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The national meeting between the Advisory Boards on Romani Affairs in October 2016

In 2016 the national meeting between the Advisory Boards on Romani Affairs was organised in Jyväskylä on 12 and 13 October. The theme of the meeting was “Wellbeing, Health and Physical Activity”. Responsibility for the meeting arrangements rested with the Regional State Administrative Agency for Southwestern Finland, the Regional Advisory Board on Romani Affairs for Southwestern Finland and the National Advisory Board on Romani Affairs. The event was organised as part of the project *Building a National Roma Platform* supported by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health and the Rights, Equality & Citizenship Programme of the European Union. Jyväskylä was selected as the host city in recognition, among other things, of the city’s achievements in Romani and multicultural work.

Held annually, the meetings of the Advisory Boards on Romani Affairs gather together a wide range of representatives from municipalities, members of the Advisory Boards and local Romani workgroups, as well as spokespersons for Romani organisations to discuss various means of promoting the Romani people’s equal social opportunities for participation, as well as their economic, social and cultural living conditions. The number of participants this year was about eighty. The chairmen were Mikael Luukanen, Director General of the Regional State Administrative Agency for Southwestern Finland, and vice chairperson of the National Advisory Board on Roma Affairs Väinö Lindberg.

Opening of the event

Mikael Luukanen, chairman of the first meeting day, welcomed the participants and opened the national event. Ritva Anttonen, Director, Adult Social Work and Empowering Services, continued by presenting the greetings of the City of Jyväskylä and described the background of the Romani work done in the City of Jyväskylä. A Romani working group was founded in 2003. It applied for financing for an employment project from the European Social Fund. This marked the beginning of Jyväskylä’s versatile Romani work, which so far has been conducted in sectors such as social services, pre-primary education and employment. The latest additions to the field of Romani work are the projects carried out at the Centre of Expertise of Central Finland and among services for older people. Anttonen mentioned several examples, including the TuRom bridge builder model developed within the project “*Romanit työelämään*” (*Jobs for the Roma*) project, and the *Rainer* project launched last year.

In his address, Mikael Luukanen described the challenges of the past year and, in particular, expressed his concern over harsher attitudes. However, he feels that multiculturalism has also taken steps forward in Finland. As a topical issue, he mentioned healthcare and social welfare reform and the reform of county government, which affect the regional state administrative agencies. Luukanen also pointed out that 2016 was a special year since it marked both the 60th anniversary of the Advisory Board on Romani Affairs and the 110th anniversary of Romano Missio. The coming centenary of Finland’s independence will also involve festivities.



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Väinö Lindberg brought greetings from the Advisory Board on Romani Affairs and linked the day's theme to housing, employment, education and social policy. In his address, he also touched upon the current legislative reform and considered it important that the Romani population's inclusion is secured in the new Counties Act. He stressed that the National Advisory Board on Romani Affairs and the Regional Advisory Boards must be equipped with a structure that enables responding to demanding tasks. In Lindberg's view, one must be constructively critical and responsible for what is achieved with project funding.

Progress in implementing and monitoring the National Policy on Roma

In his address, Director Kari Ilmonen of the Department for Promotion of Welfare and Health at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health described how the implementation and follow-up of the National Policy on Roma had progressed. In 2015, Finland submitted a follow-up report on the implementation of the National Policy on Roma to the Commission of the European Union. The conclusions of the Commission's Communication on Finland indicated that the follow-up reports gives a comprehensive picture of the situation in Finland. The major concerns brought up were anti-Roma sentiments and discrimination in Europe. Another important aspect highlighted was the position of Roma children and young people and gender equality. Ilmonen also pointed out that a new National Policy on Roma (Rompo 2) will be introduced for the years 2018–2020. Preparation of the new policy has received support from both Minister Rehula and Prime Minister Sipilä.

Preparation of the policy will begin in 2017 as part of the follow-up of the project *Building a National Roma Platform*, and by separate preparation during the same year. Ilmonen also stressed the importance of considering Romani affairs when the new Counties Act is enacted. The duties of the Regional Advisory Boards will be transferred to the counties in connection with the new Counties Act, and the goal is to appoint advisory boards to the counties of Varsinais-Suomi, Northern Ostrobothnia, Southern Savo and Central Finland. He also mentioned the Centre of Expertise for Romani Affairs in the Social Sector (ROSKE), which is being planned in conjunction with the Centre of Expertise of Central Finland. The goal is to form a focal point of research serving the whole country. A new Advisory Board on Romani Affairs will also be appointed in 2017.

