

CONNECT



TRANSFORM
EUROPE
NETWORK

July - September 2019

Magazine



Europe's Poorest People.

- Conference report
- Spotlight on Roma communities
- Letters from prison
- Roma revival
- Heart Cry prayer diary

Europe's Poorest People

Born and raised in Europe without a birth certificate, officially stateless and denied access to hospitals, schools and basic public services.

This is the shared fate of the Roma community; Europe's largest, poorest and most persecuted ethnic minority.

More than six million Roma people are scattered across our European nations and most live in extreme poverty and suffer social exclusion. Many of TEN's partners are bringing good news to the Roma people and the impact is being felt. Food, clothing, friendship and the salvation message of Jesus Christ bring hope and result in the transformation of families and whole Roma communities.

Roma churches represent some of Europe's fastest growing churches with some congregations in excess of one thousand believers.

This edition of Connect focuses on the work of TEN's partners among the marginalised, and especially the Roma people, refugees and prisoners. We hope you will be moved by the stories we share.

In July, we launch our Harvest for the Hungry annual appeal to raise funds to meet the daily needs of the poor. Donations to the Harvest appeal result in hundreds of families being fed through food parcels and hot meals at soup kitchens. We are grateful that so many of you, and your churches, generate valuable support each year for this great cause.

CONNECT is the new name for TEN's quarterly magazine, we hope you like it. It's a place where supporters connect with partners to hear their stories and pray for their needs.

TRANSFORM EUROPE NETWORK

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TEN Magazine written and produced by the TEN team. Design by Simon Petherick Graphic and Web Design.

Transform Europe Network (TEN) is the operating name for Eurovangelism. Registered in England and Wales as a charity (no. 1140592) and company limited by guarantee (no. 7507682).

Welcome



As TEN's new CEO, I'm delighted to welcome the many friends and supporters who receive our Connect magazine and prayer diary.

This is a time of change for me and the staff team. The account of Moses' handover in Joshua 1:1-9 comes to mind. I can relate to Joshua's need for God's strength and help. As he takes on the leadership of the nation of Israel, God repeats the words "be strong and courageous!"

We live in daunting times. Europe is changing before our eyes and this is seen in the increased polarisation of politics, the ongoing migration of people from Asia and Africa, environmental challenges and societal norms being swept away. Despite the tumult, God continues his work and the Gospel is good news. TEN is part of God's plan for Europe and we will need to operate within this changing environment; celebrating the past and looking ahead, like Joshua and Israel, to the new things God is drawing us into.

I am excited by what God has in store for us as a mission movement. Over the coming months, I will be listening to those who have walked with TEN for many years and those who are interested in joining us!

The focus in this issue of Connect is on marginalised people and on this theme we launch our Harvest for the Hungry (HFTH) appeal. May I take this opportunity to ask you to prayerfully consider how you might respond? Just £15 buys a family a food hamper. I'm going to donate the cost of my weekly shop to TEN for HFTH. Would you consider joining me? If so, please complete the form enclosed and send your donation to TEN.

Thank you for your support and prayers. Please can I also ask that you pray for me and the team; for wisdom, courage and strength in the coming months.

Every blessing,

James

Feel free to get in touch: james.vaughton@ten-uk.org

Contents

- 4 Conference report
Connected in Mission
- 5 A call to Macedonia
Partnerships
- 6 Spotlight on Roma
Communities
Bulgaria
- 8 Letters from prison
Serbia
- 9 Reaching out to refugees
Bosnia and Herzegovina
- 10 Reaching those
behind bars
Romania
- 11 Heart Cry prayer diary
July - September
- 17 Country focus
Moldova
- 18 Roma Revival
Bulgaria
- 20 60 seconds with...
James Vaughton
- 23 Reaping from
Harvest for the Hungry



Cover photo: Mission Possible Bulgaria

Conference Report

“Connected in Mission” was the theme of a special conference organised by TEN and hosted at St Michael’s Church in Stoke Gifford, Bristol on Saturday 11th May.

Speakers from Eastern Europe were invited to address more than 100 delegates, including local church leaders, long-term supporters and other Christians with an interest in what God is doing in Europe.

