

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 Roma¹ 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

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>

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.

*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.

Honour (Annex 2 of the Contest Rules), by e-mail to

¹ 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.

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	Centar za edukaciju Roma i etničkih zajednica – Centre for education of the Roma community (CERC)
Official legal form of the participant. This legal form must be suitable for an NGO.	Non-profit making organisation - NGO

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	<p>Center for Education of Roma originated from the association which dealt primarily human and minority rights, that in the last decade fully focus its engagement on the issue of education of Roma children and children of other ethnic communities. Education of Roma children is one of the main objectives of the Decade of Roma and alarming situation in the Roma community, define our organization to deals exclusively with the issue of education.</p> <p>Our main objectives are related to education, the realization, protection and improvement of the existing laws in the field of national minorities and communities, protection of status interests, improving living standards, social and economic situation of the Roma community. CERC initiate and conduct permanent campaign for literacy of Roma children and adults who have not completed primary school.</p> <p>The specific activity of CERC is informative, with a focus on publishing books and other publications in the fields of education, culture and identity of Roma, the Romani language, history, and in the field protection of human rights in accordance with the law. CERC has specific tasks to organize and animate teachers in primary and secondary schools and other professionals to work on the education of children and youth in the field of Roma language, culture, identity and history.</p> <p>To accomplish these complex tasks and goals, we are making a permanent and open cooperation with universities, elementary and secondary schools, professional associations and other organizations in the country and abroad which dealing with the protection and implementation of human and minority rights.</p>
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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	In CIRS are engaged approximately 15 colleagues / associates. Four of them are full time.
Full official address, notably street/post box, postal code, city, country	Str. Borska No. 7z, 11000 Belgrade, Republic of Serbia with
E-mail address	cerez.beograd@gmail.com
Website	http://www.cerez.org.rs/
Statutory registration number, VAT registration number (whichever available)	Official registration No.: 17413279 VAT: 102870615 PIC 925068243 Europe Aid ID: RS-2014-BWG-2304135442
CONTACT PERSON:	
Name (Ms, Mr)	Mr Ljuan Koko
Telephone number	+381 63 436 520
E-mail address	ljuankoka@yahoo.com

2. THE PROJECT

Title of the project	Introduction of the Roma language with elements of national culture in primary schools in Serbia
Period covered by the project (Section 4 point 3. of the Contest Rules)	Ongoing since: December 20 th , 2015
Geographical location of the project (Section 4 point 2. of the Contest Rules)	Republic of Serbia, Municipalities of: Bujanovac, Belgrade, Bela Palanka, Surdulica, Prokuplje, Zitoradja, Vladicin Han, Vlasotince, Doljevac, Kostolac, Kraljevo, Leskovac, Lebane, Nis and Pirot
Source of financing of the project	Total cost of project: 158.626,24 EUR EU funding (85%): 134.832,30 EUR Open Society Foundations - OSF: 17.800,00 EUR Know How Centre: 4.457,00 EUR Internal funds: 1.536,94 EUR
Objectives, design, planning and activities of the project (Section 4 point 1., Section 5, criterion 1 of the Contest Rules):	<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>

Overall objective: To ensure the social inclusion of marginalised groups and communities with the strengthening of the Roma culture, identity and active socio-economic integration of Roma into society in Serbia. Encouraging interested young people (especially the Roma minority representatives) to acquire new knowledge will enable creation of intellectual elite that comprehensively examines various aspects of the issue.

Specific objective: The introduction and implementation of programs for the Roma language teaching in primary schools from 1 - 4th grade in Serbia through the enhancement of the employment and raising capacities of young educated Roma.