Building a National Roma Platform

Anneli Weiste-Paakkanen, Acting General Secretary of the Advisory Board on Romani Affairs, spoke at the seminar about the recently launched project *Building a National Roma Platform*. The one-year project is funded by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health and the Rights, Equality & Citizenship Programme of the EU. The project aims to strengthen the local Romani work networks, take issues to the local level and encourage the inclusion of the Roma population. The project also focuses on gender equality and how to mainstream it. The objective is to make use of the already existing networks and strengthen their activities. The Advisory Board on Romani Affairs serves as the project steering group.

The activities carried out during the project include regional seminars and events for Roma women. These are described in reports, and information on the progress of the project is publicised in a newsletter. Hearings at the regional level as well as separate hearings for women and men are arranged during the drafting of the new National Policy on Roma. Weiste-Paakkanen emphasised



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Finland's role as a forerunner country that sets a good example, for instance, from the perspective of organisation work and inclusion of the Roma. The goal is to spread good practices to other countries. Participants at the current meeting hoped that the project reports would clearly show how many participants the activities have reached. They also hoped that the reports would pay attention to the quality of participation.

Romani projects in Jyväskylä

Romanit liikkeelle (The Roma on the move) project

Service Supervisor Kirsi Pelo-Arkko and Instructor Tenho Roth spoke at the seminar about the project *Romanit liikkeelle (The Roma on the move)* of the City of Jyväskylä. The project focused on organising low-threshold physical activity, motivating residents to exercise in their own way and making physical activity part of people's daily life. The aim was to lower the threshold for participation, act within the sphere of the existing services and promote the health and integration of the Roma. The project was initiated by the social welfare services and received a development subsidy from the Ministry of Education and Culture for the years 2012–2014. The Roma population was already included in the planning of the project.

Approximately 100 people expressed interest in participating in the project. After the initial measurements, those participating in the physical activity services were divided into nine age groups for women and men separately. Each group had a designated leader, who played a very important role from the perspective of reaching and encouraging people. The project provided advice on group exercises, and each group was given a weekly exercise time from the existing exercise calendar. Cultural sensitivity was considered at the planning stage. For instance, the various age groups as well as women's and men's groups exercised at different times in different locations. The final participants (63) received group exercise cards and were also encouraged to be physically active on their own. A two-day camp was also organised during the project.

The project enabled a diverse selection of physical activities by providing the opportunity to become acquainted with various sports and by giving resources for exercise equipment. The project reached many people who had never engaged in sports. For many of them, physical activity remained a permanent element of their lifestyle after the project. Both Pelo-Arkko and Roth emphasised the participants' positive and enthusiastic attitude. Knowledge of the culture, close cooperation and the inclusion of the target group in the planning process were considered important. All age groups were taken into account during the project. Roth considered it particularly successful that the activities reached young people in danger of exclusion and created good contact points for them. The project was able both to make the benefits of sports visible for the Roma and to direct the participants' attention to health, physical activity and diet. Pelo-Arkko considered the activation of families with children and young people to be particularly important in the future.

Jyväskylä Roma Youth Association

Tenho Roth also presented the activities of the Jyväskylä Roma Youth Association (JyväsRoma). In Jyväskylä, the large number of Roma youth and the need for activities were noted in the early 2000s. A Romani working group where both public servants and the Roma together planned



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activities was established in 2003. JyväsRoma itself was founded through projects in 2006. Its activities focus on measures to improve the quality of life of Roma youth, support Roma culture and the Finnish Roma identity, and develop the social status of the Roma. For instance, the association provides young people with personal guidance, game evenings and physical activity. It also organises training and information events for parents and implements projects. The project *Siltana huomiseen (Bridge to tomorrow)* has succeeded in supporting youth employment, while the project *Valoa huomiseen (Light for tomorrow)* has focused on Roma youth who need special support. Currently, around 80 young Roma people are involved in the association's activities. The association has been an active player since its inception and serves as a reliable partner in the network of actors. Cooperation bodies include youth clubs, schools, Romani organisations, and employment and business services. Roth considers the support given by the City of Jyväskylä important for the association's activities.

