

2017-2018

## Annual Report



A Year in Motion

**T**he World Roma Federation is a nonprofit advocacy and humanitarian organisation established in NY in May of 2013 currently doing business in Belgium, Brussels since 2017. Since the launch of our European Office we have increased our presence within and outside of the EU quite rapidly. It is quintessentially and impromptu to things to come as more and more countries are looking to implement multilateral bilateral facets open to engagement with the populous of our cause.

The Roma peoples classified in Europe as refugee migrants. Unfortunately, the bias and classification of the Roma is only one of the many debates incumbering any true road to the status of citizenship or proper integration into European society, as well. It is the obstruction of assimilation of the Roma people that ultimately deters progress causing rifts

within the social constraints developed to maintain peace, civility, and order. However, to counter the disadvantages and hardships of the Roma WRF have developed viable solutions in measure of obliterating the inequality disparaging the Roma from succeeding in life.

We have done so much work on behalf of the Roma people over the course of the year. This report will briefly highlight those accomplishments. The Events attended, philanthropic work, community engagement, projected programs and the projected vision of the Federation.

## List of Accomplishments:

June	2017	Hosted the 9 <sup>th</sup> World Roma Congress in Budapest
March	2018	Started WRF News Blog- <a href="https://wrfromanewstimes.com/national-roma-news/">https://wrfromanewstimes.com/national-roma-news/</a>
March	2018	WRF Meeting with Czech Republic Minister of Justice
March	2018	Started Roma Political Party in Sweden
March	2018	Sent Goods to Ukraine Missionary
April	2018	WRF Delegates at Roma Week
April	2018	WRF Event Before the EU-Roma Week
April	2018	Issued Holocaust Petition Letter to Germany
May	2018	Team in Napoli Italy to Assess living Condition Roma Camp
July	2018	Romanian Roma Congress
August	2018	Opened English Language School Ukraine
October	2018	Cultural Event
October	2018	Livia Jaroka Meeting
October	2018	Roma Victim Remembrance Day
October	2018	International Corruption Congress
October	2018	Hungarian Revelation

# The 9<sup>th</sup> World Roma Congress

In June of 2017, before there was even the Federation the president and co-founder set out to host the 9<sup>th</sup> world roma congress in Budapest Hungary. There the head and other speakers/delegates laid out an in depth and comprehensive plan for the future of the Roma people, the theme premised on roma inclusion through the implementation of economic plans structured on the following components culture and linguistics. The main barrier obstructing the assimilation of the Romani People into European Society. The vision introduced to the audience was so well received, several organizations from all over opted to join the federation. The is how the World Roma Organization became the World Roma Federation.



# W.R.F Roma Times News

## WRF News Blog

What better way to get important news about the work of the federation and current news affecting the roma people then with the publication and launch of WRF Roma Times news forum via the web. This is where readers can get the latest news, events, Roma recipes, and learn about all the things going on with the World Roma Federation. I would advise you to check it out or pass on the news blog to other people interested in Roma news around the world.



Visit: <https://wrfromanewstimes.com/national-roma-news/>





## Meeting the Czech Republic Minister of Justice

On March 28, 2018 the WRF EU vice president Janusz Kopacz and the sixth chairman to the EU cabinet Josef Stojka met the Minister of Justice in the Czech Republic Robert Pelikan.

Below are the key elements of what will be discussed

1. The key issues directly affecting the Roma people in the Czech Republic
2. A clear debriefing of what the WRF is looking to achieve via this meeting
3. An outline of what more can be done by all parties involved
4. Constructive dialogue and partnership for the betterment of the Roma people
5. The implementation of community measure that will help ease tension between the local governments and the Roma community.

This is what the WRF will achieve today after this initial meeting with the Minister of Justice and together our federation and the local government of the Czech Republic will work towards stronger relations and a clear path for Roma inclusion.



# Roma Political Party in Sweden

On March 20th, 2018, the World Roma Federation welcomed a new political party from Sweden. This affiliate newly established political party in correlation with the World Roma Federation held a meeting before a group of dignified Roma leaders to discuss the vision and future of the Roma People. The Sveriges Romska Moderna Parti (SRMP) spoke on behalf of WRF's in context to their mission, projected socioeconomic programs, and legislative reforms to be implemented by the EU in the unspecified future. The SRMP party combats for the inclusion, equity, and autonomy of the Roma people in Sweden. As a newly endorsed political party within Sweden, they take a more preemptive approach by implementing measure to ease social tensions. Work on legislature that incorporate the issues afflicting the Roma community in Sweden and provide viable solutions for inclusion. Together both the SRMP political party and the WRF Federation will be an unstoppable power house, working tirelessly day and night on behalf of the needs of the Roma people.





