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Addendum 1

**EUROPEAN CHARTER FOR REGIONAL OR MINORITY LANGUAGES**

**Third Periodical Report  
presented to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe  
in accordance with Article 15 of the Charter**

**CROATIA**

***Comments/questions submitted to the Government of Croatia regarding its Third  
Periodical Report***

*Prepared by the Secretariat of the  
European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages  
Directorate of Co-operation for Local and Regional Democracy  
DG I – Directorate General of Legal Affairs*

**COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS  
FOR THE  
EUROPEAN CHARTER FOR REGIONAL OR MINORITY LANGUAGES**

Comments/questions submitted to the Government of Croatia regarding its Third  
Periodical Report

After a preliminary examination of the Third Periodical Report on the Charter, it was found that additional information on several aspects of the report would be needed before the Committee of Experts could undertake a more detailed evaluation as required by the Charter.

The Croatian Government is therefore invited to reply to the following questions in order to allow the Committee of Experts to complete its examination. This questionnaire will additionally serve as a working document during the Committee of Expert's forthcoming "on-the-spot" mission to Croatia.

The structure of this document follows the Outline for Periodical Reports to be submitted by Contracting Parties (printed in bold). The questions the Committee of Experts would like the authorities to reply to (presented in numerical order) are inserted into the original text of that Outline. General questions are listed at the beginning of the respective article. If the context requires to quote articles of Part III completely, the provisions accepted by Croatia are underlined.

**PRELIMINARY SECTION**

**1. Please provide the necessary background information, such as the relevant historical developments in the country, an overview of the demographic situation with reference to the basic economic data for the regions, as well as information on the constitutional and administrative structure of the State.**

**2. Please indicate all regional or minority languages, as defined in paragraph a of Article 1 of the Charter, which exist within your State's territory. Indicate also the parts of the territory of your state where the speakers of such language(s) reside.**

*Question 1.* The Ukrainian language is mainly spoken in the municipality of Bogdanovci (Vukovar-Sirmium county). Please inform the Committee of Experts to what extent Ukrainian is taught in Bogdanovci and whether it is used by administrative and judicial authorities, in local media, by cultural institutions and in social and economic life.

*Question 2.* The Committee of Experts noted in its previous evaluation report (Finding I, p. 41) that there are indications of “the traditional presence of [Slovenian] in Croatia as a territorial language, at least as far as some areas bordering Slovenia are concerned.” According to the census of 2001, Slovenian is used, for example, in the municipalities of Dubravica (Zagreb county), Klana (Primorje-Gorski Kotar county) and Mursko Središće (Međimurje county). Please inform the Committee of Experts to what extent Slovenian is taught in these municipalities and whether it is used in local media, by cultural institutions and in social and economic life.

*Question 3.* At a seminar on the implementation of the Charter in Croatia that was held in June 2006, the Croatian authorities mentioned the concept of “acquired rights” which seems to apply to areas where regional or minority languages used to enjoy a level of protection that has subsequently been withdrawn. This is a constitutional principle, but its concrete status seems to be unclear. Could you please provide some information on this concept and whether the principle is followed by any degree of practical implementation?

**3. Please indicate the number of speakers for each regional or minority language. Specify the criteria for the definition of “speaker of regional or minority language” that your state has retained for this purpose.**

*Question 4.* The data provided by the Central Bureau of Statistics on the number of regional or minority language speakers is from 2001. In view of the general decreasing trend in the number of speakers of regional or minority languages (see 3<sup>rd</sup> periodical report, page 21), is there more recent data on the number of speakers for each regional or minority language?

**4. Please indicate the non-territorial languages, as defined in paragraph c of Article 1 of the Charter, used within your State's territory and provide statistical data concerning speakers.**

**5. Please provide recent general statements on the policy of your State concerning the protection of regional or minority languages where it may be of use to supplement the above four points.**

## **PART I**

**1. Please state the main legal act(s) and/or provisions that you consider essential for the implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages in your country. Please provide:**

- **copies of those acts and/or provisions, in English or French, should your country not have done so in relation to the initial periodical report<sup>1</sup>;**

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<sup>1</sup> The principal legal acts and/or provisions referred to are meant to facilitate the Committee of Experts' assessment and should reduce the number of supplementary questions the Committee has to address to state Parties. The Committee will however take due account of the specific problems of particular countries, especially those with complex administrative structures or numerous legislative bodies.

