



Bucharest, 22<sup>nd</sup> of February, 2013

## PRESS RELEASE

### New Transnational Network Launches to Help Roma Children Access Education

Romani CRISS, in partnership with the FXB Center for Health and Human Rights at Harvard University, Greek Helsinki Monitor, the European Roma Rights Centre (ERRC), Life Together and Integro Association Bulgaria, is launching the DARE-Net project: Desegregation and Action for Roma in Education-Network.

The DARE-Net project will create a transnational network of Roma and non-Roma civil society and academic organisations to analyse practices and initiatives relating to Roma education and school desegregation of Roma children in Romania, Croatia, Greece, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Bulgaria.

On February 25-28, 2013, the **first transnational meeting** of the partners will take place in Bucharest. This meeting will mark the start of the network and provide partners with an initial opportunity to discuss their efforts to address Roma education and school desegregation in their respective countries. Key examples include affirmative action initiatives or legislation to prohibit school segregation in Romania, and litigation to combat Roma school segregation and promote the integration of Roma children through inclusive education resulting in favorable decisions by the European Court of Human Rights: e.g., *Horváth and Kiss v. Hungary*, *D.H. and other v. Czech Republic*, *Sampanis v. Greece*, and *Orsus v. Croatia*.

During the project, the DARE-Net partners will advance desegregation and litigation projects in their countries and advocate for concrete actions by institutions to integrate Roma students, through desegregation and qualitative education, in the six European countries.

More information on the project is available at:

<http://www.romanicriss.org/PDF/Project%20description%20DARE.pdf>

For further information, contact:

Oana Mihalache, Romani CRISS

[oana@romanicriss.org](mailto:oana@romanicriss.org)

+40755 056 622

The DARE-Net project is financially supported by Lifelong Learning Programme – European Commission