# Goods to Ukraine Missionary



First shipment of WRF sent to Ukraine missionary to be handed out to households and families in need by Myroslav Horvat and Mr. Peter Cherepovskiy. Both Mr. Horvat and Mr. Cherepovskiy are activist for Roma Rights and members of the World Roma Federation in Ukraine. Both gentlemen have been appointed to head, debrief, and formulate solutions to deal with the concerns and issues affecting the Roma Community in Ukraine.

The first shipment of donated goods which contained hygiene products, food, and clothes, where sent on the 28<sup>th</sup> of March to the Ukraine. These items where distributed to the impoverished Roma in Ukraine over the course of three days. These donated goods will alleviate some of the tensions afflicting the Roma, which is the primary concern of the WRF missionary in the Ukraine. Goods will be sent on a month by month basis at the request of Mr. Horvat and Mr. Cherepovskiy.



# WRF Delegates at Roma Week

## Highlights from the ground of Roma Week

Written by **Klara Kelemen:**



The third Roma week ended last Thursday.

European politicians, experts, activists and organizations dealing with persistent anti-Gypsyism have been gathered for the third consecutive year of Roma week to discuss the Roma issues.

The International Roma Week in 2018 commemorated the first -47. Rome Convention, which was held in London in 1971 and which remained on the 8th of April as an International Roma Day.

The 2018 EU Roma Week aims to build on the work started in previous years and in October 2017 the European Parliament called for a call to the EU Member States for its program on Roma Inclusion in the EU: Combating Gypsy Antisemitism.

The program is another step towards more effective programs that can help to create a real change.

It consisted of a series of events that set out solutions and experiences in the fight against anti-gypsyism and discrimination

One of these events was the public event "Anti-Gypsy Elimination in Ethnic Profiling Practices"

Integration is still the main problem.

Ákos Topolánszky, Chair of the Standing Study Group on the Reception of Roma, member of the EESC and President of the EESC, noted that anti-Gypsyism in ethnic profiling is still widespread in Europe.

"Roma are treated differently irrespective of whether they involve decision-making processes, language use, or access to public services," he added.

Tomáš Zdechovský MEP spoke about the situation of Roma minorities in the EU member states of Central and Eastern Europe. He stressed that the most significant problem of these communities was undoubtedly their social integration, which in most cases led to poverty. "It is no wonder," Mr. Zdechovský said, "that their poor living conditions lead to high crime and other unpleasant consequences. "

Claire Fernandez, chair of the European Network Against Racism, drew attention to increased racism in counter-terrorism measures and a reinforced border control process because of migration.

The judicial system often does not ensure that Roma are discriminated against by active remedies.

Péter Szegi, representing the Hungarian Civil Liberties Union, noted that Roma are generally faced with minority-based discrimination: for example, the police impose a discriminatory fine on minor offenses. He noted: "This discrimination is intended to intimidate and segregate Roma communities."

Minority discrimination is a widespread form of discrimination that violates human rights standards.

Scripture is based on a generalization based on race, ethnicity, religion or national origin - instead of individual behavior and objective facts.





# Issued Holocaust Petition Letter to Germany



Dear respected and esteemed gentlemen,

I hope this letter finds you well and with an answer to my last inquest about the belongings and goods of the Roma executed between 1941 to 1945. It is noted that the Roma people murdered during the Holocaust in Nazi Germany were never vindicated nor did they see any retribution for the war crimes committed by Nazi fascist or their accomplices against their community. Today, do to the wrongs afflicted upon our people between 1939 to 1945, Roma leaders, representatives, and associates combating for Roma rights have agreed to sign a petition against the government in hopes of receiving compensation for war damages. These sought damages are directed towards the government and drug agencies of Germany. Unlike other denominations given remedy, the Roma have never seen a penny for the experiments, lethal drugs administered, torture, death, and incivility of horrific measure bestowed.

In 2002, the governments of Germany and other nations were given notice of our bereavement against the state, which outlined the request for compensation. It is now 2018, and still no ample measure has been given for the execution, imprisonment, forced labor, or induced shame of wearing a yellow stripe upon

one's person. As members of the Roma nation, it is our given right to demand the nations of Europe to acknowledge our sacrifice in the 2nd world war. It is imperative that the 1.5 million dead do not go in vain by turning a blind eye to the egregious acts against humanity by the Nazi Party of Hitler's Germany. WRF and its affiliates are asking the local Roma leaders to join in solidarity to collect reparations for the Holocaust as other denominations have done and received reward. The Roma nation do not take these allegations lightly and as everyone is aware in Europe our sacrifice is just of equal measure.

