

# Introducing the civil society monitoring reports

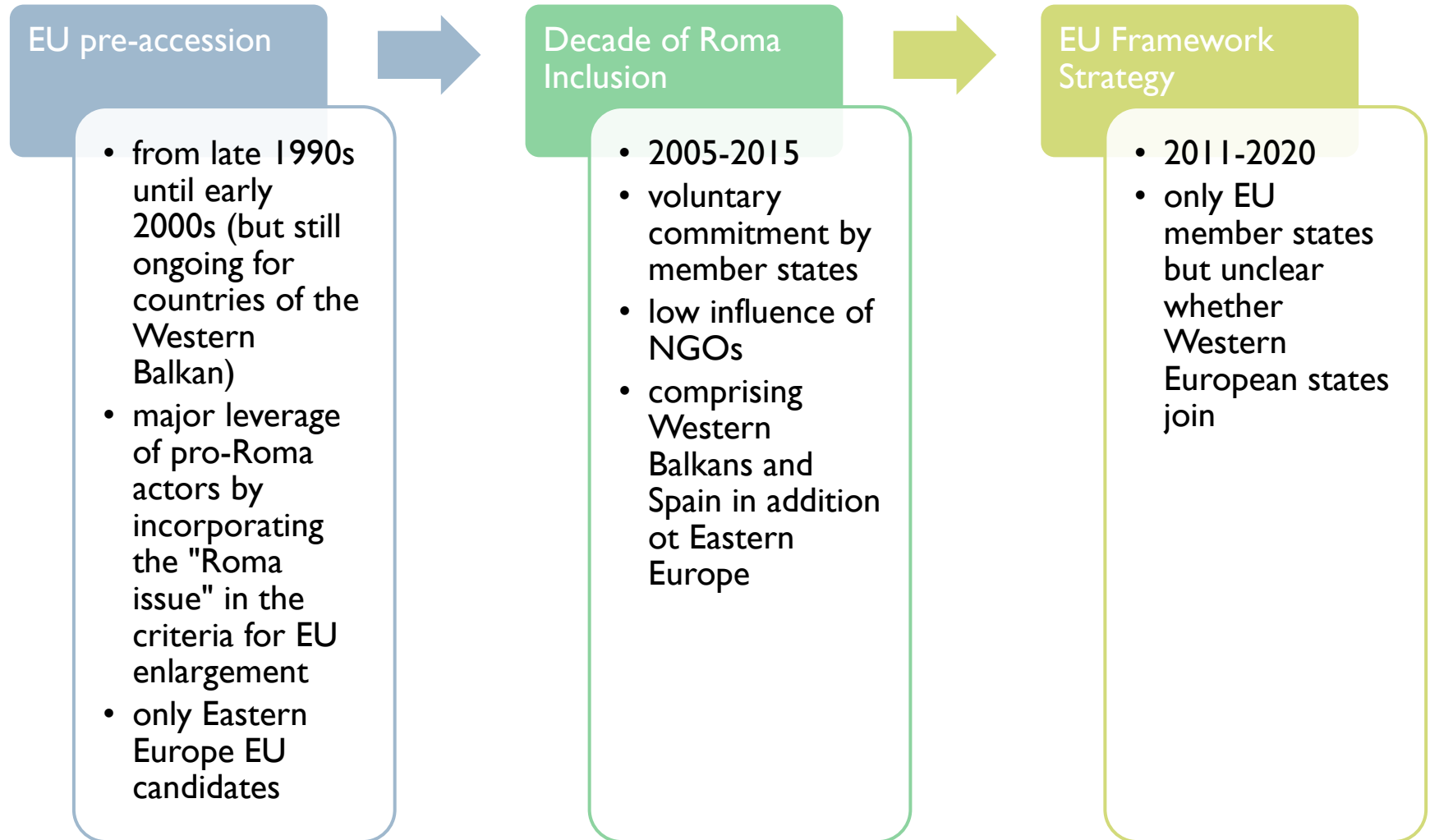
International Steering Committee meeting of the Decade of Roma Inclusion  
Zagreb

