Gypsies, Roma and Travellers: Interfaith Roundtable

René Cassin promotes and protects universal human rights, drawing on Jewish experience and values. Among other things, we work to bring pressure to bear on governments to uphold the equal rights of all minority groups, including those with Gypsy, Roma or Traveller heritage in the UK and Europe.

Wednesday the 15th of April marked the third instalment of our award-winning Interfaith Roundtable training sessions on the theme of anti-racist solidarity with Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities. This latest Roundtable brought together representatives and activists from the Jewish community, the Roma community, the Gypsy and Irish Traveller communities, the Catholic Church, the Church of England, civil society initiatives, as well as academics and legal experts.

The Roundtable featured a number of expert speakers from the Gypsy, Romany and Traveller communities, including Chris Whitwell, Director of Friends, Families and Travellers, and Romany Gypsy Activist Shay Clipson. The session was led by Dr. Margaret Greenfields, Professor at Buckinghamshire New University and Director of IDRICS, who gave a comprehensive overview of the current status of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities in the UK and throughout Europe. Chris gave an explanation of future challenges faced by the movement and Shay gave a moving account of her own experiences of discrimination.

The event gave an opportunity for meaningful discussion and a platform for future interfaith work tackling the discrimination faced by Gypsy, Roma and Traveller groups. We would like to thank both the speakers and participants for making the event a great success.