

ROMANI IN INTERNATIONAL POLITICS

The beginning of the 1960's marked the creation of the Romani political movement. It was a result of the appearance of Romani organizations (see below), the international awareness- raising campaigns and cooperation with international organizations.

Key dates in the political history of the Romani

- **1967:** Creation of the International Gypsy Committee.
- **1971:** Adoption of the term "Romani" at the 1st World Romani Congress in London. Adoption of the flag, anthem and International Romani Day.
- **1978:** The World Romani Congress meeting in Geneva in 1978 establishes the International Romani Union (Romani Ekhipe).
- **1979:** The International Roma Union obtains consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council.
- **1994:** Juan de Dios Ramirez-Heredia- the first Romani member of the European Parliament, also the first, and to date the only, Romani member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe between 1983 and 1985.
- **2000:** Launch, at the Prague Congress, of the idea of a Romani nation. Creation of an international Romani parliament, based in Vienna.
- **2004:** Establishment of the European Roma and Travellers Forum and signature of a partnership agreement between the Forum and the Council of Europe.
- **2005:** Nine states in central and south-eastern Europe join the Decade of Roma Inclusion 2005-2015 and undertake to improve the socio-economic conditions and status of the Romani minority. Three other states join subsequently in 2008-2009.
- **2008:** Two Hungarian members of the European Parliament of Romani origin, Ms Livia Jaroka and Ms Viktoria Mohacsi, encourage all EU member states to join the Decade of Roma Inclusion.