



Thematic Fiche: **HOUSING**

Position of civil society involved in the Roma Civil Monitor

Cluster 1: Member states with the largest Roma communities and facing the most acute challenges

Country	Strengths/key elements of the country's approach	Weaknesses/gaps/recommendations
Bulgaria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nearly 25% of houses in segregated Roma neighbourhoods remain illegal and local authorities may demolish them. Demolitions and evictions overly concern Roma: 89% of demolition orders concerning residential buildings issued by local administrations refer to the only homes of Roma (399 of 444). Cadastral maps of Roma settlements are being created (so far in 127 out of 153 settlements with predominant Roma population). ESIF are planned for development of social housing: in the previous period, 334 individual social houses were built in 3 municipalities, for the current programming period, more than 27 urban municipalities have plans to build social houses, but the operation has not yet begun (except of few towns). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some municipalities have legalised Roma housing (Kyustendil, Dupnitsa and Peshtera), but most of them hardly take action, even if some houses meet the legalisation requirements. Complexity of administrative procedure is another barrier for legalisation. There are no mechanisms for housing assistance targeted at the most needy and vulnerable groups and young people who want to start their professional career and start a family in Bulgaria. The financial allocation for development of social housing (14.2 million EUR allowing construction of 100 dwellings yearly) is extremely insufficient given the scale of the challenges and the level of destitution in housing. Planned ESIF-funded construction of social housing for Roma encountered many obstacles, including opposition of the public or ultranationalists that pressured local governments to cancel their plans. Many local authorities have instead opted for house demolitions.
Czech Republic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing allowances are considered effective, they are accessible for many low-income households and reflect regionally differentiated housing costs. Despite of a lack of national social housing policy, several local governments pilot progressive social housing models. Several NGOs successfully pilot social rental agency models. ESIF supports local development of social housing (development of new dwellings in segregated areas is excluded and spatial concentration of social dwellings is limited) and supporting social inclusion services, including prevention of homelessness. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Parliament rejected a draft law on social housing that would mainstream and scale-up positive practices piloted on the local level. In consequence, existence of social housing, access to it and in consequence housing conditions of Roma depend on decision of individual local governments. In many municipalities, the only option for many Roma is housing in Roma ghettos or substandard, but extremely expensive accommodation ("social hostels") because of lack of available social housing and unaddressed discrimination in accessing both private and public rental housing. Public spending on housing allowances is criticised for not being efficient as they finance expensive substandard housing. There are efforts to limit access to housing allowances, driven by both economic