- **details and copies of new legislation or policy documents with relevance to the regional or minority languages;**

*Question 5.* Please provide a copy, in English or French, of the Act of the Use of Languages and Scripts of National Minorities in the Republic of Croatia 2000.

Please provide a copy, in English or French, of the Act on Education in the Languages and Scripts of National Minorities 2000.

- **details of case law or other legal or administrative developments in this field.**

**2. Please indicate the bodies or organisations, legally established in your state, which further the protection and development of regional or minority languages. Please, list the names and addresses of such organisations.**

*Question 6.* Please provide an exhaustive list of all bodies or organisations, legally established in the Republic of Croatia, which further the protection and promotion of regional or minority languages. Accordingly, please provide the full contact details of those organisations.

**3. Please indicate if any body or organisation has been consulted about the preparation of this periodical report or about the implementation of the recommendations of the Committee of Ministers addressed to your state. In the case of an affirmative answer, specify which one(s).**

**4. Please indicate the measures taken (in accordance with Article 6 of the Charter) to make better known the rights and the duties deriving from the application of the Charter.**

**5. It is understood that full details of the measures taken to implement the recommendations of the Committee of Ministers will appear in the body of the report. Nevertheless, please summarise those measures for each recommendation.**

### **Recommendation 1**

*Question 7.* Please list the percentage or numbers of speakers<sup>2</sup> of regional or minority languages concerned by the application of Part III in the municipal territories within the counties listed in the 3<sup>rd</sup> periodical report (see page 9).

*Question 8.* The 3<sup>rd</sup> periodical report states that the Croatian Government will reconsider the declaration on the territory of application of the regional or minority languages protected under Part III, and provide an opinion in its next report. Has there in the meantime been any further consideration on this point?

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<sup>2</sup> The numbers of speakers can be based, for example, on the numbers of persons who declared their “mother tongue” to be other than Croatian in the 2001 Census.

## **Recommendation 2**

*Question 9.* The 3<sup>rd</sup> periodical report states that a conclusion that is of concern for the implementation of this recommendation was proposed in a report submitted to the Croatian Parliament for adoption in June 2006. Please give information as to its concrete outcome.

## **Recommendation 3**

*Question 10.* If pre-school education falls within the competence of the local self-governments (see 3<sup>rd</sup> periodical report, page 10), on the basis of which criteria do the local self-governments decide whether pre-school education in the regional or minority language is offered? Do the local self-governments have any procedures to inform parents of the possibility to request pre-school education in Ruthenian and Ukrainian for their children?

*Question 11.* Does pre-school education currently exist in Ruthenian and Ukrainian?

*Question 12.* Do the primary school Model C classes for Slovak, Ruthenian and Ukrainian take place within the regular curriculum hours?

*Question 13.* Have any measures been taken to introduce the teaching in or of Slovak, Ruthenian and Ukrainian at secondary school level (with regard to Slovak, see page 8 of the 3<sup>rd</sup> periodical report)?

## **Recommendation 4**

*Question 14.* With regard to teacher training: Have any advisers been elected for the Ruthenian and Ukrainian languages? Is the election of advisers (see 3<sup>rd</sup> periodical report, page 11) linked to a long-term and structured policy for teacher training?

*Question 15.* With regard to teaching materials, please give more details, for each regional or minority language separately, on the amount of the Government's financial contribution to the creation of textbooks, to the translation of textbooks and to the acquisition of textbooks from kin-states. Do the authorities systematically support the provision of original teaching materials?

## **Recommendation 5**

*Question 16.* Please indicate what concrete measures the Government has taken to ensure the practical implementation of the speakers' right to use their regional or minority languages in relations with the relevant branches of the State Administration.

## **Recommendation 6**

*Question 17.* Please indicate what concrete action the Government has taken to ensure the implementation of the use of bilingual place-names in all relevant areas.

## **Recommendation 7**

*Question 18.* What was the outcome of the negotiations with the Radio and Television Council on creating distinct television programmes for each minority (see para. 163 of the 2<sup>nd</sup> evaluation report)?

*Question 19.* Are there any programmes on public radio in Serbian, Ruthenian and Ukrainian?

