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, the International Network Against Cyber Hate, INACH, worked together with the Contact Point for Roma and Sinti during the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, OSCE, 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 the conference co-host Romea.cz 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.

Program:

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:**

Zdeněk Ryšavý, director, Romea.cz (CZ)

Philippe Schmidt, chairman, International Network Against Cyber Hate, INACH

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,** policy and research coordinator, European Roma Grassroots Organisations Network, ERGO

Q&A

10:40 – 10:45 **Intro to the workshops:**
directions by Ronald Eissens and Suzette Bronkhorst, INACH

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 and hate speech advisor, CEJI (BE)
rapporteur:	**Angela Evenhuis,** consultant, International Network Against Cyber Hate, INACH

workshop 2:	***Connections between offline and online Antigypsyist violence***
speakers:	**Isabela Mihalache,** researcher, European Network Against Racism, ENAR **Roxanna-Lorraine Witt,** head of department of education and researcher, Documentation and Cultural Centre of German Sinti and Roma (GER) **Jonathan Lee,** expert on Roma Rights and antigypsyism, European Roma Rights Centre, ERRC
moderator:	**Javier Sáez,** senior expert equality and non-discrimination, Fundación Secretariado Gitano, Spain
rapporteur:	**Claudia Schäfer,** director of projects, International Network Against Cyber Hate, INACH

12:30 – 14:00	**Lunch**

14:00 – 14:30	**Summary of the workshops** by rapporteurs

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

14:45 – 15:45	**Plenary discussion**: How to Eliminate Antigypsyism from Online Discourse
	Closing remarks: Klara Kalibová, director, In IUSTITIA (CZ)
moderator:	**Gwendolyn Albert,** consultant, Romea.cz

15:45 – 16:00	**Closing session**
	wrap up, farewell and outlook by **Ronald Eissens**, general director, International Network Against Cyber Hate, INACH

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