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive local experience with “Housing First” pilots is being scaled up by the government, that allocated ESIF funds to replicate it in other municipalities. • A methodology for identification of residential segregation and suitable placement of social housing has been developed and is piloted by 12 municipalities. 	<p>and populist arguments, which would probably lead to deterioration of housing and homelessness (because of lack of accessible social housing).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Segregated Roma neighbourhoods and pockets of concentrated poverty remain an unaddressed problem; their number continues to increase.
Hungary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The social urban rehabilitation schemes funded under TOP target the increasing of the social housing portfolio, as one of the tools of desegregation. • Mainstream housing programmes target rather the middle class. • In municipalities with committed local governments, ESIF-financed local projects do accomplish minor and major results. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coverage of housing affordability programs which would address extreme forms of housing poverty and prevention of evictions is low. • The portfolio of municipal social housing is minimal at the national level as well but is almost completely missing in disadvantaged (small) settlements. The poorest, including the Roma, are increasingly pushed out of social housing. • Vast majority of Roma living in low-status residential zones, segregated areas and substandard dwellings mostly are left out of major development and ESIF-funded initiatives; successful exceptions represent minimal progress at the macro-level. • Housing benefits are allocated by municipalities and prove to be insufficient to veritably alleviate affordability-related difficulties and to establish housing security. Moreover, the poorest, including the Roma, are forced out of family housing allowance scheme, as they are unable to meet eligibility criteria.
Romania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several mainstream programmes aim at easing the financial burden of poor families and address affordability issues of housing costs, including heating aid and minimum inclusion income (MGI). • National level policies to combat segregation concern a fraction of ESIF: only one call excluded projects which create segregated facilities (especially housing and schools). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no effective large-scale policies designed to solve the poor housing conditions of vulnerable people. Geographically segregated Roma communities lack access to public utilities, clean water and sanitation. • The impact of governmental social housing initiatives is marginal compared to the scale of the challenges (over 60,000 Roma families live in informal housing, on the outskirts of villages and towns) and allocation rules are unclear and ineffective (entire population is eligible, the most marginalised have less access). • Social housing programme launched in 2008 envisaging construction of 300 dwellings has not been finalised yet. • There is little evidence on the actual poverty reduction impact of housing allowances. According to surveys, only 25% of the Roma families received MGI, and 44% of the Roma received heating aid. Also, other programmes in place are difficult to access for vulnerable groups, among them Roma.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spatial segregation and discrimination in housing remain challenges: more than half of the Roma live in spatially segregated communities. • Discrimination when accessing social housing is still present and there are very few initiatives to fight it. Forced evictions affecting vulnerable mostly Roma communities are still an issue in several parts of the country.
Slovakia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The implementation of a legislative change relating legalisation of parcels, which is a major challenge for housing inclusion, will be supported through a national project including legal counselling and other types of support implemented in the 150 communities with the least developed Roma communities. • Between 2000 and 2018, the government funded the development of 295 housing sites with 4,689 flats of lower standard with a state-funded budget of 68.3 million EUR. These flats targeting marginalised Roma are almost always located separated at the edges of municipalities and sometimes even in segregated or/and isolated settings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slovakia continues to struggle to reduce enormous disparities in housing conditions between Roma and non-Roma populations and to address the vast residential segregation experienced by more than half of Roma living in Slovakia. • The governmental housing programme of lower-standard housing continues to residentially segregate Roma communities. • The housing benefit is sufficient to cover the housing fees in low-standard flats or older municipal housing but is insufficient to help families to move into standard housing, or economically prosperous areas with employment opportunities. Moreover, they exclude inhabitants of informal housing and indebted persons. • Ethnic discrimination at the housing market makes it practically impossible for Roma (especially from disadvantaged communities) to find anything other than municipal housing. • So far, the use of ERDF funds for the housing has been delayed greatly. • The fundamental right to access to water remains fully contingent upon the will of local authorities. Local municipalities face no palpable legal penalties for failing to ensure access to water to Roma populations. There is evidence that municipalities collectively punish people living in segregated areas by not providing proper waste collection services.
Cluster 2: Member states with significant Roma communities		
Country	Strengths/key elements of the country's approach	Weaknesses/gaps/recommendations
France	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a refined state programme to eliminate all slums within 5 years. The state policy contains orientations on housing, health, employment and education. The policy should be implemented within local partnerships, under the authority of the prefects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no consistent policy to eliminate segregation in housing. • Essential public services are not at all or not adequately accessible, in both managed (for gens-du-voyage) and self-managed (informal sites inhabited by Roma from Bulgaria and Romania) areas.



