

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001882/26
to the Commission
Emmanouil Fragkos (ECR)
(6 May 2026)**

Subject: Policies to tackle discrimination against the Roma of Thrace

Historically, Roma have been one of the most marginalised and culturally prolific population groups in the Balkans, including parts of Bulgaria, Greece and Türkiye. Unfortunately, Roma are subject to intense Turkification efforts by Türkiye, which attacks and belittles their identity, as it does with all non-Turkish identities.

Despite the EU's longstanding commitment to equality, inclusion and the protection of fundamental rights, many Roma communities continue to face persistent structural challenges, such as poverty, social exclusion, insufficient access to education, housing, healthcare and employment, as well as discrimination and limited participation in public life. In some areas, these problems are exacerbated by geographical isolation, weak institutional support and limited access to appropriate educational tools.

In view of the above, can the Commission answer the following:

1. Is there funding for the creation of media, such as radio, television or social media, or even some programmes on existing networks?
2. Given that, in Thrace, a large part of the minority are Roma, does it not consider that it would be more important for there to be a Roma Studies course in Greece rather than a Turkish Studies course?
3. At the very least, what European tools could be used to support a Museum of Roma Culture in Xanthi?

Submitted: 6.5.2026

**Answer given by Commissioner Lahbib on behalf of the European Commission
(17 September 2026)**

The Commission is firmly committed to combating antigypsyism and discrimination against Roma. Under the EU Roma Strategic Framework for Equality, Inclusion and Participation 2020-2030, all Member States are encouraged to fight antigypsyism, promote Roma equality, and prevent social and economic exclusion. In 2026, the Commission will adopt its third report on progress made in the implementation of national Roma strategic frameworks.

EU funding is provided for media pluralism and news media, including local, regional and community media, through Creative Europe. Cohesion Policy funding supports cultural infrastructure, including museums, and the regional programme for Eastern Macedonia and Thrace allocated around EUR 13 million to cultural investments.

The Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values programme, via the calls for proposals on Remembrance, supports commemoration, research and education, including remembrance of Roma victims.

Creative Europe supports museums through cooperation projects, exhibitions, learning activities, digital heritage, skills development and inclusion.

On Romani studies in Thrace, education content and the organisation of education systems remain Member State competences. The EU has no general power over the use of regional or minority languages, and EU competence does not extend to discrimination based on language or belonging to a national minority.
