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Policy Development and Data collection on Roma in Latvia

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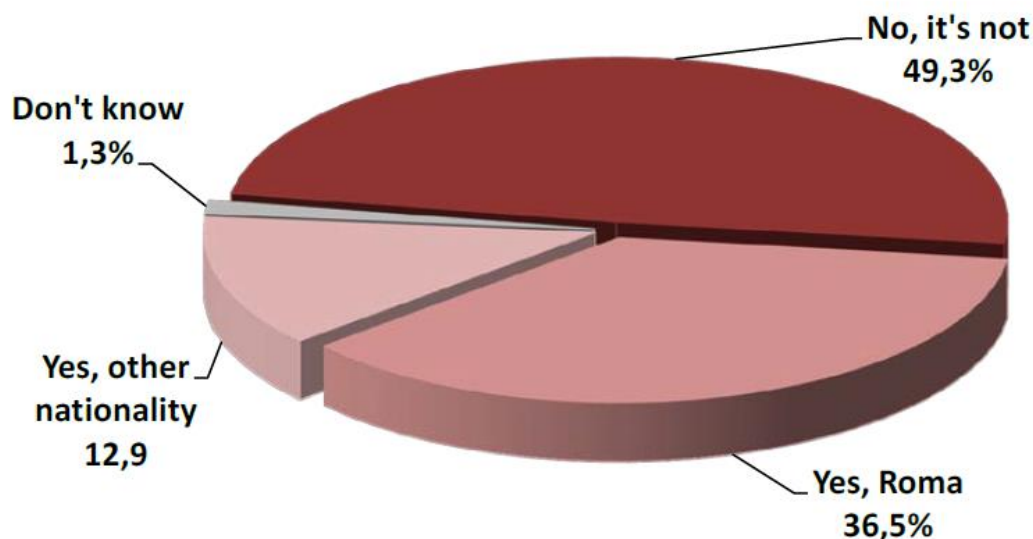
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Šis projekts ir līdzfinansēts Eiropas Savienības programmas „Tiesības, vienlīdzība un pilsonība” ietvaros

Number of Roma in Latvia

- **6842** registered Roma in LV (The Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs, 2021)
- **4 891** Roma live in LV (The Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia, 2020)
- **0,3% of total LV population;**
- officially available statistical data reflect only those Roma who have indicated Roma ethnicity;



Total number of Roma in Latvia might be higher than that in the official statistical data.

Only 36,5% recognized themselves as Roma in the passport;

(survey «Roma in Latvia», 2015)



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National Policy framework

- **Set of national Roma integration policy measures 2012-2020**, included in the framework of the Guidelines and Implementation Action plan for National Identity, Civil Society and Integration Policy;
- **Plan for the implementation of the Roma Strategic Framework (2021-2023)** is in the process of elaboration by the working group (according to the Council Recommendation on Roma equality, inclusion and participation).
- The Working group include representatives from ministries, state agencies, Ombudsman, NGO, the Association of Local and Regional Governments



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Progress Reporting

- **Annual Report on Implementation Roma Policy measures** since 2013 (include information from co-responsible ministries, municipalities and NGO)
- **Regular Reporting to the European Commission** on the progress achieved by the implementation of the set of policy measures (based on information provided from co-responsible ministries, municipalities and NGO)



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Available Data on Roma

- Census Data and Roma Population Data (based on the declaration of person's ethnicity)
- Data from ministries in key areas
 - **education monitoring** (the Ministry of Education and Science), including Roma rates in compulsory primary education, special education programmes, receiving supporting measures etc.
 - **unemployment rates** (the Employment State Agency)
- Data from municipalities (not usually comparable)



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Available Data on Roma

- Qualitative survey Roma in Latvia (2015)
 - **the situation in key areas:** education, employment, health and housing
- Opinion poll (Eurobarometer, national polls)
 - **population attitude towards Roma**
- Evaluation Reports of the situation in key areas
 - **annual evaluation of policies** on social inclusion, experts opinions
- Results of the implementing measures
 - number of Roma mediators and teaching assistants working in Latvian municipalities



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Future developments

- Pre-survey - Feasibility study on the improving Roma integration policy monitoring system (2022)
- Taking into account indicators developed by the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (*Monitoring framework for an EU Roma strategic framework for equality, inclusion and participation – Objectives and indicators*) and available national indicators
- Survey on Roma situation in Latvia (2023)
 - key areas: education, employment, health and housing
 - by using a qualitative and quantitative research approach
 - comparable data with the previous survey on Roma situation in Latvia 2015



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Challenges

- How to collect data and use sensitive data on Roma and other ethnic minorities, taking into account the restrictions and regulations of the General Data Protection Regulation?
- How to practically collect structure, process and outcome indicators for the planning and evaluation of the national Roma strategic framework in policy key areas in countries with small Roma population?



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Thank you for attention!