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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**

SERBIA

The Republic of Serbia

THE THIRD PERIODICAL REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN CHARTER FOR REGIONAL OR MINORITY LANGUAGES IN THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

Belgrade, December 2014

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1. INTRODUCTION

1. Pursuant to Article 15 of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (hereinafter referred to as the Charter), which was ratified with the Law on Ratification of the European Charter on Regional or Minority Languages (Official Bulletin of Serbia and Montenegro – International Treaties, no. 18/05), the Republic of Serbia submits the Third Periodical Report (hereinafter referred to as the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter) for the period 2010-2012, conducted in accordance with the Revised outline for three-yearly periodical reports to be submitted by contracting parties (MIN-LANG (2009) 8), which was adopted at the 1056th meeting of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe held on 6 May 2009.

2. The Third Periodical Report on the implementation of the Charter was prepared by the Office for Human and Minority Rights. The following state bodies took part in the development of the Report:¹ the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development, the Ministry of Justice and Public Administration, the Ministry of Culture and Information, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as well as the provincial authorities of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina: the Provincial Secretariat for Education, Administration and National Communities and the Provincial Secretariat for Culture and Public Information.

3. All local self-government units, which have a minority language in official use, were invited to participate in the compilation of the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter, and the following replied to the invitation: Ada, Apatin, Bač, Bačka Palanka, Bačka Topola, Bečej, Vrbas, Dimitrovgrad, the city of Zaječar, the city of Zrenjanin, Kanjiža, Kikinda, Kladovo, Kovin, Kula, the city of Novi Pazar, the city of Novi Sad, Nova Crnja, Plandište, Preševo, Priboj, Prijepolje, Senta, the city of Sombor, the city of Subotica, Temerin and Titel. The Statistical Institute of the Republic of Serbia, the Republic Broadcasting Agency and the Republic Geodetic Authority also contributed to the compilation of this Report. Specific basic and higher courts were consulted in the compilation of this Report, and the following submitted their supplements: the Basic Court in Kikinda, the Basic Court in Novi Pazar, the Basic Court in Novi Sad, the Basic Court in Pančevo, the Basic Court in Prijepolje, the Basic Court in Sombor, the Basic Court in Subotica; the Higher Court in Leskovac, the Higher Court in Zrenjanin, the Higher Court in Kraljevo, the Higher Court in Novi Pazar, the Higher Court in Pančevo, the Higher Court in Sombor, the Higher Court in Subotica; public companies such as *Telekom Srbija*

¹ In the Third Periodical Report on the implementation of the Charter are listed names of the state authorities that submitted their supplements for Charter development under their stated names, in accordance with then applicable Law on Ministries (July 2012). The adoption of the new Law on Ministries (in April 2014) resulted in the change of competences of some ministries and, consequently, their names.

a.d. and *Railways of Serbia*, as well as cultural institutions such as the Institute for Culture of Ruthenians in Vojvodina.

4. Although all the national councils of national minorities were invited to participate in the compilation of this Report, the National Councils of the Albanian, Hungarian, Macedonian, Ruthenian, Croatian and Czech national minority only responded and their reports are presented in their original form as “Supplements”; the following citizens associations, which bring together persons belonging to national minorities or deal with the protection of the rights of national minorities, were invited to participate in the compilation of the Report: the Albanian Cultural association *Perspektiva*, Bujanovac; Human Rights Committee, Bujanovac; Writers’ Association *Feniks*, Preševo; Cultural Center *DamaD*, Novi Pazar; Association for Spiritual, Cultural and Scientific Affirmation of Bosniacs *Ašik Junus Center*, Novi Pazar; Association for Science, Culture and Art of Bosniacs *IKRE*, Prijepolje; Association *Matica Bugara u Srbiji*, Bosilegrad; Civic Association Cultural and Information Center for Bulgarian minority *Caribrod*, Dimitrovgrad; Association for the Bulgarian language, literature and culture, Novi Sad; Bunjevac Culutral Center Tavankut, Donji Tavankut; Bunjevac Cultural Center, Subotica; *Bunjevačka Matica*, Subotica; Vlach Forum, Bor; Vlach Association *Примовара*, Zlot; *Paulj Matejić* Vlach Community, Melnica; *Gergina* Association, Negotin; Association for the Hungarian language *Sarvaš Gabor*, Ada; Teachers’ Association of the Hungarians in North Bačka, Subotica; Cultural Association of Hungarians in Vojvodina - *Vajdasági Magyar Művelődési Szövetség*, Subotica; Scientific Association for Hungarology Research, Subotica; Civic Association of the Macedonian National Minority *Kiril i Metodij*, Novi Sad; Civic Association of the Macedonian National Community *Vardar – Plandište*, Plandište; Foundation for the Development and Preservation of the Macedonian Culture *Makedonsko Sunce*, Subotica; German Association *Donau*, Novi Sad; German People's Union, Subotica; Coalition of Roma NGOs and associations of coalitions *Anglunipe – Napredak*, Belgrade; Romanian Community in Serbia, Vršac; Society for the Romanian Language in Vojvodina – Republic of Serbia, Vršac; Literary and Artistic Society *Tibiskus*, Uzdin; Ruthenian Cultural Center, Novi Sad; Society for the Ruthenian Language, Literature and Culture, Novi Sad; *Matica Rusinska*, Ruski Krstur; *Matica Slovačka u Srbiji*, Bački Petrovac; Slovak Cultural Center *Pavel Jozef Šaferik*, Novi Sad; Slovakian Society of Vojvodina, Novi Sad; Cultural and Education Society *Karpati*, Vrbas; Society for Preserving the Ukrainian Culture *Kolomejka*, Sremska Mitrovica; Society for the Ukrainian Language, Literature and Culture *Prosvita*, Novi Sad; *Matica Češka*, Bela Crkva; Cultural and Educational Association The Czechs of South Banat, Bela Crkva; *Češa Beseda Bela Crkva*, Bela Crkva; Croatian Cultural and Educational Society *Jelačić*, Petrovaradin; *Matica Hrvatska*, Subotica; Croatian Cultural Society *Šid, Šid*; supplements were submitted by: the Vlach Forum, Bor, *Primovara* Vlach Association, Zlot, and *Gergina* Association, Negotin.

5. The following national regulations were used in the Report:

- The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia (Official Gazette of the RS, No.98/06)

Laws

- The Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities (Official Journal of the FRY, nos. 11/02 and Official Gazette of the RS, No. 72/09 – law and 97/13 – decision of the Constitutional Court)
- The Law on National Councils of National Minorities (Official Gazette of the RS, nos. 72/09, 20/14 – decision of the Constitutional Court and 55/14)
- The Law on Basic Principles of the Educational System (Official Gazette of the RS, nos. 72/09, 52/11 and 55/13)
- The Law on Pre-school Education (Official Gazette of the RS, no. 18/10)
- The Law on Primary School (Official Gazette of the RS, nos. 50/92, 53/93, 67/93, 48/94, 66/94 – decision of the Constitutional Court, 22/02, 62/03 – other law, 64/03 - corr. of other law, 101/05 – other law, 72/09 – other law) - repealed
- The Law on Primary Education (Official Gazette of the RS, no. 55/13)
- The Law on Secondary Schools (Official Gazette of the RS, nos. 50/92, 53/93, 67/93, 48/94, 24/96, 23/02, 25/02 - corr, 62/03 – other law, 64/03 - corr. of other law, 101/05 – other law and 72/09 – other law) – repealed
- The Law on Primary Education (Official Gazette of the RS, no. 55/13)
- The Law on Higher Education (Official Gazette of the RS, nos. 76/05, 100/07 – authentic interpretation, 97/08, 44/10, 93/12 , 89/13 and 99/14)
- The Law on Adult Education (Official Gazette of the RS, no. 55/13)
- The Law on Textbooks and Other Teaching Materials (Official Gazette of the RS, no. 72/09)
- The Criminal Procedure Code (Official Journal of the FRY, nos. 70/01 and 68/02, Official Gazette of the RS, nos. 58/04, 85/05, 115/05, 49/07, 122/08 – other law, 20/09 – other law and 72/09 and 76/10) – repealed
- The Criminal Procedure Code (Official Gazette of the RS, nos. 72/11, 101/11, 121/12, 32/13, 45/13 and 55/14)
- The Law on Civil Procedure (Official Gazette of the RS, nos. 125/04 and 111/09) – repealed
- The Law on Civil Procedure (Official Gazette of the RS, nos. 72/11, 49/13 – decision of the Constitutional Court, 74/13- decision of the Constitutional Court and 55/14)
- The Law on Non-Contentious Procedure (Official Gazette of the RS, nos. 25/82 and 48/88 and Official Gazette of the RS, no. 46/95 – other law, 18/05 – other law, 85/12, 45/13 – other law and 55/14)
- The Law on General Administrative Procedure (Official Journal of the FRY, nos. 33/97 and 31/01 and Official Gazette of the RS, no. 30/10)
- The Law on Administrative Disputes (Official Gazette of the RS, no. 111/09)
- The Law on High Judicial Council (Official Gazette of the RS, nos. 116/08, 101/10 and 88/11)
- The Law on Organization of Courts (Official Gazette of the RS, nos. 116/08, 104/09, 101/10, 31/11 – other law, 78/11 – other law, 101/11 and 101/13)
- The Law on Seats and Territorial Jurisdiction of Courts and Public Prosecutors' Offices (Official Gazette of the RS, no. 116/08) – repealed
- The Law on Seats and Territorial Jurisdiction of Courts and Public Prosecutors' Offices (Official Gazette of the RS, no. 101/13) – applies since January 2014

- The Law on the Establishment of Specific Competences of AP Vojvodina (Official Gazette of the RS, nos. 99/09 and 67/2012 – decision of the Constitutional Court)
- The Law on Local Self-Government (Official Gazette of the RS, nos. 129/07 and 83/14 – other law)
- The Law on Official Use of Languages and Scripts (Official Gazette of the RS, nos. 45/91, 53/93 – other law, 67/93 - other law, 48/94 - other law, 101/05 – other law and 30/10)
- The Law on Identity Card (Official Gazette of the RS, nos. 62/06 and 36/11)
- The Law on Registers of Births, Marriages and Deaths (Official Gazette of the RS, no. 20/09)
- The Law on Ministries (Official Gazette of the RS, nos. 65/08, 36/09 – other law and 73/10 – other law) – repealed
- The Law on Ministries (Official Gazette of the RS, no. 16/11) - repealed
- The Law on Ministries (Official Gazette of the RS, nos. 72/12, 76/13 and 34/14 – decision of the Constitutional Court) – repealed
- The Law on Ministries (Official Gazette of the RS, no.44/14)
- The Law on the Census of Population, Households and Dwellings in 2011 (Official Gazette of the RS, nos. 104/09 and 24/11)
- The Public Information Law (Official Gazette of the RS, nos. 43/03, 61/05, 71/09, 89/10 – decision of the Constitutional Court and 41/11 – decision of the Constitutional Court) – repealed
- The Broadcasting Law (Official Gazette of the RS, nos. 42/02, 97/04, 76/05, 79/05 – other law, 62/06, 85/06, 86/06 - corr. and 41/2009) – repealed
- The Law on Public Information and the Media (Official Gazette of the RS no. 83/14)
- The Law on Electronic Media (Official Gazette of the RS, no.83/14)
- The Law on Public Service Broadcasting (Official Gazette of the RS, no.83/14)
- The Law on Culture (Official Gazette of the RS, no.72/09)

International treaties

- The Agreement between Serbia and Montenegro and the Republic of Hungary on the Protection of Rights of the Hungarian National Minority Living in Serbia and Montenegro and of the Serbian National Minority Living in the Republic of Hungary (Official Bulletin of Serbia and Montenegro – International Treaties, no. 14/04)
- The Agreement between Serbia and Montenegro and the Republic of Macedonia on the Protection of the Serbian and Montenegrin National Minorities in the Republic of Macedonia and of the Macedonian National Minority in Serbia and Montenegro (Official Bulletin of Serbia and Montenegro - International Treaties, no. 6/05)
- The Agreement between the Federal Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Government of Romania on Cooperation in the Field of the Protection of National Minorities (Official Bulletin of Serbia and Montenegro - International Treaties, no. 14/04)
- The Agreement between Serbia and Montenegro and the Republic of Croatia on the Protection of Rights of the Serbian and Montenegrin Minorities in the Republic of

Croatia and the Croatian Minority in Serbia and Montenegro (Official Bulletin of Serbia and Montenegro - International Treaties, no. 3/05)

- The Agreement on Scientific, Educational and Cultural Cooperation between the Federal Executive Council of the SFRY Assembly and the Government of NSR Albania (Official Gazette of the RS – International Treaties, no. 11/90)
- The Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Serbia and the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the Field of Education, Culture and Sports (Official Gazette of the RS – International Treaties, no. 6/11)
- The Agreement on Cultural Cooperation between FNR Yugoslavia and NR Bulgaria (Addendum to Official Journal, no. 12/57)
- The Agreement on Cultural and Scientific Cooperation between SFRY and FR Germany (Official Journal of the SFRY – International Treaties and Other Agreements, no. 46/70)

Bylaws

- The Decree on the Republic of Serbia Council of National Minorities (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 50/09) – repealed
- The Decision on the Establishment of the Council for National Minorities (Official Gazette of the RS, nos. 46/13 and 98/13)
- The Identity Card Rulebook (Official Gazette of the RS, nos. 11/07 and 9/08)
- The Guidelines for Keeping Registers of Births, Marriages and Deaths and Their Forms (Official Gazette of the RS, nos. 109/09, 4/10 – corr., 10/10, 25/11, 5/13 and 94/13)
- The Court Rules of Procedure (Official Gazette of the RS, nos. 110/09, 70/11, 19/12 and 89/13)

Strategic documents

- The Strategy for Improvement of the Status of Roma in the Republic of Serbia (Official Gazette of the RS, no. 27/09)
- The Strategy for Development of the Public Information System in the Republic of Serbia until 2016 (Official Gazette of the RS, no. 75/11)
- The Strategy for Development of Education in Serbia until 2020 (Official Gazette of the RS, no. 107/12)

Provincial regulations

- The Statute of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina (Official Journal of the APV, no. 17/11) - repealed
- The Statute of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina (Official Journal of the APV, no. 20/14)
- The Decision on More Specific Regulation of Certain Issues concerning Official Use of Languages and Scripts of National Minorities in the Territory of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina (Official Journal of the APV, nos. 8/03, 9/03 – corr. and 18/09 – name of the document changed and Official Gazette of the RS, no. 69/10 – decision of the Constitutional Court)

6. In order to avoid unnecessary repetitions, the data on the financial support by state and provincial authorities contained in the tables of the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter refer to the period of three years (2010-2012), unless indicated otherwise, and these data are expressed in dinars. For the purpose of harmonisation of the terms used with the Charter, the following expressions are used in the Report: *minority language* is a synonym for *national minority language* and *user* or *minority language speaker* is used in terms of the speaker of his/her mother tongue expressed in the census.

7. All expressions used in this Report in the male gender shall also include the same expressions in the female gender.

2. PART I

2.1. New demographics

2.1.1. Organisation and execution of consensus in 2011

8. The consensus of population, households and dwellings in 2011 was conducted on the basis of the Law on Census of Population, Households and Dwellings in 2011 which, *inter alia*, *determines* that the census is prepared, organised and conducted by the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia, and that specific activities of preparation, organisation and execution of the consensus in the territories of municipalities, cities and the City of Belgrade were conducted by census commissions appointed by the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia.

9. The census form 2011 included questions about ethnic characteristics of the population of the Republic of Serbia. The form Personal Questionnaire contains questions about the nationality, mother tongue and religion belief in the form of open-ended questions. All methodological guidelines explicitly emphasise that the census-takers are obliged to register exactly the kind of an answer that a person being registered provides to these three questions. The census form also contained an instruction that, according to the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia (Articles 43 and 47), the citizens shall not be obliged to declare their nationality and religious belief. The census forms were translated into 8 minority languages (Albanian, Bulgarian, Hungarian, Macedonian, Romani, Romanian, Ruthenian and Slovak) and the English language and published in the “Multilingual Collection of Census Forms in a Mother Tongue“. Based on this Collection, the citizens’ right was met that, if they want, they can read the questions in the census form in their mother tongue. Additionally, the essential methodological materials, *Methodological Guidelines for Organisers, Instructors and Other Census Participants, Guidelines for Census Organisation and Execution and Guide for Census-Takers*, were translated into Albanian.

10. The Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia made all the necessary preparations to organise and conduct the census. In 2009, it conducted the “Trial census of the population, households and dwellings – Roma education“, taking into consideration that census of the members of the Roma population is more difficult due to their specific lifestyle. The Office also prescribed the criteria for forming census commissions in local self-government units, i.e. municipalities and cities, and also appointed the census commissions. Ethnic composition of a census commission, as a rule, matches the national composition of a municipality/city. In cooperation with the Coordination of National Councils of National Minorities, in 120 municipalities, census committees received one more member – a representative of a national minority. A task of this member was to monitor field execution of the census, together with other members of the census committee, and to inform the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia

and the Coordination of National Councils of National Minorities about any possible problems concerning the registration procedure. In the municipalities/cities in which, by their Statute, a minority language is used officially, the promotional consensus material was translated into the following minority languages: Hungarian, Romanian, Slovak, Bosnian, Ruthenian, Albanian, Czech, Macedonian, Bulgarian, Croatian and Romani.

11. The census of population, households and dwellings was conducted in the period from 1 to 15 October 2011. In the period from 16 to 18 October 2011, the citizens that were not registered within the legally defined period were registered in the premises of the census commission in the territory of the municipality they live in, or they were registered by “mobile teams“ at their home address. In larger municipalities/cities, field execution of the census was prolonged until 20 October 2011. It should be noted that the Assembly of the Albanian members from Preševo, Bujanovac and Medveđa invited the Albanians to boycott the census at the beginning of September 2011, which affected the scope of the registered persons in the municipalities of Preševo and Bujanovac and partly in the municipality of Medveđa. In addition, before the commencement of the census, the self-appointed Presidency of the Bosniac National Council² invited the Bosniacs to boycott the census, however, the boycott did not significantly affect the response by the citizens.

2.1.2. Statistics about the demographic structure of the population

12. According to the results of the census from 2011, in the Republic of Serbia lives 7,186,862 people. The national composition of the population, according to the census results, is presented in the table below.

Nationality	Number
Serbs	5,988,150
Albanians ³	5,809
Ashkali	997
Bosniacs	145,278
Bulgarians	18,543
Bunjevac	16,706
Vlachs	35,330
Gorani	7,767
Greeks	725
Egyptians	1,834
Jews	787

² Under the control of the Electoral list Bosniacs Cultural Community – BCC – Mufti Muamer eff. Zukorlić.

³ The data do not show the actual number of members of the Albanian national minority due to their boycott of the census.

Yugoslavs	23,303
Hungarians	253,899
Macedonians	22,755
Muslims	22,301
German	4,064
Roma	147,604
Romanians	29,332
Russians	3,247
Ruthenians	14,246
Slovaks	52,750
Slovenians	4,033
Turks	647
Ukrainians	4,903
Croats	57,900
Tzintzars	243
Montenegrins	38,527
Czechs	1,824
Shokci	607
Others	9,890
Did not declare themselves	160,346
Regional affiliation	30,771
Unknown	81740
Total number of population	7,186,862

2.1.3. Statistics about the mother tongue of the population

13. The table below presents data about the number of speakers of the mother tongue of the population of the Republic of Serbia contained in the census 2011. The table overview contains the number of speakers of those minority languages on which apply provisions of Part II of the Charter, which are spoken on the territory of the Republic of Serbia, and which are in accordance with the definition of a “minority language“ contained in Article 1 of the Charter.

Mother tongue	Number of speakers
Serbian	6,330,919
Albanian ⁴	10,040
Bosnian	138,871
Bulgarian	13,337
Bunjevac	6,835
Vlach	43,095
Hungarian	243,146
Macedonian	12,706

⁴The data do not show the actual number of speakers due to the boycott of the census by the population of the Albanian national minority.

German	2,190
Romani	100,688
Romanian	29,075
Ruthenian	11,340
Slovak	49,796
Ukrainian	1,909
Croatian	19,223
Czech	810
Other languages	44,711
Did not declare themselves	46,499
Unknown	81,692
Total	7,186,862

2.1.4. Geographic location of the speakers of minority languages and their nationality

14. In accordance with the responsibilities resulting from joining the Charter, the Republic of Serbia specified the minority languages that are traditionally in use in a certain territory of Serbia: Albanian, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Bunjevac, Vlach, Hungarian, Macedonian, German, Romani, Romanian, Ruthenian, Slovak, Ukrainian, Croatian and Czech. The tables below contain the data on geographical locations of the speakers of those minority languages and their nationality according to the latest census.

15. Considering that the Albanians in three municipalities in South Serbia, i.e. Bujanovac, Medveđa and Preševo, which are traditionally inhabited by members of this national minority, boycotted the census from 2011, the geographical location of the speakers of the Albanian language is not actual. According to the results of the census, out of 10,040 speakers of the **Albanian** language, 38.29% of them were registered in the territory of the AP Vojvodina, and 6,196 or 61.71% in the territory of Central Serbia. In terms of local self-government units, the largest number of the speakers of the Albanian language was recorded in Belgrade (38.17%) and Novi Sad (17.71%). In the territory of the municipality of Bujanovac, Preševo and Medveđa, the registered number of the speakers of that language was 11.87%. The table below contains the data on the nationality of the speakers of the Albanian language.

Speakers of the Albanian language ⁵		
Nationality	Mother tongue - Albanian	
	Number	%
Serbs	53	0.53
Albanians	4,721	47.02
Ashkali	688	6.85
Bosniacs	4	0.04

⁵ Ibid

Bulgarians	3	0.03
Gorani	8	0.08
Egyptians	1,552	15.46
Yugoslavs	100	1.00
Macedonians	7	0.07
Muslims	1,024	10.20
Roma	1,393	13.87
Turks	6	0.06
Others	31	0.31
Did not declare themselves	391	3.91
Regional affiliation	20	0.20
Unknown	39	0.39
Total	10,040	100.00

16. Out of 138,871 speakers of the **Bosnian** language, 99.67% live in the territory of Central Serbia, and only 456 speakers of this language live in the territory of the AP Vojvodina. The speakers of the Bosnian language are concentrated in four local self-government units: Novi Pazar (53.65% of the total number of speakers), Tutin (20.15%), Sjenica (14.06%) and Prijepolje (8.61%). The table below contains the data on the nationality of the speakers of the Bosnian language.

Speakers of the Bosnian language		
Nationality	Mother tongue - Bosnian	
	Number	%
Serbs	112	0.08
Albanians	60	0.04
Bosniacs	134,657	96.97
Gorani	65	0.05
Yugoslavs	35	0.03
Muslims	3,278	2.36
Turks	52	0.04
Croats	57	0.04
Montenegrins	4	0.002
Others	54	0.04
Did not declare themselves	156	0.11
Regional affiliation	280	0.20
Unknown	61	0.04
Total	138,871	100.00

17. Out of 13,337 speakers of the **Bulgarian** language, 95.49% lives in the territory of Central Serbia, and only 601 speakers of this language live in the territory of the AP Vojvodina. They are mostly concentrated in the municipalities of Bosilegrad (49.48%) and Dimitrovgrad

(25.77%). The table below contains the data on the nationality of the speakers of the Bulgarian language.

Speakers of the Bulgarian language		
Nationality	Mother tongue - Bulgarian	
	Number	%
Serbs	277	2.08
Bosniacs	5	0.04
Bulgarians	11,789	88.39
Yugoslavs	36	0.27
Hungarians	8	0.06
Macedonians	6	0.04
Roma	98	0.73
Shops	8	0.06
Others	20	0.15
Did not declare themselves	1,042	7.81
Regional affiliation	4	0.03
Unknown	44	0.33
Total	13,337	100.00

18. Out of 6,835 speakers of the **Bunjevac** speech, 99.80% are concentrated in the territory of the AP Vojvodina. Almost all speakers of this language live in two local self-government units: Subotica (92.36%) and Sombor (5.66%). The table below contains the data on the nationality of the speakers of the Bunjevac speech.

Speakers of the Bunjevac speech		
Nationality	Mother tongue - Bunjevac	
	Number	%
Serbs	9	0.13
Bunjevac	5,974	87.40
Yugoslavs	70	1.02
Hungarians	107	1.56
German	8	0.11
Croats	437	6.39
Others	11	0.16
Did not declare themselves	140	2.04
Regional affiliation	73	1.06
Unknown	6	1.08
Total	6,835	100.00

19. Out of 43,095 speakers of the **Vlach** language, 42,917 or 99.59% speakers live in the eastern part of Central Serbia. They are mostly located in Negotin – 16.78% of the total number,

Bor (13.47%), Petrovac na Mlavi (12.86%), Kučevo (10.82%), Zaječar (7.37%), etc. The table below contains the data on the nationality of the speakers of the Vlach language.

Speakers of the Vlach language		
Nationality	Mother tongue - Vlach	
	Number	%
Serbs	12,156	28.21
Bulgarians	4	0.009
Vlachs	28,918	67.10
Yugoslavs	24	0.06
Roma	332	0.77
Romanians	67	0.16
Tzintzars	3	0.006
Others	175	0.41
Did not declare themselves	1,150	2.67
Unknown	266	0.62
Total	43,095	100.00

20. The total number of the speakers of the **Hungarian** language is 243,146, and as much as 99.18% of them live in the territory of the AP Vojvodina, mostly in – Subotica (20.82%), Kanjiža (9.06%), Bačka Topola (8.25%), Senta (7.87%) and Bečej (7.52%). The table below contains the data on the nationality of the speakers of the Hungarian language.

Speakers of the Hungarian language		
Nationality	Mother tongue - Hungarian	
	Number	%
Serbs	1,497	0.62
Albanians	4	0.001
Austrians	3	0.001
Bosniacs	3	0.001
Bulgarians	91	0.04
Bunjevac	390	0.16
Jews	72	0.03
Yugoslavs	1,219	0.50
Hungarians	230,444	94.78
Macedonians	13	0.005
Muslims	4	0.001
German	372	0.15
Poles	12	0.005
Roma	912	0.38
Romanians	31	0.01
Russians	22	0.009
Ruthenians	64	0.03
Slovaks	124	0.05

Slovenians	38	0.02
Ukrainians	13	0.005
Croats	555	0.23
Montenegrins	25	0.01
Czechs	17	0.006
Shokci	4	0.001
Others	172	0.07
Did not declare themselves	4,783	1.97
Regional affiliation	1,838	0.76
Unknown	424	0.17
Total	243,146	100.00

21. Out of 12,706 speakers of the **Macedonian** language, 70.93% live in the territory of Central Serbia, and only 3,694 speakers of this language live in the territory of the AP Vojvodina. A larger number of them lives in Belgrade (37.56%), Pančevo (9.17%), Niš (5.21%) and Plandište (1.53%). The table below contains the data on the nationality of the speakers of the Macedonian language.

Speakers of the Macedonian language		
Nationality	Mother tongue - Macedonian	
	Number	%
Serbs	1,200	9.44
Albanians	9	0.07
Bosniacs	4	0.03
Bulgarians	12	0.09
Vlachs	3	0.02
Gorani	63	0.49
Greeks	5	0.04
Yugoslavs	137	1.08
Hungarians	8	0.06
Macedonians	10,525	82.83
Muslims	30	0.24
Roma	109	0.86
Russians	3	0.02
Slovenians	5	0.04
Turks	7	0.06
Croats	8	0.06
Tzintzars	10	0.08
Montenegrins	6	0.05
Others	59	0.46
Did not declare themselves	439	3.46
Regional affiliation	7	0.06
Unknown	57	0.45
Total	12,706	100.00

22. The total number of the speakers of the **German** language is 2,190, out of which 64.75% lives in the territory of the AP Vojvodina. Most of them live in Belgrade (19.63%), Novi Sad (9.36%) and Sombor (7.21%). The table below contains the data on the nationality of the speakers of the German language.

Speakers of the German language		
Nationality	Mother tongue - German	
	Number	%
Serbs	204	9.32
Austrians	80	3.65
Bunjevci	3	0.14
Italians	5	0.23
Jews	3	0.14
Yugoslavs	41	1.87
Hungarians	99	4.52
Muslims	4	0.18
German	1,329	60.68
Roma	16	0.73
Romanians	5	0.23
Russians	8	0.37
Slovaks	8	0.37
Slovenians	10	0.46
Croats	29	1.32
Montenegrins	3	0.14
Czechs	8	0.37
Swiss	55	2.51
Others	28	1.28
Did not declare themselves	174	7.95
Regional affiliation	48	2.19
Unknown	30	1.37
Total	2,190	100.00

23. The total number of the speakers of the **Romani** language is 100,668. Out of this number, 72.75% of the speaker of the Roma language lives in the territory of Central Serbia. Most of them live in Belgrade (18.86% out of the total number of speakers), Leskovac (6.53%), Niš (4.71%) and Vranje (4.42%). Out of 27,430 speakers of the Romani language who live in the territory of the AP Vojvodina, the largest number of them live in Zrenjanin (3.02%) and Novi Sad (1.71%). The table below contains the data on the nationality of the speakers of the Romani language.

Speakers of the Romani language		
Nationality	Mother tongue - Romani	
	Number	%
Serbs	626	0.62
Albanians	3	0.003
Ashkali	34	0.03
Bosniacs	3	0.003
Bulgarians	3	0.003
Danish	9	0.009
Egyptians	16	0.02
Italians	11	0.01
Yugoslavs	23	0.02
Hungarians	34	0.03
Macedonians	17	0.02
Muslims	227	0.23
German	15	0.01
Roma	98,872	98.22
Romanians	28	0.03
Croats	7	0.007
Shops	3	0.003
Others	117	0.12
Did not declare themselves	533	0.53
Regional affiliation	8	0.008
Unknown	79	0.08
Total	100,668	100.00

24. The total number of the speakers of the **Romanian** language is 29,075, out of which 83.00% lives in the territory of the AP Vojvodina. Most of the speakers of the Romani language live in Vršac (17.52% out of the total number), Alibunar (16.62%), Pančevo (9.78%), Zrenjanin (6.63%) and Belgrade (4.96%). In the municipalities of Eastern Serbia, a number of speakers of the Romanian language is recorded in Negotin (1.09%), Bor (0.92%) and Petrovac na Mlavi (0.86%). The table below contains the data on the nationality of the speakers of the Romanian language.

Speakers of the Romanian language		
Nationality	Mother tongue - Romanian	
	Number	%
Serbs	999	3.44
Bunjevac	12	0.04
Vlachs	186	0.64
Yugoslavs	46	0.16
Hungarians	39	0.13
Macedonians	5	0.02
German	7	0.02

Roma	1.308	4.50
Romanians	25,655	88.24
Russians	6	0.02
Slovaks	4	0.01
Croats	3	0.01
Banyash	65	0.22
Others	68	0.23
Did not declare themselves	512	1.76
Regional affiliation	88	0.30
Unknown	72	0.25
Total	29,075	100.00

25. The total number of the speakers of the **Ruthenian** language is 11,340 and almost all of them 98.36% live in the territory of the AP Vojvodina. Their largest number is recorded in the municipalities of Kula (38.72%) and Vrbas (25.33%) and the City of Novi Sad (13.60%). The table below contains the data on the nationality of the speakers of the Ruthenian language.

Speakers of the Ruthenian language		
Nationality	Mother tongue - Ruthenian	
	Number	%
Serbs	114	1.01
Yugoslavs	17	0.15
Hungarians	137	1.21
Roma	5	0.04
Russians	7	0.06
Ruthenians	10,856	95.73
Slovaks	15	0.13
Ukrainians	36	0.32
Croats	25	0.22
Montenegrins	4	0.04
Others	20	0.18
Did not declare themselves	63	0.56
Regional affiliation	41	0.36
Total	11,340	100.00

26. The total number of the speakers of the **Slovak** language is 49,796, out of which 95.91% lives in the territory of the AP Vojvodina. The largest number lives in the municipalities of Kovačica (21.57%), Bački Petrovac (18.04%) and Stara Pazova (10.36%) and the City of Novi Sad (12.23%). The table below contains the data on the nationality of the speakers of the Slovak language.

Speakers of the Slovak language		
Nationality	Mother tongue - Slovak	
	Number	%
Serbs	312	0.63
Albanians	6	0.01
Bulgarians	4	0.008
Yugoslavs	98	0.20
Hungarians	98	0.20
Macedonians	4	0.008
German	11	0.02
Roma	5	0.01
Romanians	10	0.02
Ruthenians	17	0.03
Slovaks	48,191	96.78
Slovenians	28	0.06
Turks	3	0.007
Ukrainians	4	0.008
Croats	47	0.09
Montenegrins	18	0.04
Czechs	10	0.02
Others	13	0.03
Did not declare themselves	667	1.34
Regional affiliation	219	0.44
Unknown	31	0.006
Total	49,796	100.00

27. The total number of the speakers of the **Ukrainian** language is 1,909, and the majority lives in the territory of the AP Vojvodina (78.99%). Majority lives in the municipalities of Kula (28.13%), Vrbas (15.56%), Sremska Mitrovica (5.65%), Indija (5.45%) and the City of Novi Sad (8.80%). The table below contains the data on the nationality of the speakers of the Ukrainian language.

Speakers of the Ukrainian language		
Nationality	Mother tongue - Ukrainian	
	Number	%
Serbs	54	2.83
Yugoslavs	3	0.16
Poles	6	0.31
Russians	3	0.16
Ruthenians	3	0.16
Ukrainians	1,802	94.39
Others	9	0.47
Did not declare themselves	16	0.84
Regional affiliation	3	0.16

Unknown	10	0.52
Total	1,909	100.00

28. The total number of the speakers of the **Croatian** language is 19,223, out of which 75.83% lives in the territory of the AP Vojvodina. Most of them live in Subotica (29.95%), Belgrade (15.68%), Sombor (10.33%), Novi Sad (7.31%) and Apatin (6.86%). The table below contains the data on the nationality of the speakers of the Croatian language.

Speakers of the Croatian language		
Nationality	Mother tongue - Croatian	
	Number	%
Serbs	906	4.71
Albanians	5	0.03
Bunjevac	181	0.94
Gorani	3	0.02
Italians	6	0.03
Jews	9	0.05
Yugoslavs	178	0.93
Hungarians	177	0.92
Macedonians	3	0.02
Muslims	8	0.04
German	23	0.12
Roma	3	0.02
Ruthenians	3	0.01
Slovaks	13	0.07
Slovenians	17	0.09
Croats	16,733	87.05
Montenegrins	11	0.06
Czechs	9	0.05
Shokci	28	0.15
Others	38	0.20
Did not declare themselves	681	3.54
Regional affiliation	96	0.50
Unknown	92	0.48
Total	19,223	100.00

29. The total number of the speakers of the **Czech** language is 810, out of which 70.00 % lives in the territory of the AP Vojvodina. Traditionally, the municipality that is most inhabited with the speakers of the Czech language is Bela Crkva where 41.73% of the speakers of this language live. The table below contains the data on the nationality of the speakers of the Czech language.

Speakers of the Czech language		
Nationality	Mother tongue - Czech	
	Number	%
Serbs	47	5.80
Czechs	718	88.64
Others	11	1.36
Did not declare themselves	26	3.21
Regional affiliation	5	0.62
Unknown	3	0.37
Total	810	100.00

2.1.5. Data on the number of persons belonging to national minorities according to the age groups relevant for the organisation of education about/on minority languages

30. The table below presents the data on the number of persons belonging to national minorities according to the age groups set in census 2011, which are relevant for pre-school, primary and secondary education in minority languages.

Nationality	Age		
	0-6	7-14	15-19
Albanians ⁶	424	512	387
Bosniacs	17,072	18,379	10,757
Bulgarians	524	929	696
Bunjevac	730	839	581
Vlachs	1,210	1,993	1,300
Hungarians	12,669	17,139	12,756
Macedonians	463	690	551
German	118	172	142
Roma	23,157	24,321	13,745
Romanians	1,460	2,097	1,575
Ruthenians	686	984	724
Slovaks	2,702	3,870	2,650
Ukrainians	227	269	228
Croats	1,758	2,401	1,948
Czechs	56	88	84

2.2. Activities of national councils of national minorities

31. In the Second Periodical Report on the implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (hereinafter referred to as the Second Report on the

⁶ The data do not show the actual number of members of the Albanian national minority due to their boycott of the census.

implementation of the Charter) was announced that the election of the national councils of national minorities, according to the provisions of the Law on National Councils of National Minorities (2009), may affect the status of minority languages in the Republic of Serbia. Chapter 2.2.2. of this Report contains the information on the election, competences, manner of financing and other issues related to the national councils which shall be established to exercise the right of persons belonging to national minorities to self-government in culture, education, information and official use of their languages and scripts. After elections held in mid 2010, all national councils were established except for the National Council of the Bosniac National Minority. Pursuant to the provisions of the Law on National Councils of National Minorities, the function of the National Council of the Bosniac National Minority until elections, i.e. constitution of a new one, shall be performed by the National Council elected at the Electoral Assembly on 6 September 2003. In the previous period, some national councils did not succeed to execute their legally determined authorisations. Their work was occasionally paralysed, which resulted in the disavowment of national councils and establishment of interim management bodies that perform the function of the Council until the constitution of new councils. This is the case with the National Councils of the Ashkali, Slovenian and Bunjevac national minorities.

32. In 2012, the Provincial Ombudsman conducted research to review work of national councils in the period after their constitution. Publication *Two Years of National Councils*,⁷ which was made as a result of this research, reviews execution of over 80 different legally determined competences of national councils in the field of culture, education, information and official use of languages and scripts. In the concluding remarks was noted that some national councils are not able to execute certain legally determined competences. The stated reasons are: lack of education in a minority language; a minority language is not in official use in any of local self-government units and no media in a minority language. On the basis of obtained analysis, the Provincial Ombudsman, *inter alia*, concluded that national councils did not fully use competences/powers prescribed by the Law, either because they were not sufficiently acquainted with their competences, rights and obligations as well as procedures before competent authorities, whose initiating is a prerequisite for implementing individual competences, or because they did not know the meaning of certain legal concepts, which complicated the implementation of their competences/powers in the full capacity, or because they were too passive and had no initiative, but waited for the initiative of the competent authorities at all levels. To eliminate the problems in practice, the Provincial Ombudsman gave recommendations which, *inter alia*, refer to amendments and/or addenda to the regulations, primarily the Law on National Councils of National Minorities, as well as to the harmonisation of the laws which

⁷ The research was conducted on the basis of replies to the questionnaire submitted by the national councils of the Bulgarian, Bunjevac, Greek, Egyptian, Hungarian, Macedonian, German, Romanian, Ruthenian, Slovak, Ukrainian, Croatian and Czech national minorities. Results of the research of the Provincial Ombudsman are available at www.ombudsmanapv.org

regulate specific areas of the social life with the Law on National Councils of National Minorities.

33. As stated in the Second Report on the implementation of the Charter, with the election of their national councils, persons belonging to national minorities obtained their legitimate representatives in the protection, fostering and improvement of, *inter alia*, their language and script as one of their basic characteristics of the identity of each national minority. Starting from the stated fact, a great contribution of individual national councils is reflected in the efforts to standardise or revitalise (in the case of the Vlach language) the language and script of the members whose interest they represent, which is a prerequisite for such an approach of a country which would enable their implementation in the public life (and all other minority languages in the Republic of Serbia), and, therefore, their full protection. The following statements contain activities of national councils in this field.

34. The National Council of the Bunjevac National Minority commenced with the standardisation of the **Bunjevac** speech into a language in 2007. For that purpose field research on the Bunjevac language was organised in Subotica, Sombor and the neighbouring villages in which the largest number of members of the Bunjevac national minority live. The research was conducted by experts from the Philosophy Faculty in Novi Sad (Prof. Dr. Žarko Bošnjaković and Prof. Dr. Ljiljana Nedeljkov) and the Institute for Balkan Studies (Dr. Biljana Sikimić), and it resulted in the publication of the first collection “Bunjevac – Ethno-Dialogue Research 2009“, published by the National Council of the Bunjevac National Minority and *Matica Srpska*, in September 2013. The Collection contains accented and indexed field interviews, Bunjevac customs, and a description of the Bunjevac speech through the history and scientific literature. The second collection, which includes field material recorded during 2008 and 2009, whose compilation was supposed to be completed by the end of 2014, will describe the Bunjevac speech as it is spoken today. Results of the research will be applied in the writing of the Grammar of the Bunjevac Language whose completion is planned to happen also by the end of 2014.

35. The National Council of the Vlach National Minority adopted, at the beginning of 2012, a decision on the **Vlach** script with the alphabet consisting of 35 letters, whose variation was previously adopted at the Executive Board of the National Council, at the proposal of the *Gergina* Association from Negotin. The Vlach alphabet has the Latin and Cyrillic version. Both scripts have letters, i.e. they consist of letter graphemes and have the existing Vlach spoken language as a basis. The National Council has committed to preserve both existing dialects of the Vlach language (Homoljsko-Braničevski dialect and Krajinsko-Timočki dialect), and to put all the efforts into the revitalisation of the Vlach language. This commitment was expressed in the National Council Platform, item 6 *Standardisation of the Vlach Language*. Adoption of the

Vlach script created all the prerequisites to present the richness of the Vlach spoken language in the future, and to create new possibilities in all the spheres of the social life that, due to the lack of a written form, were unavailable to the speakers of the Vlach language, starting from education in their mother tongue, publishing events and presentation of their tradition, culture, lectures and in writing, until the use of the language in public services.

36. The National Council of the Roma National Minority adopted the Standardisation of the Romani Language at the meeting held on 25 September 2013, and, thus, finalised the process of normalisation, codification and standardisation of the **Romani** language. The Romani alphabet is Latin and has 38 letters. The basis of the sound system in the Romani language consists of vocals and consonants (and diphthongs). On the basis of current phonological analysis, there are ten classes of consonants in the Romani language, where the first five are important for defining the standardisation and codification of the Romani language, and the other five are the classes that will be confirmed in practice, conditionally extended and/or reduced. The Romani language has two genders (male and female), two numbers (singular and plural) and three basic grammatical cases (nominative, casus obliquus and vocative). The standardisation of the Romani language is a process the National Council led in the previous period and represents a cluster of expert analyses and acceptance of positive experiences from Serbia and the region and is mostly based on scientific literature such as: The “Grammar of Romani Language“, “History of Roma”, “Process of Standardisation of Romani Language” (Dr. Rajka Đurić), “Romani-Serbian Dictionary” (published by Bajram Haliti) and “Dictionary” (published by Dr. Ljatif Demir), and expert opinions and analyses of Roma researchers and linguists presented at the closing Conference on the Standardisation of the Romani Language.

2.3. Legislative and institutional changes after the second cycle of monitoring of the implementation of the Charter

2.3.1. Legislative changes

37. Section 2.1.1. of the Second Report on the implementation of the Charter describes in detail changes in the legislation that contained provisions relevant for the use and protection of minority languages. New procedural laws that are presented in the implementation of Article 9 of the Charter were adopted in the period referred to in the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter. Some of presented regulations in the Second Report on the implementation of the Charter underwent amendments and addenda in the same period for additional specification or harmonisation with the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia and the already existing legal solutions presented in the following paragraphs.

38. The Decision of July 2012 of the Constitutional Court, *inter alia*, determines that Article 76(1) of the Law on Establishment of Specific Competences of the AP Vojvodina (2009), which determines that the main competence of the AP Vojvodina is more thorough regulation of the official use of minority languages and scripts in the territory of the AP Vojvodina, is not harmonised with the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia. In the reasoning of its decision, the Constitutional Court, *inter alia*, stated that the official use of the a language and a script in a systematic manner shall be regulated by the Law on Official Use of Languages and Scripts, i.e. that official use of languages and scripts is one of the rights of national minorities, and is identically regulated by the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities. These Laws, according to the Constitutional Court, do not contain a basis according to which the AP Vojvodina would, through its authorities, in accordance with the law, more closely regulate official use of minority languages and scripts in the territory of the AP Vojvodina. The AP Vojvodina is in this field, and in accordance with the law, only authorised to determine, with its Statue, the minority languages in official use in the operation of its authorities.

39. In addition to the assessment of the constitutionality of provisions of the Law on Establishing of Specific Competences of AP Vojvodina, the Constitutional Court assessed compliance of certain provisions of the Statute of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina (2009) and the Law on National Councils of National Minorities (2009), on the basis of initiated initiatives, with the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia. With its Decision of December 2013, the Constitutional Court determined that specific Articles of the Statute of the AP Vojvodina are not entirely or partially harmonised with the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia. However, starting from the importance of the Statute of the AP Vojvodina as the highest legal act of the Autonomous Province, and taking into consideration the fact that publication of the Decision of the Constitutional Court in the “Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia“, Statute provisions shall cease to be valid if they are found not to be harmonised with the Constitution, the Constitutional Court in this case used a possibility prescribed by Article 58(4) of the Law on the Constitutional Court on postponing publication of a decision. Therefore, the Constitutional Court also adopted a decision which is postponing publication of the Decision on determined unconstitutionality of Statue provisions for a maximum legally prescribed period of six months, so that the Assembly of the AP Vojvodina could in this period, as a party adopting the Statute, and the National Assembly, as a body giving previous consent to the Statute, harmonise the Statute with the Constitution. This enabled undisturbed operation of the AP Vojvodina since, until expiry of the period of postponement of the publication of the Decision of the Constitutional Court, the Statue of the AP Vojvodina remained fully in force and continued to be applied. The Assembly of the AP Vojvodina adopted the new Statute of the AP Vojvodina which has been in force since the end of May 2014.

40. With the Decision of January 2014, the Constitutional Court determined that ten articles of the Law on National Councils of National Minorities, fully or partially are not in compliance with the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia. Pursuant to Article 168(3) of the Constitution, those provisions ceased to be effective on the day of publication of the Decision of the Constitutional Court in the “Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia” (21 February 2014). This decision is important, *inter alia*, because the Constitutional Court gave in it the general understanding of the constitutional and legal protection of rights of national minorities in the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, particularly the collective right to self-government that is exercised through elected national councils of national minorities, and it also emphasised that the obligation of the legislator must regulate certain issues additionally starting from the point of view of the Constitutional Court and the issue that the competent authorities detected in previous application of the law. Repealing provisions of the Law did not affect the use of minority languages nor did it result in the reduction of competences of national councils in the field of official use of languages and scripts. The Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-Government and the state authority competent for the preparation of a regulation in the field of human and minority rights, announced amendments to the Law on National Councils of National Minorities in accordance with the Decision of the Constitutional Court.

41. Having in mind the importance of the Law on National Councils of National Minorities for exercising the right to self-government in culture, education, information and official use of languages and scripts, and which is important for the use and protection of minority languages, this occasion is used to point to the fact that amendments and addenda to this Law from 2014 referred to specifying specific provisions that regulate internal organisation of national councils, election procedure and method of adopting decisions by national council authorities.

42. In 2013 and 2014 were adopted new regulations in the field of education (the Law on the Primary Education, the Law on Secondary Education and the Law on Adult Education), justice the Law on Seats and Territorial Jurisdiction of Courts and Public Prosecutors' Offices and information the Law on Public Information and Media, the Law on Public Service Broadcasting and the Law on Electronic Media which can be important for the use and protection of minority languages, whose contents will be presented in detail in the next periodic report.

2.3.2. Establishment of the Office for Human and Minority Rights

43. Since the submission of the Second Report on the implementation of the Charter, organisation of activities of the public administration referring to human and minority rights have been changing with the change of organisational forms and, consequently, changes in competences of: the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights (2008), through the Directorate for Human and Minority Rights, and administration authorities within the Ministry of Human and

Minority Rights, Public Administration and Local Self-Government (2011) to the Office for Human and Minority Rights, and service of the Government of the Republic of Serbia (2012).

44. The Government established the Office for Human and Minority Rights with the Decree in August 2012. Pursuant to Article 2 of this Decree, the Office for Human and Minority Rights conducts professional activities for requirements of the Government and competent ministries referring to: the protection and promotion of human and minority rights; monitoring harmonisation of domestic regulations with international treaties and other international and legal acts on human and minority rights and initiation of changes of domestic regulations; general issues of the status of persons belonging to national minorities; monitoring the status of persons belonging to national minorities living in the territory of the Republic of Serbia and exercising minority rights; establishing connections between national minorities and their kin states.

45. In accordance with the Law on Ministries (2014), the Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-Government performs activities of public administration referring to: the preparation of the regulation on human and minority rights; keeping a register of national councils of national minorities; selection of national councils of national minorities; keeping a special election lists of a national minority, and other activities determined by the law.

2.4. Expected novelties in the next cycle of monitoring of the implementation of the Charter

2.4.1. Electing for new assemblies of national councils of national minorities

46. Amendments and addenda to the Law on National Councils (2014) envisage that the Minister competent for the activities of human and minority rights shall call elections for the members of a national council so that it can be held in October 2014. With the election of new assemblies of national councils it is expected to be continued with, *inter alia*, implementation of the legislative framework in terms of the use of minority languages, and continuation of activities of specific national councils in terms of standardisation of the language the persons they represent speak.

2.4.2. Reorganisation of the judicial network

47. The Law on Seats and Territorial Jurisdiction of Courts and Public Prosecutors' Offices is in force since 1 January 2014. A new network of courts should enable larger availability of the justice for the citizens, considering that the number of basic courts has almost doubled in comparison to the previous law. According to provisions of the new law, the Republic of Serbia has in operation 45 misdemeanour courts, 67 basic courts, 26 high courts and 16 commercial

courts. The number of appellate courts has remained at the same level (4), with three divisions of the misdemeanour appellate court and three divisions of the Administrative Court.

2.4.3. Media Privatisation

48. Adoption of the Law on Public Information and Media determined the obligation of privatisation of the media founded by the Republic of Serbia, Autonomous Province and local self-government units until 1 July 2015. Media privatisation shall be conducted in the manner which shall ensure continuity in the production of media content of public interest in the period of 5 years until the day of conclusion of a capital sale agreement. The continuity in the production of media content implies an obligation of maintaining a share of the program time in specific minority languages, i.e. a part of informative, educational, scientific, cultural and artistic, children, entertainment, sports and other programme contents of public interest in certain minority languages, in accordance with the program schedule applicable in the period of twelve months prior to the date of entry into force of this Law.

2.5. Activities for the implementation of recommendations of the Committee of Experts with regard to the territorial implementation of the Charter

49. In the Second Report on the implementation of the Charter, the Committee of Experts gave the following recommendation with regard to the territorial implementation of the Charter:

The Committee of Experts urges the Serbian authorities to pursue steps to secure the implementation of the Charter in all municipal territories where the speakers of the regional or minority languages are present in sufficient numbers for the application of provisions of the Charter, including where necessary changes to statutes of municipalities.

50. In the previous reports on the implementation of the Charter was particularly emphasised that, according to the regulations of the Republic of Serbia, a local self-government unit shall be obliged to introduce a minority language in official use with its statute if the percentage of members of a national minority whose language is introduced in official use reaches 15% of the total number of the citizens according to results of the latest consensus. When a minority language and a script is not in official use in the whole territory of a local self-government unit, a language is introduced in official use in the territory of the AP Vojvodina, in a settlement or a local community in its territory, if the percentage of members of a specific national minority reaches 25% according to the results of the latest consensus.

