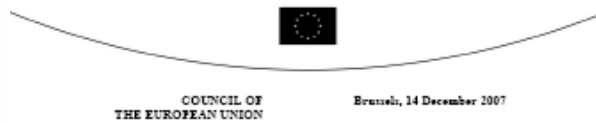


Roma Inclusion 2008



Joachim Ott
European Commission
DG for Employment, Social affairs and Equal opportunities
Action against Discrimination / Civil Society

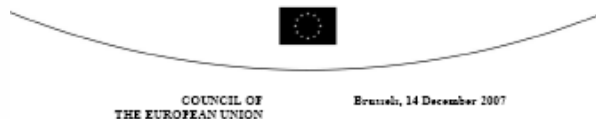
Belgrade, September 4, 2008



50. ... The European Council, conscious of the very specific situation faced by the Roma across the Union, invites Member States and the Union to ***use all means to improve their inclusion***. To this end it invites the Commission to ***examine existing policies and instruments*** and to report to the Council on progress achieved before the end of June 2008.

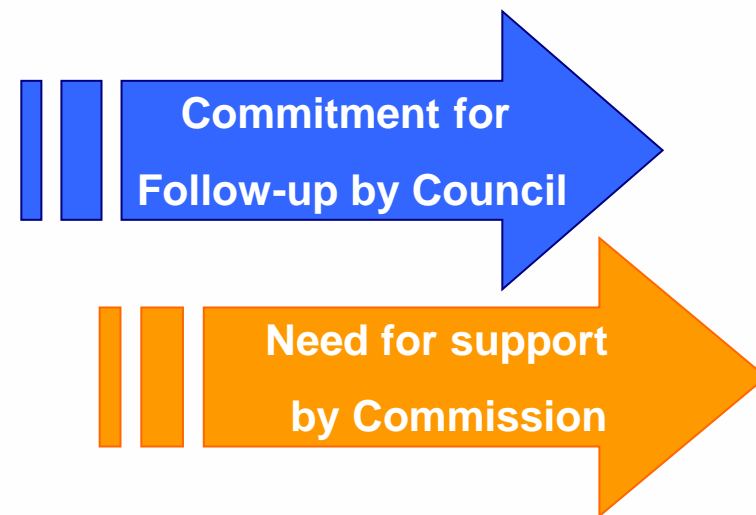
- ☑ Racial violence, anti-gypsism
- ☑ Political awareness that further negligence is not a feasible option
- ☑ EP resolution of January 31, 2008





49. ... "The European Council looks forward to the results of the Commission's evaluation of existing policies and instruments aimed at improving the inclusion of the Roma population as well as to the forthcoming conference on this issue to be held in September. It **invites** the **Council** to take this **into account** in its examination of the revised Social Agenda. The **European Council will return to this issue** before the end of the year."

- ☑ Clear Member States' commitment
- ☑ Constant pressure to keep issue on the agenda
- ☑ Awareness that situation has human rights, social, and security dimension
- ☑ 1st time official Commission report



Outputs – Inputs

Communication

Section on Roma in the Non-discrimination Communication
(July 2, 2008)

Staff Working Document

Policies and instruments for Roma inclusion.
An analysis
(July 2, 2008)

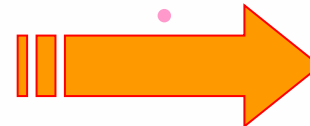
Civil society
Participation / input

Member States

Participation /input

EU Roma Summit
(September 16, 2008)

