



## Best practices selection of intergroup contact, anti-Gypsyism and mobilization for social change of Roma and non-Roma

### *Executive summary*

In the ENGAGE project, social psychologists, sociologists and social intervention professionals from three European countries (Hungary, Slovakia and Spain), meet with the objective and commitment to successfully deal with anti-Gypsyism, as well as understand and promote the factors involved in raising awareness and mobilization of Roma people and non-Roma as allies for the achievement of a more egalitarian social change. ENGAGE aims to understand the factors of low socio-political participation of Roma and non-Roma people for social change, as well as to study the positive and negative effects that derive from contact experiences between Roma and non-Roma people.

Recent research shows that, while positive contact experiences can improve attitudes, it can also reduce the commitment and mobilization of minority groups to defend their rights, so it is vitally important to know the precise effects of intergroup contact interventions.

Therefore, the **main objective** of the best practices analyses is to present a description of interventions for Roma inclusion and engagement, justifying in each case why it should be considered an example of good practice for: (a) addressing the problem of anti-Gypsyism and the indifference of the non-Roma majority, (b) promoting the empowerment of Roma identity and/or the social and political participation of Roma people, and (c) raising awareness about inequality and/or mobilize non-Roma people as allies for social change.

For the selection of the practices in each country, a **qualitative research methodology** was used based on interviews with involved agents (professionals and Roma participants of each practice and Roma activists), the analysis of documents of the institutions that implemented these practices and the identification of the psychosocial processes targeted by the interventions and their connection with the scientific literature.

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