19 June 2013

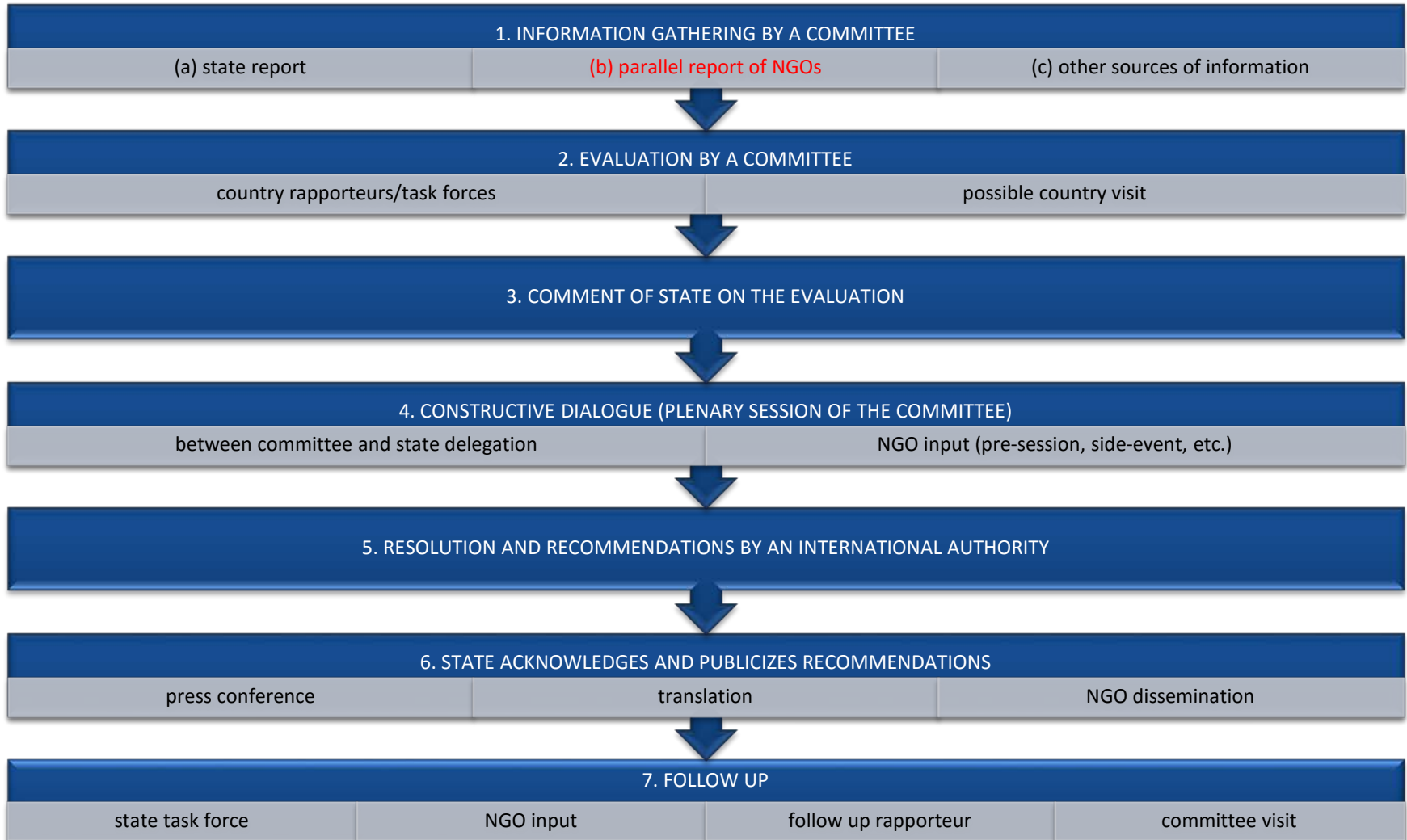
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# THREE WAVES OF EXTERNAL PRESSURE ON NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS



