



NORTH MACEDONIA

TOGETHER WE CAN

THE COVID-19 IMPACT ON STATELESS PEOPLE & A ROADMAP FOR CHANGE

INTRODUCTION

The COVID-19 pandemic and state responses to it have had a significant negative impact on the lives, wellbeing, and rights of the approximately 15 million stateless people around the world who have been denied a nationality, as well as tens of millions whose nationality is at risk. Globally, the devastating impacts of exclusion and denial of fundamental rights, including healthcare, during the pandemic relate to much deeper structural problems – the historic and systemic exclusion, deprivation and marginalisation of communities that have been made stateless as part of wider discriminatory political acts, or pursuant to dominant, discriminatory ideologies. COVID-19 has shone a light on these challenges and also presents a unique opportunity to raise visibility, address the structural causes of statelessness, and secure lasting change, through working directly with stateless people and being accountable to them. The same is true for **North Macedonia**, where the pandemic has further brought to light the acute human rights deprivations endured by the Roma community and other minorities including those of Albanian, Ashkaeli and Egyptian decent.



This publication is an extract of the global report, **Together We Can: The COVID-19 Impact on Stateless People & a Roadmap for Change**,¹ published in June 2021 by the COVID-19 Emergency Statelessness Fund (CESF) Consortium,²

a global consortium of NGOs and citizenship rights activists, initiated by the Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion (ISI) in June 2020 to respond to the impact of COVID-19 on stateless populations. It focuses on the situation in **North Macedonia**, by presenting the North Macedonia chapter of the global report, along with the **key thematic findings**

and a practical 3-step **Roadmap for Change**, which provides a framework for resolving and addressing the structural discrimination and exclusion of stateless people, during times of COVID-19 and beyond.

The **Together We Can** global report is grounded in the experiences and expertise of Consortium members drawing on a mix of desk research and findings from research-based action advocacy projects being implemented by CESF consortium members in 13 countries. In addition to documenting challenges, the report identifies emerging positive practice and concrete examples from the CESF project countries. It also draws on information from other countries, solicited through an open call for information which ISI shared with partners, regular tracking of news and information on COVID-19 and statelessness by the ISI team, as published in ISI Monthly Bulletins,³ interviews and conversations with relevant partners, and dedicated desk-based research conducted for this report. All desk research reflects public information available at the time of writing. While we have made efforts to verify the ongoing nature of practices identified, this was not always possible, and we welcome any updates or corrections from relevant stakeholders. All information is up to date as of 25 May 2021.

ACRONYMS

CESF – COVID-19 Emergency Statelessness Fund
COVID-19 – Corona Virus Disease 2019
EU – European Union
OSF – Open Society Foundation
NGO – Non-governmental Organisation
PPE – Personal Protective Equipment

INJUSTICE, INEQUALITY, AND EXCLUSION DRIVE AND PERPETUATE THE MARGINALISATION OF VULNERABLE AND STIGMATISED POPULATIONS, INCLUDING STATELESS COMMUNITIES. THESE FACTORS HAVE LED TO DEVASTATING CONSEQUENCES DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, AS STATELESS PEOPLE, THE MAJORITY OF WHOM LIVE IN POVERTY, ARE FORCED TO WORK IN UNSAFE ENVIRONMENTS WITHOUT ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE, TESTING OR VACCINES. ALL OF US IN THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN RIGHTS COMMUNITY HAVE A DUTY TO PROTECT THE RIGHT TO HEALTH CARE FOR ALL POPULATIONS, IRRESPECTIVE OF THEIR CITIZENSHIP OR IMMIGRATION STATUS. THUS, IT IS CRUCIAL THAT WE UNDERSTAND AND RESPOND TO THE WAYS IN WHICH THE PANDEMIC HAS AGGRAVATED THE ALREADY GRAVE STATELESSNESS CRISIS. THIS REPORT AND ROADMAP PROVIDE AN EXCELLENT GUIDE TO MORE INCLUSIVE APPROACHES TO ADDRESSING THE CRISIS INCUMBENT ON MULTIPLE STAKEHOLDERS, AND THEY ARE AN IMPORTANT STARTING POINT FOR ALL HEALTH AND HUMAN RIGHTS ACTORS DEDICATED TO AN EQUITABLE, INCLUSIVE, AND EFFECTIVE RESPONSE TO THE PANDEMIC.

