Austria

Document sent to the Commission on:		16 January 2012
Roma population	Estimate in the document	approximately 50 000
	Council of Europe estimates	approximately 25 000 i.e. 0.3 % of the population
		Integrated set of policy measures

	KEY ELEMENTS	IDENTIFIED GAPS
Education	The strategy includes in particular the following positive elements: Within a broad education strategy, some innovative, tailor-made measures for Roma pupils are supported at local level. These include projects on Roma school assistants providing learning support for children and mediation, developed by Roma associations. Counselling and training adults so as to enhance their employability.	More measures taking into account the specificities of the different Roma groups are needed.
Employment	The strategy includes in particular the following positive elements: Diversity management within the Public Employment Service (including PES staff with migration background and training of staff). Within a general approach to labour market inclusion offering support to all job-seekers, some instruments for disadvantaged people and/or people with a migration background. The advice centre for Roma in Burgenland and projects providing intercultural coaching and training for Roma ("THARA" projects).	The approach should reach out to all Roma. Scaling up the current successful initiatives should be considered.
Health	The strategy includes in particular the following positive elements: Accessible and affordable healthcare for all. Health insurance coverage extended to recipients of social assistance. Efforts to overcome language barriers in health care. Regional project on free access to psychotherapy to Roma victims of the holocaust and their descendants.	Scaling up initiatives, detailing a calendar, targets, indicators, and budget are needed to secure the effective implementation.
Housing	The strategy includes in particular the following positive elements: Relatively well developed social housing (in particular in Vienna). Projects against discrimination on the housing market.	Measuring the impact of the equal treatment approach on the situation of Roma people is necessary.
Structural requirements and funding	The intention is declared to involve civil society organisations in the evaluation, further development and implementation of the measures. A discussion platform with stakeholders will be created.	Measuring the impact of the equal treatment approach on the situation of Roma people is necessary. A clear indication of the funding is also indispensable.