		<p>Municipalities tend not to serve the areas, afraid that this would legitimate them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The state program to eliminate all slums is encouraging, but as it depends on the good will of municipalities, its implementation is very unequal, and departments in which it is the most needed have failed to start building local partnerships to achieve the goals. • Social housing is scarce and many times inadequate for gens-du-voyage, whereas housing benefits and social housing for migrant Roma are not accessible due to legal constraints and language/information barriers.
Germany	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for access to housing for Sinti and Roma varies widely according to the policies of individual states and cities in terms of their overall housing policies, their recognition of a need of specific protection of Sinti and Roma. • Some municipalities provide support to housing within local/regional housing projects; these include, for example, the housing access strategy of the city of Dortmund, which carries out housing brokerage for this target group in cooperation with landlords. • In principle, there is access to both social housing and housing subsidies regardless of nationality. • The “<i>Soziale Stadt</i>” programme, which has been running since 1999 and which uses federal, state and EU funds (ERDF and ESF), supported in few cases urban development of areas with a German Sinti and Roma population (despite the programme does not specifically target Roma). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiatives supporting the housing situation of Sinti and Roma, and of citizens from Romania and Bulgaria in general depend on specific local/regional commitment and are exceptions. • Rapidly decreasing social housing stocks and weak policies for affordable housing hit all groups with weak position on the housing market, including disadvantaged Sinti and Roma. • New coming non-German Roma do not have access to housing allowances in the first 5 years, if they are not officially employed. • In the field of housing, the Federal anti-discrimination law allows for an exception for unequal treatment in the rental of housing, if it serves “the creation and preservation of socially stable resident structures and balanced settlement structures and balanced economic, social and cultural conditions”. Under this pretext, homeowners often can refuse to accept Roma or other migrant or ethnic minority tenants.
Greece	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new strategic approach has been fostered by the state, introducing new regulations, among others with the aim of relocation of people from camps and settlements into better settlements (safety, access to infrastructure) or into desegregated setting, improvement of infrastructure, creation of a self-management and protection system of the residential complexes, and rent subsidy for finding a home in the integrated parts of cities. • No forced evictions against Roma take place. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For two decades no state policies have been implemented to improve the housing situation. Along with effects of the financial crisis, the situation has considerably worsened in terms of dilapidation and segregation. • Roma’s housing needs are not always included in the priorities of the municipalities either due to the stereotypes and prejudices of the local community or due to objective legal, technical and financial difficulties that the local authorities deal with. • Roma generally have limited access to housing in non-Roma neighbourhoods due to discrimination and prejudice. • Getting access to housing related subsidies and programmes in practice is very difficult for illiterate and marginalised Roma living in informal housing. This is even more important as families who will be



		resettled from camps will have difficulties to cover their housing costs.
Italy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Notable efforts from the region of Emilia Romagna and few isolated municipalities to help Roma families to leave encampments by providing them with social housing.• In the last decades a few ad-hoc housing projects have been carried out specifically designed for Roma, mostly to tackle emergencies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Despite NRIS's commitment to eliminate encampments, most local authorities continue to create and fund segregated camps for Roma.• In both formal and informal settlements Roma lack physical security, and evictions are carried out very often; a consequence is homelessness or dependency on housing in other ethnically segregated camps and temporary shelters.• Social housing in desegregated environment is inaccessible for most Roma due to a lack of affordable accommodation and criteria for access to social housing that directly or indirectly discriminate against Roma.• Discrimination based on ethnic origin in the private housing sector is widespread.
Spain	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Further progress has been made in residential inclusion of Roma – i. e. reduction of shanty towns, desegregation and access to social housing – thanks to initiatives at various governance levels and cooperation with NGOs.• Besides infrastructure and housing development subsidies, debt management schemes have been launched to prevent evictions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There was a detrimental effect of the 2008 crisis on the housing conditions of many Roma and funding of public programmes aimed at their improvement.• The Roma communities are discriminated in the rental market. In consequence, many Roma continue to live in stigmatised or segregated neighbourhoods.• A gap between Roma and non-Roma persist in housing quality and access to amenities; an increasing number of Roma households has been disconnected from heating due to problems with payments.• Segregated Roma neighbourhoods lack public services, such as public transport, health care, secondary education centre, recreation and cultural facilities or social services.
UK	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning policy for Gypsy and Traveller sites has been improved and obliged local boroughs or districts to identify a five-year supply of land for site provision. Some local authorities are making efforts to upgrade sites.• Many municipalities have introduced Selective Licensing to oblige all registered residential landlords to let properties according to minimum standards, and also enforce tenancy agreements. This may improve the housing conditions of Roma in the private rental sector.• In Scotland, a housing acquisition and improvement programme are supported by the national and local governments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Despite legal obligation, few local governments have provided Gypsy and Traveller sites; many sites that have been provided are on unsuitable land such as land fill, close to a railway line or on contaminated land. Families who wish to remain nomadic are finding themselves with a reducing land pool.• Housing benefit on Traveller sites is problematic and there are differences between local authority sites and private sites. Recent changes to UK housing benefit have also affected the security of some families.• Reductions of spending and tightening of eligibility for social housing, and reductions in control of private housing developments impact



