



RomABC – The Next Dimension!

Press Release

Reducing functional illiteracy in adult Roma was the subject of an international workshop held in the framework of the **RomABC – The Next Dimension!** Erasmus+ European program. The workshop was organized with great success by the **Biopolitics International Organisation (B.I.O.)** and the **Panhellenic Confederation of Greek Roma (Ellan Passe)**, at the Athens Cypria Hotel, on June 1, 2018.

RomABC – The Next Dimension!, coordinated by **JugendStil e.V.**, is an endeavour to develop the first ever European syllabus for **functional illiteracy in populations of adult Roma** and aims to **train qualified tutors** who will help adult Roma gain competencies in basic reading, writing and numerical skills. It is a joint effort by **Roma organisations** and **educational institutions** from **Germany, Greece, Hungary** and **Romania** to **actively involve Roma stakeholders** in the design, implementation and final evaluation of educational material specifically created for their needs.



The workshop was coordinated by **Efthymios Bakas**, former General Secretary for Life-Long Learning at the Greek Ministry of Education, and **Vassilis Pantzos**, President of Ellan Passe, and was attended by many participants from government, academia, and civil society, including: **Ekaterini Giantsiou**, Special Secretary for the Social Inclusion of Roma at the Greek Ministry of Labor, Social Security and Solidarity; **Aggeliki Lytsiou**, Responsible for Adult Education at Greek Ministry of Education; **Kostas Paiteris**, President of the Union of Greek Roma Mediators; **Elias Giannopoulos**, Lawyer and specialist on Roma legal issues; **Panagiotis Stefos** from the Second Chance School of Domokos; **Konstantinos Katsinikas** from the Second Chance School at the Correctional Facility of Korydallos; **Efthymia Chasiotou**, Scientific Coordinator at Klimaka's Roma Day Center; and, **Myrto Laimou**, President of the Roma Children and Family Support Center; as well as **representatives from the local authorities** and **delegates from civil society organizations** from Germany, Hungary and Romania.

The event concluded with an open discussion on the need to improve the standard of living of Roma communities and to develop of a network that can tackle the urgent problem of adult illiteracy. The workshop's proceedings and proposals will be published shortly.

For more information on the event and on the overall project, please visit:

ROMABC: <https://www.facebook.com/Romabc-819777141484398/>

Ellan Passe: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100014804298934>

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