

Work Package 2 (Activity 2.3)

Education and Training Material

Session 2

Human rights, Women and Children rights

“The material of the project reflects only the author’s views. The European Commission’s support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents which reflects the views only of the authors, and the Commission, the Hellenic National Agency or the National Agencies of other countries participating in the project cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein”.

Activities

- national researches
- training courses
- Roma Influencers Network
- awareness raising campaigns
- Roma Influencers festivals
- good practices guide
- policy recommendations
- national & transnational workshops
- documentary films



Objective

The project "Roma Influencers breaking the circle of early marriages and early motherhood in Roma communities" under the title acronym "Roma Influencers Network" derives from the gravity of the extremely harmful practice of **early marriages and early motherhood** in Roma communities. It is focused on **empowering, supporting, protecting and awareness raising of the Roma community**, especially women & girls affected by the specific concern by suggesting ways to change behaviors and attitudes in order to **overcome, reduce or eliminate** it.

Session 2

Part 1 (5 hours)

Welcome (10 minutes)

Human Rights: Women and Children rights (80 minutes)

Universal Declaration of Human rights (30 minutes)

Human Rights poster participatory Discussion (30 minutes)

Break (15 mins)

Examples of Human rights – brainstorming (60 minutes)

UN Human rights website (30 minutes)

UN Human rights annual report (30 minutes)

Feedback on what we have learned (10 mins)

Attendance (5 mins)

Part 2 (5 hours)

Welcome (10 minutes)

Women and child's rights, videos & Participatory exercises. (2 hours)

Break (15 mins)

National Women's organisations in Ireland (30 minutes)

Convention on the rights of the child video, poster and discussion (30 minutes)

Child rights Unicef, video, poster and group discussion (40 mins)

What we envision for the future – group vision board (40 mins)

Feedback on what we have learned (10 mins)

Attendance (5 mins)



The present training material is part of the European Project

“Roma Influencers Network - breaking the circle of early marriages and early motherhood in Roma communities” - ERASMUS+ Programme.

“Roma Influencers Network” project centers on early marriage and early motherhood in Roma communities and focused on empowering and awareness raising of the Roma community, especially women and girls. The main purpose is to suggest ways to change behaviors and attitudes in order to overcome, reduce or eliminate the phenomenon and its harmful impacts.

The project includes the participation of 4 countries: Greece, Ireland , Portugal and Romania.

This training material is part of the Work Package 2: “Breaking the circle of early marriages and early motherhood in Roma Communities”,

Activity 2.3: “Development of Educational and Training material” and will be used for:

Activity 2.4: “Training of Roma Influencers in 4 countries”.

Session II: Human rights, Women and Children rights

What Are Human Rights?

Human rights are rights inherent to all human beings, regardless of race, sex, nationality, ethnicity, language, religion, or any other status.

Human rights include the right to life and liberty, freedom from slavery and torture, freedom of opinion and expression, the right to work and education, and many more.

Everyone is entitled to these rights, without discrimination.

Universal Declaration of Human Rights <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights>

Participatory Exercise:

Group discussion about the poster and human rights and any related incidents of being denied human rights.



- Key aspects of human rights:
- Universal and inherent:
 - Human rights belong to everyone, simply by virtue of being human.
- Non-discriminatory:
 - They apply to all individuals without distinction, regardless of any personal characteristic.
- Interdependent and indivisible:
 - All human rights are equally important and interconnected.
- Protected by law:
 - Human rights are often enshrined in national and international legal frameworks.

- Examples of human rights: Group brainstorming session
- Civil and political rights:
 - Include the right to life, freedom of speech and expression, freedom of religion, the right to a fair trial, and freedom from torture.
- Economic, social, and cultural rights:
 - Include the right to work, education, health, an adequate standard of living, and cultural rights.

UN Human rights: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/video/2025/un-human-rights-leading-voice-human-rights>

- **International human rights bodies:**
 - United Nations (UN): The UN plays a central role in promoting and protecting human rights through various declarations, treaties, and specialized agencies.
 - Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR): The OHCHR works to promote and protect human rights globally.
- **The Council of Europe:**
 - Established in 1949, the Council of Europe is the continent's leading human rights organization. It creates a common legal space based on the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) across its 46 member states.
 - The Council of Europe includes the European Court of Human Rights.
- **The European Union:**
 - The EU has its own mechanisms for protecting fundamental rights.
 - The European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) is an important player in this area, working to make fundamental rights a reality for everyone in the EU.
- **International NGOs:**
 - Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, Anti-Slavery International, etc.