		<p>housing affordability. Recently arrived and migrant households are especially affected.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many Roma families are denied access to council (municipal) housing due to eligibility criteria. Additionally, waiting lists are extremely long and much available council housing (e.g. one-bedroom flats) would be inadequate for many Roma families. • There are no funding streams in England to support neighbourhood renewal programmes, whether community- or housing-focused.
Cluster 3: Member states with mid-size Roma communities		
Country	Strengths/key elements of the country's approach	Weaknesses/gaps/recommendations
Austria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The vast majority of Roma have access to secure and affordable housing, whereby municipal housing, social benefits and housing allowances play an important role. • There are no indications that Roma are discriminated in the access to municipal housing, nor that there is a concentration of Roma in a certain area or housing complex. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NRIS does not address housing. • Roma migrants find themselves in a disadvantaged position in the area of housing compared with non-Roma migrants or the non-migrants (including being homeless or living in informal dwellings, and facing discrimination). • Access to municipal housing is only possible if certain criteria, among them local connections are fulfilled, which puts migrant Roma in disadvantaged position. • For people living in informal dwellings, access to basic amenities is not secured.
Belgium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Flemish Housing Inspectorate (FHI) initiated tackling the slumlord phenomenon. • Some Social Welfare Offices have launched projects of reintegration through housing for Roma, and some Roma mediator programs have also been launched. • In Flanders and Wallonia, some public authorities were financially supported in the acquisition and equipment of sites for Travellers. Since 2004, the Flemish Community covers 100 per cent of the accommodation costs of residential sites for Travellers. • CMGVR (<i>Centre de Médiation des Gens du Voyage et des Roms en Wallonie</i>) plays a role of counselling and mediation between stakeholders, including Travellers and local populations. • There are some key cities that have developed strategies to promote the inclusion of migrants, among them Roma. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discrimination in housing prevails and remains largely unaddressed. Evictions take place throughout the year, including winter. • Several of the main cities have witnessed the development of slums inhabited mostly by Roma families (20-50 people). • Measures to tackle homelessness are generally conceived for single adults and not for families with children, which makes them unsuited for most Roma in need. • There is neither sufficient, nor compulsory measures organising Travellers' temporary stay in any of the three regions. • Whereas the NRIS wanted to build on abandoned dilapidated buildings e.g. in Brussels to resolve housing needs (even if temporarily), squats have been criminalised.



Croatia	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There is political will to improve living conditions in Roma settlements.• The process of legalisation started a few years ago with tangible outcomes.• Some community centres were built and there is a plan for building playgrounds and new community centres.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• More than 50% of Roma live in segregated settlements. Desegregation of Roma settlements is not the focus of the government and of the local and regional authorities.• Instead of comprehensive, sustainable provisions to end residential segregation, politicians offer settlement upgrades. The local and national authorities should avoid building up any new exclusively Roma villages and commit to a long-term desegregation perspective for existing ones.• Local and regional authorities should act to legalise informal housings.• Social housing is mostly available only in large cities, and due to the composition of the stock and allocation policies, it is not suitable to solve the housing challenges of Roma families.
Ireland	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• An independent review of the 1998 (Traveller Accommodation) Act is currently underway.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There is absence of any actions in the NTRIS relating to addressing the housing and accommodation needs of Roma.• There is a systemic failure of local authorities to meet their statutory responsibilities to provide adequate and culturally appropriate accommodation for Travellers.• There are high levels of experienced discrimination against Travellers/Roma in accessing private and public social rental sector.• Travellers/Roma housing needs have become increasingly marginal in current policy focus and political debate on the housing and homeless crisis. Travellers are invisible in debates on homelessness despite representing at least 9% of the homeless population.• Legislation has criminalised the practice of nomadism, whereas there is under-delivery on Traveller-specific accommodation (that is properly serviced halting sites and group housing).
Netherlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contrary to previous policies, today Roma are allowed to live in caravans, should they want to.• A new housing policy framework for Roma was issued in 2018, directed at preventing discrimination against Roma in relation to adequate housing in trailer parks, ensuring their cultural rights and providing legal security in this area, but the implementation is to be assessed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The lack of political will is not helping to properly maintain the current sites and/or to create new ones.• Roma are regularly discriminated on the housing market.• There are some potentially counterproductive social housing policy directions which may lead to a reduction of access to social housing to only the most excluded, instead of serving as prevention measure for wider vulnerable groups.• High rents and arrears lead to evictions. In the set of measures of NRIS there is no specific attention on these issues.



