



Specialised support activity for the implementation of Council of Europe/ instruments

Enhancing Romani language education in schools in Europe (QualiRom)

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Short-term activity 2010-2011

Working languages: English, German

Aim

To respond to the need for quality provision in Romani language, given the crucial importance of the Issue of Roma education throughout Europe – especially amidst continued discrimination against the Roma and Traveller communities – and in the context of the Council of Europe’s comprehensive approach to Roma and Traveller issues.

Abstract

The Language Policy Division of the Council of Europe has developed and published a Curriculum Framework and two European Language Portfolio (ELP) models for Romani. These tools can be used to design curricula, textbooks and other learning materials as well as for planning and organisation of learning and teaching of Romani in schools in Europe. They are designed to accommodate three different sociolinguistic situations: the teaching of Romani to (i) children who do not speak Romani at home, (ii) children who are not fluent in Romani, though they may hear their family speak the language, and (iii) children who are fluent in Romani but who need to develop their skill in using the language as an instrument of formal learning (Romani as language of education). The ECML wishes to provide support for the piloting and implementation of these instruments for the benefit of the children concerned and, on a larger scale, for the benefit of the society of which they are part.

Expected results

- Results of the piloting and dissemination of the Curriculum Framework and the two European Language Portfolio models for Romani with local partners willing to work on the integration of Romani language education into local school curricula will be made available by the team carrying out this form of specialised ECML support. These will include reflections on feedback from users and conclusions for further implementation.
- Local networks will be strengthened and in-service teachers will be encouraged to discuss and engage in the process of implementing a curriculum and teaching methods based on European standards targeting educational needs of Roma children.

Targeted sector: Local school authorities, school principals and teachers of the Romani language.

