



NEWSLETTER N° 117

NEWS

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[Rome: Problem is Many Roma Possess Italian Citizenship \(22/08\)](#)

As Italy is bracing to expel from the country all European Union (EU) citizens that had violated basic requirements for living in the country, the interior minister has complained that unlike in France, many Roma have Italian citizenship.

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[Italy to ask EU for permission to expel Roma \(23/08\)](#)

Applauding France for expelling dozens of Roma, Italy said it wanted to expel citizens of other EU states who live solely off state benefits. Its interior minister said he will ask the European Commission to endorse such a plan.

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[Without NGOs, no reintegration of the deported \(23/08\)](#)

The first fifty Roma deported from France arrived in Bucharest on August 19. Hundreds of others will follow and try to reestablish in their villages of origin. Here is a provisional result of a difficult reintegration among a population neither prepared nor traditionally open to its compatriots.

(Only available in French)

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[EU urges France not to mix Roma issue with Schengen \(24/08\)](#)

Current tensions over the repatriation of hundreds of Roma from France to Romania should have no repercussions for Bucharest and Sofia's ambitions to join Schengen, the border-free European area, a European Commission spokesperson said yesterday.

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[Parliament to open with debate on Roma \(25/08\)](#)

The European Parliament's silence during the summer recess has been broken by liberal group ALDE, which called for a parliamentary debate on the Roma situation in Europe in early September, following France's move to expel members of that minority to their countries of origin, Romania and Bulgaria.

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[Romania and Bulgaria keep low profile on Roma expulsions \(26/08\)](#)

The Romanian population has received the news of the beginning of the expulsion from France of hundreds - possibly thousands - of Romanian Gypsies with almost total indifference, bordering sometimes on outright hostility to the return of the marginalised social group.

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[Reding criticises France, Italy over Roma treatment \(26/08\)](#)

EU Commissioner Viviane Reding, responsible for justice, fundamental rights and citizenship, yesterday criticised the French authorities for seeking solutions to immigration problems and tackling the Roma issue outside of an EU context. She also indirectly condemned Italy for its "discriminatory" and "inflammatory" rhetoric.

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[Barroso and Fillon to hold Roma 'workshop' \(27/08\)](#)

Even as France in defiance of international criticism on Thursday (27 August) continued its policy of rounding up and deporting Roma from the country, Prime Minister Francois Fillon announced a further attempt to Europeanise the issue.

[Read the article » »](#)

[In Italy, smugglers forced 120 irregular migrants to enter to a yacht \(19/08\)](#)

About 120 irregular immigrants from Iraq and Afghanistan arrived on Thursday, August 19, on a luxury yacht in Calabria in southern Italy. Two Ukrainians were arrested and the investigators will determine whether they should be prosecuted for human trafficking.

(Only available in French)

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[Skilled migrants will flock to Europe if spouses can work, says expert \(20/08\)](#)

Europe is missing out on a potentially large number of high-skilled workers by provisionally not allowing the spouses of migrant workers to join their partners and also seek employment in the EU, Kathleen van der Wilk-Carlton, a board member at the Permits Foundation, told in an interview.

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[Euro accession offers little comfort for Estonia's unemployed \(23/08\)](#)

Estonia's success story in joining the eurozone on 1 January is in stark contrast with other embattled eastern-European economies, but the price is being paid mostly by its youngest and Russian-speaking citizens who cannot find a job.

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[Anti-counterfeit trade deal planned for September \(23/08\)](#)

Negotiators from the United States, the European Union and nine other countries said on Friday they planned to finish work in September on a proposed pact to crack down on trade in counterfeit and pirated goods.

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[On September 23, a EuroDemonstration to protest against austerity plans \(23/08\)](#)

A EuroDemonstration will be organized on September 23, the eve of the Ecofin summit, in Brussels' streets, in order to protest against austerity plans adopted by different governments, said the Confederation of Christian Trade Unions in a press release on Monday.

(Only available in French)

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[France invites handful of ministers to 'immigration' summit \(24/08\)](#)

Paris has invited a handful of member states to an 'immigration' summit next month, amid strong controversy stirred by its high-profile deportation of scores of Roma back to Romania and Bulgaria.

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[German judges strengthen EU court, clarify Lisbon ruling \(26/08\)](#)

Germany's constitutional court has laid down the ground rules for controlling decisions by the EU top's court, an area that had been left unclear after a controversial 2009 ruling by Germany's highest judges on the Lisbon Treaty, the EU's new rule book.

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[Brice Hortefeux adds two amendments to the nationality withdrawal \(27/08\)](#)

Brice Hortefeux had made the nationality withdrawal his priority. On Wednesday, the Home affairs Minister gave to the government two amendments for the immigration bill, which are designed to withdraw the nationality of naturalized French citizens guilty of an offence, reveals Libération who has obtained the texts, on Friday, August 27.

(Only available in French)

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AGENDA OF THE BELGIAN PRESIDENCY FROM AUGUST 30RD TO SEPTEMBER 3RD 2010

[Conference on Child Poverty](#)

2-3 September 2010, Brussels

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[Read the Belgian Presidency agenda here » »](#)

AGENDA OF THE PARLIAMENT FROM AUGUST 30RD TO SEPTEMBER 3RD 2010

[Meeting of the Committee on « Civil liberties, Justice and Home Affairs »](#)

2 September 2010, Brussels

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