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NORTH MACEDONIA

There is no accurate data on the number of stateless people in Macedonia. The main causes of statelessness are the dissolution of the former Yugoslavia, barriers to birth registration and unregulated civil status. The stateless and those most at risk of statelessness include persons of Roma, Albanian, Ashkaeli and Egyptian descent. Statelessness and the risk of statelessness disproportionality affects the Roma in the region who were minority citizens of the former Yugoslavia republic. As a result of the dissolution of Yugoslavia and the subsequent changes to citizenship laws, destruction of civil registers and conflict resulting in large-scale forced displacement in the 1990's, the Roma were viewed as outsiders, excluded and **discriminated** against by the newly established territories. The Roma and other stateless communities live in poverty and are routinely marginalised. Barriers to civil registration, including poverty, lack of awareness and discriminatory attitudes of registry officials, increase the prevalence of statelessness, especially among the Roma⁵ as well as influencing public perceptions of this community perpetuating intolerance.

The vulnerabilities of the stateless have been exacerbated by COVID-19. The identified issues in this chapter were provided predominantly by Roma NGO 'Bairska Svetlina' operating in the southwest of North Macedonia. The information is therefore localised to the parameters of their operations. They cannot access state and humanitarian relief, experience significant difficulties accessing work, healthcare, education and civil registration services and are subjected to increased antigypsyism and related intolerance. 10% of Roma households do not have access to clean drinking water inside their home, and 18% do not have access to a sewer system. These poor conditions make them more susceptible to infection. Many Roma do not have access to or cannot PPE also increasing their risk of infection.⁶

RIGHT TO NATIONALITY, DOCUMENTATION AND LEGAL STATUS

In February 2020, the Law on Unregistered Persons in the Birth Register was adopted, offering a solution for those who have been unable to obtain personal identification documents. The law provided for undocumented persons to submit applications within six months of the date of the adoption of the law (i.e. up until August 2020). Due to the pandemic, and the closure of services, this was not implemented and the institutions responsible for dealing with applications are still not equipped to register these people according to the law.⁷

EQUALITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION

As a consequence of the pandemic, there has also been a rise in hate crimes and general intolerance towards stateless persons and the Roma community. During a three-month period in 2020, there were four recorded instances of hate crimes committed against members of the Roma community. On one occasion, victims were beaten by police, and in the other cases, they were assaulted by Macedonians. The office

of Bairska Svetlina was extensively damaged with vandals breaking the doors and windows and graffitiing xenophobic slurs on the walls for their work with the Roma community.

RIGHT TO HEALTH

The healthcare system in North Macedonia has collapsed under the pressure of COVID-19. Prior to the pandemic, stateless persons did not qualify for state healthcare, and this has generally remained the same throughout the pandemic. However, through Decree no. 92/20, the government declared that all persons that are not covered by health insurance will be able to receive health services in healthcare facilities related to the diagnosis and treatment of COVID-19 at the expense of the Health Insurance Fund of North Macedonia.⁸ The stateless and undocumented are further able to access private healthcare, however, the cost makes it inaccessible to most. North Macedonia has not yet been able to procure vaccines. Without an established vaccination campaign, the entire population, including the stateless remain vulnerable to contracting COVID-19.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC RIGHTS

Exclusion from Emergency Relief: On 18 March 2020, a state of emergency was declared. The government has received financial assistance of €160 million from the EU and €176 million from the International Monetary Fund.⁹ Coordination bodies have been set up in all municipalities and at state level, to facilitate humanitarian actions to help vulnerable citizens.¹⁰ The state also issued payment cards with which unemployed citizens could obtain groceries to the value of €150.¹¹ However, stateless persons and those at risk of statelessness, who are particularly vulnerable to COVID-19 in the southwest of North Macedonia have been excluded from these initiatives, as access is dependent on the provision of IDs. The government has also provided financial assistance to those financially affected by COVID-19, but these measures required access to a bank account, making them inaccessible to stateless persons who cannot open bank accounts without documentation.

The Roma community in the southwest of the country has also not been adequately reached by humanitarian actors, further heightening their vulnerabilities. While some have received food and hygiene products from the UNDP and Red Cross, there is insufficient coordination of such support and no register of people entitled to such relief. Consequently, one household may receive several packages from different organisations while others do not receive any. The first organisation to provide direct support to Roma communities, was OSF Macedonia, which provided hygiene packages and supplements to those affected by the pandemic. In cooperation with the Red Cross Skopje, by the end of 2020, 2,188 supplements were distributed to 11,000 Roma citizens.¹² These packages were distributed to people who were legally recognised by the state and already beneficiaries of state social assistance. They did not include stateless people and those without legal documentation.