Rainer project

Lecturer Taja Kiiskilä and project worker Kirsi Florin talked about the ongoing *Rainer project* (2015–2018). The project has received funding from the European Social Fund and from the Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment for Central Finland. The project is administered by the City of Jyväskylä and implemented in part by the JAMK University of Applied Sciences and the Central Finland Centre of Excellence on Social Welfare. The project operates throughout Central Finland. It seeks to support the Roma in acquiring an education, learning a trade, finding employment and succeeding at work. The project seeks comprehensive pathways all the way to working life. The target group consists of Roma individuals over 15 years of age and their families, as well as the personnel working in municipal healthcare and social services and educational institutions.

Families have not been considered in a comprehensive manner in earlier projects; for this reason, the *Rainer project* has wanted to invest in this segment. Besides family work, the project carries out group activities. In fact, the combination of family work and group activities has been found to be particularly successful. Young people have given positive feedback on the group activities and the participation rate has been high.

The project also provides support for young people after they have received a study place. Experience has shown that, in the case of young Roma people, practical affairs go smoothly but challenges may arise in theoretical education. The project aims to provide support for these difficult areas, for instance by providing remedial teaching in the segment of theoretical education. Another topic raised in the presentation was the teaching of the Romani language. The fact that the language studies are currently organised after the schoolday is seen as a challenge in this segment. This lengthens schooldays, which makes it more difficult for children and young people to be committed to the education.

The seminar audience was interested in hearing how contacts with other actors had been forged and what the reception had been like. Florin told that training had been provided for various bodies. Also, a visit to "*Ohjaamo*" a one-stop guidance centre, had been made together with young people. The reception has been good, which is in part attributable to earlier long-standing cooperation relations with actors in the field.



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Romani work in services to older people

Practical nurse Riitta Roth, in her address, described her work in the services for older people provided by the City of Jyväskylä. When the working model was being started, people's situations were charted in order to create a basis for planning how they could be supported in daily life. All of Roth's clients are of the Romani background, and she said that she had achieved good, confidential relations with her clients. Her work duties include advice, service, listening, going out together and home help duties. Roth also cooperates with a social worker and surveys the need for support among her clients. In her work, Roth is helped by a male assistant in cases when she cannot go to the home of a male client for cultural reasons. Roth also gives presentations to various audiences and increases the social and healthcare authorities' knowledge of the Romani culture. She hopes that a similar operating model would also be taken into use more widely.

Themes linked with wellbeing, health and physical activity

Address of the National Institute for Health and Welfare

Noora Ristiluoma, a researcher at the National Institute for Health and Welfare, talked about the promotion of health, nutrition and physical activity and the National Roma Wellbeing Study (*Roosa*) implemented as part of the project *Nevo tiija* (New Era ESF project). The study is carried out and supervised by the National Institute for Health and Welfare. Ristiluoma began her address by telling about the history and diversity of health promotion. She stressed that the individual plays a key role from the perspective of health. One's own choices have a great impact, and so information is needed as the basis for choices. In addition, for example heredity, family, the community, culture, the environment and various recommendations affect health. Ristiluoma also spoke in greater detail about the effects of food and exercise on health and about current recommendations in these areas. The National Roma Wellbeing Study is a joint study implemented with other projects of the National Institute for Health and Welfare. Its aim is to collect up-to-date information on the wellbeing, health, functional capacity and working ability of the Roma population and the use of services. The research project is funded by the European Social Fund. The goal is, on the basis of the research data collected, to promote the wellbeing of the Roma population. The study supports the monitoring and development of the National Policy on Roma. The results can also be utilised in the work of healthcare and social services professionals. The intention is to collect the study material in nationally selected localities between spring 2017 and spring 2018. The material is collected by trained research nurses and research assistants working together in pairs, and the participants are recruited on a voluntary basis. The objective is to get a total of one thousand interviewees for the study. The survey is carried out according to the same scheme as in previous corresponding studies. The data are collected by means of interviews and health examinations. The interviewees are asked several questions about various areas of wellbeing, their blood pressure and waist circumference are measured and a test of functional capacity is performed.

