

Data about Diploma Thesis

Personal number:	F191104	Date of assignment:	March 8, 2021
Name and surname:	Tomas Abel DE JONG	Expected date of submission:	April 30, 2022
Branch/combination:	Euroculture (EUROCU)	Date of submission:	
Assigned topic:	European Integration through Education: An analysis of a Roma education program in Floresti in relation to the post-2020 EU-Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies		
Thesis status:	Unfinished thesis		

Final thesis details

1. Main topic

European Integration through Education: An analysis of a Roma education program in Floresti in relation to the post-2020 EU-Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies

2. Main topic in English

European Integration through Education: An analysis of a Roma education program in Floresti in relation to the post-2020 EU-Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies

3. Title according to student

Roma: European Integration through Education

4. English title as given by the student

Roma: European Integration through Education

5. Parallel name

6. Subtitle

An analysis of an education program in Floresti in relation to the post-2020 EU-Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies

7. Annotation (short thesis description)

This research attempts to analyse the integration of Roma in the European Union through the use of educational projects. This is done in the context of the 'EU Roma strategic framework for equality, inclusion and participation' by the European Commission. Currently, EU-attempts at policy learning in the development of Roma education to support integration, progress has been lacklustre, and no concrete examples of solutions are yet available. That is why this research attempts to find solutions by asking the question 'What example of a good practice in Roma education plans could contribute to wider European Union policy learning and how could it be applied across the EU to foster progress in Roma integration?'. To achieve this, the research takes a small-N (single case) qualitative approach using a semi-systematic literature review and theory building process tracing. In addition, field research is conducted in form of semi-structured interviews and analytical field notes. The literature review shows four focal points in Roma integration efforts in education. These are antigypsyism, societal organisation of Roma, form of integration strategy and state of education. A selection of 5 NGOs in Romania was made, after which Foundation Charis in Floresti, Romania was selected because of its after-school education programme, 16 years of experience and official accreditation with the Romanian government. Field research was conducted from the 5th until the 11th of July during which 6 interviews were held. The single-case study conducted shows 5 crucial factors which lead to an improvement in access to education for the circa 2,000 Roma in Floresti, as well as an improved attitude to the importance of education. These factors are long-term funding, long-term trust building, parental engagement, creating a safe environment and official conducting of activities (accreditation). Based on these findings, some general suggestions were made for a European policy approach to Roma integration. Based on the findings from the analysis, as well as existing policy analysis, two main suggestions are made. First, more attention should be given to local initiatives in Roma communities along with a long-term budget. Second, the EU-framework should provide funding for setting up a national or transnational NGO platform for exchanging expertise. The main findings of this research led to the formulation of a hypothesis. This hypothesis is 'The more focus there is on the long-term through inclusive community development, parental involvement and creating a safe environment for Roma children, the more likely their access to education is to improve.'

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8. Keywords (separate with comma)

Roma, Integration, EU Roma Strategic Framework, Non-Governmental Organisation, Intergenerational Learning, Inclusive Community Development, Theory Building Process Tracing, evidence based policy, policy learning

9. Annotation in English (short thesis description)

This research attempts to analyse the integration of Roma in the European Union through the use of educational projects. This is done in the context of the 'EU Roma strategic framework for equality, inclusion and participation' by the European Commission. Currently, EU-attempts at policy learning in the development of Roma education to support integration, progress has been lacklustre, and no concrete examples of solutions are yet available. That is why this research attempts to find solutions by asking the question 'What example of a good practice in Roma education plans could contribute to wider European Union policy learning and how could it be applied across the EU to foster progress in Roma integration?'. To achieve this, the research takes a small-N (single case) qualitative approach using a semi-systematic literature review and theory building process tracing. In addition, field research is conducted in form of semi-structured interviews and analytical field notes. The literature review shows four vocal points in Roma integration efforts in education. These are antigypsyism, societal organisation of Roma, form of integration strategy and state of education. A selection of 5 NGOs in Romania was made, after which Foundation Charis in Floreti, Romania was selected because of its after-school education programme, 16 years of experience and official accreditation with the Romanian government. Field research was conducted from the 5 th until the 11 th of July during which 6 interviews were held. The single-case study conducted shows 5 crucial factors which lead to an improvement in access to education for the circa 2,000 Roma in Floreti, as well as an improved attitude to the importance of education. These factors are long-term funding, long-term trust building, parental engagement, creating a safe environment and official conducting of activities (accreditation). Based on these findings, some general suggestions were made for a European policy approach to Roma integration. Based on the findings from the analysis, as well as existing policy analysis, two main suggestions are made. First, more attention should be given to local initiatives in Roma communities along with a long-term budget. Second, the EU-framework should provide funding for setting up a national or transnational NGO platform for exchanging expertise. The main findings of this research led to the formulation of a hypothesis. This hypothesis is 'The more focus there is on the long-term through inclusive community development, parental involvement an creating a safe environment for Roma children, the more likely their access to education is to improve.'