Until today, we implemented following activities:

-Information and selection of the interested candidates - With support by Roma Information Centre (RIC) and the existing National Council of Roma National Minority (NCoRNM) we informed members of Roma national community, young faculty educated Roma, about attending training courses. In cooperation with Ministry of Education (MoE), we create questionnaires for introduction of Roma language with elements of national culture which are fulfilled in targeted primary schools. Over 100 young Roma with faculty education informed about the training programme. The Project Partners formed and appointed the Committee for Selection of Candidates (CfSoC) which determined the list of required qualifications for attending trainings, such as minimum completed education and knowledge of the language which will be used as a language of instruction during trainings, after which they reached a decision on selected candidates. Out of 62 submitted applications 40 were selected for participation.

- Training program realization** is designed to strengthen the capacity of the beneficiaries in the fields of Roma language teaching methodology and to increase their employability through the acquisition practical and theoretical skills. In this sense, the focus was on the development of competences required to achieve (self)-employment and to initiate introduction of the Roma language with elements of national culture in primary schools in Serbia. 45 young Roma with faculty education trained on Roma language, according to the accredited program „Normalization, codification and standardization of Roma language“; the importance of language and language policy; European Roma dialects; Language processes to standardization; The voice system of the Roma language; Review of the literature of Roma language; History of the Roma language; The migration of Roma from the aspect of linguistics; etc. Awarding certificates event for the course Roma language and culture for the participants was organized on 28th September 2016 at the Faculty of Philology, University of Belgrade. Preparation of this activity is communicated with Ministry of Education as the Ministry has entered procedure to adopt Regulation on the plan and program in primary schools.
- Preparation of teaching materials for the Roma language with elements of national culture:** ABC book; Reading book I, Reading book II, Picture book and Working books.
- From 40 trained young Roma, 30 of them introduced as teachers of Roma language with elements of national culture** in targeted primary schools in Serbia. At least 500 Roma children are interested attending classes on Roma language in targeted primary schools.

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.

Result 1: Young educated Roma additionally trained and motivated to implement the teaching of election programs

- To improve knowledge and skills of future Roma language teachers on the methodology and process of teaching
- To organize accredited training for 40 Roma on the implementation of the teaching elective course

Outputs:

1. Accredited training courses on Roma language with elements of national culture developed and implemented
2. Six accredited trainers hired for training conduction
3. Over 100 young Roma with faculty education informed about the training programme
4. Two meetings of the Committee for Selection of Candidates organized
5. 40 candidates chosen for training participation
6. 40 young Roma with faculty education trained on Roma language with elements of national culture, according to the accredited program „Normalization, codification and standardization of Roma language“.

Result 2: Prepared and issued teaching resources for the implementation of the teaching elective course - the Roma language with elements of national culture

Teaching materials prepared and designed. Next phase is printing/publishing and distribution to all targeted schools and students involved in teaching program of Roma language with elements of national culture.

Result 3: Introduced teachers of the Romani language in the education system of primary schools in 15 pilot cities – is not fully achieved (activities are ongoing)

1. At least 30 teachers on Roma language with elements of national culture introduced in educational system
2. At least 500 Roma children attending classes on Roma language with elements of national culture

Additional efforts were made by CERC and NCoRNM in communication with MoE regarding the new Questionnaires for parents to be fulfilled with the support of primary schools in Serbia. This activity was of great importance as School Administrations are

informed to that subject Roma language should be introduced as elective subject, not as extracurricular activity.

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.

Full-time:

1. Ljuan Koko – Project manager
2. Jakuta Starcevic – Project coordinator
3. Sejdo Komina – Financial Assistant
4. Dragana Rajic – administrative assistant

Partly-time:

- Enrolling professors teaching positions within the Faculty of Philology in Belgrade Univestity
- 1. Rajko Djuric
- 2. Ljiljana Marković
- 3. Aleksandra Vranes
- Training providers
- 1. Ivana Koprivica
- 2. Ljiljana Bajic
- 3. Marcel Kortijade
- 4. Marija Aleksandrović
- 5. Latif Demir
- 6. Milenka Obradović
- 7. Rozalija Ilić
- 8. Bogdanka Tasev Perinovic
- Roma teachers in elementary schools – 40 of them

Almost 95% of involved in implementation of our project.

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.

In order to develop and preserve equal treatment of Roma culture, traditions and language, the CERC and National Council of the Roma national minority in Serbia together with members of the council, educational assistants, Roma non-governmental organizations and municipal Roma Coordinators from the Republic of Serbia, has proposed action of the survey of parents of Roma children attending primary school in Serbia interested in introducing an elective subject "Roma language with elements of national culture."

On the basis of following collected data from the parents, we have targeted elementary schools, as well as the number of children:

Number of municipalities: 15 (with several municipalities in Belgrade)

Number of elementary schools: 46 primary schools in Serbia

Number of interested children: 2.570 children.

For now, we don't have precise data on gender structure of the children in the schools. This information will be available to us before the end of the project, when we combine the final lists of children. Our assumption is that this is 50/50.

**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.	N/A
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<p>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.</p>	<p>Ministarstvo prosvete, nauke i tehnološkog razvoja / Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development Public institution Nemanjina 22-26 Belgrade Republic of Serbia VAT No. 102199748 Official registration No. 17329235 http://www.mpn.gov.rs/ jasinka.perunicic.alen</p> <p>Nacionalni savet romske nacionalne manjene u Republici Srbiji / The National Council of the Roma national minority in Serbia Government body Masarikova 5/3 Belgrade Republic of Serbia VAT No. 102998654 Official registration No. 17529218 http://www.romskinacionalnisavet.org.rs vitomir.mihajlovic@romskinacionalnisavet.org.rs</p> <p>University of Belgrade Faculty of Philology Public institution Studentski trg 3 Belgrade Republic of Serbia VAT No. 100119438 Official registration No. 07003161 http://www.fil.bg.ac.rs/ ljiljana.markovic@fil.bg.ac.rs</p> <p>Romski informativni centar / Roma Informative Centre Non-governmental organisation 1 maja 3/40, Kragujevac Republic of Serbia VAT No. 101576763 Official registration No. 17226053 www.ric.org.rs rozalija.kg@gmail.com</p>
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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.

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.

All visibility materials related to the project can be found at the link <http://www.cerez.org.rs/>.

In the web site page under the section video-photo gallery pictures and videos from organized events:

- Seminars for Roma language teachers*
- Promotion event of the Project*
- Filed visits meetings in local self-governments in terms of establishing cooperation*
- Awarding ceremony of certificates for Roma language teachers*

We wish you good luck!

Clarifications related to the application for the
Second EU Roma Integration Award for the Western Balkans and Turkey

Centre for Education of Roma and Ethnic Communities was founded on **14th August 2000**. Organization priority is **education of Roma**, with the mission: *to participate in the creation of policies for the improvement of the social position of Roma in Serbia*.

In accordance to Centre's Strategic Plan, objectives of the organization are as follows:

- Sustainable integration of Roma children in the education system through the introduction of Roma language with elements of national culture in education institutions.
- Creating networks/platforms for improving access to education and quality education of Roma children
- Raising capacities of Centre by promotion of human and material resources.

The organizational structure consists of the Governing board, the Supervisory Board and the Parliament; the organization has up to 50 members and volunteers, with two permanently employed members and one official accountant.

Centre has implemented the following projects during last few years:

Name of the project	Funding organization	Duration
Introduction of the Roma language with elements of national culture in primary schools in Serbia	European Union Delegation in Serbia / Support to social inclusion of vulnerable groups, including Roma, through a diverse offer of social services at the community level"	2015 - 2017
Roma Capacity Development for Accessing EU funds	OSF MtM Program	2013 - 2014
Mid-career trainings and qualifications of young Roma people in certain professions	Ministry of Education of the Republic of Serbia	2012
Signing in Roma children in pre-school education	UNICEF Serbia	2011

Sincerely,

Mr Ljuan Koko

President