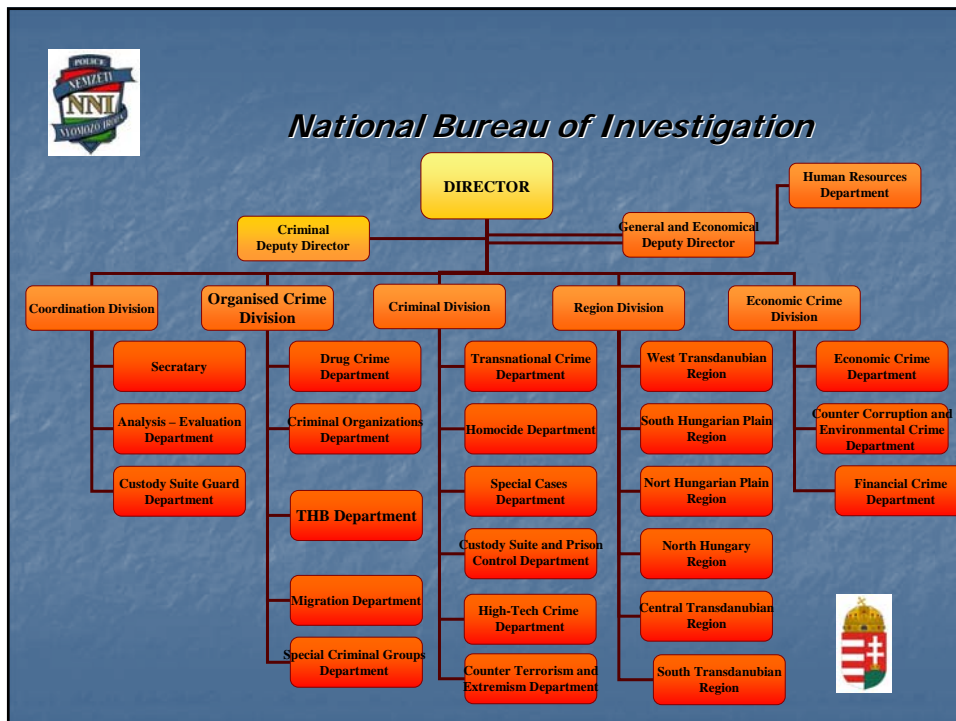


New Trends and Phenomenons in Roma Organized Crime



dr. Szonja Szabó pol.major
National Bureau of Investigation
Organized Crime Department
Trafficking in Human Beings Unit
Cell: 0036 30 3253928
Email: szaboszo@nni.police.hu



Ethnic population in Hungary:

Census 2001

<i>Hungarian</i>	<i>9 416 045</i>	<i>92,3 %</i>
<i>Roma</i>	<i>190 046</i>	<i>1,9 %</i>
<i>German</i>	<i>62 233</i>	<i>0,6 %</i>
<i>Slovakian</i>	<i>17 693</i>	<i>0,17 %</i>
<i>Croatian</i>	<i>15 620</i>	<i>0,15 %</i>
<i>Romanian</i>	<i>7995</i>	<i>0,08 %</i>
<i>Other ethnics</i>	<i>36 554</i>	<i>0,36 %</i>
<i>No answered</i>	<i>570 537</i>	<i>5,6 %</i>



Estimated numbers

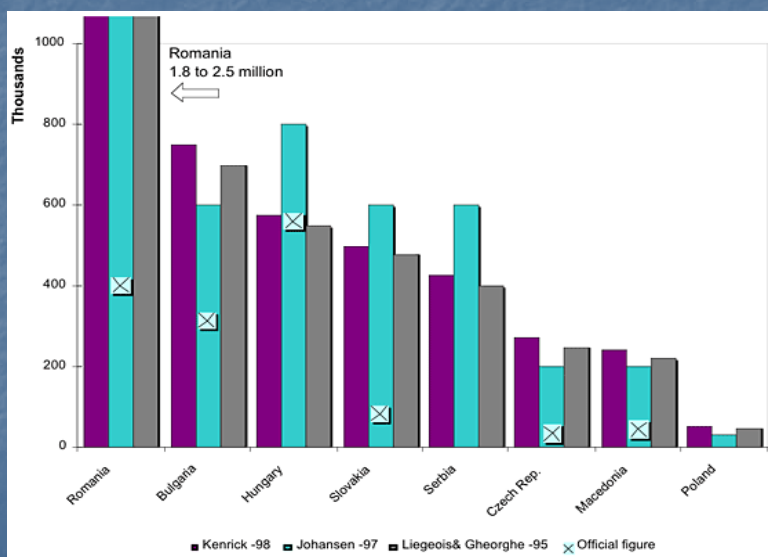
- > 570 000 – 650 000
- > 800 000 – 1 000 000



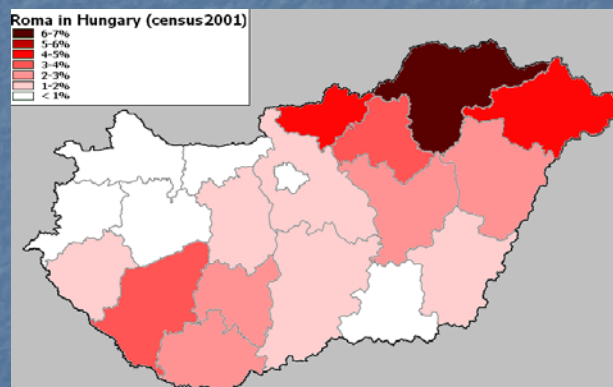
Based on datas of Prime Minister's Office, Minority and National Policy
State Secretariat



