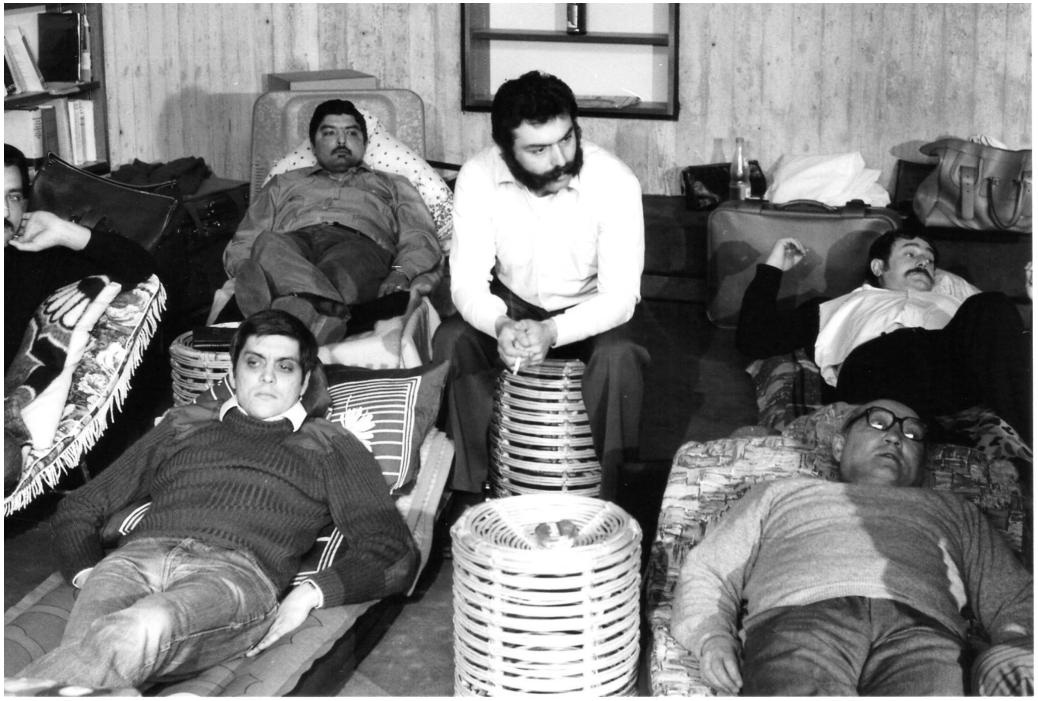
F2 Refusal of recognition

In 1980, the Association of German Sinti and the Society for Threatened Peoples ("Verband Deutscher Sinti und die Gesellschaft") requested the disclosure of the files and records on Sinti and Roma from the Federal Archives that had been compiled during the National Socialist era. They demanded public rehabilitation efforts for this persecuted minority. On 4 April 1980, eleven Sinti went on hunger strike on the grounds of the former Dachau concentration camp. After eight days, the Bavarian Minister of the Interior promised to investigate the files' whereabouts. As a result of the hunger strike, the then Federal Chancellor, Helmut Schmidt, received a delegation from the recently founded Central Council of German Sinti and Roma in 1982. In his declaration, Schmidt recognised the genocide of the 500,000 Sinti and Roma for the first time as binding for the Federal Republic of Germany under international law.



1960 2001

1980-82

Did you know

... that racist discrimination against German Roma and Sinti continued for almost four decades after the end of the Second World War, using files created by the Nazis and often by the same officials?

Your task

Find out which religious, linguistic and ethnic minorities are recognised in your country, and which are not. How can you tell whether someone is a member of a minority or not?

About the photo

The participants to the hunger strike at the Dachau concentration camp memorial in 1980. Central Council of German Sinti and Roma, Heidelberg.

https://www.romasintigenocide.eu/en/f