The study on wellbeing aroused much discussion at the event. Questions were asked about how the Roma population is taking part in implementing the study. The response by the National Institute for Health and Welfare was that the Roma population had been involved in the study's pilot phase and that its implementation will be monitored by a steering group consisting of Roma, who will also



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participate in analysing the results. Some comments questioned the need for a study focusing exclusively on the wellbeing of the Roma population. The National Institute for Health and Welfare noted that focused information is needed to support the development of Roma policy and measures. Independent research data is less dangerous than claims expressed without a base in research. Also received from the audience were comments where research was seen as having the potential to exert a positive influence on the wellbeing and health of the Roma population. The comments also raised concerns about whether the material of a thousand people is comprehensive and whether a voluntary recruitment of participants can cause skewing of the data in one direction or another.

An important point of view brought out was that the ethical discussion held in the background of the study should be brought out openly and that the research process should take account of the equality policy discussion. Together the conclusion was reached that discussion of the research project must be continued further and the Roma population's concern should be made known to the National Institute for Health and Welfare.

Mieli liikkuu (The mind and movement)

The address of Dr Marja-Liisa Kinnunen dealt with the effects of cognitive factors on the capability of movement. An adequate capability of movement is a prerequisite for a good ability to function and, with ageing, the importance of cognitive resources in maintaining the capability of movement is emphasised further. Kinnunen stressed that cognitive abilities can be influenced and, besides movement, intellectual exercises, image exercises, and combination exercises are important. Exercises of the mind compensate age-related brain changes. Kinnunen emphasised that although exercising already at a young age is important, it is never too late to start. By exercising the mind, both rehabilitative and preventative work can be done. The capability of movement is influenced by various exercise habits, hobbies and life situations. However, Kinnunen highlighted that human beings are created to be on the move and everyone can find a suitable alternative from among the various forms of physical exercise.

Wellbeing from music

Mertsi Lindgren, Regional artist of Arts Promotion Centre Finland, works with cultural diversity and discussed the effect of music on human wellbeing. In his work, he starts and manages several projects together with those implementing them. This year, he is involved in organising events, among others, in Rovaniemi and Turku. Much research has been done on the effects of music on wellbeing. The benefits of music include lifting spirits, alleviating stress, invigorating or calming one's feelings, improving concentration and strengthening social bonds. According to studies, music always affects the listener and the effects of music can be seen in a large part of the brain. The effects usually occur in emotions. One's favourite music has been shown to have diverse effects on many aspects of health, such as cases of stroke and memory disorder. Music also alleviates pain, anxiety, depression and loneliness. Lindgren both started and ended his address with music.



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Address of the Finnish National Agency for Education

Satu Blomerus and Susanna Rajala presented the results of the review entitled *A review of the educational backgrounds of adult Roma*, published in 2016, and the proposals for action therein. The survey of the Finnish National Board of Education was prepared by the Finnish National Board of Education's Roma Education Group and an array of stakeholders, experts and actors from Roma organisations. Data collection was carried out through four questionnaires, involving a total of 327 respondents. The Roma network was a great help in obtaining responses. A central consideration arising from the review findings was the need for information and individualised support. In answer to the need for information, the Finnish National Agency for Education is planning to publish material on the internet and produce an information packet that can be circulated among different localities. Blomerus emphasised that theory alone does not carry forward, that concrete measures are needed. The *Amigo* mentoring project for managing studies and daily life, developed by the Helsinki Deaconess Institute, was presented as a good practice. The Finnish National Agency for Education launched negotiations on mentoring cooperation with the *Amigo* project in autumn 2016. The need for content support in studies also came up very strongly in the review; a clinic-style support model has been considered as a solution. The review brought out that current measures do not reach the most excluded young people. The address highlighted that it would be important to get these young people into the sphere of education. Rajala stressed that there should be a channel enabling Roma young people to attend upper secondary school so that the number of academically educated Roma could be increased, as this would broaden their impact on society. The review also noted teachers' need for information about Roma affairs, especially in the context of upper secondary school. In addition to these themes, interest in entrepreneurship rose strongly to the fore from the material.

An important observation was that, on the vocational side, the Roma study different fields with great diversity. However, both Roma representatives and school representatives pointed out that it is very difficult for Roma students to find study-related work placements. Good cooperation is needed within the Finnish National Agency for Education so that vocational education experts can bring the matter forward. The material also strongly highlighted the need for cooperation and networking. The Finnish National Agency for Education will meet with Roma organisations in the near future, and measures will be planned together. In concluding the address, Rajala pointed out an important consideration that emerged on the part of both the Roma and educational institutions: the Roma seem to have a very positive attitude towards education. Half of the respondents hoped they would still be able to study something during their lifetime, and 85% of the respondents considered the trend of Roma education to be good.

