

**#RomaHealth**  
**#HealthInequalities**

ONLINE DISCUSSION



@EPHA\_EU

## Health and Housing in the EU Roma Framework



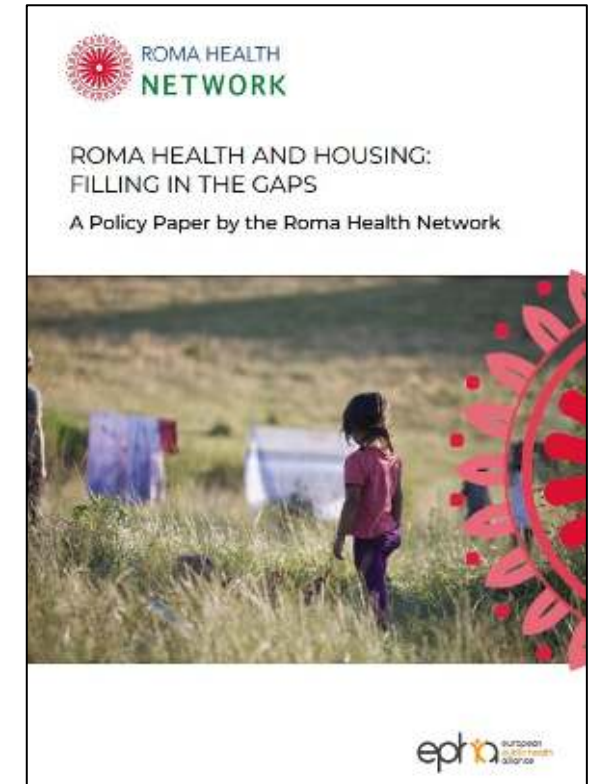
# Roma Health Network



- Established by EPHA in 2018
- Roma and pro-Roma **Civil Society** and **Researchers**
  - 20 organisations
  - 10 countries in Europe
- Roma Health **Capacity Building** and **Policy Advocacy**

# Roma Health and Housing: Filling in the Gaps

- Addressing **blind spots** in health and housing
- Six **recommendations** → **Call to action**
  1. **Indicators** for health and housing
  2. **Health advocacy scheme**
  3. **Psychosocial approach** to mental health
  4. **Health impact** of **Housing Inequalities**
  5. **Environmental justice**
  6. **Lessons** taken from **COVID-19**



# 1. Use of Indicators

- Lack of **Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)**
- 2021 Council Recommendation [2021/C 93/01](#)
- Lack of **disaggregated data**
- Build strategy **around KPIs**
  - *2021 Council Recommendation*
  - *FRA portfolio of indicators*
  - *Eurostat Sustainable Development Goals*
  - *Disaggregated data collection*

Country	Difference in years	
	Women	Men
BE	13.6	14.2
FR	10.9	7.9
IE	8.2	8.4
NL (Travellers and Sinti)	8.3	12.5
SE	10.1	11.6
UK	7.1	10.3

**Life Expectancy Gap**  
*FRA, Roma and Travellers in six countries, 2020*

**Lack of data is not an excuse** not to act, data should **complement,**  
not qualify

## 2. Health Advocacy Scheme

- **Capacity Building**
- **Community-based approach**
- Roma **advocate** and **participate**
- Structurally supported **health mediation**
- **Intercultural training**
- **Non-paternalistic**



Take away **barriers to healthcare** in a **non-paternalistic way** and give Roma a **voice** through **advocacy** and **participation**

### 3. Psychosocial approach to Mental Health

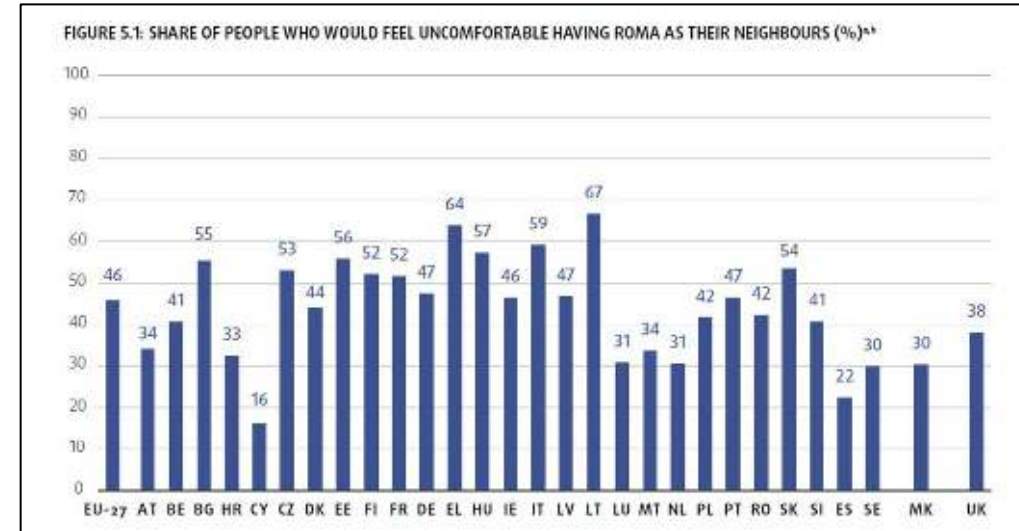
- Lack of mention in national strategies
- Mental Health as a crucial part of Roma Health
- Social Determinants → **Psychosocial Approach**
  - **human-rights based** approach
  - Mental health **promotion**