Poland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 24% of the Roma Programme's budget is spent on improving housing conditions. Many local authorities effectively used the Roma Programme for housing (for purchase and construction of residential premises, reparation and construction of illumination, sewage and waste-water treatment plants, construction of playgrounds, etc.) A local initiative in Wroclaw targeting Romanian Roma applied a comprehensive approach to work for integration in all domains. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The social status has not improved, and the ethnic stigma has not changed with improvement of the housing conditions. Poorly planned housing interventions can generate or reinforce existing interethnic conflicts as well as intra-ethnic tensions and some municipalities use the funds rather to relocate than to integrate Roma families. Roma NGOs cannot make use of the Roma Programme's resources due to the funding design, and they are seldom included in the local project design process.
Portugal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Housing Strategy (2015-2031) was adopted to promote equality in access to social housing, including covering resettlement needs of immigrant communities and ethnic minorities and to provide social housing by using the renovating of abandoned buildings. A key role in development of housing and implementation of the social housing is given to municipalities and horizontal cooperation. Some centrally funded local projects applied progressive and integrative methods. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roma communities continue to live without the minimum conditions of habitability, health and hygiene. No results achieved so far within the National Housing Strategy. Segregation practices prevail, even in the most recent relocation processes building on new construction.
Sweden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Five municipalities have actively responded to state initiatives to review the state of the art and develop local strategies to improve the situation (including accessing housing rights) of Roma in the local context by 2032. A guidance material aimed at property owners and landlords was produced to increase knowledge about the situation of the Roma in the housing market, counteract discrimination and prejudice against Roma. A training component supplementing it was launched. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roma have to hide their identity to avoid discrimination in the housing market, thus, there is presumably great underreporting of discriminatory actions. There is a need for increased awareness that the automated computer based queuing systems used by the housing companies for the allocation of housing may have a discriminatory effect in itself as not all housing seekers are literate (among them many Roma, especially elderly ones) and not all of them have computer skills.
Cluster 4: Member states with smaller Roma communities		
Country	Strengths/key elements of the country's approach	Weaknesses/gaps/recommendations
Cyprus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ministry of Interior has launched a strategy of repairing Cypriot Roma houses, but the process is very slow and with little support of the actual administrative staff. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roma families are offered housing in formerly Turkish-Cypriot houses maintained by a state property management service. This policy creates segregated Roma ghettos. The rent levels in such public housing are very low and do not cover the basic maintenance of the homes, thus, the housing is very dilapidated.



