

THE QUALITY OF HOUSING IN FOUR ROMA COMMUNITIES LIVING ON THE PERIPHERY OF FĂGĂRAȘ CITY, ROMANIA: DIFFERENCES IN PERCEPTION BETWEEN ROMA AND ROMANIANS

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This study is a secondary analysis of data based on “The Barometer Survey on Roma in Făgăraș”, conducted in 2013. Quantitative data were collected through the oral survey technique based on standardized questionnaire, applied to the peripheral areas of Făgăraș City (Combinat Colony, Negoiu Street, Prunului Street, and Plopului Street), where Roma communities face severe housing problems (systematic sample, N = 400 Roma respondents aged 18 years and over) and to the central and middle city neighborhoods, majority inhabited by Romanians (systematic sample, N = 400 Romanian respondents aged 18 years and over). Through this study we intend to expose the housing situation of Roma by comparing Roma self-perceptions and Romanian perceptions about Roma. The following dimensions of quality of housing were measured: housing and household characteristics; satisfaction with housing situation; agenda of housing problems; solutions for improving housing situation. Additionally, the following aspects of Roma situation were measured: social distance towards the Roma, prejudice and discrimination against Roma. Overall, data showed that Romanians center more than Roma on the Roma lack of jobs issue, and those who think that the solution to Roma housing issue would be to move Roma elsewhere do not perceive as much as Roma that this solution would improve Roma housing conditions and do not take into account that Roma do not want to be moved at the periphery of the city. Furthermore, Romanians do not have the same opinions as Roma regarding the magnitude of public discrimination against Roma, and also they perceive more than Roma a lack of trust between the Roma and Romanian people.

Keywords: Roma, quality of housing, housing tenure, housing agenda, housing solutions.

INTRODUCTION

There is a consistent body of literature pointing to the severity of Roma housing issue due to poor quality of housing conditions. In the last decade many

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empirical studies described the magnitude and characteristics of this problem, at international and national levels (Vincze and Rat, 2013; FRA, 2012; Molinuevo et al., 2012; Vuksanović-Macura, 2012; Nolan, 2011; Berlin, 2011; Phillips, 2010; Milcher, 2009; Trimikliniotis and Demetriou, 2009; Bădescu et al., 2007). Other researchers emphasized the failure of implementing international programs and national policies addressing Roma housing problems (Molnár et al., 2012; McGarry, 2012; Kosa et al., 2007; Slaev, 2007). Most of the recent studies are focusing on Roma in general, ignoring local particularities (Tremlett, 2014) and presenting the situation only through Roma or authorities' viewpoints, without taking into account the point of view of the ethnic majority group (McGarry, 2014). Yet, in the Romanian context, there are some signs of an emerging literature regarding local Roma diversity (Berescu, 2013; Harabula, 2013; Dohotaru, 2013; Gheorghe et al., 2011; Rughiniș, 2010, 2004) and differences in perception between Roma and Romanians (Fleck and Rughins, 2008). Given the centrality of the issue of Roma diversity, in this paper we will focus on studying the particularities of four Roma communities situated on the periphery of Făgăraș City, Romania (Plopului Street, Negoiu Street, Combinat Colony, and Prunului Street), in order to contribute to the understanding of local specificities of Roma housing issue as seen from the viewpoints of Roma and Romanians.

Problem description. There are four Roma Communities in Făgăraș City living on the periphery of the city having major housing problems: Plopului Street, Negoiu Street, Combinat Colony, and Prunului Street from Galați district. The first three communities live in substandard social houses, while in the last community the majority of Roma live in a slum of illegally constructed houses or other forms of improvised shelters.

According to the image from local press (*Bună Ziua Făgăraș* and *Monitorul de Făgăraș*), in 2007 public authorities from Făgăraș City made a contract agreement with a private firm exchanging four blocks of flats from Negoiu Street (number 1, 2, 5 and 8; inhabited by 500 persons), functioning as social houses, two of them being in an advanced degradation state, for other block of flats from Plopului Street (number 6, 12, and 3) renovated and connected to utilities. Roma residents from Negoiu number 1 and 2 moved to the new blocks of flats from Plopului Street in 2008, but those from Negoiu number 8 and 5 (about 50 families) refused to move, the neighborhood being ill-famed. They hoped that after the new owner would renovate the blocks from Negoiu, they would buy the apartments from him. Due to illegal connections to the electric system, in 2009 an accidental fire swept the attic of one of the blocks from Plopului Street, and as renovation was superficial, people had to live in flats with leaks from the roof. After three years of living there, shortage of money made a big number of Roma residents from Plopului Number 12 not able to pay their utility taxes, so that their apartments were disconnected from utilities. Consequently, they refused to pay rent for a dwelling without access to basic utilities, and authorities threatened them with eviction. The disconnection of some apartments from the sewage

system contributed to the degradation of pipes and resulted in the basement flooding in the block number 12 from Plopului Street. In 2010, after the eviction, the block number 8 from Negoiu Street was devastated, being source of scrap metal, firewood and bricks. Also in 2011, a police raid found that from 144 verified persons from Plopului number 6 and 12, 17 persons were staying illegally in social houses.

Combinat Colony district is situated near the ruins of the former chemical plant Nitramonia (an area of 550 ha), from where, according to the public discourse, Roma steal scrap iron and electric cables in order to make some money from selling them. Local press abounds with examples of police raids in this area, resulting in fines and arrests. Having fines cuts Roma access to welfare. Another problem associated with this area is the lack of cleanness, because of two factors: sanitation services which do not collect the trash if people do not pay sanitation taxes, and people who do not maintain cleanness or tend to throw the trash in other places than the containers. Since apartments are not connected to the central heating system, residents try to find alternative ways to heat their houses, some of them being dangerous and resulting in carbon monoxide poisoning accidents. In 2010 the City Hall gave a part of the residents of social houses from Combinat Colony the opportunity to become owners, with an offer far below the market price.

Galați district is situated on the north periphery of the city, being separated from it by a river over which there is a bridge in a deep degradation state, which needs to be repaired. On Prunului Street from Galați district a part of Roma have built shanty houses on land not registered in the Real Estate Register, living in poor conditions, and another part live in social houses without access to basic utilities, most of them being sued by local authorities for not paying their taxes. According to their declarations in the local press, even if they live in improvised shelters on their residence papers is written that they live in apartments and because of that they are forced to pay rent, which they cannot afford. Also, residents from Prunului Streets were accused in the local press for making connections to the public sewage system on their own. In 2009 there was a local project to make ID papers for Roma from Galați district and in 2012 Prunului Street was asphalted, and connected to the sewage and clear water systems.

Starting from these particularities, the research questions asked in this paper are: 1) how do Roma living on the periphery of Făgăraș City perceive their quality of housing, 2) how are these perceptions different from those of their Romanian neighbours from the city regarding Roma quality of housing, and 3) which are the biggest differences in perception between Roma and Romanians. The main hypothesis is that Roma and Romanian perceptions are different, one of the biggest differences being related to the discrimination against Roma.

