

Summary of the results of the evaluation process

The following summary of the results of the two-year participatory evaluation process, which are of interest for further development in Berlin, is presented in detail in Working Paper IV "Prioritised Recommendations for Further Development of the Berlin State Programme". This is first and foremost a list of the central recommendations at structural level, by field of action and at measure level.

Significant for the results are the thematic focal points and the problem areas identified in the dialogue process between executing social carriers, Roma organisations, Roma activists and the administration. Although the dialogue process was structured according to the four fields of action, the urgency of structural further development was repeatedly emphasised in all forums, individual interviews and group discussions. Four central challenges as well as demands became clear:

- The development of a regional programme which ensures the continuity of proven and still necessary measures for the target group and on the other hand provides for the exclusion of certain measures which are basically aimed at all people with certain needs in order to counteract the ethnicisation of social problems
- Strengthen the focus on combatting Antigypsyism to provide a clear focus for the future state programme
- The consideration of the legal situation that de facto no services according to social security code SGB XII are available as a safety net for immigrants from EU countries. What is needed is "a social net below the social net" - at least for emergencies and hardship cases and for families with children
- Promoting the legal foundations and political participation of the target group to combat Antigypsyism as a cross-sectional task in the state of Berlin.

A. Structural optimisation and further development

From action plan to regional state programme

In order to achieve stabilisation and conceptual further development, the Berlin strategy and action plan for the inclusion of migrant Roma in a regional state programme should be further developed (lead management: Senate Department for Integration, Labour and Social Affairs; Berlin Senate Commissioner for Integration and Migration).

The simultaneity of positive action and cross-target action

A strategy is recommended which combines target-group-specific (positive) measures and cross-target measures as a cross-cutting approach. Both approaches may be reflected in the future development of the Action Plan.

From a long-term perspective, the target-group-specific approach should be gradually replaced by a theme- and task-oriented approach in order to bring together and optimise experiences, skills and cooperation that are already available for other target groups, such as refugees or second and third generations of immigrants.

New focus in the future regional state programme on combating Antigypsyism

With regard to the issue of combating Antigypsyism, three approaches will be recommended in future, which should either be expanded or newly implemented:

Anchoring the fight against Antigypsyism as a cross-sectional task in the public administration with the involvement of the responsible bodies

- Systematic recording of incidents of Antigypsyism, which should be accompanied by a strengthening of counselling for victims of discrimination
- Offering and carrying out awareness-raising activities (Antigypsyism training) and further training within the regulatory systems as well as in counselling and training institutions.

Strengthening Roma participation, community building and empowerment

- Development and implementation of training courses for young people, but also adults, from the Roma community to enable them to work in day-care centres, schools, youth welfare offices and administration
- Strengthening of targeted measures of empowerment, especially for Roma youths
- Establishment of a Roma centre or house as a place for the community or communities, as a family, youth and meeting centre as well as a cultural location
- Structural promotion of the networking of Roma self-organisations.

Research and knowledge transfer on the history and culture of people with a Roma background and their human rights situation and on Antigypsyism

- Research and information transfer on the history and culture of people with a Roma background and their human rights situation and on Antigypsyism
- Develop workshops on Roma culture(s) and Roma history:
- Incorporate the history and culture of people with a Roma background and their human rights situation as well as Antigypsyism into the Berlin curricula
- Implement high-profile measures, including a public campaign to combat Antigypsyism with a clear public positioning of Berlin
- Offers of historical, political, and cultural educational work for adult education and the general public involving social networks and digital media.

Further strengthen cooperation between public services and institutions

The opening up of public services to the target group through closer cooperation with the responsible social carriers involved is also seen as being of particular importance. In this context, 1. the establishment of permanent contact persons at the public services, 2. the networking of the participating districts with the aim of standardising processes, 3. regular, binding exchange rounds between public services and social carriers and 4. the guarantee of knowledge transfer of the existing offers from all fields of action for agencies and administrations.

Professionalisation within the NGO's and public administration and introduction of advisory standards

Continuous professionalisation should be promoted in the area of administration as well as among the executing social carriers. The need for continuous, updated knowledge in the area of the EU right to freedom of movement and right of residence for third-country citizens as well as the legal basis for dealing with discrimination was emphasised.

Establishing new fields of action and strengthening existing ones

From a short and medium-term perspective, explicit support for migrant Roma families and their children is recommended in the following fields of action.

