Integrating Romani Children into Mainstream Education in the Czech Republic through Community Mobilization

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The Romani Community

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Net Prison Population in the CZ</th>
<th>60%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aged 18-22 out of higher education</td>
<td>97%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Segregated in School</td>
<td>78%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attended Pre-School</td>
<td>27%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Population in the CZ</td>
<td>3%</td>
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What’s keeping Romani Children Out of School?

Government-Side

- Pro-Roma Policies
- Anti-Roma Barriers
- Reservations in Higher Education
- Welfare Support
- Language
- Classroom Segregation
- Classroom Discrimination
- Poverty & Poor Living Conditions
- Low Attendance and performance
- Unemployment and Societal Rejection
- Public Lack Of Support
- High Crime

Romani-Side

- Parental Lack Of Support
- Romani-friendly pedagogy
- Affirmative Action in Employment
- Injecting Community Voice
- Government Policies
- Improved Integration into Mainstream Society
- Improved Community Awareness
- Injecting ECD

Effects of Poverty on Child Development

- Low Attendance and performance
- Parental Lack Of Support
- Poverty & Poor Living Conditions
- High Crime

Government and Community Synergy

- Government Policies
- Improved Integration into Mainstream Society
- Improved Community Awareness
- Injecting ECD

Policy Recommendations for Community Organizations

- Option A: Advocating for ban on school segregation
- Option B: Teacher training for Romani-friendly Pedagogy
- Option C: Parent Support Programs through Cash Transfers and Home Visits
- Option D: Increased Language Support Systems
- Option E: Awareness Campaigns for Community Mobilization

Previous policies such as quota reservations and affirmative action have had minimal impact on Romani children’s longitudinal learning outcomes and mainstream integration. Without Community Buy-In, any policy change or intervention directed at the Romani community will fail, as previous policy changes directed at improving Romani education in the CZ have.

These policy recommendations are for addressing the issue of integrating Romani children into mainstream education and society through community mobilization. Recognizing the role of community organizations is the driving force to harnessing community engagement.

Selected References


Governmental policies must be instituted side-by-side community action programs for effective implementation. While current policies do exist with room for improvement, partnering with community organizations and NGOs is key for involving the target population, and breathing life into the policies.