

**Commemorative action**  
**"We are equal, not illegal!"**

"We are equal, not illegal!", the event on 17 December 2015, fights for housing rights by **commemorating histories of forced evictions, housing insecurity, of being driven towards informal and precarious housing, discrimination and institutionalized racism in Cluj-Napoca**. These are phenomena experienced by thousands of marginalized Roma and non-Roma. By **claiming the right to adequate and affordable housing in the city** Roma in Pata Rat, Stephenson Street, together with other citizens, show solidarity. A march passes through central locations of the city where in past years public actions were carried out to condemn the forced eviction from Coastei street on 17 December 2010 and to claim the right to housing as a fundamental human right.

"We are equal, not illegal!" brings to the attention of the public and of the authorities that the city's development should not mean exclusion from the city of people who have no money to acquire housing on the private market. Residents of deprived areas also belong to this city, and they should also benefit from local development investments. Central and local government are responsible for the structural violation of the civil political and socio-economic rights of these people. The state can and should intervene in support of those who have been pushed into extreme poverty, including through the provision of decent housing as a form of social protection.

On this occasion, the people of Pata Rât, from the modular homes, the Dallas colony and Cantonului Street, as well as those from Stephenson Street and other citizens of Cluj join anti-austerity social movements, reiterating that "poverty kills". They raise their voice "together for justice" in the public space of Cluj, for recognition as equal citizens of the city, because they all "are souls, not rubbish" and for the fulfilment of the right to "social housing, without discrimination" for all socially marginalized people.

What we commemorate?

Dallas (old Pata Rat) - 40 years of premeditated poverty

Cantonului - 20 years of invisibility

Modular houses (new Pata Rat) - 5 years from the eviction from Coastei street

Stephenson - 2 years under threat of demolition

Cluj - 6 years of civic activism for the right to adequate housing (2010-2015)

What are we doing?

17.00-19.00: Remembrance trail – Memorandumului street, Calea Moșilor, Petru Maior street, Lucian Blaga square, Napoca street, Unirii square, Eroilor boulevard, Avram Iancu square, 21 Decembrie 1989 boulevard, Dávid Ferenc street, Brassai Sámuel street

19.00: Inauguration of commemorative plaque for forced evictions in the city - headquarters [tranzit.ro/cluj](http://tranzit.ro/cluj), 5 Samuel Brassai street.

Organizers: Desire Foundation for Openness and Social Reflection; Community Association of Roma from Coastei; Inhabitants from Dallas, Cantonului and Stephenson streets; Common Front for Housing Rights; Amnesty International; The European Roma Rights Centre; [tranzit.ro/cluj](http://tranzit.ro/cluj); SOS (Sustainably Organized Society)