoku.wordpress.com>

Twitter: @mediation4roma & @radoviutoku. Information and awareness raising campaign

Flickr:[https://www.flickr.com/photos/127980111@N06/albums/72157662846390485/page\\_1](https://www.flickr.com/photos/127980111@N06/albums/72157662846390485/page_1) pictures taken during the implementation of the project.

*Provide the link and a short (maximum 30 words) explanation for each item of visual material. Do not provide more than 10 items; any items beyond this limit will be disregarded during the evaluation.*

Project's website: <http://www.mediation4roma.eu> (the project together with its outcomes is presented in the website, active till 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016) and website of the Citizens' Association <http://www.radutoku.wordpress.com>

Twitter: @mediation4roma & @radoviutoku. Information and awareness raising campaign  
Flickr:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/127980111@N06/albums/72157662846390485/page1>  
pictures taken during the implementation of the project.

**We wish you good luck!**