

INACH Annual Conference 2019

Antigypsyism and Online Hate Speech

30 October 2019, Prague

Venue: **Hotel Belvedere Praha**

Milady Horakove 19, 170 00 Prague 7, Czech Republic

www.hotelbelvedereprague.cz

During 2006, INACH worked together with the Contact Point for Roma and Sinti during the OSCE Human Dimension Implementation meeting in Warsaw in order to give, through the Internet, voice to Roma and Sinti in the OSCE area, also to channel their advocacy and public diplomacy towards the OSCE participating states and to put the problem of (online) Antigypsyism on the agenda. Sadly, 13 years later the situation has not improved. Dehumanization of Roma and Sinti, online hate, slander, insults and incitement to violence and murder are a daily occurrence. Since Antigypsyism is by now considered to be socially accepted, it is very difficult to combat it online. During our conference, INACH and Romea aim to map the level of online Antigypsyism and the relationship to Real Life hate. Furthermore, we will look at policy impacts at international bodies and possibilities to effectively curb online Antigypsyism.

INACH, the International Network Against Cyber Hate, was founded in 2002 and unites and empowers international, national and local organizations as well as individuals who are active in the implementation of human rights on the internet. Our mission is to promote online respect, responsibility and citizenship through countering cyber hate, extremism and violence incitement and by raising awareness about online discrimination. INACH actively reinforces human rights and mutual respect for the rights and reputations of all internet users, securing a safe internet. INACH has a long-standing relationship with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, OSCE, and put the subject of cyber hate firmly on the OSCE-agenda in 2002, resulting in the High Level OSCE Paris summit in June 2004 on the relationship between racist, xenophobic and anti-Semitic propaganda on the Internet and hate crimes.

*News server **Romea.cz** publishes information about events in the Romani world and is currently the most-visited Romani news server in the Czech Republic. Unlike other news servers, Romea.cz does not only report about all events concerning Romani people but also gives as much room as possible to Romani people themselves. While Romea.cz targets Czech journalists as well, it primarily makes it possible for the younger generation to get to know Romani people from a*

different perspective than the one currently predominant in the Czech media. The aim of the news server is to increase awareness among both the majority society and Romani people themselves and thereby improve relations between them. It joined INACH in 2018 as a member and is co-hosting the INACH Annual Conference 2019.

9:00 – 09:30 Registration

9:30 – 09:45 Conference Opening and Dedication:
Remembering Valery Novoselsky by Suzette Bronkhorst and Ronald Eissens, secretary general and general director, International Network Against Cyber Hate, INACH

9:45 – 10:00 Welcome from INACH and ROMEA by Zdeněk Ryšavý, director Romea (tbc) & Philippe Schmidt, INACH chair

10:00 - 10:20 Keynote: Jamen Gabriela Hrabáňová, director, European Roma Grassroots Organisations Network, ERGO

10:20 – 10:40 Presentation - Roma Civil Monitor: findings on antigypsyist hate speech online (research run by Central European University, 90 Roma NGOs involved throughout the EU, Antigypsyism including its online forms was investigated)

Presenter: Jelena Jovanovic, Researcher, ERGO

Q&A

10:40 – 10:45 Intro to the workshops / directions by Ronald Eissens/Suzette Bronkhorst.

10:45 – 11:00 Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:30 Workshops

Workshop 1: *The European Commission, Antigypsyism and hate speech: Policy Impacts*

Speakers: **Anastasia Crickley,** Chairperson Pavee Point, (IRE)
Ivan Ivanov, director, European Roma Information Office, ERIO

moderator: **Julia Mozer,** Communication Officer & Hate Speech Advisor at CEJI (tbc)

rapporteur: **Angela Evenhuis**

Workshop 2: *Connections between offline and online Antigypsyist violence*

Speakers: **Isabela Mihalache**, researcher, European Network Against Racism, ENAR
Jonathan Mack, political advisor, Central Council of German Sinti and Roma (tbc)
Jonathan Lee, Expert on Roma Rights and antigypsyism, ERRC.

moderator: **Javier Sáez**, Senior Expert equality and non-discrimination, Fundación Secretariado Gitano, Spain.

rapporteur: **Claudia Schäfer**

12:30 – 14:00 **Lunch**

14:00 **Summary of the Workshops** by WS rapporteurs

14:30 – 14:45 **Introduction to the plenary: Dan Pavel Doghi**, chief of the ODIHR Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues

14:45 – 15:45 **Plenary discussion:** How to Eliminate Antigypsyism from Online Discourse
Closing remarks by **Klara Kalibová**, director, In IUSTITIA

Moderation by Gwendolyn Albert

15:45 – 16:00 closing session
wrap up, farewell and outlook

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