

# Media Advisory

## Directorate of Communication

Ref: MA062a09

Tel. +33 (0)3 88 41 25 60

Fax +33 (0)3 88 41 39 11

Internet: [www.coe.int](http://www.coe.int)

e-mail: [pressunit@coe.int](mailto:pressunit@coe.int)



### 47 member States

Albania  
Andorra  
Armenia  
Austria  
Azerbaijan  
Belgium  
Bosnia and Herzegovina  
Bulgaria  
Croatia  
Cyprus  
Czech Republic  
Denmark  
Estonia  
Finland  
France  
Georgia  
Germany  
Greece  
Hungary  
Iceland  
Ireland  
Italy  
Latvia  
Liechtenstein  
Lithuania  
Luxembourg  
Malta  
Moldova  
Monaco  
Montenegro  
Netherlands  
Norway  
Poland  
Portugal  
Romania  
Russia  
San Marino  
Serbia  
Slovakia  
Slovenia  
Spain  
Sweden  
Switzerland  
"The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"  
Turkey  
Ukraine  
United Kingdom

18.05.2009

## Education of Roma children in Europe: final conference in Slovenia

**Date:** 25-26 May 2009

**Location:** Conference Centre in Brdo (Slovenia)

**Description:** Some 100 governmental and non-governmental experts and senior officials from Council of Europe member states will take stock of the 6-year Council of Europe project "Education of Roma Children in Europe."

Given the crucial importance of the issue of Roma education throughout Europe – especially amidst continued discrimination against the Roma and Traveller communities – the strengths and successes of the project, which began in 2002, will be identified for further actions and programmes initiated by the Council of Europe and other key players, including member states, NGOs and international organisations.

The conference will allow participants to identify areas where further work is required in the wide field of Roma and Traveller education, including issues of early childhood education and life-long learning opportunities

Working groups will be formed to examine specific issues, from pre-school education and equal access to education, to teacher training. They will identify actions for member states and international organisations in order to achieve lasting change for the education of the Roma and Traveller communities. The conference programme will also include an "Info Market", to display innovative approaches and materials:

- Council of Europe materials which have been developed through the Project "Education of Roma Children in Europe" and other materials regarding Roma;
- A special stand on the Council of Europe "Dosta" campaign;
- The Slovenian experience regarding Roma education and other Roma issues;
- Material from other international organisations, experiences and projects from member states and INGOs.

### Practical information:

Conference programme and registration: <http://www.zrss.si/econference>  
[www.coe.int/education/roma](http://www.coe.int/education/roma)

Duly completed [accreditation form](#) should be sent by 22 May 2009 to: [brigita.mark@gov.si](mailto:brigita.mark@gov.si)

### Contact:

In Strasbourg, Panos Kakaviatos, Council of Europe Press Division  
tel. +33 3 90 21 50 27 ; [panos.kakaviatos@coe.int](mailto:panos.kakaviatos@coe.int)

In Brdo: Aurora Ailincăi, Unit for European Education Policies, Council of Europe,  
tel +33 6 82 90 01 95; [aurora.ailincai@coe.int](mailto:aurora.ailincai@coe.int)

To receive our press releases by e-mail, contact: [Council.of.Europe.Press@coe.int](mailto:Council.of.Europe.Press@coe.int)

A political organisation set up in 1949, the Council of Europe works to promote democracy and human rights continent-wide. It also develops common responses to social, cultural and legal challenges in its 47 member states.