Taking a **psychosocial** or **human rights-based approach** to **mental health** through addressing determinants that may cause **mental ill-health**

# 4. Housing Strategies and Health Impact

- National Housing Strategies Targeting Roma
  - Lacking on **homelessness** and **halting sites**
  - Further expansion necessary
- **Discrimination in housing**
- **Health impact assessment**
  - Access to utilities, dampness, cramped conditions
  - Impact on health outcomes



Share of People who would feel uncomfortable having Roma as their neighbours

[FRA, Fundamental Rights Report 2021](#)

As part of a **holistic approach**, expansion of **housing strategies**, paired with a **health impact assessment** is necessary

## 5. Environmental Justice

- Environmental Inequalities in form of:
  - **Segregation, pollution, energy poverty and work environment**
- Communities pushed to the edge:
  - Industrial estates or landfills
- Health effects of Environmental Inequalities
  - **Environmental Justice** is crucial for **health equity**



Integrating **environmental justice** in health and housing strategies is crucial to **combat health inequalities**



## 6. Effects of COVID-19

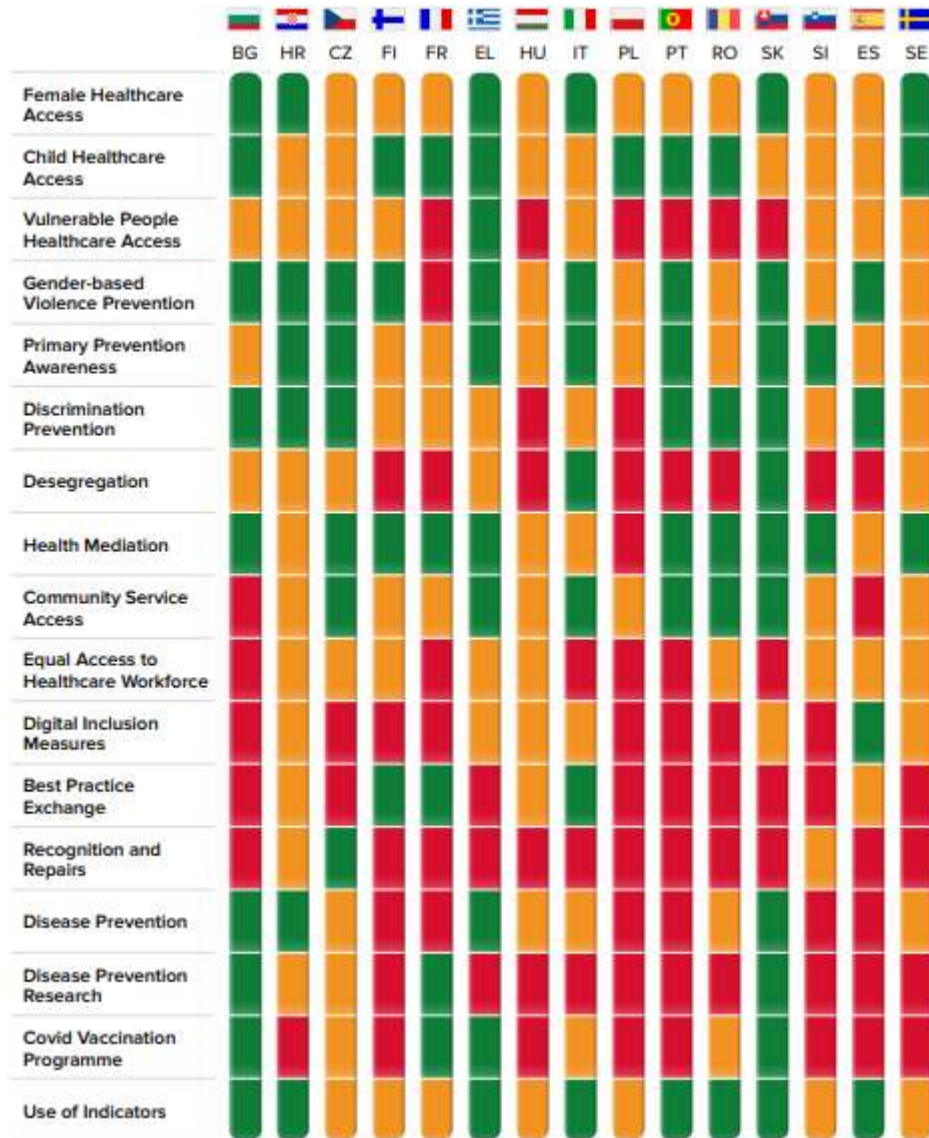
- National strategies pay little attention to **effects of COVID-19**
- Pandemic laid bare (**health**) **inequalities** faced by **Roma**
  - Adhering to lockdown measures
  - Access to employment
  - Scapegoating
- Ensure a **fair recovery** and future **resilience**

Take lessons from **COVID-19**, let it inform strategies and ensure **fair recovery** and **resilience** so **Roma are not left behind**




**COVID-19 Information Meeting**  
NGO Kham Delčevo, North Macedonia

# Health Strategies



# Housing Strategies





Thank you  
for your attention!

#RomaHealth  
#HealthInequalities



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