

Erika Kurucz: Equity for Romani students and multicultural diversity in education

Progress report

02 August 2005

Date	Research Activity
March-Apr 2004	Literature review, background reading
29/30 - 03 2004	Field research (2 days) - making interviews, case study
April -May 2004	Analyzing legal documents, educational policies, other research and papers on education
19/23 -04 2004	Participating on a conference on Romani issues
26/30 - 04 2004	Participating on a conference on Romani issues
May 2004	Meeting with my individual mentor
June - July 2004	Examining distribution and realization of funds and Examining educational programs
July 2004	Meetings with my Group mentor
July 2004	Contact making and interviews with educational experts, Ministry of Education, Roma organisations, PHARE Roma program leader
Sept. - Dec. 2004	Field research - making interviews with school directors and teachers; representatives of regional offices and integration centres, Ministry of Education, Sulinova KHT, Romani families and children educational experts about the implementation and effectiveness of integration program of the Ministry of Education
Jan. - Febr. 2005	Final interviews, exploring and analyzing the effect of the integration programs. Finalising my research and policy papers.

Changes:

My research was conducted according to my research plan, based on my project time-table. There has not been any significant change made during my research, but my initial focus became more definite and concrete as I realised the most important focus points. As a consequence, though there are numerous problematic points concerning the Hungarian education strategies I realised the importance to concentrate on integration programmes and strategies, especially because the numerous school-unification process makes this problem very actual and current to investigate.

Future research activities

My research paper and policy paper are based on the findings of the field work that I did mostly in the northern part of Hungary where Romani students live in a high proportion. The research focuses on segregation of Romani students and examines the local implementation of the integration policy of the Ministry of Education that aims to improve the conditions. It reveals the impact and the success of the education strategy of the Ministry that aims to promote the integration of Romani children in primary schools.