

**Conference of Awareness Raising Campaign Employ me  
4 & 5 April 2017  
Diepenbeek (Belgium)**

The exchange of experience conference – ‘Employ me’ will be held from April 4th to April 5th 2017 in Diepenbeek, Belgium. Participants from 9 countries of EU (Czech Republic, Italy, Spain, Greece, France, Slovenia, Hungary, Romania and Belgium) will present good practices in Roma employment.

In the framework of the PAL European project (cofounded by the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme of the European Union), on **4 and 5 April 2017** the Conference of Awareness Raising Campaign Employ me will be held in **Diepenbeek (Belgium)**.

The campaign aims at informing and raising awareness among relevant stakeholders and Roma people on the importance of increasing employment possibilities in Europe and ensuring equal opportunities for Roma people; a better understanding and improved awareness will help to advocate for the rights of Roma in the labour market (paying special attention to youngsters) and will help professionals, stakeholders and Roma to reduce vulnerability, speed up Roma social inclusion and support the implementation of inclusion strategies at different levels

The Conference will be an opportunity for exchanging experiences and best practices among project partners and professionals who are active in the field of employment of Roma people. We believe that the conference will be the best opportunity to create a common space where professionals and experts can work and develop collaborations and share experiences in Roma employment.

Some of the topics which will be discussed are:

1. Employment rights for Romani people
2. Employment and economic alternatives for Roma in EU
3. Social entrepreneurship
4. IT sector for economic alternatives for Roma
5. Microcredit and other experiences of Roma support centers

Best practices recognized by project partners will be presented and discussed.

**Participation at the conference is free of charge, but registration is needed.**

You can proceed with your registration [HERE](#).

Get Involved

**Campaign with us!**

We fight the unemployment of Roma and Gypsies in Europe. **The Roma are Europe’s largest ethnic minority, representing 10-12 million people.** They are also the most impoverished and excluded minority in Europe, with roughly 90% of Roma

having an income below the national poverty level in their country, and less than one in three Roma being in paid employment in 2011.

Roma have faced persecution in Europe since the Middle Ages, and still experience widespread discrimination today. In 2005, a group of 12 European countries (from both inside and outside the European Union) launched an initiative called the ‘[Decade of Roma Inclusion](#)‘ in an effort to improve the situation. 2015 is the last year of the initiative, and it’s difficult to say that the decade has been a success.

Equal and full access to employment is key to furthering social inclusion and combating poverty. Employment is not only a source of income that determines material wellbeing, it also builds human capital and shapes survival strategies, relationships between groups and across societies. Just as poverty is not only about money, employment is not only about jobs. This is why the Europe 2020 strategy so prominently reflects both poverty and employment.

**Became an campaigner** in the awareness raising campaign “Employ me!”! **GET INVOLVED**

<http://projectpal.eu/campaigns/employ-me/#1479815687403-eeb41763-61ca>

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