Parliament we beseech your good counsel to remedy this matter. For it is public knowledge that at the treaty signing at the 1949 Geneva Convention in Switzerland that the Roma were to be recognized as war crime victims and to receive restitution and the return of confiscated items during the Holocaust. In answer, to our statement the Roma nation are hoping for **A POSITIVE RESPONSE TO OUR REQUEST AND A PROPER INQUEST INTO OUR CLAIM WITHIN 45 DAYS OF THIS LETTER**. For there is no true way to measure one's life or equate how much one's life is worth, this letter is a mere request for reparations for the victims and families affected by the war.

To Join this petition or to stand in solidarity of the Roma Victims of the Holocaust, sign the contact below, if interested:

Sincerely,

Janos Sztojka

President of the World Roma Federation



# Team in Napoli Italy to Assess living Condition Roma Camp



The World Roma Federation has sent Janusz Kopacz, Laszlo Lakatos, and Luciano Bladson to Italy to assess the living conditions and social issues affecting the Roma people within the area. WRF will be releasing daily reports as to the situation as it is happening in Italy from the EU team prospective. From what has been conveyed solutions can be found but it will require WRF to work with the local magistrate and agencies governing the county of Napoli. The World Roma Federation is committed to providing a viable remedy to the living situation and will be disclosing their findings in the meeting happening in Napoli we will keep our readers updated and debrief everyone on the proceeds and outcomes of the meeting happening later in the week. This is still in negotiations but clean up, sanitation, will commence once zoning is approved for the project.



# Romanian Roma Congress

Romania is the place to be if you are Roma. This was one of the best congresses attended yet by WRF. The people were engaged, educated on the issues, and open to ideas to better the circumstance of the Roma people in Europe. Our Delegate Cristian Priboi and his accompanying team introduced our proposal to the members of the congress as well as addressed key issue affecting the Roma people. The team answered questions and the congress opted to work with our Federation to implement our programs within the Region to be headed by our Romanian members.

# Opened English Language School Ukraine



## **Introducing: The Children's Center for Roma Children**

The World Roma Federation along with its affiliate organization Romani Cherkhen have established a child learning center for Roma children. The center will teach Ukrainian Roma children to speak English. The curriculum will instruct elementary school aged children how to pronunciation, read, and write in English in accordance with the US model used in American school. The classes are currently being held in an unstructured environment, however, desks and a chalk board have been provided and will be making its way to the school sometime next week. Approximately, there are 13 to 14 students currently enrolled in the English program, enrollment is currently open to viable applicants. The classes are taught and facilitated by Ms. Horvat, the only educator available, until class sizes expand, and more educators are necessary. Supplies, furnishings, and other school related items are all procured and donated by Myroslav Horvat president and owner of the NGO Romani Cherkhen. If you are interested in learning more, volunteering time to the school, or donating goods or supplies do not hesitate to fill out the form below.





# Roma Platform the EU Parliament Cultural Event



World Roma Federation EU president Janusz Kopacz at the Roma Platform event held on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of October. At this event different organizations established for the benefit of the Roma people of Europe were able to learn new and beneficial information, engage, and interact with peers and EU delegates alike. Here WRF expressed its concerns about the discrimination, violence, and the unfortunate deaths of young roma and nonRoma due to these beliefs and actions. Housing and Jobs were another focus as well as the importance of integration.

# Livia Jaroka Meeting



On October 14 and 15 Janusz Kopacz and Tibor Csorkuj flew to Brussels to attend the Livia Jaroka Meeting. The premise of the meeting to discuss the situation afflicting the Roma community. Brain storm new and innovative ideas on how to combat Roma issues, bounce around solutions from members in the room, and discuss the role of the EU in the implementation process. The conference was an open forum enabling our delegates to interact and ask questions to address the chief concerns of the Roma people in their district, i.e. Romania and Germany. Overall, the information received during the debriefing was repetitive but promising.



# European Financial Platform for EU Citizens



17-10-2018

The World Roma Federation and the Cherkhen Organization held a very important Meeting in the Parliament of the Czech Republic. There we will negotiate and discuss the importance of mandating laws protecting the rights and privileges of the Roma people.

Good work to everyone involved including our deputy Josef Stojka

# Roma Platform the EU Parliament Cultural Event



18-10-2018

Myroslav Horvath Representing for WRF as the Ukraine deputy From the Trans Carpathian Roma community at the better future program.



# Roma Victim Remembrance Day



19-10-2018

Very important meeting in Kharkov Ukraine

Attending Delegate

Peter Cherepovskiy

During his attendance Mr. Cherepovskiy

Represent the Ukraine territory for official situations from the Parliament

# Roma Victim Remembrance Day



10-20-2018

From the WRF

Ukraine Coordinator

Peter Cherepovskiy

Over the past three years there has been a spike in violence toward Roma camps due to social unrest and uneasiness with governments. The Roma along with other classification of sub groups within the populous are being targeted for social reasons.... mostly fear. Sadly, the lives of Roma and nonRoma have been greatly affected. The untimely and misfortunes stemming from these actions are both disheartening and sad.