10. English key words (separate with comma)

Roma, Integration, EU Roma Strategic Framework, Non-Governmental Organisation, Intergenerational Learning, Inclusive Community Development, Theory Building Process Tracing, evidence based policy, policy learning

11. Enclosed appendices

5 interview transcripts, field notes document, 5 consent forms

12. Appendices bound in thesis

13. Length of thesis

128

14. Language of thesis

AN

15. Defence procedure record

16. Theses guidelines

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Overall estimated report size: 60-70 pages (excluding annexes) 1. Introduction (6-7 pages) 1. Topic Introduction 2. Problem Statement 3. Reason for Research 2. Research Design and Methodology (10-12 pages) 1. Independent and dependant variables 2. Case-Selection Strategy 3. Semi-Structured Interviews 4. Survey Questionnaires 3. Theoretical Framework and Literature review (12-14 pages) 1. Evidence-based Policy 2. Anti-Gypsyism 3. Education in Roma integration policy 4. Education methods in integration 4. Case Study (14-19 pages) 1. Case Description 2. Theory Building Process-Tracing 3. Justification of selection 4. Within-Case Analysis 5. Surveys and Interviews (12-14 pages) 1. Variables 2. Interview Results 3. Survey Results 6. Conclusion, Discussion and Recommendations (6-7 pages) 1. Conclusion based on case studies linked to Surveys and Interviews 2. General Conclusion on Causal Mechanism 3. Discussion of Conclusion 4. Recommendation based on Conclusion 7. Annexes (pages to be determined) 1. Interviews 2. Questionnaires 3. Coding of Interviews 4. Coding of Surveys

17. Recommended resources

Alexiadou, Nafsika. Framing education policies and transitions of Roma students in Europe. *Comparative Education*, 55:3, 2019: 422-442. Beach, Derek and Pedersen, Rasmus Brun. *Process Tracing Methods: Foundations and Guidelines*. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press, 2013. European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights. *A persisting concern: anti-Gypsyism as a barrier to Roma inclusion*. Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union, 2018. Flick, Uwe, von Kardorff, Ernst and Steinke, Ines (eds.). *A Companion to Qualitative Research*. London: SAGE Publications, 2004. Guy, Will (ed.). *From victimhood to citizenship: The path of Roma integration*. Budapest: Kossuth Kiadó, 2013. Messing, Vera. Good Practices Addressing School Integration of Roma/Gypsy Children in Hungary. *Intercultural Education* 19(5), 2008: 461-473. Miskovic, Maja and Curcic, Sijetlana. Beyond Inclusion: Reconsidering Policies, Curriculum, and Pedagogy for Roma Students. *International Journal of Multicultural Education* 18.2, 1-14: 2016. Nicolae, Valeriu and Slavik, Hannah. *Roma Diplomacy*. New York: The International Debate Association, 2007. Parkhurst, Justin. *The Politics of Evidence: From evidence-based policy to the good governance of evidence*. Oxfordshire: Routledge, 2017. Snyder, Hannah. Literature review as a research methodology: An overview and guidelines. *Journal of Business Research* 104, 2019: 333-339.

18. Thesis people

Supervisors of diploma thesis: **Mgr. Jaroslav Šotola, Ph.D.**

Department of Sociology, Andragogy and Cultural Anthropology

Electronic form of the thesis

File name: de Jong_KR_OL.pdf (3.04 MB)

Publish file: YES – access for anyone (Immediately after submission of thesis i.e. from 30.04.2022)

Thesis reviews

Reviewer's report:

Supervisor's report:

Defense procedure record file:

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I confirm that the data entered above are correct and that the uploaded electronic version of my thesis is identical with the printed version.

Date: 31-08-2021

Signature:

