SUGGESTIONS FOR TRAINERS AND EDUCATORS

LEVEL: BEGINNERS

ANALYSING ROMA SETTLEMENT AND EXPULSION FROM THE SUBURBS OF TIRANA

COMPLEXITY

This section is meant to engage a group of beginners with little knowledge about the history of Roma minority in Albania, its identities and histories.

GROUP SIZE & TYPE

8-15 participants, ideally foreigners who have very little knowledge of Albania and its ethnoreligious diversity, as well as Albanian students living in the capital Tirana or in other cities such as Durres.

TIME

90 minutes or 2 hours in case of the need to wrap up and/or set a follow-up activities

OBJECTIVES

- Familiarise with the history and identities of Albania's Roma communities;
- Reflect critically on Roma resistance during the time of socialist Albania;
- Understand and come to know the high level of societal transformation and gentrification that hit Roma people the hardest;
- Stimulate critical thinking about freedom and security in public sphere by developing research skills and some actions through easy-to-handle pieces of Roma histories and ancestry in Albania.

MATERIAL

Internet connection, laptop, projector, flipchart posters, handouts, (online) dictionary

PREPARATION

- Make sure to review the keywords before kicking off the different activities.
- Organise activities in two sections of 45 minutes each. Make sure to have enough time to restore participants' attention for the second session.
- Divide participants into small groups in order to initiate research activities and have diverse findings to discuss as a follow-up activity.
- Prepare links for the YouTube videos for a group activity. For doing so, make sure to have Albanian speakers;
- Provide translation of the videos and materials in Albanian in case of a foreign audience; hence, skip this part if you have less time available for more engaging activities.
- Be prepared to open up the discussion among the participants about the cartoon and related sensitive topics, such as nationalism, ethnicity, and religion. Throughout, make sure that none in the group will feel marginalized or discriminated against.

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

If possible, organize a one-day trip to Tirana and the formerly Roma areas mentioned in this section. Tirana's New Boulevard or Train station may be the best places to visit in order to acquire a full-fledged understanding of how resettlement and gentrification have changed Roma everyday life.