

MEMO / 23 May 2012

The situation of Roma in 11 EU Member States Survey results at a glance

The report on ‘The situation of Roma in 11 EU Member States’ presents the first key findings of two surveys carried out by the FRA, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank on the living conditions and discrimination **experiences of Roma and ‘non-Roma’ living nearby** in 11 EU Member States. The data support the efforts of the EU institutions and the Member States to implement evidence based and sufficiently targeted national Roma integration strategies, in line with the [EU Framework](#), to make a real difference to Roma people’s lives.

This is the first time a large-scale quantitative survey of Roma populations has been conducted in **France, Italy and Portugal**. These Member States were surveyed alongside **Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Greece, Spain, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia**, namely countries where large numbers of Roma live.

Governments and societies have been aware of Roma exclusion and deprivation. The results point to **similar and large-scale exclusion patterns across EU Member States**. Swift, effective action to improve the situation is needed. The renewed efforts for Roma integration, however, will only bring sustainable results if Roma and non-Roma local communities are engaged in efforts to build trust, develop social cohesion, and combat prejudice and discrimination.

Implementation of the national Roma integration policies needs to produce tangible and measurable results ‘on the ground’ to **reach the targets set for the [EU’s growth strategy, ‘Europe 2020’](#)**. In this regard, the FRA, the UNDP and the World Bank will continue in their respective mandates to support the efforts of EU institutions and Member States to improve the situation of the Roma.

The **FRA survey will be repeated** at the mid-term point and at the end of the ‘Europe 2020’ process. The aim is to provide robust comparable data that monitor trends over time and across countries in order to assist the EU institutions and EU Member States measure progress made. Therefore the surveys will support the ‘Europe 2020’ goals to support employment, productivity and social cohesion in Europe. In parallel, the FRA will launch **in 2013 qualitative fieldwork**, engaging closely with local communities, to identify “what works best and why” in implementing national strategies on the ground. The FRA will also work together with Member States to develop **monitoring methods and indicators** that allow a comparative analysis of the situation of Roma across the EU.

GRAPHS OF KEY RESULTS

1. In all EU Member States survey, over 80% of the Roma surveyed live in households at risk of poverty

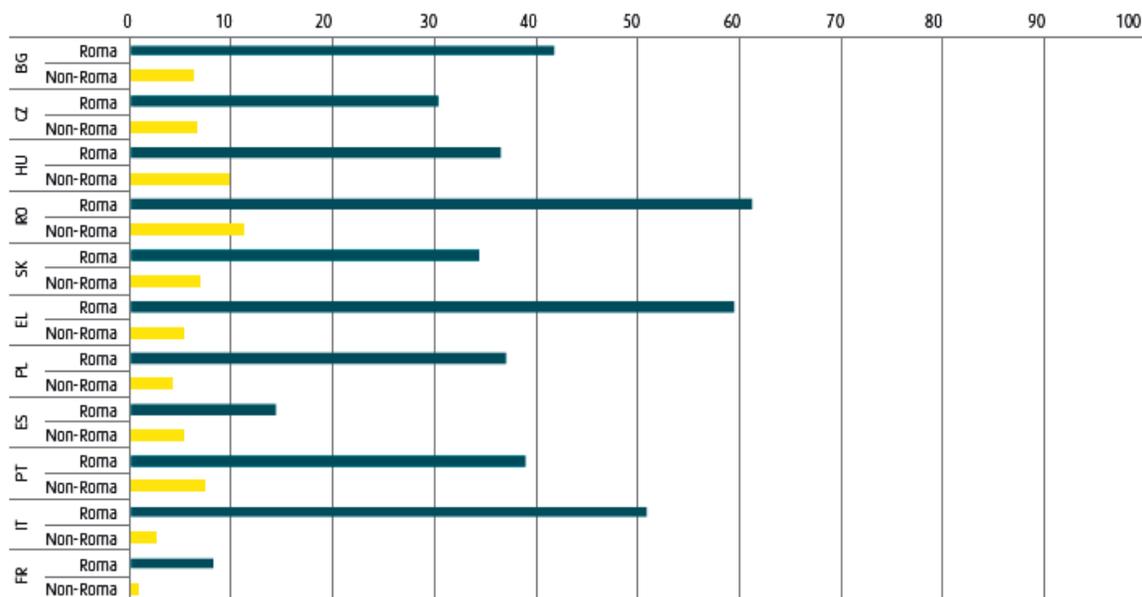
Figure 14: Persons living in households at risk of poverty (%)