## **Recommendation 8**

*Question 20.* Please indicate whether Slovene-speakers have been consulted in order to clarify the nature of the traditional presence of the Slovene language in Croatia.

**6. Indicate what steps your state has taken to inform the following of the recommendations:**

- **all levels of government (national, federal, local and regional authorities or administrations);**
- **judicial authorities;**
- **legally established bodies and associations.**

**7. Please explain how your state has involved the above, in implementing the recommendations.**

## **PART II**

### **Objectives and principles pursued in accordance with Article 2, paragraph 1**

#### **Article 7 – Objectives and principles**

- 1 In respect of regional or minority languages, within the territories in which such languages are used and according to the situation of each language, the Parties shall base their policies, legislation and practice on the following objectives and principles:**
  - b the respect of the geographical area of each regional or minority language in order to ensure that existing or new administrative divisions do not constitute an obstacle to the promotion of the regional or minority language in question;**

*Question 21.* Please indicate whether there have been any requests from regional or minority language speakers to change the administrative boundaries of 1992/93, especially in the areas where Hungarian is spoken (see 2<sup>nd</sup> evaluation report, paras. 17 – 19).

*Question 22.* Have there been any changes or plans to change the existing administrative divisions?

**c the need for resolute action to promote regional or minority languages in order to safeguard them;**

*Question 23.* Have local minority councils been established for all regional or minority languages? In which municipalities or counties have these councils been set up, and for which languages? Has their role been made better known to the speakers of regional or minority languages (see para. 21 of the 2<sup>nd</sup> evaluation report and page 8 of the 3<sup>rd</sup> periodical report)?

**f the provision of appropriate forms and means for the teaching and study of regional or minority languages at all appropriate stages;**

*Question 24.* Has the Government taken any steps to improve the practical conditions in which Model C is used and is it used inside the regular curriculum (see para. 30 of the 2<sup>nd</sup> evaluation report and Question 13 with regard to Recommendation 3)?

*Question 25.* Please provide information on the situation of the special form of education by correspondence with regard to Serbian and whether the plans for setting up a multilingual school in Zagreb have been pursued (see 2<sup>nd</sup> evaluation report, para. 31.).

**g the provision of facilities enabling non-speakers of a regional or minority language living in the area where it is used to learn it if they so desire;**

*Question 26.* Please provide information regarding the possibility for non-speakers of a regional or minority language living in the area where it is used to learn the regional or minority language if they so desire (with the exception of Italian. See 2<sup>nd</sup> evaluation report, para. 32).

**h the promotion of study and research on regional or minority languages at universities or equivalent institutions;**

*Question 27.* What measures have been taken to promote the study and research on Ruthenian at universities or equivalent institutions (see para. 33, 2<sup>nd</sup> evaluation report).

**i the promotion of appropriate types of transnational exchanges, in the fields covered by this Charter, for regional or minority languages used in identical or similar form in two or more States.**

*Question 28.* With regard to the Italian language, what is the present situation of the broadcasting of Italian language television and radio channels located in Koper/ Capodistria to the whole part of Istria and to the city of Rijeka (see 2<sup>nd</sup> evaluation report paras 34 – 36)?

*Question 29.* With regard to Ruthenian, have any measures been taken to promote transnational exchanges with those countries where the Ruthenian language is spoken, for example with Hungary, Slovakia (see 2<sup>nd</sup> evaluation report, para 37) and Serbia?

- 3 The Parties undertake to promote, by appropriate measures, mutual understanding between all the linguistic groups of the country and in particular the inclusion of respect, understanding and tolerance in relation to regional or minority languages among the objectives of education and training provided within their countries and encouragement of the mass media to pursue the same objective.**

[see Recommendation 2]

### **PART III**

**Measures to promote the use of regional or minority languages in public life in accordance with the undertakings entered into under Article 2, paragraph 2**

#### **Article 8 – Education**

*General question*

*Question 30.* According to the provisions of the Act on Education in the Language and Script of National Minorities, education may be offered for a smaller number of pupils than that prescribed for mainstream schools (see pages 16 – 17 of the 3<sup>rd</sup> periodical report). Is there a fixed minimum number of pupils that is considered sufficient in order to apply the measures for pre-school, primary school, secondary school and technical and vocational education to regional or minority languages (see 2<sup>nd</sup> evaluation report, paras. 72 – 73)? Do any procedures exist to inform parents of the possibility to request education for their children in regional or minority languages?

