**PORRAJMOS**

*The Roma Holocaust*

With the occasion of the International Holocaust Remembrance Day, on January 27th (the date of the liberation of Auschwitz by the Red Army), the CEU’s Roma Students, with the support of the Roma Access Programs and the Human Rights Initiative Office, have organized this photographic exhibition in order to commemorate the victims.

Along with the Jewish victims, the largest group of people killed during the Nazi regime (around 6 million Jews were murdered), other human groups also suffered the horror of the extermination camps, but still are underreported: the Roma people, the homosexuals, the communists and the people mentally and physically disabled.

In the case of the Roma Holocaust (*Porrajmos* in Romani language), an oscillation between 220,000 and 1,500,000 can be found in the number of reported victims. Such vagueness shows a lack of recognition towards the Roma victims. Indeed, a country as Poland, with the biggest Roma death camp (Auschwitz-Birkenau), recognizes the Roma Holocaust only since 2011. Also, last year there were no Roma representatives invited at the UN Holocaust memorial events, despite a worldwide Roma mobilization claiming for a place there.

This exhibition shows just a few scenes about the Roma Holocaust. If you want to broaden your knowledge about it, we suggest you to have a look online into the *US Holocaust Memorial Museum* or into the *Documentation and Cultural Centre of German Sinti and Roma*.

*The genocide of the Sinti and Roma was carried out from the same motive of racial mania, with the same premeditation, with the same wish for the systematic and total extermination as the genocide of the Jews.*

Roman Herzog, former German president

(March 16, 1997)