

**Presentation by Expert on Legal Issues of Public Organization**  
**"Antifascist Human Rights League" SVETLANA NOVITSKA**  
**At the Plenary Session**  
**OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting**  
**SEPTEMBER 26, 2019 (10 am - 1 pm)**  
**(SUBJECT: ROMA AND SINTI)**

The "**Antifascist Human Rights League**" monitors facts of violations of rights and freedoms in Ukraine.

Unpunished attacks on Roma people occur constantly in the modern Ukraine. Organized groups composed of neo-Nazi parties and groups' members carry out attacks on members of ethnic minorities, conducting Roma Pogroms. At the same time, they openly promote Nazi symbols.

For instance, On June 23, 20128, 9 teenagers decorated with symbol of Misanthropic Division attacked a Roma camp. The attack resulted in death of 24-year-old David – due to injuries incompatible with life - in a hospital. His 19-year-old brother Rach Pop suffered serious stab wounds. Among other victims are 30-year-old woman and 10-year-old boy. A year later, two right-wing radicals who took part in this attack were released – with suspended execution of their sentences. Neo-Nazis committed a great number of such crimes against Roma community.

Such hate crimes against Roma people are the result of a policy of impunity enjoyed by right-wing radical and neo-Nazi organizations.

I would like to remind that on September 19, 2019r, MEPs adopted a resolution "*On the Importance of European Remembrance for the Future of Europe*", that condemned policy of historical revisionism and whitewashing of Nazi collaborators – the policy that is commonplace now in some European countries.

Earlier, on October 25, 2018, the MEPs of the previous convocation adopted a resolution "*On the Growth of Neo-Fascist Violence in Europe*» №2018 / 2869 (RSP), which contained information about illegal actions of neo-Nazi groups in the Ukraine, including actions against Roma people.

Please note that crimes against the Roma (as well as against other ethnic groups) occur in Ukraine only because government fails to respond ort take measures against neo-Nazi formations: instead – it glorifies collaborators and supporters of the Third Reich.

Unfortunately, only some EU countries (such as Poland) condemn and even impose criminal and administrative liability for public display of symbols of Ukrainian nationalist organization OUN-UPA and the SS "Galicia" Division.

Other countries, as well as the ODIHR do not react to these facts, and such situation contribute to continuation of grand scale permanent attacks on Roma people in Ukraine.

In view of the above, I suggest supplementing the general Resolution on results of the meeting with following obligations for the state of Ukraine:

- to resolutely condemn any manifestations of national-radical, neo-Nazi ideology in all its forms and shapes, in the past and present; cancel all legislative acts and by-laws dedicated to glorification and perpetuation of memory of OUN-UPA collaborators (Bandera, Shukhevych, the SS Galicia division servicemen) who are responsible for organizing and carrying out war crimes and crimes against humanity;
- to fire officials from the state authorities who are members of radical nationalistic parties and organizations;
- to dissolve military formations and other state-sponsored structures employing Nazi symbols;
- to verify statutory activities of political parties and public associations with a radical nationalistic orientation;