Opin portaila Pohjois-Pohjanmaalla project (On the steps to learning in Northern Ostrobothnia)

Project Manager Sari Vilminho told about the project *On the steps to learning in Northern Ostrobothnia*, implemented by the Diaconia University of Applied Sciences, the Oulu Diaconia College and the Oulu Vocational College. The project is carried out in cooperation with the immigrant and Roma organisations and communities of the area. The aim is to open and streamline education pathways for immigrant and Roma young people. The target group includes young people and those in or who have completed secondary education, and people working with them. The seven key measures are outreach work, mentoring, café activities, establishing a support structure for



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the articulation phase of secondary education and the university of applied sciences, making selection practices at the university of applied sciences accessible and non-discriminatory, training for guidance and teaching staff, and spreading the model as well as creating a cooperation and expert network.

At the beginning of the project, it was important to reach the target group. A project worker with a Romani background played a key role in this. In the Oulu region, more than 20 people interested in further training were reached. At this stage, three of them have continued vocational studies, one of them at the university of applied sciences. Workshop support activities have been conducted for nursing students of immigrant background who started their studies in 2016; good experiences of this have been obtained. The project seeks to cooperate with sister projects, and thought is given to introducing the outcome for more widespread practice. Two theses and articles are also linked with the project. A comment from the audience proposed that the project should be presented at next *Kuntamarkkinat*, the annual municipal fair.

Romano Missio project *Muutoksen vuoro (Time for Change)*

In their address, Project Manager Jenny Penna, Service Counsellor and Coordinator Tuula Blomerus and Service Counsellor Senja Valentin presented the project *Time for Change*, managed Romano Missio and funded by Finland's Slot Machine Association (RAY). The project got its beginnings from practical needs and wishes. Prison staff have experienced that they lack the readiness to encounter prisoners with a Romani background, and existing support models have not been able to meet the needs of Romani women. During the project *Women's Turn* (2010–2014), Roma women in prison and prison staff were interviewed. Information on what kind of support is needed was obtained in this way. The project *Time for Change* (2015–2016), a continuation of the project *Women's Turn*, employs a total of five people. The project also has a male employee, who plans corresponding activities for men. There are project activities in Vanaja, Hämeenlinna, Turku, Pelso and Kestilä prisons. The aim is to build a support pathway extending from prison to release, empower and support women, and break the circle of crime. Support work is carried out as individual work and group activity. A group activity model, *Voiva*, has been developed. The project also includes peer support activities. Activities in

prisons in the north differ in that they have only one to three Romani women, in which case the work is individual-oriented. Romano Missio works as a bridge between the prison and Romani with a criminal background, as the workers who themselves have a Romani background are able to understand the world from which the women have come to prison. The activities also create trust and awareness of the services provided by society. In Blomerus' words, "the threshold is lowered" for the women. In addition, the project organises consultations with prison staff and provides training for future guards. Both a change of attitude and bidirectional integration have taken place in prison and, according to Blomerus, cooperation is fruitful. The feedback received from prison staff has also been very positive.

The listeners asked whether any numerical data about the project's activities were available. Blomerus replied that the project *Women's Turn* had about 500 contacts. The audience was also interested in the role of preventative work. At present, the project does not carry out direct preventative work. However, a continuum where preventative work is also taken into account is in



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the pipeline. In the future, Romano Missio will continue working in prisons and additional support staff will be trained. Under development is a physical place where women in the Helsinki metropolitan area can meet and receive support.

National Roma projects of Finland and their subprojects

Sari Hammar works as coordinator of the project *Tsetanes naal – Koulutuspoluilla (Forwards together – on educational pathways)*. At the meeting she told about the content and implementation of the project. The national project is funded by the European Social Fund and will run in 2016–2018. Hammar emphasised that the project has a great responsibility because it has received sizable resources for its implementation. The project has therefore been prepared for a long time and on a broad basis. The project *Tsetanes naal (Forwards together – on educational pathways)* is realised in cooperation with the project *Nevo tiija (New Era ESF project)*, but the two projects will be kept separate for administrative reasons. Each project also has partial implementers with their own, separate paid workers and budgets.