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New pre-fab housings in segregated areas were built to improve the conditions; this creates new segregation conditions. • Public housing allocation policies are insufficient, in particular, provided housing is not sufficient for larger families.
Denmark	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new strategy “against parallel societies” has been launched to specifically address the needs in segregated areas, but some conditions remain unclear and are controversial (e.g. conditional benefits, levels of benefits for new arrivals, tearing down of housing in ghettos without clear housing replacement actions). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific data collection in the ghetto communities is needed, to better understand the need of Roma families and how they are potentially affected by the new strategy against parallel societies. • Many mobile EU citizens (e.g. Romanian Roma) resort to rough sleeping since they have difficulties in finding shelter space or accessing any social or private rentals due to the lack of clarity of legal titles, language barriers and insufficient financial means. • Rough sleeping in camp-like conditions is prohibited according to new legislation. This leads to a criminalisation of homelessness and can lead to a two-year expulsion from the given town.
Estonia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roma live mostly in integrated neighbourhoods, and there are no reports that they are affected by homelessness. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is very sporadic empirical evidence about the housing issues of the Roma community. • The average Roma housing conditions are reported to be poorer compared with the general population, and there are no special provisions to make sure that municipalities respond to these needs with the help of their own social housing stock.
Finland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local and central policies have been designed to answer Finnish Roma housing needs for decades. • The gap of equal access to the housing between Roma and the ethnic Finns and other groups has been closing up. • There are monitoring and negotiation mechanisms in place to balance out accessibility and discrimination issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The cutbacks in the housing allowances have increased the need to replace the housing for smaller and cheaper ones, which, coupled with the location of cheaper housing units pushes some Roma families into poverty hit neighbourhoods. • There is no permanent and sustainable solution to the problem caused by undocumented immigrants or immigrants without permanent housing or begging Roma people, and not enough willingness to solve the problem, beyond NGOs that assist people living in illegal settlements. • Despite some improvement, surveys indicate that Roma still experience discrimination in accessing private or public rental housing.
Latvia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing benefit and social assistance programmes are available for all disadvantaged families, and there are no circumstances that exclude disadvantaged Roma families. • Roma families are not subject to forced evictions from social rentals. If a private landlord breaks the rental agreement, the local government offers and ensures the accommodation of the families in so-called crisis centres. Families are allowed to live there for a period 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some 75-80% of Roma families in Latvia encounter difficulties in accessing social housing and quality provision, e.g. eligibility criteria (like owning a car) and administrative barriers, or low income which would not cover the rent and amenities.



	up to three months for a relatively low fee, in the meanwhile they may resolve their housing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The most significant issue is the bad sanitary equipment and low technical conditions, which significantly hampers access to basic hygiene and increases the health risks. Policy documents do not envisage special measures for improving the living conditions of Roma as a socially vulnerable group and municipalities have not implemented special projects in the housing area for the Roma community.
Lithuania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A set of measures implemented by both the government through the NRIS and the Vilnius city municipality to address the largest Roma settlement's issues (e.g. facilitating the relocation of families to integrated areas with social housing or rent allowance) was launched. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Roma community still faces problems with renting (due to discrimination) and receiving municipal housing (which is very limited). There is a disconnect between state authorities working on dismantling of the Roma settlement and the social inclusion of the residents.
Luxembourg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is no residential segregation of Roma who are second or third generation migrants and who arrived in Luxembourg during the Balkan wars. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no specific measures or programmes for Roma or any information regarding the housing situation of Roma. Camping sites prohibit halting for Travellers.
Slovenia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Important achievements were made regarding legalisation and improvements to the communal infrastructure of some Roma settlements. The newly established dedicated governmental working group aims at resolving spatial issues; the prepared recommendations for the municipalities where Roma live to include Roma settlements in their spatial plans. Legislation has been changed which might have a positive effect on further legalisation of Roma settlements. Public tenders were implemented for co-financing of basic municipal infrastructure projects in Roma settlements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of monitoring and evaluation or of clear budget lines of the relevant National Program of Measures 2017-2021 makes assessment of measures aimed at housing improvement difficult. Most Roma housing is still below the minimum standard of living, without access to basic infrastructure, like lack of access to water - especially in the south-eastern part of Slovenia. Irregularities of dwellings has allowed municipalities to refuse to provide clean water and sanitation. Central government does not intervene even if it could to address this problem in municipalities where local government is inactive. Roma often face discrimination in renting private apartments, and there is a general lack of social housing. Residential segregation and issues concerning lack of security of tenure persist.