Conceptual framework. There is an increasing literature pointing to the need of studying more how public discourse is taken up by Roma, reinterpreted

and lived in their everyday life (Tremlett, 2014). In this regard (McGarry, 2014) propounded the assumption that there are differences between how Roma represent themselves and how they are represented by others, and introduced the distinction between “representation of Roma” (the social construction of Roma identity, the way they are seen and understood by others) and “representation for Roma” (their ability to make themselves understood and seen, to control the dominant images of themselves). Therefore, in this paper representation of Roma is studied by Romanians’ perception about Roma, and representation for Roma by Roma self-perception. On the other hand, regarding Roma studies, discrimination was widely and intensely documented in the literature (Agarin, 2014; Bačlija and Haček, 2012; Ignățoiu-Sora, 2011; Milcher and Fischer, 2011; Parekh and Rose, 2011; O’Higgins, 2010) and so were prejudice and social distance (Fontanella, 2015; Bartoš, 2012; Ljujic et al., 2012; Sobotka and Vermeersch, 2012), and residential segregation (Vincze, 2013; Berescu, 2011; Phillips, 2010). Despite the evident connection between these concepts, discrimination, prejudice and social distance against Roma are not researched as dimensions of Roma quality of housing. In this study we assume the premise that the quality of housing does not mean only the quality of material conditions of living or the type of house tenure, but also the quality of social relations with neighbors and with public services.

METHOD

This study is a secondary analysis based on data collected in February 2013 for the local study “The Barometer Survey on Roma in Făgăraș City”, in which I participated as a member of the research team by developing methodological research design and the research report.

Target population (universe of the research). The four Roma communities in which study was conducted are: Prunului Street form Galați district (located in the north periphery of the city, a big number of Roma living in substandard illegally built houses), Combinat Colony (located in the south industrial periphery of the city, the majority of Roma living in social houses), Negoiu number 1 block of flats (located in the east periphery of the city, Roma still living in a dilapidated social houses after refusing to move to Plopului Street), and Plopului Street number 3, 6, and 12 block of flats (located in the west periphery of the city, Roma living in social houses after they were moved from Negoiu number 2, 5, and 8 block of flats). The identification of potential Roma respondents was done using the technique of “implicit validation”, which is recognized in the literature as being more efficient than the direct self-identification technique (Messing, 2014). To be more precise, the potential Roma respondent was approached by the interviewer with the phrase “we are conducting

a survey among the Roma population', acceptance to participate in the study being interpreted as the respondent being Roma.

Data collection. Quantitative data were collected through the oral survey technique based on standardized questionnaire, applied to four peripheral areas of Făgăraș City, where Roma communities face severe housing problems (systematic sample, $N = 400$ Roma respondents aged 18 years and over) and to the central and middle city neighbourhoods, majority inhabited by Romanians (systematic sample, $N = 400$ Romanian respondents aged 18 years and over). The collected data were centralized using IBM SPSS Statistics, Version 20. Data was collected and registered at the individual level of observation. The units of analysis were the two major local ethnic groups from Făgăraș City (Roma and Romanians) and the main four neighbourhoods in which Roma from Făgăraș live (Combinat Colony, Negoiu Street, Prunului Street, and Plopului Street).

Measurements and analysis. For this secondary analysis five dimensions of Roma quality of housing were used in the operationalisation scheme: Roma household and dwelling profile; Roma housing conditions; Roma house tenure; Roma housing issues agenda, and social distance, prejudice, and discrimination against Roma. The questions used from the original study to measure these dimensions are presented in detail in the Appendix of the paper. First, in order to make possible the comparison between Roma and Romanians' perceptions, based on the data collected from Roma respondents, three summative indices were build: 1) poor housing conditions (from dummy variables: lack of space, insufficient light, lack of adequate heating, leaks from the roof, dampness, defective installation equipments, and damaged windows frames; *Cronbach's alpha* = 0.80); 2) lack of access to basic utilities (from dummy variables measuring connection to water supply, sewerage, electricity, gas, central heating; *Cronbach's alpha* = 0.62); 3) lack of kitchen and/or bathroom inside the house (from the tow dummy variables lack of kitchen and lack of bathroom inside the house; *Cronbach's alpha* = 0.52). A recoding procedure was applied, so that the indices were transformed into dummy variables: value 1 representing "presence of at least 3 problems of poor housing conditions" (for the first index), "lacking at least 3 basic utilities" (for the second index), "lacking bathroom and/or kitchen inside the house" (for the third index), and 0 representing all other response options. Second, we applied descriptive statistics analysis in order to evidence Roma and Romanians' perceptions. Third, for every pair of variables measured at the level of both Roma and Romanian respondents, we calculated differences of proportions and arranged them in decreasing order. The smallest values showed the aspects undervalued by the Romanian respondents (percentages of Roma responses being bigger than percentages of Romanian responses), while the aspects with the biggest percentages overvalued by Romanian respondents (percentages of Roma responses being smaller than percentages of Romanian respondents).

RESULTS

Roma socio-demographic profile: In terms of education, no Roma respondent from the sample has higher education. Three quarters (75%) of Roma respondents have completed eighth grade or less, 19% tenth grade or vocational school and 6% high school. In terms of occupation, 36.5% of respondents are housewives, 27% unemployed, 15.5% manual workers, 13% retired, the rest being pupils / students, employees with secondary education, employers or having other occupation. The majority of Roma respondents (58.8%) have family income of less than 600 lei per month (140 Euros), one-third (31.6%) between 600 and 1,200 lei (140–280 Euros), 15.6% do not have income at all, and only 4% have an income of more than 1200 lei per month (above 280 Euros). According to Roma's statements, their main sources of income are in decreasing order: maternal / child allowance, salary, pension, payment for self-employment activities (occasional labor, selling agricultural products), welfare, and unemployment compensation.

Table no. 1

Main source of income of Roma from Făgăraș City

Perceptions of	Types of sources of income*							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Roma %	18.5	13	16	1	31.5	13	7	0
Romanians %	1.3	25.8	1.8	4.3	17.3	29	1.3	19.5

* 1 – salary; 2 – payment for self-employment activities; 3 – pension; 4 – unemployment compensation; 5 – maternal / child allowance; 6 – welfare; 7 – no source of income at all; 8 – income from illegal activities (stealing).

Compared to the sources of income mentioned by Roma respondents, Romanian respondents tend to underestimate the Roma income obtained from salary, pension, children/ maternal allowance. Instead, Romanians overestimate Roma income from independent activities. Unlike Roma respondents, Romanians set out a new category of Roma source of income, namely the illegal income.

Household and dwelling profile. Roma respondents from the sample live in households consisting of one to 13 members, with an average of 4.1 persons per household. In these households live from 1 to 8 minors (less than 18 years old), with an average of 1.9 minors per household. Roma dwellings from the sample have from 2 to 5 rooms (on average 1.7 rooms per household) and surfaces ranging from 5 to 300 square meters (on average, a dwelling has 31 square meters, a room 2.7 persons, and a person 10 square meters). Most houses have two rooms and the most common situation is that of a person assigned for five square meters of the house surface. 8 of 10 Roma respondents (82.5%) live in a detached house or in a multifamily block of flats, and 2 from 10 (20%) in an improvised shanty or abandoned building.