THIS CHAPTER LOOKS MORE CLOSELY AT RIGHT TO NATIONALITY, DOCUMENTATION AND LEGAL STATUS; EQUALITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION; RIGHT TO HEALTH AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC RIGHTS,⁴ AND MAKES THE FOLLOWING CALL TO ACTION TO THE GOVERNMENT AND OTHER RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS:

ENSURE THAT ALL STATELESS AND UNDOCUMENTED PEOPLE HAVE EQUAL ACCESS TO VACCINES AND CAMPAIGN TO RAISE AWARENESS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF COVID-19 VACCINATIONS.

ENSURE EQUAL ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES FOR ALL STATELESS AND UNDOCUMENTED RESIDENTS.

CREATE SPECIAL MEASURES TO ENSURE AN ECONOMIC SAFETY NET FOR THE ROMA COMMUNITY DURING COVID-19, INCLUDING THROUGH CREATING FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP.

ENHANCE COOPERATION AND COLLABORATION BETWEEN GOVERNMENTS AND OTHER ACTORS IN THE WESTERN BALKANS, TO FIND DURABLE REGIONAL SOLUTIONS AND APPROACHES TO STRENGTHENING NATIONALITY RIGHTS, DOCUMENTATION AND LEGAL STATUS OF ROMA PEOPLE.

DEVELOP CAMPAIGNS TO COMBAT DISCRIMINATION AND HATE SPEECH AGAINST ROMA PEOPLE AND TO PENALISE THE INSTIGATORS OF HATE SPEECH.

The biggest support for stateless persons in the southwest was provided by diaspora Roma and Roma NGOs, who through their donors and collaborators, were able to provide direct support.

Lost Livelihoods: Prior to the pandemic the rates of employment within stateless communities were very low. Those who did work tended to work in the informal economy in jobs such as waste collection and the collection of plastic bottles. As a result of lockdowns, many companies and enterprises closed or operated at a reduced capacity.¹³ Some had to make significant reductions in their labour force and members of the Roma community were the first to be made redundant. Many lost their only sources of income as a result.

Disrupted Education: Many Roma children cannot access education due to the inability to attend online classes. Education in Macedonia has moved online but many stateless children have no access to the internet, computers, tablets etc.

STATELESSNESS AND THE RIGHT TO NATIONALITY IN NORTH MACEDONIA

Deprivation of Macedonian citizenship is prohibited by Article 4 of the Constitution.¹⁴ In 2004, Macedonia adopted a new Citizenship Law.¹⁵ Accordingly, the criteria for acquiring citizenship include registered permanent residence in Macedonia at the time of independence, regular means of subsistence and at least 15 years of uninterrupted legal residence. These excessive requirements created barriers for the Roma community as they struggle to provide evidence of registration and residence. The law does however provide a safeguard against childhood statelessness, stipulating that a child who was found or born in the territory of Macedonia whose parents are unknown, have unknown citizenship or are stateless, may acquire citizenship. Despite this safeguard, the law has not been implemented consistently in practice, particularly with regard to children of Roma parents. Further, it does not safeguard against statelessness where parents cannot confer their nationality i.e. in cases of gender discriminatory nationality laws.¹⁶

In 2018, the Law on Foreigners¹⁷ was adopted which provided that former citizens of Yugoslavia who continued to live in Macedonia after 8 September 1991 may apply for permanent residence if they register their stay within three years of adoption of the law. This development thus removed the costs and obligations to renew temporary residence permits for those who lost their citizenship due to state succession. This had previously been a problem for many as the burdensome requirements resulted in breaks in legal stay in Macedonia, which in turn, affected access to naturalisation.¹⁸

THE CESF CONSORTIUM PROJECT

This project, carried out by Bairska Svetlina, aims to unpack and document the systemic exclusions of stateless persons or those at risk of statelessness in Macedonian society in the context of COVID-19. Bairska Svetlina is functioning as a Help Desk for the Roma community, offering information and legal advice to support people with applications for government food cards, help packages by the Ministry of Labour, understanding quarantine regulations and applying for documents. The project has launched a campaign to raise awareness, share information and promote the Help Desk office by using social media, printed materials and direct communication with community members. Specific cases of COVID-19 exclusion are documented through interviews, which function as a two-way information exchange. Data collected will be used as an advocacy tool to engage relevant stakeholders such as the government (in particular the Ministry of Justice), relevant parliamentarians including representatives of the Roma community, international organisations and hospitals to raise awareness of the issue and place statelessness on the agenda.

