

**NEW** Project fiche 4.1.5

first priority

## Return/transfer of children at risk who are EU nationals

### Description

In recent times increasing attention has been given to the situation of unaccompanied children who are EU nationals. Data on trafficking in human beings in the EU show that 65 % of registered victims were EU citizens and that at least 19% of registered victims are children. Europol highlighted the particular vulnerability of child victims of trafficking, pointing out that children are often trafficked for exploitation in forced criminal activities and forced begging. Many children trafficked for forced criminality or begging are EU nationals.

The 2014 Fundamental Rights Conference (FRC) stressed that need to focus on children at risk who are EU nationals. The conference conclusions highlight that: *“When a decision is taken to transfer or return a child to another country, clarity is needed concerning the responsible country, as well as the roles of individual agencies to determine the best interests of the child. Procedures that address all cases in which such decisions are required should be standardised, including those that involve the transfer of EU nationals. Practical guidance on establishing such procedures should also be developed.”*

### Objectives

The European Union (EU) Strategy towards the Eradication of Trafficking in Human Beings 2012–2016 calls upon the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) “to develop a tool, such as a handbook or a guide, to assist Member States in addressing fundamental rights issues specifically related to anti-trafficking policy and related actions[...]”. FRA is requested to start working on this as of 2014.

Responding to calls expressed, among others at the FRC, to give more attention to the specific situation of children who are EU nationals, in consultation with the European Commission, FRA intends to fulfil its commitments under the EU-Anti-Trafficking Strategy by assisting states in dealing with EU national children. To achieve this, a mapping of the situation in the 28 EU Member States is necessary, as there is no overview of whether and how child protection authorities are involved prior to deciding whether to return/transfer a child who is an EU national to his/her country of nationality.

### Overall outputs

The results of such mapping will be used by FRA to develop a tool in cooperation with other stakeholders, following the same methodology as for the handbook on guardianship systems published in 2014.

### Activities and results achieved so far

In 2014 FRA has published a handbook for EU Member States on how to reinforce guardianship system to cater for the specific needs of child victims of trafficking.

### Beneficiaries and target groups

Commission and EU Member States

### Planned activities in 2014

Initiate desk research (to be completed in the first part of 2015) to map whether and how national child protection authorities are involved prior to deciding whether to return or transfer an unaccompanied child who is an EU national to his/her country of nationality.

The research will be carried out through FRANET.

### Planned outputs in 2015

- Collection of relevant data and analysis mapping the situation in the 28 EU Member States

### Financial resources allocated to the project

	1 <sup>st</sup> priority	2 <sup>nd</sup> priority	3 <sup>rd</sup> priority
Total budget in 2016	55,270.50 €	-	
Prior years' budget total	-	-	-
Multiannual	No		
Year of origination	2014		

ON-GOING

Project fiche 4.4.1

first priority

## ROMA Multi-Annual Programme

### Objectives

The FRA in response to the 5 April 2011 European Commission Communication on an EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies up to 2020 developed a multi-annual programme of action comprised of several activities. The objective of these activities is on the one hand to support the European Commission in its relevant annual progress report to the Parliament and the Council and on the other hand to assist Member States in developing effective monitoring mechanisms to collect robust and comparable data.

The first key element of the multi-annual programme is the Roma survey. The first wave covering 11 EU MSs was conducted in 2011 in close cooperation with the European Commission, UNDP and the World Bank. Results were published in 2012/13 as key benchmarks for measuring progress made in Roma integration in reference to key indicators of Europe 2020. The second wave will be implemented in the context of EU-MIDIS II measuring progress made in regard to the national Roma integration strategies on Roma integration.

The second second key element of the multi-annual Roma programme concerns project LERI (Local Engagement for Roma Inclusion) which was initiated in 2013. This project investigates the involvement of local communities in Roma integration activities and key factors that lead to success or failure of such activities. The research can be used to assess progress made on Roma integration at local level and support the development of monitoring and evaluation methods and tools. This research will also contextualise the findings of the Roma survey. It is of particular importance to Member States and reflects the request to the FRA by the relevant European Commission Communications to assist Member States in developing methods and tools to monitor Roma integration effectively.

The third key element of the multi-annual Roma programme drawing from the previous activities concerns the coordination of the Working Party of government officials composed of a pilot group of EU Member States and European Commission officials, which functions as a subgroup of the Commission's network of National Contact Points on Roma Integration. The working party serves to exchange experience on ways to measure progress of Roma integration with a view to developing a common approach to monitoring and evaluation of Roma integration efforts.