51. Since mandatory introduction of a minority language in official use is related to the percentage share of members of a national minority in a specific local self-government unit according to the latest census, every following reduction of that percentage share of members of

a national minority shall have no effect as provisions of the Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities (2002) prescribe keeping of a minority language in official use as the protection of obtained rights. An example can be that in 20 local self-government units, there are 7 minority languages in official use,⁸ although the share of persons belonging to national minorities in their national structure ranged between 0.36% and 11.49% according to the results of the latest consensus.

52. National regulations provide for a possibility to local self-government authorities to introduce in official use, with their statute, a minority language and script even if the stated condition of the perceptual share of persons belonging to national minorities in the total number of citizens of a specific local self-government unit is not met, which happens in practice. National councils of national minorities, as well as holders of cultural autonomy in the field of official use of a language and script, are authorised by the law to propose determination of a minority language and script for an official language in a local self-government unit. Therefore, at the proposal of the National Council of the Macedonian National Minority, the Macedonian language was introduced in Plandište municipality in 2012 by the statute, although the Macedonian minority made the perceptual share of 9.19% of the citizens in the national structure of the municipality.

53. In the period referred to in the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter some local self-government units determined with their statutes the official use of new minority languages and scripts. The following paragraphs from the Report contain data on minority languages that are in official use in local self-government units in the territory of the Republic of Serbia.

54. The Albanian language and script is in official use in three municipalities: Medveđa, Preševo and Bujanovac.

55. The Bosnian language and script is in official use in four municipalities/cities: Novi Pazar, Prijepolje, Sjenica and Tutin.

56. The Bulgarian language and script is in official use in two municipalities: Bosilegrad and Dimitrovgrad and the settlement Ivanovo (Pančevo city).

⁸ Out of the total of 42 local self-government units in which a minority language is in official use, the share of the members of a national minority in a national structure of a local self-government unit is below the legally prescribed threshold in the following local self-government units: Alibunar, Bač, Bačka Palanka, Bačka Topola, Bela Crkva, Vrbas, Vršac, Žabalj, Žitište, Zrenjanin, Kovačica, Kula, Novi Sad, Odžaci, Plandište, Sečanj, Sombor, Subotica, Titel and Šid. The following languages are in official use in those local self-government units: Hungarian, Macedonian, Romanian, Ruthenian, Slovak, Croatian and Czech.

57. The Hungarian language and script is in official use in 28 municipalities/cities: Ada, Bač, Bačka Topola, Bela Crkva, Bečej, Vrbas, Vršac, Žitište, Zrenjanin, Kanjiža, Kovačica, Kovin, Kula, Mali Idoš, Nova Crnja, Novi Bečej, Novi Kneževac, Novi Sad, Odžaci, Plandište, Senta, Sečanj, Sombor, Srbobran, Subotica, Temerin, Titel and Čoka; eight settlements or local communities: Kupusina i Svilojevo (Apatin municipality), Banatska Topola, Kikinda, Rusko Selo and Sajan (Kikinda municipality) and Ivanovo and Vojlovica (Pančevo city).

58. The Macedonian language and script is in official use in Plandište municipality and the settlement Jabuka (Pančevo city). After the second cycle of the monitoring of the implementation of the Charter, the official use of the Macedonian language and script was determined in Plandište municipality.

59. The Romanian language and script is in official use in nine municipalities/cities: Alibunar, Bela Crkva, Vršac, Žitište, Zrenjanin, Kovačica, Kovin, Plandište and Sečanj, and settlement: Banatsko Novo Selo (Pančevo city).

60. The Ruthenian language and script is in official use in six municipalities/cities: Bačka Topola, Vrbas, Žabalj, Kula, Novi Sad and Šid. After the second cycle of monitoring of the implementation of the Charter, on the basis of the Decision of the Constitutional Court (2010), the Statute of Bačka Topola municipality was used to re-introduce the use of the Ruthenian language and script in the whole territory of the municipality that was before that only in official use in the settlement Novo Orahovo.

61. The Slovak language and script is in official use in 11 municipalities/cities: Alibunar, Bač, Bačka Palanka, Bačka Topola, Bački Petrovac, Zrenjanin, Kovačica, Novi Sad, Odžaci, Plandište, and Šid; two settlements: Lug (Beočin municipality) and Stara Pazova (Stara Pazova municipality). After the second cycle of monitoring of the implementation of the Charter, on the basis of the Decision of the Constitutional Court (2010), the Statute of Bačka Topola municipality was used to re-introduce the use of the Slovak language and script in the whole territory of the municipality that was before that only in official use in the settlement Bajša.

62. The Croatian language and script is in official use in Subotica city and six settlements: Sonta (the municipality of Apatin), Bačk Breg and Bački Monoštor (the city of Sombor), Stara Bingula (the city of Sremska Mitrovica), Sot and Batrovici (the municipality of Šid).

63. The Czech language and script is in official use in the municipality of Bela Crkva:

64. From the listed review of minority languages in official use in local self-government units it is visible that the Romani and Ukrainian languages are not in official use in any of local

self-government units. As already presented, for those minority languages to be introduced in official use by the Statute, it is necessary that members of the Roma and Ukrainian minority reach 15% of participation in the structure of the population in some local self-government units according to the latest census. On the basis of census results for 2011, in none of local self-government units members of the stated national minorities did reach the legally determined percentage, i.e. their participation in the structure of the population of a local self-government unit is below 15%. On the basis of the census of the Republic of Serbia, there is a possibility to initiate an initiative for the implementation of the Romani and Ukrainian languages in official use, first of all, by the national councils which represent those national minorities, but also by local self-government units, if they recognise the justifiability of introducing a language in official use. The National Councils of Vlach and Romani National Minorities announced starting of initiations for introducing the Vlach and Romani languages in official use in certain local self-government units.

2.6. Implementation of recommendations of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe (CM/RecChL(2013)3)

65. In the evaluation of the implementation of the Charter in the second cycle of monitoring, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe recommended to Serbian authorities to take into consideration all statements of the Committee of Experts and pointed out the following recommendations as a priority.

Recommendation 1: Strengthen teacher training and provide adequate teaching materials for all regional or minority languages.

66. Regulations in the field of education provide a possibility for teachers who teach in minority languages to additionally train themselves. A special law governs the issues of preparation, approval, publication and selection of teaching materials for the primary and secondary school, *inter alia*, about/in a minority language. Information on the activities of improvement of teacher training and providing appropriate teaching aids for minority languages is contained in section 4.1.8.1. Third Report on the implementation of the Charter.

Recommendation 2: Provide teaching of/in the Part II languages within the models of minority language education at all appropriate stages.

67. In school year 2012/2013, persons belonging to national minorities in primary schools had organised classes on the subject “Mother Tongue” with elements of except national culture for the speakers of minority languages that belong to Part II of the Charter, for the speakers of the Vlach and German languages. Speakers of the Vlach language had an opportunity to study the Vlach speech with the elements of national culture through the implementation of the project

for studying the Vlach speech, which would be introduced in the educational system of the Republic of Serbia from school year 2014/2015. More information on classes about/in the languages that belong to Part II of the Charter are contained in section 3.2. Third Report on the implementation of the Charter.

Recommendation 3: Secure the implementation of Articles 9 and 10, in particular regarding Romani and Ukrainian.

68. Application of selected paragraphs and sub-paragraphs of Articles 9 and 10 of the Charter is ensured through the regulation which regulated the issues of use of minority languages in courts and administrative authorities. Persons belonging to national minorities are provided with a possibility to use their own language in the proceedings before court and administrative authorities and organisations. Therefore, the right to the use of a minority language is provided on the whole territory of the Republic of Serbia regardless whether this is a minority language that is in official use, which further means that speakers of the Romani and Ukrainian language have an opportunity to use their language in court and administrative proceedings in which they exercise their rights and obligations. The proceedings are led with an interpreter, and interpretation costs are borne by the authority that is leading the proceedings.

69. The official use of a minority language in the territory of a local self-government unit where traditionally live persons belonging to national minorities, *inter alia*, implies not only the use of a minority language in administrative and court proceedings, but also conducting the proceedings in a minority language. This means that court or administrative proceedings cannot be conducted on minority languages which are not in official use in the territory of local self-government units. Since the Romani and Ukrainian languages are not in official use in any of local self-government units, court or administrative proceedings cannot be conducted in these languages.

70. Regulations of the Republic of Serbia do not envisage keeping of special records on the use of minority languages in the proceedings before court and administrative authorities, but only keeping records on the entire proceedings in minority languages in official use. For this reason it is possible to view the scope of the use of minority languages in the proceedings before court and administrative authorities only indirectly, which is presented in the implementation of Articles 9 and 10 of the Charter.

Recommendation 4: Take the necessary legal and practical measures to ensure that personal names and place-names in the regional or minority languages can be used officially in conformity with the tradition and orthography of the languages concerned.

71. The information on the activities related to taking practical measures to ensure that personal names and toponyms in minority languages may be in official use in accordance with the tradition and orthography of a minority language in question, are contained in chapters 4.3.10.2. and 4.3.10.3. Third Report on the implementation of the Charter.

Recommendation 5: Continue to promote awareness and tolerance in Serbian society at large vis-à-vis the regional or minority languages and the cultures they represent.

72. Activities on raising awareness and increasing tolerance in terms of minority languages and cultures they represent continued in the period referred to in the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter. Many projects of national and provincial authorities, non-governmental and international organisations have been implemented, and many round tables, conferences, seminars, workshops, etc. were held on the topic of promoting tolerance and an inter-cultural dialogue. The following paragraphs contain examples of activities of authorities in the implementation of specific programs for increasing tolerance and raising awareness about differences, including those based on language diversity in the Serbian society.

73. The Ministry of Human and Minority Rights performed a series of activities in the period 2008-2011 on the occasion of commemorating the Day of Tolerance, such as: publishing a Manual on Human Rights “Don’t disturb me, I’m enjoying my rights and freedoms“ aimed at the students of primary and secondary schools throughout Serbia; holding a class on tolerance in primary and secondary schools whose objective was to motivate the students to more tolerant behaviour at school and in their environment by making them understand the importance of the tolerance principle in everyday life and social functioning; making and distributing an adequate promotional material, etc. The Directorate for Human and Minority Rights conducted a public competition for co-financing associations’ projects for purpose of implementing its program “Human Rights Calendar 2012“. The basic concept of this program implied that every month in a year had to be dedicated to, or marked by a series of activities performed by civil society organisations selected through an open competition, on the basis of their capacity and experience in a particular field which the thematic group deals with. Selection of a field/theme follows relevant international UN holidays that are celebrated in that month, in all the cases where this is possible, i.e. holidays that are during a specific month celebrated in the world. Thus, for example, the month of April was dedicated to the improvement of the status and rights of persons belonging to national minorities and celebration of the International Roma Day (8 April); the month of May was dedicated to the promotion of diversity and fight against discrimination and celebration of the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development (21 May); the month of November was dedicated to the celebration of the Week of Tolerance and the International Day of Tolerance (16 November), etc.

74. The AP Vojvodina continued with the implementation of project “Affirmation of Multi-Culturalism and Tolerance in Vojvodina” whose objective was to foster cultural diversity and development of the spirit of inter-ethnic tolerance among the citizens of Vojvodina. The holder of the project is the Provincial Secretariat for Education, Administration and National Communities of the AP Vojvodina, which is implemented in cooperation with other sectoral provincial authorities, national and international organisations, national administration authorities, local self-government authorities, NGOs, educational and cultural institutions, depending on a specific sub-project. The project is designed as a complex multi-theme and multi-cultural program directed towards the idea of strengthening inter-ethnic trust among the young in Vojvodina. It includes many sub-projects (“Tolerance Competition“, TV quiz “How much do we know each other“, “Ethno Day”...) that are presented in detail in section 3.3.4. of the Second Report on the implementation of the Charter. Since the beginning of the implementation of this project (2005) through the events held in the territory of Vojvodina, more than tens of thousands of students from primary and secondary schools in Vojvodina have been involved in it through various activities.

75. Raising awareness and increasing tolerance in terms of multilingualism is supported with the implementation of multi-cultural projects in the field of information and culture that are co-financed by competent state and provincial authorities. Thus, for example, in the period referred to in the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter, the Ministry of Culture and Information co-financed 39 projects in the field of information, allocating RSD 13,925,659.00 of budgetary funds for their implementation, and 7 projects in the field of culture with RSD 800,000.00. Funds were awarded to broadcasters, agencies, cultural institutions, civil society organisations and cultural and art associations for co-financing projects such as, for example: strengthening the dialogue between national minorities; updating news on the website; news on the internet radio *Jug Press*; coverages; ...& *u Dobru & u Zlu...*(For Better or Worse); *Živeti Zajedno* (Living Together); the Week of Culture Stari Grad; *Mi Povezujemo Ljude* (We Connect People); promotion of multi-culturalism in the municipalities of Bačka Palanka; International Festival of Folklore of National Minorities *Ajd Povedi Ajd Zaigranj*; multi-cultural dialogue between national minorities in Serbia, etc. The Secretariat for Culture and Public Information of the AP Vojvodina co-financed 1,141 multi-cultural and inter-cultural programs/projects of cultural institutions and art associations in the AP Vojvodina, with RSD 639,918,125.00. Funds were awarded for projects co-financing, organising multi-cultural literature, theatre, music and musical-theatre festivals, exhibitions, multi-media and other projects in the field of modern and traditional artistic creativity, such as, for example: the Festival of Professional Theatres of Vojvodina – founded in 1946; International Festival of Children’s Theatres in Subotica; International Literature Festival in Novi Sad; Oratory Festival in Sremska Mitrovica; Youth Poetry Festival in Vrbas, etc.

76. Taking into consideration the multinationality and multilingualism of this society, the Republic of Serbia will in the future continue to raise awareness and increase tolerance in terms of minority languages and cultures they represent.

3. PART II IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 7 OF THE CHARTER

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:*

- a) *the recognition of the regional or minority languages as an expression of cultural wealth;*
- b) *the respect for 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;*
- c) *the need for resolute action to promote regional or minority languages in order to safeguard them;*
- d) *the facilitation and/or encouragement of the use of regional or minority languages, in speech and writing, in public and private life;*
- e) *the maintenance and development of links, in the fields covered by this Charter, between groups using a regional or minority language and other groups in the State employing a language used in identical or similar form, as well as the establishment of cultural relations with other groups in the State using different languages;*
- f) *the provision of appropriate forms and means for the teaching and study of regional or minority languages at all appropriate stages;*
- 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;*
- h) *the promotion of study and research on regional or minority languages at universities or equivalent institutions;*
- 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.*

2. *The Parties undertake to eliminate, if they have not yet done so, any unjustified distinction exclusion, restriction or preference relating to the use of a regional or minority language and intended to discourage or endanger the maintenance or development of it. The adoption of special measures in favour of regional or minority languages aimed at promoting equality between the users of these languages and the rest of the population or which take due account of*

their specific conditions is not considered to be an act of discrimination against the users of more widely-used languages.

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.

4. In determining their policy with regard to regional or minority languages, the Parties shall take into consideration the needs and wishes expressed by the groups which use such languages. They are encouraged to establish bodies, if necessary, for the purpose of advising the authorities on all matters pertaining to regional or minority languages.

5. The Parties undertake to apply, mutatis mutandis, the principles listed in paragraphs 1 to 4 above to non-territorial languages. However, as far as these languages are concerned, the nature and scope of the measures to be taken to give effect to this Charter shall be determined in a flexible manner, bearing in mind the needs and wishes, and respecting the traditions and characteristics, of the groups which use the languages concerned.

3.1. Information on politics, legislation and practice in the implementation of Article 7 of the Charter

3.1.1. Decisive action of promotion of minority languages

77. Previous reports on the implementation of the Charter contain information on the legal framework for the promotion of minority languages and establishing bodies that have authorisations in this field. As it has been explained, national councils of national minorities, introduced into the legal system in 2002, have a special role in the promotion of minority languages. These bodies represent an institutional form through which, in a constitutionally determined areas of social life (culture, education, information and official use of a language and a script), important for preserving identity of a national minority, collective rights are exercised by legally entrusting them with specific public powers to participate in decision-making or to independently decide on certain issues in the listed areas. Section 2.2.2. of the Second Report on the implementation of the Charter lists competences, i.e. powers which national councils have in the stated areas, whereas section 2.2. of the Third Report contains information on their activities in the period 2010-2012.

78. Funds for co-financing the operation of national councils of national minorities are provided from the budget of the Republic of Serbia, budget of the Autonomous Province, budget of local self-government units, donations and other incomes. The national councils with the seat in the territory of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina provide their funds from the provincial

budget. For the national councils which represent national minorities that reach at least 10% of the total population of a local self-government unit, or whose language is in official use in a local self-government unit, funds are also be provided from the budget of local self-government units. The table below contains data on the amount of provided funds for the operation of national councils from the budget of the Republic of Serbia.

NATIONAL COUNCIL	2010	2011	2012
Albanian national minority ⁹	3,151,381.00	16,604,420.00	16,600,502.00
Ashkali national minority ¹⁰	1,570,629.00	1,418,064.00	4,379,367.00
Bosniac national minority	13,670,718.00	21,015,176.00	22,107,860.00
Bulgarian national minority	7,005,533.00	7,610,588.00	7,880,533.00
Bunjevci national minority	6,983,674.00	5,856,188.00	5,798,751.00
Vlach national minority	7,492,237.00	7,482,728.00	7,486,041.00
Greek national minority	5,939,133.00	3,615,620.00	4,175,043.00
Egyptian national minority	5,779,027.00	3,636,608.00	3,594,820.00
Federation of Jewish Communities ¹¹	5,952,635.00	3,983,600.00	3,901,113.00
Hungarian national minority	39,172,899.00	58,600,940.00	57,908,690.00
Macedonian national minority	7,013,301.00	6,779,120.00	6,631,474.00
German national minority	6,053,758.00	3,989,720.00	3,927,640.00
Roma national minority	11,772,747.00	16,377,656.00	16,685,606.00
Romanian national minority	7,554,865.00	13,394,108.00	13,499,383.00
Ruthenian national minority	6,551,901.00	8,740,808.00	8,416,134.00
Slovak national minority	9,268,286.00	18,636,080.00	18,848,446.00
Slovenian national minority ¹²	1,989,917.00	4,772,672.00	4,851,671.00
Ukrainian national minority	6,114,242.00	4,963,100.00	4,763,209.00
Croatian national minority	10,250,495.00	13,589,300.00	14,017,680.00
Czech national minority ¹³	1,861,484.00	4,297,376.00	4,526,037.00
Total funds	165,148,862.00	225,363,872.00	230,000,000.00

79. The table below contain data on financing national councils of national minorities from the budget of the AP Vojvodina.

NATIONAL COUNCIL	2010	2011	2012
Ashkali national minority ¹⁴	330,000.00	-	-
Bunjevci national minority	2,090,060.00	1,752,000.00	1,696,000.00

⁹ The national council was selected in June 2010.

¹⁰ The national council was selected in June 2010. Even though funds were provided from the 2011 budget of the Republic of Serbia for financing the operation of the National Council, the funds were paid only in the first four months due to the unresolved issue of Council representation.

¹¹ On the basis of Article 134 of the Law on National Councils of National Minorities, the Executive Board of the Federation of Jewish Communities shall perform functions of the National Council.

¹² The National Council was selected in June 2010.

¹³ The National Council was selected in June 2010.

¹⁴ Even though funds were provided from the budget of AP Vojvodina for financing the operation of the National Council of the Ashkali National Minority, the funds were never paid due to the unresolved issue of Council representation.

Greek national minority ¹⁵	-	400,000.00	400,000.00
Egyptian national minority	330,000.00	400,000.00	400,000.00
Hungarian national minority	11,925,555.00	16,528,000.00	16,504,000.00
Macedonian national minority	1,800,000.00	1,900,000.00	2,204,000.00
German national minority	1,487,560.00	1,340,000.00	1,005,000.00
Romanian national minority	2,478,055.00	4,224,000.00	4,216,000.00
Ruthenian national minority	1,941,555.00	2,654,000.00	2,504,000.00
Slovak national minority	4,132,055.00	5,160,000.00	5,472,000.00
Ukrainian national minority	1,541,560.00	1,412,000.00	1,400,000.00
Croatian national minority	3,428,600.00	3,028,000.00	3,024,000.00
Czech national minority	350,000.00	1,502,000.00	1,340,000.00
Total funds	31,835,000.00	40,300,000.00	40,165,000.00

3.1.2. Creating conditions for the facilitation and/or encouragement of the use of minority languages

80. The Republic of Serbia paid special attention to creating conditions for the facilitation and/or encouragement of the use of minority languages by adopting the system laws which govern the manner of exercising the constitutionally guaranteed right to use minority languages, which is explained in relevant parts of previous reports, as well as relevant parts of the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter. New data on the implementation of the legal framework which ensures conditions for the facilitation and encouragement of the use of minority languages in practice are contained in the information on the implementation of Part III of the Charter and section 3.2. of this Report.

3.1.3. Establishing cultural relations among the groups speaking minority languages

81. Establishing cultural relations among the groups speaking minority languages was explained in relevant parts of the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter.

3.1.4. Provisions determining the study of minority languages

82. In the period referred to in the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter, as already explained, the legislation referring to the ensurance of the study of minority languages has not been changed in comparison to the period referred to in the Second Report on the implementation of the Charter. The data on the study of minority languages at all levels of education are contained in section 3.2. of the Third Report referring to the languages included in Part II of the Charter, and the information referred to in Article 8 for the languages from Part III of the Charter.

¹⁵ Since 2011, the seat of the National Council has been registered in the territory of AP Vojvodina.

3.1.5. Facilitation of studying minority languages

83. The legislation in the field of education provides opportunities for all interested persons to study minority languages that are not their mother tongues, i.e. which they do not speak. As an example for the implementation of this opportunity in practice may serve the data of the Provincial Secretariat for Education, Administration and National Communities about the ethnicity of students of primary schools in the territory of the AP Vojvodina who attended classes in minority languages in the school year 2012/2013. The table below contains these data.

Nationality	Total number of students	Language used in the class				
		Hungarian	Romanian	Ruthenian	Slovak	Croatian
Serbs	107,692	50	17	34	45	
Albanians	233	3		2		
Bosniacs/Muslims	637	1		1		
Bulgarians	61	2				
Bunjevac	756	19				
Hungarians	17,671	14,259	1	18	4	3
Macedonians	576	2	2			
German	108	1				
Roma	8,272	533	122	23	49	
Romanians	1,738	1	926			
Ruthenians	903	5		393	1	
Slovaks	3,763	8		2	2,785	
Ukrainians	231			2	1	
Croats	2,563	18		4	2	277
Montenegrins	1,971				3	
Undecided/others	4,520	175	3		24	6

84. The presented data show that classes in minority languages were attended not only by the persons belonging to national minorities in whose language the class was provided, but also by the members of other national minorities such as students of the Serbian nationality.

85. The Provincial Secretariat for Education, Administration and National Communities of the AP Vojvodina also disposes with the data about the number of students who attend classes of optional subject “Mother Tongue with Elements of National Culture” in primary schools. When enrolling school, a survey is conducted in which students (or their parents) declare on the reasons why they decided to study that subject. The study of subject “Mother Tongue with Elements of National Culture” was organised in the territory of AP Vojvodina for ten languages/speeches (Bulgarian, Bunjevac, Hungarian, Romani, Romanian, Ruthenian, Slovak, Ukrainian, Croatian and Czech). The most common reasons for which students decide to study this subject is that they were children from mixed marriages and that they wanted to study the language of their environment.

86. Class "Mother Tongue with Elements of National Culture" is not attended only by the students who are members of a specific national minority. The students to whom this is not a mother tongue also decide to study this subject. According to the data from 2012, over 17% of all the students who attend subject "Mother Tongue with Elements of National Culture" declared that they have been studying one of minority languages as a language of their social environment.

87. At the initiative of the national councils of the Hungarian, Slovak, Romanian, Ruthenian and Croatian national minorities, the Provincial Secretariat for Education, Administration and National Communities of the AP Vojvodina submitted to the competent ministry a proposal for amendments and addenda to by-laws (curricula) which would introduce subject "The Language of Social Environment" as an optional subject in the municipalities in which minority languages are in official use.

88. For purpose of studying or advancing specific minority languages, and getting acquainted with the culture, customs and tradition of specific national minorities, the Provincial Secretariat for Education, Administration and National Communities of the AP Vojvodina, in accordance with possibilities, co-financed a number of projects implemented by primary and secondary schools or associations of citizens. The table below contains data on allocated funds for financing those projects.

	2010	2011	2012
Primary schools	7	6	11
Secondary schools	2	5	6
Associations of citizens	10	10	12
Total number of projects	19	21	28
Approved funds	2,296,000.00	2,029,000.00	2,967,000.00

3.1.6. Improving studying and research of minority languages at universities

89. The data on the practice of studying and research of minority languages at universities are contained in sections 3.2. and 4.1.6. of the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter.

3.1.7. Improving transnational exchange

90. As already presented in previous reports on the implementation of the Charter, the Republic of Serbia is a party to several bilateral treaties which also contain provisions relevant for the cooperation in the areas of life referred to in the Charter. This mostly refers to the treaties on the cooperation in the field of culture, education and science with the countries in which a certain language is used in an identical or similar form to the minority language in the Republic of Serbia. The Second Report on the implementation of the Charter provides an overview of the

countries in with which the Republic of Serbia has concluded such treaties. The Republic of Serbia, as a successor, also entered treaties with the Federal Republic of Germany and the Czech Republic, the countries which use languages which are in the Republic of Serbia included in Part II of the Charter.

91. The Treaty on Cultural and Scientific Cooperation with the Federal Republic of Germany (1969) in Article 3 determines that the parties to the treaty will, for purpose of facilitating studying of the language of another party to the treaty, try to refer lecturers to universities and colleges, to exchange publications and materials for a language study and to assist participation of professor and students in courses on the languages spoken by other parties to the treaty. According to the notification of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, there is a procedure under way related to the harmonisation of the wording of a new document in the field of cultural and scientific cooperation between two countries.

92. The Treaty on cooperation in the field of culture, education, science, youth and sports, concluded with the Czech Republic, in Article 14 determines that the parties to the treaty will, in accordance with legal regulations applicable in the countries of the parties to the treaty ensure to the members of the Serbian national minority and Czech national minority conditions for preserving and developing the mother tongue, historical heritage and their own culture. This Treaty was concluded in 2005, but has not entered into force since the Czech side still has not notified on the completion of the process of its ratification.

93. International exchange information for the languages covered in Part III of the Charter was contained in the implementation of Article 14 of the Charter.

3.1.8. Elimination of unfavourable treatment of use of minority languages and adoption of special measures in favour of minority languages

94. The Republic of Serbia has an established anti-discrimination legal and institutional framework. In the period referred to in the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter, efforts were continued on the strengthening of the mechanisms of prevention, supervision and prohibition of discrimination. In 2012, the Office for Human and Minority Rights initiated the process of the preparation of the national strategy to combat discrimination, in accordance with the recommendation by the Commissioner for Protection of Equality, with regard to the initiatives of the civil society organisations. The very process of the preparation of this strategic document was maximally participatory, which implied the involvement of relevant bodies and institutions of the system, representatives of minority groups and non-governmental organizations engaged in the promotion and protection of human and minority rights and citizens. In 2013, the Government of the Republic of Serbia adopted the Strategy for Prevention

and Protection Against Discrimination. This strategic and political document is a harmonized system of public policy measures, conditions and instruments that the Republic of Serbia needs to implement with a view to preventing or reducing all forms and cases of discrimination, particularly towards specific persons or groups of persons with regard to their personal traits. The Strategy also deals with the improvement of the status of national minorities, as one of the nine vulnerable social groups that are most exposed to discrimination and discriminatory treatment. The framework for the implementation of strategic goals was specified by the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Strategy for Protection and Prevention Against Discrimination, adopted by the Government in 2014. With regard to the period when these documents were adopted, strategic goals and measures relating to speakers of minority languages, realization of these goals and supervision of their implementation will be elaborated in the next cycle.

95. The legal basis for the adoption of special measures in favour of minority languages which would be aimed at improving the equality between speakers of these languages and the rest of the population, and which may take into consideration their specific conditions, is contained in Article 76 paragraph 3 as well as Article 21 paragraph 4 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, which prescribes that special measures that Serbia may adopt with a view to achieving full equality of persons or group of persons who are essentially unequal to other citizens, shall not be considered discrimination. This provision may refer to speakers of minority languages (especially since Article 76 paragraph 3 of the Constitution refers only to national minorities) and may represent a basis for undertaking special measures in all spheres of public life, rather than just those relating to *extremely unfavourable living conditions*. In the period that the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter refers to, the state continued to undertake special measures in favour of persons belonging to national minorities and speakers of minority languages: educational and pedagogical work in minority languages is also implemented when less than 15 pupils opt for it, as shown by examples from certain school classes where lectures are conducted in Hungarian, Romanian, Ruthenian, Slovakian etc.; the adoption of the Macedonian language and alphabet in official use in the municipality of Plandište, in spite of the fact that the number of members of this national minority in the total number of inhabitants on its territory does not reach 15% according to the results of the latest census etc.

3.1.9. Improvement of mutual understanding between all language groups

96. The legislative framework of the Republic of Serbia relevant for raising awareness and improving the tolerance relating to minority languages was presented in previous reports on the implementation of the Charter. As previously stated, the state encourages, through different activities, tolerance and inter-cultural dialogue among all people living in its territory. Some of these activities are included in the paragraph 72-76 of the Third Report on the implementation of

the Charter. With regard to the nature of its society, the Republic of Serbia will continue its present practice of promoting and encouraging awareness and tolerance relating to minority languages and cultures they represent, as an integral part of its cultural heritage, especially in the field of educational system and media.

3.1.10. Advisory Bodies

97. The previous reports on the implementation of the Charter stated that, in accordance with the Constitutional and legal solution, there are special bodies in the Republic of Serbia that are authorized to advise the authorities with regard to the minority languages. These are national councils of national minorities, whose chairmen are members of the Council for National Minorities which, among others, deals with the preservation, improvement and protection of language and cultural specificities of persons belonging to national minorities.

98. During the recent years, an increasing importance has been given to an informal body created by national councils for the harmonisation and improvement of common interests in the exercise of rights in the field of culture, education, information and official use of languages and scripts. It is the Coordination of National Councils of National Minorities in the Republic of Serbia, which takes views, plans activities and participates in the solving of issues of interest for all national councils. Every national council is able to coordinate the work of this body, considering the fact that the presidency of the Coordination is prescribed to rotate once a year. The position of the chairperson is conferred upon the president of the national council which coordinates the work of the body and which, among other things, represents the Coordination, signs acts adopted by the Coordination, and calls its meetings. The authorities recognize that informal body as a competent partner in considering the issues relating to the status of national minorities. Thus, for instance, two members proposed by the Coordination participated in the work of the working group created for the preparation of amendments to the Law on National Councils of National Minorities.

3.2. Information on the application of the Charter to minority languages which have not been included in the obligations from Part III of the Charter

99. Minority languages in the Republic of Serbia are: Albanian, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Bunjevac, Croatian, Czech, German, Hungarian, Macedonian, Roma, Romanian, Ruthenian, Slovakian, Ukrainian and Vlach language. Since the Republic of Serbia has undertaken the obligations from Part III regarding the Albanian, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Croatian, Hungarian,

Roma, Romanian, Ruthenian, Slovakian and Ukrainian language, the following paragraphs contain information on the status of other languages.¹⁶

3.2.1. Bunjevac speech

100. The Bunjevac speech is not in official use in any local self-government unit, primarily because it has not been standardised. As already stated, efforts on the standardisation of the Bunjevac language are the most important activity of the National Council of the Bunjevac national minority. Within these activities, the Bunjevac cultural, language and religious heritage was collected, and a part of it was processed, systematised and published. Efforts are being made to bring the process of standardisation to close, with regard to the fact that the standardised language is one of the preconditions for the implementation of the Charter in that language. Through its measures, the state encourages and facilitates the use of the Bunjevac language in the fields where a full standardisation of the language is not necessary. The next paragraphs of the Report present information on the use of the Bunjevac speech in specific fields of social life.

101. Studying the Bunjevac speech with elements of national culture has been organised for secondary school pupils. During the school year 2012/2013, studying was organised in 11 elementary schools in two local self-governments (Sombor and Subotica). The table below contains data on the number of pupils attending classes of Bunjevac Speech with Elements of National Culture.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	2	10	18	267
2010/2011	2	12	20	338
2012/2013	2	11	21	353

102. There are radio and TV programmes in Bunjevac, as well as printed media. The table below contains data on the duration of broadcasting of radio programme in Bunjevac, as well as the data on the radio station regarding the type of broadcaster.

Radio station	Monthly duration of programme (hours)	Broadcaster type
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¹⁶ In the information on the use of minority languages in the electronic media, the presented data on the duration of broadcasts refer to 2012. The data have been collected by the Office for Human and Minority Rights within its regular activities. The approved budgetary funds include the aggregate financial support to the radio and TV stations which include programmes in minority languages in their programme schedules, and which refer to the period 2010-2012, unless otherwise specified. Translations of the works by Serbian authors into foreign languages which have the status of minority language in Serbia have been co-financed by the Ministry of Culture and Information, and mostly refer to publishers from abroad.

RTV Vojvodina, Radio Novi Sad, Novi Sad	4	Public broadcasting agency
Radio Subotica, Subotica	4	Station of local or regional community
Radio Trend, Bačka Topola	2	Commercial station
Radio Sombor, Sombor	6	Commercial station

103. The table below contains data on the financial support to radio stations which include programme in Bunjevac from the budget of AP Vojvodina in their broadcasting.

Radio station	Purpose	Funds granted
Radio Trend, Bačka Topola	TTE ¹⁷ , information services, improving standards, public information	954,000.00
Radio Sombor, Sombor	TTE, information services, public information	3,423,000.00
Radio Subotica, Subotica	TTE, information services, public information	1,390,000.00

104. The table below contains data on the duration of broadcasting of radio programme in Bunjevac, as well as the data on the TV station regarding the type of broadcaster.

TV station	Monthly duration of programme (hours)	Broadcaster type
RTV Vojvodina, TV Vojvodina, Novi Sad	2	Public broadcasting agency
YU ECO TV, Subotica	2	Commercial station

105. In 2012, funds have been allocated from the budget of the Republic of Serbia for co-financing projects/programmes in the field of public information in Bunjevac, namely:

Project/programme applicant	Project name	Funds granted
Spektar Export-Import and Marketing d.o.o. - TV Spektar, Sombor	Bunjevac alphabet	90,000.00
YU ECO d.o.o, Subotica	Culture, tradition and customs of the Bunjevac	332,000.00

106. TV YU ECO, Subotica, which broadcasts its programme in Bunjevac, has been financially supported from the budget of AP Vojvodina, in the amount of 6,884,000.00 dinars.

107. Printed media in Bunjevac include *Bunjevačke novine* and the monthly supplement for children *Tandrčak*, published by NIU Bunjevac information centre, Subotica, whose founder was

¹⁷ Technical and technological equipment.

the National Council of the Bunjevac National Minority and the monthly magazine *Rič bunjevačke matice*, published by Bunjevačka matica, Subotica.

108. The table below shows the amount of approved funds from the budget of AP Vojvodina for newspapers of provincial significance¹⁸, as well as on the basis of a public competition for co-financing publishing activities in minority languages.

Public printed media	Type of support	Funds granted		
		2010	2011	2012
<i>Bunjevačke novine</i>	Subsidy	5,175,000.00	6,000,000.00	6,165,000.00
<i>Tandrčak</i>	Subsidy	1,944,000.00	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00
<i>Rič bunjevačke matice</i>	Public competition	-	25,000.00	35,000.00
<i>Tandrčak</i>	Public competition	40,000.00	50,000.00	35,000.00

109. In 2011, funds from the budget of the Republic of Serbia were allocated to co-finance a project in the field of audio and video production. The "K23" agency for radio and TV activities from Subotica was granted funds in the amount of 520,000.00 dinars to co-finance projects in Bunjevac "Programme for the National Minorities of Croats and Bunjevac".

110. Promoting the Bunjevac culture is financially supported by funds from the budget of the Republic of Serbia and the Province of Vojvodina. The table below contains data on the amount of funds used to co-finance projects in the field of culture.

Source of funding	Year	Amount of funds in RSD
The budget of the Republic of Serbia	2010	300,000.00
	2011	200,000.00
	2012	200,000.00
The budget of AP Vojvodina	2010	570,000.00
	2011	605,000.00
	2012	470,000.00

111. Projects from the following fields of culture relating to the Bunjevac speech have been supported from the budget of the Republic of Serbia:

Year	Field of cultural and artistic creativity supported by the project	Number of approved projects	Funds granted
2010	Magazines / Publications	1	60,000.00
	Cultural events	3	200,000.00

¹⁸ The decision to ensure some of the funds from the budget of AP Vojvodina for publishing newspapers of significance for the province defined newspapers of provincial significance and, among other things, newspapers of significance for national minorities whose national councils have a seat in the territory of AP Vojvodina.

2011	Publishing activities	2	80,000.00
	Cultural events	2	60,000.00
2012	Publishing activities	1	80,000.00
	Cultural events	2	120,000.00

112. Funds have been located to co-finance projects, such as: publishing the collection of poems *Oscilacije života*, by Mirko Peić (Bunjevačka Matica, Subotica), books *Tanrčkovo blago 3* and *4* (NIU Bunjevac Cultural Centre, Subotica), *Bunjevački kalendar za prostu 2011. godinu* (Bunjevac Cultural Centre, Subotica); Festival of Bunjevac Folk Creativity (KUD "Bunjevka", Subotica); Event "Dužionica" (Association "Bunjevačko kolo", Sombor); Rally of Young Artists in the Bunjevac language "Bunjevačka lipa rič" (Bunjevačka matica, Subotica); Days of Bunjevac Culture (Bunjevac Cultural Centre "Bajmok") etc.

113. Projects from the following fields of culture relating to the Bunjevac speech have been supported from the budget of AP Vojvodina:

Year	Field of cultural and artistic creativity supported by the project	Number of approved projects	Funds granted
2010	Publishing activities	1	150,000.00
	Magazines / Publications	1	40,000.00
	Cultural events	3	140,00.00
2011	Periodicals	2	75,000.00
	Cultural events	3	460,000.00
2012	Magazines / Publications	2	70,000.00
	Cultural events	3	300,000.00

114. Funds have been located to co-finance projects, such as: publishing the book *Tandrčkovo blago*, children's magazine *Tandrčak* (NIU "Bunjevac information centre, Subotica), Magazine *Rič Bunjevačka matice* (Bunjevačka matica, Subotica); Days of Bunjevac Culture (Bunjevac Cultural Centre, Bajmok); Event *Dužionica* ("Bunjevačko kolo", Sombor); Rally of Young Artists in the Bunjevac language "Bunjevačka lipa rič" (Bunjevačka matica, Subotica) etc.

3.2.2. Vlach language

115. The Vlach language is not in official use in any of the self-government units, considering the fact that the alphabet for the Vlach language had not yet been established in the period referred to by the Third Report.

116. In the same period, there was no education of speakers of Vlach language in their mother tongue. After having defined and adopted the alphabet for the Vlach language, the National

Council of the Vlach National Minority undertook a series of activities¹⁹ meant to enable the organisation of the education of Vlach speakers in their own language.

117. The undertaken measures in the field of information and culture were used by the state to encourage the use of the Vlach language, through co-financing of projects from these fields. The table below contains data on the duration of broadcasting of radio programme in the Vlach language, as well as the data on the radio station regarding the type of broadcaster.

Radio station	Monthly duration of programme (hours)	Broadcaster type
Radio Petrovac, Petrovac na Mlavi	30	Station of local or regional community
Radio Požarevac, Požarevac	16	Station of local or regional community
Radio Puls, Despotovac	8	Commercial station
Radio "F - kanal", Zaječar	15	Commercial station
Radio Zvižd, Kučevo	4	Commercial station

118. Funds have been allocated from the budget of the Republic of Serbia for co-financing projects/programmes in the field of public information in the Vlach language, namely:

Project/programme applicant	Project name	Funds granted
2010		
UTP City doo., Radio Čičica 89.1 MHz, Svilajnac	"Vorba Rumunska" - "Vlaška reč", 52 shows	332,800.00
Doo Radio Magnum 18, Zaječar	Radio magazine "From the treasury of Vlach tradition"	281,666.00
Company for radio and TV programme broadcasting "Sezam", RTV Sezam, Bor	Festival of Vlach national music "Vlach Pearl Box 2010", series of 30 radio and TV shows	197,000.00
2011		
A.D. Timok radio and television, Timočki radio, Zaječar	"Vlaška šarenica" and "Nedelja na vlaškom"	700,000.00
UTP City doo., Radio Čičica, Svilajnac	In Lumina - Among the People	317,600.00
2012		
Doo Radio Magnum 18, Zaječar	Current issues from Timočka Krajina	325,000.00

119. The table below contains data on the duration of broadcasting of radio programme in the Vlach language, as well as the data on the TV station regarding the type of broadcaster.

¹⁹ Activities relating to the introduction of the Vlach language into the educational system are elaborated in chapters 2.2. and 3.3.2. of the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter.

TV station	Monthly duration of programme (hours)	Broadcaster type
TV Bor, Bor	4	Station of local or regional community
Radio "F - kanal", Zaječar	10	Commercial station

120. Funds have been allocated from the budget of the Republic of Serbia for co-financing projects/programmes in the field of public information in the Vlach language, namely:

Project/programme applicant	Project name	Funds granted
2010		
RTV Kladovo, Kladovo	“Vlachs and Vlach Customs in Podunavlje“, series of 6 half an hour shows	392,800.00
Company for radio and TV programme broadcasting “Sezam“, RTV Sezam, Bor	Festival of Vlach national music “Vlach Pearl Box 2010“, series of 30 radio and TV shows	197,000.00
Folkdisk doo Zaječar, TV Folkdisk salaš , Zaječar	„Saptamana“ – "Week"	300,000.00
2011		
JP "Šrif", Bor	Half a century of tradition	300,000.00
A.D. "Timočka radio televizija" (Timok radio and television), Zaječar	"Vlaška šarenica" and "Nedelja na vlaškom"	700,000.00
2012		
D.o.o. for radio and television "F-kanal", Zaječar	Vorba nostra	150,000.00
TV Folk disk d.o.o, Zaječar	Vorba Vlahilor - Vlaška reč	150,000.00
Pekton Company (RTV Zvižd), Kučevo	Creative club	350,000.00

121. In 2012, funds from the budget of the Republic of Serbia were allocated to co-finance a project in the field of audio and video production. Mlava-media, Petrovac na Mlavi, has been granted funds in the amount of 500,000.00 dinars for co-financing projects in the Vlach language "Buna džao".

122. Promoting the Vlach culture is financially supported by funds from the budget of the Republic of Serbia. The table below contains data on the amount of funds used to co-finance projects in the field of culture.

Source of funding	Year	Amount of funds in RSD
The budget of the Republic of Serbia	2010	210,000.00
	2011	250,000.00
	2012	250,000.00

123. The financial support referred to projects from the following fields of culture relating to the Vlach language:

Year	Field of cultural and artistic creativity supported by the project	Number of approved projects	Funds granted
2010	Cultural events	2	130,000.00
2011	Cultural events	3	250,000.00
2012	Cultural events	2	250,000.00

124. Funds have been located to co-finance projects, such as: To the Future through the Steps of Our Ancestors (National council of the Vlach national minority); Festival of Vlach traditional folk songs, Preservation of the tradition of the Vlach cultural heritage through the event "Susreti sela", (Cultural Centre of the Bor Municipality); Third Festival of Vlach Traditional Folk Music "Negotin 2011" (Association "Gergina", Negotin) etc.

3.2.3. Macedonian language

125. Macedonian language is in official use in the territory of the Plandište municipality and in the settlement Jabuka (in the town of Pančevo).

126. Studying the Macedonian Language with Elements of National Culture has been organised in AP Vojvodina since 2010/2011. In the school year 2012/2013, the subject Macedonian Language with Elements of National Culture was organized in the elementary school in Jabuka (in the town of Pančevo).

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	1	1	1	5
2010/2011	1	1	1	5
2012/2013	1	1	2	10

127. In Serbia, Macedonian language is studied at the University of Belgrade, at the Faculty of Philology in Belgrade, Department of Serbian Language and South Slav Languages, within the study programme Serbian Language as Optional Language in the second year, for two semesters, as well as at the Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad as an optional subject within the study programme Serbian Philology - Serbian Language and Literature, in the first year (two semesters) and within the study programme Serbian Literature and Language at the fourth year for two semesters.

128. There are radio and TV programmes in Macedonian, as well as printed media. The table below contains data on the duration of broadcasting of radio programme in the Macedonian language, as well as the data on the TV station regarding the type of broadcaster.

Radio station	Monthly duration of programme (hours)	Broadcaster type
RTV Vojvodina, Radio Novi Sad, Novi Sad	2	Public broadcasting agency
RTV Pančevo, Radio Pančevo, Pančevo	8	Station of local or regional community

129. The table below contains data on the financial support from the budget of AP Vojvodina to the radio station which broadcasts programme in Macedonian

Radio station	Purpose	Funds granted²⁰
RTV Pančevo, Radio Pančevo, Pančevo	TTE, information services, public information	895.600,00

130. The table below contains data on the duration of broadcasting of radio programme in the Macedonian language, as well as the data on the TV station regarding the type of broadcaster.

TV station	Monthly duration of programme (hours)	Broadcaster type
RTV Vojvodina, TV Vojvodina, Novi Sad	2	Public broadcasting agency
RTV Pančevo, Radio Pančevo, Pančevo	4	Station of local or regional community

131. Funds have been allocated from the budget of AP Vojvodina for co-financing a TV station that broadcasts programme in Macedonian, namely:

TV station	Purpose	Funds granted²¹
RTV Pančevo, Radio Pančevo, Pančevo	Information services, public information	895,600.00

132. Macedonian language publications include newspapers of provincial significance, the monthly *Makedonska videlina* and supplement for children *Sunica* published by NIU Macedonian Information and Publishing Centre, Pančevo, whose founder is the National Council of the Macedonian national minority.

²⁰ Funds are allocated in the total amount for broadcasting radio and television programme.

²¹ Ibid.

133. The table below shows the amount of approved funds from the budget of AP Vojvodina for newspapers of provincial significance, as well as on the basis of a public competition for co-financing publishing activities in minority languages.

Public printed media	Type of support	Funds granted		
		2010	2011	2012
<i>Makedonska videlina</i> , Pančevo	Subsidy	5,430,000.00	5,550,000.00	5,550,000.00
<i>Sunica</i> , Pančevo	Public competition	35,000.00	40,000.00	35,000.00

134. In 2011, funds from the budget of the Republic of Serbia were allocated to co-finance a project in the field of audio and video production in Macedonian. Gulliver productions, Kruševac, were granted funds in the amount of 165,000.00 dinars for co-financing the project "Under the Bagdala of the Šar Mountain".

135. Promoting the Macedonian culture is financially supported by funds from the budget of the Republic of Serbia and the Province of Vojvodina. The table below contains data on the amount of funds used to co-finance projects in the field of culture.

Source of funding	Year	Amount of funds in RSD
The budget of the Republic of Serbia	2010	315,000.00
	2011	250,000.00
	2012	250,000.00
The budget of AP Vojvodina	2010	440,000.00
	2011	280,000.00
	2012	245,000.00

136. Projects from the following fields of culture relating to the Macedonian language have been supported from the budget of the Republic of Serbia:

Year	Field of cultural and artistic creativity supported by the project	Number of approved projects	Funds granted
2010	Publishing activities	2	170,000.00
2011	Magazines / Publications	1	50,000.00
	Cultural events	4	200,000.00
2012	Cultural events	3	250,000.00

137. Funds have been located to co-finance projects, such as: Magazine for literature, art and culture *Videlo* (NIU Macedonian Information and Publishing Centre, Pančevo); Days of Macedonian culture in Belgrade (Association of Macedonian Nationality in Belgrade), Festival of Macedonian music "Play, Sing and Dance" (Association of the Macedonian National Minority "Kiril Pejčinović", Kraljevo), Ilinden days of Macedonian culture (National Council of the Macedonian National Minority) etc.

138. In the period 2010-2012, the Ministry of Culture and Information co-financed the translation of 29 works written in Serbian language into Macedonian, with the amount of 27,870 EUR.

139. Projects from the following fields of culture relating to the Macedonian language have been supported from the budget of AP Vojvodina:

Year	Field of cultural and artistic creativity supported by the project	Number of approved projects	Funds granted
2010	Magazines / Publications	2	70,000.00
	Cultural events	2	330,000.00
2011	Magazines / Publications	2	110,000.00
	Cultural events	1	100,000.00
2012	Magazines / Publications	2	85,000.00
	Cultural events	2	130,000.00

140. Funds have been located to co-finance projects, such as: Magazine for literature, art and culture *Videlo* and Children's magazine *Sunica – Duga* (NIU Macedonian Information and Publishing Centre, Pančevo); Preservation of traditional folk songs and dances from Jabuka (Association of Macedonians of the Southern Banat district "Vardar"- affiliation Jabuka), Days of Macedonian culture in Vojvodina (Foundation for Development and Preservation of Macedonian Culture "Macedonian Sun", Subotica), Days of Macedonian Creativity "Sebi u pohode" (National Council of the Macedonian National Minority) etc.

3.2.4. German language

141. German language is not in official use in any of the local self-government units, since it does not meet the legal requirements for the mandatory introduction in the equal official use of the language and script.

142. For the speakers of German language, only pre-school education was organised. Bilingual educational and pedagogical work in Serbian and German has been organised since 2011 in a pre-school institution in Novi Sad.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of pre-school institutions	Number of groups	Number of children
2011/2012	1	1	2	40
2012/2013	1	1	4	109

143. In the kindergarten "Happy Childhood" in Novi Sad, the educational and pedagogical work includes the implementation of the programme "Development and Fostering of the Mother

Tongue and Non-Mother Tongue and Inter-culturality in Children in Vojvodina". The programme prescribes that the educational and pedagogical work is conducted in Serbian, with 15 to 25 minutes in German every day.

144. Bilingual educational and pedagogical work in Hungarian and German has been organised in a pre-school institution in Subotica.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of pre-school institutions	Number of groups	Number of children
2010/2011	1	1	3	75
2011/2012	1	1	1	23
2012/2013	1	1	1	27

145. According to the information obtained from the National Council of the German National Minority, there is no sufficient number of children to organise the elementary and secondary education in/about the German language, or interest in these levels of education.

146. German is studied at the Faculty of Philology in Belgrade, at the Study Group for German Language, Literature and Culture, at the Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad, Department for German Studies, Study Group for German Language and Literature at the Faculty of Philology and Art in Kragujevac, Department for German Studies, Study Group for German Language and Literature. The table below contains data on the number of students attending these institutions of higher learning.

Faculty of Philology in Belgrade

School year	Number of students enrolled in the first year	Number of students in all four years
2010/2011	69	409
2011/2012	70	348
2012/2013	80	221

Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad

School year	Number of students enrolled in the first year	Number of students in all years
2010/2011	50	196
2011/2012	50	211
2012/2013	50	158

Faculty of Philology and Art in Kragujevac

School year	Number of students enrolled in the first year	Number of students in all years
2010/2011	30	113
2011/2012	30	127

2012/2013	30	143
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147. There are radio and TV programmes in German, as well as printed media. The table below contains data on the duration of broadcasting of radio programme in German, as well as the data on the radio station regarding the type of broadcaster.