This project is implemented by Bairska Svetlina, an NGO that works towards strengthening the capacity of Roma communities, improving their socio-economic status, developing the skills of young Roma activists, and improving their quality of education. Bairska Svetlina aims to help the Roma community based in North Macedonia to enjoy their basic human rights while working on inclusion and integration into Macedonian society.

Impact

“The Roma community, NGOs and the authorities need to collaborate to raise awareness, identify needs and provide direct assistance to the Roma people. In the long run, greater effort is needed to ensure that Roma are included in society and have equal access to basic needs, improving infrastructure, access to healthcare, housing, employment and education. The vulnerabilities and needs of the Roma should be considered by the EU, the European Parliament, donors and all other stakeholders to ensure this community are able to cope with the effects of COVID-19.”

*Bairska Svetlina President,
Remzi Medik*

Thus far the project has raised awareness of the needs of the stateless in North Macedonia and identified approaches to solving their problems. Bairska Svetlina has functioned as a Help Desk to assist members of the Roma community to address issues they are facing during the pandemic. The Roma community and institutions have recognised the role of the Help Desk in contributing to the improvement of their situation. To date, 100 families have been supplied with humanitarian packages and 50 children were gifted with New Year packages donated by the mayor of Bitola. Further, 130 families have been successfully assisted in applying for social benefits.

KEY GLOBAL THEMATIC FINDINGS

Many of the above findings on North Macedonia, also resonate at the global level. As the **Together We Can** report sets out, denial of the **right to nationality, documentation and legal status** as well as **inequality and discrimination** represent the main structural challenges impacting stateless people in a cyclical and intergenerational way. The other three thematic issues addressed in the global report - **right to health, socioeconomic rights** and **civil and political rights** - relate to some of the main rights deprivations stateless people endure, exacerbated by the pandemic. These challenges are interrelated and mutually reinforcing, heightening the cost of statelessness, generating new risks of statelessness and stifling efforts to promote the right to nationality and the rights of stateless people.

THE RIGHT TO HEALTH:

The right to health should have universal application regardless of race, religion, legal status or other criteria. A year into the pandemic however, healthcare related challenges faced by stateless people have only heightened. The cost of healthcare continues to be an insurmountable hurdle for many stateless people who are excluded from healthcare plans, subsidies, insurance schemes and free healthcare. The lack of documentation has further prevented access to healthcare, while fear of arrest, detention and harassment by police or officials has also cultivated a culture of fear around accessing healthcare for stateless and undocumented people. The inability to carry out effective preventative measures including social distancing and wearing PPE, as well as lack of access to sanitation and hygiene products and facilities due to living and working conditions, also places stateless communities at great risk. The mental health impacts of lockdowns, loss of livelihoods, exposure to health risks and starvation and exclusion from state relief measures, are also significant. There is an urgent need to ensure inclusivity in the roll out of COVID-19 vaccines, rising above

vaccine nationalism. Unfortunately, we are already seeing a 'citizens first' approach to vaccine distribution and worrying initiatives including vaccine passports which would further exclude stateless people.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC RIGHTS:

When the pandemic took hold in early 2020, state responses prioritised citizens to the exclusion and detriment of migrants, refugees and stateless people. Over a year into the crisis, there has been hardly any shift in the approach to social and economic support by states and other actors. There has been a significant impact on **employment and income** and consequently the **loss of livelihoods** amongst the stateless and those at risk of statelessness. Jobs are mainly found in the informal sector which have been brought to a standstill with the implementation of lockdowns and curfews. There are further **barriers to education** during lockdowns due to the nature of online classes and the need for access to equipment and the internet.

CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS:

In order to address the threat to public health, most States have implemented restrictions which limit civil and political rights. Some states have also introduced more permanent restrictions. Stateless communities and those whose nationality is at risk face ongoing restrictions and rights violations which, due to pre-existing conditions, have a disproportionately devastating impact. **Arbitrary detention, the risk of arrest and fear of harassment** by officials has impacted stateless populations and those whose nationality is at risk. For those in detention, there is an increased risk of infection due

to the inability to adequately social distance or self-isolate. Restrictions on **freedom of movement** have exacerbated the impacts of COVID-19 including for those trying to seek healthcare and education outside of refugee camps and has further had an impact on livelihoods and family reunions.