Housing conditions. Almost no dwelling from the Roma sample (98%) is connected to central heating, 7 of 10 (68.5%) is not connected to sewerage and almost the same percent (72%) are not built with a bathroom inside. The vast majority of dwellings (69%) are not connected to gas, one third (29.5%) do not have electricity and also one third (29.5%) are not equipped with a kitchen inside. One of five dwellings (20%) is not connected to clear water. Half of the analyzed dwellings (50%) lack at least three basic utilities (water supply, sewerage, electricity, gas, central heating) and 7 of 10 (73%) have no bathroom or kitchen inside.

Almost a third (29.5%) of Roma respondents said they have arrears for not paying rent or utilities' costs. These debts vary between 30 and 4,500 lei (from 7 to 1,000 Euros), the average household debt being of 713 lei (about 150 Euros). A considerable percentage of Roma respondents declared that they do not have some utilities in their home, and, surprisingly, that they do not need them either: central heating (38.8%), gas (5%), bathroom (2%) and sewerage (1.5%).

Over half of Roma respondents (56%) complained that they are facing at least three of the following housing problems: lack of space (overcrowding), insufficient light, lack of adequate heating, leaks from the roof, dampness, defective installation equipments, and damaged windows frames. Housing problems faced by more than half of Roma respondents are in order: dampness (71.5%), lack of space (61.5%) and leaks from the roof (55%).

Table no. 2

Roma housing conditions

Analyzed Roma community	Perceptions of	Types of substandard living conditions*				
		1	2	3	4	5
Plopului and Prunului Streets	Roma %	56.4	53.2	89.7	73.4	31.9
	Romanians %	54.5	55.5	47.3	40.3	58
Negoiu Street	Roma %	42.9	57.1	9.6	42.9	33.3
	Romanians %	45.5	55.3	33.3	34.5	58.3
Combinat Colony	Roma %	71.8	58.8	42.7	80	25.9
	Romanians %	52.8	61.3	36.3	40.5	65.8

* 1 – confronting with the problem of crisis of space; 2 – poor housing conditions (at least 3 of the following problems: lack of space (overcrowding), insufficient light, lack of adequate heating, leaks from the roof, dampness, defective installation equipments, and damaged windows frames); 3 – lack at least 3 basic utilities (water supply, sewerage, electricity, gas, central heating); 4 – absence of kitchen or bathroom inside the dwelling; 5 – having arrears for not paying rent or utilities' costs.

Romanians' perceptions and Roma self-perceptions are similar in terms of awareness of poor housing conditions of Roma from all the four analyzed Roma communities (Plopului Street, Prunului Street, Negoiu Street, Combinat Colony),

and in terms of the lack of space problem faced by Roma residents from Negoiu Street. Overall, Romanian respondents underrate the Roma problem of lack of connection to basic utilities and lack of kitchen and bath inside the house and overrate the problem of arrears due to not paying rent or utilities' costs. In particular, regarding the housing conditions of Roma from Negoiu Street, Romanian respondents overestimate the problem of lack of connection to utilities and the problem of arrears due to not paying rent or utilities' costs; and underestimate the problem of lack of space and that of the absence of kitchen and bathroom inside. Regarding the housing conditions of Roma from Combinat Colony, Romanian respondents overestimate the problem of arrears due to not paying rent or utilities' costs and underestimate the problem of the absence kitchen and bath inside the home.

Almost three quarters of Roma respondents (72.4%) are dissatisfied with the current living conditions and a similar percentage (70.9%) expects future housing situation to become worse in the next year. Overall, Romanian and Roma respondents have a similar perception of the quality of Roma housing: 72.4% of Roma respondents are dissatisfied and very dissatisfied with the current housing conditions, and 78% of Romanians respondents consider Roma housing problem to be quite important and very important. In particular, Romanians overestimate the most the present situation of poor quality of Roma housing conditions from Negoiu Street, and are more pessimistic than Roma regarding the future quality of Roma housing conditions from Plopului and Prunului Streets.

Table no. 3

Roma satisfaction with their housing conditions and Romanians' evaluation of Roma housing conditions (present and future)

Analyzed Roma community	Perceptions of	Quality of Roma housing conditions*	
		poor, very poor – present	will be the same, will worsen – future
Plopului and Prunului Streets	Roma %	64.9	66
	Romanians %	93.4	76.6
Negoiu Street	Roma %	47.6	70
	Romanians %	95.1	77.2
Combinat Colony	Roma %	81.2	73.9
	Romanians %	94.3	77.3

House tenure. 71.5% of Roma respondents from the sample declared that they are tenants in social houses, 18.5% that they have built their house illegally on non tabulated land, and only 15% that they own their house. 2% said that they live clandestinely in social housing without paying the rent for themselves (the other members of the household paying their rent), and 3% that some members of the household they live in do not have residence papers.

Table no. 4

Roma house tenure

Analyzed Roma community	Perceptions of	Types of house tenure*					
		1	2	3	4	5	6
Plopului and Prunului Streets	Roma %	28.7	47.9	1.1	35.1	0	5.3
	Romanians %	49.8	35.5	30.5	56.3	38	35.8
Negoiu Street	Roma %	0	100	0	0	0	0
	Romanians %	47.3	24.3	28.3	22.8	31.8	30.5
Combinat Colony	Roma %	3.5	90.6	3.5	4.7	0	1.2
	Romanians %	45.8	35	35.3	33.8	37.8	38.8

* 1 – house owned by family; 2 – rent contract for social house; 3 – not paying rent, but staying illegally in social houses with other people who pay rent; 4 – have built their home on a non tabulated land; 5 –not having ID papers, cannot make any legal papers for the house; 6 – some family members do not have residence papers.

As regards to Roma from Prunului and Plopului Streets, Romanians respondents overestimate the most the situation of Roma not having ID papers, and underestimate the situation of Roma being tenants in social houses. As regards Roma from Negoiu Street, Romanian respondents overestimate the most the Roma house ownership and underestimate the condition of Roma being tenants in social houses. As regards Roma from Combinat Colony, Romanian respondents overestimate the most the cases of Roma being owners of their houses and underestimate the situation of Roma being tenants in social houses.

