



Stop ethnic cleansing in Italy

SUPPORT ROMA GYPSY COMMUNITIES IN EUROPE

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01629 760435 National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups

Come to the peaceful vigil outside the
Embassy of Italy, 14 Three Kings Yard, London, W1K 4EH
Friday 17th October 2008 12 noon-3 pm

The photos of holiday makers, on a beach near Naples, ignoring the bodies of two dead Roma children has highlighted the tragedy of that community in Italy. The far-right alliance of Silvio Berlusconi's Forza Italia, anti immigrant Northern League and the Fascist Northern Alliance, strengthened by their recent success at the national elections, has unleashed an unprecedented wave of racism and xenophobia against the Roma Gypsy people in Italy.

According to independent sources the climate of fear and racial hatred has been fuelled by the Italian government. In May 2008 the Interior Minister Roberto Maroni stated, "all Roma camps will have to be dismantled right away, and the inhabitants will either be expelled or incarcerated". Since then the Italian government started a process of dismantling every Gypsy camp in country and fingerprinting every Roma, adult and child. Worse still the Government has introduced a raft of emergency measures to deal with the so called "gypsy problem". Non-Government Organisations continue to report daily arrests, evictions and attacks on the Roma communities. Some of the incidents include

- In Milan Police evicted all inhabitants of the Bovisa camp with an open declaration to deport inhabitants to Romania
- In Milan - The Via Navona Romani camp burned to the ground after Molotov cocktails were thrown into the camp. Romani adults and children were left homeless and lost all their possessions
- In Naples - Romani camp in Ponticelli was attacked by 60 armed thugs who used Molotov cocktails to burn buildings.. Approximately 800 Roma people adults and children suffered injuries. The same camp was attacked and set alight on two further occasions.
- Due to police raids in a single day - Over 50 Roma people were arrested in Rome, and over 500 nationally.
- Over 200 Roma people have been forcibly evicted from camps in Florence
- Over 100 Roma people attacked and forced to leave their camp after it was set alight in Catania, Sicily.

Peaceful Vigil outside the Embassy of Italy 14, Three Kings Yard London W1K 4EH

**Friday 17 October 2008
at 12 noon- 3pm**

For information call

**Monitoring Group
020 7636 600 or 078 16 310706**

**National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Group
01629 760 435 or
0777 0363 769 (Pete Mercer Chair NFGLG)**

**To add your name to the list of supporters
or joint organisers contact:
admin@monitoring-group.co.uk
or visit
www.monitoring-group.co.uk**

The action has been organised by an ad-hoc alliance of Roma Gypsy and anti-racist organisations in the UK. Please join us to ensure that discriminatory and racist legislation, policies and practices against the Roma community are ended in Italy. Your support and actions can make the difference between life and death.