THE RIGHT TO NATIONALITY, DOCUMENTATION AND LEGAL STATUS:

COVID-19 related measures have impacted the right to nationality, documentation and legal status in deeply concerning ways. Disruptions to crucial **civil registration procedures** have resulted in delays and backlogs leaving stateless people and those whose nationality is at risk in limbo, completely vulnerable to the multiple effects of COVID-19. Such documentation and registration challenges also subject people to longer-term risks of statelessness. **Unregistered births** and subsequent non-issuance of IDs can heighten the risk of statelessness, particularly among minority and border communities and those with migrant heritage. **Asylum and statelessness determination procedures** have also been disrupted, as have permanent residence applications, visa processes and other consular services.

EQUALITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION:

Discrimination continues to be an underlying and entrenched driving force behind statelessness worldwide. There has been a rise in **hate speech, xenophobia and racism**. Minority and migrant communities have been vilified in populist political narratives and used as scapegoats for the spread of infection, including to distract from the failings of political leaders. Gender discrimination has also had a significant impact where **gender discriminatory nationality laws** deny nationality to children. Increased cases of **gender-based violence** have also been reported, where, particularly in the country contexts with gender discriminatory nationality laws, women are unable to extract themselves from unsafe situations.

For a more detailed overview of these global thematic findings and related calls to action, please refer the full report.¹⁹

TOGETHER WE CAN: A ROADMAP TO ADDRESS THE COVID-19 IMPACT ON STATELESS PEOPLE

This roadmap serves as a framework for resolving and addressing the structural discrimination and exclusion of stateless people during times of COVID-19 and beyond. The starting point is that change is within our grasp and can be achieved through creative, committed and courageous action. **Together we can** and **together we must** address the structural discrimination underlying statelessness, protect the rights of stateless people and meet their emergency needs. The Roadmap informs and guides the necessary inclusive responses of multiple stakeholders including governments, UN actors, humanitarian agencies, donors and NGOs.

1 CHECK FOR INSTITUTIONAL BLIND-SPOTS

We invite states, UN actors, humanitarian groups and other stakeholders to engage in careful **introspection**, check for **institutional blind-spots**, and **review and reform** policies and practices to ensure that stateless people are prioritised, their particular contexts and needs are understood and addressed and they are not excluded or left behind through:

- **strengthening awareness** of the issue at all levels;
- **acknowledging** historical failures;
- **collecting and sharing information** on statelessness and nationality rights deprivations; and
- **resourcing** the enhancement of capacities, collaborations and funding.

2 INCLUDE, CONSULT & ENGAGE IN DIALOGUE

We invite activists and NGOs to **make their expertise available** and those in positions of power, to have **open consultation** and **meaningful and constructive dialogue** with affected communities, and commit to **including stateless people on equal terms** by:

- **consulting** with activists and affected communities;
- **building trust** and strengthening solidarity with stateless communities;
- **meeting the needs and priorities** of affected communities and ensuring their meaningful participation; and
- **facilitating wider discourse** within society and institutions on equality, inclusion and the right to nationality.

3 BUILD BACK BETTER

We invite all actors to learn the hard lessons that the pandemic has taught us and invest in **future-proofing**, ensuring a **lasting commitment to breaking down the pervasive injustice, indignity, inequality, deprivation and exclusion that stateless people face**, focusing on:

- **implementing reforms** to address discriminatory laws, policies and practices;
- **redressing** the intergenerational disadvantage and legacy of statelessness;
- **being accountable** to stateless communities and activists;
- **monitoring** the performance and progress of states;
- **ensuring access to justice and reparations** for stateless people; and
- **sustainably investing** in inclusive societies.

STATELESSNESS DOES NOT ONLY EXIST IN HISTORY BUT IS ONGOING, IN REAL TIME AND IN PRACTICALLY EVERY CORNER OF THE WORLD. EVEN THOUGH STATELESSNESS INTERSECTS WITH EVERY OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATION, IT REMAINS LARGELY UNKNOWN AND MISUNDERSTOOD. THE LARGE STATELESSNESS KNOWLEDGE GAP, EVEN AMONG PROMINENT DEVELOPMENT, MIGRATION, HUMANITARIAN AND HUMAN RIGHTS ACTORS, IS A CHALLENGE AND BURDEN FOR STATELESS PEOPLE LIKE ME, GLOBALLY. WE ARE NOT JUST A COLLECTION OF STORIES. WE ARE OUR OWN ADVOCATES AND EXPERTS THROUGH OUR LIVED EXPERIENCES. THIS REPORT RECOGNISES STATELESS PEOPLE AS LEADERS WHO MUST SHAPE THE VISION AND MAKE DECISIONS ABOUT THE PRIORITIES THAT DIRECTLY AFFECT OUR LIVES, OUR FAMILIES AND OUR COMMUNITIES. THE ROADMAP OFFERS A WAY FORWARD FOR OUR ALLIES TO CHECK THEIR STATELESSNESS BLIND-SPOTS, CENTRE US IN THEIR ACTIONS AND BE ACCOUNTABLE US WHEN DELIVERING THEIR MANDATES. WE CANNOT END STATELESSNESS BY OURSELVES. TOGETHER WE MUST WORK TO ENVISION A WORLD WHERE NOBODY IS DEPRIVED OF NATIONALITY BASED ON THEIR RACE, ETHNICITY, SEX, GENDER, OR RELIGION. A WORLD WHERE EVERYONE'S HUMAN RIGHT TO NATIONALITY IS PROTECTED AND UPHELD, AND WHERE STATELESSNESS IS TRULY RELEGATED TO THE HISTORY BOOKS.