Radio station	Monthly duration of programme (hours)	Broadcaster type
Radio Subotica, Subotica	2	Station of local or regional community
Radio Kulska Komuna, Kula	1	Commercial station
Radio Marija, Subotica ²²	4	Civil sector station

148. In 2012, funds were allocated from the budget of the Republic of Serbia for co-financing projects/programmes in the field of public information in German, in the amount of 224,000.00 dinars. Funds have been granted by the Public Company for Information "Information Centre Odžaci", Odžaci, for the realization of the project *Die woche – Week*.

149. The table below contains data on the financial support from the budget of AP Vojvodina to the radio stations which also broadcast programme in German.

Radio station	Purpose	Funds granted
Radio Subotica, Subotica	TTE, information services, public information	1,390,000.00
Radio Kulska Komuna, Kula	TTE, information services, public information	2,167,000.00

150. There is a multi-month magazine in German called *Nachrichten*, from Novi Sad. There is also the bilingual magazine (in Serbian and German) *Fenster*, Sremski Karlovci.

151. On the basis of a public competition for the publishing activity of national minorities, a total amount of 110,000.00 dinars was allocated for co-financing the magazine *Fenster*.

152. Promoting the German culture is financially supported by funds from the budget of the province. The table below contains data on the amount of funds used to co-finance projects in the field of culture.

Source of funding	Year	Amount of funds in RSD
The budget of AP Vojvodina	2010	510,000.00
	2011	787,267.00
	2012	155,000.00

²² It was founded by the Belgrade Archiepiscopacy.

153. Projects from the following fields of culture relating to the German language have been supported from the budget of AP Vojvodina:

Year	Field of cultural and artistic creativity supported by the project	Number of approved projects	Funds granted
2010	Magazines / Publications	1	40,000.00
2011	Magazines / Publications	1	35,000.00
	Cultural events	1	73,000.00
2012	Magazines / Publications	2	95,000.00
	Cultural events	1	30,000.00

154. Funds have been located to co-finance projects, such as: Magazine for culture and co-existence of Germans in Vojvodina, *Fenster* (German Association for Good Neighbourly Relations Karlowitz, Sremski Karlovci); Two decades of the German Association Donau, Novi Sad, Days of German National Minority Culture (National Council of the German National Minority) etc.

155. In the period 2010-2012, the Ministry of Culture and Information co-financed the translation of 11 works written in Serbian language into German, with the amount of 21,000 EUR.

3.2.5. Czech language

156. Czech language was in official use on the territory of the municipality Bela Crkva.

157. Studying the subject Czech Language with Elements of National Culture was organised in schools in AP Vojvodina. In the school year 2012/1013, the subject Czech Language with Elements of the National Culture was organised in four elementary schools, in two local self-governments (Bela Crkva and Kovin).

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	1	1	1	7
2010/2011	2	4	4	25
2012/2013	2	4	10	56

158. Czech language is studied at the Faculty of Philology in Belgrade, at the Study Group for Czech Language, Literature and Culture. The table below contains data on the number of students studying Czech at that institution of higher learning.

School year	Number of students enrolled in the first year	Number of students in all four years
2010/2011	13	67
2011/2012	12	64
2012/2013	15	39

159. There are radio and TV programmes in Czech, as well as printed media. The table below contains data on the duration of broadcasting of radio programme in Czech, as well as the data on the radio station regarding the type of broadcaster.

Radio station	Monthly duration of programme (hours)	Broadcaster type
Radio Bela Crkva, Bela Crkva	8	Station of local or regional community

160. In 2012, funds were allocated from the budget of the Republic of Serbia for co-financing projects/programmes in the field of public information in Czech, in the amount of 113,000.00 dinars. Funds were granted by Public Company "BC Info", Bela Crkva, for broadcasting the radio show *Beauty of Living in a Multi-ethnic Environment*.

161. The table below contains data on the financial support to the radio station which broadcasts programme in Czech from the budget of AP Vojvodina in their broadcasting.

Radio station	Purpose	Funds granted
Radio Bela Crkva, Bela Crkva	TTE, information services, public information	1.550.000,00

162. None of the TV stations constantly broadcast programme in Czech. In 2012, funds were allocated from the budget of the Republic of Serbia for co-financing projects/programmes in the field of public information in Czech, in the amount of 200,000.00 dinars. Funds were allocated to TV Banat d.o.o. for the production and broadcasting of the radio and TV programme, Vršac, for the realization of the project "Besede češke".

163. In the field of printed media, there are bilingual magazines (in Serbian and Czech), namely: monthly *Beseda češka*, Bela Crkva, whose founder is the National Council of the Czech National Minority and multi-month magazine *List jižního Banátu*, Bela Crkva.

164. For co-financing projects/programmes in the field of public information, an amount of 200,500.00 dinars was granted from the budget of the Republic of Serbia to the National Council of the Czech National Minority for the realization of the project - "Newspapers of the Czech National Minority in Serbia -*Beseda češka*". On the basis of a public competition for co-financing the publishing activities of national minorities from the budget of AP Vojvodina, funds were granted in 2011 and 2012 in the total amount of 54,000.00 dinars to the Cultural-

Educational Association “Czechs of Southern Banat“, as a support to the printed media outlet *List jižního Banátu*.

165. Promoting the Czech culture is financially supported by funds from the budget of the Republic of Serbia and the Province of Vojvodina. The table below contains data on the amount of funds used to co-finance projects in the field of culture.

Source of funding	Year	Amount of funds in RSD
The budget of the Republic of Serbia	2010	50,000.00
	2011	150,000.00
	2012	-
The budget of AP Vojvodina	2010	150,000.00
	2011	394,000.00
	2012	310,000.00

166. Projects from the following fields of culture relating to the Czech language have been supported from the budget of the Republic of Serbia:

Year	Field of cultural and artistic creativity supported by the project	Number of approved projects	Funds granted
2010	Cultural events	1	50,000.00
2011	Cultural events	3	150,000.00
2012	-	-	-

167. Funds have been located to co-finance projects, such as: Under Our Windows/*Pod našima okny* (National Council of the Czech National Minority), "Promotion of Cultural Heritage of Czechs in Serbia" (NGO "School plus Dositej Obradović", Bela Crkva), etc.

168. Projects from the following fields of culture relating to the Czech language have been supported from the budget of AP Vojvodina:

Year	Field of cultural and artistic creativity supported by the project	Number of approved projects	Funds granted
2010	Cultural events	2	125,000.00
2011	Magazines / Publications	1	24,000.00
	Cultural events	2	120,000.00
2012	Magazines / Publications	1	30,000.00
	Cultural events	2	230,000.00

169. Funds have been located to co-finance projects, such as: *List Jižního Banátu* – Magazine of the Southern Banat (Cultural-Educational Association “Czechs of Southern Banat“, Bela

Crkva); Days of Czech Culture (Cultural-Educational Association “Czechs of Southern Banat“, Bela Crkva), Festival "Czech Culture Without Borders" (UG Češka beseda, Bela Crkva); CZOMI – International Music Festival (National Council of the Czech National Minority) etc.

170. In 2012, the Ministry of Culture and Information co-financed the translation of a novel by a Serbian author into the Czech language, with the amount of 1,200 EUR.

3.3. Activities on the implementation of recommendations by the Committee of Experts relating to the Article 7 of the Charter

171. In the Second Report on the implementation of the Charter, the Committee of Experts established three recommendations relating to the Article 7 of the Charter. The following paragraphs contain information on the activities undertaken by the state with the purpose of their implementation.

3.3.1. Information on the facilitation and/or encouragement of broadcasting of radio and television programmes in Czech and German at RTV Vojvodina

The Committee of Experts encourages the Serbian authorities to facilitate and/or encourage the broadcasting of radio and television programmes in Czech and German at RTV Vojvodina.

172. Circumstances that still make it impossible to broadcast radio and TV shows in Czech and German at RTV Vojvodina have not changed in the period referred to by the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter. Radio-television Vojvodina, which broadcasts its radio programme in 9 languages and its television programme in 10 languages, operates in very difficult circumstances. It has lost the Television facilities and a large part of the receiver network during the NATO bombing; it is using outdated equipment; it is facing personnel, financial and other problems. With a view to solving these problems, the Government of the Republic of Serbia and the Provincial Government of AP Vojvodina has undertaken the obligation to solve the problems of constructing a new building and refurbishing the provincial public broadcasting agency, which creates technical circumstances for broadcasting programme in new minority languages, including German and Czech.

3.3.2. Information on undertaking the activities for promotion and protection of the Vlach language in public life

The Committee of Experts urges the Serbian authorities to take without delay the necessary measures for the promotion and protection of Vlach in public life in a differentiated approach respecting the wishes of the speakers.

173. With the adoption of the Vlach alphabet²³, as noted above, preconditions were met for the use of that language in all spheres of public life. The state undertakes measures for promotion and protection of the Vlach language, out of which the most important ones are in the field of education in Vlach. The National Council of the Vlach National Minority is the main driving force of these initiatives.

174. The curriculum and syllabus have been adopted for the subject Vlach Speech with Elements of the National Culture for the first grade of the elementary school, which has been approved by the competent ministry (2013), while the curriculum and syllabus for the second, third and fourth grade were adopted by the National Educational Council (2014). In the cooperation with NGO "Gergina" from Negotin and the Fund for Open Society from Belgrade, two seminars were organised in 2013 for the training of teachers for teaching classes of the Vlach Speech with Elements of the National Culture. That programme was included in the Catalogue of Accredited Training Programmes for the school year 2014/2015 and 2015/2016, which was issued by the Institute for Improving Education and Pedagogy. The above mentioned implemented activities for the adoption of the curriculum and syllabus, as well as the training of teachers, have made it possible to realize the pilot project Vlach Speech with Elements of National Culture in elementary schools. In the second semester of the school year 2013/2014, classes of this subject were attended by 131 pupils in schools in seven municipalities of Eastern Serbia (Boljevac, Bor, Žagubica, Zaječar, Majdanpek, Negotin and Petrovac na Mlavi). After the implemented procedure, the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development approved the textbook for the first grade of elementary school named *Vuorba šî kultura Vlaha*, which was printed by the Institute for Textbook Publishing. Vlach Speech with Elements of the National Culture is expected to be introduced as an optional subject into the educational system starting from the school year 2014/2015. In addition to activities in the field of education, the National Council of the Vlach National Minority has, in accordance with its competences, announced that it would propose the establishment of the Vlach language and script as the official language in certain local self-government units. Measures undertaken by the state in the field of information and culture with the aim of promotion and protection of the Vlach language are contained in the section 3.2.2. of the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter.

3.3.3. Information on activities on providing for the teaching of the languages from Part II of the Charter

The Committee of Experts urges the Serbian authorities to provide for the teaching of/in Part II languages within the three models of minority language education at all appropriate stages.

²³ See paragraph 35 of the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter.

175. Information on providing for the teaching in/about minority languages from Part II of the Charter are contained in the section 3.2. of the Charter. According to the presented information, pre-school education is organised only in German, specifically in the form of bilingual classes. At the level of elementary education, study of the subject Mother Tongue (Bunjevac, Macedonian and Czech language) with Elements of National Culture has been organised. In institutions of higher learning, studies of German and Czech language have been organised.

**4. PART III IMPLEMENTATION OF MEASURES FOR IMPROVING THE USE OF
MINORITY LANGUAGES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OBLIGATIONS FROM
ARTICLE 2 PARAGRAPH 2 OF THE CHARTER**

4.1.

Article 8

EDUCATION

Selected paragraphs and sub-paragraphs

I. 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) (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;*
- (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;*
- b) (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;*
- c) (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;*
- d) (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;*
- e) (ii) to provide facilities for the study of these languages as university and higher education subjects;*
- f) (iii) if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of adult education, to favour and/or encourage the offering of such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education;*
- g) to make arrangements to ensure the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the regional or minority language.*

4.1.1. Legislative framework for the implementation of Article 8 of the Charter

176. In the period referred to by the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter, there has been no change of the legislative framework in the field of education that would impact the education of speakers of minority languages. In 2013, new laws on elementary and secondary education were adopted, which have applied since the school year 2013/2014, and the Law on Adult Education, which has applied since 1st January 2014. Relevant provisions of these laws for the implementation of the Charter will be the subject of the next periodic report.

4.1.2. Pre-school education - practice

Language of the educational and pedagogical work: Albanian

177. Pre-school education and upbringing in Albanian is implemented in three local self-government units (Bujanovac, Medveđa and Preševo) in 3 pre-school institutions.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of pre-school institutions	Number of groups	Number of children
2010/2011	3	5	54	843
2011/2012	3	5	54	843
2012/2013	3	3	58	586

Bilingual educational and pedagogical work: Serbian and Albanian

178. In the period referred to in the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter, no bilingual educational and pedagogical work in Serbian and Albanian was organised, since there was no interest in such classes.

Language of the educational and pedagogical work: Bosnian

179. In the period referred to in the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter, there was no pre-school educational and pedagogical work in Bosnian.

Bilingual pedagogical and educational work: Serbian and Bosnian

180. Bilingual educational and pedagogical work, in Serbian and Bosnian, is implemented in three local self-government units (Novi Pazar, Sjenica and Tutin), in three pre-school institutions.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of pre-school institutions	Number of groups	Number of children
2010/2011	3	3	96	2,250
2011/2012	3	4	112	2,420
2012/2013	3	3	115	2,536

Language of the educational and pedagogical work: Bulgarian

181. Pre-school educational and pedagogical work has not been organised in Bulgarian.

Bilingual educational and pedagogical work: Serbian and Bulgarian

182. Bilingual pre-school educational and pedagogical work, in Serbian and Bulgarian, is implemented in three local self-government units (Babušnica, Bosilegrad and Dimitrovgrad), in three pre-school institutions.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of pre-school institutions	Number of groups	Number of children
2010/2011	3	3	20	222
2011/2012	3	3	20	222
2012/2013	3	3	20	220

Language of the educational and pedagogical work: Hungarian

183. In the school year 2012/2013, pre-school educational and pedagogical work in Hungarian was implemented in 21 local self-government units (Ada, Apatin, Bačka Topola, Bečej, Žitište, Zrenjanin, Kanjiža, Kikinda, Kula, Mali Idoš, Nova Crnja, Novi Bečej, Novi Kneževac, Novi Sad, Odžaci, Senta, Sombor, Srbobran, Subotica, Temerin and Čoka), in 22 institutions of pre-school education.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of pre-school institutions	Number of groups	Number of children
2010/2011	23	25	231	4,447
2011/2012	23	25	231	4,447
2012/2013	21	22	225	4,331

Bilingual educational and pedagogical work: Serbian and Hungarian

184. Bilingual educational and pedagogical work, in Serbian and Hungarian, is implemented in 13 local self-government units (Ada, Bačka Topola, Bečej, Kikinda, Kovačica, Kovin, Indija, Pančevo, Plandište, Srbobran, Senta, Sombor, Subotica), in 13 pre-school institutions.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of pre-school institutions	Number of groups	Number of children
2010/2011	12	12	47	923
2011/2012	12	12	47	923
2012/2013	13	13	44	860

Bilingual educational and pedagogical work: Hungarian and German

185. Bilingual educational and pedagogical work in Hungarian and German is performed in Subotica, in a pre-school institution.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of pre-school institutions	Number of groups	Number of children
2010/2011	1	1	3	75
2011/2012	1	1	1	23
2012/2013	1	1	1	27

Language of the educational and pedagogical work: Romani

Bilingual educational and pedagogical work: Serbian and Romani

186. In the school year 2012/2013, bilingual educational and pedagogical work, in Serbian and Romani, was performed in one local self-government unit (Kruševac), in one pre-school institution. In the previous period, bilingual pre-school education was also organised in Vranje, through the implementation of the project.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of pre-school institutions	Number of groups	Number of children
2010/2011	2	6	19	205
2011/2012	2	6	19	205
2012/2013	1	1	2	55

Language of the educational and pedagogical work: Romanian

187. Pre-school education and upbringing in Romanian is performed in eight local self-government units (Alibunar, Bela Crkva, Žitište, Zrenjanin, Kovačica, Pančevo and Plandište), in 9 pre-school institutions.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of pre-school institutions	Number of groups	Number of children
2010/2011	8	9	17	138
2011/2012	8	9	17	138

2012/2013	8	9	17	131
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Bilingual educational and pedagogical work: Serbian and Romanian

188. Bilingual educational and pedagogical work, in Serbian and Bosnian, is implemented in three local self-government units (Alibunar, Vršac, Žitište and Kovačica), in five pre-school institutions.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of pre-school institutions	Number of groups	Number of children
2010/2011	4	5	5	106
2011/2012	4	5	5	106
2012/2013	4	5	5	116

Language of the educational and pedagogical work: Ruthenian

189. Pre-school education and upbringing in Ruthenian is implemented in three local self-government units (Vrbas, Žabalj and Kula) in 3 pre-school institutions.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of pre-school institutions	Number of groups	Number of children
2010/2011	3	3	7	160
2011/2012	3	3	7	154
2012/2013	3	3	8	148

Language of the educational and pedagogical work: Slovak

190. Pre-school education and upbringing in Slovak is performed in 10 local self-government units (Alibunar, Bač, Bačka Palanka, Bači Petrovac, Beočin, Zrenjanin, Kovačica, Novi Sad, Odžaci and Stara Pazova), in 12 pre-school institutions.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of pre-school institutions	Number of groups	Number of children
2010/2011	10	12	43	976
2011/2012	10	12	45	996
2012/2013	10	12	49	987

Bilingual educational and pedagogical work: Serbian and Slovak

191. Bilingual pre-school educational work, in Serbian and Slovak, is performed in four local self-government units (Bačka Palanka, Belo Blato - municipality Zrenjanin, Odžaci and Pančevo), in four pre-school institutions.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of pre-school institutions	Number of groups	Number of children
2010/2011	3	3	3	81
2011/2012	4	4	4	85
2012/2013	4	4	4	87

Language of the educational and pedagogical work: Ukrainian

192. In the period referred to in the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter, there was no organised pre-school educational and pedagogical work in Ukrainian, or bilingual educational and pedagogical work in Serbian and Ukrainian. The reason is an insufficient number of children, as well as the lack of interest for pre-school education in Ukrainian.

Language of the educational and pedagogical work: Croatian

193. Pre-school education and upbringing in Croatian is performed in Subotica in five pre-school institutions. Educational and pedagogical work in pre-school institutions was also organised as bilingual, in Serbian and Croatian, in Đurđin (Subotica), but since 2010 the entire work for this group as well is performed in Croatian.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of pre-school institutions	Number of groups	Number of children
2010/2011	1	3	5	100
2011/2012	1	4	6	85
2012/2013	1	5	7	100

4.1.3. Elementary education - practice

Classes in Albanian language

194. In the school year 2012/2013, complete education in Albanian was performed in 16 elementary schools, in three local self-government units: Bujanovac, Medveđa and Preševo.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	3	17	416	8,327
2011/2012	3	17	416	8,327
2012/2013	3	16	372	7,337

Classes in Bosnian language

195. In the period referred to in the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter, the elementary education was not organised in Bosnian in its entirety. Since the school year 2013/2014, the educational system of the Republic of Serbia includes complete education in Bosnian. The classes were organised for pupils of the first and fifth grade of the elementary school, the detailed information on which will be presented in the next periodic report.

196. The subject Bosnian Language with Elements of the National Culture is studied in 22 elementary schools, in four local self-government units: Novi Pazar, Prijepolje, Sjenica and Tutin.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	4	22	356	10,682
2011/2012	4	22	361	10,825
2012/2013	4	22	364	10,930

Classes in Bulgarian language

197. Complete education in Bulgarian is performed in an elementary school in Bosilegrad.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	1	1	14	98
2011/2012	1	1	14	98
2012/2013	1	1	14	90

198. The subject Bulgarian Language with Elements of the National Culture is studied in five elementary schools, in four local self-government units: Babušnica, Dimitrovgrad, Pančevo (neighbourhood Ivanovo) and Surdulica.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	4	5	57	736
2011/2012	4	5	57	736
2012/2013	4	5	57	725

Classes in Hungarian language

199. Complete education in Hungarian is performed in 74 elementary schools in 27 local self-government units: Ada, Apatin, Bačka Topola, Bela Crkva, Bečej, Žitište, Zrenjanin, Kanjiža,

Kikinda, Kovačica, Kovin, Kula, Mali Idoš, Nova Crnja, Novi Bečej, Novi Kneževac, Novi Sad, Odžaci, Pančevo, Plandište, Senta, Sečanj, Srbobran, Subotica, Temerin and Čoka.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	27	82	971	15,810
2011/2012	27	75	889	15,350
2012/2013	27	74	892	15,216

200. In the school year 2012/2013, studying of the subject Hungarian Language with Elements of the National Culture was organised in 51 elementary schools, in 22 self-government units: Ada, Bačka Palanka, Bačka Topola, Bečej, Vrbas, Vršac, Zrenjanin, Indija, Kikinda, Kovačica, Kula, Novi Bečej, Novi Sad, Pančevo, Plandište, Senta, Sečanj, Sombor, Srbobran, Subotica, Temerin and Čoka

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	21	47	49	1,671
2011/2012	21	48	85	1,711
2012/2013	22	51	128	2,186

Classes in Romani language

201. Studying the subject Romani Language with Elements of the National Culture was organised in elementary schools in AP Vojvodina. In the school year 2012/2013, studying this subject was organized in 18 elementary schools in AP Vojvodina, in nine local self-government units: Ada, Bač, Bačka Palanka, Žabalj, Kikinda, Kovačica, Novi Sad, Odžaci and Sremska Mitrovica.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	12	23	23	659
2011/2012	12	23	23	695
2012/2013	9	18	18	534

202. After the standardisation of the Romani language, the National Council of the Roma National Minority launched an initiative and made all the preparations (polling the interested persons, proposing curricula and syllabi, selection of textbooks etc.) for the introduction of the Romani Language with Elements of the National Culture in the educational system. It is expected that the teaching of this subject be realized at the entire territory of the Republic of Serbia in the school year 2014/2015.

Classes in Romanian language

203. In the school year 2012/2013, complete education in Romanian was performed in 19 elementary schools, in 10 local self-government units: Alibunar, Bela Crkva, Vršac, Žitište, Zrenjanin, Kovačica, Belgrade municipality of Palilula (Ovča), Pančevo, Plandište and Sečanj.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	12	19	118	1,214
2011/2012	12	19	118	1,126
2012/2013	10	19	118	1,079

204. In the school year 2012/2013, studying of the subject Romanian Language with Elements of the National Culture was organised in 10 elementary schools, in 10 self-government units: Alibunar, Bač, Žitište, Zrenjanin, Kovačica, Kovin, Pančevo, Plandište, Sečanj and the Belgrade municipality of Palilula (Ovča). Since the school year 2013/2014, the educational system of the Republic of Serbia has introduced the subject Romanian Language with Elements of the National Culture into the elementary schools in Eastern Serbia, the detailed information on which will be presented in the next periodic report.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	9	10	10	216
2010/2011	9	10	10	256
2012/2013	10	10	10	267

Classes in Ruthenian language

205. Complete education in Ruthenian is performed in three elementary schools in three local self-government units: Vrbas, Žabalj and Kula.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	3	3	35	518
2011/2012	3	3	33	487
2012/2013	3	3	33	479

206. In the school year 2012/2013, studying of the subject Romanian Language with Elements of the National Culture was organised in 28 elementary schools, in eight local self-government units: Bačka Topola, Vrbas, Žabalj, Kula, Novi Sad, Sremska Mitrovica, Subotica and Šid.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	7	27	33	257
2010/2011	8	28	41	334
2012/2013	8	28	42	342

Classes in Slovak language

207. Complete education in Hungarian is conducted in 18 elementary schools in 12 local self-government units: Alibunar, Bač, Bačka Palanka, Bački Petrovac, Beočin, Zrenjanin, Indija, Kovačica, Novi Sad, Odžavi, Stara Pazova and Šid.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	12	17	172	3,117
2011/2012	12	17	170	3,183
2012/2013	12	18	164	3,034

208. Studying of the subject Slovak Language with Elements of the National Culture is organised in 39 elementary schools, in 12 local self-government units: Bačka Palanka, Bačka Topola, Bači Petrovac, Beočin, Vrbas, Zrenjanin, Kovačica, Novi Sad, Pančevo, Plandište, the Belgrade municipality of Surčin (neighbourhoods Boljevci and Dobanovci) and Šid.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	12	39	39	663
2010/2011	12	39	39	548
2012/2013	12	39	50	490

Classes in Ukrainian language

209. In the school year 2012/2013, studying of the subject Ukrainian Language with Elements of the National Culture was organised in 10 elementary schools, in five local self-government units: Vrbas, Indija, Kula, Novi Sad and Sremska Mitrovica.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	5	11	17	97
2010/2011	5	10	16	120
2012/2013	5	10	13	160

Classes in Croatian language

210. Complete education in Croatian is conducted in six elementary schools in the territory of the city of Subotica.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	1	5	34	292
2011/2012	1	5	34	296
2012/2013	1	6	42	296

211. In the school year 2012/2013, studying of the subject Croatian Language with Elements of the National Culture was organised in 15 elementary schools, in six local self-government units: Apatin, Bač, Sombor, Sremska Mitrovica, Subotica and Šid.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	5	9	32	407
2011/2012	5	10	33	417
2012/2013	6	15	47	480

4.1.4. Secondary education - practice

Classes in Albanian language

212. Complete education in Albanian is conducted in two grammar schools in two local self-government units: Bujanovac and Preševo.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	2	2	81	2,487
2011/2012	2	2	81	2,487
2012/2013	2	2	82	2,291

Classes in Bosnian language

213. In the period referred to in the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter, no elementary education in Bosnian was organised. Complete education in Bosnian was introduced to the educational system since the school year 2013/2014. The classes were organised for pupils of the first grade of the secondary school, the detailed information on which will be presented in the next periodic report.

Classes in Bulgarian language

214. Complete education in Bulgarian is conducted in a grammar school in Dimitrovgrad.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	1	1	4	52
2011/2012	1	1	4	51
2012/2013	1	1	4	49

215. The subject Bulgarian Language with Elements of the National Culture is studied in two grammar schools, in two local self-government units: Bosilegrad and Dimitrovgrad.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	2	2	12	298
2011/2012	2	2	12	297
2012/2013	2	2	12	291

Classes in Hungarian language

216. Complete education in Hungarian in the Republic of Serbia is conducted in 10 grammar schools in eight local self-government units: Bačka Topola, Bečej, Zrenjanin, Novi Kneževac, Novi Sad, Senta, Sombor and Subotica, out of which two grammar schools for young talents, in Senta and Subotica.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	7	9	54	1,119
2011/2012	7	9	55	1,140
2012/2013	8	10	71	1,560

Classes in Romanian language

217. Complete education in Romanian is conducted in a grammar school in Vršac.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	1	1	4	105
2011/2012	1	1	4	102
2012/2013	1	1	4	104

218. The subject Romanian Language with Elements of the National Culture in the school year 2012/2013 was studied in two grammar schools, in two local self-government units: Vršac and Kovačica. Since the school year 2013/2014, the educational system of the Republic of Serbia has introduced the subject Romanian Language with Elements of the National Culture into the secondary schools in Eastern Serbia, the detailed information on which will be presented in the next periodic report.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	2	2	2	15
2011/2012	2	2	2	15
2012/2013	2	2	2	36

Classes in Ruthenian language

219. Complete education in Ruthenian is conducted in a grammar school in Ruski Krstur (municipality of Kula).

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	1	1	4	60
2011/2012	1	1	4	65
2012/2013	1	1	4	61

220. The subject Ruthenian Language with Elements of the National Culture is studied in two grammar schools, in two local self-government units: Novi Sad and Šid.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	2	2	3	70
2011/2012	2	2	3	72
2012/2013	2	2	4	61

Classes in Slovak language

221. Complete education in Slovak is conducted in two grammar schools in two local self-government units: Bački Petrovac and Kovačica.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	1	1	11	237
2011/2012	2	2	11	257

2012/2013	2	2	14	199
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222. The subject Slovak Language with Elements of the National Culture is studied in five grammar schools, in five local self-government units: Bačka Palanka, Bački Petrovaac, Kovačica, Stara Pazova and Šid.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	5	5	12	221
2011/2012	5	5	12	214
2012/2013	5	5	12	207

Classes in Ukrainian language

223. In secondary schools at the territory of AP Vojvodina, classes in Ukrainian were not organised, neither was the studying of the Ukrainian Language with Elements of National Culture. Reasons include the lack of expert personnel for conducting the teaching in that language, as well as an insufficient number of pupils who applied for the education in mother tongue for certain areas of work, i.e. educational profiles. According to the data of the Provincial Secretariat for Education, Administration and National Communities, secondary schools at the territory of AP Vojvodina were attended by the following number of pupils of Ukrainian nationality:

School year		
2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/2012
129	124	128

Classes in Croatian language

224. Complete education in Croatian is conducted in a grammar school in Subotica.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	-	-	-	-
2011/2012	1	1	4	92
2012/2013	1	1	4	94

225. The subject Croatian Language with Elements of National Culture is studied since the school year 2012/2013 in the grammar school in Sremska Mitrovica.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
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2010/2011	-	-	-	-
2011/2012	-	-	-	-
2012/2013	1	1	1	7

4.1.5. Technical or specialist education - practice

Classes in Albanian language

226. Complete education in Albanian in Serbia is conducted in two technical schools in two local self-government units: Medveđa and Preševo.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	2	2	48	1,338
2011/2012	2	2	48	1,338
2012/2013	2	2	49	1,328

Classes in Bulgarian language

227. Complete education in Bulgarian in Serbia is conducted in a secondary school in Dimitrovgrad.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	1	1	4	53
2011/2012	1	1	4	52
2012/2013	1	1	4	49

228. The subject Bulgarian Language with Elements of the National Culture is studied in two secondary schools (electrotechnical and tourist), in two local self-government units: Bosilegrad and Dimitrovgrad.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	2	2	8	130
2011/2012	2	2	7	127
2012/2013	2	2	7	123

Classes in Hungarian language

229. Complete education in Hungarian is performed in 27 secondary schools in 12 local self-government units: Ada, Bačka Topola, Bečej, Zrenjanin, Kanjiža, Novi Kneževac, Novi Sad, Senta, Sombor, Subotica, Temerin and Čoka.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	12	26	254	5,397
2011/2012	12	27	257	5,362
2012/2013	12	27	249	5,224

230. The subject Hungarian Language with Elements of the National Culture is studied in secondary schools, in three local self-government units: Ada, Subotica and Temerin. Since the school year 2011/2012, the subject Hungarian Language with Elements of National Culture is not studied in any of the schools, considering the fact that a large number of pupils attend complete education in Hungarian, and therefore there was no interest in studying that subject.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	3	3	3	12
2011/2012	-	-	-	-
2012/2013	-	-	-	-

Classes in Romanian language

231. The complete education in Romanian is conducted in the Economical and Trade School in Alibunar.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	1	1	4	109
2011/2012	1	1	4	115
2012/2013	1	1	4	120

Classes in Slovak language

232. Complete education in Slovak is conducted in a technical school in Novi Sad.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
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2010/2011	1	1	4	116
2011/2012	1	1	4	102
2012/2013	1	1	2	57

233. The subject Slovak Language with Elements of the National Culture is studied in three technical schools, in two local self-government units: Bačka Palanka and Novi Sad.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	2	4	4	81
2011/2012	2	4	4	69
2012/2013	2	3	5	53

Classes in Croatian language

234. Since the school year 2011/2012, the complete education in Croatian is conducted in a polytechnical school in Subotica.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	-	-	-	-
2011/2012	1	1	1	27
2012/2013	1	1	4	51

235. Since the school year 2012/2013, the subject Croatian Language with Elements of National Culture has been studied in four secondary schools in Sremska Mitrovica.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils
2010/2011	-	-	-	-
2011/2012	-	-	-	-
2012/2013	1	4	4	29

4.1.6. Higher education - practice

Albanian language

236. The option to attend lectures in Albanian language is open to students of departments of the Faculty of Economy and Faculty of Law from Niš, open in Medveđa in the school year 2009/2010. Lectures are conducted in Serbian, but simultaneous interpretation to Albanian is provided for those who want it. Textbooks in Albanian are provided, as well as taking tests in that language. Students of these two departments are granted one-time scholarships twice a year

by the Department of the Coordination Body of the Government of Serbia for the municipalities of Preševo, Bujanovac and Medveđa. The table below contains data on the number of students attending lectures in Albanian at the departments of the Faculty of Economy and Faculty of Law in Medveđa.

School year	Department of the Faculty of Economy	Department of the Faculty of Law	Total number of students
2010/2011	4	7	11
2011/2012	4	7	11
2012/2013	3	2	5

237. In 2011/2012, the Faculty of Economy from Subotica of the University of Novi Sad opened a Department in Bujanovac, where lectures in Albanian were organised for students. The table below contains data on the number of students of the Department of the Faculty of Economy in Bunjanovac.

School year	Number of students
2011/2012	40
2012/2013	45

238. Albanian language is studied at the Faculty of Philology in Belgrade, at the Study Group for Albanian Language, Literature and Culture. The table below contains data on the number of students studying Albanian Language, Literature and Culture at that institution of higher learning.

School year	Number of students enrolled in the first year	Number of students in all four years
2010/2011	12	49
2011/2012	14	47
2012/2013	10	37

Bosnian language

239. Bosnian language and literature is studied at the State University in Novi Pazar, Department for Philological Sciences, Study Programme Serbian Literature and Language. Bosnian culture and tradition content and elements of Bosnian language are studied within the subject Folk Literature, History of Bosniac Culture, Comparative Grammar of Serbian and Bosnian Language, Serbian and Bosniac National Culture in the European Context and Historical Grammar of Serbian Language with Basics of Dialectology. Elements of Bosnian language are included in the subjects Phonetics and Morphology. According to the expert

opinion of the Senat of the State University in Novi Pazar, students who accomplish this syllabus are sufficiently enabled to teach Bosnian language in elementary schools, which was stated in the supplement to the diploma of graduated students of this study programme. The table below contains data on the number of students who are enabled for the teaching of Bosnian language in elementary schools in that institution of higher learning.

School year	Number of students
2010/2011	40
2011/2012	40
2012/2013	40

Bulgarian language

240. Bulgarian language is studied at the Faculty of Philology in Belgrade, at the Study Group for Bulgarian Language, Literature and Culture. The table below contains data on the number of students studying Bulgarian Language, Literature and Culture at that institution of higher learning.

School year	Number of students enrolled in the first year	Number of students in all four years
2010/2011	10	32
2011/2012	13	41
2012/2013	15	32

Hungarian language

241. At the Faculty of Philology in Novi Sad, Department of Hungarology, Study Group for Hungarian Language and Literature, lectures are conducted in Hungarian. The table below contains data on the number of students studying Hungarian Language and Literature at that institution of higher learning.

School year	Number of students enrolled in the first year	Number of students in all four years
2010/2011	18	86
2011/2012	23	89
2012/2013	24	74

242. At the Teacher Training Faculty in Subotica, lectures in Hungarian were organised in two study programmes: study programme for graduated teacher and study programme graduated pedagogue. The table below contains data on the number of students attending the above mentioned study groups at the Teacher Training Faculty in Subotica.

Study programme for graduated teacher

School year	Number of students enrolled in the first year	Number of students in all four years
2010/2011	40	136
2011/2012	36	141
2012/2013	36	138

Study programme for graduated pedagogue

School year	Number of students enrolled in the first year	Number of students in all four years
2010/2011	19	65
2011/2012	19	76
2012/2013	21	88

243. Study Programme of Basic Academic Studies of Acting in Hungarian has been organised at the Academy of Arts in Novi Sad. New students are enrolled at the first year of studies every second year. The table below contains data on the number of students at the Academy of Arts in Novi Sad, Study Programme of Basic Academic Studies Acting in Hungarian.

School year	Number of students enrolled in the first year	Number of students in all four years
2010/2011	-	20
2011/2012	10	20
2012/2013	-	20

244. At other study programmes of basic academic studies of the Academy of Arts, lectures are not conducted in any minority language. However, the Academy of Arts cooperates with the Faculty of Philology in Novi Sad, and students of the Academy of Arts who are of Hungarian nationality can, at personal request, attend lectures and take exams on the subject of Psychology, Pedagogy, Sociology of Culture and Psychology of Creativity in Hungarian at the Faculty of Philosophy. The table below contains data on the number of students of the Academy of Arts who attend lectures in Serbian, and listen to lectures in above mentioned subjects and take exams in Hungarian.

School year	Number of students
2010/2011	12
2011/2012	3
2012/2013	12

245. At the Higher School of Vocational Studies for Education of Pedagogues, lectures are conducted in Hungarian language. The table below contains data on the number of students who attend lectures in Hungarian at that the Higher School of Vocational Studies.

School year	Number of students enrolled in the first year	Number of students in all years
2010/2011	1	4
2011/2012	2	3
2012/2013	3	5

246. At the the Higher School of Vocational Studies in Subotica, lectures are conducted in Hungarian. The table below contains data on the number of students who attend lectures in Hungarian at that the Higher School of Vocational Studies.

School year	Number of students enrolled in the first year	Number of students in all years
2010/2011	155	453
2011/2012	150	435
2012/2013	174	493

247. At the Department of the Faculty of Economics from Subotica in Novi Sad, the option to listen to lectures in Hungarian is open to all interested students from subjects whose lecturers speak Hungarian. If there is a sufficient number of interested students, groups are organised where lectures and exercises are conducted in Hungarian. At this faculty, entrance examinations can be taken in Hungarian.

248. Hungarian language is studied at the Faculty of Philology in Belgrade, at the Study Group for Hungarian Language, Literature and Culture. The table below contains data on the number of students studying Hungarian Language, Literature and Culture at that institution of higher learning.

School year	Number of students enrolled in the first year	Number of students in all four years
2010/2011	8	29
2011/2012	12	34
2012/2013	15	33

Romani language

249. At the Higher School of Vocational Studies in Vršac, lectures are conducted in Romani language. The table below contains data on the number of students attending lectures in Romani language.

School year	Number of students enrolled in the first year	Number of students in all years
2010/2011	5	9

2011/2012	8	16
2012/2013	12	22

250. The National Council of the Roma National Minority has launched the initiative to create the Department for the Romani Language at the Belgrade University for training the personnel to conduct lectures in Romani language.

Romanian language

251. At the Faculty of Philology in Novi Sad, Department of Romanian Studies, Study Group for Romanian Language and Literature, lectures are conducted in Romanian. The table below contains data on the number of students studying Romanian Language and Literature at that institution of higher learning.

School year	Number of students enrolled in the first year	Number of students in all years
2010/2011	8	18
2011/2012	4	19
2012/2013	10	16

252. The Teacher Training Faculty in Belgrade, Teaching Department in Vršac, includes the Department for the Romanian Language (as a mother tongue), where the lectures are conducted in Romanian. The table below contains data on the number of students studying Romanian Language and Literature at the Department of the Teacher Training Faculty in Vršac.

School year	Number of students enrolled in the first year	Number of students in all years
2010/2011	8	23
2011/2012	9	20
2012/2013	7	17

253. At the Higher School of Vocational Studies in Vršac, lectures are conducted in Romanian language. The table below contains data on the number of students attending lectures in Romanian language.

School year	Number of students enrolled in the first year	Number of students in all years
2010/2011	20	37
2011/2012	9	30
2012/2013	12	27

254. Romanian language is studied at the Faculty of Philology in Belgrade, at the Study Group for Romanian Language, Literature and Culture. The table below contains data on the number of students studying Romanian Language, Literature and Culture at that institution of higher learning.

School year	Number of students enrolled in the first year	Number of students in all four years
2010/2011	5	46
2011/2012	12	42
2012/2013	15	39

Ruthenian language

255. At the Faculty of Philology in Novi Sad, Department of Ruthenian Studies, Study Group for Ruthenian Language and Literature, lectures are conducted in Ruthenian. The table below contains data on the number of students studying Ruthenian Language and Literature at that institution of higher learning.

School year	Number of students enrolled in the first year	Number of students in all years
2010/2011	7	23
2011/2012	7	21
2012/2013	10	20

Slovak language

256. At the Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad, Department of Slovakian Studies, Study Group for Slovak Language and Literature, lectures are conducted in Slovak. The table below contains data on the number of students studying Slovak Language and Literature at that institution of higher learning.

School year	Number of students enrolled in the first year	Number of students in all years
2010/2011	7	24
2011/2012	4	24
2012/2013	12	25

257. At the Higher School of Vocational Studies for Education of Pedagogues, lectures are conducted in Slovak language. The table below contains data on the number of students who attend lectures in Slovak at that the Higher School of Vocational Studies.

School year	Number of students enrolled in the first year	Number of students in all years
2010/2011	6	19
2011/2012	7	13
2012/2013	4	13

258. Slovak language is studied at the Faculty of Philology in Belgrade, at the Study Group for Slovak Language, Literature and Culture. The table below contains data on the number of students studying Slovak Language, Literature and Culture at that institution of higher learning.

School year	Number of students enrolled in the first year	Number of students in all four years
2010/2011	11	48
2011/2012	12	51
2012/2013	15	33

Ukrainian language

259. Ukrainian language is studied at the Faculty of Philology in Belgrade, at the Study Group for Ukrainian Language, Literature and Culture. The table below contains data on the number of students studying Ukrainian Language, Literature and Culture at that institution of higher learning.

School year	Number of students enrolled in the first year	Number of students in all four years
2010/2011	14	53
2011/2012	12	53
2012/2013	15	32

4.1.7. Adult education – practice

260. According to the information of the Provincial Secretariat for Education, Administration and National Communities, elementary education in Hungarian for adult attendees was organised in the territory of AP Vojvodina in three institutions, in three local self-government units, namely: in a special school for adult elementary education in Sombor and two regular elementary schools in Senta and Subotica. The table below contains data on the number of adults attending the elementary education classes in Hungarian in the above mentioned institutions.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of schools		Number of adult attendees
		School for adult education	Regular elementary school	
2010/2011	3	1	2	99

2011/2012	3	1	2	122
2012/2013	3	1	2	103

4.1.8. Activities on the implementation of recommendations by the Committee of Experts relating to the Article 8 of the Charter

4.1.8.1. Information on the activities for improving the teacher training and providing teaching materials for lectures in minority languages

261. In the Second Report on the implementation of the Charter, the Committee of Experts gives the following recommendation relating to the Article 8 of the Charter.

The Committee of Experts urges the Serbian authorities to develop a coherent strategy in the field of teacher training and provide adequate teaching materials for regional or minority language education.

262. Regulations in the field of education allow an opportunity for the additional training of the personnel for education in minority languages. The obligations of vocational training of teachers, pedagogues and expert collaborators are prescribed by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development. The Rulebook on constant vocational training and acquiring the professional title of teachers, pedagogues and expert collaborators, which applied in the period referred to by the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter, prescribes that constant vocational training of teachers, pedagogues and expert collaborators is executed according to special programmes that can be mandatory or optional. A teacher, pedagogue or expert collaborator is obliged to attend at least 100 classes of the programme during the course of 5 years, specifically at least 60 classes from the list of the mandatory optional programmes, and up to 40 classes from the list of optional programmes. The Centre for Professional Development of Employees in education, as a part of the Institute for the Improvement of Education and Upbringing, is responsible for improving the system of constant vocational training and professional development of employees in the pre-school, elementary and secondary education, and approval of programmes for constant vocational training, including the participation in the execution of European and international programmes in the field of professional development of employees. The Centre keeps the vocational training database, catalogues of vocational training programmes, applications and monitoring of seminars and expert meetings.

263. Catalogues of programmes of constant vocational training of teachers, pedagogues and expert collaborators²⁴ are published for every school year and contain vocational training programmes which have been approved by the Commission of the Institute for the Improvement

²⁴ Catalogues are available at the website of the Institute for the Improvement of Education and Upbringing www.zuov.gov.rs/katalozi-su/

of Education and Upbringing and the Pedagogical Institute of Vojvodina. The table below contains the total number of accredited programmes which are significant for the education of national minorities and for conducting lectures in minority languages.

	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013
Number of approved projects	31	37	36

264. Since 2010/2011, the Pedagogical Institute of Vojvodina has become competent to accredit the registered vocational training programmes for the teaching which is realized in minority languages. The number of approved vocational training programmes for teachers realizing the teaching in minority languages is presented in the table below.

Year	Hungarian	Roma	Ruthenian	Slovak	Ukrainian	Croatian	Total
2010/11	12	-	-	6	-	-	18
2011/12	13	2	1	4	1	2	23
Total	25	2	1	10	1	2	41

265. In 2012, the Government of the Republic of Serbia adopted the Strategy for Development of Education in Serbia 2020. This document includes a part relating to the education and upbringing of persons belonging to national minorities. According to the Strategy, education of persons belonging to national minorities is an integral part of the education system of the Republic of Serbia. The goal of the mission of educating national minorities is, on one side, to ensure the right to quality education, the same as for all citizens of Serbia, and thus allow the integration of persons belonging to national minorities into the social community, and, on the other side, to ensure the right to preserve and develop the national and cultural identity of all national minorities. Special strategic measures to execute such a mission of education of national minorities include: additional financing of specific costs of education of national minorities (e.g. printing low-budget textbooks in languages of national minorities); developing education programmes in all disciplines (school subjects) which are of special significance for the preservation and development of national and cultural identity, and the special right to foster the mother tongue of every national minority, the right to conduct the teaching in the mother tongue, and when possible, ensure the training of teachers in the mother tongue for conducting the teaching in the mother tongue, and provide educational resources in the mother tongue.

266. As noted by the Committee of Experts in their assessment of the high potential of the education system about/in minority languages, speakers of minority languages in the country were allowed to have some of the education modalities in their language on different levels of education. An education system thus established requires special efforts of the state to provide the conditions for an unobstructed execution of teaching in minority languages, including the provision of teaching materials. The Second Report on the implementation of the Charter elaborates on the legal procedure of approving the textbooks, teaching aids and manuals which

are used in the kin state and which was printed in the mother tongue. With regard to the fact that the necessary teaching materials for the education in minority languages are small-circulation ones, whose price is much higher than the price of textbooks that are printed in Serbian, ensuring such textbooks is more difficult, primarily because of the economic situation in the country and limited financial resources.

267. The Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development is authorized to keep records of all approved textbooks, which are kept in the Registry of Approved Textbooks. Thus, for instance, 329 new textbooks were approved for speakers of minority languages in the school year 2012/2013. The table below contains data on the number of approved textbooks for teaching about/in minority languages that are intended for the elementary education of persons belonging to national minorities.

National minority	Year of elementary school								Total
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	
Albanians	1	-	4	3	3	1	2	3	17
Bulgarians	2	-	1	1	2	1	-	3	10
Hungarians	2	5	8	6	7	8	10	21	67
Romanians	4	5	6	3	3	2	14	21	58
Ruthenians	6	3	5	3	2	9	10	16	54
Slovaks	3	4	5	4	4	4	17	16	57
Ukrainians	2	2	1	1	1	0	-	3	10
Croats	2	4	3	4	11	8	8	9	49
Czechs	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	3	7
Total	23	23	34	26	34	33	61	95	329

268. In the period 2010-2012, the Provincial Secretariat for Education, Administration and National Communities of AP Vojvodina approved 66 original textbooks in minority languages for pupils of elementary and secondary schools. This number does not include textbooks imported from the kin states that have been approved for education in minority languages in the Republic of Serbia. The table below contains data on the number of textbooks by year of approval and minority languages.

Year	Hungarian	Romanian	Ruthenian	Slovak	Ukrainian	Croatian	Czech	Total
2010	8*	2*	6	7	-	-	-	23
2011	2	3	2	2	2	-	1	12
2012	-	2	1	1	2	25	-	31
Total	10	7	9	10	4	25	1	66

*one of the approved textbooks is for secondary school pupils

4.2.

Article 9
JUDICIAL AUTHORITIES
Selected paragraphs and sub-paragraphs

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;*
- (iii) to provide that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, shall not be considered inadmissible solely because they are formulated in a regional or minority language;*

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;*

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*
- d) to take steps to ensure that the application of sub-paragraphs (i) and (iii) of paragraphs b) and c) above and any necessary use of interpreters and translations does not involve extra expense for the persons concerned.*

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;*
- b) not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up*

within the country solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language,

and to provide that they can be invoked against interested third parties who are not users of these languages on condition that the contents of the document are made known to them by the person(s) who invoke(s) it;

- c) not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language.*

3. The Parties undertake to make available in the regional or minority languages the most important national statutory texts and those relating particularly to users of these languages, unless they are otherwise provided.

4.2.1. Legislative modifications relevant to the implementation of Article 9 of the Charter

269. In section 5.2.1. of the First Periodic Report and section 4.2.1. of the Second Periodic Report on the implementation of the Charter in the Republic of Serbia, relevant provisions of the Constitution and the Law on the Official Use of Language and Script in court proceedings. Provisions on the official use and right to use the language in the work of courts are also in laws which regulate criminal, civil and administrative court proceedings, and other judicial regulations. Some of these regulations have been changed since the submission of the Second Report on the implementation of the Charter, but the essence of the solutions on the application of minority languages has not changed.

270. The Court Rules of Procedure regulate the internal organisation and work of courts in Serbia, and their application ensures regular and timely execution of operations of court administration and other tasks important for the internal organisation and work of the court. These tasks, otherwise separate from the trial, are organised in the way that allows the court to exercise its role in a legal, timely and efficient manner, and to facilitate the execution of operations in the court with the parties, and to exercise, rapidly and with the least amount of costs, the rights that belong to them by law. The Court Rules of Procedure, in chapter IX, contain provisions on conducting the procedure and submitting decisions in languages of national minorities. Article 108 of the Rules of Procedure prescribes, among other things, that the translation of documents submitted to the court into languages of national minorities shall be performed by a translator (paragraph 4). Records and decisions in the first-instance procedure relating to that procedure are prepared, as authentic texts, in Serbian and in the established language of the procedure. If needed, they are translated in another language of national minority as well, if required by a member of national minority as a participant in the procedure which is not conducted in their language (paragraph 5). Records and decisions in procedures on the basis of legal remedies are prepared in Serbian. Translation of decisions adopted on the basis of legal

remedies into the established language of the procedure, and if needed, another language of a national minority, as well as the submission in an accurately translated text into the appropriate language (for the benefit of the persons belonging to national minorities as participants of the procedure who request so), is performed by the Court of First Instance. In accordance with Article 109 of the Rules of Procedure, the court records (i.e. marks) procedures conducted in languages of national minorities by indicating that the procedure is conducted in a certain language of national minority by putting the mark on the cover of the document and entering it into the appropriate record.

271. In practice, provisions of the law and the Rules of Procedure are applied in an unobstructed manner, as evidenced by the fact that, in the period 2010-2012, there were just several complaints - and they were unjustified - against the work of the courts at the entire territory of Serbia relating to the application of provisions from Article 108-110 of the Court Rules of Procedure.

4.2.2. Criminal proceedings

272. Section 4.2.2. of the Second Periodic Report on the implementation of the Charter in Serbia states the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code that apply to the official use of the language and the right to use the language in the criminal proceedings in court.