Source: FRA Roma pilot survey 2011

2. On average, around 40% of the Roma surveyed live in a household where somebody had to go to bed hungry at least once in the last month because they could not afford to buy food

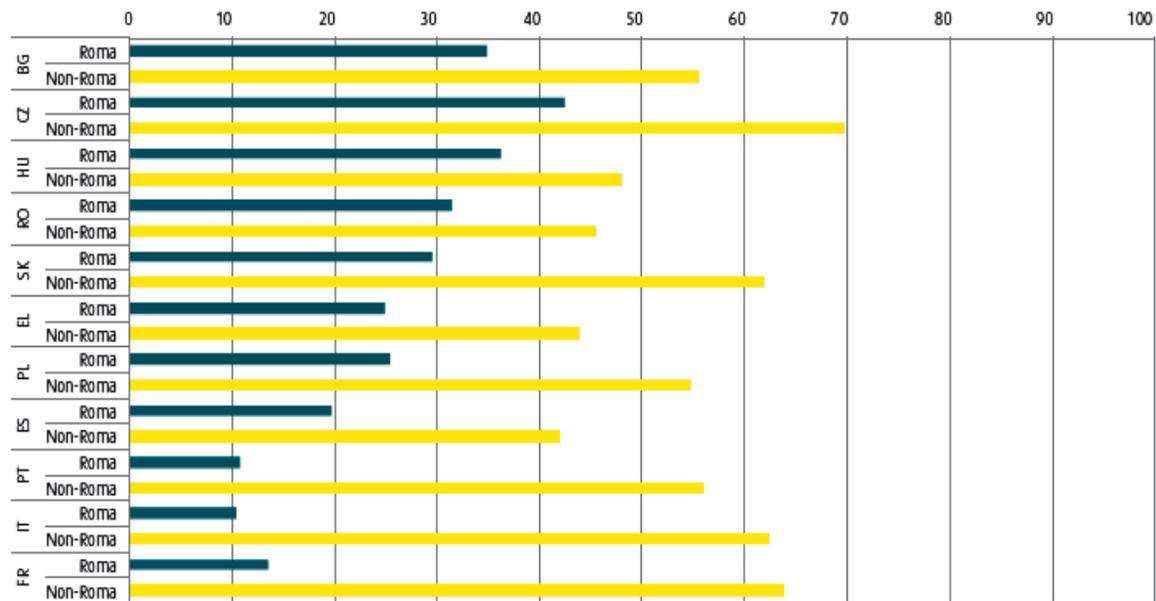
Figure 15: Persons living in households in which someone went to bed hungry at least once in the past month (pooled data) (%)



Source: FRA Roma pilot survey 2011, UNDP/World Bank/EC regional Roma survey 2011

3. On average, fewer than one out of three of the Roma surveyed reported to be in paid employment

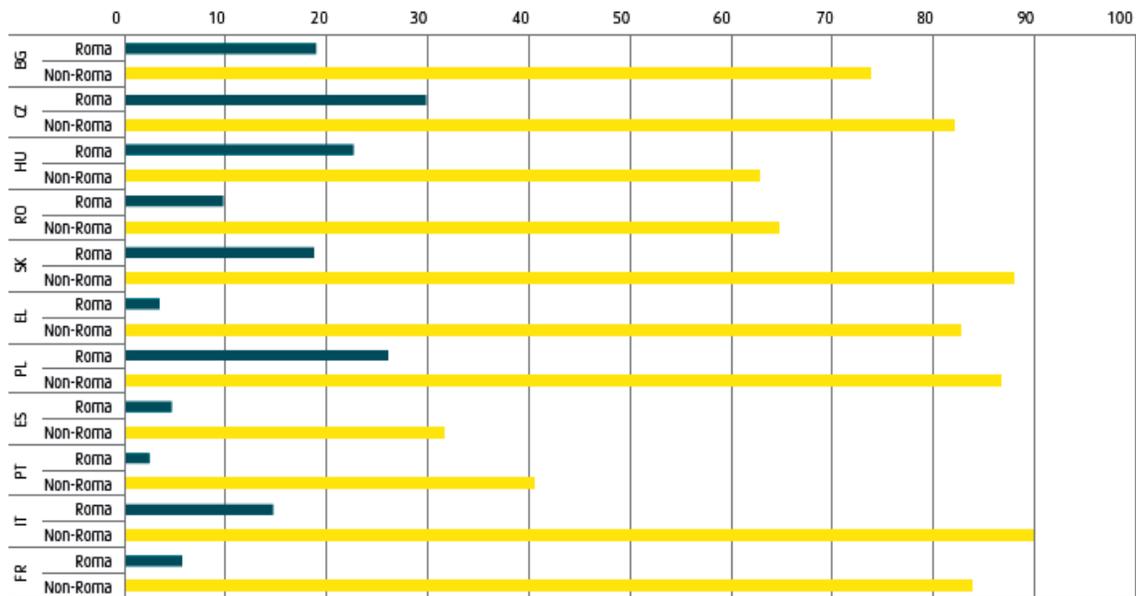
Figure 5: Household members aged 20 to 64 in paid employment (pooled data) (%) – excluding self-employment



