

# URGENT ACTION

## EVICCTIONS RESUMED IN ROME

**Around five hundred Roma people residing in unauthorized settlements in Rome were evicted on 9 and 10 May. Although no further evictions have been reported since then, the threat of new forced evictions continues.**

Roma communities residing in at least three unauthorized camps were forcibly evicted on 9 and 10 May. Settlements in Via Candoni and below the Magliana viaduct were evicted by national and municipal police forces on Monday 9, while on Tuesday 10, a small informal settlement in Via Salaria was evicted. It is also reported that two other small camps have been evicted on Monday, 9 May.

The shacks in which the Roma were living were almost all destroyed. The only shacks left standing were those housing children going to school. The local government conceded that families with children going to school can stay until the end of the school year, in June 2011.

According to local NGOs, the evictions were implemented without prior notification or consultation with the affected communities. Only women and children were provisionally offered alternative accommodation, and this offer was refused in almost all cases, as the families do not want to be separated.

On Tuesday 17 May, police reportedly visited the camp of Via Candoni again and - for the second time - evicted families who had returned to the same place to build new shacks after their eviction on 9 May.

No further evictions have been reported in the last few days. However, new evictions of unauthorized camps – where those previously evicted have resettled, in the absence of adequate alternatives – are likely to be carried out in the future.

**While this Urgent Action will now close, the campaigning continues on a longer term basis.**

**Please take action by signing the petition at the link [www.amnesty.org/en/appeals-for-action/roma-children-and-their-families-should-live-real-homes](http://www.amnesty.org/en/appeals-for-action/roma-children-and-their-families-should-live-real-homes) and participating in the “twin postcards” photo-petition at the link [www.amnesty.org/en/roma-children-their-families](http://www.amnesty.org/en/roma-children-their-families).**

For further information, please see: Italy: stop forced evictions and provide adequate alternative housing for Roma families in Rome, at <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/EUR30/004/2011/en>.

This work forms part of Amnesty International's global Demand Dignity campaign and the European Fight Against Discrimination campaign.

This is the 2nd update of UA 121/11. Further information: <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/EUR30/009/2011/en>; <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/EUR30/010/2011/en>

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