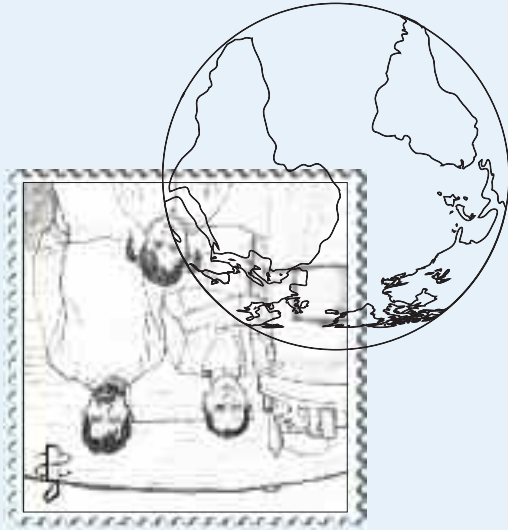


ROMANIA ROMA FAMILIES



WRITE FOR RIGHTS
2010



AMNESTY
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ACT NOW

Join hundreds of thousands of people around the world who are sticking up for individuals who live with the daily threat of human rights violations.

WRITE TO THE MAYOR OF MIERCUREA CIUC (CSÍKSZEREDA IN HUNGARIAN):

■ Expressing concern that the local authorities of Csíkszereda forcibly evicted the Roma from their homes in 2004 without complying with international safeguards on evictions, and moved them to a site where living conditions are inhumane.

■ Calling on him to ensure that a genuine consultation with the Romani families is carried out, to identify a relocation site and alternative housing which comply with the requirements of international and regional human rights law and standards.

Send letters to:

Ráduly Róbert Kálmán
Mayor of Csíkszereda
Municipality of Csíkszereda
Vár tér 1. 530110, Csíkszereda
Harghita county, Romania
Fax: +40 266 37 11 65
Email: radulyrobert@szereda.ro
Salutation: Dear Mayor

WRITE A MESSAGE OF SUPPORT TO THE ROMANI COMMUNITY IN HUNGARIAN OR YOUR OWN LANGUAGE:

Kedves Tavasz utca lakói!
Én is azok közé tartozom akik hozzásegítettek az önök küzdelméhez a biztonságos otthonért! Remélem továbbra is kitartanak és hogy a hatóságok meghallgatják Önöket.
Mi Önökkel vagyunk.
Fogadják legjobb kívánságaimat.

Dear residents of Primaverii Street,
I am one of the people who have been supporting your struggle for a new and safe home! I hope you remain strong and that the authorities listen to you. We are on your side.
With best wishes to you and your family.

Ráduly Ferenc
str. Primaverii nr. 16.
530143 Miercurea Ciuc,
jud. Harghita, Romania

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/individuals-at-risk
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ACT NOW FOR ROMA FAMILIES IN ROMANIA



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Six years ago, around 100 Roma people in central Romania were forcibly evicted from their homes in the town of Miercurea Ciuc. Most of them were resettled by the authorities on the outskirts of the town next to a sewage treatment plant. Around 75 of them are still living there, in insanitary conditions in metal cabins and shacks. Some chose to move to a garbage dump a couple of kilometres away, rather than the sewage plant. The Roma were told that the move was temporary, but more than six years later, the local authorities have no plan to relocate them to adequate housing.

In 2004, around 100 Roma people were forcibly evicted from their municipal-owned home on Pictor Nagy Imre Street, where they had been living since the 1970s. The authorities had not repaired the property for many years and had told the families that they were being evicted for their own safety and that the building was to be demolished. Most of them were resettled on the outskirts of the town at the end of Primaverii Street, behind the sewage treatment plant. No attempt was made by the authorities to explore with the families possible alternatives to the eviction, or alternative relocation sites, in violation of international safeguards on evictions.

Now living on the fringes of the city, the families are socially excluded and their living conditions are inhumane. The metal cabins are overcrowded and provide no protection from damp, cold, heat and rain. The sanitation facilities are woefully inadequate, with only four toilet cubicles for 75 people and one tap for drinking water.

Romanian law stipulates that people should not live within 300 metres of potential toxic hazards, but the Romani families are living well within this danger zone. The authorities have done nothing to investigate the potential danger of living so close to the sewage plant. The stench of human excreta permeates the air around the cabins and shacks. Many Roma living there spoke of the negative impact the smell has on their daily lives and their fears that it is hazardous to the health of the whole community.