Following a keynote address by the outgoing CEO, Gerry Partridge, a schedule of speakers from Eastern Europe was interspersed with video greetings and live-streams with more of TEN’s partners. Serghei Mihailov, Executive Director of Beginning of Life in Moldova spoke about the severe challenges faced by his small nation and about the positive impact being made by Christians. Long-standing partners, Danny and Vera



Gerry Partridge introduces Vesna Radeka on Skype

Kuranji, from Serbia spoke about the growth of the church from just a living-room-full, to a congregation of 250 believers in Novi Sad, and of the ministry to drug addicts resulting in changed lives.

Hervin Fushekati, leader of the Church of God group of churches in Albania and founder of the International School of Theology and Leadership shared about his dramatic turnaround as a young Muslim eager to challenge Christians about their faith.

The church is growing rapidly in Albania, following the atheistic crackdown under Communism in the previous generation.

Live links were made with Vesna Radeka, President of the pro-life organisation, Choose Life.



Photo: Danny and Vera Kuranji catch up with Gary and Liz Cox

Vesna was followed by Vladimir Cizmanski in Montenegro who spoke about the plans to build the country's first-ever evangelical church building; the other handful of churches use rented properties and homes of believers.

Finally, delegates watched an interview with Bulgarian pastors, Nikola and Daniela Atanasovi who are reaching out to Roma people in Plovdiv.

Chair of Trustees, Hazel Vinson spoke of the immense gratitude towards Gerry Partridge as he enters a well-deserved retirement at the end of May 2019 and welcomed TEN's new CEO, James Vaughton who officially takes up full responsibility on 1st June. Also thanked was the TEN staff team and the hospitality team at St Michael's church in Stoke Gifford who accommodated the conference.



Photo: Hazel Vinson prays with James Vaughton

A call to Macedonia

In late 2018 a call to the TEN office from partners Dragan and Biljana Manev, based in Resen, Macedonia culminated in Allan, Jane and Ken from Bristol spending a week with Dragan and Biljana in support of their church planting ministry. They had opportunities to prepare and distribute food parcels to needy families and to use their puppeting skills in outreach at local schools.

Allan says, "The immense value in spending time with TEN's partners cannot be underestimated. If you have a heart to help others then I would encourage anyone to visit one of our partners and experience firsthand what front-line evangelism in Eastern Europe is all about."

ARE YOU BEING CALLED?

Why not consider getting in touch with TEN about making a short visit to one of our partners?

Spotlight on Roma communities

by Dimitrina Oprenova, Bulgaria

How much do you know about the Roma? Do you know a Roma person from personal experience? Have you had a meal in a Roma home?

'ROMA' AS A TERM:

In European countries, including Bulgaria, the term 'Roma' was introduced in 1971, and replaced all previous terms used, including the more familiar 'Gypsy'. This last term resembles the term Egiupti which originated from the mistaken assumption that Gypsies came from Egypt; the term 'Roma' is similarly mistaken that it suggests Romanian or even Roman origins.

'Roma' refers to a variety of groups of people who describe themselves as Roma, Gypsies, Travellers, Manouches, Ashkali and Sinti, as well as other terms. It is accepted to be a more polite form than the previously corrupted forms in addressing these minorities.

'Roma' encompass people belonging to both nomadic and non-nomadic communities—diverse in respect to language, religion, nationality, history, and culture—but understood to share a common ethnicity. It is accepted and used commonly in official documentations and discussions locally and by the EU. The use of the term is in no way intended to downplay

the great diversity within the many different Romani groups and related communities, nor is it intended to promote stereotypes.

THE ROMA POPULATION IN EUROPE

For more than a thousand years, Roma people have been an integral part of European civilisation.

According to available statistics, Roma are currently the largest minority in Europe, with some estimates ranging from 6.8 to 12 million. Precise demographic data is unavailable, and official and unofficial estimates for each country vary substantially. Relevant data is scarce, partly due to an a widespread lack of documentation and unwillingness of the population to self-identify as Roma for official purposes.

ORIGIN OF THE ROMA MINORITIES AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Gypsyology is the study of the Roma people, their origin, history, national psychology and culture, for extensive study further reference can be made.

In brief summary, the Roma are most likely to have started their migration

from India. This is one of the latest scientific propositions and most probably the most accurate, due to two main facts: the similarities of Roma dialects to the Indian languages and the existence in Roma clans of the Ancient Indian Caste System. After the heavy persecution of Gypsies in the 15th century in Western Europe, the Balkans, then being part of the Ottoman Empire, become a region of refuge known as the second “motherland” of the Gypsies, the ‘Roma’.

