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**SECRETARIAT OF THE FRAMEWORK CONVENTION FOR THE
PROTECTION OF NATIONAL MINORITIES**

**COMPILATION OF OPINIONS OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
RELATING TO ARTICLE 2 OF THE FRAMEWORK CONVENTION**

FIRST CYCLE

“Article 2

The provisions of this framework Convention shall be applied in good faith, in a spirit of understanding and tolerance and in conformity with the principles of good neighbourliness, friendly relations and co-operation between States.”

Note: this document was produced as a working document only and does not contain footnotes. For publication purposes, please refer to the original opinions.

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1. ALBANIA

Based on the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that implementation of this article does not give rise to any specific observations.

2. ARMENIA

Based on the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that implementation of this article does not give rise to any specific observations.

3. AUSTRIA

Based on the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that implementation of this article does not give rise to any specific observations.

4. AZERBAIJAN

Based on the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that implementation of this article does not give rise to any specific observations.

5. BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

The Advisory Committee notes that the Constitutional Court in its partial decision No. 5/98 of 30 June and 1 July 2000 published in the Official Gazette of 14 September 2000, declared unconstitutional, *inter alia*, paragraph 5 of the Preamble of the Constitution of the Republika Srpska, which recognised “the natural and democratic right, will and determination of the Serb people from the Republika Srpska to link its State completely and tightly with other States of the Serb people”. The Advisory Committee welcomes the new wording of the Preamble of the Constitution of the Republika Srpska, which now, *inter alia*, expresses the intention “to contribute to the development of friendly relations among the peoples and States”, a wording that appears fully in the spirit of Article 2 of the Framework Convention.

6. BULGARIA

Based on the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that the implementation of this article does not give rise to any further observations.

7. CROATIA

Based on the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that the implementation of this article does not give rise to any specific observations.

8. CYPRUS

On the basis of the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that the implementation of this article does not give rise to any specific observations.

9. CZECH REPUBLIC

Based on the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that implementation of this article does not give rise to any specific observations.

10. DENMARK

On the basis of the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that the implementation of this article does not give rise to any specific observations.

11. ESTONIA

Based on the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that the implementation of this article does not give rise to any specific observations.

12. FINLAND

On the basis of the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that the implementation of this article does not give rise to any specific observations.

13. GEORGIA

Based on the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that implementation of this article does not give rise to any specific observations.

14. GERMANY

Based on the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that implementation of this article does not give rise to any specific observations.

15. HUNGARY

On the basis of the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that implementation of this article does not give rise to any specific observations.

16. IRELAND

Based on the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that implementation of this article does not give rise to any specific observations.

17. ITALY

Based on the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that the implementation of this article does not give rise to any specific observations.

18. KOSOVO¹

Article 2

The Advisory Committee considers that implementation of the principles contained in this article are of particular relevance in Kosovo, where the local institutions with limited experience and expertise have to manifest their determination to implement the provisions of the Framework Convention in good faith in order to build trust between various communities after serious setbacks, such as the events of March 2004.

19. LATVIA

Based on the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that implementation of this article does not give rise to any specific observations.

20. LIECHTENSTEIN

See Article 1.

21. LITHUANIA

The Advisory Committee makes reference to its general remarks in paragraph 10 above and its comments under Article 22.

22. MALTA

See Article 1.

23. MONTENEGRO

¹ All reference to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

Based on the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that implementation of this article does not give rise to any specific observations.

24. MOLDOVA

Based on the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that implementation of this Article does not give rise to any specific observations.

25. NETHERLANDS

Based on the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that implementation of this article does not give rise to any specific observation.

26. NORWAY

Based on the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that implementation of this article does not give rise to any specific observations.

27. POLAND

Based on the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that implementation of this article does not give rise to any specific observations.

28. PORTUGAL

Based on the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that implementation of this article does not give rise to any specific observations.

29. ROMANIA

On the basis of the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that the implementation of this article does not give rise to any specific observations.

30. RUSSIAN FEDERATION

The Advisory Committee refers to its comments under Article 18.

31. SAN MARINO

See Article 1.

32. SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO

Based on the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that implementation of this article does not give rise to any specific observations.

33. SLOVAK REPUBLIC

On the basis of the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that the implementation of this article does not give rise to any specific observations.

34. SLOVENIA

On the basis of the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that the implementation of this article does not give rise to any specific observations.

35. SPAIN

Based on the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that implementation of this article does not give rise to any specific observations.

36. SWEDEN

Based on the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that implementation of this article does not give rise to any specific observations.

37. SWITZERLAND

Based on the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that implementation of this article does not give rise to any specific observations.

38. “THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA”

Based on the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that implementation of this article does not give rise to any specific observations.

39. UKRAINE

Based on the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that implementation of this article does not give rise to any specific observations.

40. UNITED KINGDOM

Based on the information currently at its disposal, the Advisory Committee considers that implementation of this article does not give rise to any specific observations.