



Call for Roma Policy Research Fellowship

for the project

Combating barriers for exit: Roma at the Macedonian borders

In the course of October 2015 - September 2016, the European Policy Institute and the Association of citizens KHAM Delcevo will be implementing a project ***Combating barriers for exit: Roma at the Macedonian borders***. The project is financed by the Think Tank Fund of the Open Society Foundations and the Roma Information Office. The objective of the project is to contribute to changing of the public discourse, underpinned by policies and practices, depicting the Roma as a threat to the visa free travel in Macedonia.

The project combines a set of research, policy and advocacy activities. First, the project will systematically provide a baseline research on this policy issue, provide an analysis of media discourses and a study of current court cases in Macedonia involving Roma plaintiffs who claim discrimination in this context. On the basis of this research, we will devise proposals for changing of practices and policies and undertake extensive advocacy activities among all stakeholders at the national and EU level. The project will combine EPI's know how in research and policy analysis as the lead think tank and NGO KHAM's access to the Roma communities and grassroots experience.

For the purposes of the project we are interested in employing a Roma fellow and to provide him/her with on-the-job training in policy research and advocacy in relation to the topic of the proposed project. This individual will work full-time at the EPI's offices for the duration of the project (October 2015-October 2016). During this period, the fellow is expected to assist in the work on the *Combating barriers for exit* project and develop a related concrete policy product (such as a policy paper, briefs, newsletters, manage a blog, etc.) depending on personal interest under supervision and mentorship from both organisations.

Preliminary topics include: reintegration of Roma asylum seekers upon return in Macedonia (focusing on social and/or health protection, education system etc); experiences of Roma asylum seekers in a specific EU member state (Germany, Belgium); etc.¹

¹ The topic is to be framed depending on the interests of the fellow.

Candidates must fulfill the following requirements:

- Be of Roma origin, and a citizen or permanent resident of the R. Macedonia;
- Have graduated in the past three years from BA or (preferably) MA studies in social sciences, law, sociology or a related topic
- Demonstrate interest in social science research, without necessarily having previous experience with policy research and advocacy;
- Demonstrate interest in migration and visa policies of the European Union;
- Good command of written and spoken English language;
- Skilled for data processing and research;
- Communication skills & proactive approach with highly organizational skills.

The interested candidates should apply by 12th of October by sending the following documents to simonida.kacarska@epi.org.mk and zekir1@yahoo.com:

1. Letter of interest (in either Macedonian or English), indicating the interest in the subject of the project and policy research in general, as well as the motivation for applying for this position. If possible please to recommend a specific policy product you would be interested in developing.
2. CV (in either Macedonian or English) indicating details of qualifications, employment history, research appointments and/or experience;
3. Transcripts of undergraduate and graduate degree (if available).
4. Optional: Applicants can send a writing sample if available.