



## Minority and the UN Human Rights System: Challenges and Opportunities

Report by IMADR | FEATURE STORY

IMADR held a side event entitled "Minority and the UN Human Rights System: Challenges and Opportunities" on March 16, 2012, during the 19th Session of the UN Human Rights Council. Four panelists representing minority communities participated, including Shigeyuki Kumisaka from the Buraku Liberation League of Japan, Romani Rose from the Central Council of German Sinti and Roma, Martin Collins from the Parvee Point Travellers Center in Ireland, and Nimalka Fernando for minority women in South Asia. Graham Fox also gave comments as Human Rights Officer of the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. Professor Theo van Boven from Maastricht University moderated the event. Each speaker presented for 10 minutes, then the floor was opened for discussion. Here, we would like to share the presentation made by Chairperson Romani Rose of the Central Council of German Sinti and Roma.

The Situation of Sinti and Roma in Europe

### IMADR IN THE WORLD



### 90th Anniversary Celebration of the National Levelers Association

On March 3, the Buraku Liberation League (BLL) celebrated the 90th anniversary of its predecessor, the National Levelers Association, which was founded in Kyoto on March 3, 1922, 90 years ago. To celebrate, the BLL convened a national gathering with its constituencies as well as many guests from different sectors, including politicians and people from the business sector, religious organizations, labor unions, minority communities, human rights organizations, and the media.

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### U.S. Military Base Construction in Okinawa Aggravates Racial Discrimination and Human Rights Violations

In early February 2012, two Okinawa-based organizations