Scholarly and Official Estimates of the Size of the Roma Population (Source: Migration Policy Institute)



Roma minority in Hungary by counties (census 2001)



Roma integration policies

- From 2003 – Decade of Roma Integration programme (focusing on reduction the gap between Roma and non Roma communities – better life standards for those who live in deep poverty);
- From 2011 - National Roma Strategy (focusing on education, healthcare, employment, accomodation – housing)



Hungarian Roma migration

- Growing problem;
- Related crimes (crimes against property, abuse of welfare system, fraud, human trafficking – labour exploitation)
- „Not burning all the bridges behind them”





British experiences

- A new phenomenon
- Roma origin people with Hungarian citizenship go to the UK to reside there and get money from its welfare system
- Recruit others to come and work there
- Have the recruited people opened bank account and obtained Insurance Card
- Take away those bank and Insurance card
- Not have the chance to get home



Canadian situation

- Since 2008: visa-free travel

2010	2011
2300	3300

- 09-2011: 517 applicants
- 25-10-2011: 91 applicants
- Mostly through Denmark or secondly through The Netherland





Hamilton-case

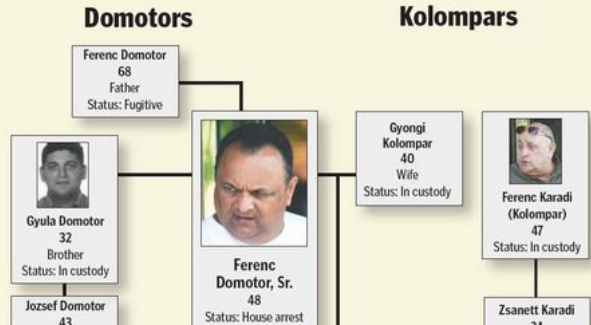
A family affair

Two families intertwined by marriage are alleged to have run a human trafficking ring in Hamilton that recruited workers from a small city in western Hungary

Ten members of the Domotor and Kolompár families are facing a variety of human trafficking, fraud, conspiracy and organized crime charges. Ferenc Domotor Sr., now under house arrest in Ancaster, is the alleged kingpin of the operation, according to the RCMP.

The charges carry maximum sentences ranging from five to 14 years.

Charges are also pending against Jozsef Domotor, 43, who is being held in custody on separate charges laid by the Canada Border Services Agency. Zsanett Karadi, the



Source: Spectator Magazine – Can.



The main threats in the EU in the field of the Trafficking in Human Beings

(Source: Europol)



Source: Ministry of Interior - Hungary





The main problems identified by OCTA in the field of THB (Source: Europol)

- ...
- Trafficking within the EU of victims from South-East Europe;
- Trafficking of minors by Roma criminal groups for exploitation in petty crime and adults for the commission of benefit fraud
- ...



Push and pull factors

(Source: Knowledge Product – THB in the EU 2011)

PUSH FACTORS

- ✓ High unemployment
- ✓ Lack of opportunity to improve quality of life
- ✓ Poverty
- ✓ Escaping persecution, violence or abuse
- ✓ Other environmental conditions





Push and pull factors

(Source: Knowledge Product – THB in the EU 2011)

PULL FACTORS

- ✓ Improved standard and quality of life
- ✓ Demand for commercial sexual services
- ✓ Demand for workers within the sex industry and higher earnings



Threatening OCGs

(Source: OCTA 2011)

„The most frequently reported criminal groups involved in THB in the EU are, in descending order, ethnic Roma, Nigerian, Romanian, Albanian speaking, Russian, Chinese, Hungarian, Bulgarian and Turkish organised crime groups.”





Hungarian situation

Number of prosecutions in THB cases

2007	24
2008	10
2009	9
2010	8



Hungarian situation

Number of prosecutions in pandering cases

2007	46
2008	121
2009	67
2010	126





Human trafficking

Vulnerable groups:

- institutional children
- poor social class
- roma ethnicity



The most vulnerable group

- Living without family or family support

Modus Operandi:

- violence, threatening;
- creating dependency;
- pretending emotional relationship („lover boy”);
- wile with possibility of high earnings





National Bureau of Investigation



Hungary as a country of origin

Main destinations:

- Germany
- The Netherlands
- United Kingdom
- Austria
- France
- Swiss
- Italy
- United Arab Emirates



Criminal organization

„Criminal organization shall mean when a group of three or more persons collaborate to deliberately engage in an organized fashion in criminal acts, which are punishable with five years of imprisonment or more”

Act IV of 1978 - Criminal Code of The Republic of Hungary





Characteristics of Roma Organized Crime Groups

- Organized on family or strictly ethnical basis
- Strong relations between members
- Extended relations with other roma OCGs
- Mostly committing violent crimes and crimes against property
- Generally medium level organizations



EU POLICY CYCLE for organized and serious international crimes 2011-2013

Coordinated action against organized crime

- Belgian initiative (Harmony-project)
- 8 priorities
- 8 action plans
- 2011-2013 as a learning process





Thank you!

