

## **Roma children and education: Complexity, resistances, perspectives, promises**

Soula Mitakidou  
Evangelia Tressou

Social exclusion and poverty are directly associated with the Roma reality. Despite certain improvements that have been achieved both at member state and EU level, little has changed in their everyday life. Concerning compulsory education, interventions that have been applied so far have not been very successful in decreasing the disproportionately high non attendance and drop-out rate of Roma children. The presentation focuses on issues related to the education of Roma children such as access, attendance and progress as well as on the resistances developed by factors involved in it. Critical key-points are discussed for the effective organization of schools as inclusive learning communities, so that the prospects for success are enhanced and the promises for equal participation in the educational process are fulfilled.