



SOLIDARITY AND STRUCTURAL CHANGE:
THE ROLE OF INFORMAL EDUCATION IN THE SOCIAL INCLUSION OF ROMANI CHILDREN

Hungarian researchers have made crucial contributions to understanding the obstacles to the educational inclusion of Romani children. A complex network academic researchers, educational experts, teachers, and policy makers have emerged. The workshop focuses on a timely, little researched, yet crucial aspect of educational inclusion: the role of informal education in the social inclusion of Roma. In Hungary a broad spectrum of extra-curricular supporting institutions have emerged, including after-school programs (tanoda in Hungarian) and special colleges (szakkollégium in Hungarian).

The providers of such programs argue that informal education can play a crucial role in promoting the social inclusion of Romani children in formal education, by developing both their cognitive and non-cognitive skills and by providing a framework for developing a positive Romani identity. Both the after-school programs and the Roma special colleges have been supported by private actors (such as the Roma Education Fund) and public EU funded programs.

The workshop seeks to stock of the recent developments in informal education and situate them in the context of current changing educational system. A key question to be addressed is whether and to what extent can such informal forms of education make up for the weaknesses of the formal education system.

Date: 24 March 2015.

Venue: Minority Research Institute of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (1014 Budapest, Országház utca 30. 3rd floor)

Preliminary program

9.15-9.30 Opening: Attila Papp Z. (Director of the Minority Research Institute)

9.30-11.00 The impact of institutional changes on the education of Romani children: trends, possibilities, limits:

Katalin Langerné Victor (Deputy Secretary of State, Ministry of Human Resources)
Ernő Kállai (Minority Research Institute)
Attila Papp Z. (Minority Research Institute)
István Nahalka (Eotvos Lorand University, Faculty of Pedagogy)
Gábor Halász (Eotvos Lorand University, Faculty of Pedagogy)
chair: Margit Feischmidt (Minority Research Institute)

11.00-11.30 coffee break

11.30-13.00 The impact of institutional changes on the education of Romani children: practical perspectives

Nikoletta Oláh (Roma Education Fund)
Iván Sörös (Ministry of Human Resources)
Eszter Szilágyi (Greek Catholic Roma College in Miskolc)
Gábor Takács (Municipality of Miskolc)
chair: Márton Rövid

13.00-14.00 lunch break

14.00-15.30 After-school programs: limits and potentials

Szilvia Németh (Tarki-Tudok)
Judít Berki (Bátonyterenye after-school program)
Péter Bogdán (Budaörs after-school program)
Boglárka Bakó (Csobanka after-school program)
Nóra Ritok (Berettyoujfalu after-school program)
chair: József Fejes (Motivation Workshop)