The **women's rights movement** is a social and political movement advocating for equal rights and opportunities for women, often rooted in struggles against gender discrimination. It has evolved through different waves, each with specific goals and strategies, and continues to address a wide range of issues globally.

First Wave (Late 19th - Early 20th Century): Primarily focused on suffrage (The right to vote) and achieving legal equality.

Second Wave (1960s-1970s): Expanded the focus to include issues of social and cultural equality, including reproductive rights, sexual liberation, and challenging traditional gender roles.

Third Wave (1990s - Present): Focuses on intersectionality, challenging multiple systems of oppression, and embracing diversity within feminism.

A global history of women's rights, in 3 minutes
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m_UjYOfmkn8

Key aspects of women's rights today:

- **Legal and Political Rights:** Women have the right to vote and participate in democracy, influencing laws and policies.
- **Education and Economic Rights:** Women have the right to education and equal opportunities in the workforce, including fair wages and property ownership.
- **Physical and Mental Health:** Women have the right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, including access to reproductive healthcare.
- **Freedom from Violence:** Women have the right to live free from violence and discrimination, including domestic violence, sexual violence, and gender-based violence.
- **Equality and Non-Discrimination:** Women have the right to be treated with respect and dignity, and to be free from all forms of discrimination based on gender, race, ethnicity, religion, or other characteristics.

Gender equality means empowering women and girls <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nbhjXK2mMe8&t=13s>

women.

we are **49.6%** of humanity,
but:

Only **13.4%** of world leaders.

Perform **76%** of all unpaid labour.

4.8% of Fortune 500 CEOs.

84% of single parent households.

Earn just **36%** of global income.

Hold **26.7%** of parliamentary seats.

Receive **2.2%** of venture capital funding.

Only **0.9%** of history textbook content.

At current rates,
gender equality will take 131 years

- **Challenges and Issues:** Despite progress, women continue to face challenges:
- **Gender Inequality:** Women are still underrepresented in leadership positions, face wage gaps, and experience higher rates of poverty.
- **Violence and Discrimination:** Violence against women, including domestic violence, sexual assault, and honor killings, remains a serious issue.
- **Reproductive Rights:** Access to reproductive healthcare, including abortion and contraception, is a contested issue in many parts of the world.
- **Intersectionality:** Women's rights are further complicated by factors like race, ethnicity, disability, and sexual orientation.
- **Backlash and Resistance:** In some countries, there are reports of backlash against women's rights, with governments and other actors undermining women's legal protections and opportunities

Participatory Discussion Group Activity

Discussion on challenges and issues

Discussion on why there is backlash on women's rights

Moving Forward

Advancing women's rights requires ongoing efforts to address these challenges:

Advocacy and Awareness:

Raising awareness about women's rights and the issues they face is crucial.

Legal Reform:

Ensuring that laws protect women's rights and provide for equal treatment is essential.

Economic Empowerment:

Providing women with access to economic resources and opportunities can help them achieve self-sufficiency and independence.

Ending Violence:

Preventing and responding to violence against women is a critical priority.

Promoting Gender Equality:

Creating a society where women and men are treated equally and have equal opportunities is a long-term goal.

EU Roadmap for Women's Rights 2025

The Commission plans to further pave the way towards:

- freedom from gender-based violence
- the highest standards of health
- equal pay and economic empowerment
- work-life balance and care
- equal employment opportunities and adequate working conditions
- quality and inclusive education
- political participation and equal representation
- institutional mechanisms that deliver on women's rights

International Organizations:

UN Women:

The United Nations entity focused on gender equality and women's empowerment, working globally to promote their rights and well-being.

CEDAW:

The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, which monitors the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

Equality Now:

An international organization working to eliminate all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls.

Amnesty International:

A human rights organization that works to ensure women's rights, including the right to live free from violence and discrimination, among other things.

AWID:

The Association for Women's Rights in Development, a global feminist organization working to achieve gender justice and women's human rights.

Human Rights Watch:

A human rights organization that regularly investigates women's rights issues globally.

National Women Organizations in Ireland

Women's Aid

Supports women experiencing domestic violence and abuse.

Address: 5 Wilton Place, Dublin 2, D02 RR27

Phone: 1800 341 900 (24/7 Helpline)

Website: www.womensaid.ie

Dublin Rape Crisis Centre

Provides counselling and support for survivors of sexual violence.

Address: 70 Lower Leeson Street, Dublin 2

Phone: 1800 77 88 88 (24/7 Helpline)

Website: www.drcc.ie

Safe Ireland

National network of domestic violence services across Ireland.

