



External Evaluator - ROMA

Fair Trials is seeking an **External Evaluator** for the project *Fighting Unconscious Bias and Discrimination against Roma in Criminal Justice Systems* ('ROMA'), which is part-funded by the European Union and runs from October 2018 to December 2020 (the "**Project**").

Background

Fair Trials is a human rights organisation that works to improve respect for the right to a fair trial in criminal cases. We are a global criminal justice watchdog that conducts research and advocacy on human rights issues in criminal justice systems, and we conduct thematic campaigns on emerging threats to the right to a fair trial.

Racism, xenophobia, and other forms of discrimination based on ethnic origin is undoubtedly one of the biggest challenges faced by criminal justice systems across the world today.

In many countries across Europe, Roma have faced a long history of persecution and marginalisation, and they continue to be subject to severe discrimination. There is strong evidence to suggest that there is significant over-representation of Roma in criminal justice systems in Europe. Although socio-economic factors are often blamed for this phenomenon, it is likely that negative stereotypes and racial bias also lead to discriminatory outcomes for Roma defendants.

Fair Trials and four partners from Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania, and Spain have undertaken the 'ROMA' project to fight the risk of bias that contributes to discrimination against Roma in criminal justice systems of the EU by:

- Increasing recognition of how negative stereotypes and social attitudes to Roma can contribute to the over-representation of Roma in the criminal justice system;
- Engaging criminal justice professionals in identifying key decisions within the criminal justice process bearing the greatest risks of discrimination against Roma, and in developing and delivering strategies to improve the fairness (and appearance of fairness) of decision-making; and
- Identifying and exchanging global best practice, and building a network of anti-discrimination champions within criminal justice systems across EU Member States.

Evaluation

An external consultant is sought to assess whether the objectives of the Project and indicators of progress/achievement have been met.

The evaluator will be expected to draw conclusions based on:

- **Document review:** Published materials (in English) produced for the Project;

- **Interviews with key stakeholders:** Interviews should be held with a select number of project partner staff members, relevant Fair Trials staff, and other stakeholders;
- **Participation and Observation at the final launch event:** The event will take place online between late November and December 2020.

The evaluator will be expected to discuss the initial findings of the evaluation in a meeting with Fair Trials staff and to produce a short, written report.

These activities must be completed within by 31 December 2020.

Budget

The maximum budget available for this evaluation is 4,000 Euros. Given this limited budget, applicants are asked to set out in their application the key areas on which they would focus in their evaluation.

Tender process

Interested applicants are invited to submit a short application, in English, to bruno.min@fairtrials.net by no later than **17.00 CET on Monday 19 October 2020**.

The application should include details of the consultant's relevant experience (e.g. C.V.'s and details of relevant projects), a proposal and timeline for how the consultant intends to carry out the research, and a proposed budget to carry out the research within the specified timeframe.

Selection will be based on the application that represents the best value for money, with a decision anticipated to be taken as soon as possible after the closing date.