### Overall outputs

Surveys, analysis, reports, summaries, indicators, meetings, etc.

### Beneficiaries and target groups

- European Commission
- Council of the EU
- Local authorities and communities
- European Parliament
- EU Member States
- Civil society organisations
- International organisations

### Activities and results achieved so far

In 2010 the FRA launched a pilot household survey of Roma in 11 EU Member States in parallel with a survey commissioned by DG Regional Policy, and implemented by UNDP and the World Bank. The FRA also interviewed representatives of several local authorities. Results were published in 2012 - 2013 and research was expanded to additional MSs adopting the research methodology to the characteristics of their Roma populations.

In 2012 and in 2013, the FRA also worked with Member States to develop monitoring methods which can provide a comparative analysis of the situation of Roma across Europe. It set up and coordinates a Working Party of Member States' and European Commission officials, as a subgroup of the Commission's network of National Contact Points on Roma Integration. In 2013 the working party exchanged experience on methodologies and indicators monitoring Roma integration in the area of education.

In 2013 the Agency launched the LERI project conducting feasibility studies to identify the specific localities that will participate in the main phase 2014 – 2017.

In 2013 the Agency was invited to participate in the Coalition of International Organisations on Roma inclusion, and its subgroup ROMERO dealing specifically with international projects at local level. FRA participates in this coordination effort together with the Council of Europe (CoE), the CoE Development Bank, World Bank, UNDP, UNICEF

### Planned activities in 2014

In 2014 the Agency will carry out the following research and stakeholder engagement activities:

- Collect data in the context of EU-MIDIS II covering Roma in selected Member States
- Continue its qualitative research under the LERI project;
- Continue working with Member States in developing appropriate indicators and data collection methods to monitor progress of Roma integration.

### Planned outputs in 2014

- Progress reports on the qualitative research (internal)
- Progress report to the European Commission based on FRANET input
- Progress report on the cooperation with Member States (internal)

### Financial resources allocated to the project

Total budget in 2014:	1 <sup>st</sup> priority	2 <sup>nd</sup> priority	3 <sup>rd</sup> priority
		520,166 €	-
Prior years' budget total	1.121.000 €	-	-
Multiannual	YES		
Year of origination	N/A		

\* Budget is allocated within the project "EU-MIDIS II"

Additional information on financial and human resources as well as on project indicators are included in annexes 1 and 3.

## Immigration and integration of migrants, visa and border control and asylum

**Legal basis:** Council Regulation (EC) No 168/2007 / Council Decision of 28 February 2008 implementing Regulation 168/2007

**Budget line:** B0-3230

### Project 4.1.5: RETURN/TRANSFER OF CHILDREN AT RISK WHO ARE EU NATIONALS

Budget: € 55,270.50 (first priority)

Human resources allocated: AD 0.1 AST 0.1 CA 0 SNE 0

Description of the action: Research activities

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged: Research and data collection

Type of contracts: Framework contract - FRANET

Type of procurement (if applicable):

Number of contracts envisaged: 1

Indicative timeframe for launching the procurement procedure: 4th quarter

Indicative budget for procurement: € 55,270.50

## Roma integration

**Legal basis:** Council Regulation (EC) No 168/2007 / Council Decision of 28 February 2008 implementing Regulation 168/2007

**Budget line:** B0-3340

### Project fiche 4.4.1: ROMA MULTI-ANNUAL PROGRAMME

Budget: € 520.166 (first priority)

Description of the action: Local Engagement in participatory action research on Roma Integration (LERI)

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged: Survey

Type of contracts: Framework contract

Type of procurement (if applicable):

Number of contracts envisaged: 4 indicative

Indicative timeframe for launching the procurement procedure: 3rd quarter

Indicative budget for procurement: € 438.684

Description of the action: Cooperation with Member State authorities – Working Party on Roma Inclusion

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged:

Type of contracts: Framework contract for FRA organisation of meetings

Type of procurement (if applicable):

Number of contracts envisaged: 2

Indicative timeframe for launching the procurement procedure: 3rd quarter

Indicative budget for procurement: € 33.811

Description of the action: Data collection on Roma inclusion

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged: Survey and data collection

Type of contracts: Framework contracts

Type of procurement (if applicable):

Number of contracts envisaged: 3

Indicative timeframe for launching the procurement procedure: 3rd quarter

Indicative budget for procurement: € 47.671