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## Making EU funding & finance work for Roma

Thursday 30 September, 13.00-15.30

### Objective

Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the EU has worked relentlessly to protect the health and wellbeing of those living in the EU and beyond and to repair the economic and social damage brought about by COVID-19.

Cohesion Policy funds, together with the Recovery and Resilience Facility, the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) and the InvestEU will be key in providing large-scale financial support to address the needs of people who have been disproportionately hit by the pandemic, including the Roma.

The workshop has the double objective of:

- Informing about different EU funds and programmes available for Roma inclusion and
- Showcasing examples of partnership alliances for the efficient use of EU funds

The event will also stress the importance of applying the partnership principle and code of conduct in engaging the voice of different stakeholders, especially Roma.



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## Programme

13.00-13.10: **Welcome words by Sponsor MEP Rasmus Andresen** (Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance, Germany)

13.10-14.00: **EU funding for Roma: mitigating the consequences of the crisis and reducing inequalities**

- Cohesion policy: ERDF, Ms. Otilia Ciobanu, DG REGIO and ESF+, Ms. Teresa Epalza, DG EMPL, European Commission
- Recovery and Resilience Facility and equal opportunities for all, with a particular focus on Roma inclusion, Kathrin Jewert, SG-TF RECOVER, European Commission
- InvestEU, Ms. Georgia Efremova, DG ECFIN, European Commission
- Enlargement IPA funds, Ms. Liselotte Isaksson, Head of Sector – Civil Society, Social Inclusion and Human Capital, Western Balkans Regional Cooperation and Programmes, DG NEAR, European Commission

## Q&A

14.00 - 14.45: **How to reinforce cooperation and partnership with stakeholders in relation to EU Funds?**

- The partnership principle, Ms. Marianne Doyen, Unit ESF+, DG EMPL, European Commission
- Ms. Markéta Benešová, Deputy Director of Department for Social Inclusion, Czechia
- “Empleando Digital”: M. Raúl Pérez, Fundación Secretariado Gitano and Ms. Ana Millán, Accenture IBERIA - Responsible Business Lead and Director of the Spanish Accenture Foundation
- M. Daniel Grebeldinger, Nevo Parudimos, and Ms. Raluca Crista, Adviser to the Mayor of Resita City, Romania



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## Q&A

14.45 --15.00: break

15.00-15.30 **What's Next?**

- M. Ivan Popov, Head of Managing Authority, Executive Agency Operational Programme Science and Education for Smart Growth, Bulgaria
- (tbc) Ms. Gordana Comic, Minister of Human and Minorities Rights and Social Dialogue, Republic of Serbia
- Ms. Andrea Leruste, deputy Head of Unit ESF+, DG EMPL, European Commission
- M. Tomáš Zdechovský, MEP Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats), Czechia

## Q&A



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