273. In 2011, the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia adopted the new Criminal Procedure Code which has applied since 1st October 2013, except in procedures for criminal offences whose processing has been assigned by a specific law to a public prosecutor's office of special competence, in which case it has applied since 15th January 2012. On the date when the new Code enters into force, provisions of the old Criminal Procedure Code stop applying. With regard to the fact that the Report refers to the period until 31st December 2012, provisions of the old Code are relevant to the Report, as well as the provisions of the new Code that apply to proceedings conducted by public prosecutor's offices of special competence. The new Criminal Procedure Code, Article 11, which refers to the use of language and script in proceedings, prescribes the following: paragraph 1 of this Article prescribes that Serbian language and Cyrillic script is in official use in court proceedings, while other languages and scripts are in use in accordance with the Constitution and the law; the provision of paragraph 3 of the same Article of the Code prescribes that parties, witnesses and other persons participating in the proceedings have the right to use their language and script during the proceedings; and if the proceedings are not conducted in their language and if, after learning of their right to translation, they do not state that they know the language that the proceedings are conducted in and that they waive their right to translation, they will be provided translation of statements by them and others, as well as translations of documents and other written evidence, financed from the budget; the provision of paragraph 4 of the same Article of the Code prescribes that the translation is done by a translator.

Also, the defendant has the right to be informed, as soon as possible and always before the first hearing, in detail and in a language he/she understands, on the action he/she is charged with, on the nature and cause of the charges, as well as of the fact that anything he/she says may be used as evidence in the proceedings (Article 68, paragraph 1, point 1). Pursuant to Article 69, paragraph 1 of the Code, the arrested person, in addition to the right from Article 68 paragraph 1 point 2) to 4) and point 6) and paragraph 2 of this Code, has the right to: be immediately informed about the reasons for the arrest, in a language he/she understands. Pursuant to Article 87 paragraph 2, if the defendant does not understand the language of the proceedings, questions will be posed to him/her through an interpreter. Pursuant to Article 438 paragraph 1 point 5), a substantial violation of the provisions of the criminal proceedings, due to which a complaint cannot be made, exists if the defendant, the defender, the aggrieved party or a private prosecutor, contrary to his/hers request, is denied the opportunity to use his/her language in the main inquest, and to follow the main inquest in his/her own language.

274. Valid regulations on the organisation of judiciary prescribe that courts in the Republic of Serbia record only the proceedings, including criminal ones, which are conducted in their entirety in languages of national minorities. The Court Rules of Procedure do not prescribe the obligation of the court to keep separate records on each case in which a party has used a language or script of a national minority (by giving a statement in the presence of a court interpreter or translator, submitting documents in a minority language, submitting evidence in a minority language, etc.); instead, it prescribes the keeping of records of the proceedings that are entirely conducted in a language of a national minority, by putting marks on the cover of the case documents, which is also recorded in the electronic database (AVP business software which is used by the basic and higher courts). Thus, courts do not keep separate records on the number of criminal proceedings in which the defendants has used a minority language, nor on the number of criminal proceedings conducted in Serbian language where participants have exercised their right to use minority languages. In this regard, data obtained from courts can serve only as an illustration of the use of minority languages in the criminal proceedings, since precise records are needed to consider the actual status of the necessary precise records. The next sections include examples of the use of minority languages in criminal proceedings, including the proceedings in courts ²⁵ which were established for these areas where minority languages are not in official use, since the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia guarantees everyone the right to use their language in the court proceedings.

²⁵ Data are presented on conducting proceedings and use of minority languages in courts established by the Law on Seats and Territorial Jurisdictions of Courts and Public Prosecutor's Offices, which applied in the period referred to in the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter.

The Basic Court in Vranje for the territory of the municipalities of Bosilegrad, Bujanovac, Vladičin Han, Preševo, Surdulica and Trgovište and for the town of Vranje, with court units in Bosilegrad, Bujanovac, Vladičin Han, Preševo and Surdulica
Albanian/Bulgarian

275. According to the Court report, there were no requests by parties to conduct proceedings in minority languages in that period. Persons belonging to national minorities are provided translators and interpreters in court in accordance with the law. Three interpreters and one translator for Albanian are employed by the court. The court received two complaints relating to the use of minority languages which were judged to be unjustified.

The Basic Court in Kraljevo, for the territory of the municipalities of Vrnjačka Banja and Raška and for the town of Kraljevo, with court units in Vrnjačka Banja and Raška.

276. In the Basic Court of Kraljevo, 6 criminal proceedings were conducted where the defendants used the Albanian language. In these proceedings, the defendants were provided interpreters for Albanian, and the costs were reimbursed from budgetary funds.

The Basic Court in Prokuplje, for the territory of the municipalities of Blace, Žitorađa, Kuršumljija, Merošina and Prokuplje, with court units in Blace and Kuršumljija.

277. In the Basic Court in Prokuplje, defendants in 4 criminal proceedings used Albanian with the aid of a translator. In the same cases, requests and evidence were formulated in Albanian.

The Basic Court in Pirot, for the territory of the municipalities of Babušnica, Bela Palanka, Dimitrograd and Pirot, with court units in Babušnica, Bela Palanka and Dimitrovgrad.
Bulgarian

278. The Basic Court in Pirot - court unit in Dimitrovgrad is enabled to conduct proceedings in Bulgarian. The court employs a judge who speaks Bulgarian.

The Basic Court in Novi Pazar for the territory of the municipalities of Sjenica and Tutin and for the town of Novi Pazar, with court units in Sjenica and Tutin
Bosnian

279. According to court data, parties in seven criminal proceedings requested that the proceedings be conducted in Bosnian.

The Basic Court in Prijepolje for the territory of the municipalities of Nova Varoš, Priboj and Prijepolje, with court units in Nova Varoš and Priboj

Bosnian

280. In the Basic Court in Prijepolje, speakers of Bosnian requested in approximately 30 cases that they be allowed to use that language in the proceedings and that documents be translated in Bosnian.

The Basic Court in Kikinda for the territory of the municipalities of Kikinda, Nova Varoš, Novi Kneževac and Čoka, with court units in Nova Crnja and Novi Kneževac

Hungarian

281. In the Basic Court in Kikinda in the period from 1st January 2010 to 31st December 2012, proceedings conducted in Serbian included testimonies and written evidence which were translated in Hungarian with the assistance of a court translator: in 2010, a translator was hired in 3 proceedings, in 2011 it was in 8 proceedings, and in 2012 in 9 proceedings. In these proceedings, costs of translation were charged from budgetary funds.

The Basic Court in Zrenjanin, for the territory of the municipalities of Žitište, Novi Bečej and Sečanja and for the town of Zrenjanin, with court units in Novi Bečej and Sečanj

Hungarian/Romanian/Slovakian

282. In the Basic Court in Zrenjanin, the defendant used Romanian in one criminal procedure, with the assistance of a court interpreter. In other proceedings conducted in Serbian, there were testimonies or written evidence which were given or submitted in minority languages which were in the official use in Court, but the Court cannot determine the exact number of such procedures. In a number of procedures conducted in Serbian, the court paid the costs of translation/interpretation for participants using minority languages which were in official use in Court. A judge was appointed to act in criminal proceedings in which the language of the proceedings was Hungarian.

The Basic Court in Novi Sad, for the territory of the municipalities of Bor, Bačka Palanka, Bački Petrovac, Beočin, Bečej, Vrbas, Žabalj, Srbobran, Sremski Karlovci, Temerin and Titel and for the town of Novi Sad, with court units in Bač, Bačka Palanka, Beočin, Bečej, Vrbas, Žabalj, Srbobran, Sremski Karlovci, Temerin and Titel.

Hungarian/Ruthenian/Slovakian

283. A certain number of cases in criminal proceedings were conducted in the Hungarian language in the Basic Court in Novi Sad: 4 cases in 2010, 6 cases in 2011, and 7 cases in 2012. One judge was appointed to act in the criminal proceedings conducted in the Hungarian language. A certificate that no criminal proceedings are conducted against a specific person shall

be issued by the Court to natural persons, at their request, in the Hungarian, Ruthenian and Slovak language.

The Basic Court in Pančevo for the territory of the municipalities of Alibunar, Kovačica, Kovin, Opovo and for the town of Pančevo, with court units in Alibunar, Kovačica and Kovin
Hungarian/Romanian/Slovak

284. In 2011, one criminal proceeding was conducted in the Romanian language in the seat of the Basic Court in Pančevo.

The Basic Court in Subotica for the territory of the municipalities of Ada, Bačka Topola, Kanjiža, Mali Idoš and Senta and for the town of Subotica, with court units in Ada, Bačka Topola, Kanjiža and Senta
Hungarian/Croatian

285. Court interpreters were hired in 987 criminal cases to interpret at main hearings and discussions and to translate court decisions and various submissions in the Basic Court in Subotica. The Court deliver subpoenas and different notifications to parties on tri-lingual forms in the Serbian, Hungarian and Croatian Language, *inter alia*, a legal remedy, call for preliminary hearing, for the main hearing, etc. A certificate shall be issued in the Hungarian, Ruthenian, Slovak and Croatian language that no request was made against a natural person for conducting an investigation, or specific investigational actions, that no charge for criminal offences were brought on the basis of which prosecution is conducted *ex officio*, at the request of natural persons.

The Higher Court in Leskovac for the territory of the Basic Court in Leskovac
Albanian

286. In one criminal proceeding conducted before the Higher Court in Leskovac, the accused used the Albanian language.

The Higher Court in Kraljevo for the territory of the Basic Court in Kraljevo

287. In one criminal proceeding conducted before the Higher Court in Kraljevo, the two accused used the Albanian language. The course of these proceedings was monitored by a translator for the Albanian language who translated all court and parties' submissions. Translation costs were covered from the budgetary funds.

The Higher Court in Prokuplje for the territory of the Basic Court in Prokuplje

288. One criminal proceeding was conducted in the Albanian language before the Higher Court in Prokuplje. At the request of the parties, records and court decisions are translated into minority languages, mostly to the Albanian language.

The Higher Court in Vranje for the territory of the Basic Court in Vranje
Albanian/Bulgarian

289. Three criminal proceedings before the Higher Court in Vranje were conducted in the Albanian language, whereas in one of them requests and evidence was formulated in the Albanian language.

The Higher Court in Zrenjanin for the territory of the Basic Court in Zrenjanin and the Basic Court in Kikinda

Hungarian/Romanian/Slovak

290. One judge was trained to conduct criminal proceedings in the Hungarian language. There were no requests from parties in the period referred to in the Report to conduct proceedings in minority languages, and interpreters were hired in several cases conducted in the Serbian language.

The Higher Court in Sombor for the territory of the Basic Court in Sombor

Hungarian/Ruthenian/Slovak

291. In six criminal proceedings before the Higher Court in Sombor the accused used minority languages such as: in 3 cases was used the Hungarian language, in one case was used the Albanian language, and in two cases were used minority languages (Macedonian and German) which are not included in Part III of the Charter.²⁶ In two criminal proceedings, requests and evidence was formulated in the Hungarian language. All translation costs were borne by the Court.

The Higher Court in Subotica for the territory of the Basic Court in Subotica

Hungarian/Croatian

292. There is a total of 211 cases in the Higher Court in Subotica that were conducted in the Serbian language, the accused used the Hungarian language, and testimonies and/or written

²⁶ The Court received one complaint related to the application of Articles 108-110 of the Court Rules of Procedure that was estimated as unfounded. Only after two years from the commencement of criminal proceedings the party declare that he did know the Serbian language well and asked that all written documents be submitted in the Macedonian language. Although the Court estimated the complaint to be unfounded, all the written documents were, nevertheless, delivered to the party in the Macedonian language and all translation costs were borne by the Court.

evidence were submitted, i.e. provided in the Hungarian language. In all the cases translation costs were borne by the Court.

4.2.3. Civil proceedings

293. The legislation relevant for the application of selected paragraphs and sub-paragraphs in civil proceedings is explained in section 5.2.3.1. of the First Report and section 4.2.3. of the Second Report on the implementation of the Charter. Since the submission of the Second Report on the implementation of the Charter some amendments regulating civil court proceedings were made in the legislation, however, the essence of the decisions referring to the use of minority languages in these proceedings has not changed.

294. The Law on Civil Procedure entered into force on 1 February 2012, and in Article 6 paragraph 1 prescribes that the Serbian language and the Cyrillic script shall be in official use in civil proceedings. Other languages and scripts shall be in official use in accordance with the law. Paragraph 2 of the same Article prescribes that, in accordance with the Constitution and the law, minority languages and scripts shall be in official use in the courts in whose territories members of those national minorities live. Paragraph 3 of the same Article prescribes that the parties and other participants in proceedings shall have the right to use their language and script, in accordance with provisions of this Law. Chapter VI of the Law prescribes provisions for the use of a language in proceedings. Thus, Article 95 of the Law prescribes that the parties and other participants in proceedings shall have the right to use their language at hearings and on the occasion of oral undertaking of procedural actions before the court. If proceedings are not held in the language of the party, or in the language of other participants in proceedings, interpretation into the language they understand shall be provided to them, at their request, of what is going to be said at the hearing, as well as interpretation of the documents that are going to be used at the hearing for the production of evidence. If a minority language is in official use in the court, translation costs occurring due to the use of a minority language in the proceedings by the party shall be covered by the authority conducting the proceedings. Article 96 of the Law prescribes that summons, decisions and other judicial documents shall be delivered to the parties and other participants in the proceedings in the Serbian language. If a national minority language is also officially used before the court, the court shall deliver judicial documents in the appropriate language to the parties and participants in the proceedings who are members of this national minority and who use this language in the proceedings. A provision of Article 97 of the Law prescribes that the parties and other participants in the proceedings shall file their claims, appeals and other submissions in the language officially used in the court. The parties and other participants in the proceedings may also address their submissions to the court in a minority language not officially used in the court, if this is in accordance with the law. It should be pointed out that a provision of Article 175 of the Law prescribes that if a document is made in a

minority language, and is addressed to the court in which the relevant language of the national minority is not in official use, a translation of the document into the Serbian language shall be enclosed to the judicial document. Article 256 paragraph 1 of the Law prescribes that a witness who does not know the language of the proceedings shall be examined through an interpreter. Also, Article 374 paragraph 2 item 8 of the Law prescribes there will be important violation of provisions of civil proceedings, due to which an appeal may be filed, if, contrary to provisions of the law, the court refused a request of the party to freely use his/her language and script in the proceedings, or if civil proceedings were not conducted in the official language of the national minority although legal presumptions were met.

295. Application of selected paragraphs and sub-paragraphs in civil court proceedings also depend on the provisions of the The Law on Non-Contentious Procedure which were applicable in the period referred to in the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter. This Law prescribes the rules according to which ordinary courts act and decide on personal, family, property and other legal matters which are, according to this or another law, addressed in a contentious procedure (Article 1 paragraph 1). According to Article 30 paragraph 2 of The Law on Non-Contentious Procedure, provisions of the The Law on Civil Procedure are accordingly applicable in a contentious procedure if this or another law does not prescribe otherwise, which refers to the official use of languages, or use of minority languages in proceedings. Drafting documents is particularly regulated in case a participant does not know the language that is officially used in the court. In such a case, according to Article 168 of the Law, drafting a document shall be conducted in the presence of two adult witnesses which the judge knows personally or whose identity he/she determined with the documents that have a photo. Article 169 paragraph 1 prescribes that, if the participant does not know the language in which a document is drafted, the judge will create the document with the participation of a court interpreter. A provision of Article 179 of the Law envisages that, if the testator does not know the language that is officially used in the court, the judge shall, through a sworn court interpreter, read the testament, and the testator will declare, through an interpreter, that the testament is his/hers. Presented provisions of The Law on Non-Contentious Procedure are relevant for the application of those paragraphs of Article 9 of the Charter which regulate recognition of the validity of documents, as they govern, in a specific manner, the possibility of use of minority languages in drafting and recognising the validity of a testament and other documents.

296. Apart from the proceedings which are not entirely conducted in one of minority languages, courts do not keep separate records on the number of civil cases in which the parties used a minority language, or on the number of civil proceedings which are conducted in the Serbian language in which the participants used their right to use their minority language. In this sense, the data obtained from the courts may serve only as an illustration of the used of minority languages in civil proceedings, as precise records are required for the consideration of the actual

situation. The following sections provide examples of the use of minority languages in civil proceedings.

The Basic Court in Prijepolje for the territory of the municipalities of Nova Varoš, Priboj and Prijepolje, with court units in Nova Varoš and Priboj

Bosnian

297. In 20 civil proceedings before the Basic Court in Prijepolje, the parties asked to be provided with an opportunity to use the Bosnian language and with a translation of documents into the Bosnian language.

The Basic Court in Kikinda for the territory of the municipalities of Kikinda, Nova Crnja, Novi Kneževac and Čoka, with court units in Nova Crnja i Novi Kneževac

Hungarian

298. In the period from 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2012 none of civil proceedings was entirely conducted in the Hungarian language before the Basic Court in Kikinda. In the proceedings conducted in the Serbian language contained testimonies in the Hungarian language, which were interpreted by an interpreter: in 2010, an interpreter was engaged in 11 proceedings, in 2011 in 2 proceedings, and in 2012 in one proceeding. In all the proceedings in which interpretation was provided to the participants that used the Hungarian language, costs were covered from budgetary funds.

The Basic Court in Zrenjanin for the territory of the municipalities of Žitište, Novi Bečej and Sečanj and for the town of Zrenjanin, with court units in Novi Bečej and Sečanj

Hungarian/Romanian/Slovak

299. One civil proceeding was entirely conducted in the Hungarian language in the Basic Court in Zrenjanin. According to the declaration of the judges who acted in the Court in the period referred to in the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter, some proceedings were conducted in the Serbian language, which contained testimonies or written evidence submitted in the minority languages officially used in the Court, but the Court cannot determine the number of these cases. In several civil cases that were conducted in the Serbian language the Court paid for translation costs on behalf of the participants who used the minority languages that are officially used in the Court. Several probate hearings were conducted before the court in the Serbian language in which documents were made in one of the minority languages that officially used in the court (testament, lifelong care agreement, etc.). The annual schedule of court activities determines two judges to act in civil cases in which proceedings are conducted in the Hungarian language.

The Basic Court in Novi Sad for the territory of the municipalities of Bač, Bačka Palanka, Bački Petrovac, Beočin, Bečej, Vrbas, Žabalj, Srbobran, Sremski Karlovci, Temerin and Titel and for the city of Novi Sad, with the court units in Bač, Bačka Palanka, Bački Petrovac, Beočin, Bečej, Vrbas, Žabalj, Srbobran, Sremski Karlovci, Temerin and Titel.

Hungarian/Ruthenian/Slovak

300. A certain number of cases in civil proceedings in the Basic Court in Novi Sad were conducted in the Hungarian language: 5 civil and 5 contentious proceedings in 2010, 7 civil and 3 contentious proceedings in 2011, and 9 civil and 8 contentious proceedings in 2012. Two judges were appointed to act in the civil proceedings conducted in the Hungarian language.

The Basic Court in Pančevo, for the territory of the municipalities of Alibunar, Kovačica, Kovin, Opovo and for the city of Pančevo, with court units in Alibunar, Kovačica and Kovin

Hungarian/Romanian/Slovak

301. In the Basic Court in Pančevo in the court unit in Alibunar: in 6 proceedings which were conducted in the Serbian language, the participants used their rights to use their/minority language, where the court covered all translation costs; 2 probate hearings contained documents made in one of minority languages that are officially used in the court; in one proceeding a proxy was given in the minority language. In the court unit in Kovačica, 3 civil cases contained testimonies, in 2 cases witnesses gave their statements in the Slovak language, and in one case a statement was given in the Hungarian language, on which occasion the court covered all translation costs; in 2 cases of probate hearings testaments were made in the Hungarian and the Romanian language; in one case a proxy was given in the Slovak language.

The Basic Court in Paraćin for the territory of the municipalities of Despotovac, Paraćin and Čuprija, with court units in Despotovac and Čuprija.

302. In the Basic Court in Paraćin, although minority languages are not in official use in the territory of this Court, in one civil proceeding the party used the Romanian language. On that occasion, a court interpreter for the Romanian language was engaged by the acting judge.

The Basic Court in Sombor for the territory of the municipalities of Apatin, Kula and Odžaci and for the town of Sombor, with court units in Apatin, Kula and Odžaci

Hungarian/Ruthenian/Slovak

303. Two civil proceedings were entirely conducted in the Hungarian language in the Basic Court in Sombor. The use of minority languages through interpreters is ensured in the

proceedings before this Court, and, on such occasions, translation costs are covered from budgetary funds.

The Basic Court in Subotica, for the territory of the municipalities of Ada, Bačka Topola, Kanjiža, Mali Idoš and Senta and for the city of Subotica, with court units in Ada, Bačka Topola, Kanjiža and Senta
Hungarian/Croatian

304. Court interpreters were engaged in 2010, 2011 and 2012, in 382 civil cases in the Basic Court in Subotica to interpret in main hearings and discussions and to translate court decisions and various submissions. The total of 62 lifelong care agreements were certified in the stated period, 28 terminations of lifelong care agreements and 4 testaments were drafted and deposited in minority languages that are officially used in the territory of the Court. All costs of translation of court decisions, submissions and similar documents shall be covered from the budget of the Republic of Serbia. The Court submits summons and various notifications in civil proceedings to the parties in tri-lingual forms - in the Serbian, Hungarian and Croatian languages, for example, a summon for the hearing of the parties, a summon for preliminary hearing, a summon for the main hearing.

The Higher Court in Novi Pazar for the territory of the Basic Court in Novi Pazar
Bosnian

305. In six civil cases before the Higher Court in Novi Pazar the accused required the proceedings to be conducted in the Bosnian language.

The Higher Court in Zrenjanin for the territory of the Basic Court in Zrenjanin and the Basic Court in Kikinda
Hungarian/Romanian/Slovak

306. One judge was trained to conduct civil proceedings in the Hungarian language. There were no requests from the parties in the period referred to in the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter to entirely conduct proceedings in minority languages, whereas interpreters were engaged in several cases that were conducted in the Serbian language.

The Higher Court in Sombor for the territory of the Basic Court in Sombor
Hungarian/Ruthenian/Slovak

307. Court interpreters were engaged to translate submission into the Hungarian language in rehabilitation proceedings conducted in the Serbian language before the Higher Court.

The Higher Court in Subotica for the territory of the Basic Court in Subotica
Hungarian/Croatian

308. The total of 23 civil cases before the Higher Court in Subotica were conducted in the Serbian language, testimonies and/or written evidence were submitted or provided in the Hungarian language, and the participants used the Hungarian language. Costs of translation on behalf of the participants in the proceedings were borne by the Court. In 52 rehabilitation cases proceedings were conducted in the presence of interpreters.

4.2.4. Administrative disputes

309. The legislation relevant for the application of selected paragraphs and sub-paragraphs in administrative disputes is explained in section 4.2.3. of the Second Report on the implementation of the Charter. The period which is referred to in the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter does not include amendments to the legislation that regulates the use of languages and scripts in administrative disputes.

310. According to the records of the Administrative Court, in the period referred to in the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter, there were no court cases in the Administrative Court which required proceedings to be conducted in minority languages. All claims were filed in the Serbian language, by both prosecutors and proxies from the ranks of lawyers whom prosecutors engaged for representation. In 2013, the Administrative Court, acting at the party's request, enabled in one case, in which a claim was filed in the Serbian language in 2012, that the oral hearing is attended by a court interpreter for the Hungarian language, considering that the party did not understand Serbian.

4.2.5. Accessibility of the most important legal texts in minority languages

311. Since the submission of the Second Report on the implementation of the Charter, translation of the most significant legal texts into minority languages was continued in the Republic of Serbia, particularly into those languages that are relevant for their speakers. In terms of this, translation of the following national legal texts was provided into minority languages: The Law on Prohibition of Discrimination was translated into Albanian, Bulgarian, Hungarian, Romani, Romanian, Ruthenian, Slovak and Croatian; the Law on Ombudsman was translated into Albanian, Hungarian, Romani, Romanian, Ruthenian and Slovak. Also, the Guide through the Law on Free Access to Information of Public Importance was published in Albanian, Bulgarian, Hungarian, Romani, Romanian, Ruthenian and Slovak which contain provisions of the Law and appropriate forms for the submission of complaints and claims in those languages. It is particularly important that the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National

Minorities and the Law on National Councils of National Minorities have also been translated into Albanian, Bulgarian and Macedonian, and not only to the languages that are in official use in the territory of the AP Vojvodina (Hungarian, Romanian, Ruthenian, Slovak and Croatian).

4.3.

Article 10

ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITIES AND PUBLIC SERVICES

Selected paragraphs and sub-paragraphs

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) (iv) to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications in these languages;*
- (v) to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may validly submit a document in these languages;*
- c) to allow the administrative authorities to draft documents in a regional or minority language.*

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:

- b) the possibility for users of regional or minority languages to submit oral or written applications in these languages;*
- c) the publication by regional authorities of their official documents also 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;*
- 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.*

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:

- c) to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request in these languages.*

4. With a view to putting into effect those provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 accepted by them, the Parties undertake to take one or more of the following measures:

- c) *compliance as far as possible with requests from public service employees having a knowledge of a regional or minority language to be appointed in the territory in which that language is used.*

5. *The Parties undertake to allow the use or adoption of family names in the regional or minority languages, at the request of those concerned.*

4.3.1. Submission of complaints in minority languages to state administration authorities

312. The period referred to in the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter does not contain any amendments to the legal framework governing possibilities of written and oral addressing to state administration authorities in minority languages. Relevant legislation that regulates these issues is explained in detail in section 5.3.1. of the First Report and in specific sections in the Second Report on the implementation of the Charter.

313. The Decree on Administrative Districts of the Government of the Republic of Serbia (2006) established administrative districts²⁷ for conducting tasks of state administration (ministries, special organisations and administration authorities within the ministries) outside the seat of the state administration authorities. During 2010, the then existing Ministry of Human and Minority Rights collected data on the use of minority languages in district regional units in 12 administrative districts: Zapadna Bačka, Zatibor, Jablanica, Južni Banat, Južna Bačka, Pirot, Pčinja, Raška, Sverna Bačka, Sverni Banat, Srednji Banat and Srem Administrative District. These administrative districts were also established for the municipalities and cities in which minority languages are officially used, which enables parties to submit requests in minority languages, and a possibility to conduct administrative proceedings in minority languages.

²⁷ The Decree establishes administrative districts and their names, locations and seats. An administrative district is a regional centre of the state administration which includes district regional units of all the state administration authorities established for its area. The state administration authority decides on whether an administrative district will carry out one or more tasks of the state administration relating to: *resolving first-instance administrative matters (can be resolved in the second instance when in the first instance matters were resolved by public authorisation holders), overseeing work of public authorisation holders and conducting inspections.* According to the Rulebook on the Internal Organisation in Job Systematisation, the state administration authority shall establish its district regional unit when it decides to conduct one or more tasks of the state administration in an administrative district. A total of 29 administrative districts were established with the Decree, and the territory of each of the administrative districts includes a certain number of municipalities and cities. An administrative district has a *head* who reports to the minister in charge of administration activities and to the Government. An administrative district has *the administrative and professional service of the administrative district* in charge of administrative and technical support to the head of the administrative district and for activities common for all administrative regional units of the state administration authorities, and is governed by the head of an administrative district. *The Administrative District Council* harmonises relations of district regional units of the state administration authorities with the municipalities and cities in the territory of the administrative district, and gives proposals for the improvement of work of the administrative district. It consists of the head of the administrative district and mayors of municipalities and cities from the territory of the administrative district.

According to the obtained data, the stated district regional units did not receive requests in minority languages.

4.3.2. Drafting documents in minority languages by administrative authorities

314. As stated in section 5.3.3. of the First Periodical Report on the implementation of the Charter, administrative authorities may conduct administrative proceedings and issue documents in minority languages, and, therefore, it is possible to create draft documents, or administrative acts and documents to be adopted or issued, in minority languages. The implementation of Article 10 of the Charter, contained in the First Report in the implementation of the Charter, provides a detailed explanation in minority languages for the issuance of specific public documents that are of an interest for exercising citizens' rights determined by the law (certificates, confirmations, etc.), which may be classified as a “document” from the Charter.

315. For purpose of illustrating implementation of this sub-paragraph of Article 10 of the Charter, the following text provides examples on the issuance of specific public documents and other documents in minority languages.

316. In accordance with Article 6 of the Law on Registers of Births, Marriages and Deaths, the task of keeping registers of births, marriages and deaths and addressing issues in first-instance procedures in the field of registers of births, marriages and deaths shall be entrusted to municipalities, or cities, or the City of Belgrade. These tasks shall be conducted by the municipal or city administration, or Belgrade city administration. Item 137 of the Guidelines for Keeping Registers of Births, Marriages and Deaths and Their Forms prescribes that (birth, marriage and death) certificates from registers of births, marriages and deaths shall in local self-government units, in which the statute prescribes that a minority language is in official use, be printed bilingually - in the Serbian language and Cyrillic script and in a language and script of a national minority whose language is in official use. The text of the columns in the language and script of the members of a national minority shall be written under the text in the Serbian language, in the same font and size of the letter. Technical drafting and printing of bilingual certificates from registers of births, marriages and deaths shall be entrusted to the National Bank – Institute for Manufacturing Banknotes and Coins, on the basis of Article 80 of the Law on Registers of Births, Marriages and Deaths. These certificates shall be printed in the following minority languages: Albanian, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Hungarian, Macedonian, Romanian, Ruthenian, Slovak, Ukrainian, Croatian and Czech. In the period from 1 June 2011 (since commencement of use of bilingual certificates) to 25 April 2013, for purpose of issuing bilingual certificates, the authorities keeping registers of births, marriages and deaths obtained a total of 367,250 forms for certificates from registers of births, marriages and deaths from the National Bank of Serbia - Institute for Manufacturing of Banknotes and Coins, and, in the same period, the stated

authorities issued a total of 242,493 bilingual certificates from registers of births, marriages and deaths.

317. The Information on Official Use of Minority Languages in Administrative Units of Local Self-Government Units in Central Serbia²⁸ which contain data for 2012 and the Report on exercising the right to official use of a language and script of minority communities in the AP Vojvodina for 2011²⁹ may serve as an illustration of the practice of issuing bilingual certificates from registers of births, marriages and deaths. In all 9 local self-government units in Central Serbia in which minority languages are in official use, a total of 121,782 certificates from registers of births, marriages and deaths were issued, out of which 65,703 certificates were issued in bilingual forms, out of which:

- 26,953 certificates were issued in the Serbian-Albanian form;
- 38,750 certificates were issued in the Serbian-Bosnian form;
- No certificate was issued in the Serbian-Bulgarian form;

318. According to the stated report, in local self-government units in the AP Vojvodina in which minority languages are in official use, a total of 656,534 certificates from registers of births, marriages and deaths were issued, out of which 50,549 certificates were issued in bilingual forms, out of which:

- 48,655 certificates were issued in the Serbian-Hungarian form;
- 10 certificates were issued in the Serbian-Romanian form;
- 21 certificates were issued in the Serbian-Ruthenian form;
- 1,344 certificates were issued in the Serbian-Slovak form;
- 519 certificates were issued in the Serbian-Croatian form;

319. Since April 2008, biometrical identity cards have been issued in the Republic of Serbia, whose form, appearance and content is prescribed by the Law on Identity Card and the Identity Card Rulebook. On the basis of Article 9 of the Law on Identity Card, identity cards shall be issued on a form printed in the Serbian language, in the Cyrillic script, and in the English language, as well as in the language and script of national minorities in accordance with provisions of the Law on Official Use of Languages and Scripts. Identity cards shall be issued in multilingual forms in minority languages if official use of a minority language is determined by the statute of the municipality in which parties submit a request for issuing an identity card, such as in: Albanian, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Hungarian, Romanian, Ruthenian, Slovak, Czech and

²⁸ Available at www.ljudskaprava.gov.rs.

²⁹ The Information was made in the Provincial Secretariat for Education, Administration and National Communities of AP Vojvodina, which was adopted by the Provincial Government. The data on the use of minority languages in the field of the personal status of the citizens were collected from 29 municipal and city administrations in which minority languages are in official use.

Croatian. If a person submitting a request for issuing a biometrical identity card decides to have his/her data on the first and last name be written in the identity card in a minority language and script, those data shall be written in their original form, just as they are recorded in the register of births, marriages and deaths.

320. With a decision on more detailed regulation of specific issues of official use of languages and scripts of national minorities in the territory of the AP Vojvodina, the Provincial Secretariat prescribes that, in the territories in which minority languages are in official use, the organisations which provide and charge to the citizens for the services in the field of electric power industry, sale of natural gas, utility, post and telegraph services, shall be obliged to provide to the users of their services and products bill forms, various certificates and notifications related to their services, in several languages, i.e. in Serbian and in a language(s) of the national minorities in official use. On the basis of a report on exercising the right to the official use of languages and scripts of national minorities in the AP Vojvodina (2012) and collecting data from local self-government units (2013), which participated in the drafting of the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter, it can be concluded that public companies, which provide utility services in the territories of local self-government units in the AP Vojvodina, increase the number of bills for performed services that are also delivered in the minority languages in official use. For example, this is the case with public companies in Bačka Topola, Kanjiža, Kovačica, Kula, Senta, Subotica, Temerin and Titel. Problems in financing official use of languages and scripts of national minorities in the AP Vojvodina are attempted to be resolved by announcing a competition³⁰ for financing, or participation in the financing of, *inter alia*, costs of printing bilingual and multilingual forms. It is noticeable that more and more companies which provide services to the citizens apply to the competitions for co-financing costs for the preparation and printing of bills.

4.3.3. Submission of applications in minority languages to local and regional authorities

321. The legislative framework regarding the submission of applications in minority languages to local or regional authorities in the period covered by the Third Report on the Implementation of the Charter has not been amended compared to the previous period.

³⁰ A competition shall, *inter alia*, be announced for: the training employees in the authorities and organisations in which a minority language is used, and which is determined to be an officially used language, particularly at the workplaces in which contacts are made with customers (participation in courses, seminars and other forms organised for this purpose) and for the development of electronic administration system for work in multilingual conditions; and for printing bilingual and multilingual forms. The following may apply for a competition: city and municipality authorities in the territory of the AP Vojvodina in which the official use of minority languages and scripts is determined by the statute, either in the whole territory of a city or municipality, or in specific settlements in their territory; local self-governments in the territory of cities and municipalities; other authorities, organisations, services and institutions in the territory of cities and municipalities. In 2011, after the competition, distribution of a total of RSD 6,650,000.00 was distributed to 72 authorities, organisations and budget beneficiaries whose work involves the use of minority languages and scripts.

322. As stated in the Second Report on the Implementation of the Charter, the parties have the right to refer to local authorities orally or in writing in their language and in practice there are reasonable possibilities to accomplish this right.

323. Since the Republic of Serbia has not established a legal obligation to keep a centralised records on the number of addresses made to local authorities by persons belonging to national minorities - speakers of minority languages in their own language - state and provincial authorities, within their purview, collect such information, which for the purposes of implementation of the lining of the Charter may serve as an illustration. In order to assess the use of minority languages in communication between minority language speakers and local government units (LGUs), the then Provincial Secretariat for Regulations, Administration and National Communities of AP Vojvodina conducted a survey³¹ in 2010 on the use of minority languages in official use, *inter alia*, in the work of provincial authorities and city and municipal administrations. In a similar methodology, the Office for Human and Minority Rights in 2013 surveyed municipal/ city administrations of LGU in central Serbia³², on whose territory minority languages are in official use, on the use of minority languages and communication between minority language speakers and local government bodies in the period 01/01- 31/12/ 2012. .

324. Based on the data obtained from two surveys conducted in the administrations of local self-government units in central Serbia and in AP Vojvodina, it may be concluded that speakers of minority languages have the ability to use their own language and that they use this possibility in practice. According to processed data of the Provincial Secretariat for Regulations, Administration and National Communities of AP Vojvodina and the Office for Human and Minority Rights, the following paragraphs contain information on oral and written addresses of speakers of minority languages to municipal/city administrations of LGUs and the manner of their communication.

³¹ Provincial administrative authorities, city and municipal administrations in the territory of the AP Vojvodina, have received the following questionnaires: the first was of general nature and related to information on government bodies and the structure of employees according to ethnicity, knowledge of a minority language in official use and level of education; the other referred to oral and written communication between government bodies and parties in minority languages officially in use in the territory of authorities' jurisdiction; the third had been delivered to respondents who conduct administrative proceedings and referred to a number of administrative cases, issued certificates, and declared remedies in minority languages in official use. 30 of the 39 local governments in whose territory some minority languages and scripts are in official use participated in the survey.

³² Data was collected from all nine municipal/ city governments in central Serbia on the territory of which minority languages and their scripts are in official use. Information on the official use of minority languages in the administrations of local self-government units in central Serbia is available on the website of the Office for Human and Minority Rights: www.ljudskaprava.gov.rs

325. In 11 municipal administrations of LGUs,³³ most parties addressed bodies of municipal administrations orally in a minority language in official use. In five municipal/ city administrations of LGUs,³⁴ less than one-half of the parties orally communicated in a minority language in official use. In five municipal administrations of LGUs,³⁵ less than one-fourth of the parties in oral communication addressed a municipal administration in a minority language in official use. In eight municipal / city administrations of LGUs,³⁶ parties only exceptionally in oral communication addressed municipal / city administrations in minority languages in official use. In ten municipal/ city administrations of LGUs,³⁷ parties in oral communication addressed solely in the Serbian language, regardless of their mother tongue.

326. In written communication with municipal/ city administrations of LGUs in minority languages, surveys revealed that in six municipal/ city administrations (Bač, Kanjiža, Novi Pazar, Preševo, Prijepolje and Tutin) most parties made their address in a minority language. In five municipal/ city administrations of LGUs (Bačka Topola, Bački Petrovac, Bečej, Bujanovac and Subotica), less than half of the parties communicated in written form in a minority language. In two municipal administrations (Nova Crnja and Senta), less than one-fourth of the parties communicated in written form in a minority language. In 18 municipal/ city administrations of LGUs (Ada, Alibunar, Apatin, Bačka Palanka, Bosilegrad, Dimitrovgrad, Vršac, Zrenjanin, Kikinda, Kula, Medvedja, Novi Bečej, Plandište, Sombor, Srbobran, Stara Pazova, Temerin and Čoka), parties only exceptionally communicated in written form in a minority language. In eight municipal/ city administrations of LGUs (Vrbas, Žabalj, Novi Sad, Odžaci, Sjenica, Sremska Mitrovica, Titel and Šid), parties communicated in written form solely in the Serbian language, regardless of their mother tongue.

³³ Ada (Hungarian in official use), Bački Petrovac (Slovak in official use), Bosilegrad (Bulgarian in official use), Kanjiža (Hungarian in official use), Medvedja (Albanian the official use), Preševo (Albanian in official use), Prijepolje (Bosnian in official use), Senta (Hungarian in official use), Temerin (Hungarian in official use), Tutin (Bosnian in official use) and Čoka (Hungarian in official use).

³⁴ Alibunar (Romanian and Slovak in official use), Bačka Topola (Hungarian, Slovak and Ruthenian in official use), Bečej (Hungarian in official use), Nova Crnja (Hungarian in official use) and Subotica (Hungarian and Croatian in official use).

³⁵ Bač (Hungarian and Slovak in official use), Bujanovac (Albanian in official use), Kikinda (Hungarian in official use in four settlements), Kula (Hungarian and Ruthenian in official use) and Novi Bečej (Hungarian in official use).

³⁶ Apatin (Hungarian in official use in two settlements and Croatian in one settlement), Vršac (Hungarian and Romanian in official use), Dimitrovgrad (Bulgarian in official use), Zrenjanin (Hungarian, Romanian and Slovak in official use), Plandište (Hungarian, Romanian, Slovak in official use, and Macedonian in official use in one settlement during the covered period), Sombor (Hungarian in official use and Croatian in two settlements), Srbobran (Hungarian in official use) and Stara Pazova (Slovak in official use in one settlement).

³⁷ Bačka Palanka (Slovak in official use), Vrbas (Hungarian in official use), Žabalj (Ruthenian in official use), Novi Pazar (Bosnian in official use), Novi Sad (Hungarian, Ruthenian and Slovak in official use), Odžaci (Hungarian and Slovak in official use), Sjenica (Bosnian in official use), Sremska Mitrovica (Croatian in official use in one settlement), Titel (Hungarian in official use) and Šid (Ruthenian and Slovak in official use and Croatian in two settlements).

327. According to poll results from 39 LGUs administrations, forms and other documents used for the realisation of parties' rights in whole or in part were available in minority languages in official use in 34 city/ municipal administrations, while that was not the case in three administrations in the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina (Kikinda, Plandište and Odžaci) and two in central Serbia (Bosilegrad and Sjenica).

328. Data obtained from the above mentioned surveys on the number of remedies filed against first instance decisions in administrative proceedings in minority languages could be used as an indicator of the use of minority languages in official use in LGUs. At the time of the survey, in the territory of AP Vojvodina, the following was filed against first instance decisions: 14 legal remedies in Hungarian and one in Slovak. Over the course of 2012, in nine local central Serbian government units where a minority language is in official use, there were no remedies invested against first instance decisions in any minority language in official use.

329. In the Second Report on the Implementation of the Charter, it was pointed out that the legal system of the Republic of Serbia considers only the authorities of AP Vojvodina as "regional authorities". As already mentioned, in addition to Serbian language and the Cyrillic script, in official use in the work of provincial administrative bodies are the following minority languages and their scripts: Hungarian, Romanian, Ruthenian, Slovak and Croatian language. Eleven of the then provincial authorities conducting administrative proceedings and resolving administrative matters, as well as the Office of the Provincial Ombudsman, participated in the aforementioned survey conducted in 2010. In one provincial secretariats (competent for regulations, administration and national communities), most parties communicated orally in the minority language in official use. In one provincial secretariat (for culture), less than one-fourth of the parties orally communicated in the minority language in official use. In three provincial secretariats (for architecture and construction, information and education) and the Office of the Provincial Ombudsman, parties rarely addressed in a minority language in official use. In six provincial secretariats (for health, economy, environmental protection, social policy and demography, labour and employment, and sports and youth), parties orally communicated with these bodies exclusively in Serbian language, regardless of their mother tongue.

330. With regards to written communication in a minority language in official use, parties only exceptionally addressed authorities in a minority language. Namely, they mainly communicated in Serbian language to all of the subjects covered by the survey, except the Provincial Secretariat for Regulations, Administration and National Communities, although there had been conditions for communication due to the fact that employees have been trained for this kind of interaction.

331. All forms and other documents which are used for the realisation of parties' rights had been available in minority languages in official use in one provincial secretariat (for regulations, administration and national communities) and the Office of the Provincial Ombudsman; some

forms and other documents were available in one provincial secretariat (for education), while forms and other documents in minority languages in official use were not available in all other surveyed bodies.

332. Not even one remedy was filed against a first instance decision in the above mentioned provincial administrations.

4.3.4. Publishing of regional documents in minority languages

333. The publication of documents by regional authorities (in the case of the Republic of Serbia - documents of provincial authorities of AP Vojvodina) in minority languages is conditioned by their introduction into official use in the work of AP Vojvodina authorities. The Statute of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina (2009), which was in force during the period referred to in the Third Report on the Implementation of the Charter, established that the following minority languages and their scripts were in official use: Hungarian, Romanian, Ruthenian, Slovak and Croatian. The new statute (in compliance with a decision of the Constitutional Court), which was passed in 2014, also established the mentioned minority languages as languages in equal official use in the work of AP Vojvodina authorities. Proceeding from the above, in languages in official use, the *Official Gazette of APV* publishes legal acts passed by the Assembly (Statute, Provincial Assembly decisions and general acts of the Parliament), the Provincial Government (decisions, decrees, conclusions), as well as legal documents of provincial authorities and organisations that are subject to public disclosure. Proofreading and translation in minority languages in official use by authorities of AP of Vojvodina are provided through the translation service under the auspices of the Provincial Secretariat for Education, Administration and National Communities, which besides translations of regulations and other acts of AP Vojvodina, as well as acts published in the *Official Gazette of the APV*, also translates newsletters, publications and other materials for the purposes of the Provincial Government, Parliament and other provincial authorities. This service provides simultaneous interpretation at sessions of the Assembly of Vojvodina.

334. Due to the fact that the Statute has not established that Romani and Ukrainian languages and scripts are in official use in AP Vojvodina bodies, these documents are not published in these languages. There have been no initiatives until now for the introduction of these languages in the work of AP Vojvodina authorities by national councils of Roma and Ukrainian national minorities, as holders of the right to self-government, *inter alia*, in the official use of languages and scripts. A detailed description of the circumstances that make it impossible to introduce these languages in official use at this point is contained in section 2.5. of the Third Report on the Implementation of the Charter.

4.3.5. Publishing local documents in minority languages

335. Publication of local documents in minority languages, as already pointed out, is possible in those local self-government units in which minority languages are in official use. Section 4.3.4. of the Second Report on the Implementation of the Charter contains information on the publication of local documents in minority languages; as for the period referred to in the Third Report on the Implementation of the Charter, the situation regarding publication of local documents has remained unchanged. Considering that Romani and Ukrainian are not in official use in any local self-government unit, documents of local authorities are not published in these languages.

4.3.6. The use of traditional forms of names of places in minority languages

336. In areas where minority languages are in official use, national councils of national minorities, as an institutional expression of constitutionally guaranteed self-government, are authorised to establish traditional names of local self-government units, settlements and other geographical names in their own language. These names, after publication in the "Official Gazette of the RS" or the "Official Gazette of the APV" (if the seat of the national council is located in Vojvodina), become, besides the designations in Serbian language, names of places in official use which do not require any additional verification.

337. Previous reports on the implementation of the Charter include the traditional names of areas in local self-government units where minority languages are in official use, established by the national councils of the Bosniac, Hungarian, Romanian, Slovak and Croatian national minorities, while the traditional names of settlements in Ruthenian had been determined in 2006 by the Executive Council of AP Vojvodina, as the National Council of the Ruthenian National Minority failed to conclude this process in due time.

338. In 2012, the National Council of the Albanian National Minority established traditional names of municipalities and settlements in the territory of municipalities where Albanian language is in official use³⁸. According to a Decision of the National Council, the following traditional names of municipalities and settlements in which Albanian language is in official use have been defined:

³⁸ By 2012, Bujanovac, Preševo and Medvedja, municipalities where Albanian language is in official use, decided to establish traditional names of settlements in Albanian language. See paragraph 261 of the Second Report on the Implementation of the Charter.

<i>Name of settlement in Serbian language</i>	<i>The traditional name in Albanian language</i>
Municipality of Bujanovac	
Bujanovac	Bujanoc
Baraljevac	Baralec
Biljača	Bilaç
Bogdanovac	Bogdanoc
Božinjevac	Bozhinjevc
Borovac	Boroc
Bramoselce	Bratisellë
Breznica	Breznicë
Brnjare	Bërnjare
Buštranje	Bushtran
Veliki Trnovac	Tërnoc
Mali Trnovac	Maltërnoc
Bogance	Vogancë
Vrban	Vërban
Gornje Novo Selo	Novosellë e Epërme
Gramada	Gramadë
Dobrosin	Dobrosin
Donje Novo Selo	Novosellë e Poshtme
Drežnica	Drezhnicë
Djordjevac	Gjergjec
Ždebac	Zhbecë
Žuželjica	Zhuzhelicë
Zarbince	Zarbincë
Jabačanica	Jablanicë
Jastrebac	Jastreb
Karadnik	Karadnik
Klenike	Klenik
Klinovac	Klinoc
Končulj	Konçul
Košarno	Kosharnë
Krševica	Krshevicë
Kuštica	Kushticë
Levosoje	Levosojë
Letovica	Letovicë
Lopardince	Llapardincë
Lukarce	Llukarcë
Lučane	Lluçan
Ljiljance	Lilancë
Muhovac	Muhoc
Negovac	Negoc
Nesalce	Nasalcë
Oslare	Oslarë
Pretina	Pretinë
Pribovce	Priboc
Ravno Bučje	Ramabuçë
Rakovac	Rakoc
Rusce	Ruscë
Samoljica	Samolicë

Sveta Petka	Shënpetka
Sebrat	Serbrat
Sejace	Sejac
Spančevac	Spançec
Srpska Kuća	Srpska Kuqë
Starac	Starac
Suharno	Suharnë
Trejak	Trejak
Turija	Turijë
Uzovo	Uzovë
Šar	Çarr
Municipality of Medvedja	
Medvedja	Medvegja
Sijarinska Banja	Bajë e Sijarinës
Djulekare	Gjylekresht
Kanum	Kapit
Tupale	Tupallë
Sijarina	Sijarinë
Ravna Banja	Rama Bajë
Grbavce	Grbavc
Stara Banja	Bajë e Vjetër
Svirce	Svirçë
Borovac	Boroci
Bogunovac	Bogunoc
Velika Braina	Brahinë e Madhe
Vrabce	Vrabcë
Gazdare	Gazdarë
Gornja Lapaštica	Llapashticë e Epërme
Gornji Bičimet	Biçmetë i Epërm
Gornji Gajtan	Gajtan i Epërm
Gubavce	Gubac
Gurgutovo	Gurgutovë
Donja Lapaštica	Llapashticë e Poshtme
Donji Bičimet	Buçmet i Poshtëm
Donji Gajtan	Gajtanë i Poshtëm
Drence	Drencë
Lece	Lec
Mala Braina	Brahina e Vogël
Marovac	Marovc
Madjedonce	Maqedonc
Medevce	Medevc
Mrkonje	Mërkonj
Negosavlje	Negosavlë
Petrlje	Petrlë
Poroštica	Poroshticë
Pusto Šilovo	Shillovë e Shkretë
Retkocer	Retkocel
Varadin (Retkocersko)	Varadinë
Rujkovac	Rukoc
Sponce	Sponcë
Srednji Bičimet	Buçmet i Mesëm

Stubla	Stubëll
Tulare	Tullar
Crni Vrh	Maja e Zezë
Çokotin	Çokotin
Municipality of Preševo	
Preševo	Preshevë
Alidjerce	Geraj
Berčevac	Bërçec
Bujić	Buhiç
Bukarevac	Bukuroc
Bukovac	Bukoc
Buštranje	Bushtran
Gare	Gare
Golemi Dol	Golemidoll
Gornja Šušaja	Shoshajë e Epërme
Gospodjince	Gosponicë
Depce	Depcë
Donja Šušaja	Shoshajë e Poshtme
Žujince	Zhunicë
Ilince	Ilincë
Kurbalija	Kurbali
Ljanik	Lanik
Madjare	Maxhere
Miratovac	Miratoc
Norča	Norçë
Oraovica	Rahovicë
Pečeno	Peçenë
Preševo	Preshevë
Rajince	Raincë
Ranatovce	Ranatoc
Reljan	Leran
Sbinjište	Svinjishtë
Sefer	Sefer
Slavujevaca	Bugarinë
Stanevce	Stanec
Strezovce	Strezoc
Trnava	Tërnavë
Cakanovac	Cakanoc
Cerevajka	Caravajkë
Crnotince	Corroticë
Čukarke	Çukarkë

339. In 2013, the National Council of the Bulgarian National Minority determined the following traditional names of local self-government units and settlements in municipalities where Bulgarian language is in official use:

Name of inhabited place in Serbian language	Traditional name in Bulgarian language
Banski Dol	Бански Дол

Barje	Барје
Bačevno	Бачево
Beleš	Белеш
Bilo	Било
Boljev Dol	Болев Дол
Bračevci	Бракъевци
Brebevnica	Бребевница
Verzar	Верзар
Visočki Odorovci	Височки Одоровци
Vlkovija	Вълковия
Vrapča	Врапча
Gojin Dol	Гоин Дол
Gornji Krivodol	Горен Криводол
Gornja Nevlja	Горна Невля
Gradinje	Градинье
Grapa	Грапа
Gulenovci	Гуленовци
Dimitrovgrad	Цариброд
Donji Krivodol	Долен Криводол
Donja Nevlja	Долна Невля
Dragovita	Драговита
Željuša	Желюша
Izatovci	Изатовци
Iskrovci	Искровци
Kamenica	Каменица
Kusa Vrana	Куса Врана
Lukavica	Лукавица
Mazgoš	Мазгош
Mojinci	Моинци
Paskašija	Паскъшия
Petrlaš	Петърлаш
Petačinci	Петачинци
Planinica	Планиница
Poganovo	Поганово
Prača	Прача
Prtopopinci	Пъртопопинци
Radejna	Радейна
Senokos	Сенокос
Skrvenica	Скървеница
Slivnica	Сливница
Smilovci	Смиловци
Trnski Odorovci	Трънски Одоровци
Bosilegrad	Босилеград
Rajčilovci	Райчиловци
Paralovo	Паралово
Gložje	Гложие

Donja Ljubata	Долна Любата
Gornja Ljubata	Горна Любата
Musulj	Мусул
Barje	Барие
Gornja Ržana	Горна Ръжана
Donja Ržana	Долна Ръжана
Gornja Lisina	Горна Лисина
Donja Lisina	Долна Лисина
Miljevci	Милевци
Gruinci	Груинци
Izvor	Извор
Belut	Белут
Resen	Ресен
Radičevci	Радичевци
Mlekominci	Млекоминци
Ribarci	Рибарци
Bucaljevo	Буцалево
Bresnica	Бресница
Zli dol	Зли дол
Rikačevo	Рикачево
Bistar	Бистър
Crnoštica	Църнощица
Jarešnik	Ярешник
Gornje Tlmino	Горно Тлъмино
Donje Tlmino	Долно Тлъмино
Nazarica	Назърица
Doganica	Доганица
Karamanica	Караманица
Goleš	Голеш
Žeravino	Жеравино
Dukat	Дукат
Ploča	Плоча
Brankovci	Бранковци

340. Paragraph 268 of the Second Report on the Implementation of the Charter lists the reasons for the lack of traditional place names in Romani and Ukrainian. In connection with the dilemmas of the Committee of Experts set out in paragraph 196 of its Second Report, the authorities have indicated that speakers of Ukrainian language use Serbian names for cities that are phonetically modified so that they sound like Ukrainian names. Traditional names of settlements, in the strict sense, do not exist in Romani and Ukrainian.