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¹ CESF Consortium, 'Together we Can: The COVID-19 Impact on Stateless People & A Roadmap for Change', (2021), available at: https://files.institutesi.org/together_we_can_report_2021.pdf.

² For more information about the CESF Consortium, see: https://files.institutesi.org/CESF_Brochure_2021.pdf.

³ ISI Monthly Bulletins and other key resources can be viewed here: <https://www.institutesi.org/resources>.

⁴ See further Chapter on Right to Nationality, Documentation and Legal Status, Chapter on Equality and Non-Discrimination, Chapter on Right to Health and Chapter on Socio-Economic Rights in Part 2 of 'Together We Can: The COVID-19 Impact on Stateless People and Roadmap for Change', (2021), available at: https://files.institutesi.org/together_we_can_report_2021.pdf.

⁵ Macedonian Young Lawyers Association, Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion, European Network on Statelessness, European Roma Rights Centre and Minority Rights Group International, 'Joint Submission to the Human Rights Council at the 32nd Session of the Universal Periodic Review: Macedonia', (12 July 2018), available at: https://files.institutesi.org/UPR32_Macedonia.pdf.

⁶ European Policy Institute – Skopje, 'Challenges facing Roma during the crisis caused by COVID-19', (2020), available at: https://epi.org.mk/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/roma_kovid-19_eng.pdf.

⁷ European Policy Institute – Skopje, 'Challenges facing Roma during the crisis caused by COVID-19', (2020), available at: https://epi.org.mk/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/roma_kovid-19_eng.pdf.

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¹¹ Government of the Republic of North Macedonia, 'Economic measures for dealing with the consequences of COVID-19', (2020), available at: <https://koronavirus.gov.mk/merki/ekonomski-merki>.

¹² Open Society Foundation Macedonia, 'The foundation Open Society – Macedonia donates humanitarian aid packages to Roma families directly affected by the health crisis', Open Society Foundation Macedonia, (10 December 2020), available at: <https://fosm.mk/en/current-project/the-foundation-open-society-macedonia-donates-humanitarian-aid-packages-to-roma-families-directly-affected-by-the-health-crisis/>.

¹³ International Labour Organisation, 'Impact of pandemic requires massive state intervention in North Macedonia: ILO and EBRD advise government on labour market after coronavirus' ILONews, (28 May 2020), available at: https://www.ilo.org/budapest/whats-new/WCMS_746165/lang-en/index.htm.

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¹⁵ Law on Citizenship of the Republic of Macedonia, (1992), available at: <https://www.refworld.org/pdfid/3f54916b4.pdf>.

¹⁶ Macedonian Young Lawyers Association, Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion, European Network on Statelessness, European Roma Rights Centre and Minority Rights Group International, 'Joint Submission to the Human Rights Council at the 32nd Session of the Universal Periodic Review: Macedonia', (12 July 2018), available at: https://files.institutesi.org/UPR32_Macedonia.pdf.

¹⁷ North Macedonia: Law on Foreigners, (2019), available at: <https://www.refworld.org/pdfid/44b2658a4.pdf>.

¹⁸ Macedonian Young Lawyers Association, Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion, European Network on Statelessness, European Roma Rights Centre and Minority Rights Group International, 'Joint Submission to the Human Rights Council at the 32nd Session of the Universal Periodic Review: Macedonia', (12 July 2018), available at: https://files.institutesi.org/UPR32_Macedonia.pdf.

¹⁹ CESF Consortium, 'Together we Can: The COVID-19 Impact on Stateless People & A Roadmap for Change', (2021), available at: https://files.institutesi.org/together_we_can_report_2021.pdf.