Address: Unit 5, Athlone Business Park, Dublin Road, Athlone, Co. Westmeath

Phone: +353 90 647 9090

Website: www.safeireland.ie

Sonas Domestic Violence Charity

Specialist service supporting women and children experiencing domestic abuse.

Address: 3 Killester Court, Dublin, D05 XW40

Phone: (01) 671 8092

Website: www.sonasdomesticviolence.ie

Rape Crisis Network Ireland (RCNI)

Umbrella body for rape crisis centres across Ireland.

Address: The Plaza, Headford Road, Galway

Phone: +353 91 563 676

Website: www.rcni.ie

Let me know if you'd like a regional bre

- **Gender-Based Violence (GBV): Causes, Contributing Factors & Consequences** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o02V6FBjy9c>

Other Relevant Bodies:

European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE): A European Union agency focused on gender equality.

FEMM Committee (Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality): A committee within the European Parliament that promotes and protects women's rights and equal opportunity policies.

Commission on the Status of Women (CSW): The principal global intergovernmental body dedicated to promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women.



Convention on the rights of child

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S25L4jllAng>

 1 CHILD A child is any person under the age of 18.	 2 FAMILY All children have the same rights, no matter who they are, where they live, what language they speak, what their religion is, what they think, what they look like, if they are a boy or girl, if they have a disability, if they are rich or poor and no matter who their parents or families are or what their parents or families believe or do. No child should be treated unfairly for any reason.	 3 THINK When adults make decisions, they should think about how their decisions will affect children. All adults should do what is best for children. Governments should make sure children are protected and looked after by their parents, or by other people when this is needed. Governments should make sure that people and places responsible for looking after children are doing a good job.
 4 GOVERNMENT Governments must do all they can to make sure that every child in their country can enjoy all the rights in this Convention.	 5 FAMILY Governments should let families and communities guide how children grow up, so they grow up the way they want to. The more children grow, the less guidance they will need.	 6 CHILD Every child has the right to be alive. Governments should make sure that children survive and develop in the best possible way.
 7 NAME Children must be registered when they are born and given a name which is officially recognised by the government. Children must have a nationality (being from a country). Whenever possible, children should know their parents and be looked after by them.	 8 IDENTITY Children have the right to their own identity – an official record of who they are and which includes their name, nationality and family relations. No one should take this away from them, but if this happens, governments must help children to quickly get their identity back.	
 9 SEPARATION Children should not be separated from their parents unless they are not being properly looked after – for example, if a parent hurts or does not take care of a child. Children whose parents don't live together should stay in contact with both parents unless this might harm the child.	 10 CONTACT If a child lives in a different country from their parents, governments must let the child and parents know so that they can stay in contact and be together.	 11 ABDUCTION Governments must stop children being taken out of the country when this is against the law – for example, being kidnapped, or someone or being abroad by a parent when the other parent does not agree.
 12 OPINION Children have the right to give their opinion on issues that affect them. Adults should listen and take children seriously.	 13 EXPRESSION Children have the right to express their views with others when they think, think and feel, by talking, drawing, writing or in any other way without harm to other people.	 14 THOUGHT Children can choose their own thoughts, opinions and religion, but this should not stop other people from enjoying their rights. Parents can guide children so that as they grow up, they learn to properly use this right.
 15 ASSOCIATION Children can join or set up groups or organisations, and they can reach out to others, as long as this does not harm other people.	 16 PRIVATE LIFE Every child has the right to privacy. The law must protect children's privacy, family, home, correspondence, and reputation (or good name) from any attack.	 17 INFORMATION Children have the right to get information from the internet, radio, television, newspapers, books and other sources. Adults should make sure the information they are getting is not harmful. Governments should encourage the media to share information from lots of different sources, in languages that all children can understand.
 18 GUARDIAN Parents are the main people responsible for bringing up a child. When the child does not have any parents, another adult will have this responsibility and they are called a "guardian". Parents and guardians should always consider what is best for that child. Governments should help them. Where a child has both parents, both of them should be responsible for bringing up the child.	 19 CHILD PROTECTION Governments must protect children from violence, abuse and being exploited by anyone who looks after them.	 20 ADOPTION Every child who cannot be looked after by their own family has the right to be looked after properly by people who respect the child's religion, culture, language and other aspects of their life.
	 21 ADOPTION When children are adopted, the most important thing is to look what is best for them. If a child cannot be properly looked after in their own country – for example by living with another family – then they might be adopted in another country.	

Child rights

UNICEF Ireland

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5V524yiw530>