During the time of the Cold War, the Roma people were forced to travel only within the permitted limits of territories in which travel was allowed. In the case of Bulgaria, travel was forbidden, and the Roma population was segregated into designated areas.

COMPLEXITY OF ROMA IDENTITY AND CULTURE

The Roma are scattered throughout Europe. This geography and lack of common language, religion, or defined common cultural identity create obstacles on the path of devising a unified approach in integrating the Roma population.

The majority of Roma people anywhere in Europe live in poor socio-economic conditions. Many attempts are made for change in a positive direction concerning the attitudes towards the Roma, however on a daily basis many still face prejudice, intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion in their lives. They are



Photo: Roma life in Shutka, North Macedonia

marginalized and live on the outskirts of towns and villages, in very poor segregated areas. With the new European reality in the last few years and the economic crises, the Roma people have had to face new and even more complex challenges.

It is a matter of interest that the Roma minority in some countries is not the largest, but represents the most difficult and complex issues in need of solutions. The lack of integration of the majority of Roma citizens has provoked much effort across Europe. Various solutions have been proposed, but little has been achieved. The reasons for this are complex, both internally within the Roma communities and externally from the surrounding societies.

By better understanding the history, heritage and culture of the Roma people it is hoped that the wider church will value the challenging work being done by TEN's partners.

Letters from prison

by Vera and Danny Kuranji, Serbia

A two-page handwritten letter arrived in the post and as I read it I was moved to tears. It was from Pedja; an orphan we knew from our village and who regularly visited our home.

Early in life Pedja got into trouble using drugs and alcohol to try and fill his emptiness. When he was 19, he came to the Rainbow Rehab Centre but he didn't stay long. His addiction soon led him to crime and jail.

We kept loving him, visiting him and counting the days until his freedom. The day came and we shared a meal together and celebrated his birthday.

We told him to stay away from the bad guys and return to the centre. But then he vanished.

Months later, another letter arrived. Pedja was back in jail. My heart sank. Not again?

He promised, we trusted him, we had prayed together. Our dear Pedja was sentenced to 14 years in prison.

Danny and I visit him. The prison is a terrible place. There are no words to describe what happens when we

reach out and touch his hand over the thick glass. 'How come you love me?' Pedja asks. We share again about Jesus.

Pedja keeps writing to us. We pour our words of love, encouragement, hope and send pictures of our family, the only one he has. He calls me mum. He reads his Bible and other Christian books. He tells us how God has touched him and knows he is not alone. Pedja now tells others about Christ. From prison, he writes to the guys in our rehab with words of encouragement.

Please pray for Pedja.

Serbia has faced a growing problem with drugs and addiction since the 1970's. Years ago hospitals were unable to offer much help so in 2006 Novi Sad Christian Fellowship decided to open their church facilities for drug addicts and established the Rainbow Rehab Centre.

The programme lasts around 18 months and depends on how each person responds to the change that Christ can bring in their lives.

The project relies on donations to fund the residential care of participants.



Reaching out to refugees

by Tomislav Dobutovic, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Last year, over 25,000 refugees forged a new route through the Balkans into Croatia and the EU.

Today, more than 5,000 refugees and migrants from Syria, Pakistan, Iran, Afghanistan and many North African countries are making repeated attempts to try and cross the final border. Crossing the Bosnian border has become a dangerous game involving corrupt smugglers and border guards with dogs.

Many refugees are found in Sarajevo at the Usikovac camp. Most critical is the plight of refugees in the north of the country at Bihac and Velika Kladusa, along with others near Mostar in the Salakovac camp. Sarajevo Baptist Church is trying to help as many as it can.

Along with other evangelical churches, we have registered Hands of Hope in Bosnia and Herzegovina as our platform, and have joined efforts through the Protestant Refugee Initiative. The needs we respond to are wide – from basic food items, fruits and vegetables, clothes and shoes, baby food and nappies, etc.

We teach English, organise children's programmes, crafts for women, Bible studies and much more. This year we participated in the Refugee Highway conference in Sarajevo and the World Evangelical Alliance initiative.

Some of the refugees are already believers. Among them is brother Petros from Pakistan, a pastor forced to leave his country. He has been preaching in our church, also helping "Prayer House Ministry" and reaching out a lot. Baptisms are happening as well. We provide Bibles, micro SD cards with teaching materials.