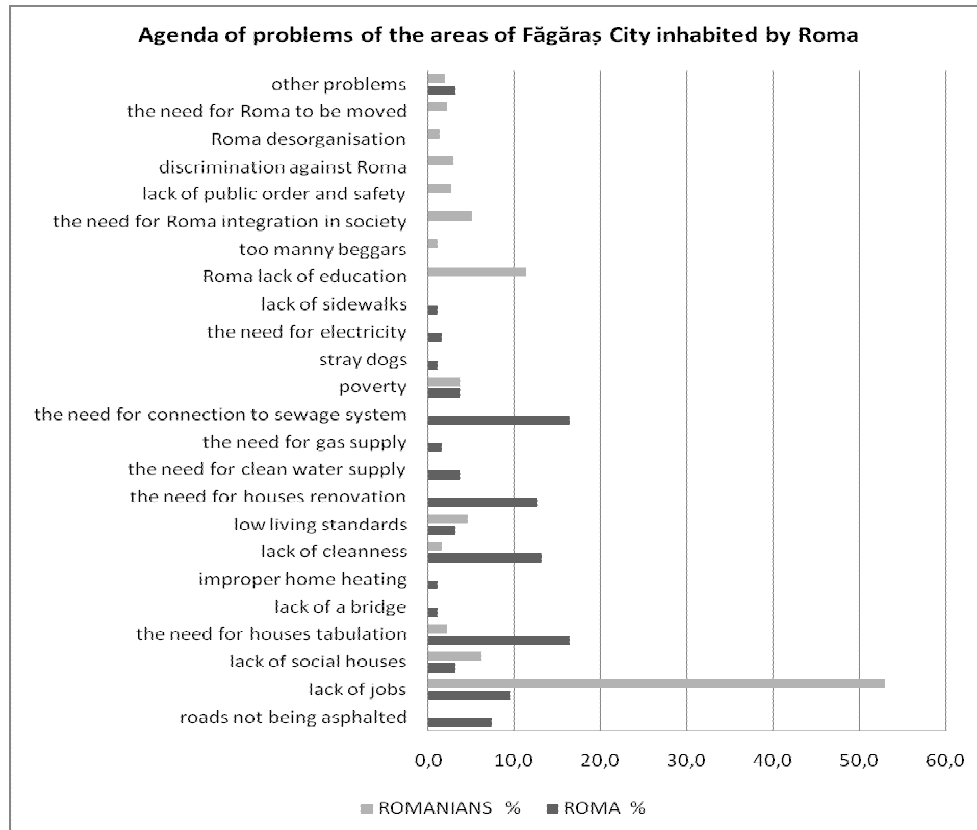
Housing issues agenda. Among the problems of the Roma living area, Roma mentioned the most frequently the housing ones: housing and land tabulation (16.4%), sanitation (16.4%), cleanliness (13.2%), renovation of houses (12.7%). Other housing problems mentioned by Roma are related to: roads, sidewalks and bridges; lack of parks and shops; noise; water supply, gas, electricity; stray dogs; lack of social houses; improper house heating; higher rents.

Unlike the Roma respondents, Romanian respondents do not acknowledge Roma problems related to sanitation, housing renovation, the paving of roads, gas and water supply, bridges, home heating, stray dogs, sidewalks; Instead, they mentioned: beggars, disorganization, the need to move Roma somewhere else, lack of public order and safety, lack of Roma education, the need for Roma integration in society.

Romanian respondents relied in much higher proportion than Roma respondents on the issues of lack of jobs (43.4% difference) and education (11.4% difference). Romanian respondents, unlike the Roma, identified much less problems related to sanitation (16.4% difference), tabulation of land and houses (14.2%), renovation of houses (12.7% difference), and the lack of cleanness in the area (difference 11.6%).

Figure 1

Roma housing agenda



Other problems: the lack of a park for children, noise, the need for helping the retired people, the lack of shops, high rents, lack of ID papers, the large number of Roma, the need for tougher laws regarding Roma.

Solutions to the housing issues: Among the solutions proposed by Roma respondents to improve the quality of their housing the following ones had the highest frequencies: registering the land on which the house was built (34.1%), renovation of the houses (13.9%), creating jobs for Roma (13.2%), allocating financial aids for Roma (13.3%) and solving the lack of cleanliness problem (5.2%). Other solutions were: connection to basic utilities (sewage, electricity, clear water, and gas); increasing local authorities' interest for Roma housing issues; paying more visits to the areas; moving Roma from multifamily block of flats to detached houses; not moving Roma elsewhere; offering Roma opportunities to live in better quality social houses; supporting Roma with building materials; granting Roma the right to build houses; cancelling Roma tax debts; eliminating the rent for social housing; giving Roma the opportunity to buy the houses they live in at a

lower price; repairing the roof of the buildings; giving Roma heating subventions; solving the problem of lack of a doctor and pharmacy in the area.

Table no. 5

Solutions to the housing issues of Roma

Analyzed Roma community	Perceptions of	Types of solutions*										
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Ploplui and Prunului Streets	Roma %	30.7	4	18.7	10.7	4	4	1.3	0	0	0	26.6
	Romanians %	14.6	9.9	25.9	7.1	1.7	3.1	0.7	20.1	3.4	5.1	8.4
Negoiu Street	Roma %	5.3	68.3	5.3	0	5.3	0	5.3	0	0	0	10.5
	Romanians %	3.5	11.9	28.9	2.2	0.9	0.9	0.6	23.6	9.7	5.3	12.5
Combinat Colony	Roma %	44.3	10.1	10.1	1.3	6.3	6.3	2.5	0	0	0	19.1
	Romanians %	7.5	10.2	25.9	6.2	1.6	1.3	0	17.7	3.3	11.5	14.8

* 1 – registering the land on which the house was built; 2 – renovation of the houses; 3 – creating jobs for Roma; 4 – solving the lack of cleanliness problem; 5 – allocating financial aids for Roma; 6 – connection to basic utilities – sewage; 7 – cancellation of Roma tax debts; 8 – offering Roma access social housing; 9 – moving Roma elsewhere; 10 – creating better living conditions for Roma; 11 – other solutions.

Other solutions: making identity documents for Roma; organizing Roma and increasing order in the area; forcing Roma to pay taxes; offering Roma support for heating; bringing a doctor and building a pharmacy in the area; giving Roma the opportunity to buy the houses they live in at a lower price; providing better social houses for Roma; connecting Roma houses to basic utilities; the need for local government representatives to come in the area; demolishing the buildings in which Roma live; solving the problem of improper heating of Roma houses; applying the same law for Roma and Romanians; solving the problem of stray dogs; integration of Roma in society; granting Roma the right to build houses; supporting Roma with building materials; eliminating the rent for social housing; repairing the roof of the buildings; cancelling Roma tax debts; evicting Roma debtors by force; educating and civilizing Roma; paving the roads in the area; relocating Roma from multifamily block of flats to detached houses; not moving Roma elsewhere.