- 1 With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:**
  - a i to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or**
  - ii to make available a substantial part of pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or**
  - iii to apply one of the measures provided for under i and ii above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient; or**



- iv if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of pre-school education, to favour and/or encourage the application of the measures referred to under i to iii above;<sup>3</sup>**

[See Recommendation 3]

- b i to make available primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or**
- ii to make available a substantial part of primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or**
- iii to provide, within primary education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or**
- iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient;**

[See Recommendation 3]

- c i to make available secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or**
- ii to make available a substantial part of secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or**
- iii to provide, within secondary education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or**
- iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;**

[See Recommendation 3]

- d i to make available technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or**
- ii to make available a substantial part of technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or**

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<sup>3</sup> Provisions accepted by Croatia are underlined.

**iii to provide, within technical and vocational education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or**

**iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;**

*Question 31.* Please provide information on the teaching in or of the Czech, Slovak, Ruthenian and Ukrainian languages in technical and vocational education.

**e i to make available university and other higher education in regional or minority languages; or**

**ii to provide facilities for the study of these languages as university and higher education subjects; or**

**iii if, by reason of the role of the State in relation to higher education institutions, sub-paragraphs i and ii cannot be applied, to encourage and/or allow the provision of university or other forms of higher education in regional or minority languages or of facilities for the study of these languages as university or higher education subjects;**

*Question 32.* Please provide more detailed information on the provision of facilities for the study of all Part III languages, especially Hungarian, Ruthenian and Ukrainian.

*Question 33.* Please give information on whether measures have been taken to recognise higher education diplomas obtained in third-state parties, especially in the case of the Italian language (see 2<sup>nd</sup> evaluation report, para. 92).

*Question 34.* Please state whether measures have been taken to strengthen the provision of university studies in the Serbian language (see 2<sup>nd</sup> evaluation report, para. 90).

**f ii to offer such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education; or**

*Question 35.* Please provide information as to the measures taken in the field of adult and continuing education for all Part III languages.

**g to make arrangements to ensure the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the regional or minority language;**

*Question 36.* Please indicate to what extent Article 6 para. 1 of the Act on Education in the Languages and Scripts of National Minorities, stating that 30% of the curriculum of minority education is designed to include specific elements of the history and culture, is implemented in practice (see para. 99 of the 2<sup>nd</sup> evaluation report).

*Question 37.* Please provide information on arrangements that have been made to ensure the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the regional or minority languages for Croatian-speaking pupils in the national curriculum or at least in the curriculum in those territories where the regional or minority languages are spoken (see para. 100 of the 2<sup>nd</sup> evaluation report).

**h to provide the basic and further training of the teachers required to implement those of paragraphs a to g accepted by the Party;**

[See Recommendation 4]

## **Article 9 – Judicial authorities**

### *General questions*

*Question 38.* The 3<sup>rd</sup> periodical report states that the lack of use of regional or minority languages in court proceedings is due to the fact that the legal counsels representing the speakers rarely speak the regional or minority language themselves, apart from Italian in Istarska County and possibly Hungarian in the Beli Manastir Municipal Court (see page 21). Is there any systematic collection of data on the language competency of lawyers? Is there any language training for lawyers?

*Question 39.* The use of the Italian language in court proceedings has been facing a downward trend (see 3<sup>rd</sup> periodical report, page 21). Are the reasons for this decrease known?

**1 The Parties undertake, in respect of those judicial districts in which the number of residents using the regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below, according to the situation of each of these languages and on condition that the use of the facilities afforded by the present paragraph is not considered by the judge to hamper the proper administration of justice:**

**a in criminal proceedings**

**ii to guarantee the accused the right to use his/her regional or minority language; and/ or**

**iv to produce, on request, documents connected with legal proceedings in the relevant regional or minority language,**

**if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations involving no extra expense for the persons concerned;**

**b in civil proceedings:**

- ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or
  - iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,
- if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations
- c in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:
    - ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or
    - iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,
- if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

*Question 40.* Please state for all languages whether in practice documents and evidence have been submitted and accepted in regional or minority languages.

## **2 The Parties undertake:**

- a not to deny the validity of legal documents drawn up within the State solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language; or

*Question 41.* Please state whether there have been any recent examples of legally issued documents in any regional or minority languages.