*Early childhood education, pre-school education and transition from day care centre to school,
Transition from school to training and labour market integration*

Further expanding gender-specific topics and measures

A gender-specific approach should be included in the future state programme, with gender-specific projects for girls and young women as well as for boys and young men being considered necessary.

Development of an overall Berlin strategy on immigration via a city-wide immigration and integration management system

As a long-term scenario for action, the integration of the future state programme into an overall Berlin funding strategy to be developed should be considered.

B. Recommendations regarding the role of the steering committee

Steering committee as decision-making body, consolidation of the task force *steering committee* and strengthening the external impact of the future regional state programme

The steering committee should be strengthened both internally and externally through the continuity of the task force steering committee and the establishment of sub-task forces to work on specific topics and formulate recommendations for the steering committee. It is recommended that selected Roma representatives participate at all levels of the steering of the future regional state programme.

Maintaining the reporting system and continuing the programme dialogue

The evaluation is to be continued in the form of a programme dialogue. This is a structure to bring together actors of the civil society and of the public administrations working on concrete topics. The programme dialogue is to take place several times a year.

C. Recommendations for field of action 1: Education, youth and training opportunities

Removing Welcome Classes from the Roma Action Plan and introducing the binding character of the Guide for Welcome Classes

The removal of Welcome Classes from the Roma Action Plan is recommended as a first priority. This recommendation is based on a unanimous demand of the participating Roma organisations and other actors of the civil society of the first and second dialogue phases, confirmed by the task force steering committee in February 2019.

In this context, the existing Guide for Welcome Classes should become legally binding. The current solution as a guideline for Berlin schools is inadequate.

New focus on early childhood education, transition to school and transition from school to working life

Serious gaps in early childhood education, transition to school and transition from school to working life are to be remedied. In all three areas, priority will continue to be given to specific support and close accompaniment of children and young people and their families in the form of language mediation and day-care and school mediation or other pilot programmes, which are to be extended to all districts where there is a need.

D. Recommendations for field of action 2: Health care and social affairs

Exclusion of all health care measures from the Roma Action Plan

The first priority in this field of action is the decision to exclude the three central measures of this field of action from the action plan in order to prevent a direct connotation of Roma immigrants with specific problems by the new orientation of the regional state programme: 1. ensuring the necessary protective vaccinations for European Union citizens without health insurance, 2. the women's meeting place Olga for psychosocial and health counselling of people in prostitution and 3. the offer childbirth cost coverage for uninsured women holding the EU citizenship.

Health care for uninsured people via the Clearing structure

Another priority is health care for uninsured people who are not entitled to social benefits. Free health care services for uninsured migrants should be provided for or mediated by a clearing structure.

Expansion of language mediation in the health sector

The municipality interpreting services should be expanded. All in all, the participants in the dialogue phases recommend the expansion of language mediation in the health sector.

E. Recommendations for field of action 3: Housing and conflicts in urban areas

Strategy development to combat homelessness at political level - outside the Action Plan

- A policy framework is needed on how to deal with homeless EU citizens who are not entitled to social benefits. The aim is to extend cooperation with the public homeless assistance services.
- Another priority is the development of strategies against exploitative structures in the housing market. A comprehensive and networked strategy is recommended in order to successfully combat exploitative structures in the housing market.

Expanding specific measures for Roma immigrants in the field of housing

- Temporary accommodation and counselling for transition to public systems should be further developed. The "Pilot project for the provision of temporary accommodation for families with children (Nostel)" makes a very important contribution in this respect.
- Qualified housing search services for the target group and cooperation with municipal housing associations, cooperatives and also private housing companies for more housing offers for the target group should be expanded.

F. Recommendations for the field of action: Perspectives for integration - combating poverty and social exclusion

Continuation and expansion of specific measures for the target group

- The maintenance and stabilization of the mobile contact points with a holistic counselling approach and low-threshold outreach work (initial orientation, counselling, mediation and language mediation support) is of central importance for immigrants with a Roma background in Berlin.
- Another priority is the accompaniment and support of families in the neighbourhoods by cultural and language mediators within the framework of the district-oriented programme, which should be set up on a permanent basis. A strengthening of Roma children and adolescents through childcare mediators, school mediators and educational counsellors, at best from the Roma community, is to be achieved.
- Recommendations for strengthening self-organisation through community building or strengthening the Roma community in Berlin should be part of the newly developed field of action "Combating Antigypsyism".