Please pray as we reach out to the refugees and especially for the new believers who often continue their journey before we have proper time for discipleship. The government is unhappy that refugees are being helped, so some of our partner organisations had to close their work and leave. Pray that we will continue to have freedom to minister.





Reaching those behind bars

by Mircea and Ronela Cristian, Romania

Rock of Ages is a ministry that has reached out to prisoners across Romania for 25 years.

Our mission is to visit prisons, meet with inmates and promote postal Bible study courses. On completion of the courses the prison authorities now issue rewards as an incentive. Many men and women come to faith.

Mircea reports, "In the last group from Poarta Albă prison near Constanța we worked with several Muslim inmates. They warned us from the beginning that they were not Christians! But when I told them that we would speak about God and His will, they agreed to listen.

"After three months of working with them, they confessed publicly that previously they had known nothing about the will of God. As a result of our visits they discovered so much that they wanted to read the Bible for

themselves. They realised that Islam was a ritual, not a true faith. If they were to be responsible for teaching their children to believe in God, they must first learn all about God.

"One inmate shared how he wanted to live an upright life in front of his family and to bring them the real faith. Another one gave thanks to God that he came to prison to understand God's love! Studying the Bible and being enrolled in the Bible study programme, he became eager to learn more about God's love and that nothing could separate him from God's grace and mercy. Even in prison, he knows that he is not alone, but is with Jesus."

Thank you for your prayers for this ministry.



HEART CRY

Prayer requests from across Europe

July - September 2019

ten-uk.org/pray



MIRCHO ANDREEV
NORTH MACEDONIA



- 1 Please pray for the teenagers attending this week's youth camp called Tora.
- 2 Give thanks for the vision of the Sarong Church in South Korea for prayer and church planting in North Macedonia.
- 3 Pray for the people of North Macedonia as they come to terms with the country name change and relationship with neighbouring Greece.

BEREDI DUSAN
SERBIA



- 4 Pray that strong relationships will be forged at this week's Fathers and Children's camp.
- 5 Pray for the spiritual growth of drug addicts we work with at the drug Rehab Centre Duga and for the finances to support this ministry.
- 6 Pray for the two Royal Ranger (Christian scouts) camps for children and teenagers being held this month.
- 7 During July, our Royal Rangers will have two camps (Christian Scouts), for young children and for teenagers. Pray for the spiritual growth of children.
- 8 Pray for the training day in Novi Sad for the leaders of Royal Riders from across the Balkans.

VALERIU MUNTEANU
MOLDOVA



- 9 Pray that the children attending the Summer Camps would hear the good news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- 10 Pray for the preparations made by the leaders of the summer camps and Christian conferences.

- 11 Pray for the follow-up among church members from Cahul who attended the recent conference in Manta on the topic of discipleship.
- 12 Pray for the team of British opticians visiting Cahul who want to complete eye tests and prescribe spectacles to our villagers.
- 13 Please pray for the youths who have come to faith and are seeking to follow God's ways.

ICO MATULIC
CROATIA



- 14 Pray for the Jesus' Scouts youth camp taking place from July 14-17 on the island of Prvic near the town of Šibenik, Croatia led by Ico and his wife, Jagoda.

DANIJEL RECKOVIC
SERBIA



- 15 Pray for increased employment opportunities for young people who are tempted to migrate.
- 16 Pray for seed funding to start a small business and create jobs.
- 17 Pray that God will provide better music instruments for the church worship.

JAMES VAUGHTON
BRISTOL, UK



- 18 Pray for God's blessing on today's board meeting of Transform Europe Network trustees.
- 19 Thank God for the office team at TEN, James, Ken, Bob, Melanie, Naomi and Chillli.
- 20 Pray for the Ambassadors and volunteers who freely give their time and skills to the work of TEN.

MARINELA MURG
ROMANIA



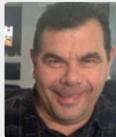
- 21 Pray for the hospice camp which will take place between July 21st to 26th. Pray that the children who are sick, their siblings and children of adult hospice patients will feel God's love and receive the Gospel message.