EP, EESC, CoE, others
Participation, reports and resolutions, opinion

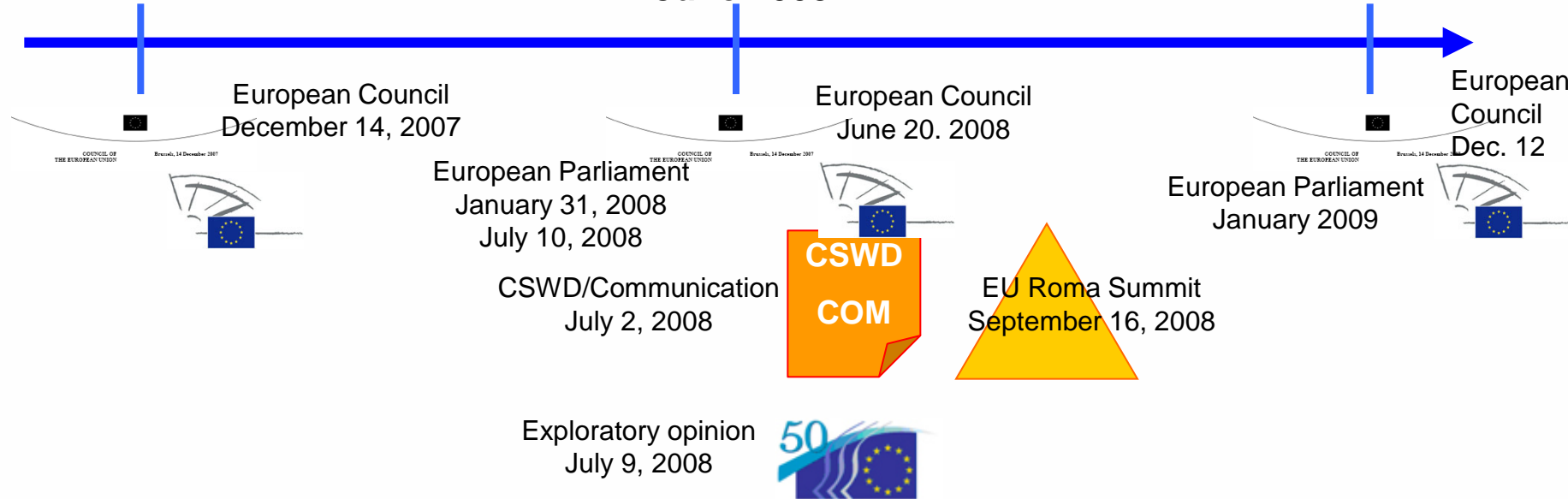


Roma inclusion 2007-2009

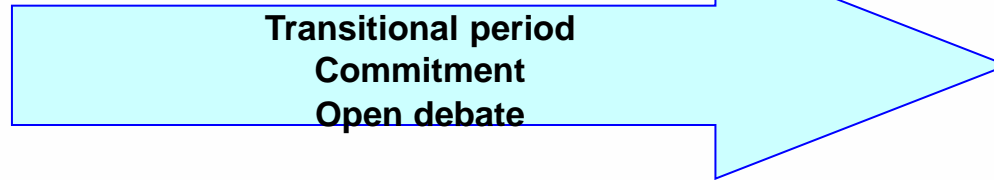
December 2007

June 2008

December 2008



Competence EU
Competence
Member States





***Open and critical
debate involving all
key actors***

***ERPC
Decla-
ration***

***Papers
from
NGOs***

***CSWD
COM***

***Real Summit
EU institutions,
Member States,
civil society***

***Foundations for a
new partnership:
Commitments and
working methods***

Structure of the Agenda

EU Roma Summit

Opening: Barroso

Key Note: Soros

Introductory Panel: EU institutions and experts

Key Note: Kouchner

Policy Panel I: Global Responsibility

Key Note: Katsu

Policy Panel II: A Can-Do-Approach

Key Note: Rose

Policy Panel III: Rights Based Perspective

Closing Panel: The Way Forward

Conclusions: Špidla

Ca. 50 ministers, secretaries of state, NGO presidents and MEPs

Huge media interest

> 400 participants

Representatives from Member States, candidate countries, W. Balkans

Moderated Panel: Views of EU institutions and experts on what needs to be done to found a new partnership

Panel I Global Responsibility: The Global context: geographically (incl. Enlargement, neighborhood policy), politically, societal and genderwise

Panel II Can-Do-Approach: Identification of key factors for success of practical programs and policies

Panel III Rights Based Perspectives: Focus on the issue of rights: fundamental human rights, and social rights

Closing Panel The Way Forward: Summing-up the debates and develop concrete ideas for the way forward



Strategic Framework

**Declaration
ERPC**

**Contributions
from NGOs**

**Conclusions
Commissioner
Špidla**

Conference report

**Transmission of
results of EU Roma
Summit to French
Presidency**

Council

- Consideration of results at EPSCO Council level (tbd)
- Commitment to discuss issue before the end of 2008
- Conclusions of the European Council of December 2008

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- ✓ instruments and policies are **appropriate**, but there is an **implementation gap** in the Member States
- ✓ the use of the potential of **Structural Funds and pre-accession instruments** is crucial for overcoming exclusion
- ✓ the **policy cooperation** mechanisms at EU - and Member States level are suitable for targeted analysis and action
- ✓ there is a need for a **supporting context** around the rights-based approach; Equality bodies and the cooperation/capacity building of civil society play an important role in this respect
- ✓ in the framework of existing instruments and policies there is considerable **room for manoeuvre** to make them more effective (lessons learned)

- ✓ Clear position regarding **anti-gypsism, discrimination and social exclusion** of Roma
- ✓ Commitment to enforce **Non-discrimination legislation**;
- ✓ Commitment to support **capacity building** of civil society and to involve it at all levels of policy development and implementation
- ✓ Commitment to **support Council** in responding to the call of the June 2008 European Council
- ✓ Willingness to use the **scope for improvement** to make Community instruments and policies more effective