The aim of the project is to promote the equality, opportunities for participation and wellbeing of Finland's Roma population. The main objective is that through education, Roma people will be involved in society and working life to an increasing extent. During the project, work is done individually with young people and adults who need support on their educational pathways. The project also offers teachers, instructors, authorities and decision-makers the opportunity to increase their knowledge of issues pertaining to Roma culture and education of Romani people. The aim is also to strengthen cooperation between different actors. The Diaconia University of Applied Sciences coordinates the project and is responsible for its reporting. Partial implementers are the National Roma Forum of Finland, the cities of Helsinki, Tampere and Salo, the Helsinki Deaconess Institute, the Church Training College, the Otava Folk High School and the association KRIS Etelä-Suomi ry.

Mertsii Ärling acts as coordinator for the *Nevo tiija – New Era ESF project*. The project is funded by the European Social Fund and its main objective is employment of the Romani population. Underlying the project are the measures set out by the National Policy on Roma (2013) and the challenges that have arisen in various hearings. The main target group is the Roma population of Finland and, in particular, the Roma who are outside working life and education. In addition, the target group includes labour, health and social services personnel and the labour market. The indirect target group is made up of Roma organisations, the media, decision-makers and Finnish society. The aim is to improve the working ability and functional capacity of Roma people and to promote their opportunities in working life. Through this, the goal is to increase the equality, inclusion and wellbeing of the Roma. Ärling considers it essential to carry out extensive cooperation with different actors. It is important for the project to become rooted as part of practice and to benefit people at grassroots level. Partial implementers are the National Roma Forum of Finland, ViaDia, the Helsinki Deaconess Institute, the Oulu Deaconess Institute, the National Institute for Health and Welfare and the cities of Helsinki, Kuopio and Vantaa. A question from the audience inquired how a person in need of help with employment can receive support from the project. Ärling encouraged the person to contact him, after which he would coordinate the matter with the nearest actor or alternatively would help the person himself. With regard to each project, it was commented that it would be very important to spread the information extensively, as these are



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nationwide projects. It was also pointed out that the information disseminated to the field should be in a form that the message reaches the target group.

Archive project on the cultural heritage of the Roma

Archival researcher Risto Blomster from the Finnish Literature Society presented the project *The Cultural Heritage of the Roma people: Archiving, Valuation and Research (2016–2018)* at the meeting. The project is underpinned by sentences in the National Policy on Roma highlighting, among other things, the importance of storing, archiving and musealising Roma culture. The project is being implemented by the National Advisory Board on Romani Affairs, the National Archives and the Finnish Literature Society. Funding for the project comes from the Majaoja Foundation and the Finnish Cultural Foundation.

In compiling the book *Suomen romanien historia (History of Finland's Roma)*, it was noted that material exists but is difficult to access. Safeguarding existing information, safe use and equality of access to existing material became a topic of discussion. Starting from this basis, the idea of *The Roma Archives of Finland* was driven forward. The aim of the project now begun is to create an archive that is distributed under the Finnish Literature Society and the National Archives. So far, materials for archiving have been received from the National Advisory Board on Romani Affairs, the Roma Association of Finland, Romanitaiteen Keskus (the Roma art centre) and the Aleka Stobin and Gunni Nordström archives. References to the material are being put on the internet. In collecting the archives, very close attention has been paid to the legislation on archives and data protection. The archives offer material for use, for example, in the subject of Roma language and culture as well as in research. It is possible for anyone to access the material, although some of the material is subject to permission. In the general discussion, it was pointed out that many museums throughout Finland also have Roma articles in their collections. Nurmes Museum, in particular, collects Roma articles.

Summary and closing words

Väinö Lindberg, who served as chairman of the second day, presented the closing address of the meeting and summed up its outcome. He considered it very important that questions are asked and issues are discussed openly. Discussing topics together opens up the possibility of getting the widest possible base for accepting matters. National Roma projects with their subprojects are wider than ever before in Finland. Thus, the Roma population should know as much as possible about the ongoing projects. The role of follow-up is also central so that realisation of the goals can be evaluated.

In his address, Lindberg pointed out that very much persistent and successful work has been done in Jyväskylä, and he encouraged the continuation of this meritorious work. It is noteworthy that Roma's own participation has been strongly evident in Jyväskylä. Finally, Lindberg thanked all of the speakers and participants for the meeting, and hoped that open dialogue would continue in the future.