341. According to the Law on Cadastre and the Law on Ministries, the Republic Geodetic Authority is responsible for labelling, among other things, the names of places. The Republic Geodetic Authority, or the real estate cadastre services, as its internal units, are required on the

territory of the local self-government unit in which both Serbian language and the language and script of a national minority are in official use, to take into account when labelling settlements that names are written in the language and script of the national minority whose language is in official use. The method and procedure of labelling settlements are governed by the Regulation on the labelling of names of places, streets and squares, marking buildings with house numbers and keeping the register of house numbers, streets and squares (2012). The cost of labelling settlements is the responsibility of the local self-government units on whose territory the settlement is located. According to information received from the Republic Geodetic Authority, real estate cadastre services, as its internal organisational units, have established that the names of settlements shall be marked in accordance with submitted decisions of local self-government units in which minority languages are in official use. It has also been established that a small number of local self-governments did not provide the information necessary to set up boards with the names of settlements, so the real estate cadastre services were instructed to obtain all necessary information from local self-government units in accordance with the aforementioned decree.

342. Bearing in mind the poor state of multilingualism in Vojvodina, the field of official use of language and script of national minorities relating to the identification and use of settlements' names in practice has been given particular significance. According to the aforementioned *Report on the Realisation of the Right to Use Languages and Scripts of National Minorities in AP Vojvodina for 2011*, and based on collected data, it was concluded that in most cities, municipalities and settlements, signs with names in minority languages and scripts are printed properly.

4.3.7. Submission of applications to public services in minority languages

343. Serbia does not have a legal basis for the implementation of commitments that provide the opportunity to speakers of minority languages to submit applications in their languages to public services supervised by administrative authorities in areas where minority languages are used, noted the Committee of Experts in its Second Report. Since there is no legal obligation to keep a special record on requests filed to public services by speakers of minority languages, there is no aggregate data on the number of applications. In order to illustrate the possibilities for the use of minority languages in communication with public services, there should be a mention of information provided by public enterprises founded by the Republic of Serbia who took part in the preparation of this report. According to this information, not one service user communicated in written form in one of the minority languages, even though they were competent to provide answers to applications in a minority language. Thus, for example, organisational units of "Serbian Railways" JSC and PE of PTT Communications "Serbia" employ a significant number speakers of minority languages in ethnically mixed communities, enabling uninterrupted use of minority languages in oral communication; in PE "Srbijagas", addressing parties in minority

languages and the possibility of their use has never been questioned; "Telekom Serbia" JSC has capabilities to accept and process service user requests in minority languages in its offices, contact centres or via written form. Public enterprises founded by local self-government units where a minority language is in official use also have the ability to accept and respond to demands of their service users. The information supplied by municipal/ city self-governments of LGUs who took part in the preparation of this report notes that local public enterprises also employ speakers of minority languages, thus ensuring seamless oral and written communication in minority languages. This is especially true for local public enterprises located on the territory of AP Vojvodina, which predominantly allow service users to file applications in minority languages, such as, for example, public companies in Ada, Bačka Palanka, Bačka Topola, Bečej, Vrbas, Zrenjanin, Kanjiža, Kovin, Kula, Novi Sad, Senta, Sombor, Subotica, Temerin and Titel. In the central part of the country, according to information obtained from LGU administrations, such a possibility exists in certain public enterprises, such as in Dimitrovgrad, Preševo and Prijepolje.

4.3.8. Appointing speakers of minority languages in national, regional and local authorities and public services

344. The laws of the Republic of Serbia, which regulate labour relations in state, autonomous province and local self-government administrations, stipulate that applications submitted by government employees who speak minority languages and that are related to appointment in territories where minority languages are in use shall also be taken into consideration. The Civil Servants Act, which regulates the employment status of civil servants, provides, *inter alia*, that an executorial position (servants not appointed by the Government) may be filled by secondment. The Act, among other things, distinguishes two types of secondment, or two ways of filling executorial positions: 1. secondment within the same state authority and, secondly, secondment on the basis of a transfer agreement which allows the enforcer to be engaged by other government bodies. According to Article 49 of the Law, a civil servant from the same state authority has an advantage when filling a contracted working place, and if the position is not filled by secondment, a manager may implement a transfer process of civil servants from other state bodies. A civil servant may be transferred (without competition to another state body) if such an agreement has been reached between managing executives of state authorities and if the civil servant agrees to it (Article 49a of the Act). It is an established fact that a civil servant may initiate such a transfer, just as it is clear that secondment may occur in the event that a regional unit of a state administration body seeks to hire people who know minority languages. Article 163 of the Law stipulates that the Human Resources Management Service shall administer Records on internal labour market for state administration authorities and services of the Government. This record, among other things, contains information about the civil servants who *wish (request)* permanent or temporary transfer to another position, and includes data on languages that state officials stated they knew. The internal labour market should serve both state

administration authorities and civil servants. On the website of the Human Resources Management Service (within the records on internal labour market), data is published on professional qualifications of civil servants who want permanent or temporary transfer to another position. The data is published without stating names and surnames of civil servants and, among other things, includes information on special knowledge and expertise, such as data on language skills. The purpose of publishing such data concerning internal labour market is to make this data and applications available to personnel units within government bodies that have vacant positions, which may allow for the secondment of employees who speak minority languages in regional units of government authority in areas where these languages are used. According to the data from the Records of internal labour market (September 2014), no applications for transfer are being filed by individuals who know a minority language and have assumed this obligation.

345. The Civil Servants Act does not apply to employees of provincial and local self-government bodies, however, the Law on Labour Relations in State Bodies provides that it shall apply to authorities of autonomous provinces, cities and municipalities, and as such, govern the employment status of employees in these bodies. This law also includes solutions on the basis of which recruitment of minority language experts may be carried out in territories where such languages are used. The Law, primarily in Article 8, provides for an agreement that allows hiring by transfer from another authority as an option. According to Article 15 of the Act, an employee of a body may be transferred (without advertisement) to another authority to perform tasks that correspond to his qualifications and work experience if such an agreement is reached by officials in charge of those bodies and if the employee agrees to it. The law recognises reassignment of employees within the same body. The official in charge of the body may reassign an employee to another position in the same body that suits his qualifications and skills, if the needs of the body require so (Article 14 of the Act). It is understood that in these cases, civil servants may initiate transfer and reassignment. It should be pointed out that the Instructions on closely regulating the manner of keeping the central personnel records in AP Vojvodina provides that employees' personal records contain data concerning their mother tongue and acquired skills and level of knowledge in a minority language(s).

4.3.9. Use and adoption of family names in minority languages

346. The previous reports on the implementation of the Charter presented the legislative framework for regulating the acquisition of family names in the legal system of the Republic of Serbia, the manner in which the right to a name and its use is achieved, as well as the organisation of public records of personal names. As noted, the Family Law (2005) prescribes the manner of exercising the right to a personal name, while exercising the right of entry of a personal name belonging to national minorities is regulated by the Law on Registers (2009) and Guidelines on the management of registers and forms of civil registers. Article 17 Paragraph 1 of the Law on Registers stipulates that the personal name of a child, parent, spouse and deceased are entered

into a register in the Serbian language, Cyrillic script, while persons belonging to national minorities have the right to entry of a name in the language and orthography of their national minority, which does not exclude the parallel entry of a name in Serbian Cyrillic script. This means that legal requirements have been secured for the entry of a personal name belonging to a national minority in registers throughout the territory of the Republic of Serbia. In accordance with Article 26 of the Law on Registers, after the conclusion of basic registration (where a personal name belonging to a national minority member is not written in the language and script of that national minority), a member of a national minority may also submit a request for entry of a name in a language and script of a national minority; the subsequent entry of this information into the registry is carried out on the basis of a decision adopted by the competent authority entrusted with register-keeping during resolution in first instance administrative proceedings in the field of civil registers (municipal and local governments, or the City Administration of the City of the Belgrade). Point 15a of the Instructions on keeping registers and forms of civil registers provides that the personal name of a child, parent, spouse and deceased member of a national minority is entered into the Register in the language of the national minority after registration in Serbian Cyrillic script, below it in the same form and letter size.

347. Registration of personal names of persons belonging to national minorities in registry books in a minority language and according to the orthography of that language is a prerequisite for the implementation of other aspects of the right of persons belonging to national minorities to use their own name in private and public life, such as, for example, the right to have a name and surname in one's identity card written in native language.

348. Data on the number of family names that are registered in official records in a minority language and according to the orthography of that language is not available, since such records and statistics are not kept, nor are they required by law. However, for partial insight into the realisation of the right to entry of one's name in registers in minority language and orthography of that language, aggregated data collected in the 2013 study of the Provincial Protector of Citizens - Ombudsman³⁹ may be used. In the period from June 2011 to September 2013, in 20 local government units in the territory of AP Vojvodina, no applications for entry of a name in minority language and orthography had been submitted; 3,220 requests for registration and 917 requests for subsequent registration of names in a minority language and its script were submitted in the remaining 24. Based on the data obtained in this publication, it has been concluded that persons belonging to national minorities use the right to enter their personal name in registry books in minority language and according to the orthography of their language.

³⁹ Based on information gathered by competent authorities of municipal or city administrations from the territory of AP Vojvodina, the manner of personal names' entry into registers in a national minority language and script has been examined. A result of this research is the publication *Registration of a personal name in the language and according to the orthography of a national minority*, which is available on the Web at: www.omudsmanapv.org

4.3.10. Activities for the implementation of recommendations of the Committee of Experts concerning Article 10 of the Charter

349. In the Second Report on the Implementation of the Charter, the Committee of Experts set out three recommendations in relation to Article 10 of the Charter. The following paragraphs contain information on the activities undertaken by the state for their implementation.

4.3.10.1. Information to ensure submission of oral and written applications to state authorities in minority languages

The Committee of Experts urges the Serbian authorities to take the necessary measures to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may in practice submit oral or written applications in these languages to state authorities.

350. The authorities of the Republic of Serbia are of the opinion that the legislative framework governing the right of minority language speakers to use a minority language when communicating with governmental bodies is satisfactory, and that legal possibilities have been established for speakers of minority languages to deliver oral or written applications to state authorities in their own language and script. However, the use of minority languages before administrative authorities in practice is rarely applied. The causes are twofold. Practice until now has shown that parties - speakers of minority languages rarely decide to approach authorities in their own language as they wish to resolve administrative procedures in a prompt manner, given that administrative proceedings in minority language take longer due to the vast amounts of minutes, decisions, resolutions and other documents produced parallel with the Serbian language. Another cause is that the public authorities lack capacity to implement the legal framework, which is reflected primarily in the absence of the required number of employees with the knowledge of minority languages, thus demanding new recruitment and/ or further professional training of existing staff in these bodies. In addition to human resources, it is necessary to provide technical conditions for the work of public authorities, particularly regional units of the national government, through the purchase and installation of appropriate equipment. This requires a commitment of additional resources, which currently cannot be ensured because of the economic situation in the country. State authorities are aware that the solutions to the mentioned problems must be systemic and guided by taking into account multilingualism in planning and determining the amount of budgetary funds for the work of regional units of the central government.

4.3.10.2. Information on securing the use of officially established place names in minority languages in practice

The Committee of Experts urges the Serbian authorities to take steps to ensure that officially designated place-names in regional or minority languages are used in practice.

351. The process of establishing traditional names of local governments and settlements has been completed, since all the national councils of national minorities have determined the names of local self-government units and settlements in which their language is in official use. In this way, determined traditional names have become names in official use in municipalities/ cities and urban areas in their territories. Proposing the highlighting of local self-government and settlement names is entrusted to national councils which represent national minorities or minority language speakers. As previously discussed, the Republic Geodetic Authority is responsible for highlighting and printing boards with names of settlements, while the costs of realising these operations shall be borne by local self-governments, which are not always able to finance these expenditures due to budget restrictions caused by the economic situation in the country. Setting up new settlement signs that are correctly written in minority languages is a significant contribution from the government of AP Vojvodina. The annual competition for the distribution of transfer funds from the provincial budget to city and municipal governments and local communities in the territory of AP Vojvodina allocates substantial funds for the costs of making and setting up road signs with names of settlements.

4.3.10.3. Information on securing the use of family names in minority languages in practice

The Committee of Experts urges the Serbian authorities to take the necessary measures to ensure the practical use or adoption of family names in the regional or minority languages.

352. After the entry into force of the Law on Registers which, as already stated, allows registration of names in the language and script of national minorities, the ministry in charge of state administration affairs relating to registry books submitted to all municipal and city administrations and the City Administration of Belgrade an example of the Notice on the procedure and method of personal name registry book entry for persons belonging to national minorities, with the aim of informing persons belonging to national minorities of the right to entry of a name in registers in the language of a national minority. The ministry requested that the notice be displayed on the bulletin boards of city and municipal governments, as well as all seats of local government units that maintain registry books. The local self-government units which have through adoption of a statute established the official use of a national minority language, or more national minority languages, must add the language of a national minority or ethnic minorities on this notice. In addition, all bodies that keep civil registries have been acquainted with a provision of Article 15 of the Law on General Administrative Procedure, which provides that an authorised body shall ensure that ignorance and illiteracy of parties and other participants in the process are not detrimental to the rights they are entitled to. In that context, in the process of registration of certain facts (birth, marriage and death) into registry books, they have been ordered to inform parties about the procedure and method for obtaining entry of national minority members' personal names in registers in minority language and script. The Administrative Inspectorate, through which the competent ministry performs inspections, among

others, in the field of civil registers, did not receive complaints in the previous period concerning the inability to register family names in minority language and according to the orthography of a language.

4.4.

Article 11

Media

Selected paragraphs and sub-paragraphs

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;*
- b) (ii) to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of radio programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;*
- c) (ii) to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of television programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;*
- d) to encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audiovisual works in the regional or minority languages;*
- e) (i) to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages;*
- f) (ii) to apply existing measures for financial assistance also to audiovisual productions in the regional or minority languages.*

2. The Parties undertake to guarantee freedom of direct reception of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language, and not to oppose the retransmission of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in such a language. They further undertake to ensure that no restrictions will be placed on the freedom of expression and free circulation of information in the written press in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language. The exercise of the abovementioned freedoms, since it carries with it duties and responsibilities, may be subject to such formalities, conditions, restrictions or penalties as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputation or rights of others, for preventing disclosure of information received in confidence, or for maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary.

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.

4.4.1. Novelties after the second cycle of monitoring of the implementation of the Charter

4.4.1.1. Strategy for Public Information System Development until 2016

353. In 2011, the Government adopted The Strategy for Development of the Public Information System in the Republic of Serbia until 2016, laying down guidelines for the development of a public information system with the primary aim of further strengthening the establishment of democracy in the region. The basic orientation contained in the Strategy refers to the withdrawal of the state from ownership over the media. The state may be the founder of national, provincial and regional public service broadcasters in order to ensure public interest. Point 5 of Section IV of the Strategy is dedicated to public media in the languages of national minorities. Minority media outlets can exist as commercial media outlets, as well as media of the civil society and national councils of national minorities. National councils of national minorities, as possible founders of public media in languages of national minorities, have editorial independence in accordance with the law. The Republic of Serbia and the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina shall through selective co-financing help stimulate and encourage quality projects that contribute to information dissemination in the languages of national minorities. Public media founded by national councils of national minorities may not participate in competitions for project financing at the national, provincial or local level. The Strategy also provides that after the digitalisation of television in every region in which a minority population exists, it is necessary through the legal framework to ensure that the competent regulatory authority issuing licenses for terrestrial broadcasting may require the production of part of a media's programme in a minority language, in proportion to the minority population in the coverage area. If an ethnic minority population has majority representation in the coverage area, issuing at least one permit should be in accordance with technical capabilities and conditioned by broadcasting an entire programme in the language of national minorities. Similarly, the question of issuing licenses for analogue broadcasting of radio programs at local and regional levels should also be regulated. The Action Plan for the Implementation of the Strategy envisages the harmonisation of laws governing public information within 18 months of the adoption of the Strategy.

354. After organising a broad public debate in several cities in the Republic of Serbia, in which representatives of minority media took part, the National Assembly in 2014 adopted a set of media laws - the Law on Public Information and Media, Electronic Media Act and The Law on Public Service Broadcasting. These laws establish the necessary legal framework to better inform citizens, which should contribute to ensuring freedom of the media and international standards in this area

4.4.1.2. Permits for cable broadcasting

355. The Republic Broadcasting Agency (RBA), an independent organisation that exercises public authority with a view to ensuring conditions for effective implementation and promotion of the established broadcasting policy in the Republic of Serbia, in addition to issuing licenses for broadcasting electronic media, in the manner which is described in detail in the Second Report on the Implementation of Charter, started issuing licenses for cable broadcasting in 2010, in accordance with Article 40 of the Broadcasting Act. For the purposes of the Third Report on the Implementation of the Charter, the RBA has compiled a list of broadcasters that noted in their programming plans that they shall broadcast in minority languages, namely: seven broadcasters in *Hungarian*, one broadcaster in *Ruthenian* and two broadcasters in the *Slovak language*. The following table shows cable broadcasters, who indicated in their programming plans that they broadcast in the languages of national minorities⁴⁰.

Language of broadcasting	Broadcaster
Hungarian language	Tisa Info Kanal
	TV K23
	TV Media system
	Info TV Cnesa
	Express Channel
	TV Trend
	Cink Info
Ruthenian language	TV Trend
Slovak language	Infor kanal Bački Petrovac
	TV Trend

4.4.2. Availability of media in minority languages

356. As noted in previous reports on the implementation of the Charter, in accordance with Article 43 of the Broadcasting Law, a natural or legal person registered for the production and broadcasting of a radio and television programme acquires the status of broadcaster by obtaining a broadcasting license. A broadcaster may perform activities of production and broadcasting of a radio and television programme as: a public broadcasting service, commercial station, civil society media and local or regional community station. Section 4.4.2. of the Second Report on the Implementation of the Charter contains detailed information on the obligations of a public broadcasting service in terms of production and broadcasting, including, among others: complying to speech standards of the majority population and, in the appropriate proportion, national minorities and ethnic groups in the area where the program is being broadcast; satisfying citizens with programme content that expresses cultural identity of the majority population, national minorities and ethnic groups by offering certain programmes or programme segments in

⁴⁰ The displayed information refers to the state in August 2013.

minority languages and scripts in areas where national minorities live and work (Article 78 of the Law). The provisions of the law relating to the public broadcasting service in terms of special obligations for programme production apply to radio and/ or television stations of the civil sector (that satisfy specific interests of particular social groups and citizens' organizations). The provisions of Article 96 of the Broadcasting Law stipulate that radio and/ or television stations of local or regional communities that have the status of a public company must comply with statutory provisions relating to special obligations of public broadcasting services in the production and broadcasting of programmes.

357. The Office for Human and Minority Rights, pursuant to its scope of work, monitors the exercise of the right to information of national minorities in their own language, and at the end of each calendar year, prepares an overview of the availability of media to persons belonging to national minorities in their native languages. Data collected by national councils of national minorities, relevant national, regional and local authorities, as well as by the RBA, print media and radio/television broadcasters, is systematised in such a manner that it provides an overview of the number and type of broadcasters of radio and television programmes, the duration of broadcasting in minority languages, as well as the number, periodicals and topics of print media. The table below contains data on the number of radio and television stations that produced and broadcast programmes in minority languages in 2012, according to the type of broadcaster.⁴¹

BROADCASTER TYPE		MINORITY LANGUAGES									
		Albanian	Bosnian	Bulgarian	Hungarian	Romany	Romanian	Ruthenian	Slovak	Ukrainian	Croatian
PUBLIC BROADCASTING SERVICE	Radio Station	-	-	-	1	2	1	1	1	1	-
	TV Station	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
STATION OF LOCAL OR REGIONAL COMMUNITY	Radio Station	3	1	2	14	11	7	3	12	2	2
	TV Station	2	2	1	5	6	2	1	4	-	-
COMMERCIAL STATION	Radio Station	-	-	-	9	5	2	4	2	1	1
	TV Station	2	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	2
CIVIL SECTOR STATION	Radio Station	-	1	-	2	2	1	1	1	1	1
	TV Station	-	1	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	-

4.4.3. The practice of encouraging or facilitating radio programmes in minority languages

358. The Republic of Serbia has a high level of representation of minority language programmes on radio stations. Relevant state and provincial authorities, in accordance with their budgets, provide support in order to realise the rights of persons belonging to national minorities

⁴¹ Data on the duration of broadcasting in minority languages on radio and television stations, as well as information on the periodicity of print media, are contained within the implementation of other selected sub-paragraphs of Article 11 of the Charter.

to information in their native language and enrich media in minority languages. On the basis of annual competitions, the Ministry of Culture and Information awards funds intended for co-financing projects/ programmes in the field of public information in languages of national minorities, while the Provincial Secretariat for Culture and Public Information of AP Vojvodina, among other things, grants co-financing funds to projects that stimulate public information, as well as for technical and technological advancement of public media (in 2010 and 2011) and improvement of professional standards of public information relevant to the implementation of the Charter. National councils of national minorities are active participants in the process of adopting decisions on the allocation of budgetary resources supporting information dissemination in a minority language. Radio stations whose founders are local governments are financed in whole or in part from their budgets.

359. The following paragraphs contain an overview of radio stations which regularly broadcast programmes in minority languages⁴² and information on the amount of funds approved from national and provincial budgets for co-financing projects for these stated purposes.

Albanian language

360. The table below contains data on the duration of radio programme broadcasts in Albanian language, as well as information on radio stations in terms of the type of broadcaster.

Radio Station	Monthly Duration of Programme (hours)	Broadcaster type
RTV Bujanovac, Radio Bujanovac, Bujanovac	240	Station of local or regional community
Radio Medvedja, Medvedja	10	Station of local or regional community
RTV Preševo, Radio Preševo, Preševo	720	Station of local or regional community
Radio Aldi, Preševo	720 (Ceased broadcasting in 2012)	Commercial Station

361. Co-financing funds have been allocated from the republic budget for projects/ programmes in the field of public information in Albanian language, as follows:

Project/ programme applicant	Project title	Funds Granted
2010		
Radio Aldi, Preševo	Вечерње емисије за младе - Evening shows for young people	326,179.00
2011		
Radio Aldi, Preševo	<i>Повезивање – Connection</i>	250,500.00

⁴² Data relating to the broadcasting of radio programmes in 2012 compiled by the Office for Human and Minority Rights in the ordinary course of their business.

Bosnian language

362. The table below contains data on the duration of radio programme broadcasts in Bosnian language, as well as information about radio stations in terms of broadcaster type.

Radio Station	Monthly Duration of Programme (hours)	Broadcaster type
Radio Novi Pazar, Novi Pazar	40	Station of local or regional community
Bosniac Radio, Tutin	360	Civil sector station

363. In the period relating to the Third Report on the Implementation of the Charter, not one project/ programme involving radio broadcasting in Bosnian language was co-financed from the republic budget.

Bulgarian language

364. The table below presents information on duration of broadcasts of radio programmes in Bulgarian language, as well as information on radio stations in respect of broadcaster type.

Radio Station	Monthly Duration of Programme (hours)	Broadcaster type
Radio Bosilegrad, Bosilegrad	510	Station of local or regional community
RTV Caribrod, Radio Caribrod, Dimitrovgrad	360	Station of local or regional community

365. Co-financing funds have been allocated from the republic budget for projects/ programmes in the field of public information in Bulgarian language, as follows:

Project/ programme applicant	Project title	Funds granted
2010		
Cultural centre "Bosilegrad", Radio Bosilegrad, Bosilegrad	<i>Млади репортери</i> (Young Reporters)– children's radio show	360,000.00
2011		
Cultural centre "Bosilegrad", Radio Bosilegrad, Bosilegrad	<i>Млади репортери</i> (Young Reporters) – children's radio show	290,000.00

Hungarian language

366. The table below presents information on the duration of radio programme broadcasts in Hungarian language, as well as information on radio stations in respect of broadcaster type.

Radio Station	Monthly Duration of Programme (hours)	Broadcaster type
RTV Vojvodina, Radio Novi Sad, Novi Sad	720	Public broadcasting service
Radio Bačka, Bač	4	Station of local or regional community
Radio BAP, Bačka Palanka	4	Station of local or regional community
Radio Regije, Bačka Topola	180	Station of local or regional community
Radio Bela Crkva, Bela Crkva	4	Station of local or regional community
RTV Vrbas, Radio Vrbas, Vrbas	30	Station of local or regional community
Radio Zrenjanin, Zrenjanin	24	Station of local or regional community
Radio Kikinda, Kikinda	30	Station of local or regional community
RTV Kovačica, Radio Kovačica Kovačica	44	Station of local or regional community
Radio Novi Bečej, Novi Bečej	44	Station of local or regional community
Radio Odžaci, Odžaci	8	Station of local or regional community
RTV Pančevo, Radio Pančevo, Pančevo	8	Station of local or regional community
Radio Sečanj, Sečanj	4	Station of local or regional community
Radio Subotica, Subotica	408	Station of local or regional community
Radio Temerin, Temerin	180	Station of local or regional community
Radio Ada, Ada	360	Commercial Station
Radio Trend, Bačka Topola	32	Commercial Station
Radio Active, Bečej	176	Commercial Station
Panda Radio, Kanjiža	450	Commercial Station
Radio Bus, Kovin	6	Commercial Station
Radio Kulska Komuna, Kula	45	Commercial Station
No Limit, Senta	360	Commercial Station
Radio Sombor, Sombor	60	Commercial Station
Radio Srbobran, Srbobran	120	Commercial Station
Radio Max, Čoka	84	Commercial Station
RTV Pannon, Radio Pannon, Subotica	720	Civil sector station
Radio Marija ⁴³ , Subotica	360	Civil sector station

367. Co-financing funds have been allocated from the republic budget for projects/programmes in the field of public information in Hungarian language, as follows:

Project/ programme applicant	Project Title	Funds Granted
2010		
Production "PostPesimisti", Kikinda/ Radio VK Kikinda	Hungarian language news on regional VK Radio	241,440.00
Association for telecommunications, trade and services "Asterias", Novi Kneževac/ Radio Max, Čoka	"Deca u akciji" (Children in Action), 30 one-hour broadcasts	303,920.00

⁴³ Its founder is the Archdiocese of Belgrade.

PIE "Bačka Topola", Radio Regije, Bačka Topola	"Zajednički prostor" (Joint Space), a series of 50 shows	218,400.00
"Radio Sombor" JSC, Radio Sombor, Sombor	Programme in Hungarian language.	319,140.00
"Radio Active" LTD, Bečej	Subsidisation of news program in the Hungarian language, with emphasis on the training of personnel	241,760.00
PE Radio Subotica, Programme editorial in Hungarian language, Subotica	"Млади младима" (The Youth to the Young)– show with courses and workshops for young journalists	329,075.00
2011		
Association for telecommunication, trade and services Asterias LTD, Novi Kneževac, Radio Max (branch), Čoka	Cultural heritage, traditions and customs of the Hungarian national minority in the district of Severni Banat	269,140.00
Radio Srbobran, Srbobran	"Nedeljna hronika" (Sunday Chronicle) show	177,500.00
2012		
PIE "Bačka Topola", Bačka Topola	Babavilag – Svet skrojen za bebe (World Tailored for Babies)	308,500.00
PE "Radio Zrenjanin", Zrenjanin	Kronika, magya rnyelvu magayinmusor - Kronika	192,000.00

368. The table below contains information on financial support from the budget of AP Vojvodina to radio stations that broadcast a programme in Hungarian language.

Radio Station	Purpose	Fund Granted ⁴⁴
Radio 216, Banatsko Karadjordjevo	Public information	250,000.00
Radio Bačka, Bač	Information services, public information	2,828,000.00
Radio Regije, Bačka Topola	Public information (only in 2010)	200,000.00
Radio Trend, Bačka Topola	TTE ⁴⁵ , information services, public information	954,000.00
Radio Bela Crkva	TTE, information services, public information	1,550,000.00
Radio Active, Bečej	Information services, public information	636,000.00
RTV Vrbas ⁴⁶ , Radio Vrbas, Vrbas	TTE, information services, public information	2,930,000.00
Radio Zrenjanin, Zrenjanin	TTE, information services, public information	1,095,000.00
Radio Kikinda, Kikinda	TTE, information services, public information	604,000.00
RTV Kovačica ⁴⁷ , Radio Kovačica, Kovačica	TTE, information services, public information	4,050,000.00
Radio Bus, Kovin	TTE, public information	850,000.00
Radio Kulska komuna, Kula	TTE, information services, public information	2,167,000.00
Radio Novi Bečej, Novi Bečej	TTE, public information	550,000.00
Radio Odžaci, Odžaci	TTE, information services, public information	418,600.00
RTV Pančevo ⁴⁸ , Radio Pančevo, Pančevo	TTE, information services, public information	895,600.00

⁴⁴ Bearing in mind that some radio stations broadcast in more minority languages, the amount of funds refers to the total funding approved to a broadcaster, so assets are shown in identical amounts for broadcasting in all minority languages.

⁴⁵ Technical and technological equipment.

⁴⁶ Funds are allocated in the total amount for broadcasting radio and television programmes.

⁴⁷ *Ibid.*

Radio Sečanj, Sečanj	TTE, information services, public information	1,395,000.00
Radio Sombor, Sombor	TTE, information services, public information	3,423,000.00
Radio Srbobran, Srbobran	Information services, public information	615,000.00
RTV Pannon ⁴⁹ , Radio Pannon, Subotica	TTE, information services, improving standards, public information	6,309,500.00
Radio Subotica, Subotica	TTE, information services, public information	1,390,000.00
Radio Temerin, Temerin	TTE, public information	250,000.00

Romani language

369. The table below presents information on duration of radio programme broadcasts in Romani language, as well as information on radio stations in respect of broadcaster type.

Radio Station	Monthly Duration of Programme (hours)	Broadcaster type
RTS Srbije, Radio Beograd, Belgrade	15	Public broadcasting service
RTV Vojvodina, Radio Novi Sad, Novi Sad	30	Public broadcasting service
Radio Bačka, Bač	2	Station of local or regional community
Radio Bela Crkva, Bela Crkva	4	Station of local or regional community
RTV Bujanovac, Radio Bujanovac, Bujanovac	4	Station of local or regional community
Radio Zrenjanin, Zrenjanin	6	Station of local or regional community
Radio Kikinda, Kikinda	4	Station of local or regional community
RTV Kruševac, Radio Kruševac, Kruševac	15	Station of local or regional community
Radio Novi Bečej, Novi Bečej	4	Station of local or regional community
Radio Odžaci, Odžaci	8	Station of local or regional community
Radio Požarevac, Požarevac	8	Station of local or regional community
RTV Stara Pazova, Radio Stara Pazova, Stara Pazova	4	Station of local or regional community
RTV Trstenik, Radio Trstenik, Trstenik	2	Station of local or regional community
Radio Točak, Valjevo	30	Commercial Station
Radio Puls, Despotovac	8	Commercial Station
Radio Bus, Kovin	1	Commercial Station
Radio Blue, Odžaci	8	Commercial Station
Radio Srbobran, Srbobran	4	Commercial Station
RTV Nišava, Radio Nišava, Niš	720	Civil sector station
Radio Rom, Obrenovac	720	Civil sector station

⁴⁸ *Ibid.*

⁴⁹ *Ibid.*

370. Co-financing funds have been allocated from the republic budget for projects/ programmes in the field of public information in Romani language, as follows:

Project/ programme applicant	Project Title	Funds Granted
2010		
RTV Trstenik, Trstenik	"Lačno – dje" – "Добар дан" (Good Day), a series of radio and television shows	372,000.00
Hit Radio, Požarevac	"Amaro ternipe" – "Naša mladost" (Our Youth)	197,640.00
Radio and print PE "Paraćin", Radio Paraćin, Paraćin	"U susret Romima" (Approaching Roma)	300,220.00
Information enterprise "Press Company", Radio Koprijan, Doljevac	"Amaro them" – "Naš kutak" (Our Corner)	192,000.00
Ani pres Pirot, Radio Sport Plus, Pirot	"Bahtale romane čave" – "Osmeħ romskog deteta" (The Smile of a Roma Child)	296,000.00
BE "Ема", Radio Ема, Bujanovac	"O Roma akana" – "Роми сада" (Roma Today)	456,000.00
PE "Informativni pres centar", Radio Han, Vladićin Han	"Najlepše bajke za decu na romskom jeziku" (The Most Beautiful Fairy Tales for Children in the Romani Language)	250,000.00
Ltd "Elektrometal-elektronik", Regional EM radio, Knjaževac	"Aven amenca" – "Budite sa nama" (Be With Us)	211,098.00
Radio Srbobran LTD for information, Srbobran	Production and broadcasting of programme in Romani language	115,000.00
Radio "Rom", Obrenovac	"Antropološki ciklus kod Roma" (Anthropological cycle of Roma)	266,293.00
PE RTV Kruševac, Kruševac	"Romano alav" – "Reč Roma" (Word of Roma)	314,640.00
PE Radio Leskovac, Leskovac	"Romano krlo" – "Romski glas" (Roma Voice)	238,680.00
Public information company "Novi Put", Radio Jagodina, Jagodina	"Glas Roma" (Roma Voice)	282,000.00
2011		
Radio Rom, Obrenovac	Romano Nevipe	360,000.00
LTD "Media Centre Blu, Odžaci	"Dogadjaji iza nas" (The Events Behind Us)	220,000.00
EA "Hit" LTD, Požarevac	Romano Alav	330,100.00
Roma Centre for Democracy, Radio Točak, Valjevo	"Bolji dani za Rome" (Better Days for Roma)	489,000.00
PE Informativni pres centar "Vladićin Han", Vladićin Han	Најзнаменитији Роми света – култура и обичаји Рома (The Most Famous Roma in the World- Roma Culture and Traditions)	80,000.00
PIE Novi put, Jagodina	Roma u medijima (Roma in the Media)	265,000.00
LTD "Elektrometal-elektronik", Regional EM radio, Knjaževac	Thara – Сутра (Tomorrow)	176,700.00
LTD Avalon for production and trade, Odžaci	Koreni koji život znače (Life Significant Roots)	125,000.00
Radio and print PE "Paraćin", Paraćin	Info Rom	275,000.00
Ani Press Ltd Pirot, Plus radio, Pirot	Dzangav to ternipe – Probudi svoju mladost (Awaken Your Youth)	332,775.00
2012		
EA for trade "Lady Lena" Ltd - RJ Radio "Ad Herculle", Žitoradja	Romano vilo – Romsko srce (Roma Heart)	60,000.00

EA "Hit" Ltd, Požarevac	Romano hasape – Romski osmeh (Roma Smile)	200,000.00
PE Radio Bujanovac, Bujanovac	Romano krlo – Glas Roma (Roma Voice)	320,000.00
Ani press Ltd - Plus radio	Hem me šaj pošukar – I ja mogu bolje (And I Can Do Better)	459,000.00
Broadcasting enterprise "Ema", Bujanovac	Shajibbe taro taro minoitetija, importanto sainengoro – Prava manjine interesi većine (Right of Minority, Interest of Majority)	266,000.00
Broadcasting company "Petica", Koceljevo	Pandž čavrende – Petica deci (An A for the Children)	402,000.00
Pres Kompani Ltd - Radio Koprijan, Doljevac	Romano nevide – Romske novosti (Roma News)	60,000.00

371. The table below contains information on financial support from the budget of AP Vojvodina to radio stations that broadcast a programme in Romani language.

Radio Station	Purpose	Funds Granted
Radio Bačka, Bač	Information services, public information	2,828,000.00
Radio Bela Crkva, Bela Crkva	TTE, information services, public information	1,550,000.00
Radio Kikinda, Kikinda	TTE, information services, public information	604,000.00
Radio Bus, Kovin	TTE, public information	850,000.00
Radio Novi Bečej, Novi Bečej	TTE, public information	550,000.00
Radio Odžaci, Odžaci	TTE, information services, public information	418,600.00
Radio Blue, Odžaci	Public information	350,000.00
Radio Srbobran, Srbobran	Information services, public information	615,000.00
RTV Stara Pazova ⁵⁰ , Radio Stara Pazova, Stara Pazova	TTE, information services, public information	1,400,000.00

Romanian language

372. The table below presents information on duration of broadcasting of radio programme in Romanian language, as well as information on the radio station in respect of broadcaster type.

Radio station	Monthly Duration of Programme (hours)	Broadcaster Type
RTV Vojvodina, Radio Novi Sad, Novi Sad	150	Public broadcasting agency
Radio Bačka, Bač	2	Station of local or regional community
Radio Bela Crkva, Bela Crkva	4	Station of local or regional community
Radio Zrenjanin, Zrenjanin	6	Station of local or regional community
Radio Kikinda, Kikinda	4	Station of local or regional community
RTV Kovačica, Radio Kovačica, Kovačica	44	Station of local or regional community
RTV Pančevo, Radio Pančevo,	8	Station of local or regional community

⁵⁰ *Ibid.*

Pančevo		
Radio Sečanj, Sečanj	4	Station of local or regional community
Radio Far, Alibunar	90	Commercial station
Radio Bus, Kovin	6	Commercial station
RTV, Viktorija, Radio Viktorija, Vršac	720	Civil sector station

373. Appropriations from the national budget for co-financing of projects/programmes in the field of public information in Romanian language have been made as follows:

Applicant	Project Title	Funds Granted
2010		
Limited Liability Company for Trade in Goods and Services "Danelli", Radio Far, Alibunar	"Pod okriljem porodice", radio report show	290,000.00
Public Company Radio Zrenjanin, Zrenjanin	"Evropski most - banatski most"	345,326.00
2011		
Danelli Ltd, Radio Far, Alibunar	Radio show series "Umetnost - način da se upoznamo" – "Arta-moda de-a ne cunoaste"	292,600.00
Association of Admirers of Romanian Music Victoria, Vršac	Cultural identity - <i>Identitatea culturală</i> , series of TV and radio shows	242,500.00

374. The table below presents information on financial support from the budget of the AP Vojvodina to radio stations which broadcast programme in Romanian language as well.

Radio station	Purpose	Funds Granted
Radio Far, Alibunar	Public information	500,000.00
Radio 216, Banatsko Karađorđevo	Public information	250,000.00
Radio Bačka, Bač	Information services, public information	2,828,000.00
Radio Bela Crkva, Bela Crkva	TTE, information services, public information	1,550,000.00
RTV Viktorija ⁵¹ , Radio Viktorija, Vršac	TTE, information services, public information	5,106,500.00
Radio Zrenjanin, Zrenjanin	TTE, information services, public information	1,095,000.00
Radio Kikinda, Kikinda	TTE, information services, public information	604,000.00
RTV Kovačica ⁵² , Radio Kovačica, Kovačica	TTE, information services, public information	4,050,000.00
Radio Bus, Kovin	TTE, public information	850,000.00
RTV Pančevo ⁵³ , Radio Pančevo, Pančevo	TTE, information services, public information	895,600.00

⁵¹ Funds are allocated in the total amount for broadcasting of radio and television programme.

⁵² Ibid.

⁵³ Ibid.

Radio Sečanj, Sečanj	TTE, information services, public information	1,395,000.00
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Ruthenian language

375. The table below presents information on duration of broadcasting of radio programme in Ruthenian language, as well as information on the radio station in respect of broadcaster type.

Radio station	Monthly Duration of Programme (hours)	Broadcaster Type
RTV Vojvodina, Radio Novi Sad, Novi Sad	150	Public broadcasting agency
Radio Regije, Bačka Topola	2	Station of local or regional community
RTV Vrbas, Radio Vrbas, Vrbas	30	Station of local or regional community
Radio Šid, Šid	4	Station of local or regional community
Radio Trend, Bačka Topola	1	Commercial station
Radio Kulaska Komuna, Kula	45	Commercial station
Radio Blue, Odžaci	(not broadcasting since 2013) 2	Commercial station
Radio Blue Plus, Odžaci	(not broadcasting since 2013) 2	Commercial station
Radio Marija ⁵⁴ , Subotica	2	Civil sector station

376. The table below presents information on financial support from the budget of the AP Vojvodina to radio stations which broadcast programme in Ruthenian language as well.

Radio station	Purpose	Funds Granted
Radio Regije, Bačka Topola	Public information (only in 2010)	200,000.00
Radio Trend, Bačka Topola	TTE, information services, public information	954,000.00
RTV Vrbas ⁵⁵ , Radio Vrbas, Vrbas	TTE, information services, public information	2,930,000.00
Radio Kulaska Komuna, Kula	TTE, information services, public information	2,167,000.00
Radio Blue, Odžaci	Public information	350,000.00
Radio Blue Plus, Odžaci	Public information (only in 2011)	150,000.00
Radio Šid, Šid	Information services, public information	496,000.00

Slovak language

377. The table below presents information on duration of broadcasting of radio programme in Slovak language, as well as information on the radio station in respect of broadcaster type.

⁵⁴ The founder is the Roman Catholic Archdiocese in Belgrade.

⁵⁵ Funds are allocated in the total amount for broadcasting of radio and television programme.

Radio station	Monthly Duration of Programme (hours)	Broadcaster Type
RTV Vojvodina, Radio Novi Sad, Novi Sad	150	Public broadcasting agency
Radio Bačka, Bač	40	Station of local or regional community
Radio BAP, Bačka Palanka	4	Station of local or regional community
Radio Regije, Bačka Topola	2	Station of local or regional community
Radio Bački Petrovec, Bački Petrovec	720	Station of local or regional community
Radio Beočin, Beočin	2	Station of local or regional community
Radio Zrenjanin, Zrenjanin	6	Station of local or regional community
RTV Kovačica, Radio Kovačica, Kovačica	140	Station of local or regional community
Radio Kisač, Novi Sad	140	Station of local or regional community
Radio Odžaci, Odžaci	8	Station of local or regional community
RTV Pančevo, Radio Pančevo, Pančevo	8	Station of local or regional community
RTV Stara Pazova, Radio Stara Pazova, Stara Pazova	96	Station of local or regional community
Radio Šid, Šid	4	Station of local or regional community
Radio Trend, Bačka Topola	1	Commercial station
Radio Blue, Odžaci	(not broadcasting since 2013) 8	Commercial station
Radio Marija ⁵⁶ , Subotica	2	Civil sector station

378. Appropriations from the national budget for co-financing of projects/programmes in the field of public information in Slovak language have been made as follows:

Applicant	Project Title	Funds Granted
2010		
UIC "BAČSKY PETROVEC", Radio Bački Petrovac, Bački Petrovac	<i>Po stopach predkov</i> – Following the Steps of our Ancestors	272,000.00
2011		
Public information company Radio Stara Pazova, Stara Pazova	<i>Aktuality z Vojvodiny</i> – Latest News from Vojvodina	500,000.00
2012		
Public broadcasting company Radio Bačka, Bač	<i>Rol'nicky kutak</i> – Agricultural Corner	118,600.00
Public information company Radio Stara Pazova, Stara Pazova	<i>Krok ku ... - One Step to ...</i>	200,000.00

⁵⁶ The founder is the Roman Catholic Archdiocese in Belgrade.

Cultural information centre "Kisač" – Radio Kisač, Novi Sad	<i>Okienko do školy</i> – School Windowlet	103,500.00
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379. The table below presents information on financial support from the budget of the AP Vojvodina to radio stations which broadcast programme in Slovak language as well.

Radio station	Purpose	Funds Granted
Radio Bačka, Bač	Information services, public information	2,828,000.00
Radio Bačsky Petovec, Bački Petrovac	TTE, information services, public information	1,250,000.00
Radio Regije, Bačka Topola	Public information (only in 2010)	200,000.00
Radio Trend, Bačka Topola	TTE, information services, public information	954,000.00
Radio Zrenjanin, Zrenjanin	TTE, information services, public information	1,095,000.00
RTV Kovačica ⁵⁷ , Radio Kovačica, Kovačica	TTE, information services, public information	4,050,000.00
Radio Kisač, Novi Sad	Information services, public information	900,000.00
Radio Odžaci, Odžaci	TTE, information services, public information	418,600.00
RTV Pančevo ⁵⁸ , Radio Pančevo, Pančevo	TTE, information services, public information	895,600.00
Radio Blue, Odžaci	Public information	350,000.00
RTV Stara Pazova, ⁵⁹ Radio Stara Pazova, Stara Pazova	TTE, information services, public information	1,400,000.00
Radio Šid, Šid	Information services, public information	496,000.00

Ukrainian language

380. The table below presents information on duration of broadcasting of radio programme in Ukrainian language, as well as information on the radio station in respect of broadcaster type.

Radio station	Monthly Duration of Programme (hours)	Broadcaster Type
RTV Vojvodina, Radio Novi Sad, Novi Sad	24	Public broadcasting agency
Radio Vrbas, RTV Vrbas, Vrbas	4	Station of local or regional community
RTV Indija, Radio Indija, Indija	4	Station of local or regional community
Radio Kulska Komuna, Kula	4	Commercial station
Radio Marija ⁶⁰ , Subotica	2	Civil sector station

381. Appropriations from the national budget for co-financing of projects/programmes in the field of public information in Ukrainian language have been made as follows:

⁵⁷ Funds are allocated in the total amount for broadcasting of radio and television programme.

⁵⁸ Ibid.

⁵⁹ Ibid.

⁶⁰ The founder is the Roman Catholic Archdiocese in Belgrade.

Applicant	Project Title	Funds Granted
2010		
Public information company Radio Television Indija, Indija	<i>Zvonik</i>	204,500.00
2012		
Public information company Radio Television Indija, Indija	<i>Horizonti klature, tradicije, običaja</i> (Horizons of culture, tradition, customs)	214,500.00

382. The table below presents information on financial support from the budget of the AP Vojvodina to radio stations which broadcast programme in Ukrainian language as well.

Radio station	Purpose	Funds Granted
Radio Kulska Komuna, Kula	TTE, information services, public information	2,167,000.00
RTV Vrbas ⁶¹ , Radio Vrbas, Vrbas	TTE, information services, public information	2,930,000.00

Croatian language

383. The table below presents information on duration of broadcasting of radio programme in Croatian language, as well as information on the radio station in respect of broadcaster type.

Radio station	Monthly Duration of Programme (hours)	Broadcaster Type
Radio Bačka, Bač	8	Station of local or regional community
Radio Subotica, Subotica	90	Station of local or regional community
Radio Sombor, Sombor	8	Commercial station
Radio Marija ⁶² , Subotica	180	Civil sector station

384. Appropriations from the national budget for co-financing of projects/programmes in the field of public information in Croatian language have been made as follows:

Applicant	Project Title	Funds Granted
2010		
Public broadcasting company Radio Bačka, Bač	<i>“Zvuci bačke ravnice”</i> (“The Sounds of Bačka Plain”)	192,000.00
2011		
Public information company Radio Television Indija, Indija	Exchange of the show of Pitomi Radio from Pitomača (the Republic of Croatia) intended for Croats abroad for the show <i>“Spona”</i> (“Link”) of Radio Indija intended for	290,500.00

⁶¹ Funds are allocated in the total amount for broadcasting of radio and television programme.

⁶² The founder is the Roman Catholic Archdiocese in Belgrade.

	Serbian community in Croatia	
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385. The table below presents information on financial support from the budget of the AP Vojvodina to radio stations which broadcast programme in Croatian language as well.

Radio station	Purpose	Funds Granted
Radio Bačka, Bač	Information services, public information	2,828,000.00
Radio Sombor, Sombor	TTE, information services, public information	3,423,000.00
Radio Subotica, Subotica	TTE, information services, public information	1,390,000.00

4.4.4. Encouragement and facilitation of television programmes in minority languages

386. In the Republic of Serbia minority languages are highly represented in the television programmes⁶³. Aiming to exercise the rights of persons belonging to national minorities to information in mother tongue and enrichment of media contents in minority languages, the competent state and provincial authorities grant the funds to television broadcasters in accordance with their budget. The method of financial support to television stations which broadcast programmes in minority languages is identical to that of co-financing of radio broadcasting, which is described in detail under the implementation of article 11, paragraph 1b.

Albanian language

387. The table below presents information on duration of broadcasting of television programme in Albanian language, as well as information on the TV station in respect of broadcaster type.

TV station	Monthly Duration of Programme (hours)	Broadcaster Type
TV Bujanovac, Bujanovac	240	Station of local or regional community
RTV Preševo, TV Preševo, Preševo	720	Station of local or regional community
TV Spektri, Bujanovac	720	Commercial station
TV Aldi, Preševo	720	Commercial station

388. Appropriations from the national budget for co-financing of projects/programmes in the field of public information in Albanian language have been made as follows:

⁶³ Data refer to broadcasting of television programme in 2012 and were collected by the Office for Human and Minority Rights in their regular course of activities.

