



Respect for and protection of minority and cultural rights

European Commission
Directorate-General for Justice
Directorate for Equality
Unit for non discrimination policies and Roma coordination

Introduction



- The legal framework in the area of anti-discrimination.
- Respect for and protection of minorities are part of the so-called Copenhagen criteria.
- Some important conventions in this area.
- State of play of the efforts to integrate the Roma population in the European Union.

ICERD 1



International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (1965)

ICERD 2



International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (1965)

Article 1(1) defines "racial discrimination" as

"any distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference

based on race, colour, descent, or national or ethnic origin

which has the purpose or effect of

nullifying or impairing the recognition, enjoyment or exercise, on an equal footing, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural or any other field of public life".

ECHR, TEU, TFEU and Charter



European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (1950)

Treaty on European Union (TEU)

- Article 2

Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU)

- Articles 10, 19(1)

Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union

- Articles 21, 51(1)

ECRML



European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (1992)

FCPNM



Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (1995)



ROMA INCLUSION in the European Union