As concerns the solutions offered for the housing issues from Ploplui and Prunului Streets and also for Combinat Colony, Romanian respondents as compared to Roma respondents favor in much higher proportion the solution of offering Roma access to social housing, while Roma favor the solution of registering the land on which their house was built. With respect to the solutions offered for the housing issues from Negoiu Street, Romanian respondents as compared to Roma respondents favor in much higher proportion the solutions of offering Roma access to social housing and to jobs, while Roma favor the solution of renovating their houses. Overall, the Romanian respondents offered some new categories of solutions which were not mentioned by Roma respondents: offering Roma access to social houses; moving Roma elsewhere; creating better living conditions for Roma; making identity documents for Roma; organizing Roma and increasing order in the area; forcing Roma to pay taxes; demolishing the buildings in which Roma live; applying the same law for Roma and Romanians; solving the problem of stray dogs; integration of Roma in society; educating and civilizing

Roma; paving the roads in the area. On the other hand, Roma respondents offered some new categories of solutions which were not mentioned by the Romanian respondents: giving Roma heating subventions; the need for local government representatives to pay more visits in the area; solving the problem of lack of a doctor and pharmacy in the area; giving Roma the opportunity to buy the houses they live in at a lower price; providing better social houses for Roma; supporting Roma with building materials; eliminating the rent for social housing; repairing the roof of the buildings; evicting Roma debtors by force; increasing local authorities' interest for Roma housing issues; moving Roma from multifamily block of flats to detached houses.

When presenting a set of proposed solutions, Roma almost unanimously prefer to become owners of the land on which their home was built (99%), choosing rather to buy (93.9%) than to rent it (6.1%). Only 28.6% of Roma respondents were in favor of the solution to relocate elsewhere. Among these, the most frequently cited advantage of moving elsewhere was the access to better housing conditions (50%). Other mentioned advantages were: more space; owning their home; solving the improper heating problem. The most frequently invoked perceived advantages of buying the land was the possibility of having legal documents of housing (24.4%) and the motivation to make house investments like house assurance or house renovation (22%). Other advantages mentioned were related to the possibility of Roma: to benefit of ID papers; to connect to basic utilities; to have more space and better housing conditions, to have the opportunity to pay by installments, to not have problems with the police anymore, to increase public safety and the safety of housing and to save money. On average, Roma who said they prefer the solution of land purchase would be willing to pay an amount of 2,995.5 lei (about 670 Euros) for an estimated period of 46.7 years; and those who preferred the renting solution would be willing to pay an average monthly rent of 121.1 lei (about 27 Euros).

In terms of the evaluation of the proposed solutions, unlike Roma respondents, Romanian respondents overrate the solution of Roma being relocating elsewhere (difference 44.7%) and the solution of renting the land on which the house was built (difference 16.1%) and underrate the solution of buying the land (difference of 6.1%).

Table no. 6

Preferences about the area where Roma could be moved

Perceptions of	Types of area moving preferences *							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Roma %	28.6	14.3	28.6	14.3	0	0	0	0
Romanians %	0	0	9.3	0.8	11.9	32.2	19.1	26.7

* 1 – downtown; 2 – anywhere besides Combinat Colony district; 3 – anywhere; 4 – Tudor Vladimirescu district; 5 – Galați district; 6 – at the periphery; 7 – nowhere; 8 – Combinat Colony district.

Dissimilar from Roma respondents, Romanian respondents underestimate the most Roma willingness to live downtown, and overestimate their preference to live at the periphery of the City.

Table no. 7

Advantages of moving Roma elsewhere

Perceptions of	Types of advantages *															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Roma %	16.7	50	16.7	16.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Romanians %	0	2.6	1	0	1	3.1	0.5	1	1	1	3.6	7.1	2.1	2.6	9.3	1

* 1 – more space in the house, less overcrowding; 2 – better housing conditions; 3 – the possibility of house ownership; 4 – less problems of improper house heating; 5 – new possibilities; 6 – Roma would be motivated to invest in their house; 7 – fewer beggars; 8 – integration of Roma in society; 9 – increasing public safety; 10 – equality treatment of minority and majority local ethnic groups; 11 – development of the city; 12 – much cleaner city; 13 – no advantage; 14 – stimulating investments; 15 – creating a unique Roma neighborhood; 16 – Roma could pay their taxes.

With reference to the perceptions about the advantages of moving Roma elsewhere, in contrast with Roma respondents, Romanian respondents overestimate the idea of creating a unique Roma neighborhood, and underestimate the possibility of Roma to have better housing conditions. Romanian respondents mentioned some new categories of advantages which were not mentioned by Roma respondents: new possibilities; Roma would be motivated to invest in their house; fewer beggars; integration of Roma in society; increasing public safety; equality treatment of minority and majority local ethnic groups; development of the city; much cleaner city; no advantage; stimulating investments; creating an unique Roma neighborhood; Roma could pay their taxes. On the other hand, Roma respondents offered some new categories of advantages which were not mentioned by Romanian respondents: more space in the house, less overcrowding; and less problems of improper house heating.

Table no. 8

Advantages of Roma buying the land on which their houses were built

Perceptions of	Types of advantages *														
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Roma %	24.4	9.4	22	8.7	1.6	0.8	13.4	0	11.8	0	0	0	0	0	7.9
Romanians %	0	0	5.4	0	2.9	10.4	16.2	5.4	0	23.2	3.7	5.4	3.3	14.9	9.2

* 1 – Roma could have legal housing papers; 2 – new possibilities for Roma; 3 – Roma would be motivated to invest in their houses; 4 – more space in the house, less overcrowding; 5 – better housing conditions; 6 – the possibility of Roma house ownership; 7 – much more public safety; 8 – much more Roma housing safety; 9 – Roma could save money; 10 – increasing money collection for the local budget; 11 – the integration of Roma in society; 12 – equality treatment of minority and majority local ethnic groups; 13 – much cleaner city; 14 – Roma could pay their taxes; 15 – other benefits.

Other benefits: Roma would be allowed to make house insurances, increasing Roma houses access to basic utilities, more Roma would have ID papers, Roma would be motivated to work, reducing discrimination against Roma, Roma might have the opportunity to pay by installments, Roma would not have problems with the Police anymore, development of the city; stimulating investments, creating an unique Roma neighborhood.

Juxtaposing Roma and Romanians' perceptions about the advantages of Roma buying the land on which their houses were built, Romanians overestimate the most the increasing of money collection for the local budget, and underestimate the advantage of Roma having legal housing papers. Romanian respondents relayed on some new categories of advantages which were not mentioned by Roma respondents: much more Roma housing safety; increasing money collection for the local budget; the integration of Roma in society; equality treatment of minority and majority local ethnic groups; much cleaner city; Roma could pay their taxes; Roma would be motivated to work; reducing discrimination against Roma; development of the city; stimulating investments; creating an unique Roma neighborhood. On the other hand, Roma respondents offered some new categories of advantages which were not perceived by Romanian respondents: Roma could have legal housing papers; new possibilities for Roma; more space in the house, less overcrowding; Roma could save money; Roma would be allowed to make house insurances; more Roma would have ID papers; Roma might have the opportunity to pay by installments; and Roma would not have problems with the Police anymore.