Applicant	Project Title	Funds Granted
2010		
Radio broadcasting company "Spektri", TV Spektri, Bujanovac	"Program za mlade" ("Programme for the youth"), launching of youth editorial board	299,600.00

Bosnian language

389. The table below provides information on duration of broadcasting of television programme in Bosnian language, as well as information on the TV station in respect of broadcaster type.

TV station	Monthly Duration of Programme (hours)	Broadcaster Type
Regional TV Novi Pazar, Novi Pazar	510	Station of local or regional community
TV Tutin, Tutin	720	Station of local or regional community
TV Forum, Prijepolje	360	Civil sector station

390. Appropriations from the national budget for co-financing of projects/programmes in the field of public information in Bosnian language have been made as follows:

Applicant	Project Title	Funds Granted
2010		
Prijepolje Women's Forum, TV Forum, Prijepolje	"Tradicionalni savremeni svijet Bošnjaka" ("Traditional modern world of Bosniacs"), series of 5 half-hour shows	454,800.00
Public information company, Information centre "Tutin", TV Tutin, Tutin	Series of interviews, stories and conversations with modern Bosniak writers "Has-Baščeš Muhabeta"	305,880.00
2011		
Public information company, Information centre "Tutin", TV Tutin, Tutin	"Naši adeti" ("Our customs")	193,000.00
2012		
Prijepolje Women's Forum, TV Forum, Prijepolje	Support to information of Bosniac minority	534,000.00
Public information company, Information centre "Tutin", TV Tutin, Tutin	Cultural heritage of Bosniacs of Sandžak	600,000.00

Bulgarian language

391. The table below presents information on duration of broadcasting of television programme in Bulgarian language, as well as information on the TV station in respect of broadcaster type.

TV station	Monthly Duration of Programme (hours)	Broadcaster Type
RTV Caribrod, TV Caribrod, Dimitrovgrad	360	Station of local or regional community

392. Appropriations from the national budget for co-financing of projects/programmes in the field of public information in Bulgarian language have been made as follows:

Applicant	Project Title	Funds Granted
2010		
RTV Pi kanal Ltd, TV Pi kanal, Pirot	“336 časa” (“336 hours”), series of 30-minute shows	495,000.00
Public information company RTV Caribrod, TV Caribrod, Dimitrovgrad	“Klinci i Hlapeta” (“Kids and Hlapeta”), series of 30-minute shows	350,000.00
2011		
Public company Niška televizija – NTV, Niš	<i>NTV Novini</i>	628,000.00
Public information company RTV Caribrod, TV Caribrod, Dimitrovgrad	Meals – cult hallmarks	100,000.00
2012		
Public company Niška televizija – NTV, Niš	<i>Novini - News</i>	500,000.00
Televizija Pirot Company, Pirot	<i>Život uz granicu</i> (Life along the border)	346,500.00

Hungarian language

393. The table below presents information on duration of broadcasting of television programme in Hungarian language, as well as information on the TV station in respect of broadcaster type.

TV station	Monthly Duration of Programme (hours)	Broadcaster Type
RTV Vojvodina, TV Vojvodina, Novi Sad	64	Public broadcasting agency

TV BAP, Bačka Palanka	4	Station of local or regional community
RTV Vrbas, TV Vrbas, Vrbas	2	Station of local or regional community
RTV Kovačica, TV Kovačica, Kovačica	24	Station of local or regional community
Novosadska televizija, Novi Sad	4	Station of local or regional community
RTV Pančevo, TV Pančevo, Pančevo	4	Station of local or regional community
YU ECO TV, Subotica	180	Commercial station
TV Mozaik, Novi Sad	360	Civil sector station
RTV Pannon, TV Pannon, Subotica	180	Civil sector station

394. Appropriations from the national budget for co-financing of projects/programmes in the field of public information in Hungarian language have been made as follows:

Applicant	Project Title	Funds Granted
2010		
“Mozaik” Foundation, TV Mozaik, Novi Sad	“KULTUR-TER” – “Cultural heritage”	390,000.00
“Panon Marketing” Ltd, Panon TV, Novi Sad	Production of TV shows on holidays of Hungarians in Vojvodina	460,000.00
Spektar Ltd, export-import and marketing, TV Spektar, Sombor	“TOP TEEN”, series of 50-minute shows	533,000.00
2011		
Santos-Commerce Ltd, Zrenjanin	<i>Hirek</i>	550,000.00
RTV Rubin, Kruševac Partnership Company, Branch TV Rubin, Kikinda	<i>Hirek</i> – news and weekly chronicle in Hungarian language	300,000.00
Pannónia Alap – “Panonija” Fund, Pannon RTV, Subotica	Fortresses on the Borders of Contemporary Vojvodina	410,000.00
2012		
Pannónia Alap – “Panonija” Fund, Pannon RTV, Subotica	TV university	575,300.00

395. The table below presents information on financial support from the budget of the AP Vojvodina to TV stations which broadcast programme in Hungarian language as well.

TV station	Purpose	Funds Granted ⁶⁴
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⁶⁴ Having in mind that particular TV stations broadcast programmes in more than one minority language, the level of funds refers to total funds granted to the broadcaster, thus funds are presented in identical amounts for broadcasting of programmes in all minority languages.

RTV Vrbas ⁶⁵ , TV Bačka, Vrbas	TTE, information services, public information	2,930,000.00
RTV Kovačica ⁶⁶ , Radio Kovačica, Kovačica	TTE, information services, public information	4,050,000.00
TV Mozaik, Novi Sad	TTE, information services, public information	3,543,000.00
TV Kanal 25, Odžaci	TTE, information services, public information	1,254,000.00
RTV Pančevo ⁶⁷ , TV Pančevo, Pančevo	Information services, public information	895,600.00
Pannon RTV ⁶⁸ , Subotica	TTE, information services, public information	6,309,500.00
RTV YU ECO, Subotica	TTE, information services, public information	6,884,000.00

Romani language

396. The table below presents information on duration of broadcasting of television programme in Romani language, as well as information on the TV station in respect of broadcaster type.

TV station	Monthly Duration of Programme (hours)	Broadcaster Type
RTV Vojvodine, TV Vojvodina, Novi Sad	58	Public broadcasting agency
TV Alt, Aleksinac	2	Station of local or regional community
TV BAP, Bačka Palanka	4	Station of local or regional community
RTV Bujanovac, TV Bujanovac, Bujanovac	4	Station of local or regional community
RTV Kruševac, TV Kruševac, Kruševac	1	Station of local or regional community
TV Raška, Raška	4	Station of local or regional community
RTV Trstenik, TV Trstenik, Trstenik	2	Station of local or regional community
RTV Nišava, TV Nišava, Niš	720	Civil sector station

397. Appropriations from the national budget for co-financing of projects/programmes in the field of public information in Romani language have been made as follows:

Applicant	Project Title	Funds Granted
2010		

⁶⁵ Funds are allocated in the total amount for broadcasting of radio and television programme.

⁶⁶ Ibid.

⁶⁷ Funds are allocated in the total amount for broadcasting of radio and television programme.

⁶⁸ Ibid.

RTV Trstenik, Trstenik	„Lačno – de“ – “Good day”, series of radio and TV shows	372,000.00
RTV AS, Broadcasting company, Šabac	„Amaro them 2010“, TV shows	288,000.00
Company for RTV activities, RTV Svrlijig, Svrlijig	“Informative and educational programme”, TV shows	294,276.00
“Euro Alfa” Ltd, City TV, Subotica	“I ovako i onako” (“Both Like This and Like That”), documentary film	207,000.00
TV “Mag”, Obrenovac	“Rota po devel” – “Wheel In The Sky”	542,850.00
PC RTV Vranje, Vranje	Romano info	331,996.00
Association of NGO – RTV Nišava, Niš	Prejudice is Ignorance	481,500.00
RTV Kuršum Ltd, Kuršumljija, Kuršumljija	“Glas Roma” (“The Voice of Roma”)	211,000.00
SNOMA marketing Ltd, TV Info kanal, Subotica	Roma in history and culture	210,000.00
2011		
Partnership company for RTV broadcasting Žarko Timotijević and others, “Sezam”, Bor	“I amen trais tumencar” – “We Also Live With You”	200,000.00
PC RTV Kruševac, Kruševac	TV Show “Romano alav” – “The Word of Roma” in the Rasina region	235,200.00
RTV Belle Amie Ltd, Niš	Informative show “Dikhavno e Romengo” (“Pictures of Roma”)	415,000.00
Company for television activities “Klisura produkcija” Ltd, TV Klisura, Grdelica	The Romani Voice - <i>Romano krlo</i>	263,400.00
RTV Kragujevac	<i>Mladi to mogu</i> (The Young Can Do It)	300,000.00
Kraljevačka TV Ltd, Kraljevo	Customs of Roma	300,000.00
TV Protokol K-1 Ltd, Leskovac	<i>Therutne</i> – Members of the Household	388,700.00
2012		
Company “Ritam” Ltd, TV Ritam, Vranjska Banja	<i>Romi na raskršću</i> (Roma On Crossroad)	405,000.00
PC RTV Kruševac, Kruševac	TV Show “Romano alav” – “The Word of Roma”	498,400.00
PC RTV Trstenik, Trstenik	“Lačno de” – “Good Day”	663,000.00
PC “ŠRIF”, Bor	“Tea šunamen” – “Let’s Hear Each Other”	300,000.00

398. In the period covered by the Third Report on implementation of the Charter, no appropriations were made from the budget of the AP Vojvodina for financial support to TV stations which broadcast programme in Romani language as well.

Romanian language

399. The table below presents information on duration of broadcasting of television programme in Romanian language, as well as information on the TV station in respect of broadcaster type.

TV station	Monthly Duration of Programme (hours)	Broadcaster Type
RTV Vojvodina, TV Vojvodina, Novi Sad	58	Public broadcasting agency
RTV Kovačica, TV Kovačica, Kovačica	24	Station of local or regional community
RTV Pančevo, TV Pančevo, Pančevo	4	Station of local or regional community
TV Banat, Vršac	2	Commercial station
RTV Viktorija, TV Viktorija, Vršac	360	Civil sector station

400. Appropriations from the national budget for co-financing of projects/programmes in the field of public information in Romanian language have been made as follows:

Applicant	Project Title	Funds Granted
2010		
Association of Admirers of Romanian Music and Culture "Victoria", RTV Victoria, Vršac	"Art As Challenge" – "Arta ca sio tentatie"	250,000.00
2011		
Association of Admirers of Romanian Music Victoria, Vršac	Cultural identity - <i>Identitattea culturală</i> , series of TV and radio shows	242,500.00
2012		
Romanian Association "Victoria", Viktorija, RTV Victoria, Vršac	<i>Intoarcerea la radacini</i>	500,000.00

401. The table below presents information on financial support from the budget of the AP Vojvodina to TV stations which broadcast programme in Romanian language as well.

TV station	Purpose	Funds Granted
RTV Kovačica ⁶⁹ , TV Kovačica, Kovačica	TTE, information services, public information	4,050,000.00
RTV Victoria ⁷⁰ , TV Victoria, Vršac	TTE, information services, public information	5,106,000.00
RTV Pančevo ⁷¹ , TV Pančevo, Pančevo	Information services, public information	895,600.00

⁶⁹ Funds are allocated in the total amount for broadcasting of radio and television programme.

⁷⁰ Ibid.

⁷¹ Ibid.

Ruthenian language

402. The table below presents information on duration of broadcasting of television programme in Ruthenian language, as well as information on the TV station in respect of broadcaster type.

TV station	Monthly Duration of Programme (hours)	Broadcaster Type
RTV Vojvodine, TV Vojvodina, Novi Sad	58	Public broadcasting agency
RTV Vrbas, TV Vrbas, Vrbas	2	Station of local or regional community

403. Appropriations from the national budget for co-financing of projects/programmes in the field of public information in Ruthenian language have been made as follows:

Applicant	Project Title	Funds Granted
2010		
Sremska TV, Šid	“Срим вчерa, њешка, јутре”, 8 thematic shows	320,000.00
2011		
Sremska TV, Šid	“Срим вчерa, њешка, јутре”	376,560.00
2012		
PC for information “Vrbas”, Vrbas	The National Strategy of Ruthenians in Serbia	250,000.00

404. The table below presents information on financial support from the budget of the AP Vojvodina to TV stations which broadcast programme in Ruthenian language as well.

TV station	Purpose	Funds Granted
TV Odžaci, Kanal 25, Odžaci	TTE, information services, public information	1,254,000.00
RTV Vrbas ⁷² , TV Bačka, Vrbas	TTE, information services, public information	2,930,000.00

Slovak language

405. The table below presents information on duration of broadcasting of television programme in Slovak language, as well as information on the TV station in respect of broadcaster type.

TV station	Monthly Duration of Programme (hours)	Broadcaster Type
RTV Vojvodina, TV Vojvodina,	58	Public broadcasting agency

⁷² Ibid.

Novi Sad		
RTV Kovačica, TV Kovačica, Kovačica	32	Station of local or regional community
Novosadska TV, Novi Sad	4	Station of local or regional community
RTV Pančevo, TV Pančevo, Pančevo	4	Station of local or regional community
RTV Stara Pazova, TV Stara Pazova, Stara Pazova	26	Station of local or regional community
TV Petrovac, Bački Petrovac	150	Commercial station

406. Appropriations from the national budget for co-financing of projects/programmes in the field of public information in Slovak language have been made as follows:

Applicant	Project Title	Funds Granted
2012		
IC "Bačsky Petrovec", Bački Petrovac	<i>Naši salaši i salašari</i>	114,000.00

407. The table below presents information on financial support from the budget of the AP Vojvodina to TV stations which broadcast programme in Slovak language as well.

TV station	Purpose	Funds Granted
TV Petrovec, Bački Petrovac	TTE, information services, public information	3,103,000.00
RTV Kovačica ⁷³ , TV Kovačica, Kovačica	TTE, information services, public information	4,050,000.00
RTV Pančevo ⁷⁴ , TV Pančevo, Pančevo	Information services, public information	895,600.00
RTV Stara Pazova ⁷⁵ , TV Stara Pazova, Stara Pazova	TTE, information services, public information	1,400,000.00

Ukrainian language

408. The table below presents information on duration of broadcasting of television programme in Ukrainian language, as well as information on the TV station in respect of broadcaster type.

TV station	Monthly Duration of Programme (hours)	Broadcaster Type
RTV Vojvodina, TV Vojvodina,	2	Public broadcasting agency

⁷³ Ibid.

⁷⁴ Ibid.

⁷⁵ Ibid.

Novi Sad		
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Croatian language

409. The table below presents information on duration of broadcasting of television programme in Croatian language, as well as information on the TV station in respect of broadcaster type.

TV station	Monthly Duration of Programme (hours)	Broadcaster Type
RTV Vojvodina, TV Vojvodina, Novi Sad	8	Public broadcasting agency
TV Spektar, Sombor	2	Commercial station
YU ECO TV, Subotica	2	Commercial station

410. The table below presents information on financial support from the budget of the AP Vojvodina to TV stations which broadcast programme in Croatian language as well.

TV station	Purpose	Funds Granted
YU ECO TV, Subotica	TTE, information services, public information	6,884,000.00

4.4.5. Encouragement and facilitation of production and distribution of audio and audio-visual works in minority languages

411. The method of financial support by state and provincial authorities to the production and distribution of audio and audio-visual works is identical to the method of co-financing of projects in the field of public information in minority languages. Based on interest and application to tenders issued, the competent state and provincial authorities grant funds for such purposes as well. Section 4.5.1 of the Third Report on implementation of the Charter contains, inter alia, information on co-financing of projects in the field of audio and audio-visual production (CD, electronic issues of magazines for culture, radio and TV shows in the field of culture, film, and the like) produced in minority languages.

412. The Tables below contain examples of encouragement of production and distribution of audio and audio-visual works in minority languages, which had been financially supported from the state and provincial budgets based on the tenders issued.

Albanian language

Applicant	Project Title	Funds Granted⁷⁶
2010		
Beta Pres Ltd, Belgrade	News service in minority languages (Albanian, Romani)	972,283.00
Center for Democracy and Development of Southern Serbia/Regional Information Agency "Jug Press", Leskovac	Strengthening of dialogue between national minorities, news update on the website, news on the Jug Press internet radio (Albanian, Bulgarian, Romani)	990,000.00
2011		
Center for Democracy and Development of Southern Serbia, Leskovac	Strengthening of capacity of editorial staff of the Regional Information Agency "Jug Press" in Albanian, Bulgarian and Romani language through the Agency's video service	300,000.00
Beta Press Ltd, Belgrade	News service in minority languages (Albanian, Hungarian, Romani)	649,217.00
Video production Astra, Pirot	„... & u dobru & u zlu...“ (“for better or for worse...”) (Albanian, Bulgarian, Romani)	456,250.00
2012		
Beta Press Ltd, Belgrade	News service in minority languages (Albanian, Hungarian, Romani)	553,000.00

Bulgarian language

Applicant	Project Title	Funds Granted
2010		
Center for Democracy and Development of Southern Serbia/Regional Information Agency "Jug Press", Leskovac	Strengthening of dialogue between national minorities, news update on the website, news on the Jug Press internet radio (Albanian, Bulgarian, Romani)	990,000.00
Video production Astra, Pirot/Caribrod Television	"Belgrade-Sofia via Caribrod"	403,973.00
2011		
Center for Democracy and Development of Southern Serbia, Leskovac	Strengthening of capacity of editorial staff of the Regional Information Agency "Jug Press" in Albanian, Bulgarian and Romani language through the Agency's video service	300,000.00
Video production Astra, Pirot	„... & u dobru & u zlu...“ (“for better or for worse...”) (Albanian, Bulgarian, Romani)	456,250.00
2012		
Agency for Cinematography and	<i>Pametnik</i>	451,000.00

⁷⁶ Bearing in mind that certain projects/programmes in the field of audio and audio-visual production had been produced in more than one minority language, the granted funds are presented for all minority languages covered by the project in identical amounts.

Engineering “Elpromont”, Pirot		
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Hungarian language

Applicant	Project Title	Funds Granted
2010		
Playground production Ltd, Novi Sad/TV Apolo	TV series “ <i>Inkluzija ... Odbrojavanje</i> ” (“Inclusion... Countdown”, half-hour episodes (Hungarian, Romani)	317,940.00
TV Production “D.B. TRADE CO”, Bačka Topola	“Etno” Hungarian national costume, series of 12 shows	200,000.00
2011		
Sole proprietorship and trade business/TV and video production “Dinovizija”, Subotica	Development of documentary-informative film “ <i>Upoznavanje sa vojvođanskom mađarskom omladinom</i> ” “Getting to know the Hungarian Youth from Vojvodina”	109,000.00
Beta Press Ltd, Belgrade	News service in minority languages (Albanian, Hungarian and Romani)	649,217.00
2012		
Feher to - Association for cherishing of tradition and ecology, Lukino Selo	Middle-Banat Web Portal	185,000.00
Digital Region Association, Subotica	Documentary-promotional film “ <i>Amatersko stvaralaštvo vojvođanskih Mađara</i> ” (“Amateur Production of Hungarians from Vojvodina”)	313,048.00
“Agrolink” Agency, Novi Sad	<i>Agro Dan</i> (Agro Day) – show on latest agricultural news	253,000.00
Beta Press Ltd, Belgrade	News service in minority languages (Albanian, Hungarian and Romani)	553,000.00

Romani language

Applicant	Project Title	Funds Granted
2010		
Production “Kreativni tim Petković”, Požarevac	“ <i>Prvo lice</i> ” (“The First Face”), series of 15 TV shows	475,000.00
Production “Elpromont” Ltd, Pirot/TV Caribrod	“ <i>Priče iz romske kulturne baštine</i> ” (“Stories from Roma Cultural Heritage”), series of 10-minute shows	624,400.00
Beta Press Ltd, Belgrade	News service in minority languages (Albanian and Romani)	972,283.00
Center for Democracy and Development of Southern Serbia/Regional Information Agency “Jug Press”, Leskovac	Strengthening of dialogue between national minorities, news update on the website, news on the Jug Press internet radio (Albanian, Bulgarian, Romani)	990,000.00
Playground production Ltd, Novi Sad/TV Apolo	TV series “ <i>Inkluzija ... Odbrojavanje</i> ” (“Inclusion... Countdown”, half-hour episodes (Hungarian, Romani)	317,940.00
2011		

Ozon media Ltd, Gornji Milanovac	Krlo e Romengo – The Voice of Roma	400,000.00
Center for Democracy and Development of Southern Serbia, Leskovac	Strengthening of capacity of editorial staff of the Regional Information Agency “Jug Press” in Albanian, Bulgarian and Romani language through the Agency’s video service	300,000.00
Beta Pres Ltd, Belgrade	News service in minority languages (Albanian, Hungarian and Romani)	649,217.00
Agency for production of radio and television programme “Studio 101”, Zaječar	<i>Romi, naše komšije</i> (Roma, Our Neighbors)	523,000.00
Albos, Ltd, Kruševac	<i>Romano Foro – The City of Roma</i>	270,000.00
Agency for television production “Liberty production”, Niš	Documentary television film “ <i>Zapošljavanje Roma</i> ” (“Employment of Roma”)	377,425.00
Agency for audio and video production and marketing “Kreativni tim Petković”, Požarevac	“ <i>Knjiga za pod glavu</i> ”	500,000.00
Video production Astra, Pirot	„... & u dobru & u zlu...” (“for better or for worse...”) (Albanian, Bulgarian, Romani)	456,250.00
2012		
Roma Center for Democracy, Valjevo	<i>Informisanjem do znanja</i> (Through Information To Knowledge)	404,750.00
Agency for production of radio and television programme “Studio 101”, Zaječar	<i>Dromenca ande Timočko krajina – Following the Roads of Timočka Krajina</i>	80,000.00
Beta Press Ltd, Belgrade	News service in minority languages (Albanian, Hungarian and Romani)	553,000.00

Romanian language

Applicant	Project Title	Funds Granted
2012		
“Linea Electronics” Ltd, PJ “KTV” Marketing television, Zrenjanin	“ <i>Ogledalo kulture</i> ” (“The Mirror of Culture”)	120,000.00

Ruthenian language

Applicant	Project Title	Funds Granted
2010		
Institute for Culture of Ruthenians in Vojvodina, Novi Sad,	Ruthenians and strategy of local self-governments (cycle of radio shows)	129,600.00

Slovak language

Applicant	Project Title	Funds Granted
2010		
Video production "Res media", Novi Sad/RTV Vojvodina	"Sunce nad ravnicom" ("The Sun Over The Plains") – mini series	591,000.00

Croatian language

Applicant	Project Title	Funds Granted
2011		
"Agency K23" for radio and television activities, Subotica	Programme of the Croatian and Bunjevac national minority (Bunjevac and Croatian)	520,000.00
2012		
Community of Croats in Belgrade "Tin Ujević", Novi Beograd	Famous Croats of Vojvodina and Serbia	490,000.00
Croatian Cultural Society "Vladimir Nazor", Stanišić	"Glas Hrvata" ("The Voice of Croats")	255,000.00

4.4.6. Encouragement or facilitation of establishment and preservation of at least one newspaper in minority language

413. The practice of establishment of newspapers in minority languages is developed in the Republic of Serbia. Previous reports on implementation of the Charter contained detailed presentation of the legal framework which has not been modified during this reporting cycle. As it was already emphasised, establishment of printed and other media is available to everyone, including to the persons belonging to national minorities, without approval, in the manner prescribed by the law.

414. National councils of national minorities, as institutional form of cultural autonomy, inter alia, in the field of information as well, are the founders of entities which issue public media in their own language, being one of the following: Albanian, Bulgarian, Hungarian, Romani, Romanian, Ruthenian, Slovak, Ukrainian and Croatian language. Beside the above stated minority languages, for which obligations under Part III of the Charter have been undertaken, national councils are also founders of printed media in minority languages for which no obligations were undertaken in the above part of the Charter (Bunjevac, Macedonian and Czech).⁷⁷

⁷⁷ Section 3.2. of the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter contains information on those public media.

415. In line with its abilities, the Republic of Serbia encourages and provides financial support, through competent state and provincial authorities, to printed media in minority languages. In order to give incentive to production of miscellaneous media contents, the Ministry of Culture and Information issued in 2010 a separate tender for co-financing of printed media in the languages of national minorities in the Central Serbia and granted funds for co-financing of newspapers whereof founders are national councils (of Bulgarians and Roma) and of newspapers for which opinions were provided that they express interests of national minorities. The municipalities of Bujanovac, Medveđa i Preševo, have provided such opinion for informative weekly newspaper in Albanian language *The Perspektiva*, Bujanovac, and the National Council of Bosniac national minority provided such opinion for weekly newspaper in Bosnian language, *The Sandžačke novine*, Novi Pazar. Owing to the need for rationalisation of the state budget in 2011, funds intended for those newspapers and funds for co-financing of the programmes/projects in languages of national minorities on the territory of the entire Republic have been integrated, i.e. a single tender enables also the application for co-financing of the projects in the field of printed media. The Strategy for Development of the Public Information System in the Republic of Serbia until 2016 stresses that public media whereof founders are national councils of national minorities can not participate in the tenders for project financing at the state, provincial or local level, therefore, as of 2012, there was no co-financing of media whereof founders are national councils having registered offices in the Central Serbia. Lack of funds caused cessation in production of public media in Bulgarian and Romani language, and the public media of the National Council of Albanian National Minority *The Nacionalni* (2010) in Albanian language, established in the meantime, is being issued with much difficulties.

416. The Decision on provision of a portion of funds from the budget of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina for publishing of newspapers of provincial importance (2008) envisages the languages, i.e. the newspapers for which the funds from the budget of the AP Vojvodina are to be provided. The above decision stipulates that newspapers of provincial importance are such whereof publisher is an entity the founder's rights of which were assigned from the Parliament of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, as well as the newspapers important to national minorities whereof national council has registered office on the territory of the AP of Vojvodina. In addition to the subsidies for production of newspapers of provincial importance, other printed media are co-financed from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina pursuant to annual tender issued by the Provincial Secretariat for Culture and Public Information of the AP of Vojvodina.

417. The following paragraphs contain information on printed media in minority languages produced in 2012⁷⁸, as well as on the level of support to thereof production from the state budget and from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina.

⁷⁸ Data were collected by the Office for Human and Minority Rights in the regular course of activities.

Albanian language

418. The only printed public media in Albanian language is the weekly newspaper *The Nacionalni*, Bujanovac, whereof founder is the National Council of Albanian National Minority.

419. The table below presents funds which have been granted from the state budget for information in Albanian language through the tender for co-financing of the projects/programmes in the field of public information in languages of national minorities.

Year	Beneficiary	Project	Funds Granted
2011	National Council of Albanian National Minority, Bujanovac	Support to undisturbed publishing of weekly newspaper <i>The Nacionalni</i>	3,370,032.00
2012	Cultural Albanian Society “Perspektiva”, Bujanovac	“ <i>Zajedno u budućnost</i> ” (“Together Towards Future”)	285,000.00

Bosnian language

420. Bilingual weekly newspaper *The Polimlje*, Prijepolje, publishes pages in Bosnian language as well.

421. The table below presents funds which have been granted from the state budget for information in Bosnian language through the tender for co-financing of the projects/programmes in the field of public information in languages of national minorities.

Year	Printed media	Funds Granted
2010.	<i>The Sandžacke novine</i>	5,573,334.00
2011	<i>The Sandžacke novine</i>	4,302,528.00
	<i>The Polimlje</i>	408.300.00
2012	<i>The Polimlje</i>	80,000.00

Bulgarian language

422. Newspapers published in Bulgarian language are *The Bratstvo* (publishing ceased in 2012) and monthly newspaper for children *The Drugarče*, published by the Newspaper Publishing Association (NPA) “Bratstvo”, Niš, whereof founder is the National Council of Bulgarian National Minority.

423. The table below presents funds which have been granted from the state budget for information in Bulgarian language through the tender for co-financing of the projects/programmes in the field of public information in languages of national minorities and

through the tender for co-financing of the projects in the field of cultural activity of national minorities.

Year	Printed media	Funds Granted
2010	<i>The Bratstvo</i>	7,513,303.00
	<i>The Drugarče</i> ⁷⁹	200,000.00
2011	<i>The Bratstvo</i>	4,143,045.00
	<i>The Drugarče</i> ⁸⁰	150,000.00
2012	<i>The Drugarče</i> ⁸¹	150,000.00

Hungarian language

424. The table below contains information on printed media in Hungarian language.

Printed media	Periodical
<i>The Magyar Szó</i> , Novi Sad	Daily newspaper
<i>The Új Kanizsai Újság</i> , Kanjiža	Weekly newspaper
<i>The Liliom</i> , Mužlja	Weekly newspaper
<i>The Jó Pajtás</i> , Novi Sad	Weekly newspaper
<i>The Képes Ifjúság</i> , Novi Sad	Weekly newspaper
<i>The Családi kör</i> , Novi Sad	Weekly newspaper
<i>The Dunatáj</i> , Sombor	Weekly newspaper
<i>The Hét Nap</i> , Subotica	Weekly newspaper
<i>The Temerini Újság</i> , Temerin	Weekly newspaper
<i>The Hirvivö</i> , Totovo Selo	Weekly newspaper
<i>The Mézészkalács</i> , Novi Sad	Fortnightly newspaper
<i>The Szó-Beszéd</i> , Mali Idoš	Monthly newspaper
<i>The Hitélet</i> , Novi Sad	Monthly newspaper
<i>The Tordai Újság</i> , Torda	Monthly newspaper
<i>The Fecske</i> , Feketić	Monthly newspaper
<i>The Református Élet</i> , Feketić	Monthly newspaper
<i>The Horgosi Kisújság</i> , Horgoš	Monthly newspaper
<i>The Csantavéri Újság</i> , Čanavir	Monthly newspaper
<i>The Nyitott Ajtó</i> , Debeljača	Quarterly newspaper
<i>The Kispiazi Hirmondó</i> , Male Pijace	Quarterly newspaper
<i>The Muzaslvai Újság</i> , Mužlja	Quarterly newspaper
<i>The Csernyei Újság</i> , Nova Crnja	Quarterly newspaper
<i>The Magyarittabéi Hirmondó</i> , Novi Itebej	Quarterly newspaper
<i>The Élő Kovek</i> , Senta	Quarterly newspaper
<i>The Ni(c)odemus</i> , Subotica	Quarterly newspaper
<i>The Kisoroszi Hirmondó</i> , Rusko Selo (Municipality of Kikinda)	Quarterly newspaper

⁷⁹ From the funds for co-financing of the projects in the field of cultural activity of national minorities.

⁸⁰ Ibid.

⁸¹ Ibid.

<i>The Temerini Harangszó</i> , Temerin	Quarterly newspaper
<i>The Magyarakanizsai Figyelő</i> , Kanjiža	Every several months
<i>The Stúdiom</i> , Novi Sad	Every several months
<i>The Új Kép</i> , Subotica	Every several months
<i>The Magyar Szó Naptár</i> , Novi Sad	Annual newspaper
<i>The Vajdasagi Magyar Kalendárium</i> , Subotica	Annual newspaper

425. The National Council of the Hungarian National Minority is the founder of Magyar Szó Ltd. for newspaper publishing activity, Novi Sad, which issues the only daily newspaper in minority language (Hungarian) in the Republic of Serbia – *The Magyar Szó*.

426. The table below contains information on multilingual newspapers which publish pages in Hungarian language as well.

Printed media	Periodical	Languages
<i>The Novi glas komune</i> , Apatin	Weekly newspaper	Serbian and Hungarian
<i>The Bečejski mozaik</i> , Bečej	Weekly newspaper	Serbian and Hungarian
<i>The Zrenjanin</i> , Zrenjanin	Weekly newspaper	Serbian, Hungarian, Slovak and Romanian
<i>The Kikindske</i> , Kikinda	Weekly newspaper	Serbian and Hungarian
<i>The Édes Otthon</i> , Belgrade (insert in Blic)	Weekly newspaper	Serbian and Hungarian
<i>The Kulska komuna</i> , Kula	Fortnightly newspaper	Serbian, Hungarian, Ruthenian
<i>The Novokneževačke novine</i> , Novi Kneževac	Fortnightly newspaper	Serbian and Hungarian
<i>The Opštinska panorama</i> , Ada	Monthly newspaper	Serbian and Hungarian
<i>The Kovin Ekspres</i> , Kovin	Monthly newspaper	Serbian, Hungarian, Romani and Romanian
<i>The Moj Kovin</i> (feuilleton <i>Igaz Szó</i>) Kovin	Monthly newspaper	Serbian and Hungarian
<i>The Orothegyesi Hirnök/ Glasnik iz Trešnjevca</i>	Monthly newspaper	Serbian and Hungarian
<i>The Čokanska hronika</i> , Čoka	Monthly newspaper	Serbian and Hungarian
<i>The Kisujzag</i> , Stara Moravica	Every several months	Serbian and Hungarian

427. The level of funds for information in Hungarian language from the state budget, granted through the tender for co-financing of projects/programmes in the field of public information in languages of national minorities, is presented in the table below.

Year	Beneficiary	Project	Funds Granted
2011	Mozaik Ltd. Bečej – Bečejski mozaik	<i>“Kako do interkulturalnosti?” - Manjine osim što igraju i pevaju rade i nešto drugo</i> (“How to reach inter-culturality?” - In addition to dancing and singing, minorities do other things as well)	352,000.00
	Association for Development of	<i>“Upoznajmo aktivnosti na lokalnom</i>	96,000.00

	Environment and Community “Zold Dombok”, Feketić	<i>nivou</i> ” (“Let’s get to know the activities at local level”)	
2012	Porodični krug Ltd. (Családi kör Kft), Novi Sad	“ <i>Umetnost na koricama časopisa</i> ” (“Art on the magazine cover”)	239,210.00

428. The table below contains the level of granted funds for newspaper of provincial importance in Hungarian language, which are subsidised from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina.

Printed media	Subsidy		
	2010	2011	2012
<i>The Magyar Szó</i>	80,391,000.00	82,700,000.00	82,700,000.00
<i>The Jó Pajtás</i>	4,887,600.00	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00
<i>The Mézészkalács</i>	1,899,000.00	1,950,000.00	1,950,000.00
<i>The Képes Ifjúság</i>	7,093,200.00	7,300,000.00	7,300,000.00
<i>The Hét Nap</i>	27,480,000.00	28,300,000.00	28,300,000.00

429. Pursuant to the tender, funds were granted from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina for co-financing of printed media in Hungarian language, as follows:

Printed media	Purpose	Level of funds in the period 2010-2012
<i>The Kisoroszi Hirmondó</i>	Public information, TTE	100,000.00
<i>The Családi kör</i>	Information services, public information	9,200,000.00
<i>The Tordai Újság</i> (Municipality of Žitište)	Public information, TTE	100,000.00
<i>The Magyar Szó</i>	Upgrade of standard	560,000.00
<i>The Bečejski mozaik</i> , Bečej	Information services, public information	950,000.00
<i>The Moj Kovin</i> (feuilleton <i>Igaz Szó</i>)	TTE	100,000.00
<i>The Zrenjanin</i>	Public information, TTE	1,700,000.00
<i>The Kikindske</i>	Information services, public information	1,290,000.00

430. Pursuant to the tender for publishing activities in minority languages⁸², the funds were appropriated from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina as follows:

⁸² Chapter 4.5.1 of the Third Report on implementation of the Charter contains the total amount of funds granted pursuant to the tender for co-financing of publishing activities in minority languages.

Printed media	Tender for publishing activity in minority languages		
	2010	2011	2012
<i>The Jó Pajtás</i>	53,000.00	-	38,000.00
<i>The Mézészalács</i>	53,000.00	-	38,000.00
<i>The Képes Ifjúság</i>	53,000.00	-	38,000.00
<i>The Fecske</i>	-	30,000.00	30,000.00

Romani language

431. The table below contains information on printed media in Romani language.

Printed media	Periodical	Language
<i>The Nevipe e terne romengo</i> , Trstenik	Fortnightly newspaper	Romani
<i>The Romano nevipe</i> , Belgrade	Monthly newspaper	Serbian and Romani
<i>The Čiriklori</i> , Belgrade	Monthly newspaper	Serbian and Romani
<i>The Kovin Ekspres</i> , Kovin	Monthly newspaper	Serbian, Hungarian, Romani and Romanian
<i>The Krlo e romengo</i> , Lazarevac	Every several months	Serbian and Romani

432. The level of funds for information in Romani language from the state budget granted through the tender for co-financing of projects/programmes in the field of public information in languages of national minorities, is presented in the table below.

Year	Printed media	Funds Granted
2010	<i>The Romano nevipe</i>	4,719,912.00
2011	<i>The Romano nevipe</i> (ceased to be published in 2012)	3,827,045.00
2012	<i>The Čiriklori</i>	800,000.00

Romanian language

433. The table below contains information on printed media in Romanian language.

Printed media	Periodical
<i>The Libertatea</i> , Pančevo	Weekly newspaper
<i>The Bucuria Copilor</i> , Pančevo	Fortnightly newspaper
<i>The Tineretea</i> , Pančevo	Fortnightly newspaper
<i>The Kuvntul romanesk</i> , Vršac	Fortnightly newspaper
<i>The Strazerul</i> , Straža	Quarterly newspaper
<i>The Familia</i> , Vladimirovac	Every several months
<i>The Vorba noastra</i> , Zaječar	Every several months
<i>The Anur</i> , Zrenjanin	Every several months

434. The National Council of Romanian National Minority is the founder of NPA “Libertatea”, Pančevo which issues the weekly newspaper *The Libertatea*.

435. The table below contains information on multilingual newspapers which publish pages in Romanian language as well.

Printed media	Periodical	Languages
<i>The Opštinski bilten</i> , Alibunar	Fortnightly newspaper	Serbian, Romanian
<i>The Vršačka kula</i> , Vršac	Fortnightly newspaper	Serbian, Romanian
<i>The Zrenjanin</i> , Zrenjanin	Weekly newspaper	Serbian, Romanian, Hungarian and Slovak
<i>The Kovin Ekspres</i> , Kovin	Monthly newspaper	Serbian, Hungarian, Romanian and Romani

436. The table below contains the level of granted funds for newspaper of provincial importance in Romanian language, which are subsidised from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina.

Printed media	Subsidy		
	2010	2011	2012
Libertatea	30,016,000.00	30,900,000.00	30,900,000.00
<i>The Bucuria Copilor</i>	2,526,000.00	2,600,000.00	2,600,000.00
<i>The Tineretea</i>	2,526,000.00	2,600,000.00	2,600,000.00

437. Pursuant to the tender for co-financing of printed media, funds in the amount of 1,700,000.00 RSD were granted from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina for technical and technological equipping and public information to the weekly newspaper *The Zrenjanin*, Zrenjanin, which publishes pages in Romanian language as well.

Ruthenian language

438. The table below contains information on printed media in Ruthenian language.

Printed media	Periodical
<i>The Руске слово</i> , Novi Sad	Weekly newspaper
<i>The Заградка</i> , Novi Sad	Fortnightly newspaper
<i>The Мак</i> , Novi Sad	Fortnightly newspaper
<i>The Дзвони</i> , Ruski Krstur	Fortnightly newspaper
<i>The Kalendar</i> , Novi Sad	Every several months

439. The National Council of Ruthenian National Minority is the founder of NPA “Ruske slovo”, Novi Sad, which issues weekly newspaper *the Руске слово*.

440. The table below contains information on multilingual newspapers which publish pages in Ruthenian language as well.

Printed media	Periodical	Languages
<i>The Kulska komuna</i> , Kula	Fortnightly newspaper	Serbian, Hungarian and Ruthenian
<i>The Глас Сојузу</i> , Novi Sad	Every several months	Serbian, Ruthenian and Ukrainian

441. The funds in the amount of 25,000.00 RSD were approved from the state budget for co-financing of the projects of cultural activities of national minorities⁸³ to the NPA “Ruske slovo”, Novi Sad for the implementation of the project *Godišnji almanah - Kalendar 2012*.

442. The table below contains the level of granted funds for newspaper of provincial importance in Ruthenian language, which are subsidised from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina.

Printed media	Subsidy		
	2010	2011	2012
<i>The Руске слово</i>	27,516,000.00	28,300,000.00	28,300,000.00
<i>The Заградка</i>	2,526,000.00	2,600,000.00	2,600,000.00
<i>The Мак</i>	2,526,000.00	2,600,000.00	2,600,000.00

443. Pursuant to the tender for co-financing of publishing activity in minority languages⁸⁴, the funds from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina in the amount of 95,000.00 RSD were granted (2011 and 2012) to the newspaper for children in Ruthenian language, *The Заградка*.

Slovak language

444. The table below contains information on printed media in Slovak language.

Printed media	Periodical
<i>The Hlas L'udu</i> , Novi Sad	Weekly newspaper
<i>The Vzlet</i> , Novi Sad	Monthly newspaper
<i>The Zornička</i> , Novi Sad	Monthly newspaper
<i>The Petrovske novine</i> , Bački Petrovac	Monthly newspaper
<i>The Evangeliski hlasnik</i> , Novi Sad	Monthly newspaper
<i>The Novi rod</i> , Bački Petrovac	Quarterly newspaper

⁸³ Chapter 4.5.1 of the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter contains total amount of funds granted pursuant to the tender for co-financing of the projects in the field of cultural activities of national minorities.

⁸⁴ Chapter 4.5.1 of the Third Report on implementation of the Charter contains the total amount of funds granted pursuant to the tender for co-financing of publishing activities in minority languages.

<i>The Padinske zvoni</i> , Padina	Quarterly newspaper
<i>The Narodni kalendar</i> , Bački Petrovac	Every several months
<i>The Evanjelička ročenka</i> , Novi Sad	Every several months
<i>The Pazovski Kalendar</i> , Stara Pazova	Every several months

445. The National Council of Slovak National Minority is the founder of NPA “Hlas Ljudu”, Novi Sad, which issues weekly newspaper *The Hlas L'udu*.

446. The table below contains information on multilingual newspapers which publish pages in Slovak language as well.

Printed media	Periodical	Languages
<i>The Nedeljne novine</i> , Bačka Palanka	Weekly newspaper	Serbian and Slovak
<i>The Zrenjanin</i> , Zrenjanin	Weekly newspaper	Serbian, Hungarian, Romanian and Slovak
<i>The Pazovačka revija</i> , Stara Pazova	Monthly newspaper	Serbian and Slovak

447. The table below contains the level of granted funds for newspaper of provincial importance in Slovak language, which are subsidised from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina.

Printed media	Subsidy		
	2010	2011	2012
<i>The Hlas L'udu</i>	30,089,000.00	30,900,000.00	30,900,000.00
<i>The Vzlet</i>	2,523,000.00	2,600,000.00	2,600,000.00
<i>The Zornička</i>	2,775,000.00	3,080,000.00	3,080,000.00

448. The funds granted through the tender from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina are as follows:

Printed media	Purpose	Level of funds in the period 2010-2012
<i>The Zrenjanin</i>	TTE, public information	1,700,000.00
<i>The Zornička</i>	Co-financing of publishing activity of national minorities ⁸⁵	141,000.00
<i>The Vzlet</i>	Co-financing of publishing activity of national minorities ⁸⁶	152,000.00

⁸⁵ Chapter 4.5.1 of the Third report on implementation of the Charter contains the total amount of funds granted pursuant to the tender for co-financing of publishing activities in minority languages.

⁸⁶ Ibid.

Ukrainian language

449. Newspaper published in Ukrainian language are the monthly newspaper *The Рідне слово* and magazine for children *The Соловейко*, whereof founder is the National Council of Ukrainian National Minority and the magazine issued every several months *The Глас Сојузу* (in Serbian, Ruthenian and Ukrainian language).

450. For co-financing of projects/programmes in the field of public information, funds from the state budget in the amount of 130,000.00 RSD were granted in 2011 to NPA “*Ридне слово*”, Novi Sad for the implementation of the project “*Весели водич кроз украјински језик*” (“Jolly Guide Through Ukrainian Language”).

451. The table below contains the level of granted funds for newspaper of provincial importance in Ukrainian language, which are subsidised from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina.

Printed media	Subsidy		
	2010	2011	2012
<i>The Рідне слово</i>	3,175,200.00	3,200,000.00	3,200,000.00
<i>The Соловейко</i>	1,176,000.00	1,220,000.00	1,220,000.00

Croatian language

452. The table below presents media in Croatian language.

Printed media	Periodical
<i>The Hrvatska riječ</i> , Subotica	Weekly newspaper
<i>The Kužiš?!</i> , Subotica	Monthly newspaper
<i>The Hrcko</i> , Subotica	Monthly newspaper
<i>The Glasnik Pučke kasine</i> , Subotica	Monthly newspaper
<i>The Glas Ravnice</i> , Subotica	Monthly newspaper
<i>The Zvonik</i> , Subotica	Monthly newspaper
<i>The Miroljub</i> , Sombor	Quarterly newspaper
<i>The Otac Gerard</i> , Sombor	Every several months
<i>The Hosana</i> , Stari Žednik	Every several months
<i>The Hrvatski Majur</i> , Subotica	Every several months
<i>The Glas Šokadije</i> , Sonta	Annual magazine
<i>The Gupčeva lipa</i> , Tavankut	Annual magazine

453. Weekly newspaper *The Novi glas komune*, Apatin publishes pages in Croatian language as well.

454. The table below contains the level of granted funds for newspaper of provincial importance in Croatian language, which are subsidised from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina.

Printed media	Subsidy		
	2010	2011	2012
<i>The Hrvatska riječ</i>	23,400,000.00	24,100,000.00	24,100,000.00
<i>The Kužiš?!</i>	2,523,000.00	2,600,000.00	2,600,000.00
<i>The Hrcko</i>	1,944,000.00	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00

455. The funds granted through the tender from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina are as follows:

Printed media	Purpose	Level of funds in the period 2010-2012
<i>The Hrvatska riječ</i>	Improvement of professional standards	100,000.00
<i>The Kužiš?!</i>	Co-financing of publishing activity of national minorities ⁸⁷	152,000.00
<i>The Hrcko</i>	Co-financing of publishing activity of national minorities ⁸⁸	152,000.00

⁸⁷ Chapter 4.5.1 of the Third report on implementation of the Charter contains the total amount of funds granted pursuant to the tender for co-financing of publishing activities in minority languages.

⁸⁸ Ibid.

4.5.

Article 12

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES

Selected paragraphs and subparagraphs

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;*
- b) to foster the different means of access in other languages to works produced in regional or minority languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, postsynchronisation and subtitling activities;*
- c) to foster access in regional or minority languages to works produced in other languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;*
- f) to encourage direct participation by representatives of the users of a given regional or minority language in providing facilities and planning cultural activities;*

2. In respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage and/or provide appropriate cultural activities and facilities in accordance with the preceding paragraph.

4.5.1. Encouragement of expression and access to works in minority languages

456. The Republic of Serbia continues the practice of support to cultural, artistic and scientific institutions, societies and associations founded by the persons belonging to national minorities in all fields of cultural and artistic life, encouragement of all forms of cultural expression and enabling of access to works in minority languages and cultures they represent, as a part of cultural heritage of Serbian society. The Chapter 4.5.1 of the Second Report on implementation of the Charter contains detailed overview of cultural institutions, organisations and associations founded by the users of minority languages, by themselves or in cooperation with authorities at all governmental levels, therefore the following paragraphs present the information on financial support provided by the state and the provincial authorities to cultural activities of users of minority languages.

457. As of 2010, the Law on Culture (2009) is being applied, whereby, inter alia, it is prescribed that cultural programmes of institutions, whereof founders are the Republic of Serbia, the autonomous province, i.e. the local self-government units, are to be financed or co-financed from the budget of the founders, which determine the level of funds based on the strategic plan and the proposed annual work programme of the institution (article 74 of the Law). Besides that, financing or co-financing is provided from the budget of the Republic of Serbia, the autonomous province, i.e. the local self-government unit, to the projects in the field of culture, as well as the projects of artistic, i.e. professional and scientific research in the field of culture.

458. The Law on Establishment of Competences of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina (2009), applied as of January 1, 2010, prescribes under article 41, item 2, that the AP of Vojvodina, through its authorities, regulates the needs and the interest in the field of culture of national minorities and provides funds for thereof realisation. The Statute of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina (2014) establishes that the AP of Vojvodina is in charge, inter alia, for taking care of the implementation of cultural policy on the territory of the AP of Vojvodina, the establishment of archives, museums, libraries, theatres, institutes and other institutions of provincial importance in the field of culture, in accordance with the law.

459. The Ministry of Culture and Information undertakes certain actions striving to enable, encourage and facilitate various forms of expression and to provide financial and/or logistical support to the projects in the field of cultural-artistic expression of the persons belonging to national minorities in their own language. Through issuing of annual tenders for co-financing of the projects in the field of production by national minorities, it encourages various forms of expression and initiative specific for minority languages. It also strives to enable different methods of access to the works of art produced in those languages.

460. Co-financing from the budget of the Republic of Serbia was provided for the projects in the field of cultural activity of national minorities by years, in the amounts set forth below.

National Minority	2010	2011	2012
Albanian	500,000.00	500,000.00	500,000.00
Bosniac	1,800,000.00	1,800,000.00	1,800,000.00
Bulgarian	815,000.00	550,000.00	550,000.00
Hungarian	960,000.00	1,050,000.00	1,100,000.00
Roma	1,010,000.00	850,000.00	1,250,000.00
Romanian	305,000.00	250,000.00	250,000.00
Ruthenian	-	200,000.00	200,000.00
Slovak	630,000.00	550,000.00	550,000.00
Ukrainian	-	100,000.00	100,000.00
Croatian	570,000.00	500,000.00	500,000.00

461. In addition to allocation of funds for co-financing of the projects in the field of cultural activities of national minorities, the Ministry of Culture and Information, pursuant to the issued tender, also allocates funds for co-financing of the projects⁸⁹, inter alia, in the field of dramatic arts, literature (manifestations and awards) and audio-visual production (film festivals, manifestations and colonies), authentic ethno and amateur production, scientific-research and educational activities in culture. Institutions, artistic and other associations and organisations/legal entities, as well as individuals from the territory of the Republic of Serbia have the right to participate in the tender, which includes the projects of the institutions and individuals who are persons belonging to national minorities. The Ministry of Culture and Information issues a special tender for purchase of publications for the needs of public libraries on the territory of the Republic of Serbia.

462. The Provincial Secretariat of Culture and Public Information of AP of Vojvodina finances from the provincial budget the activity of provincial institutions, among which are the two which perform activities in Hungarian language, and co-finances the activities of five institutes for culture (of Hungarian, Romanian, Ruthenian, Slovak and Croatian national minority), founded by the Parliament of the AP of Vojvodina and the national councils of national minorities at the beginning of 2008, and the performance of plays of professional theatres which perform in minority languages⁹⁰. Appropriations are also made for co-financing of the programmes/projects which are of wider, provincial importance for the development of culture in the AP of Vojvodina and the development of culture of persons belonging to national minorities. Funds are allocated based on the issued tenders, whereof number was, due to technical reasons, reduced to 5 in 2012 (from 18 in the preceding years), but thereby no co-financing of any of the purposes established in the previous years was suspended. Tenders are issued for co-financing of cultural programmes and projects in the field of modern artistic production, publishing in the AP of Vojvodina, encouragement of production of films and broadcasting of TV programmes in the field of culture and art, in the field of protection of cultural heritage of the AP of Vojvodina and the tenders for financing or co-financing of current repairs and maintenance, procurement of equipment for cultural institutions and procurement of books for libraries.

