

**Question for written answer E-007967/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Ivan Jakovčić (ALDE)

Subject: Roma status in the EU

The Roma community across Europe has been estimated to consist of more than 10 million people. It is the largest minority group in the EU and there is both a lack of precise data throughout Europe on the size of the Roma communities and a lack of a common normative framework. In many countries, in fact, ethnic registration is forbidden.

Many Roma in the EU are also victims of prejudice and social exclusion, despite the fact that EU countries have banned discrimination. In 2011 the EU decided to devise a specific Roma Inclusion Strategy to develop national programmes in order to improve Roma integration and inclusion. However, this EU framework does not replace Member States' primary responsibility for Roma protection and for the definition of their legal status

How will the Commission develop a strategy aimed at solving the effects of the differing legal status granted to Roma communities by individual Member States?

What is the Commission's view on the persistent presence of Roma camps, in the light of fundamental rights and in view of the need to strengthen anti-discrimination policies?