Social distance, prejudice, and discrimination. In terms of Roma social distance from the rest of the community, of all the proposed interactions the most frequent situations were those in which Roma respondents appreciated that it would be bad or very bad if Roma and Romanians married each other and if they lived in the same area of the City. Among the offered examples of lack of positive interactions between Roma and Romanians, the highest proportion of Roma respondents said they did not know situations in which Romanians and Roma from local community lent money to each other. Among the two proposed examples of negative interactions between Roma and Romanians from the local community, most Roma respondents knew situations in which Roma were shunned, insulted or despised by the rest of the population just because of being Roma. Surprisingly, almost 4 of 10 Roma respondents confessed that since the previous year they or a member of their family had at least one experience of being offended just because they are Roma. In terms of discrimination, of all the forms of discrimination presented to Roma respondents, the highest frequencies were associated with the job and the housing market.

Table no. 9

Social distance towards Roma

Perceptions of	Considering being bad or very bad that...*						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Roma %	6.5	2.5	2.5	2	4	2	9.6
Romanians %	18	11.6	9	10.6	18.5	11.1	21.8

* 1 – Roma and Romanians live in the same area of the City, being neighbors; 2 – Roma and Romanian students learn in the same class; 3 – Roma children play with Romanian children; 4 – Roma and Romanians use the same means of public transportation; 5 – Roma and Romanians go frequently to the same restaurants, pubs, theaters; 6 – Roma and Romanians are colleagues at work, work in the same place at the same workshop, office; 7 – Romanians and Roma marry each other.

Romanian respondents wanted to keep a bigger distance from Roma, because, in all the claims presented to them, the frequencies of negative answers was bigger than Roma those offered by Roma respondents. The biggest difference was that in which Romanians considered to be bad or very bad that Roma and Romanians to go frequently to the same restaurants, pubs, theaters, and the smallest difference was that related to Roma children playing with Romanian children.

Table no. 10

Lack of positive interactions between Roma and Romanians

Perceptions of	Not knowing situations in which...*			
	1	2	3	4
Roma %	11.5	11.5	12.5	23.5
Romanians %	12	16.5	21.8	48

* 1 – Roma families from the local community live in peace, understanding and respect with Romanian families; 2 – Roma from local community have very good friends among Romanians; 3 – Roma and Romanians from local community help each other at various things, labors; 4 – Roma and Romanians from local community lend money to each other.

Compared to Roma respondents, fewer Romanians respondents knew examples of positive interactions between Roma and Romanians, the least known situation being that of Roma and Romanians lending money to each other.

Table no. 11

Stigma against Roma

Perceptions of	Knowing situations in which...*			
	1	2	3	4
Roma %	61.5	68	66.5	58
Romanians %	34	39	46.3	37.5

* 1 – Roma from the local community were falsely accused of crime or aggression just because of being Roma; 2 – Roma from the local community who were shunned, insulted and despised by the rest of the population just because of being Roma; 3 – Roma from the local community who were considered uneducated, uncivilized or lazy just because of being Roma; 4 – Roma families from the local community always being in conflict with Romanian families.

Distinct from Roma respondents, fewer Romanian respondents knew examples of negative interactions between Roma and Romanians, the least known situations being those of Roma being shunned, insulted and despised and being falsely accused of crime or aggression, just because of being Roma.

Unlike Roma respondents, fewer Romanian respondents acknowledged of Roma discrimination in public life. The least acknowledged forms of discriminations against Roma were those related to access to school and public services, and the most those from the job and house market.

Table no. 12

Discrimination against Roma

Perceptions of	Appreciating that it is more difficult for Roma than for Romanians to... *						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Roma %	81.8	74	68.3	69.2	69.5	62	76.9
Romanians %	57.8	33.5	31.2	24.8	30.5	29.5	59.4

* 1 – find a job; 2 – benefit from public services; 3 – benefit from social services; 4 – attend school; 5 – receive legal of juridical services; 6 – receive medical services; 7 – benefit from houses.

The biggest differences between Roma and Romanians perceptions.

Putting side by side all the Roma and Romanian perceptions presented above, we ordered the differences of percentages (percentages of Romanians' perceptions minus percentages of Roma perceptions) and identified the biggest and the smallest ones. Data showed that Romanian respondents underestimate the most: 1) the advantage of Roma obtaining better housing conditions in case of being moved elsewhere (difference of -47.4%); 2) the idea that is more difficult for Roma than for Romanians to have access to schools (difference of -44.4%); 3) to public services (difference of -40.5%) 4) or to juridical services (difference of -39%); 5) the assertion that local Roma community is discriminated (difference of -38.7%). On the other hand, Romanian respondents overestimate the most: 1) the claim that local Roma residents want to move elsewhere (difference of $+44.7\%$); 2) the importance of the issue of Roma lack of jobs (difference of $+43.4\%$); 3) the idea that the best place of Roma to be moved would be at the periphery of the City (difference of $+32.2\%$); 4) or in Combinat Colony district (difference of $+26.7\%$); 5) the absence of positive interactions between local Roma and Romanian communities as regards to not knowing situations in which Roma and Romanians lend money to each other (difference of $+24.5\%$).

Focusing only on Roma from Ploplui and Prunului Streets, we found new differences between Romanians perceptions about these communities and the perceptions of Roma residents of these areas. Regarding these particular two Roma communities, Romanians underestimate the most: 1) the importance of the issue of lack of connection to at least three basic utilities (difference of -42.4%); 2) of the issue of lack of kitchen and bathroom inside the house (difference of -33.1%); 3) and of the issue of lack of land / house tabulation (difference of -22.4%); 4) the solution of making Roma housing papers and registering the land (difference of -16.1%); 5) the situation in which Roma are owners of the houses (difference of -12.4%). Contrariwise, Romanian respondents overestimate the most: 1) the lack of Roma ID papers (difference of $+38\%$); 2) or of residence papers (difference of $+30.5\%$); 3) the situation of staying clandestinely in social houses without paying rent (difference of $+29.4\%$); 4) the poor quality of Roma housing conditions (difference of $+28.5\%$); 5) the situation of Roma having arrears for not paying rent or utilities' costs (difference of $+26.1\%$).

As regards Roma from Negoiu Street, Romanians underestimate the most: 1) the situation in which Roma live legally in social houses and pay rent (difference of -75.7%); 2) the importance of the issue of the need of house renovation (difference of -74%); 3) and the solution of renovating Roma houses (difference of -56.4%); 4) the importance of the issue of lack of kitchen and bathroom inside the house (difference of -8.4%); 5) the solution of cancelling Roma debts (difference of -4.7%). In the reverse direction, Romanians overestimate the most: 1) the poor quality of Roma housing conditions (difference of $+47.5\%$); 2) the situation in which Roma are owners of the houses (difference of $+47.3\%$); 3) the lack of Roma ID papers (difference of $+31.8\%$); 4) or of residence papers (difference of $+30.5\%$); 5) the situation of staying clandestinely in social houses without paying rent (difference of $+28.3\%$).