MIRCHO ANDREEV
NORTH MACEDONIA



- 22 Pray for the churches providing support and encouragement to those afflicted by addictions.
- 23 Pray for increased unity and blessing among the pastors across North Macedonia.
- 24 Pray for the new believers in the Roma church at Prelip who were baptised.
- 25 Pray that the recent training in evangelism with the Luis Palau team would be fruitful.
- 26 Pray for God's blessing upon the camp for Roma believers in Ohrid.
- 27 Prayer for the ongoing work by the team from the USA to translate evangelistic materials into Macedonian.

ICO MATULIC
CROATIA



- 28 Pray for children attending the Jesus' Scouts junior camp taking place from and 28 July to 2 August on the island of Prvic near the town of Šibenik.
- 29 Pray that we would see God's provision and guidance to build a church facility on one of Croatia's many islands as a lighthouse.

DANIJEL RECKOVIC
SERBIA



- 30 Pray for the completion of the new church building in Bojnik.

VANCE GOLOMEOV
NORTH MACEDONIA



- 1 Please pray for financial provision to complete the upper walls and roof of the new church building.
- 2 Pray for Vance and Robert as they seek to visit and pray each month with inmates held at the prison in Shtip.
- 3 Pray that God would raise up a new leader for the church in Sveti Nikole following the departure of Krste and his wife to Switzerland.
- 4 Pray that the seed sown in Sveti Nicole will bear fruit in the coming months.
- 5 Please pray for outreaches in Radovish and that local people will come to faith.
- 6 Pray for our family, our children and my wife's mother who requires constant care and assistance to get in and out of bed.

METIN MINTAZ
TURKEY



- 7 Please pray for Turkey and opportunities to present the Gospel through outreach events.
- 8 Thank God for the packed, standing-room only meetings during Easter resulting in new people being added to the church.
- 9 Pray for two couples and their children who responded to the Gospel were baptised and have opened their home for a house group in Koycegiz.
- 10 Pray for the brothers in Ankara who are organising a summer camp and for the children who will attend for the first time.
- 11 Pray for the new English-speaking home group in Dalaman, Turkey.

- 12 Please pray for a young man who fought in the Free Syrian Army. He has come to faith and wishes to be baptised against the wishes of his Muslim family.

ANATOL DUNAS MOLDOVA



- 13 Pray for the 100 students who finished their level one English course.
- 14 Pray that the young people who attend the Summer Camp in Cahul will be saved.
- 15 Pray for the continued success of the Good Samaritan 'first-aid' Gospel presentation on state schools in Moldova.
- 16 Pray for the eight students who completed theological courses at the Bible school.
- 17 Pray for the finance to equip more Bible school students in Cahul.
- 18 Pray for the 50 bunk beds and 300 chairs needed for the new camp buildings.
- 19 Pray for the 1,000 young people who attend camps throughout the year in Cahul.

ANATOLI YANKOV BULGARIA



- 20 Pray for God to meet the needs of food, accommodation and travel for this year's camps for 12-17 year olds.
- 21 Pray for the resources to renovate the Svishtov church fellowship room for tea, coffee and snacks after meetings.
- 22 Pray for the provision of a new sound system, mixer and TV screens for our meetings in Svishtov.
- 23 Pray that corruption in the Bulgarian government will be replaced by righteousness.
- 24 Pray that the city of Svishtov will be blessed with more opportunities for employment.

- 25 Pray for more specialists to work at the main hospital in Svishtov.
- 26 Pray that many more students will be able to access higher education at the Svishtov academy.

VASILE GRIGORITA MOLDOVA



- 27 Pray for all the children and teenagers who attended the recent Day Camp.
- 28 Pray for the baptism candidates and their families as they prepare for the baptism celebration in Brinza Baptist Church.
- 29 Pray that Moldova will find a solution to the political crisis following the parliamentary elections.

MIHAIL HIORESCU MOLDOVA



- 30 Pray that the Lord would work in the hearts of the children who attended the Day Camp.
- 31 Pray for the youth group commencing this summer and that many young people will know God's love personally.

— SEPTEMBER 2019 —

- 1 Please pray that the Lord would guide the church leaders and their ministries in Pelinei and Ursoaia Baptist Church.
- 2 Pray for the village of Ursoaia, that the Lord would search it and that the local people would respond to God's calling.
- 3 Please pray for the lady attending church who has cancer, that she would know God's complete healing.

