

Documentation and publications

The FSG's Documentation Centre was created in the 1990's and specialises in Roma and ethnic minority issues. Its collection (paper, digital and audiovisual) can be grouped into the following areas: Art, culture and history; Associationism; Discrimination and racism; Education; Legislation; Interculturality and co-existence; Youth and Roma women; Language and literature; Social and intercultural mediation; The media; Population; Religion and religiousness; Health, Social services; and Housing.

The overarching objective is to promote an intercultural society in which Roma persons freely and fully exercise their citizenship and contribute to the enrichment of a universal culture.

In 2008 the Documentation Centre was moved to its new location at FSG headquarters where it has ample space and equipment and provides the following services:

- » **Library:** We offer a traditional on-site consultation service for outside users and for Foundation workers. Our Web page also offers an online consultation and reference service to cover any request for information on the Roma community.
- » **Digital Library:** Along the same lines as above, we have over 900 digitalised documents (monographs, theses, articles, studies, etc.).
- » **Mediatheque:** We have a whole series of audiovisual materials on Roma (documentaries, programmes, films, music,

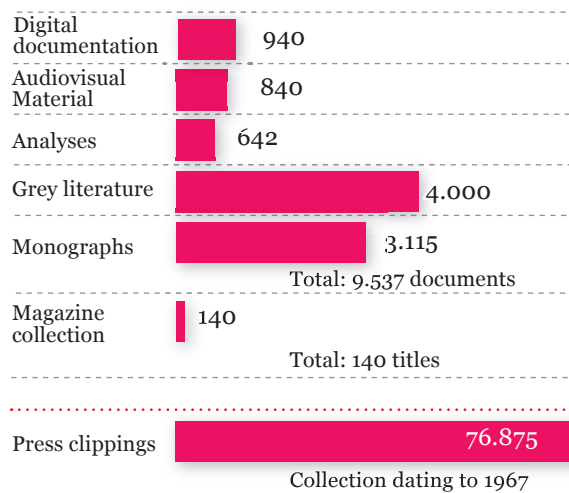


FSG DOCUMENTATION CENTRE

teaching material, etc.) which can be viewed and heard at the Documentation Centre itself.

- » **Newspaper library:** Contains a wealth of press clippings about the Roma people both in hard and digital copy dating back to 1967. We have begun to digitalise older press clippings in order to offer better and quicker access to this information. This service is responsible for the paper and digital publication of the monthly magazine *Gitanos in la Prensa* (Roma in the news) which was disseminated to 2,300 users in 2008.

DOCUMENTARY MATERIAL



Selective dissemination of information:

By means of a series of digital bulletins, we report quarterly on the new acquisitions of the Documentation Centre and the location of Web links relating to the Roma community or work with minorities.

Exhibits:

We currently have two exhibits which travel around all of Spain as part of cultural events and actions related to the Roma community, interculturality and human rights. The first is called **“Culturas para compartir. Gitanos hoy”** (Sharing cultures. Roma Today) which traces the history and current situation of the Roma community focusing on its traditions and culture stressing the reciprocal enrichment of Roma and non-Roma. This exhibit basically targets children and adolescents in school contexts and comes with support material such as posters and a teacher’s guide. However it can be used by other groups as well: social organisations, adults taking part in a cultural or training activity, interested professionals, etc. The second exhibit is called **“Mujeres gitanas, participando”** (Roma women participating) and consists of photographs showing the contribution made by Roma women to education, employment, politics and art.

Teacher’s resources:

This is a support resource for education professionals working in culturally heterogeneous educational contexts with Roma students or students from other cultural groups. This is a selection of materials designed for use by schools, associations, institutions and public and private organisations to teach values and intercultural co-existence and to increase awareness of the Roma community.



ROMA IN THE NEWS. WEB SECTION OF THE REGULAR PUBLICATION OF THE DOCUMENTATION CENTRE.

Access to documents and services is free of charge. In 2008 the Centre once again received 500 requests for information through the Documentation Centre’s Web page, in-person queries, e-mail, telephone, post and fax.

In 2008 over 200 outside users (Roma associations, students and researchers, different public and private entities from the area of social action, media, NGOs, etc. visited or contacted the Documentation Centre.

The Documentation Centre also participated in different FSG activities by providing documentation support and has begun to participate directly through its daily work of putting documentary work on exhibit.

Hence, in 2008 the Documentation Centre took part in the *“XII National Conference on Roma Women: the image of women in the media”* with the presentation *“The image of Roma women in the press”*.

Also, through the Ministry of Culture’s Action and Cultural Promotion assistance, in 2008 the Documentation Centre coordinated the release of the CD entitled *Villancicos Gitanos* (Roma Christmas Carols) as an addendum to the book published in 2007 entitled *Navidad, las costumbres y la tradición en hogares gitanos de España* (Roma families at Christmas, customs and traditions in Roma homes throughout Spain).