Moving the attention to Roma from Combinat Colony, data showed that Romanians minimize the most: 1) the situation in which Roma live legally in social houses and pay rent (difference of -55.6%); 2) the importance of the issue of lack kitchen and bathroom inside the house (difference of -39.5%); 3) of the issue of lack of land / house tabulation (difference of -36.8%); 4) of the issue of lack of connection to sewage system (difference of -30%); 5) and of the issue of lack of space inside the dwelling (difference of -19%). In contrast, Romanians exaggerate the most: 1) the situation in which Roma are owners of the houses (difference of $+42.3\%$); 2) the situation of Roma having arrears for not paying rent or utilities' costs (difference of $+39.9\%$); 3) the lack of Roma ID papers (difference of $+37.8\%$); 4) or of residence papers (difference of $+37.6\%$); 5) the situation of staying clandestinely in social houses without paying rent (difference of $+31.8\%$).

CONCLUSIONS

Connecting the dots, we can say that Romanians focus more than Roma on the Roma lack of jobs issue, and those who think that the solution to Roma housing issue would be to move Roma elsewhere do not perceive as much as Roma that this solution would improve Roma housing conditions and do not take into account that Roma do not want to be moved at the periphery of the city (and especially to Combinat Colony where some of them had been moved before). Additionally, Romanians do not have the same opinions as Roma regarding the magnitude of local discrimination against Roma (particularly regarding their access to public, educational or juridical services) and also they perceive more than Roma a lack of trust between the two communities.

About all of the three Roma living areas presented above Romanians underestimate the lack of kitchen and bathroom inside the house and overestimate the lack of ID and residence papers, and also the situation of Roma staying illegally in social houses without paying rent. With reference to Roma from Plopului Street and Combinat Colony, Romanians do not realize that their houses are not tabulated,

and exaggerate the fact that Roma would have arrears for not paying rent or utilities' costs. Concerning Roma from Ploplui and Negoiu Street, Romanians evaluate more negatively than Roma the quality of Roma housing conditions. As for Roma from Negoiu Street and Combinat Colony, Romanians do not believe that they would live legally in social houses and pay their rent, overestimating the fact that they would be owners of the houses they live in. Specifically for Roma living on Ploplui Street, Romanians fail to acknowledge the issue of lack of connection to basic utilities, the situation of Roma being owners of the houses they live in, and the necessity of the solution of tabulating Roma houses. Particularly for Roma Living on Negoiu Street, Romanians undervalue the need of housing renovation, and the need of debt cancellation. Distinctively for Roma living in Combinat Colony, Romanians misjudge the magnitude of the issues of lack of connection to sewage system and lack of space inside the house.

Appendix

Concepts	Indicators	
	Questions for Roma respondents (answers)	Questions for Romanians respondents (answers)
Socio-demographic profile	What is the last school you graduated from? (eight grades or less; 10 grades/vocational high school; college/ university)	What is the last school you graduated from? (eight grades or less; 10 grades/ vocational high school; college/ university)
	What is your current occupation? (pupil/student; unemployed, employees with higher education; farmer; retired; employee with secondary education; employer/ manager/director; manual worker; other)	What is your current occupation? (pupil/student; unemployed, employees with higher education; farmer; retired; employee with secondary education; employer/ manager/director; manual worker; other)
	In which category fits your net monthly household income? (no income; less than 600 Ron; between 600–1200 Ron; over 1200 Ron)	In which category fits your net monthly household income? (no income; less than 600 Ron; between 600–1200 Ron; over 1200 Ron)
	In your household which are the main sources of income? (salary; payment for self-employment activities; pension; unemployment compensation; maternal / child allowance; welfare; other...)	What do you think is the main source of income for the Roma community from Făgăraș? (salary; payment for self-employment activities; pension; unemployment compensation; maternal / child allowance; welfare; other...)
Household and dwelling profile	How many people including yourself live in your household? (open question)	–
	How many people from your household are less than 18 years old? (open question)	–
	What is the approximate area of the house you live in? (open question)	–
	How many rooms does your house have? (open question)	–
	Where do you live? (in a block of flats; in a detached house; in an improvised shanty; in an abandoned building)	–

Housing conditions	<p>In your house, have you experienced lately any of the following problems? Lack of space / overcrowding; insufficient light; lack of adequate heating; leaks from the roof; dampness; defective installation equipments; damaged windows frames (for every problem: <i>yes; no</i>)</p> <p>Which of the following utilities do not exist in your house and you really need it? connection to clear water; connection to sewer; electricity connection; gas connection; connection to heating; kitchen inside the house; bathroom inside house (for every utility: <i>we already have; we do not have, but we need; we do not have and we do not need</i>)</p> <p>Does your family have arrears for not paying rent or utilities' costs? (<i>yes; no</i>)</p> <p>If yes, how much is the total debt? (<i>open question</i>)</p>	<p>I am going to read a list of statements and I will ask you to tell me which ones you think are characteristic of the Roma community in Făgăraș in each of the three areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – lack of space / overcrowding – poor housing conditions (insufficient light, lack of adequate heating, leaks from the roof, dampness, defective installation equipments, and damaged windows frames) –lack of connection to basic utilities (water supply, sewerage, electricity, gas, heating) – lack of bathroom or kitchen inside the house –presence of arrears for not paying rent or utilities' costs. <p>(for every of the three areas – Negoiu Street; Plopului and Prunului Streets; Combinat Colony: <i>yes; no</i>)</p>
	<p>How satisfied are you of your presently housing conditions? (<i>very dissatisfied; dissatisfied; satisfied; very satisfied</i>)</p>	<p>Of your knowledge, how do you evaluate the housing conditions of Roma in the following areas? (for every of the three areas– Negoiu Street; Plopului and Prunului Streets; Combinat Colony: <i>very good; good; bad; very bad</i>)</p>
	<p>In one year, how do you think your housing conditions will be? (<i>much better; better, worse, much worse</i>)</p>	<p>In one year, how do you think these housing conditions will be? for every of the three areas – Negoiu Street; Plopului and Prunului Streets; Combinat Colony: <i>much better; better, worse, much worse</i>)</p>
House tenure	<p>Which of the following statements are true and which are false? my family owns the house we live in; we live in a social house and we pay rent; we do not pay rent, but we stay in a social house with another person/family who pays rent for him/them; we have built our own house, on a not tabulated land, we do not pay land/house taxes; because we do not have ID papers we cannot make housing papers; there are members of our household which lack residence papers (for every statement: <i>true: false</i>)</p>	<p>I am going to read a list of statements and I will ask you to tell me which ones you think are characteristic of the Roma community in Făgăraș in each of the three areas: they do not own the house they live in; they live in social houses based in rent contract; they do not pay rent, they stay illegally with another person/family who pays rent; because they do not have ID papers they cannot make housing papers; some members of their households lack residence papers (for every of the three areas – Negoiu Street; Plopului and Prunului Streets; Combinat Colony: <i>yes; no</i>)</p>