JOVICA BACVANSKI MONTENEGRO



- 4 Pray that officials in Montenegro would accept registration documents for the Protestant Evangelical Alliance of Montenegro that represents five established evangelical churches.
- 5 Pray that the few evangelical churches in Montenegro will be equipped to have a stronger voice in our society.
- 6 Pray for unity among the 200 believers in the nation of Montenegro.
- 7 Please pray for the four baptism candidates as they prepare for baptisms. Two of these are Jovica and Savka's sons.
- 8 Pray for that all three Bible students, being trained at Podgorica Pentecostal Church, will receive wisdom and guidance from the Lord.
- 9 Pray for the visit of the Baptist Pastor from North Carolina, USA and the impact of his testimony and ministry.

MARINELA MURG ROMANIA



- 10 Pray that the hospice staff, who provide holiday cover during summer, will be strengthened by the Lord in their care of the dying.
- 11 Pray for all the patients and families that will benefit from hospice care during summer and that they will obtain peace with God and salvation.
- 12 Pray for the success of the Emanuel Hospice fundraising campaign "Give me one more hour!" through which we challenge the public to donate the cost of an hour care provided by the clinical hospice team.
- 13 Pray for the architects, technicians, consultants and leadership of Emanuel Hospice as they work on the new building project.
- 14 Pray for the provision of specialist resources needed to equip the new building of Emanuel Hospice Centre.

TEDI AND DIDI OPRENOVI BULGARIA



- 15 Please, pray for God's protection over the church in Sofia and for wisdom as we run the ministries and the Renewal Centre.
- 16 Pray for God's blessing on all those who attended the summer camps and especially the family camp.
- 17 Pray for all women in Bulgaria who lead ministries within the church and in the community.

MARIAN SERBAN ROMANIA



- 18 Pray for all the children who took part in the Murfatlar sports camp.
- 19 Pray for the First Aid educational club for children run by emergency services organisation known as SMURD.

ICO MATULIC CROATIA



- 20 Pray for a good response to today's conference, Relaunch Your Souls for Life and ministry which takes place in Split with John Hastings, USA.

MARIAN SERBAN ROMANIA



- 21 Please pray that the Project Romanian Rescue staff team will be strengthened to deal with challenging behaviours.
- 22 Pray that the visit by the team from Bristol will bring much fruit in the months ahead in the outlying villages.

MONIKA MAHR
ROMANIA



- 23 Pray for all 80 children and teenagers who attended the summer camp that the impact will be lasting and lead many to faith in Christ.
- 24 Pray for each of the needy families supported throughout the year by Casa Grace and the many difficulties they face.
- 25 Please pray for the accommodation needs of the families who mostly struggle to manage in two-room dwellings.
- 26 Pray for healing and strength for families in Oradea with serious and life-threatening medical conditions.

- 27 Pray that God would work in the hearts of the abandoned and orphaned children who are referred to Casa Grace.
- 28 Pray for the children with severe disabilities as we try to support them and their families.
- 29 Please pray that the women who attend the sewing classes will encounter the Lord.

DARIO KAPIN
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA



- 30 Pray for God's provision to help build the Focus Camp chapel later this year to accommodate talks and worship services.

Transform Europe Network operates across 12 European countries with around 60 partners. If you or your church wish to get involved, there are opportunities for short-term mission trips, volunteering and church partnerships.

Find out more at
ten-uk.org/get-involved

Daily prayers online at:
ten-uk.org/pray

Sign up for our quarterly Heart Cry prayer diary by email at:
ten-uk.org/sign-up

National Walks Day – Saturday 7th September 2019

TEN supporters are putting their best foot forward once again to walk at least 10 kilometers (6.2 miles) to raise funds for our work in Europe.

Walks are already being planned by supporters in North Wales, Somerset and Bristol. We'd love to have at least 10 walks across all parts of the UK, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

If you are interested in leading a walk or taking part, we'd love to hear from you. Although we suggest 10k for TEN, walks can be of any distance to suit participants.

If you wish to support TEN, please get in touch with
melanie.griffiths@ten-uk.org

COUNTRY FOCUS: *Moldova*

Moldova has long been the traditional passageway between Europe and Asia.

Roughly 70% of the four million Moldovan's are Eastern Orthodox Christians. However, most are nominal Christians who base their religious affiliation solely on their infant baptism. Moldovans are desperately looking for hope and thus are open to hearing Christ's life-generating and hope-filled gospel.