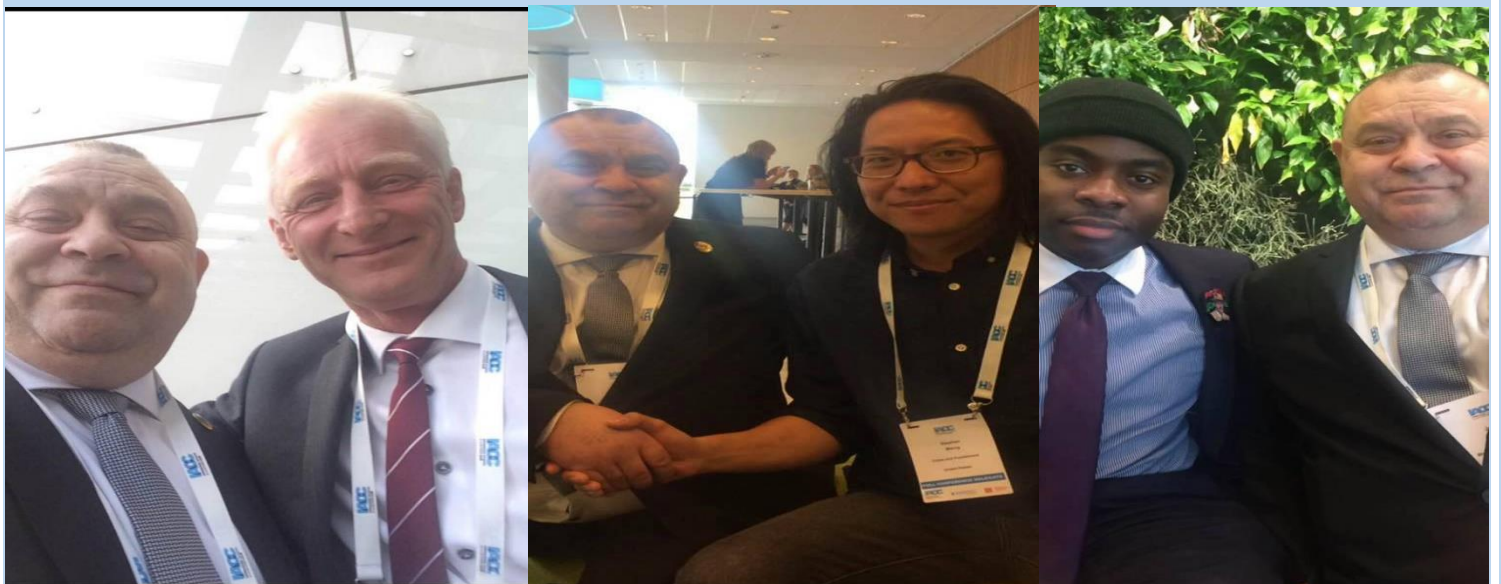
The Ukraine Cabinet helmed by Mr. Cherepovskiy set out to commemorate the fallen-on Roma Victim Remembrance Day. The WRF has penned an open letter to the Prime Minister of Ukraine to enact an anti-discrimination law into existence to stop the hate crimes against the Roma populous in the region.



# International Corruption Congress



October 22 to the 24<sup>th</sup> our delegation Deputy Janos Sztojka from Sweden at the IACC Copenhagen Denmark International Corruption Congress.





# Hungarian Revelation

## WORLD ROMA FEDERATION

### Hungarian 1956 Revolution

The Hungarian Revolution of 1956, also known as the **Hungarian Uprising of 1956** or 1956-os forradalom or 1956-os szabadságharc, was a nationwide revolt against the Soviet-imposed government of the Hungarian People's Republic and its **Soviet**-imposed policies, lasting from 23 October until 11 November 1956.



10-26-2018

### Hungarian Revelation Summit

General of Hungarian Counsel in New York as well as the Co-founder and president of the WRF Janos Sztojka

Will be personally honored to the 1956 freedom fighters and the Roma victim's unit

# To Learn More About WRF View the Links Below:

News Blog:

<https://wrfromanewstimes.com/national-roma-news/>

Website:

<https://www.worldromafederation.net>

<https://www.worldromafederationinc.org/>

YouTube:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCKZuOxyj1FMvqXM7V-J5u6g?disable\\_polymer=true](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCKZuOxyj1FMvqXM7V-J5u6g?disable_polymer=true)