

## DEPART CONFERENCE 3 PRIMARY HEALTH CARE SERVICES AND ACCESSIBILITY FOR ROMA CITIZENS

Koprivnica, 15th March 2017

### Conference report

#### Participation:

The event involved 128 citizens, including 90 participants from Croatia, 26 participants from Austria, 6 participants from Slovakia, 5 participants from Slovenia, 1 participants from Italy

#### Location / Dates:

The event took place in Koprivnica, Croatia on March 15th 2017.

#### Short description:

The 3rd thematic event is focusing on primary health care services and accessibility for Roma citizens as key municipality responsibility. Participants discussed and worked on the main challenges in primary health care with Roma citizens, the problems of accessibility and the deductions from the European public health policy in relation to disadvantaged citizens in particular Roma.

In the afternoon representatives of the target groups and experts discussed together with the audience the reasons and possible solutions of the inequality in the health care system. To reduce possible fears of contact a physician demonstrated the basics in routine physical. The afternoon closed with a keynote on problems with vaccination in the Roma community and solutions. A typical cultural program was implemented during the whole conference.

#### Conference report:

The conference, organized by the **City of Graz**, **EUROPEAN NEIGHBOURS** and the **City of Koprivnica** was dedicated to the topic of health for Roma as in the title above visible.

After the opening by the major of the city of Koprivnica **Mišel Jakšić**, **Sissi Potzinger**, local councilor of the city of Graz, **Vesna Zlicar**, representative of municipality of Maribor and **Franjo Horvat**, president of the association of Roma people in Croatia the conference began with the first keynote "*Unified system of vaccination in EU and its monitoring - Problems with vaccination in Roma community especially for children*" by Univ. Prof. Dr. Andrea Grisold, MBA, Medical University of Graz, Austria

**Michal Kubo**, director of Healthy Communities in Slovakia let through the workshop "Closing the health gap (work of Roma NGOs to decrease inequalities in the health care system)" and also held a short keynote.

After a short cultural event with singing and dancing the participants had a delicious lunch break with Roma cuisine was a solid ground for networking for all participants.

The afternoon session started with 2 keynotes:

**Magdalena Rothova**, director of Association for Culture, Education and Communication  
Executive secretary of Platform for Supporting Health of Disadvantaged People, Slovakia  
*International collaboration together for better health - development and implementation of health mediation programs in Slovakia*

and

**Haris Tahirović**, Romski informacijski center Anglunipe, Slovenia  
*Is the poor health situation of Roma in Europe a consequence of extensive discrimination, violence and social exclusion?*

This two keynotes led to an exciting panel discussion with all stakeholders followed by a cultural event with typical music and dancing performances from the Roma community.

After the performance **Dr. Vlasta Šubarić** a general doctor in Croatia demonstrated the basics in routine physical to overcome distrust.

The last keynote of the afternoon session “Health care field assistance in Roma communities (Helping physicians, schools in problem areas: health and sexual awareness, measure pressure or temperature, pregnancy, insurance system, e-card system...)” was held by **Dr. Maja Toth Mršić** from Croatia and gave a solid basis for the open discussions during the closing.

## Outputs

Transfer and networking plans for the presented examples of good practice were made between the participating municipalities, countries, stakeholders and experts.

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