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Via email: office@romanicriss.org

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Dear Mr. Mandache,

Thank you for sharing with us your concerns about the Prime Minister response to a question raised about the impact of Roma integration measures in Romania at a press conference.

The FRA follows the situation of Roma in Romania, as well as in other Member States of the European Union, closely and will continue reporting on impact of Roma integration policies in its annual and thematic reports. Our Agency collects and analyses data on both the socio-economic conditions of Roma and the respect and protection of their fundamental rights with a particular focus on the manifestations and impact of anti-gypsyism on a basis of independent research, and guidelines, developed by the FRA. Based on these reports the Agency advises policy actors at the EU and national levels, to enable them to increase integration of Roma, effectively.

In 2012, together with the European Commission and the United Nations Development Programme we published a report based on the results of our 2011 Roma survey showing that many Roma are severely affected by discriminatory practices, as well as racism across several EU Member States including Romania. Upcoming surveys and qualitative field research and engagement will provide further information and data on challenges and opportunities with regard to inclusion of Roma at the local level. Last, but not least, the Agency works closely with EU Members States including Romania to support them in



Morten Kjaerum, Director

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developing indicators and setting up monitoring mechanisms to measure progress of Roma integration.

In this light, statements by policy and decision makers, as well as political discourse that do not promote the need to measure impact of Roma inclusion measures can clearly hamper the efforts made by the European Union and Member States to improve the conditions of life and protect the fundamental rights of Roma. The Agency will further promote the need to evaluate impact of policies, activities and set up indicators to measure progress of Roma integration and support Member States in setting up and optimising the monitoring mechanism.

Best regards,



Morten Kjaerum
Director