Though a mere 3% of the population are evangelical Christians, they are zealous, dynamic and eagerly sharing their faith. Church planters are resolute in their goal to establish healthy churches in the 800 villages that currently have no gospel witness.

Courtesy of Prayercast

STARK REALITIES:

- **72% of people** live below the poverty line
- **30% migration** during the last 20 years
- **33% fewer children** than in 2004
- **3rd most corrupt** country in the world
- **50% of the economy** comes from money sent back by migrants working abroad
- **40% of business activity** is in the black market economy
- **29% of children** are not in education
- **33% of children** are social orphans

PLEASE PRAY:

- for integrity by the government
- for churches losing members through migration
- for financial support for pastors in communities without employment
- for the Beginning of Life ministry
- for Christian summer camps for children and youth
- for the outreaches through home visits

ROMA, *Revival*

by Roumen Ivanov, Bulgaria

Mission Possible has witnessed a remarkable transformation among thousands of Roma people in Bulgaria.

Twenty years ago, the opening of the first soup kitchen in the Roma ghetto near Sofia was swiftly followed by soup kitchens in nine more settlements.

Offering hot soup every day, genuine care and the Gospel has changed thousands of lives.

The children who first came to our soup kitchens are now mature men and

women who raise their own families.

Today we see the transformation as they bring up their own children in the path of the Christian faith and values.

To change established patterns of behavior, traditions and habits is difficult, slow and not always successful. Sharing Christian values requires perseverance and diligence.

Bulgarian Roma people definitely need such help and Mission Possible has worked tirelessly for two decades through spiritual and social programmes.

Let me introduce you to Dancho. In 1998 he was a 14-year-old Roma boy who had finished only third grade at school. He joined the group of several women believers in Christ. Because there were no other believers with the ability to read in the village of Pevcite, Dancho began reading the Bible to the Christian women and helping us to organise the soup kitchen for the children. Over the years, he grew up, got married, raised four children and continued organising the soup kitchen for the children in Pevcite. During all that time, he faithfully preached in the church. Today, Dancho is the pastor of the church in Pevcite.

Three years ago, Dancho's 12-year old daughter Angelina attended the annual Christian Intercultural Camp of Mission Possible. At the camp, Lord touched her young heart and when she returned to her village of Pevcite she organized the first Sunday school for children. With help from her friend Bogomila, Angelina began gathering over 50 children from the village, teaching them the Christian lessons, songs and games they had learned at the camp.

Parents were the first to see the change in children because of the Gospel they were taught by their teachers. Roma children became more obedient at home, more successful and disciplined at school. Because of this unexpected change, the parents of about 30 children visited the church for the first time

and they kept on coming. The number of believers in Pevcite soon doubled. Then believers wished to expand the church building by adding another room to become a day care place for their children. And they did it! Revival flooded the village.

This revival miracle has continued for three years and is spreading to the neighbouring villages. Encouraged by the example of Angelina and the children in Pevcite, Sunday schools were opened in the churches in the villages of Rozino, Slatina and Hristo Danovo. This changed the Roma communities. Children began to attend public school regularly and their behavior was remarkably different. They were cleaner, better and happier. Even the local mayors witnessed the phenomena in these Roma villages and they now support local Protestant churches. Criminal behavior, aggression and even theft are greatly reduced.

Please pray for the work of Mission Possible Bulgaria.



60 seconds with James Vaughton



WHEN DID YOU FIRST HEAR ABOUT THE WORK OF TEN?

I had heard about Eurovangelism many years ago, probably whilst at Bible College. However, following that the first I heard of Transform Europe Network was when I saw the role of CEO advertised in late October.

WHAT ATTRACTED YOU TO APPLY FOR THE ROLE OF CEO?

I am passionate about mission and discipleship. I believe God has invited me to be part of his plans through empowering and leading people to live out their call and passions. Throughout my life, God has weaved a thread of connection with other countries, missionaries, Europe and overseas mission. In recent years I had been sensing God preparing me to move on from my role at Youth For Christ.

In TEN in general and in the role of CEO specifically, I saw something that fitted my call and passion and I sensed that God was leading me to take up this new opportunity to express his call on my life.

WHAT HAS SURPRISED YOU MOST ABOUT TEN?