Source: FRA Roma pilot survey 2011, UNDP/World Bank/EC regional Roma survey 2011

4. On average, 15% of the Roma surveyed completed upper-secondary education, compared to more than 70% of non-Roma

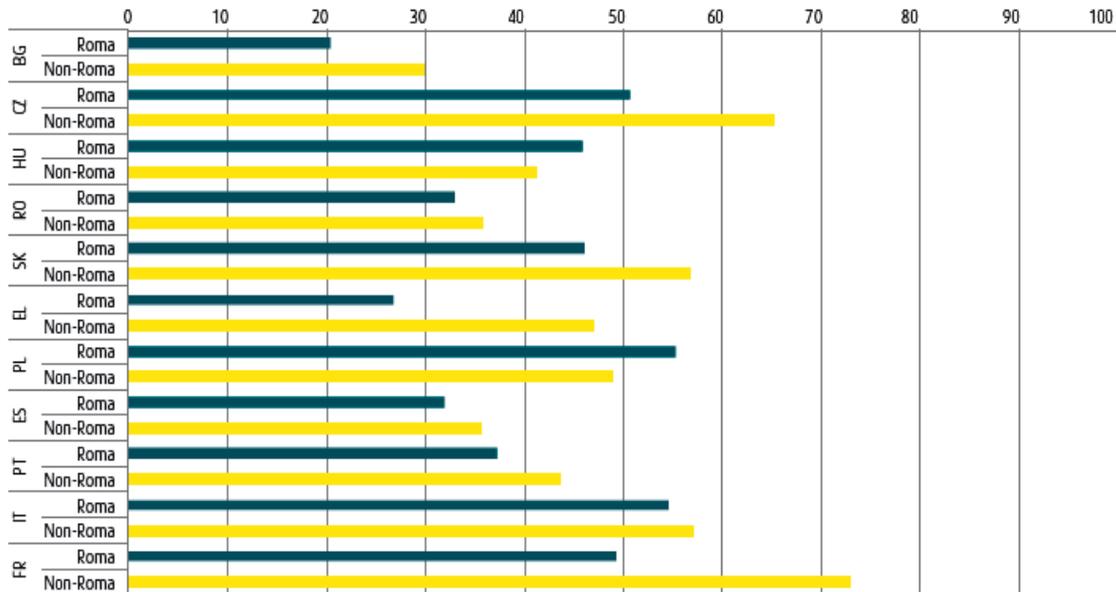
Figure 4: Household members aged 20 to 24 with at least completed general or vocational upper-secondary education (pooled data) (%)



Source: FRA Roma pilot survey 2011, UNDP/World Bank/EC Regional survey 2011

5. Around 40% of the Roma surveyed are aware of laws forbidding discrimination against ethnic minority people when applying for a job.

Figure 18: Respondents aged 16 and above who know about a law forbidding discrimination against ethnic minority people when applying for a job (pooled data) (%)



Source: FRA Roma pilot survey 2011, UNDP/World Bank/EC regional Roma survey 2011

The full report “The situation of Roma in 11 Member States: Survey results at a glance” can be found at: <http://fra.europa.eu/>

FRA’s work on the Roma can be found at:
http://fra.europa.eu/fraWebsite/roma/roma_en.htm

National Strategies received by the Commission:
<http://ec.europa.eu/justice/discrimination/roma/national-strategies/>

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