## **Article 10 – Administrative authorities and public services**

### *General question*

*Question 42.* The 3<sup>rd</sup> periodical report states that there is a trend towards wider exercise of the right to use regional or minority languages before administrative authorities (see page 22). Can this trend be confirmed with statistics or other proof?

- 1 Within the administrative districts of the State in which the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below and according to the situation of each language, the Parties undertake, as far as this is reasonably possible:
  - a iii to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications and receive a reply in these languages; or

*Question 43.* What measures have been taken to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications to the State authorities in the relevant districts and receive a reply in these languages, for example with regard to tax offices?

- b to make available widely used administrative texts and forms for the population in the regional or minority languages or in bilingual versions.**

*Question 44.* Have widely used administrative texts and forms been made available for the population in the regional or minority languages or in bilingual forms, for example with regard to tax offices (see paras 128 – 131 of the 2<sup>nd</sup> evaluation report)?

- c to allow the administrative authorities to draft documents in a regional or minority language.**

*Question 45.* Have documents, apart from identity cards, been drafted in a regional or minority language? For example, what kind of bilingual certificates and attestations were issued (see 3<sup>rd</sup> periodical report, page 23)? Could you also give other concrete examples?

- 2 In respect of the local and regional authorities on whose territory the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages is such as to justify the measures specified below, the Parties undertake to allow and/or encourage:**

*General question:*

*Question 46.* Is there any policy to recruit local or regional government staff with a knowledge of regional or minority languages in the relevant territories, in order to guarantee the implementation of Article 10.2. a – d)?

- a the use of regional or minority languages within the framework of the regional or local authority;**

*Question 47.* Please state in which regional or local authorities the regional or minority languages, particularly Ukrainian and Ruthenian, are used. In which regional or local authority is the regional or minority language used as a working language of oral communication, not only to the speakers but within the authority itself (as seems to be the case in the municipality of Brtonigla for the Italian language – see page 35 of the 3<sup>rd</sup> periodical report)?

- b the possibility for users of regional or minority languages to submit oral or written applications in these languages;**

*Question 48.* To what extent is this undertaking implemented in practice? Are speakers aware of the possibility to submit oral or written applications in regional or minority languages?

- c the publication by regional authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;**

*Question 49.* Have any of the Counties, in their capacity as regional authorities, published official documents in the relevant regional or minority languages?

- d the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;**

*Question 50.* Beyond the emblematic use of regional or minority languages in official documents, for example in letter-heads, seals and stamps etc. (see 3<sup>rd</sup> periodical report pages 24 – 37), to what extent are regional or minority languages used in official documents? If so, please give examples by naming the nature of the document and the municipality.

- g the use or adoption, if necessary in conjunction with the name in the official language(s), of traditional and correct forms of place-names in regional or minority languages.**

[see Recommendation 6]

- 3 With regard to public services provided by the administrative authorities or other persons acting on their behalf, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which regional or minority languages are used, in accordance with the situation of each language and as far as this is reasonably possible:**

- a to ensure that the regional or minority languages are used in the provision of the service; or**

*Question 51.* Please provide comprehensive information as to what steps have been taken to ensure that the regional or minority languages are used in the provision of public services (apart from the local branches of the Croatian Employment Office in Pula for the Italian language).

*Question 52.* With regard to the Croatian Institute for Pension Insurance, please name the local offices in which the Act on the Use of Languages is implemented.

*Question 53.* Please indicate what is done to make the speakers of regional or minority languages are aware of the option to submit a request and receive a reply in these languages.

- b to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request and receive a reply in these languages; or**

## **Article 11 – Media**

**1 The Parties undertake, for the users of the regional or minority languages within the territories in which those languages are spoken, according to the situation of each language, to the extent that the public authorities, directly or indirectly, are competent, have power or play a role in this field, and respecting the principle of the independence and autonomy of the media:**

**a to the extent that radio and television carry out a public service mission:**

**iii to make adequate provision so that broadcasters offer programmes in the regional or minority languages;**

*Question 54.* According to the 3<sup>rd</sup> periodical report (see page 38), a fund has been established on the basis of the Act on the Electronic Media, which national minorities could benefit from. What decision has the Electronic Media Council made on allocating the funds since 2005? Is this funding linked to the production and/ or broadcasting of programmes under Article 5 of the Act on Croatian Radio and Television?

