

Project title: Equality for Roma through combating discrimination

Project leader: Information Legal Centre

Partner: DKolektiv – organisation for social development

Project implementation period: October 1, 2022 – December 31, 2023

Project total value: 89.948,63 €

Contact person for more information: Nataša Kovačević, info@ipc.com.hr

Link to relevant internet pages: https://www.ipc.com.hr/hr_HR/

Project summary:

Main Problem: In Brodsko-posavska County (BPŽ), 1,178 Roma are officially recorded, though the estimated number is higher, as many Roma identify as Croats or Serbs due to fear of discrimination. The Roma community faces spatial, economic, and political marginalization and is underrepresented in public life. Prejudice and stereotypes against the Roma are deeply rooted in the local community due to limited understanding of Roma culture.

Main Goal: To promote and protect the rights of Roma victims of human rights violations and discrimination by raising awareness among society and stakeholders, strengthening the implementation of anti-discrimination legislation, and empowering Roma to seek legal protection.

Specific Objectives:

1. Strengthen the capacities of Roma mediators to recognize and report discrimination, participate in decision-making processes, advocate, and mediate conflicts.
2. Promote better protection and access to justice for Roma victims of discrimination.
3. Establish cross-sectoral cooperation to enhance Roma integration into the local community, increase public awareness of practical steps for Roma integration, and promote intercultural dialogue.

Key Activities:

- Training for Roma mediators (IPC, DKolektiv).
- Legal assistance to Roma victims of discrimination (IPC).
- Representation of victims before the Ombudsperson (IPC).
- Research on the implementation of the Anti-Discrimination Act and the Constitutional Act on the Rights of National Minorities (IPC).
- Local platform for Roma inclusion (IPC).
- Photovoice exhibition (IPC).
- Media campaign (IPC).

Multiplier Effect: By empowering Roma to seek legal protection in Osječko-baranjska County (OBŽ) and building the capacities of individuals and communities, the project ensures sustainability and significant Roma participation. It contributes to developing an inclusive society and fostering intercultural dialogue.