When you start a new role there are lots of surprises. On my first day I was surprised with the gift of a large map

of Europe. I love maps so that was brilliant. The commitment of everyone involved in TEN has been amazing and the longevity of that commitment by supporters, staff, volunteers and trustees. TEN has amazing stories to tell (I have been blown away by the TENACIOUS book). I thought I had a reasonably global perspective on what God is doing but have had my mind blown by the stories of how God has powerfully impacted the countries we serve.

WHAT ARE YOU MOST LOOKING FORWARD TO IN YOUR NEW ROLE?

I am excited to see what God has in store for the work of TEN and the team (volunteers, trustees and staff). I believe God sees possibilities and works beyond what we ask or imagine. I don't see all that at the moment, but trust that God will shine his light on the path we need to walk. I am personally excited to visit partners, meet individual and church supporters and see new churches and groups join 'The TEN Family'.

GIVE TO TRANSFORM EUROPE NETWORK

1. SINGLE DONATION

I would like to give £ (total amount). Please acknowledge my donation:

This gift is to go towards TEN's Harvest for the Hungry appeal

I enclose a cheque made payable to TEN

Please charge my: Visa Mastercard CAF Charity Card

Card number:

Security code: (Last three digits on back of card) Expiry date: /

Signature:

Name on card:

2. REGULAR DONATION

Instruction to your bank or building society to make standing order payments to TEN.

Name and address of your Bank or Building Society:

Bank/Building Society:

Branch address:

Postcode:

Account number: Sort code:

Please pay to: Lloyds, Regent Street, Kingswood, Bristol BS15 2HT to the credit of Eurovangelism, account number: 38611760, sort code: 30-94-80, the sum of:

£ First payment date: / /

and on the same day of each successive (month/quarter/year) until otherwise advised.

Signature:

Full name:

Date:

3. *giftaid it* MAKE YOUR GIFT WORTH 25% MORE!

If you are a UK taxpayer please complete this Gift Aid declaration which will enable us to claim tax back on your gift, making it worth 25% more.

I am a UK taxpayer and want TEN (registered name Eurovangelism) to reclaim tax on all my donations until further notice. I understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay the difference.

Please notify us if you: want to cancel this declaration; change your name or home address; no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

Title:

Full name:

Address:

Postcode:

Date:

Please tick if you want tax to be reclaimed only on this single donation.

Please complete and return this form to:

Transform Europe Network, 23 Apex Court, Woodlands, Bradley Stoke, Bristol BS32 4JT

FIVE WAYS TO *Give*

TRANSFORM LIVES
IN EUROPE

1



Give online

As a monthly or
one-off gift:

ten-uk.org/give

2



Standing order

Through your bank:

**Complete the form
on page 21 (or
download one from
ten-uk.org/give) and
post to TEN**

3



Cheque

Payable to **TEN**
and post to:

**Transform Europe
Network
23 Apex Court
Woodlands
Bradley Stoke
Bristol BS32 4JT**

4



Telephone

Call TEN office and use your
debit or credit card:

01179 615161

5



Purchase

Purchase an Essential Gift from
our catalogue either online or
by telephone:

ten-uk.org/shop

01179 615161

REAPING FROM HARVEST FOR THE *Hungry*

More than 700 families in Eastern Europe received food parcels and hot meals in 2018



Please give:

- Online at harvestforthehungry.org
 - Use the Harvest flyer or form on page 21
- Thank you.

When Harvest for the Hungry began in 1992 we sent trucks loaded with food because the shops were empty and people were starving.

Today we raise funds so that our national partners can buy local food and distribute parcels and hot meals to those in greatest need. Some families receive help all-year round and others are offered emergency food parcels.

A food parcel costs around **£15**

Hot meals every day for a month cost **£22**



I am the bread of life...

Zeljko is a seven-year old orphaned Roma boy who lives in Skopje, North Macedonia. His mother works abroad and his father has died. But today, Zeljko is the proud breadwinner and will give his grandmother a big smile.

Thanks to donations to the Harvest for the Hungry appeal, hundreds of needy children and families across Eastern Europe will receive food parcels this year.

...whoever comes to me will never be hungry again.

(John 6:35)

Here's how you can support Harvest for the Hungry:

Donate
Raise funds

Online and card donations or write a cheque to TEN

TEN will send your donation to its partners in Europe

Partners purchase food locally and make up the food parcels

Food is delivered to those in greatest need

www.harvestforthehungry.org