Housing issues agenda	What is, in your opinion, the main problem in your living area that should be solved urgently by the City Hall? (<i>open question</i>)	From the information you have so far, what do you think is generally the main problem of the Roma community from Făgăraș that should be urgently solved urgent by the City Hall? (<i>open question</i>) Roma Community from Făgăraș tends to have different problems depending on where they live. What do you think is the main problem that should be urgently solved urgent by the City Hall? (for every of the three areas – Negoiu Street; Plopului and Prunului Streets; Combinat Colony: <i>open question</i>)
	To improve your problems related to housing, what do you think is the best solution that should apply City Hall should apply in your area? (<i>open question</i>)	To improve Roma issues related to housing, what do you think is the best solution that City Hall should apply for each area? (for every of the three areas – Negoiu Street; Plopului and Prunului Streets; Combinat Colony: <i>open question</i>)
	(For those from Negoiu Street) How do you find the solution of moving elsewhere? (<i>very good; good; bad; very bad</i>)	Based on the case of the Roma from Negoiu Street, how do you find the solution of moving them elsewhere? (<i>very good; good; bad; very bad</i>)
	(For those from Negoiu Street) If you were to move elsewhere what area of Făgăraș would you prefer? (<i>open question</i>)	If Roma from Negoiu Street were to be given the opportunity to move elsewhere, in what area of Făgăraș do you think it would be better for them to move? (<i>open question</i>)
	(For those from Negoiu Street) What advantages do you think you would have if you were to move elsewhere? (<i>open question</i>)	What advantages do you think the community would have, if Roma from Negoiu Street relocated elsewhere? (<i>open question</i>)
	For those from Negoiu Street) If you were to move to an area with better conditions than here, what would be the amount of money that your family could afford to pay per month as rent? (<i>open question</i>)	–
	(For those from Plopului Street, Prunului Street and Combinat Colony) How do you find the solution of being given the option to buy or rent the land on which your house was built? (<i>very good; good; bad; very bad</i>)	Based on the case of the Roma from Plopului Street, Prunului Street and Combinat Colony, how do you find the solution of giving them the option to buy or rent the land on which their house was built? (<i>very good; good; bad; very bad</i>)
	(For those from Plopului Street, Prunului Street and Combinat Colony) What advantages do you think you would have if you were able buy or rent the land on which your house was built? (<i>open question</i>)	What advantages do you think the community would have, if Roma from Plopului Street, Prunului Street and Combinat Colony were able buy or rent the land on which their house was built? (<i>open question</i>)

	(For those from Plopului Street, Prunului Street and Combinat Colony) How would you prefer to be solved the issue of the legality of land? (<i>renting: buying</i>) (for those choosing renting) How much your family would be willing to pay to acquire the land? (<i>open question</i>); In how much time do you think you could pay these money? (<i>open question</i>) (for those choosing buying) What would be the amount of money that your family could afford to pay per month as rent? (<i>open question</i>)	Which of the two alternatives do you find better? Roma be given the option to be landowners for a sum of money? (<i>selling</i>); Roma be given the option to use legally the land for a monthly rent? (<i>loaning</i>)
Social distance, prejudice, and discrimination	In your opinion would it be good or bad that: Roma and Romanians live in the same area of the City, being neighbors; Roma and Romanian students learn in the same class; Roma children play with Romanian children; Roma and Romanians use the same means of public transportation; Roma and Romanians go frequently to the same restaurants, pubs, theaters; Roma and Romanians are colleagues at work, work in the same place at the same workshop, office; Romanians and Roma marry each other (for every sentence: <i>very bad; bad; good; very good</i>)	In your opinion would it be good or bad that: Roma and Romanians live in the same area of the City, being neighbors; Roma and Romanian students learn in the same class; Roma children play with Romanian children; Roma and Romanians use the same means of public transportation; Roma and Romanians go frequently to the same restaurants, pubs, theaters; Roma and Romanians are colleagues at work, work in the same place at the same workshop, office; Romanians and Roma marry each other (for every sentence: <i>very bad; bad; good; very good</i>)
	Do you personally know such situations? Roma families from the local community live in peace, understanding and respect with Romanian families; Roma from local community have very good friends among Romanians; Roma and Romanians from local community help each other at various things, labors; Roma and Romanians from local community lend money to each other. (for every sentence: <i>yes; no</i>)	Do you personally know such situations? Roma families from the local community live in peace, understanding and respect with Romanian families; Roma from local community have very good friends among Romanians; Roma and Romanians from local community help each other at various things, labors; Roma and Romanians from local community lend money to each other. (for every sentence: <i>yes; no</i>)
	In the past year, have you or your family been offended by others just because of being Roma? (<i>yes; no</i>)	–
	In the past year, have you or your family felt embarrassed / uncomfortable in front of strangers to admit being Roma? (<i>yes; no</i>)	–
	In your opinion Roma community here in comparison with the Romanians, they find it easier or harder to: find a job; benefit from public services; benefit from social services; attend school; receive legal of juridical services; receive medical services; benefit from houses (for every sentence: easier than a Romanian; same as a Romanian; harder than a Romanian)	In your opinion Roma community here in comparison with the Romanians, they find it easier or harder to: find a job; benefit from public services; benefit from social services; attend school; receive legal of juridical services; receive medical services; benefit from houses (for every sentence: easier than a Romanian; same as a Romanian; harder than a Romanian)

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Acest studiu reprezintă o analiză secundară de date pe baza Studiului Barometru asupra populației rroma din Făgăraș, realizat în 2013. Au fost adunate date calitative cu ajutorul sondajului oral pe bază de chestionar standardizat, aplicat în zonele mărginașe ale orașului Făgăraș (colonia Combinat, str. Negoii, str. Prunului, str. Plopului), unde comunitățile de populație rroma sunt confruntate cu probleme de locuire (eșantion sistematic, N = 400 de respondenți rromi de peste 18 ani) și în cartiere centrale și din zona de mijloc, majoritar locuite de români (eșantion sistematic, N = 400 de respondenți români peste 18 ani). Prin acest studiu am intenționat să descriu situația locuirii populației de romi, comparând auto-percepția populației Roma cu populația de români, despre romi. Au fost măsurate următoarele dimensiuni ale calității locuirii și gospodăriilor: satisfacția față de situația locuirii, agenda problemelor de locuire, soluții pentru îmbunătățirea situației de locuire. Adițional, au fost măsurate și următoarele aspecte ale situației populației de romi: distanța socială față de romi, prejudecățile și discriminarea față de romi. Per total, datele au arătat că românii s-au concentrat mai mult decât romii asupra problemei lipsei locurilor de muncă pentru romi, și că cei care cred că soluția pentru locuirea romilor ar fi mutarea lor în altă parte nu percep la fel de mult ca romii că această soluție ar îmbunătăți condițiile de locuire ale acestora și nu iau în considerare faptul că romii nu vor să fie mutați la periferie. Mai mult, românii nu au aceeași opinie cu romii asupra magnitudinii discriminării publice a romilor și de asemenea ei percep o mai mare lipsă de încredere între români și romi.

Cuvinte-cheie: Rroma; calitatea locuirii, condiții de locuire; agenda politicii de locuire; soluții locative.