



Romani CRISS

Roma Center for Social Intervention and Studies

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The Olt County School Inspectorate and the National College "Ionita Asan" fined for school segregation of Roma children

As a result of a complaint signed by three Roma parents and Romani CRISS, the National College "Ionita Asan" and the Olt County School Inspectorate received fines from the National Council for Combating Discrimination (2000 lei each), for the segregation of Roma children from 1 B class in the school year 2011-2012.¹

Petitioners filed a complaint in front of the National Council for Combating Discrimination, on February 15, 2012, claiming the school segregation on ethnic and social grounds of Roma children from 1 B class, and the violation of the right to equal access to quality education for these children, compared to other children from the 1 A class, step-by-step class and class 1 A class traditional, from the National College "Ionita Asan" from Caracal locality, Olt County.

NCCD noted that Roma students from the 1 B class have been discriminated against by being separated from the other students, on ethnic ground, and by being treated differently, which caused their unequal to a quality education and affection of their human dignity. Further, it was established that there was a difference in terms of material conditions, taking into account that the room where the Roma children were learning was extremely unkempt, compared to the other classrooms.²

The NCCD decision indicates the Roma children from Ionita Asan National College have been discriminated against on ethnic ground, as claimed by the Roma parents and Romani CRISS in their complaint. Further, the Olt County School Inspectorate has been sanctioned, as a result of not taking a decision with regard to the discrimination situation, namely, to the continuous different treatment applied exclusively to Roma children.

With regard to the NCCD decision, one of Roma parents said: ***"The right decision was taken. Mistakes must be paid. That was something that happened to us and from now we hope that this situation will not happen again in the future, in other classes and other schools. "***

For more information about the case, please contact Marian Mandache, executive director of Romani CRISS, +40728 878 383 or marian@romanicriss.org.

¹The decision was communicated on 11 January 2013

²Case presentation available on the Romani CRISS website:

<http://www.romanicriss.org/PDF/Prezentare%20de%20caz%20Ionita%20Asan%20segregare.pdf>