

Empowering Roma Young Leaders to Shape Inclusive Narratives

MAY 23 / 10:00 AM / N15, QUANTUM 101

A panel discussion organized by The German Marshall Fund of the United States and Central European University Roma in European Society Initiative (CEU RES)

ABSTRACT / Self-perception is core to political empowerment and at the same time established and rising leaders of the Roma community require a toolkit to best engage the community with positive narratives. It is pivotal to shape a more inclusive and positive political narrative, both among Roma and for the broader population by shifting perceptions in regions and co-creating strategies to turn around negative political narratives regarding Roma. It is also crucial to highlight that Roma are already adding value to our societies, having the political and economic potential to contribute more. Positive framing of Roma contributions is indispensable in order for mainstream populations to recognize the significant role of Roma minority in European countries. The more encouraged to act, the more able to participate, the more positive impact we can make.

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/ SPEAKERS AND AGENDA /

10:00 – 10:40 Opening remarks by: Roland Ferkovics / Grantee / GMF
Iulius Rostas / Assistant Professor, Chair of Romani Studies / CEU
Kevin Killer / Senator / South Dakota State Legislature

10:40 – 12:10 Panel discussion I. The role of media in forming narratives about Roma and the influence of negative narratives in politics, elections, campaigns and policies

/ **12:10 – 13:00 Lunch reception** /

13:00 – 14:30 Panel discussion II. How media should operate to form positive Roma public image – proposing recommendations

/ **14:30 – 14:40 Coffee break** /

14:40 – 16:10 Panel discussion III. Considering strategies for developing inclusive narratives in politics and policies

16:10 Closing remarks by: Roland Ferkovics / Grantee / GMF
/ **Coffee break and Networking to follow in front of N15 Quantum 101** /