



AMNESTY  
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# STOP THE DISCRIMINATION AGAINST ROMA!

REDUCED  
TO RUBBLE  
STOP THE  
VIOLENCE  
AGAINST  
ROMA

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# STOP THE DISCRIMINATION AGAINST ROMA!

Since 2007, Romani communities and settlements in Italy have been subjected to ongoing discrimination. The Italian authorities have taken several disproportionate and discriminatory “security” measures singling out *de facto* the Roma minority, and have embarked on a recent initiative to collect fingerprints from all residents, both adults and children, of Romani settlements in the country.

These measures are often accompanied by strong anti-Roma rhetoric from local and national politicians and the vilification of Romani people in the local and national media. The ongoing fear-mongering and stigmatization have created a climate in which attacks on individuals are becoming increasingly acceptable. Romani people have been victims of several mob attacks by members of the public in which individuals were physically and verbally attacked and settlements were set on fire.

## EXPRESS YOUR DISAPPROVAL!

Sign this postcard to the Italian Minister of Interior Roberto Maroni



Index: EUR 30/007/2008



Dear Minister,

I am writing to you to express my deep concern regarding the recent violent attacks against Romani people by members of the public. The anti-Roma language that has been reportedly used by Italian officials, politicians and the media, together with the disproportionate and discriminatory measures targeting the Romani community, may be affecting the situation. Such rhetoric and actions stigmatize the Romani community and may help to create an atmosphere of hostility that legitimizes verbal and physical abuse against Roma.

I therefore urge you to ensure that all attacks on Roma camps are thoroughly investigated and that the perpetrators are brought to justice.

I also urge you and other members of the Italian government to ensure that officials and politicians refrain from making comments or using language that might incite or encourage attacks on Romani communities and refrain from taking any discriminatory measure against them.

Fingerprint

Name

Country

Attach post  
stamp

**Minister of Interior**  
**Roberto Maroni**  
Ministro dell'Interno  
Palazzo Viminale  
Via Agostino Depretis 7  
00184 ROMA  
Italy

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*Image:* Ruins of Roma settlement in Naples, Virginia Wolf area/ Ponticelli neighbourhood, May 2008.

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