463. The table below provides overview of the level of funds disbursed from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina for the culture of persons belonging to national minorities.

⁸⁹ Only those fields of culture which provide the opportunity for allocation of funds from the state budget to the projects related to minority languages and cultures they represent are specified.

⁹⁰ In 2010, performing of plays of those theatres was co-financed pursuant to the concluded protocols and under the financial plan of the Provincial Secretariat for Culture and Public Information, and as of 2011, the premieres and reruns were co-financed pursuant to the issued tender for modern production.

National Minority	2010	2011	2012
Bulgarian	190,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00
Hungarian	73,886,848.00	79,706,590.00	79,996,192.00
Roma	4,141,700.00	2,085,000.00	2,755,000.00
Romanian	14,920,000.00	16,055,000.00	16,502,000.00
Ruthenian	12,065,000.00	12,482,000.00	10,495,000.00
Slovak	19,409,000.00	18,690,000.00	21,153,000.00
Ukrainian	420,000.00	430,000.00	625,000.00
Croatian	13,995,000.00	15,665,000.00	12,120,000.00

464. The following paragraphs provide overview of the financial support to projects co-financed from the budget of the Republic of Serbia and the budget of the AP of Vojvodina by minority languages and the fields of culture they represent.

Albanian language

465. Support from the state budget was provided to the projects from the following fields of culture with regard to Albanian language.

Year	Field of cultural-artistic production supported by the project	Number of approved projects	Funds Granted
2010	Theatre manifestations	1	300,000.00
	Other cultural manifestations	1	200,000.00
2011	Theatre manifestations	1	100,000.00
	Other cultural manifestations	3	350,000.00
2012	Theatre performances	1	100,000.00
	Theatre manifestations	1	250,000.00
	Other cultural manifestations	1	150,000.00

466. Funds are allocated for co-financing of the projects such as, for example: *Dani albanske komedije*, Festival of children songs *Naša radost - Gëzimi Ynë* (2010, 2011 and 2012), realisation of the performance “*Emigranti*”, (Cultural Centre “Abdula Krašnica”, Preševo); The 60th anniversary of the theatre in Preševo and Bujanovac (National Council of Albanian National Minority, Bujanovac); Culture and Tradition (Albanian Cultural Society “Perspektiva”, Bujanovac), etc.

Bosnian language

467. Support from the state budget was provided to the projects from the following fields of culture with regard to Bosnian language.

Year	Field of cultural-artistic production supported by the project	Number of approved projects	Funds Granted
2010	Magazines/Publications	1	400,000.00
	Literary manifestations	1	400,000.00
	Theatre performances	1	250,000.00
	Other cultural manifestations	1	600,000.00
2011	Literary manifestations	1	400,000.00
	Theatre performances	1	1,200,000.00
	Other cultural manifestations	1	100,000.00
2012	Theatre performances	2	350,000.00
	Cultural manifestations	3	1,450,000.00

468. Funds are allocated for co-financing of the projects such as, for example: magazine *The Bošnjačka riječ*, Literary Meetings of Sandžak SAKS, Festival of Bosniac Folk Dance SBONI, (National Council of Bosniac National Minority); realisation of theatre performance *Dulsuma, Hasanaginica* and *Dva načelnika* (Regional Theatre in Novi Pazar); Presentation of Bosniacs Heritage and Culture of Adjacent Towns, Days of Bosniacs Culture (Cultural Centre Prijepolje); Our National Cultural Treasure (Cultural Centre Novi Pazar), etc. In 2012, co-financing was provided to the cultural magazine *The Bošnjačka riječ* in the amount of 1,024,000.00 RSD and to the cultural manifestation "Days of Sandžak", in the amount of 640,000.00 RSD.

Bulgarian language

469. Support from the state budget was provided to the projects from the following fields of culture with regard to Bulgarian language.

Year	Field of cultural-artistic production supported by the project	Number of approved projects	Funds Granted
2010	Publishing activity	5	335,000.00
	Magazines/Publications	2	400,000.00
	Cultural manifestations	1	80,000.00
2011	Publishing activity	2	100,000.00
	Magazines/Publications	2	300,000.00
	Theatre performances	1	50,000.00
	Cultural manifestations	2	100,000.00
2012	Publishing activity	2	160,000.00
	Magazines/Publications	3	390,000.00

470. Funds are allocated for co-financing of the projects such as, for example: publishing of 9 books⁹¹; two magazines – *The Drugarče*, magazine for children and *The Most* (NPA “Bratstvo”, Niš); theatre performance for children, International Festival of Folk and Music Groups *Nišavski horovod* (Cultural Centre Dimitrovgrad), International Folk Festival *Kraište peva i igra* (Cultural Centre Bosilegrad), etc.

471. Support from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina was provided to the projects from the following fields of culture with regard to Bulgarian language.

Year	Field of cultural-artistic production supported by the project	Number of approved projects	Funds Granted
2010	Cultural manifestations	3	190,000.00
2011	Cultural manifestations	1	50,000.00
2012	Cultural manifestations	1	50,000.00

472. Funds are allocated for co-financing of the projects such as, for example: “*Bugarijada*” in Vojvodina (Bulgarian Cultural and Artistic Society “Trandafer”, Belo Blato and the Society for Bulgarian Language, Literature and Culture, Novi Sad); Meeting of Bulgarians of Banat – Palčena (Association of Bulgarians of Banat “Ivanovo-Banat”); Bulgarian Night in Skorenovac (the Society for Bulgarian Language, Literature and Culture); Festival *Palčeni* in Banat (“*In medias res*”, Pančevo), etc.

Hungarian language

473. Support from the state budget was provided to the projects from the following fields of culture with regard to Hungarian language.

Year	Field of cultural-artistic production supported by the project	Number of approved projects	Funds Granted
2010	Magazines/Publications	4	390,000.00
	Literary manifestations	1	30,000.00
	Theatre performances	1	60,000.00
	Other cultural manifestations	5	480,000.00
2011	Magazines/Publications	2	100,000.00
	Literary manifestations	3	150,000.00
	Theatre performances	1	100,000.00

⁹¹ *Crkve i manastiri u caribrodskom (dimitrovgradskom) kraju*, (CIC of Bulgarian minority “Caribrod”, Dimitrovgrad); *Knjiga bez granice*, 1, 2. and 3. (National Library “Detko Petrov”, Dimitrovgrad); *Trag, esej o dimitrovgradskim slikarima*, by Kamenko M. Marković, *Šarena torbica*, by Milorad Gerov, *Razvoj života*, stories by Mile Nikolov Prisojski, *Crna pčela* collection of poetry by Velimir Kostov, *Kako rastu pesme*, by Elizabeta Georgieva.

	Theatre manifestations	1	100,000.00
	Other cultural manifestations	7	550,000.00
	Cinematography	1	50,000.00
2012	Magazines/Publications	3	400,000.00
	Literary manifestations	1	50,000.00
	Theatre manifestations	1	100,000.00
	Other cultural manifestations	3	550,000.00

474. Funds are allocated for co-financing of the projects such as, for example: publishing of magazines *Híd – The Bridge* and *Létünk – The Reality* (Publishing Institute “Forum”, Novi Sad), *The Symposion* (Association “Simposion”, Subotica), *The Sikoly* (Artistic Scene “Siveri Janoš”, Mužlja); Literary Meetings With Writers from Hungary (Town Library, Subotica); theatre performances of Salaško Theatre from Novi Sad: Meetings of Amateur Theatre Ensembles of Hungarians in Vojvodina; Festival of Ethno Music and Folklore of Hungarians of Vojvodina *Durindo* and *Đenděšbokreta*; Inter-Ethno Festival (Hungarian Cultural Centre Nepker, Subotica), Culture Smuggling Festival (“Simposion”, Subotica), Artistic Competition of Highschool Students (Bečej), etc.

475. Co-financing from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina is provided for the activity of the Institute for Culture of Hungarians of Vojvodina - *Vajdasági Magyar Művelődési Intézet*, Senta. The following table presents overview of total disbursed funds for the activity of the Institute.

2010	2011	2012
13,500,000.00	13,500,000.00	13,800,000.00

476. Appropriations are made from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina for financing of activities of provincial cultural institutions which perform activity in Hungarian language: Publishing Institute “Forum” - *Forum Könyvkiadó Intézet* in Novi Sad and Drama in Hungarian Language of the National Theatre – *Narodno kazalište - Népszínház* in Subotica. The table below presents overview of total disbursed funds for the activity of provincial cultural institutions in Hungarian language.

Name of Institution	2010	2011	2012	Activity
Publishing Institute “Forum” – <i>Forum Könyvkiadó Intézet</i> , Novi Sad	14,853,442.00	17,394,590.00	19,235,620.00	Publishing of around 30 titles of books a year, two magazines <i>The Híd</i> and <i>The Létünk</i> , participation at book fairs, awarding of three awards
National Theatre - <i>Narodno kazalište - Népszínház</i> , Drama in Hungarian Language,	31,931,300.00	36,237,000.00	36,658,572.00	Annual performance of three premiere plays in Hungarian language and around 120 reruns in Subotica, cities in Vojvodina and

Subotica			abroad
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477. In addition to financing of activities of Drama in Hungarian Language of the National Theatre in Subotica, co-financing from the provincial budget is provided to the preparation and performance of one premiere play in Hungarian language by each of the four professional theatres: *Ujvideki Színház* – Novosadsko Theatre , *Tanyaszínház* – Salaško Theatre in Novi Sad, *Kosztolányi Dezső Színház* - Theatre “*Kostolanji Deže*” in Subotica and Senčansko Hungarian Chamber Theatre. The table below contains information on financial support to the above theatres.

2010	2011	2012
600,000.00	1,300,000.00	1,140,000.00

478. The table below presents support from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina to the projects in the field of culture with regard to Hungarian language.

Year	Field of cultural-artistic production supported by the project	Number of approved projects	Funds Granted
2010	Publishing activity	4	420,000.00
	Magazines/Publications	9	641,000.00
	Literary manifestations	2	100,000.00
	Theatre performances	2	600,000.00
	Theatre manifestations	2	430,000.00
	Other cultural manifestations	34	2,910,000.00
	Cinematography/radio and TV programmes in the field of culture	4	1,360,000.00
2011	Publishing activity	3	400,000.00
	Magazines/Publications	8	395,000.00
	Literary manifestations	2	250,000.00
	Theatre performances	2	1,300,000.00
	Theatre manifestations	1	850,000.00
	Other cultural manifestations	16	1,399,000.00
	Cinematography/radio and TV programmes in the field of culture	3	3,580,000.00
2012	Publishing activity	3	670,000.00
	Magazines/Publications	11	482,000.00
	Literary manifestations	1	60,000.00
	Theatre performances	4	1,140,000.00
	Theatre manifestations	2	700,000.00
	Other cultural manifestations	14	1,460,000.00
	Cinematography/radio and TV programmes in the field of culture	4	2,835,000.00

479. Funds are allocated for co-financing of the projects such as, for example: publishing of 10 books⁹²; publishing of 12 magazines⁹³; Linguistic Days of Sarvaš Gabor (Hungarian Language Society “Sarvaš Gabor”, Ada), *Sentelekijevi Dani* (MKPD Senteleki, Sivic), *Dani Kostolanja Deža* (City Library Subotica); preparations of theatre performances of Theatre of Novi Sad, The Salaško Theatre, Novi Sad, Senčansko Hungarian Theatre and the Theatre of Kostolanji Deže, Subotica; Meeting of Amateur Theatre Ensembles of Hungarians of Vojvodina, International Regional Festival of Modern Theatre *Dezireov tramvaj* (Theatre Kostolanji Deže, Subotica); Festival of Hungarian Folk Songs and Chardash VIVE (VIVE, Debeljača), Festivals *Durindo* and *Đendešbokreta, Domboš Fest* (Association Doboš, Mali Idoš), Regional Festival of Hungarian Cultural and Artistic Societies of Southern Bačka and Srem (The Alliance of Hungarian Civil Organisations of Southern Bačka and Srem, Novi Sad), Festival of Children’s Folk Ensembles *Köketánc* (Association of Hungarian Teachers in Serbia, Novi Sad) Days of Hungarian Culture (Cultural and Artistic Society “Petefi Šandor”, Šatrinci; *Snevani snegovi* by the director and scenarist Zoltan Bičkei (Arbos Ltd, Novi Sad), radio drama “*Borba za tron*” (Hungarian Culture and Art Centre in Novi Sad), TV show in the field of culture “*Vitraž*” (TV Panon, Subotica), etc.

Romani language

480. Support from the state budget was provided to the projects from the following fields of culture with regard to Romani language.

Year	Field of cultural-artistic production supported by the project	Number of approved projects	Funds Granted
2010	Literary manifestations	2	140,000.00
	Theatre manifestations	2	120,000.00
	Other cultural manifestations	1	100,000.00
	Cinematography	1	200,000.00
2011	Publishing activity	1	150,000.00
	Cultural manifestations	5	500,000.00

⁹² *Gion Nandor – bibliography*, by Margita Horvat Futo (Porodični krug, Novi Sad), *Monografija centra u knjigama* (Hungarian Cultural Centre “Petefi Šandor”, Novi Sad), *Vrata susedstva*, by Zoltan Viraga, *Egy világitótorony eladó*, by Tolnaj Oto, *Gourmandiai partraszállás*, by Peter Božik, *Világsarok +*, by Atila Blaž, *P.S.*, by Ana Ristović, *U potrazi za figurama*, by David Albahari and Ištvan Besedeš, *Prekopisi*, by Kristijan Tobijaš and *Širom otvoren*, by Čaba Segi (Association of Citizens “Zetna”, Senta).

⁹³ *Sikoly – The Scream* (Art Scene “Siveri Janoš”, Mužlja), *Hungarológiai Közlemények – Hungarological announcements* (Faculty of Philosophy, Novi Sad), *DNS* and *Jelfolyam* (Board for High Education of Hungarians in Vojvodina, Novi Sad), magazines for children and youth *The Jó Pajtás*, *The Mezőskalács* and *The Képes Ifjúság* (Magyar Szo Lapkiado KFT Ltd, Novi Sad), Web Magazine *Zetna* (AC “Zetna”, Senta), *The Symposium* (AC “Symposium”, Subotica), *The Bácsország* (Vojvodina Society for getting to know the home land “Bácsország”, Subotica), and *The Aracs* (Social Organisation for the Culture of Arač Village) and *The Fecske* (Association for the Development of Environment and Community “Zöld Dombok”, Feketić).

2012	Theatre manifestations	1	250,000.00
	Other cultural manifestations	5	850,000.00

481. Funds are allocated for co-financing of the projects such as, for example: *Srpsko-romski rečnik sa gramatikom* (Serbian-Romani Dictionary with Grammar) (“News-Information Agency Roma”, Belgrade); Days of Poetry of Trifun Dimić, Festival of Amateur Theatres of Young Roma in Serbia (Association Phralipe, Novi Sad); Days of Dr Sava Stanojević (Association for Democratisation and Education of Roma, Trstenik), *Postojiš, registruj se!* (You Exist, Register Yourself!) (Museum of Roma Culture, Belgrade), International Celebration of the International Romani Day; Cinema Workshop (Culturemobile, Belgrade), etc.

482. Co-financing was provided from the state budget for the expenses for the tours in the country and abroad of the professional theatre *Suno e Romengo – Romski san* (Romani Dream) in Novi Karlovci, established in 2007, which performs in Romani language. In 2010 and 2011, the amount of 3,740,000.00 RSD was appropriated for such purposes. Co-financing is provided from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina for the programme activity of this professional theatre (two premieres and reruns a year). The table below presents the level of appropriations for the programme activity of the Theatre *Suno e Romengo*.

2010	2011	2012
1,200,000.00	1,200,000.00	1,330,000.00 ⁹⁴

483. Support from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina was provided to the projects from the following fields of culture with regard to Romani language.

Year	Field of cultural-artistic production supported by the project	Number of approved projects	Funds Granted
2010	Publishing activity	2	170,700.00
	Magazines/Publications	1	40,000.00
	Literary manifestations	2	180,000.00
	Other cultural manifestations	3	1,590,000.00
	Cinematography/radio and TV programmes in the field of culture	1	600,000.00
2011	Publishing activity	2	60,000.00
	Magazines/Publications	1	35,000.00
	Cultural manifestations	2	430,000.00
	Cinematography/radio and TV programmes in the field of culture	1	200,000.00
2012	Magazines/Publications	1	45,000.00
	Theatre performances	3	1,330,000.00

⁹⁴ Pursuant to the issued tender, co-financing was provided for two performances of the Theatre *Suno e Romengo*: *Deda Mraze i ja sam dete* and *Sedam smtrnih grehova*.

	Theatre manifestations	1	250,000.00
	Other cultural manifestations	6	305,000.00
	Cinematography/radio and TV programmes in the field of culture	1	150,000.00

484. Funds are allocated for co-financing of the projects such as, for example: publishing of 4 books⁹⁵; *The Romologija*, magazine for science, culture and social issues of Roma; Festival of Romani Reciters of Vojvodina (Association of Roma Teachers of Vojvodina, Deronje), Days of Poetry of Trifun Dimić (AC Phralipe, Novi Sad); two theatre performances (*Suno e Romengo* Theatre Fund, Novi Karlovci); Festival of Amateur Theatres of Young Roma (AC Phralipe, Novi Sad); Days of Roma Culture (Association of Roma, Beočin), Roma Caravan (Led art, Art Clinic, Novi Sad), etc.

Romanian language

485. Support from the state budget was provided to the projects from the following fields of culture with regard to Romanian language.

Year	Field of cultural-artistic production supported by the project	Number of approved projects	Funds Granted
2010	Theatre manifestations	1	50,000.00
	Other cultural manifestations	3	170,000.00
2011	Theatre manifestations	1	100,000.00
	Other cultural manifestations	2	150,000.00
2012	Theatre manifestations	1	50,000.00
	Other cultural manifestations	3	200,000.00

486. Funds are allocated for co-financing of the projects such as, for example: Theatre Days of Romanians in the AP of Vojvodina (Association of Amateur Theatres of Romanians in the AP of Vojvodina, Alibunar); the Grand Festival of Folklore of Romanians of Vojvodina (Uzdin), The Week of Culture (Cultural Centre, "Doina", Uzdin), etc.

487. Co-financing is provided from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina for the activity of the Institute for the Culture of Romanians in Vojvodina - *Institutul de Cultură al Românilor din Voivodina*, Zrenjanin. The following table presents overview of total disbursed funds for the activity of the Institute.

⁹⁵ *Život Roma u Bačkom Gradištu* (Association "Ruža", Bačko Gradište), *Romske Bajke 2*, by Ali Krasnići (publishing company "Rromane pustike - Romani Books", Subotica), *Znameniti Romi Srema 2* by the group of authors (Roma Youth, Stari Banovci), *Romski kuvar* (Association Roma Women in Decade, Čurug).

2010	2011	2012
8,500,000.00	8,500,000.00	10,000,000.00 ⁹⁶

488. Co-financing from the provincial budget is also provided for the programme activity of the professional theatre *Scena na rumunskom jeziku* (Scene in Romanian Language) (2003) with the National Theatre in Vršac. The table below contains the level of appropriations for the programme activity of the above theatre.

2010	2011	2012
2,450,000.00	2,500,000.00	2,000,000.00

489. Support from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina was provided to the projects from the following fields of culture with regard to Romanian language.

Year	Field of cultural-artistic production supported by the project	Number of approved projects	Funds Granted
2010	Publishing activity	5	1,390,000.00
	Magazines/Publications	6	440,000.00
	Literary manifestations	1	60,000.00
	Theatre manifestations	1	200,000.00
	Other cultural manifestations	7	650,000.00
	Radio and TV programmes in the field of culture	1	340,000.00
2011	Publishing activity	7	1,390,000.00
	Magazines/Publications	6	385,000.00
	Literary manifestations	1	50,000.00
	Theatre manifestations	1	150,000.00
	Other cultural manifestations	4	1,100,000.00
	Radio and TV programmes in the field of culture	2	650,000.00
2012	Publishing activity	7	1,180,000.00
	Magazines/Publications	5	272,000.00
	Literary manifestations	5	380,000.00
	Theatre manifestations	1	300,000.00
	Other cultural manifestations	4	490,000.00
	Radio and TV programmes in the field of culture	2	680,000.00

490. Funds are allocated for co-financing of the projects such as, for example: publishing of 18 books⁹⁷; 6 magazines⁹⁸; Radu Flora Memorial (Society for Romanian Language of Vojvodina

⁹⁶ Out of the total provided amount of 18,500,000.00 RSD for co-financing of the work and programme activity of the Institute for the Culture of Romanians in Vojvodina in 2011 and 2012, the amount of 3,439,752.00 RSD was earmarked for co-financing of the expenses of purchase of the building where the institute shall operate. The Government of the AP of Vojvodina adopted, at the 85th Session convened on June 5th, 2013, the *Contract on Purchase of Real Estate to Public Property of the AP of Vojvodina and the Property of the National Council of Romanian National Minority* (the National Council provided 3,700,000.00 RSD for purchase of the building), therefore upon conclusion of the above contract, the purchased building was handed over for the use of the Institute.

- the Republic of Serbia, Novi Sad), International Festival of Production in Romanian Banat Dialect “*Jon Nice Sekoćan*”, International Festival of Satire and Humour – FESUS (CS *Vikentije Petrović Bokaluc*, Torak - Begejci); Theatre Days of Romanians of Vojvodina (Association of Amateur Theatres in the AP of Vojvodina, Alibunar); the Week of Culture (Cultural Centre “Diona”, Uzdin), the Festival of Music and Folklore of Romanians from Vojvodina – Serbia (Uzdin), etc.

Ruthenian language

491. Support from the state budget was provided to the projects from the following fields of culture with regard to Ruthenian language.

Year	Field of cultural-artistic production supported by the project	Number of approved projects	Funds Granted
2010	-	-	-
2011	Magazines/Publications	1	50,000.00
	Cultural manifestations	2	150,000.00
2012	Magazines/Publications	2	50,000.00
	Theatre manifestations	1	50,000.00
	Other cultural manifestations	2	100,000.00

492. Funds are allocated for co-financing of the projects such as, for example: publishing of the Magazine for literature, culture and art *The Švetlosc* (NPA “*Ruske slovo*”, Novi Sad); Drama Memorial “*Petar Riznič Dađa*”, “*Kosteljnikova jesen*” and the Festival of the Ruthenian Culture “*Crvena ruža*” (Cultural Centre Ruski Krstur).

493. Co-financing from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina is provided for the activity of the Institute of Culture of Ruthenians of Vojvodina - *Завод за културу войводянских Руснацох*, Novi Sad. The following table presents overview of total disbursed funds for the activity of the Institute.

⁹⁷ *Monografija Rumuna iz Srbije* (Society for Romanian Language, Vršac); *Iskustvo munje*, by Petru Krdu (Literary Municipality, Vršac); *Bibliografija nedeljnika Libertatea*, by Kosta Rošu; *Dolazi Božić Bata*, by Ana Nkulina Ursulesku; *Blagi venecijanski predeo*, by Joca Bulik, *Muški hor iz Uzdina*, by Petru Šošdean, *Sećanja jednog prevodioca*, by Florin Ursulesku; *Antologija rumunske poezije iz Vojvodine*; *Nada*, by Euđenia Balteanu; *Hotel Balkan*, by Pavel Gatajancu; *Palčenska kuća*, by Valentin Mik; *Muzej Diorama*, by Joan Baba; *Putovanja iz sećanja*, by Kosta Rošu; *Čudna vojska*, by Slobodan Đekić; *Zašto je Helen otišla u manastir*, by Đorđe Friškan; *Mansarda sa zapadne strane*, by Slavko Almažan; *65 godina beletristike*, by Vasa Baba and Niku Čobanu; *Pričaj mi o majci*, by Maioara Stojanović (all published by NPI “*Libertatea*”, Pančevo).

⁹⁸ Magazine for literature *The Lumina* (NPA “*Liberatatea*”, Pančevo), Magazine for ethnography and folklore *The Traditia* (Romanian Society for Ethnography and Folklore, Torak-Begejci), Magazine for culture and art *The Tibiskus* (Literary Artistic Society “*Tibiskus*”, Uzdin), bilingual magazine for children *The Prinčinndel – The Klinac*, Multicultural magazine *The Europa* (Europa Fund, Novi Sad); magazine *The Ogladalo – Oglinda* (KPZ Municipality Sećanj).

2010	2011	2012
7,000,000.00	7,000,000.00 ⁹⁹	6,100,000.00

494. Funds are provided from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina for co-financing the programme activity of the professional theatre of the Ruthenian National Theatre “*Petar Riznić Đađa*” (2003) in Ruski Krstur, as well as of the Amateur Scene of the Association of Women of Olari in Đurđevo. The table below contains the level of appropriations from the provincial budget for the programme activity of the above theatres.

2010	2011	2012
2,450,000.00	2,550,000.00	2,000,000.00

495. Support from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina was provided to the projects from the following fields of culture with regard to Ruthenian language.

Year	Field of cultural-artistic production supported by the project	Number of approved projects	Funds Granted
2010	Publishing activity	5	1,265,000.00
	Magazines/Publications	2	161,000.00
	Literary manifestations	1	50,000.00
	Theatre manifestations	2	300,000.00
	Other cultural manifestations	5	590,000.00
2011	Publishing activity	5	1,265,000.00
	Magazines/Publications	5	287,000.00
	Theatre manifestations	2	350,000.00
	Other cultural manifestations	2	700,000.00
2012	Publishing activity	5	1,110,000.00
	Magazines/Publications	5	255,000.00
	Literary manifestations	2	220,000.00
	Theatre manifestations	1	160,000.00
	Other cultural manifestations	2	250,000.00

496. Funds are allocated for co-financing of the projects such as, for example: publishing of 15 books¹⁰⁰; 5 magazines¹⁰¹; “*Kosteljnikova jesen*”, the Drama Memorial “*Petar Riznić Đađa*”

⁹⁹ Out of the total disbursed amount of 14,000,000.00 RSD in 2010 and 2011, the total amount earmarked for co-financing of operation and programme activity of the Institute for Culture of Ruthenians in Vojvodina was 2,000,000.00 RSD intended for adaptation of the residential-commercial facility in Novi Sad, where the Institute has the registered offices, which represents a permanent solution for accommodation of the registered offices of the Institute.

¹⁰⁰ *Kaži mi kada ću da odrastem*, by Ksenija Varga; *Pozorište u džepu*, by Vladimir Nađ Aćim; *Kavez za sretnike*, by Zvonimir Pavlović; *Splav*, by Julijan Tamaš; *Papuča izgubljena u vremenu*, by Nikola Šanta; *Nebo nad Krsturo*, by Irina Hardi Kovačević; *Zbegnjovčare*, by Đura Paparhaji; *Debitanti*, by Tamara Hrin; *Na vetru*, by Melanija Rimar; *Poezija*, by Havrijal Kosteljnik; *Debitanti*, by group of authors; *Ledena trava*, by Vladimir Kočiš;

(Cultural Centre Ruski Krstur); the Festival of Monodrama and Duodrama (Association of the Ruthenians in Novi Sad "Matka"); the Festival of the Ruthenian Culture "Crvena ruža" (Cultural Centre Ruski Krstur), the Festival of Original Folklore Production of the Ruthenians "Kucurska žetva" (CAS "Žetva", Kucura), the Festival of Children's Production "Veselinka" (The Ruthenian Cultural-Educational Society, Novi Sad), etc.

Slovak language

497. Support from the state budget was provided to the projects from the following fields of culture with regard to Slovak language.

Year	Field of cultural-artistic production supported by the project	Number of approved projects	Funds Granted
2010	Cultural manifestations	6	530,000.00
2011	Publishing activity	1	100,000.00
	Magazines/Publications	1	100,000.00
	Cultural manifestations	6	300,000.00
2012	Magazines/Publications	1	100,000.00
	Cultural manifestations	4	450,000.00

498. Funds are allocated for co-financing of the projects such as, for example: publishing of the first multi-media encyclopaedia on the Slovak naive painting in Serbia under the auspices of UNESCO (The Fund "International Ethno Centre Babka", Kovačica); publishing of the magazine for literature and culture *The Novi život* (The Slovak Publishing Centre, Bački Petrovac); The Slovak Ethno Ceremonies (Matica Slovačka, Bački Petrovac), the Festival of Slovak Popular Music "Zlatni ključ" (Association for Preservation of Culture, Tradition and Art "Selenča"), the Festival of Singers of Slovak Original Ethno Songs "Susret u pivničkom polju" (SCAS "Pivnice"), the Children's Folklore Festival "Zlatna brana" (CIC "Kisač"), the International Festival "Kulpin Fest" (the Youth Association E.U.B.L, Bački Petrovac).

499. Co-financing from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina is provided for the activity of the Institute of Culture of Slovaks in Vojvodina - *Ústav pre kultúru vojvodinských Slovákov*, Novi Sad. The following table presents overview of total disbursed funds for the activity of the Institute.

Zašto se patka u vodi brčka, by Julijan Pap; *Zavežljaj pod glavu za miran san*, by Štefan Hudak; *Za gorama*, by Vladimir Kirda Bolhorves (all published by NPA "Ruske slovo", Novi Sad).

¹⁰¹ *The Švetlosc*, magazine for literature, culture and art, *The MAK (Mladost, Aktivnost, Kreativnost – Youth, Activity, Creativity)*, cultural-political magazine, *The Zagradka*, magazine for children, (NPA "Ruske slovo", Novi Sad); *The Studia Ruthenica*, collection of works (Society for Ruthenian language, literature and culture, Novi Sad); bilingual magazine *The Erato nad Kucurom/Kocurom* (CAS DOK, Kucura).

2010	2011	2012
9,000,000.00	9,000,000.00	9,200,000.00

500. Co-financing from the provincial budget is provided for the programme activity of the professional theatre of the Slovak National Theatre (2003) in Bački Petrovac, as well as of the ART Centre "Hleba i igara" in Stara Pazova, of the Amateur Ensemble of the Cultural Centre in Kovačica and of the Theatre Group of the Association "Studio" in Kisač. The table below contains the level of appropriations for the programme activity of the above theatres.

2010	2011	2012
3,300,000.00	2,500,000.00	2,000,000.00

501. Support from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina was provided to the projects from the following fields of culture with regard to Slovak language.

Year	Field of cultural-artistic production supported by the project	Number of approved projects	Funds Granted
2010	Publishing activity	5	1,500,000.00
	Magazines/Publications	5	361,000.00
	Theatre manifestations	2	300,000.00
	Other cultural manifestations	7	1,270,000.00
2011	Publishing activity	5	1,500,000.00
	Magazines/Publications	5	400,000.00
	Literary manifestations	1	50,000.00
	Theatre manifestations	2	350,000.00
	Other cultural manifestations	10	1,370,000.00
	Cinematography/TV programmes in the field of culture	1	200,000.00
2012	Publishing activity	5	1,200,000.00
	Magazines/Publications	5	353,000.00
	Literary manifestations	1	40,000.00
	Theatre manifestations	2	320,000.00
	Other cultural manifestations	9	1,060,000.00

502. Funds are allocated for co-financing of the projects such as, for example: publishing of 15 books¹⁰²; publishing of 5 magazines¹⁰³; The Festival of Slovak Amateur Theatres (Slovak

¹⁰² *Konture slovačke vojvođanske knjiŹevnosti i kulture* and *Hrestomatija slovačke vojvođanske literature za decu*, by Jarmila Hodoličova; *Četiri drame*, by Jan Hrubik; *Pripovetke*, by Jan Labat; *Ma daj nasmeši se*, by Martin Prebudila; *Celebes, Celebes*, by Miroslav Dudok; *Poezija sa više ruku*, by Vičezoslav Hronjec; *Komenski*, by Jan Kvačala; *Pustolovine viteza*, by Zuzana Hurtašova; *Tragedija Tatre*, by Jozef Podgradski (the Slovak Publishing Centre, Bački Petrovac); *Hrestomatija slovačke vojvođanske poezije*, by Vičezoslav Hronjec; *Likovno delo Mire Brike*, by Vladimir Valentik; *VaŹne su to stvari*, by Marija Kotvaš Janoš; *Prozno i pesničko delo J. Tušaka*, by JoŹeš valihora; *Čitanka slovačkih vojvođanskih narečja*, by Danijel Dudok (the Fund "Slovačka štampana reč", Novi Sad).

Theatre “Bački Petrovac”), the Jubilee of Ljubosav Majer (Theatre “Vladimir Hurbín Vladimirov”, Pivnice), the Festival of drama theatricalisation of domestic authors “*Dida*”(the Amateur Theatre “Janko Čeman”, Pivnice); the Festival of Slovak Music and Folklore “*Tancuj, tancuj*”, the Children’s Folklore Festival “*Zlatna brana*” (CIC Kisač); the Padina Days of Culture (Cultural Centre “Mihail Babinka”, Padina); the documentary film “*DNK Umetnika*” (Bel Art Kontakt, Novi Sad), etc.

Ukrainian language

503. Support from the state budget was provided to the projects from the following fields of culture with regard to Ukrainian language.

Year	Field of cultural-artistic production supported by the project	Number of approved projects	Funds Granted
2010	-	-	-
2011	Cultural manifestations	1	100,000.00
2012	Cultural manifestations	1	100,000.00

504. Funds were allocated for the co-financing of the project Festival of Ukrainian Culture “*Kalina*” (the National Council of the Ukrainian National Minority).

505. Support from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina was provided to the projects from the following fields of culture with regard to Ukrainian language.

Year	Field of cultural-artistic production supported by the project	Number of approved projects	Funds Granted
2010	Cultural manifestations	1	300,000.00
2011	Publishing activity	1	100,000.00
	Magazines/Publications	1	60,000.00
	Cultural manifestations	3	270,000.00
2012	Magazines/Publications	1	75,000.00
	Cultural manifestations	3	510,000.00

506. Funds are allocated for co-financing of the projects such as, for example: publishing of the book *Istorija Ukrajinaca na prostorima bivše Jugoslavije*, by Oleg Rumjancev (Society for Ukrainian language, literature and culture “Prosvita”, Novi Sad); *The Slovo – Reč*, the magazine for culture, literature and art (NPA “Ridne slovo”, Kula); the Manifestation “*Dani Tarasa*

¹⁰³ *The Novi život*, magazine for literature and poetry, *The Rovina*, family magazine and *The Zornička*, magazine for children (the Slovak Publishing Centre, Bački Petrovac); magazines *The Obzori* and *The Vzlet*, magazine for youth (NPA “Hlas ljudu”).

Ševčenka” (CAS “Ivan Senjug”, Kula); the Festival of Ukrainian Culture “Kalina” (the National Council of Ukrainian National Minority), etc.

Croatian language

507. Support from the state budget was provided to the projects from the following fields of culture with regard to Croatian language.

Year	Field of cultural-artistic production supported by the project	Number of approved projects	Funds Granted
2010	Publishing activity	1	80,000.00
	Magazines/Publications	1	100,000.00
	Literary manifestations	2	90,000.00
	Other cultural manifestations	4	300,000.00
2011	Magazines/Publications	1	100,000.00
	Cultural manifestations	3	300,000.00
2012	Publishing activity	1	55,000.00
	Magazines/Publications	1	50,000.00
	Literary manifestations	1	100,000.00
	Other cultural manifestations	2	195,000.00

508. Funds are allocated for co-financing of the projects such as, for example: publishing of selected works of Balint Vujkov, *Bunjevačke narodne pripovijetke*, volume 2; magazine *The Klasje naših ravni* (NPA “Hrvatska riječ”, Subotica); the Days of Balint Vujkov – days of Croatian book and word (Croatian Reading Room, Subotica), Meetings with writers from Croatia (the City Library Subotica); the Festival of Children’s Folklore “*Deca su ukras sveta*” (Croatian Cultural Educational Society “Matija Gubec”, Tavankut), “*Dužijanca*” (Croatian Cultural Center “Bunjevačko kolo”, Subotica), etc.

509. Funds are provided from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina for co-financing of the activity of the Institute of Culture of Croats of Vojvodina - *Zavod za kulturu vojvođanskih Hrvata*, Subotica. The following table presents overview of total disbursed funds for the activity of the Institute.

2010	2011	2012
9,270,000.00	9,000,000.00	9,200,000.00

510. The support to performance of plays of amateur theatre section AC “Priatelji Bača”, Bač, from the funds of the provincial budget, amounted to 200,000.00 RSD.

511. Support from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina was provided to the projects from the following fields of culture with regard to Croatian language.

Year	Field of cultural-artistic production supported by the project	Number of approved projects	Funds Granted
2010	Publishing activity	4	845,000.00
	Magazines/Publications	3	240,000.00
	Theatre performances	1	50,000.00
	Cultural manifestations	4	1,391,000.00
2011	Publishing activity	4	845,000.00
	Magazines/Publications	3	220,000.00
	Theatre performances	1	150,000.00
	Cultural manifestations	4	2,500,000.00
	Cinematography/TV programmes in the field of culture	1	100,000.00
2012	Publishing activity	5	670,000.00
	Magazines/Publications	3	190,000.00
	Literary manifestations	1	30,000.00
	Other cultural manifestations	2	880,000.00

512. Funds are allocated for co-financing of the projects such as, for example: publishing of 13 books¹⁰⁴; 3 magazines¹⁰⁵; *Šokački svatovi* – drama-folklore piece of customs (Croatian CTS “Mostonga”, Bač); *Šokačko veče* – Croatian Cultural Singing Association “Zora”, Vajska), the Festival of Children Singers and Assembly (Croatian Music Association “Festival bunjevački pisama”, Subotica), harvesting ceremonies “*Dužijanca*” (Croatian Cultural Centre “Bunjevačko kolo”, Subotica), the preparation and performance of the opera “*Dužijanca*” (the City of Subotica), the documentary film “*Vrijeme otkupa*” (the Croatian Academic Society, Subotica), etc.

4.5.2. Encouragement of access to works produced in minority languages

513. The Republic of Serbia puts high emphasis on the protection of the language identity of users of minority languages, inter alia, through providing support to a written word, publishing, translation and distribution of the works of authors who produce in minority languages. The Section 4.5.1.5 of the Second Report on implementation of the Charter contains detailed

¹⁰⁴ *Hunjkava komedija*, by Ilija Okruglić Srijemac; *Izabrane drame*, volume 3, by Matija Poljaković; *Drame*, by Stjepan Bartoš; *Povijest naselja Bačke u srednjem vijeku*, by Žombor Sabo; *Hrestomatija*, by Jasna Melvinger; *Izabrane drame*, volume 3, by Ljubica Kolarić Dumić; *Kuća koja plovi*, by Stjepan Bartoš; *Šokica pripovida*, by Silađi Ruža; *Subotica koja nestaje*, by Viktorija Aladžić; *Narodne pesme iz dela Ilije Okruglića Sremca*, by Jasna Melvinger; *Izabrane pesme*, by Jakov Kopilović; *Označena tišina*, by Matija Molcer; *Eseji*, by Lazar Francišković (all published by the NPA “Hrvatska riječ”, Subotica).

¹⁰⁵ *The Klasje naših ravni*, magazine for children *The Hrcko*, magazine for the youth *The Kužiš?!* (all published by the NPA “Hrvatska riječ”, Subotica).

overview of publishing companies which publish works produced in minority languages. The state and provincial authorities strive, by co-financing projects through issuance of annual tenders, to give incentive to the publishing activity in minority languages. In addition to the tenders for production by national minorities (which comprises magazines in the field of culture and art that deal with the issue of modern literature and art), the Ministry of Culture and Information issues the following tenders as well: for the translation of representative works of Serbian literature abroad, in the field of literary manifestations and awards and for purchase of books for libraries. The Provincial Secretariat for Culture and Public Information issues tender for co-financing of publishing activity in the AP of Vojvodina, which refers to the following: publishing of the first issues of the books important in respect of culture and art in the AP of Vojvodina (in addition to the issues of books produced in minority languages, funds are provided also for the translation of books from minority languages to Serbian and major languages, and from one minority language to another minority language) and publishing of magazines of special importance for the development of culture and art in the AP of Vojvodina (magazines for culture, literature and art, magazines for the youth and magazines for children which are published in printed and electronic format in Serbian language and/or languages of national minorities), as well as the tender for purchase of books for libraries. The Section 4.5.1 of the Third Report on the implementation of the Charter contains information from state and provincial authorities on co-financing of the projects in the field of publishing activity for the works produced in minority languages.

514. The Provincial Secretariat for Culture and Public Information, in cooperation with the Provincial Secretariat for Education, Administration and National Communities, continued the promotion of publishing activity in minority languages, as well as the publishing activity of the cultural institutions founded by the AP of Vojvodina. The Booth of publishing in languages of the national minorities is organised at the most important book manifestations in Serbia – the Book Fair in Novi Sad and the International Book Fair in Belgrade, where books are exhibited in all languages and speeches of national minorities in Vojvodina, which perform publishing in their language: Hungarian, Slovak, Romanian, Ruthenian, Croatian, Ukrainian, Macedonian, Romani, Czech, German, Bulgarian languages and Bunjevac speech. This Booth, unique in the region in respect of the method in which publishing in minority languages is presented, made exhibition, in addition to projects of publishers in minority languages¹⁰⁶, in the period 2010-

¹⁰⁶ Some of the most important projects published by the publishers presented at the Booth are the following: *Antologija mladih mađarskih pisaca iz Vojvodine* and the novel by Oto Tolnai *Morska školjka* (in Hungarian language), *Hrestomatija slovačke i vojvođanske poezije 19. i 20. veka*, arranger and anthologist Vičezoslav Hronjec (in Slovak language), *Rusinska usmena književnost* by dr Stevan Konstantinović, *Дереґля з мруїюх/Splav od čežnji*, by Julijan Tamaš, *Rusini, Руснаци, Рутениенс* by Miroslav Fejsa and *Sabrana dela Julijana Tamaša* (in Ruthenian language), *Istorija rumunske književnosti u Vojvodini* by Katinka Agaka, *Antologija rumunske proze u Vojvodini*, arranger Ileana Ursu, *stare crkvene knjige u rumunskim crkvama u Banatu* arranged by Valeriu Leu and Kosta Rošu,

2012, of the bilingual issues, such as: *Széchenyi Szerbiában 1830 – Sečenji u Srbiji 1830. godine* (in Hungarian and Serbian), *Pesme* by Adi Endre, collection of poems by Mikloš Radnoti *Strmom stazom* and the book of poems by Peter Šinkovič *A mutatvány díjtalan/Produkcija je besplatna* (in Hungarian and Serbian language), *Antologija rumunske kratke proze 20. veka* (arranger, anthologist and translator to Serbian language Niku Čobanu), *Pesme* by Mihaj Eminesku and *Rumuni u Banatu* by dr Mirče Marana (in Romanian and Serbian language), *Baronoske paraniče/Baaronove priče* by Perica Jovanović and *Čhavorrenđi điljarrni/Dečija pesmarica* by Ranko Jovanović (in Romani and Serbian languages), etc.

515. For the Book Fair in Novi Sad, the Exhibition of the translated book is organised: different language is presented every year. Thus, in 2010, the Exhibition of the translated book was organised for the translation from Ruthenian and to Ruthenian language, in 2011 - the Exhibition of translated works from Hungarian and to Hungarian language, and in 2012 – the Exhibition of the translated book to Romanian and from Romanian language.

4.5.3. Promotion of access of minority languages to works produced in other languages

516. As it was previously stated, support for the projects in the field of culture is organised exclusively through tenders. Along with the tenders for cultural activities of the national minorities, the Ministry of Culture and Information also issues a tender for translation of the works of domestic authors into foreign languages. A great number of foreign publishers interested in translation of the works of domestic authors apply for the tender, among which are the publishers from the native countries of the national minorities which live on the territory of the Republic of Serbia, thus enabling access to the works made in Serbian language for the speakers of minority languages. The Provincial Secretariat of Culture and Public Information of AP of Vojvodina issues a tender for co-financing of publishing activity which includes, *inter alia*, translations of the significant works from Serbian and other foreign languages into minority languages.

517. Examples of the allocation of state budget funds for the translations of the works of domestic authors into minority languages are given in the table below.

-in EUR-

2010		
Project Applicant	Project	Granted Funds
Association of Bulgarian writers, Publishing company <i>Български нускау</i> , Sofia, Bulgaria	Zvonko Karanović, <i>Četiri zida i grad</i> , translation of the novel into Bulgarian language	1,000

Obrazovanje na rumunskom jeziku u Vojvodini by Rodika Almažan Родике (in Romanian language), *Osvajanje slobode* by Tomislav Žigmanov (in Croatian language), etc.

Fakel Express Ltd, Sofia, Bulgaria	Danilo Kiš, <i>Peščanik</i> , translation of the novel into Bulgarian language	1,500
Ciela Soft and Publishing, Sofia, Bulgaria	Srđan Valjarević, <i>Komo</i> , translation of the novel into Bulgarian language	1,500
Ciela Soft and Publishing, Sofia, Bulgaria	David Albahari, <i>Pijavice</i> , translation of the novel into Bulgarian language	2,000
Publishing company <i>Словарт</i> , Bratislava, Slovakia	Dragan Velikić, <i>Ruski prozor</i> , translation of the novel into Slovakian language	2,000
Literary agency <i>Пирамида</i> , Lavov, Ukraine	Zvonko Karanović, <i>Psihodelično krzno</i> , translation of the collection of poems into Ukrainian language	1,000
2011		
Publishing company <i>Колибри</i> , Sofia, Bulgaria	Milorad Pavić, <i>Izabrane priče</i> , translation into Bulgarian language	1,500
Publishing company <i>Циела</i> , Sofia, Bulgaria	Ivo Andrić, <i>Priče o osobenjacima i malim ljudima</i> , translation of the selection of stories into Bulgarian language	1,000
Publishing company <i>Циела</i> , Sofia, Bulgaria	Mihajlo Pantić, <i>Mala kutija</i> , translation of the anthology of stories into Bulgarian language	1,200
Publishing company <i>Циела</i> , Sofia, Bulgaria	Vida Ognjenović, <i>Preljubnici</i> , translation of the novel into Bulgarian language	1,000
Publishing company <i>Стигмати</i> , Sofia, Bulgaria	Vida Ognjenović, <i>Mileva Ajnštajn</i> , translation of the play into Bulgarian language	1,000
Publishing company <i>Панорама</i> , Sofia, Bulgaria	Ivo Andrić, <i>Omer-paša Latas</i> , translation of the novel into Bulgarian language	1,000
Publishing company <i>Панорама</i> , Sofia, Bulgaria	Ivo Andrić, <i>Travnička hronika</i> , translation of the novel into Bulgarian language	1,500
Publishing company of the University <i>Пајсије Хиландарски</i> , Plovdiv, Bulgaria	Zoran Ćirić, <i>Telesna straža</i> , translation of the collection of stories into Bulgarian language	1,000
Publishing company <i>ЕСЕМ Медија</i> <i>Украјина</i> , Kiev, Ukraine	Vida Ognjenović, <i>Preljubnici</i> , translation of the novel into Ukraine language	1,000
Publishing company <i>ЕСЕМ Медија</i> <i>Украјина</i> , Kiev, Ukraine	Mihajlo Pantić, <i>Ako je to ljubav</i> , translation of the collection of stories into Ukrainian language	1,000
2012		
Publishing company <i>Кронос</i> , Sofia, Bulgaria	<i>Srpski humor</i> , translation of the anthology of stories into Bulgarian language	1,000
Publishing company <i>Агата-А</i> , Sofia, Bulgaria	Gordana Ćirjanić, <i>Kuća u Puertu</i> , translation of the novel into Bulgarian language	2,300
Publishing company <i>Агата-А</i> , Sofia, Bulgaria	Dragan Velikić, <i>O piscima i gradovima</i> , translation of the collection of essays into Bulgarian language	1,000
Publishing company <i>Пајсије</i> <i>Хиландарски</i> , University in Plovdiv, Bulgaria	Nikola Vujčić, <i>Dokle pogled dopire i</i> <i>nove pesme</i> , translation of the collection of poems into Bulgarian language	850
Publishing company <i>Циела</i> , Sofia, Bulgaria	Uglješa Šajtinac, <i>Sasvim skromni darovi</i> , translation of the novel into Bulgarian language	1,400
Publishing company <i>Циела</i> , Sofia, Bulgaria	Gojko Božović (editor), <i>Svet oko nas</i> , translation of the collection of travels into Bulgarian language	1,000

Publishing company <i>Веселе Љуцканове</i> , Sofia, Bulgaria	Moma Kapor, <i>Una</i> , translation of the novel into Bulgarian language	1,000
Publishing company <i>Napkút Kiadó Kft</i> , Budapest, Hungary	Dragan Velikić, <i>Astragan</i> , translation of the novel into Hungarian language	1,500
Publishing company <i>Lavik 92 TIMP Kiadó Kft</i> , Ulo, Hungary	Svetislav Basara, <i>Majn kampf</i> , translation of the novel into Hungarian language	1,500
Publishing company <i>Lavik 92 TIMP Kiadó Kft</i> , Ulo, Hungary	Aleksandar Gatalica, <i>Euripidova smrt</i> , translation of the novel into Hungarian language	1,000
Publishing company <i>Lavik 92 TIMP Kiadó Kft</i> , Ulo, Hungary	Uroš Petrović, <i>Peti leptir</i> , translation of the youth novel into Hungarian language	800
Publishing company <i>Литонис</i> , Lavov, Ukraine	Srđan Srdić, <i>Espirando</i> , translation of the collection of stories into Ukrainian language	1,000
Publishing company <i>Книги – XXI</i> , Storozhynets, Chernivtsi Oblast, Ukraine	Vladimir Kecmanović, <i>Feliks</i> , translation of the novel into Ukrainian language	1,200
Publishing company <i>Темпора</i> , Kiev, Ukraine	Mileta Prodanović, <i>Ultramarin</i> , translation of the novel into Ukrainian language	1,000

4.5.4. Encouragement and provision of cultural activities in the territories different from those where minority languages are traditionally used

518. In the Republic of Serbia, along with co-financing of the projects in all the fields of cultural-artistic expression of the national minority members thus affirming and presenting the works created in minority languages, their cultural activities are also promoted on the territories different from those where minority languages are traditionally used. Through tender procedures of competent state and provincial authorities, the budget funds may be used for the preparations and participation in numerous cultural events, such as: festivals, guest appearances, presentations of original and amateur production etc. The beneficiaries of these funds are institutions, artistic and other associations, organisations, as well as individuals whose projects secure conditions for establishing and protection of cultural identity of the national minorities and languages as one of the basic characteristic of their identity, and they contribute, *inter alia*, to creation of the conditions for access to cultural values to the citizens and enabling their mass use. As stated in the previous paragraphs of the Third Periodic Report on the implementation of the Charter, a great number of multicultural projects, which refer also to those which enable cultural activities on the territories different from the territories where minority languages are traditionally used, is co-financed from the budget funds of the Republic of Serbia and the AP of Vojvodina.

4.6.