# AN IDEAL SYSTEM OF INTERNATIONAL MONITORING



# EXISTING AND POTENTIAL SYSTEMS

	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities	Decade of Roma Inclusion 2005-2015	European Semester (EU 2020)	Stabilisation and Association (EU enlargement)	EU Framework: phase of assessing strategies	EU Framework: ideal assessment of implementation
I. set of international norms	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities	national strategies and actions plans	EU 2020 strategy + Stability and Growth Pact	Copenhagen Criteria + Stabilisation and Association Agreements	EU Framework	EU Framework + National Strategies and Action Plans
II. committee of evaluation	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (18 experts)	Advisory Committee (18 experts)	none	cross DG work in country teams supervised by Secretariat-General	country desks within DG Enlargement (?)	non public teams across several DGs	public committee within EC
III. state report	According to detailed guidelines 2 parts: Common Core Document + treaty specific report on the legislative, judicial, administrative and other measures adopted to give effect to the Convention	Reflecting on response to last Resolution + states are encouraged to consult with minorities	in the form of progress report	National Reform Programmes	none	National Roma Integration Strategies	annual progress reports
IV. shadow/parallel reporting	Parallel reports referring to specific articles of the Convention+ oral briefing by NGOs during pre-session working group	On the situation of minorities + state measures + progress + problems	previously Decade Watch	none	written contributions + consultations	informal mechanisms for receiving NGO reports	protocol for preparation and submission
V. review session	3 sessions per year, of 3 weeks duration each / periodicity of reporting is 4 years	No plenary session but meeting government officials during country visit / periodicity of reporting is 5 years	in experimental form at ISC	none (?)	none (?)	in experimental form at high level forums in selected countries	on national and EU levels
VI. international authority	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women	Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe	none	Council of EU	Council of EU	Council of EU	Council of EU
VII. recommendations	Concluding Observations by the Committee acknowledging positive steps, identifying problematic areas, recommending practical steps and changes	Resolution of the Committee of Ministers based on the Opinion of the Advisory Committee	none	Commission and Council recommendations	country conclusions and progress reports	some general recommendations and identifying country specific gaps in strategies	separate and explicit recommendations concerning implementation (+EU 2020)
VIII. follow up	Publicizing country observations, requesting States to provide information on follow-up, follow-up rapporteur	Seminars with the Advisory Committee, setting up of state task force	none	National Semester	none (?)	bilateral dialogue meetings with Member States	committee to follow up by country visits and NGO inputs

# WHAT IS SHADOW REPORTING?

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- ▶ Shadow reports are a method for NGOs to **supplement** or present **alternative information** to periodic government reports that State parties submit within the framework of international agreements
- ▶ Shadow reports **cannot substitute** quantitative monitoring and evaluation by state authorities but are vital tools **to make states accountable**.
- ▶ Within the **EU2020** the compatibility of NRIS with mainstream policies can be assessed, but it **does not allow for Roma specific state and NGO reports**.
- ▶ Shadow reports can channel local knowledge into the policy process and reflect on **the real, non-quantifiable social impact** of government measures.
- ▶ Shadow reports are fundamental tools to involve **civil society in the monitoring** of policies and to foster the **active participation of Roma**.

# ASSESSING GOVERNMENT MEASURES

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- ▶ Positive measures of the Roma strategies
- ▶ Positive mainstream measures
- ▶ *Positive but insufficiently designed or implemented measures*
- ▶ Largely negative measures of the strategy
- ▶ Largely negative mainstream measures



[www.romadecade.org/civilsocietymonitoring](http://www.romadecade.org/civilsocietymonitoring)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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