*Question 55.* Please give updated figures on the programme “Prizma”: which regional or minority languages are covered and for what amount of time? At what time is the programme broadcast? Have any steps been taken to adapt its format so as not to convey a folklore image of regional or minority languages (see para. 163 of the 2<sup>nd</sup> evaluation report and page 8 of the 3<sup>rd</sup> periodical report - Slovak)?

*Question 56.* In which language(s) is the new programme “City Folk” broadcast?

[see also Recommendation 7]

**d to encourage and/ or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audiovisual works in the regional or minority languages;**

*Question 57.* According to the 3<sup>rd</sup> periodical report (see page 38), Art 5 of the Media Act prescribes support to encourage the production and diffusion of programmes in the media, relating to providing information to members of national minorities. Does the Government within this context, or any other context, support the funding of audio and audiovisual works in the regional or minority languages? If so, is the financial support ring-fenced?

**e ii to encourage and/ or facilitate the publication of newspaper articles in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;**

*Question 58.* According to the 3<sup>rd</sup> periodical report (see page 38), Art 5 of the Media Act prescribes support for the launching of new printed media for, amongst other things, minority associations. Does the Government within this context, or any other context, support the regular publication of newspapers or newspaper articles in the regional or minority languages? If so, is the financial support ring-fenced?

*Question 59.* With the exception of Italian, has the Government taken any measures to encourage and/or facilitate the publication of newspaper articles (see 2<sup>nd</sup> evaluation report, para 172 - 177)? If so, for which languages?

**3 The Parties undertake to ensure that the interests of the users of regional or minority languages are represented or taken into account within such bodies as may be established in accordance with the law with responsibility for guaranteeing the freedom and pluralism of the media.**

*Question 60.* Please state how the interests of regional or minority language speakers are represented in the Radio and Television Council? Is there any system or process to ensure that the interests of these speakers are taken into account (see 2<sup>nd</sup> evaluation report, para. 180)?

### **Article 12 – Cultural activities and facilities**

**1 With regard to cultural activities and facilities – especially libraries, video libraries, cultural centres, museums, archives, academies, theatres and cinemas, as well as literary work and film production, vernacular forms of cultural expression, festivals and the culture industries, including inter alia the use of new technologies – the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used and to the extent that the public authorities are competent, have power or play a role in this field:**

- a to encourage types of expression and initiative specific to regional or minority languages and foster the different means of access to works produced in these languages;**

*Question 61.* Apart from the production of the CD “Musical Heritage of national minorities in Croatia” (see 3<sup>rd</sup> periodical report p.42), has the Government supported the production of audio or audiovisual works in regional or minority languages?

*Question 62.* The 3<sup>rd</sup> periodical report lists the amount of state funds for national minority programmes (see page 46) that were allocated for each individual national minority. Have any funds been allocated to the Italian speakers?

- g to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of a body or bodies responsible for collecting, keeping a copy of and presenting or publishing works produced in the regional or minority languages;**

*Question 63.* Has the Government encouraged and/ or facilitated the creation of a body or bodies with regard to audio or audiovisual works?



## Article 13 – Economic and social life

### “Paragraph 1

**With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, within the whole country:**

- c to oppose practices designed to discourage the use of regional or minority languages in connection with economic or social activities;**

*Question 64.* Has the Government been made aware of any practices designed to discourage the use of regional or minority languages in connection with economic or social activities? Has the Government developed specific measures aimed at opposing such kinds of practices?

## Article 14 – Transfrontier exchanges

**The Parties undertake:**

- a To apply existing bilateral and multilateral agreements which bind them with the States in which the same language is used in identical and similar form, or if necessary to seek to conclude such agreements, in such a way as to foster contacts between the users of the same language in the States concerned in the fields of culture, education, information, vocational training and permanent education;**

*Question 65.* Apart from the town twinning activities and the 2004 Agreement with Serbia and Montenegro mentioned in the 3<sup>rd</sup> periodical report (see page 49), are there any bilateral or multilateral agreements, such as that between Croatia and Italy or that between Croatia and Hungary, as mentioned in the 1<sup>st</sup> evaluation report (see para. 108)? Are there similar agreements with the Czech Republic, the Slovak Republic and Ukraine?