



Introduction and welcome

Season's greetings to all of our subscribers! This Christmas and New Year period is undoubtedly one of the most unusual and for many we know it will be challenging.

All of us at RSG have faced a steep learning curve this year, making many adjustments, but these obstacles have only reinforced our commitment.

We want to say thank you to all of you for supporting our cause this year. Allyship and cooperation is our greatest form of strength and going into 2021, we must continue to learn from and support one another.

In this newsletter we will bring you:

- A Christmas message from RSG
- RSG's contribution to FEANTSA's magazine
- Reflections on our EUSS event
- Reflections on our Annual General Meeting
- Updates from the Roma News Project



Artwork inspired by Robert Czibi <https://czibiart.com/>

A Christmas message from RSG!



Homeless in Europe winter magazine

The European Federation of National Organisations Working with the Homeless (FEANTSA) has published the latest edition of its magazine. This time the focus is on Roma experiences of homelessness in Europe.

The full edition is available [here](#).

RSG's [contribution](#) to the magazine tracks the recent history of Roma rough sleepers in the UK and looks to the uncertainty they face post-Brexit.

This month, it has been announced by the government that immigration rules will be introduced which previously led to the detention and deportation of Roma rough sleepers in the UK.

With just over a week until the end of the Brexit transition period, Roma rough sleepers will no longer be protected by EU law from the 'hostile environment.'

Reflecting on RSG's EUSS event



On 17 November, RSG hosted an online event with the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Gypsies, Travellers and Roma titled:

'Falling through the gaps of the EU Settlement Scheme: the case of Roma Communities in the UK'

The event was chaired by APPG Co-Chair Martin Docherty-Hughes MP.

Speakers in attendance were:

Chris Desira (Seraphus) (2:20–22:50) — Provided information about the legal and procedural aspects of the EUSS and its upcoming timeline until the deadline of 31 June 2021.

Helen Stalford (University of Liverpool) (24:00–47:20) — Spoke about those who are yet to secure their EUSS status and why, focusing on Roma children and those with complex cases.

Mihai Bica (Roma Support Group) (47:20–1:06:10) — Spoke about barriers to Roma in securing and using their EUSS status. Issues raised included the position of rough sleepers, problems with documentation, digital exclusion, access to welfare benefits, and a lack of engagement by local authorities, schools and the Home Office.

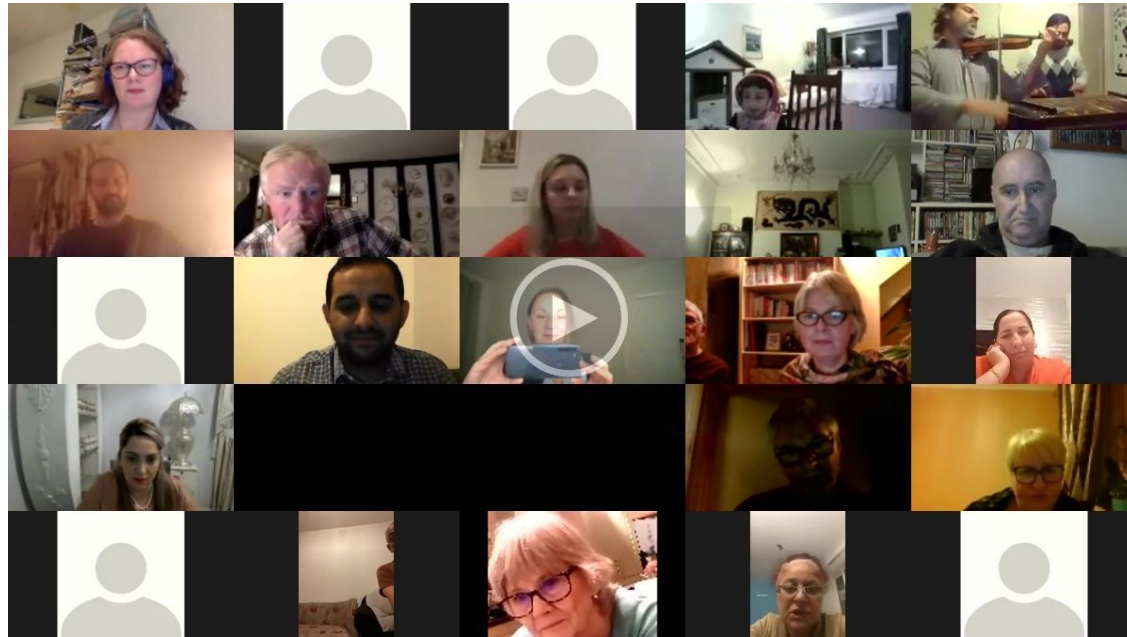
Colin Havard (Sheffield City Council) (1:06:55–1:13:55) — Spoke on the gaps of local authority EUSS support and the impact of COVID-19.

A number of other speakers representing the Home Office and NGOs spoke in further detail on barriers and also looked to the future on difficulties surrounding the conversion from pre-settled status to settled status.

A report on the event will follow in the New Year.

RSG's Annual General Meeting 2020

On 19 November we held our first virtual AGM. We managed to pull off multi-lingual interpreting support and we were very lucky to have live music performances which you can view below at (1:03:30) and (1:43:50).



And finally...

Updates from the Roma News Project

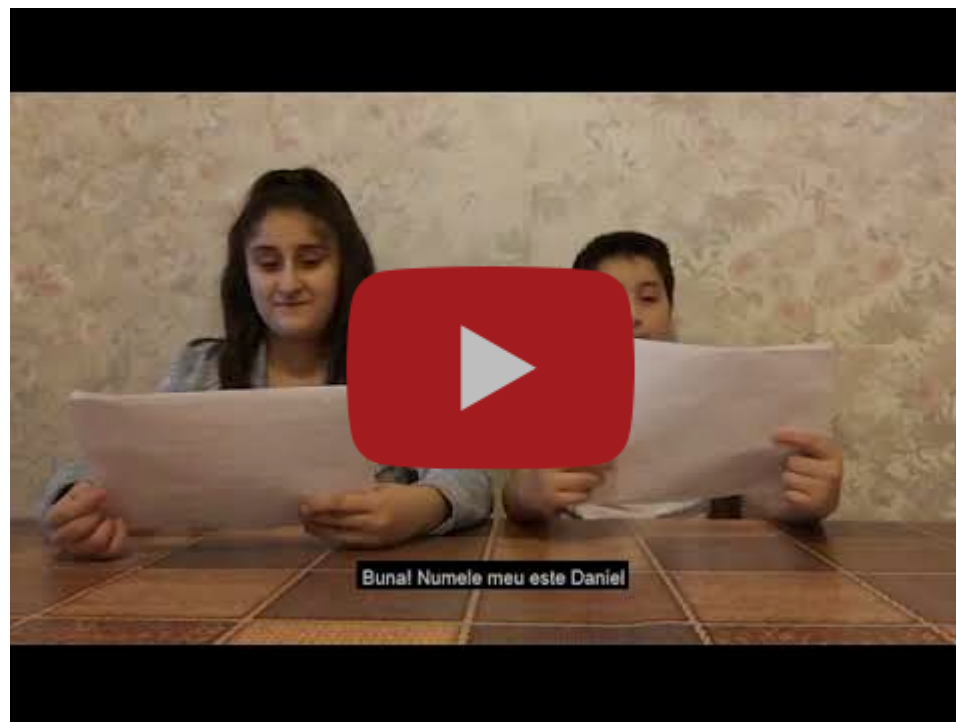
This month, the Roma News Project held a competition for young people to produce a piece of media relating to the Roma community.

The winners of the competition and their entries are shown in the video below. Very well done to Daniel Avram, Daniel Iosif Bahica, Estera and Ana.



The Roma News Project has also produced its first monthly video. For more information on the project's aims and the team of professionals working alongside participants, visit our [Roma News webpage](#).

Take it away newsreaders Marta and Daniel...



For more information about Roma Support Group, go to our website [here](#) and look at the [‘projects’ pages](#).

We would be grateful if our subscribers could help us to reach out to more people by using the "Forward" button below to share the newsletter in your networks.



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