Article 14 **TRANSFRONTIER EXCHANGES** **Selected paragraphs and sub-paragraphs**

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 or 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;*
- b) for the benefit of regional or minority languages, to facilitate and/or promote cooperation across borders, in particular between regional or local authorities in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form.*

4.6.1. Application of bilateral and multilateral arrangements

519. The Republic of Serbia is the Contracting Party to the international bilateral agreements with several countries where the same languages are used in identical or similar form, and the application of which improve the contacts among the users of the same languages in the field of culture, education, information and professional training. These include, *inter alia*, several bilateral agreements on the protection of national minorities, which include provisions significant for the co-operation in the fields of social life when a minority language is used.

520. In regard to the international co-operation with the countries where the same language is used, and which are included in Part III of the Charter, it is stated that in the period relevant for the Third Periodic Report on the implementation of the Charter, the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Serbia and the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina was concluded in the field of education, culture and sport (2010). Article 3 of that Agreement stipulates that the contracting parties shall encourage mutual studying of the language and literature and for that purpose consider the possibility of exchange of the associates, teachers and experts for language and literature, exchange of materials and information, as well as organisation of relevant courses and seminars.

521. Along with concluded agreements on cultural and educational co-operation with the countries where the same language is used listed in the Second Periodic Report on the implementation of the Charter, the Republic of Serbia is the successor of such agreements concluded with the Republic of Albania (1988) and the Republic of Bulgaria (1956). On the basis of the agreement on cultural co-operation between FNRJ and PR Bulgaria, there is an

ongoing process of harmonisation of the Programme between two governments on co-operation in the fields of education, culture and sport for the period 2014-2016.

522. The Republic of Serbia is the Contracting Party to the international bilateral agreements on protection of the national minorities with Hungary, Macedonia, Romania and Croatia which provide for the promotion and development of, *inter alia*, language identity of the national minority members in the contracting parties. On the basis of those agreements, special inter-state mixed authorities are established to evaluate compliance with the obligations arising from the above mentioned agreements, through implementation of the recommendations adopted at the previous sessions and issuing of new recommendations to the governments of the contracting parties in regard to implementation of the agreement. In the period covered by the Third Periodic Report on the implementation of the Charter, inter-state mixed authorities with Hungary, Romania and Croatia continued working (2011) and determined new recommendations for the governments of the contracting parties which referred to, *inter alia*, those fields related to implementation of certain obligations arising from the Charter.

4.6.2. Facilitation and improvement of co-operation between regional and local authorities

523. The AP of Vojvodina continued with the practice of facilitation of the programmes which improve inter-regional cultural co-operation which contributes to connection of minority communities with the countries which use the same or similar language. Funds from the budget of the AP of Vojvodina were used to finance the projects of cultural institutions and non-governmental sector which referred to participation of the speakers of minority languages at different cultural manifestations, as well as facilitation of cooperation through publications, exhibits, multimedia materials, visual and other programmes. Within the programmes of their regular activities, especially successful regional co-operation is established with the neighbouring countries with which they have the common languages by the Publishing company *Forum* and cultural institutes of Hungarians of Vojvodina, Slovaks, Romanians, Ruthenians and Croatians. This co-operation includes participation at the book fairs, exchange of artists and experts, organising of scientific gatherings and art workshops for young people, joint projects in the field of publishing, research in the field of culture, etc.

524. Local self-governments in the Republic of Serbia have established co-operation with the towns of the neighbouring countries where the same or similar language is used. The information of such cooperation, received from the units of local self-government which accepted to take part in preparation of the Third Periodic Report on the implementation of the Charter, may serve as examples for co-operation of local authorities in bordering regions. The Municipality of Bačka Palanka signed the agreements with Vukovar and the Municipality of Trpinja (Republic of Croatia) on co-operation in the field of culture, education, sport, youth, preserving of cultural heritage, environmental protection, science, research and tourism. Aside from the contacts during

different events, the Municipality of Dimitrovgrad has regular contacts with the municipalities from the Republic of Bulgaria within joint development and preparation of projects, *inter alia*, in the field of culture and improvement of language capacity financed from the funds of the European Union (IPA). The following municipalities from Bulgaria were partners in these projects: Trn, Etropole, Dragoman, Slivnica, Godeč, Konstinbrod, Kovačevci and Samakov. As of 1967, the Municipality of Kanjiža has maintained fraternal relations with the towns from the neighbouring countries where Hungarian language is used, and the co-operation is organised in the field of culture, sport and education. Co-operation is implemented in the following municipalities in Hungary: Kiskunhalas, Rösztke, Ferencváros, Budaörs, Nagykanizsa, Felsöszolca and towns Tata and Sepsiszentgyörgy in Romania. The Municipality of Kikinda has established cultural, educational and sport co-operation with the following local self-governments of the neighbouring countries where the languages protected by the Charter are used: Resita and Zombolj (Romania), Bihać and Prijedor (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Kiskunfélegyháza (Hungary), Silistra (Bulgaria) and Žilina (Slovak Republic). The Municipality of Kladovo adopted the Decisions on establishing of co-operation on implementation of the projects, *inter alia*, in the field of preserving of national cultures, historic traditions, as well as in the field of sport with the Municipalities of Izvorul Birzii and Eselnita from Romania. The Municipality of Nova Crnja has developed cross border cooperation with the municipalities of Zombolj, Timisoara, and Cacica (Romania) and Nagyszénás and Bakonycsérnye (Hungary) in the field of culture, sport and tourism. The Municipality of Plandište participates in implementation of several cross border projects in neighbouring countries, and with intent to improve and strengthen already existing co-operation, the Protocol on commercial, social cultural and sport co-operation was signed with the municipalities of Deta and Giulves from Romania. The Municipality of Prijepolje has developed co-operation with the municipalities of neighbouring countries of Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina. The town of Sombor has long term fraternal co-operation with local self-governments in Hungary, with the towns of Baja and Kispeszt. This fifty year long co-operation has been implemented in the field of education, culture, sport, as well as joint applications for inter-state and regional projects from IPA funds. The town of Subotica has long term co-operation with partner towns in Croatia and Hungary in everyday oral and written communication. It has successful cooperation with partner towns in Croatia (Osijek, Zagreb and Križevci), *inter alia*, in the field of culture (events of cultural importance), and with Hungary, the co-operation is implemented through cross border projects and seminars with Szeged and Mórahalom, as well as Budapest, Pécs and Kiskunhalas.

5. SUPPLEMENTS¹⁰⁷

5.1. Supplement of the National Council of the Albanian National Minority

Establishing of the National Council of the Albanian National Minority

The National Council of the Albanian National Minority was established on 3 June 2010 in a very difficult situation with assistance of foreign embassies, OSCE and other relevant institutions of the international community.

The National Council consists of 29 members, the executive body of the council has 9 members, with 6 commissions with 15 members each, other sub-commissions, and it also has 7 employees.

Education

Certainly the biggest challenge during the work of the Council is providing of the books in Albanian language for the students of pre-schools, primary and secondary schools. So far, 88 textbooks have been provided for primary schools and until the end of the year, as planned, we should provide all textbooks for primary schools and pre-schools. However, the challenge for all of us who are included in this work in provision of textbooks for secondary schools, where it is needed to secure a great numbers of textbooks, approximately 290 for all the departments.

Although the law prescribes 30 percent, there is an insufficient percentage of reference to the culture, identity and history of the Albanian community in the following subjects: history, geography, fine arts, music etc.

There is no coherent state strategy for specialisation of teachers in minority languages, and the national council generally takes care of specialisation of the teachers. There is still no practice of hiring schools supervisors for classes in minority languages.

Due to the lack of opportunity to study in their mother tongue, members of the Albanian national minority are forced to study at the universities in Albania and Kosovo. Those who graduate from those universities are unable to find employment in certain professions due to extremely long period of recognition of diplomas before relevant institutions in Serbia, which creates difficulties, especially, in educational institutions, in implementation of curriculum with adequately qualified staff.

¹⁰⁷ Supplements of the national councils of the national minorities were delivered in the period August-December 2013.

Ignoring of the National Council which covers the fields defined by the Law on the National Councils of the National Minorities, mostly in education, presents a serious obstacle in implementation of competencies defined by above said law etc.¹⁰⁸

Up to the moment of delivery of this report, registry books for the students, class registers, certificates etc. in the schools where the teaching is done in Albanian languages are only in Serbian language written in Cyrillic script.

We believe that it is important to emphasise that teaching in *Music school* in Bujanovac is done only in Serbian language, and during February 2013, we, as the Council requested from the Municipality of Bujanovac to initiate the procedure for amendments to the statute of this school, in order to enable teaching in Albanian language as well, for the students who are members of the Albanian national minority, as well as for the municipal cultural institutions and for the libraries of the town – municipality of Bujanovac, Preševo and Medveđa¹⁰⁹. In the meanwhile, although the municipal assemblies of listed towns have had several sessions, it should be stated that up to the moment of delivery of this report this proposal has not been on the agenda and that prevents accomplishment of the rights of the national minorities guaranteed by the provisions of the Constitution and the laws of the Republic of Serbia.

In the Republic of Serbia, there are 14 primary schools where teaching is done in Albanian language, out of which six are in Preševo, six in Bujanovac and two in Medveđa. There are four secondary schools where teaching is done in Albanian language, out of which two are in Preševo, one in Bujanovac and one in Medveđa. Total number of students in primary and secondary schools is 10,000.

It should be said that the National Council in co-operation with the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Serbia, OSCE, Coordination Body of the Government of the Republic of Serbia for the Municipalities of Preševo, Bujanovac and Medveđa, and with the University in Novi Sad, contributed to opening of the department of the Faculty of Economic from Subotica in Bujanovac, and thus made the initial step towards accomplishment of the right to education and teaching in mother tongue in the institutions for high education. There is a need for opening of other courses of study.

¹⁰⁸ Judgements of the Administrative Court, number II-2 U.779/13 date 23 May 2013; and Decision of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development, number 119-01-00008/2013-03/23/3 date 22 April 2013, 119-01-00008/2013-03/15/2 date 22 April 2013 etc., as well as supervision of the inspectors of the State Education Inspectorate, number 614-02-00988/2012-12 date 08 February 2013, 424-614-00024/2013-07 date 11 March 2013.

¹⁰⁹ Letter from the Municipal Assembly of Preševo, number 125/2013; Bujanovac, number 126/2013 and Medveđa, number 124/2013 date 11 April 2013

Culture

Upon establishing of the National Council, we took care over national, ethnical, cultural, religious and linguistic identity of the Albanian national minority, with improvement of conditions for preservation of identity.

We have invested great efforts in this area, but unfortunately, due to limited funds available, and, on the other hand, due to lack of co-operation of the municipalities and other relevant state institutions with the National Council, we have not, in institutional sense, achieved the goals set by the strategy for achieving of cultural autonomy.

As previously stated, the municipalities of Preševo, Bujanovac and Medveđa have town libraries, but the fund of the books in Albanian language is very small. The Ministry of Culture and Information of the Republic of Serbia has not provided books in Albanian language for these libraries, and there are also border barriers for import of books from other countries, as well as lack of publishing companies for publishing of books in Albanian language.

- There is an ongoing process for opening of Ethnographic Museum of the Albanian community in the Republic of Serbia;
- There is a need for establishing of semi-professional theatres in cultural institutions of the Municipalities of Bujanovac and Preševo;
- Cultural institutions established by the local self-governments do not co-operate sufficiently with the National Council, although they were recognized by the decision of the National Council as the institutions of special significance for maintenance, improvement and development of national cultural identity of the Albanian national minority;¹¹⁰
- Due to lack of bilateral agreements between the Republic of Serbia and Albania, the National Council of the Albanian national minority is unable to establish co-operation with cultural institutions from the native country.

Information

Within the meaning of Article 11 of the European Charter on Regional and Minority Languages, the National Council is of the opinion that the situation in the field of information on the local level is not good, considering the fact that the following local media houses work: Radio-television Preševo and RTV Bujanovac, as well as Radio Preševo and Radio Bujanovac. Furthermore, private TV Aldi also works in Preševo, which broadcasts programme only in Albanian language, as well as RTV Spektri in Bujanovac which also broadcasts programme only in Albanian language.

¹¹⁰ Decision on establishing of public institutions of particular importance for preservation, promotion and development of specificity of the national cultural identity of the Albanian community, published in the Official Gazette of the RS, number 118/2012 of 15 December 2012.

The only paper in Albanian language is weekly *Nacionali*, the publishing of which was under question due to lack of funds. At the beginning of publishing, this paper was supported through the project of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia, but after completion of the project, the financing was provided solely from own funds of the National Council.

The Ministry of Culture and Information of the Republic of Serbia did not provide legal security in implementation of the European Charter on Regional and Minority Languages and implementation of security measures and accomplishment of the right to information of the members of the Albanian national minority, because each year in the period from 2009 to 2011, it changed the method of co-financing for publishing of papers on the language of the Albanian national minority. Complete suspension of co-financing and “preserving of at least one paper in Albanian language” in 2012, constitutional and legal principle which guarantees equal position and legal protection for the members of Albanian national minority was breached.¹¹¹

The Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of the National Minorities (Official Gazette of FRY, no.11/02) in the provisions of Article 17 paragraph 2 stipulates that, in the programmes of radio and television of the public broadcaster, the state shall provide informative, cultural and educational contents in the language of the Albanian national minority. The Broadcasting Law (Official Gazette of RS, nos. 42/02, 97/04, 76/05, 79/05, 62/06, 85/06, and 86/06), *inter alia*, stipulates that the programmes which are produced and broadcast within public broadcasting service must ensure diversity and balance of contents which support democratic values of modern society, and particularly respect of human rights and cultural, national, ethnical and political pluralism of ideas and thinking. Within its competencies, the broadcasting institution of the Radio Television of Serbia undertakes to produce and broadcast the programmes on culture, language, customs, history and other characteristics of the Albanian national minority which lives in Serbia, in order for the members of the national minority to exercises their right to information in their mother tongue.¹¹²

Official use of language and script

Up to the moment of submission of this report, the state authorities have not initiated translation and publishing of the most important laws in Albanian language. In accordance with the Charter, competent authorities should consider publishing of the Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia in Albanian language, primarily those issues which contain legal matters significant for this national minority. Although there are some individual cases of translation of texts of certain laws, (for example, then Ministry of Human and Minority Rights translated the Law on the National Councils of the National Minorities into Albanian language). We can conclude that precisely at the state level, where the most significant acts are adopted, they are not regularly

¹¹¹ Recommendation of the Ombudsman of the RS number 16-2568/11 of 18 June 2012

¹¹² Recommendation of the Commissioner for Protection of Equality of the RS, no. 306/2001 date 1 December 2011

published in Albanian language by competent state authorities, and without official translations it is difficult to imagine official use of Albanian language in administrative bodies and courts.

Pursuant to Article 3 of the Law on the National Councils of the National Minorities, the Ministry competent for human and minority rights (currently Ministry of State Administration and Local Self-Government) maintains the registry of national councils. Entry in the registry books is done based on the request for entry, which is submitted by the president of the national council within 30 days as of the date of establishment of that national council. With entry into the registry books, the national council receives the status of a legal entity. As stated in the Law on the National Councils of the National Minorities and Rules on Contents and Method for Maintaining of the Registers of the National Minority Councils¹¹³, it is not stipulated that the name of a national council shall be entered in the Registry in the language and script of the national minority as well. The National Council is of the opinion that above listed provisions are not in compliance with the European Charter for Regional and Minority Languages and the time shows that relevant state institutions should amend these acts, in order to enable entry in the Registry of the National Councils of the National Minorities in the language of the national minority they represent as well.

With the adoption of the Law on the National Councils of the National Minorities¹¹⁴, the National Council of the Albanian National Minority took over significant competencies in the field of the official use of Albanian language and script. Pursuant to this Law, a national council establishes traditional names of the units of local self-government, dwelling areas, and other geographic names in the language of the Albanian national minority, and the names determined by the national council become the names in official use along with the names in Serbian language.¹¹⁵

Majority population in the municipalities of Bujanovac, Medveđa and Preševo is Albanian, and pursuant to the statues¹¹⁶ of these municipalities, along with Serbian language and Cyrillic script, Albanian language and script are equally used. However, administrations of listed municipalities do not communicate in written form with the citizens of the Albanian nationality in their mother tongue, i.e. administrative acts delivered to them are not in their mother tongue. Therefore, it is more than required to establish a special service within municipal administration of Preševo and Bujanovac for translation of administrative acts which are delivered to the parties of Albanian nationality. We believe that this way the service would enable implementation of the Law on

¹¹³ Official Gazette of the RS, no. 91/2009.

¹¹⁴ Official Gazette of the RS, no. 72/2009.

¹¹⁵ Decision on establishing of traditional names of dwelling places in Albanian language and script for the municipalities of Preševo, Bujanovac and Medveđa, published in the Official Gazette of the RS, no. 118/2012 of 15 December 2012.

¹¹⁶ Official Gazette of the town of Leskovac, nos. 18/2008, 38/2012.

Official Use of Languages and Scripts¹¹⁷, as well as accomplishment of other guaranteed rights.¹¹⁸

Considering the fact that the maternity hospital for the citizens of the municipalities of Preševo and Bujanovac is located in the medical centre Vranje, and for the municipality of Medveđa in the medical centre Leskovac, for the mothers of Albanian nationality with residence in the municipalities of Preševo, Bujanovac and Medveđa who gave birth in the medical centres in Vranje and Leskovac, request for entry of newborns in the registry books is done by a medical institution on prescribed form in the registry department of the municipal administration of the towns of Vranje and Leskovac. However, despite the fact that pursuant to the rule of law of the Republic of Serbia, national minority members are entitled to request entry of a newborn child in the registry books in the language and script of a national minority, based on the statements of those who complained, there are insufficiencies in everyday work of registry departments in the municipalities of Vranje and Leskovac in regard to entry of first and last names of newborn babies in the registry books in Albanian language and orthography.

In the registry department of the municipalities of Preševo, Bujanovac, Medveđa, Vranje, Leskovac and other municipalities on the territory of the Republic of Serbia, the order of entry of personal name of the members of the Albanian national minority in the registry books pursuant to Albanian language and orthography is not done identically. In case of request to enter first and last name of a child which was entered in the registry book in Serbian language and in Cyrillic script in Albanian language and script as well, there are two possible approaches: sometimes pursuant to the procedure based on the request for change of personal name, and sometimes pursuant to the procedure based on the request for correction of entry.

Although in his recommendation number 16-166/11 of 16 March 2011, the Ombudsman of the Republic of Serbia recommended to the Ministry for State Administration and Local Self-Government of the Republic of Serbia to undertake required measures within its competencies to secure equal compliance with legal provisions, which proscribe approach and order of parallel entry of personal names of members of the national minorities in the registry books, up to the moment of submission of this report, described bad practice continues in all municipalities.¹¹⁹

¹¹⁷ Official Gazette of the RS, nos. 45/91, 53/93, 67/93, 48/94, 101/2005-other law and 30/2010.

¹¹⁸ **Examples** of acts which are only in Serbian language and script: Decision issued by the municipal administration of Bujanovac, number 08-465-378 date 19 January 2012; Decision issued by the municipal administration of Bujanovac, number 08-351-35 date 27 May 2013; Decision issued by the municipal administration of Preševo, number 05.501-04/13 date 19 February 2013; Decision issued by the municipal administration of Preševo, number 04.351-56/13 date 29 July 2013.

¹¹⁹ Recommendation of the Ombudsman of the RS number 16-166/11 of 16 March 2011; **Examples**: excerpt from the registry books issued by the municipal administration in Vranje, number 200-1-0/2011-3-09 date 22 August 2011; excerpt from the registry books issued by the municipal administration in Medveđa, number 200-00-4/2013-31/81278 date 16 August 2013; excerpt from the registry books issued by the municipal administration in Savski Venac, current number 817, date 15 April 2011; excerpt from the registry books issued by the municipal

Members of the Albanian national minority who are born in listed municipalities receive excerpts from the registry books of births, marriages, deaths and other certificates only in Serbian language and Cyrillic script. For example: on the basis of excerpts from the registry books of births and certificates on citizenship¹²⁰, the Ministry of Interior later enters thus written first and last names of the members of the Albanian national minority in their personal identity cards. As a consequence, there are numerous omissions in writing of the names in Albanian language and orthography and breaches of the rights related with personal identity of the members of the Albanian national minority in the Republic of Serbia.¹²¹

The right to a personal name is one of the human rights guaranteed by the Constitution. The Constitution of Serbia¹²², in Article 37 paragraph 3 stipulates that everyone is free to choose and use personal name and name of one's children. For the members of the national minorities, the Constitution, in Article 79 paragraph 1, contains another guarantee of the right to use own first and last name in mother tongue.

In Article 9 of the Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of the National Minorities, it is stated that the members of the national minorities shall be entitled to freely choose and use personal name and name of their children, as well as the right to have their name entered in all public documents, official registries and collections of data based on the language and orthography of that national minority. However, in the procedure of the registry services on the territory of the Republic of Serbia, it is clear that, unfortunately, stated provisions are not complied with.

Furthermore, tables with the names of state institutions (police station, Republic Geodetic Authority – Sector for Real Estate Cadastre, National Health Insurance Fund, and Tax Administration of the Ministry of Finance, branch offices of the National Employment Service and Republic Pension and Disability Fund) seated in the municipalities of Preševo, Bujanovac and Medveđa are written only in Serbian language in Cyrillic script.

Republic Geodetic Authority – Sector for Real Estate Cadastre in the municipalities of Preševo, Bujanovac and Medveđa issues excerpts from the real estate cadastre and other documents only in Serbian language in Cyrillic script. Although Article 11, paragraph 1 and 2 of the Law on the

administration in Bujanovac, number 05-200/573 date 04 September 2013; Certificate of citizenship of the Republic of Serbia issued by the municipal administration of Bujanovac, number 204-1277/11 date 01 July 2011; Decision issued by municipal administration – department for general administration Bujanovac, number 201-124/11 date 03 October 2011; Decision on amendments of personal name, issued by the municipal administration of Preševo, number 01.201-35/13 date 29 April 2013.

¹²⁰ **Example:** Certificate of citizenship issued by the municipal administration of Bujanovac, number 05-204/478 date 05 September 2013.

¹²¹ Recommendation of the Ombudsman of the RS, number 16-166/11 of 16 March 2011.

¹²² Official Gazette of the RS, no. 98/2006.

Official Use of Languages and Script stipulates that on the territory of the unit of local self-government where the national minority members traditionally live, their language and script may be equally used for official purposes, as well as that the unit of local self-government shall use the language of a national minority in case percentage of the members of that national minority in the total number of citizens of its territory reaches 15 percents on the basis of the last census.

While paragraph 3 of this Article stipulates that the official use of the languages of the national minorities referred to in paragraph 1 of the same Article includes, *inter alia*, issuing of public documents and keeping of official records and collections of personal data in the languages of the national minorities and acceptance of those documents in those languages as valid.

The Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of the National Minorities¹²³ in Article 11 paragraph 4 explicitly stipulates that the official use of languages and scripts of the national minorities includes issuing public documents and keeping of official records and collections of personal data in the languages of the national minorities and acceptance of those documents in those languages as valid. We would like to emphasize that despite the fact that pursuant to the statute of the Municipality of Medveđa Albanian language was introduced in official use, there are no registry clerks in the department of general administration who are members of the Albanian national minority who would, *inter alia*, work on issuing of bilingual excerpts. We believe that the fact that the decisions of the Municipalities of Medveđa are not issued in bilingual form, in Serbian and Albanian language, as defined by the statute, constitutes a serious breach of the law. Furthermore, all administrative proceedings before the police stations in Preševo, Bujanovac and Medveđa where the parties are members of the Albanian national minority are led only in Serbian language and Cyrillic script, because the administration of the police stations do not have employees of Albanian nationality because they do not have systematized working position of translator in their Rules on systematisation of jobs, and certain forms and filings or other written acts which may be in the languages of the national minorities which are in official use are also not translated in Albanian language. Thus, the provision of Article 18 paragraph 3 of the Law on the Official Use of Language and Script stipulates that the forms for the records for the needs of territories where languages of the national minorities are in official use shall be printed bilingually, in Serbian and in the language of the national minority which is in official use. In that regard, there is an obligation of the authorities and Police stations in Bujanovac, Preševo and Medveđa to provide bilingual confirmations which are issued to the citizens on the basis of records of issued identity cards and residence in Albanian language and orthography. Due to failure to comply with this obligation, the National Council of the Albanian

¹²³ Official Gazette of FRY, no. 11/02, Official Gazette of Serbia and Montenegro, no. 1/03 – Constitutional Charter and Official Gazette of the RS, no. 72/09 – other law.

National Minority submitted requests for initiation of the proceeding before the Ombudsman of the Republic of Serbia against the Ministry of Interior, and this proceeding is pending.¹²⁴

The Law on the Official Use of Languages and Scripts is not implemented in any public company in the municipalities of Bujanovac, Preševo and Medveđa, neither in the medical centres of these municipalities, and doctors' reports are also not bilingual. On the other hand, state public services which act in these municipalities and institutions have never applied the principle of bilingualism to the parties of the Albanian national minority as the language which is equal pursuant to the law.¹²⁵

With entering into force of new Law on Organization of Courts and the Law on Seats and Territorial Jurisdiction of Courts and Public Prosecutors of 2008, the implementation of which commenced as of 1 January 2010, there have been some issues with functioning of the courts in accomplishing of the rights of the citizens of Albanian national minority with residence in the municipalities of Preševo, Bujanovac and Medveđa, primarily, in the sense of use of Albanian language and script in the proceedings before relevant court. In the Basic Court in Vranje, where previous Municipal Courts of Preševo and Bujanovac were included as court units, 5 judges of Albanian nationality were elected, which is 11.62 per cent compared to the total number of 43 judges planned for the Basic Court. Since the Basic Court covers 7 municipalities in the district of Pčinj where Albanians constitute 25 per cent out of the total number of citizens, above stated number of judges of Albanian nationality is insufficient to secure efficient application of the principle of bilingualism. Up to the moment of delivery of this report, there has been only one proceeding in Albanian language and orthography in the Basic Court in Vranje, court unit in Preševo. All other proceedings in these courts and prosecutor's offices were solely in Serbian language with use of Cyrillic script.

New package of laws for the reform of judiciary adopted at the regular session of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia on 20 November 2013, Law on Amendments to the Law on Public Prosecutor's Office, Law on Amendments to the Law on Judges, Law on Amendments to the Law on Organisation of Courts, as well as the Law on Seats and Territorial Jurisdiction of Courts and Public Prosecutor's Offices, *inter alia*, regulate the network of basic and misdemeanour courts and public prosecutor's offices on the territory of South Serbia, i.e. in the municipalities where Albanian language is officially used. Pursuant to Article 2 paragraph 1 item 6, Misdemeanour Court is not established in Bujanovac, but Misdemeanour Court in Vranje,

¹²⁴ Number of the case based on the Ombudsman is 16-1813/13; **Examples:** Decision issued by the PS Bujanovac only in Serbian language and orthography, number 27-2609/12-103 date 26 December 2012; Decision issued by the PS Bujanovac only in Serbian language and orthography, number 205-99/11k date 05 May 2011; Decision issued by the PS Bujanovac only in Serbian language and orthography, number 205-384/12 date 20 February 2013; 205-27/13p date 30 May 2013; 205-98/13 date 27 May 2013.

¹²⁵ Recommendation of the Ombudsman of the RS number 16-998/12 of 13 July 2012

with the department of that court in Bujanovac, and pursuant to item 30 of the same Article and paragraph, Preševo shall continue to have the Misdemeanour Court. Pursuant to Article 3 paragraph 1 item 10, Bujanovic should have Basic Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Bujanovac and Preševo, but these legal solutions do not stipulate that the Municipality of Preševo should have the Basic Court as a prerequisite for use of Albanian language and script. The same applies to the municipality of Medveđa for which there is no plan for establishing of the Basic Court. Pursuant to Article 9 paragraph 1 item 14 of this Law, for the area of the Basic Court in Bujanovac with court unit in Preševo, Basic Public Prosecutor's Office is planned with the seat in the Municipality of Vranje, and with the department in Bujanovac. Such structuring of the courts and public prosecutor's offices disables accomplishing of the rights to official use of Albanian language and script in this branch.

Due to lack of implementation of the Law on the Official Use of Languages and Scripts by the Business Registers Agency, i.e. due to significant insufficiencies in the provisions of the Law on Procedure of Registration in the Business Registers Agency¹²⁶, (which does not stipulate that the name of commercial entity registry should be also written in the language and orthography of a national minority), there have been several misdemeanour court proceedings against commercial entities which wrote the name of the company both in Serbian language and orthography and in Albanian language and orthography in the municipalities where the law guarantees the right to the official use of Albanian language and orthography. Example: several proceedings in the Misdemeanour Court in Preševo and Misdemeanour Court in Vranje- judicial unit in Bujanovac.

There are obvious problems in implementation of the Law on Associations¹²⁷ in practice and in the procedure of registration of the associations of the national minorities, as well as in regard to information on internet presentation of the Business Registers Agency (which is in charge of maintenance of the registry of associations). Namely, there are no notifications or forms on the internet presentation of the Agency for filing of the requests in the languages of the national minorities which are in official use on the territories of the municipalities covered by the organisational units of the Business Registers Agency.

Only Article 13 of the Law on Associations stipulates that: "The association's name, if so stipulated by its statute, may also be in the language and script of a national minority. The name in the national minority's language and script shall be entered in the Register after its name in the Serbian language and in the Cyrillic script." However, neither the Law, nor accompanying rules of the Minister for state administration on the method, contents, procedure or entry and maintenance of the Registry of associations, contain the provisions which would regulate actions of an authorized official with the requests and articles of incorporation submitted in a minority

¹²⁶ Official Gazette of the RS, no. 99/2011.

¹²⁷ Official Gazette of the RS, no. 51/2009.

language. This practically disables accomplishment of the right of the members of the national minority to legally submit documents in own language, in case it is in official use on the territory where that authority or service works, which in this case is an organizational unit of the Business Registers Agency.

The National Council of the Albanian National Minority shall continue to use solutions defined by the law and with relevant state institutions, in order for the official use of language and script to be fully implemented as defined by the law. Establishing of the mechanism in state administration for accomplishing of these individual and collective rights is the priority of the Council.

5.2. Supplement of the National Council of the Hungarian National Minority

Article 8 paragraph 1 item e)

According to the information available to the National Council, Hungarian language, i.e. professional terminology in mother tongue as a special course at the universities/faculties is not studied in Serbia. Furthermore, referring to lack of staff that could check the tests in Hungarian language, after long term positive practice, entrance exam in Hungarian language for the Law School of the University of Novi Sad was cancelled.

Although the state does not prevent introduction of mother tongue as a subject in institutions for higher education, the state has not made any steps in order to provide an equal opportunity at the faculties where there is a great number of students who are members of a national minority to study professional terminology in their language. This insufficiency has direct influence on other fields of language use in Serbia, because without staff, experts, professors who speak both Serbian language and language of a national minority, there cannot be court, administrative proceedings in minority languages, while information, i.e. education in those languages is of lower quality due to the lack of knowledge of technical terms, and in general, it is more difficult to accomplish the goals set forth in the Charter.

Article 9 paragraph 1

In the last two years, the National Council has received several complaints by court interpreters because of delays in payments of their costs of translation by the courts. Based on the explanation of the courts, they did not allocate (sufficient) funds for those purposes, i.e. the funds were allocated centrally.

Although the Constitution of Serbia and many laws guarantee the right to court proceedings in minority languages which are in official use, the state ratified only those provisions of the Charter which enable use of language during the proceeding with the assistance of an interpreter.

However, in case court interpreters fail to appear due to unsatisfactory financing, even this right could not be accomplished. We would like to emphasize here that recently there was a case before the Constitution Court of the Republic of Serbia due to breach of right to use of language before the court, the constitutional appeal was dismissed as unlawful with the explanation that in case the defendant was provided the right to use mother tongue with the assistance of the interpreter, then there was no breach of right to a court proceeding in mother tongue (Uz-1615/2009 of 01 March 2012) – although these rights, both based on their contents and pursuant to the Constitution and Charter are different and present two special rights within a court proceeding.

The second problem is that there is no adequate education and training for the interpreters in Serbia, which is related to an already described problem in higher education. Therefore, court interpreters for the official minority languages in Serbia are often insufficiently competent.

Article 9 paragraph 3

In 2011, the National Assembly provided financial means for translation of the most important laws for the needs of the Members of the Parliament who are members of the Hungarian national minority, but due to frequent amendments to the regulations those translations should be regularly updated, which is done with the assistance of the National Council. Another problem is the fact that apart from the Provincial Secretariat for Education, Administration and National Communities, no other authority posted these translations on their website.

Article 10 paragraph 1 item a (v)

The National Council filed the complaint to the Provincial Ombudsman and the Ombudsman on behalf of the members of the Hungarian national minority against the Republic Geodetic Authority – Sector for Real Estate Cadastre, due to the breach of right to an official use of a document in Hungarian language, in the specific case a sale and purchase agreement. Relevant authority obliged the citizen to deliver certified translation of the agreement, although Hungarian language is equally in official use on the territory of work of that authority.

Furthermore, in the letter of the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights, State Administration and Local Self-Government no. 291-90-00-00026/2012-04 of 17 May 2012, the National Council as a self-government of the Hungarians in Serbia was ordered to deliver translation of its annual work plan because based on that authority the National Council was not considered as a member of the Hungarian national minority, and based on that authority this right belonged only to individuals and not to legal entities. Here, we would like to emphasize that the Charter primarily protects the language and use of language which cannot be complied with if this right is limited in a way to deprive collectives of their right.

Article 10 paragraph 2 item d)

None of the current regulations in Serbia impose the obligation to local authorities to publish their documents in local official publications in the official minority language. Although based on the provision on equal use of language in official use it can be concluded that this obligation of the local self-government exists, there is no adequate control by the state in regard to this obligation.

5.3. Supplement of the National Council of the Macedonian National Minority

The National Council of the Macedonian National Minority is of the opinion that in the Third Periodical Report on application of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, special attention should be given to the following elements:

- Since 2009, Macedonian language and its Cyrillic script are in official use in the settlement of Jabuka – the Municipality of Pančevo, and in the settlement of Dužine – the Municipality of Plandište. Since the end of 2012, Macedonian language and its script are in official use in the entire territory of the Municipality of Plandište.

- By publishing of the curricula for Macedonian language with elements of national culture to be taught from the first to the fourth grade of primary schools in Serbian language in October 2011, Macedonian language was reintroduced into the educational system in the Republic of Serbia. Due to delays in publishing of the curricula, the first class with 5 pupils was formed in school year 2012/2013, which gave the opportunity to the youngest members of the Macedonian community to study their mother tongue for 2 classes per week as part of their schooling. The National Council of the Macedonian National Minority is of the opinion that in order for Macedonian language to have more equal position with other languages of smaller national communities, it is necessary to transfer the national minority language with elements of national culture in primary schools from elective into optional subjects, that is, to put it in the same group with the civic and religious education. Besides this, it is necessary to shorten the procedure for production of textbooks and to allow the use of the textbooks from the country of origin. One specific problem is the recognition of school certificates, regardless of whether those certificates are received in the Republic of Serbia or in the Republic of Macedonia.

From the above-stated, it is obvious that all of the requirements have been met for Macedonian language and its Cyrillic script to be moved from the Part II of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages to the Part III of the said Charter.

5.4. Supplement of the National Council of the Ruthenian National Minority

According to the 2011 Census, 14,246 members of the Ruthenian National Minority live in the Republic of Serbia. Out of that number, 13,928 Ruthenians live in Vojvodina and 318 in other parts of Serbia. The highest concentration of the Ruthenian national minority members is in the

municipalities of Kula, Vrbas, Novi Sad, Djurdjevo and Šid. According to the data from the aforementioned census, 11,340 citizens cited Ruthenian as their mother tongue.

Ruthenian language is in official use in the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, 5 municipalities and one local community.

Ruthenian national community is considered to be one of the traditional minorities in these territories where they have been living for over 260 years, and where they have built their educational, cultural, information, religious and other institutions.

The comment on implementation of the recommendations of the Committee of Ministers in regard to the Second Periodical Report

Recommendation no. 1

Activities focused on increase of awareness and tolerance in Serbian society at large vis-à-vis the regional or minority languages and the cultures they represent, are mostly implemented in Vojvodina, while such activities are not sufficiently present in other parts of Serbia. Some rare exceptions are the celebration of the International Day of Mother Tongue organized by the Ministry of Education, and *The School of Friendship – Tara* project which, *inter alia*, also promotes multiculturalism. Among numerous activities and projects in Vojvodina implemented by provincial authorities, schools and non-governmental organisations, it is necessary to highlight the Radio-Television Vojvodina's television show *The Palette*. The show is of documentary and educational character and it presents different aspects of lives of minority communities; it is broadcast in ten languages with Serbian language subtitles.

Recommendation no. 4

The Book of Rules on Ongoing Professional Training and Qualifications of Teachers, Pre-School Teachers and Expert Associates stipulates that the ongoing professional training programmes for national minority languages shall be approved by the Pedagogical Institute of Vojvodina. In 2012, one professional seminar was held for the training of teachers teaching in Ruthenian language that was accredited according to the abovementioned Book of Rules.

The Law on Textbooks and Teaching Aids regulates the publishing of low-circulation textbooks (which include textbooks in minority languages). According to that Law, every licensed publisher has the right to publish low-circulation textbooks, but it also has an obligation to participate in the provision of funds for the publishing of low-circulation textbooks in proportion to their circulation. The Law even stipulates fines – from monetary to cancellation of license – for failure to participate in the provision of funds for such textbooks. If none of the licensed publishers include in their plans the publishing of low-circulation textbooks, the competent ministry is obliged to announce a tender. However, these provisions of the Law are not

functioning in practice. In the 2012/2013 school year, there was a lack of 27 textbooks for teaching in Ruthenian language, where 23 textbooks should have been printed out only as supplemental circulation. It is the same situation with textbooks in other minority languages.

Recommendation no. 5

In communication with the state authorities in the areas where Ruthenian language is in official use, there are still practical problems due to the lack of employees speaking Ruthenian language.

Recommendation no. 6

Entering the names in a national minority language in electronic personal documents (identity cards, driving licenses, passports...) is complicated due to the lack of appropriate software that supports all languages and scripts of national minorities.

PART II Article 7 – OBJECTIVES AND PRINCIPLES

Paragraph 1

c)

Financing of the work of the National Council of the Ruthenian National Minority by the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights slightly increased in 2010 compared to 2009. National councils based in Vojvodina are financed from the provincial budget. After the decrease in 2009, the amount of funds for the national councils returned in 2010 to the previous years' level. From 2011, the amount of funds from the state and the provincial budget has increased, but the method in which the funds from both of those levels are allocated to the national councils has changed. The current allocation of funds puts more value on the level of development of institutions and offices of education, information, culture, the number of pupils schooled in their mother tongue, the number of the media broadcasting the programme in minority languages, official use of language in local self-governments... than on the number of members of a national minority in the total population of Serbia. In line with this, since 2011, even though it represents a small community, the National Council of the Ruthenians has been receiving slightly higher percentage of funds than some bigger communities with less developed institutions in the abovementioned areas.

The Law on the National Councils of the National Minorities stipulates that local self-governments have an obligation to finance the work of those national councils whose languages are in official use in their territory. This obligation is slowly starting to be fulfilled, but the amount of funds allocated for this purpose depends on the financial capacities and the will of local self-governments and is mostly not in line with the real needs of the national minorities.

All national councils are of the opinion that the amount of these funds is still not sufficient for an efficient professionalization and quality engagement of the national councils in all the segments prescribed by the Law on the National Councils of the National Minorities.

e)

National councils, as per their capacities, ensure preservation and development of ties inside language groups. The Coordination of the National Councils, as an informal organization gathering representatives of all national councils of the national minorities and the Federation of Jewish Communities, besides the joint resolving of problems and joint approach towards state authorities and the public on the issues common to all national minorities, also improves cultural cooperation and exchange between various national minorities.

f)

The National Council of the Ruthenian National Minority is of the opinion that the limit of not less than 15 pupils for forming of a Ruthenian language class or for teaching Ruthenian language with elements of national culture is too high. The possibility of forming a class with fewer pupils is not sufficiently known not only to pupils and their parents, but also to the principals in schools where there are pupils interested in education in Ruthenian language and to the appropriate school administrations. Therefore, there are some good examples of schools where there are classes with low number of pupils, but also some examples of combining of pupils of various ages into one group or even examples of groups not being approved due to insufficient number of pupils (this refers to teaching Ruthenian language with elements of national culture).

i)

The National Council has initiated signing of an inter-regional agreement between the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina and the Subcarpathian Area in Ukraine, which is expected to be signed by the end of year, after extensive harmonisation of the text of the agreement. In addition, the signing of a similar agreement between Vojvodina and the Prešov Region in Slovakia has also been initiated at the beginning of this year. We have still not received a response to this initiative. The National Council of the Ruthenians has made a decision on initiating the signing of several other agreements with regions in the European countries where members of the Ruthenian national minority live.

Paragraph 3

The Ministry of Human and Minority Rights established in 2008 by the Law on Ministries was transformed in 2011 into the Ministry for Human and Minority Rights, State Administration and Local Self-Government which included the Department for Human and Minority Rights. After the 2012 elections in Serbia, the new Law on Ministries cancelled this Ministry and formed the Office for Human and Minority Rights in the Government of Serbia, and the cancelled

Ministry's jurisdiction in the field of human rights has been partly taken over by the Office and partly by the Ministry of Justice.

During the monitoring cycle, the Council of the National Minorities of the Republic of Serbia did not meet once. The last meeting was held on 30 October 2009, also after a several years long break.

The Law on Local Self-Government stipulates that the nationally mixed local self-governments shall form a Council for Inter-Ethnic Relations which "examines the issues of implementation, protection and improvement of national equality". The National Council of Ruthenians, in accordance with this Law, and at the request of local self-governments, proposed the members to these Councils; however, in some municipalities, these Councils were not even constituted, and in other municipalities, they are not functioning.

Part III Article 8 – EDUCATION

Education in Ruthenian language in these areas has over two and a half centuries long tradition. In 1753, two years after the immigration to today's territory of Vojvodina, Ruthenians established their first school in Ruthenian language, and in 2012, they marked the 110th anniversary of the pre-school education. Since 1970, there has also been a secondary school (grammar school) – the only one in the world with teaching in Ruthenian language; in 1981, a Department for Ruthenian Language was established at the Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad (today, it is the Department of Ruthenian Studies).

Paragraph 1 a) Pre-school education

Education in Ruthenian language exists in three pre-school institutions: in Ruski Krstur, Ruthenian language is used in all groups, from the youngest age to the preparatory pre-school classes, while in Djurdjevo and Kucura there are Ruthenian language groups only for the preparatory pre-school education, while either Serbian language or Serbian and Ruthenian combined are used in younger age groups.

In bigger towns and cities (Novi Sad, Subotica, Vrbas...) where due to high dispersion of children who are members of the Ruthenian community it is not possible to form pre-school groups in Ruthenian language, there is a possibility of studying Ruthenian language with elements of national culture. In Novi Sad and Vrbas, in several pre-school facilities, Ruthenian language exists as an optional subject; in Kula, the teaching is organised occasionally, in line with the number of children interested in it, while in Subotica, the Ruthenian language teaching on the pre-school level is organised only as a section of an association of citizens – the Association of Ruthenians in Subotica.

For the preparatory pre-school curriculum, there are Ruthenian language authors' textbooks, and for the subjects of mathematics and *The World around Us*, the textbooks translated from Serbian language are used.

In the 2012/2013 school year, 154 pre-school children were included in education in Ruthenian language.

Paragraph 1 b) Primary education

In primary schools in Vojvodina, regular teaching in Ruthenian language is carried out in 3 primary schools – in Ruski Krstur, the entire teaching is carried out only in Ruthenian language, while in schools in Kucura and Djurdjevo there are special classes in Serbian and in Ruthenian language. Studying of Ruthenian language with elements of national culture is organized in 8 municipalities (Novi Sad, Vrbas, Žabalj, Kula, Bačka Topola, Šid, Subotica and Sremska Mitrovica) in 28 schools.

Authors' textbooks are used for teaching of Ruthenian language and music culture, while the textbooks translated from Serbian language are used for other subjects where there are also textbook supplements for history and arts culture adding the Ruthenian national elements to the teaching content.

There are also authors' textbooks for teaching of Ruthenian language with elements of national culture as an optional subject.

In the 2012/2013 school year, regular teaching in Ruthenian language was attended by 487 pupils, while 334 pupils studied it as an optional subject.

Paragraph 1 c) and d) Secondary education

Secondary education in Ruthenian language is carried out in one grammar school in Ruski Krstur. Ruthenian language with elements of national culture is an optional subject in several secondary schools in Šid and Novi Sad (grammar schools and technical and vocational education).

There are authors' textbooks for the subject of Ruthenian language, while the textbooks translated from Serbian language are used for other grammar school subjects.

In the 2012/2013 school year, 65 pupils attended the grammar school in Ruthenian language, while 72 pupils chose Ruthenian language as an optional subject in Serbian language secondary schools.

Paragraph 1 e) University education

For over 30 years, the Department of Ruthenian Studies has been functioning at the Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad, and for the last several years, there has been a Department of Media Studies – Journalism, where students can attend their mother tongue classes in Serbian, Hungarian, Slovakian, Romanian and Ruthenian language.

So far, over 35 students graduated from the Department of Ruthenian Studies, and there are around 20 students currently studying there. At the Department of Journalism, there are two students who attended their mother tongue classes in Ruthenian language.

General comments on education in Ruthenian language

The Ruthenian national minority in the Republic of Serbia has all the conditions for education in its own language, from pre-school to university level, but the big problem is the decreasing number of pupils and students registering for the classes in Ruthenian language. The reasons for this are: negative birth rate, decrease in number of the Ruthenian community members due to their emigration to other countries, enrolment of Ruthenian children in classes taught in Serbian language (especially children from mixed marriages), dispersion and gradual and inevitable assimilation.

There are several practical problems in organisation of teaching of mother tongue with elements of national culture. The status of the mother tongue as an optional subject is on an inappropriately low level because it is in a group with other, attractive optional subjects where pupils can choose only one subject. There have been several initiatives for the persons belonging to national minorities to be able to choose one more optional subject if they take their mother tongue; however, this proposal has not been included in the Amendments to the Law on Basic Principles of the Educational System, the rules on forming of classes, or instructions on optional subjects.

It would be advisable to re-establish the previous practice of having a school supervisor for teaching in Ruthenian language, that is, an advisor for Ruthenian language and literature, which has been nonexistent in last several years for Ruthenian language. His/her engagement and role in the pedagogical work of schools with teaching and cultivation of Ruthenian language is very important, not only from professional, but also from organisational aspect: for the preparation of curricula, professional training of teachers, organisation of knowledge competitions for Ruthenian pupils, publishing of textbooks, etc.

Article 9 – JUDICIAL AUTHORITIES

Paragraph 1 and 2

The existing legal regulations fully provide for the use of Ruthenian language in courts. However, the situation is different in practice. The results of several different analyses show that in most of the courts there is no appropriate ratio of the judges who are members of the national minorities, and there are also not enough employees in other positions in courts with knowledge of minority languages in official use.

Paragraph 3

Among the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina's authorities, there is also a Ruthenian language translation pool translating the most important laws into Ruthenian language.

General comments on judicial authorities

Although the legal regulations provide for the use of Ruthenian language before the court and in trials, this possibility is rarely used in practice, for several reasons:

- lack of court staff with knowledge of Ruthenian language results in the situation that even when the use of Ruthenian language is requested, it is simply not possible (the Decision of the Supreme Court has confirmed the Decision of the Basic Court in Sombor stating that there are no conditions for conducting of court proceedings in Ruthenian language because they do not have a judge with knowledge of that language).
- members of the Ruthenian national minority often do not request or they even waive their rights to use their own language in court proceedings because, in practice, the use of majority language shortens and simplifies the court proceedings.
- legal regulations do not prescribe sanctions for non-compliance with provisions on the use of language and script.

Article 10 – ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITIES AND PUBLIC SERVICES

Ruthenian language is in official use in the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, the City of Novi Sad, the municipalities of Kula, Vrbas, Žabalj, Sid, and in the local community of Novo Orahovo (the Municipality of Bačka Topola). In these local self-governments, the place names are mostly also displayed in Ruthenian language, but the names of streets, squares and other toponyms are in most cases displayed only in Serbian language. The exceptions are the villages with predominant Ruthenian community (Ruski Krstur, Kucura, Djurdjevo...) where the boards with

street names are displayed in both Serbian and Ruthenian language. The boards with the names of administrative bodies and public services are mostly displayed in Ruthenian language, too.

Members of the Ruthenian national community are not proportionately represented in the state and administrative bodies and public services, and there is a lack of employees who speak Ruthenian language which makes submitting of oral or written applications in Ruthenian language more difficult. Certain forms are available as bilingual (i.e. health insurance booklets), but sometimes there are not enough copies which forces citizens to use the requested form only in Serbian language.

The use of Ruthenian language in the Provincial Parliament debates is fully ensured and it is applied as needed. So far, the use of minority languages in local parliaments has not been the subject of examination by the National Council of Ruthenians.

The use of family and personal names is not prohibited, but personal documents are mostly issued only in Serbian language, due to unsuitable software. At a person's request, personal documents are issued as bilingual, but only if that person has been entered in the registry books bilingually (in Serbian and in mother tongue). If this is not the case, a request must be submitted for change/amendment of registry book entry. The request may not be submitted at local (community) offices, but it needs to be submitted at the local self-government's head office, and then, only after the receipt of the decision, bilingual documents may be issued.

As in the case of judicial authorities, there are no prescribed sanctions for non-compliance with legal provisions on official use of language and script.

Article 11 – MEDIA

Radio broadcasting agency of Vojvodina, Radio Television of Vojvodina, broadcasts both radio and television programme in Ruthenian language. The reception of both signals is still unsatisfactory in certain areas due to outdated technical equipment. The only possibility to get these programmes in those areas is via Internet.

With different durations (from 1 hour per month to 1.5 hours per day), radio and TV programme are also broadcast by several local and regional broadcasters the majority ownership of which is in the hands of the state bodies (local self-governments).

Privatisation of electronic media and the state's withdrawal from their ownership pose big and realistic threat that the broadcasting of programmes in minority languages will disappear. This is simply because the programmes in minority languages are not commercially lucrative and due to the language in which they are broadcast they are not interesting to broader community and

sponsors or donors, but only to the minority in whose language the programme is done. If the financing of production of radio and television programme in minority languages does not get resolved in an adequate way (and not through project financing, as currently proposed by the state bodies, because such type of financing does not guarantee that the funds would be approved, that the amount of funds would be sufficient for production and broadcasting, or that continuous broadcasting would be ensured), the future of minority language information will be under the question mark.

The weekly newspaper in Ruthenian language published by the Newspaper Publishing Company *Ruske Slovo* whose founding rights have been transferred to the National Council of Ruthenians, functions thanks to the regular financing from the provincial bodies as the original founders of this institution. Publishing of other press media already mostly depends on the project financing.

Article 12 – CULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES

The most important organizations whose activities are focused on preservation and cultivation of language, tradition, culture and arts, are: the National Council of the Ruthenian National Minority, the Institute of Culture of Vojvodina Ruthenians (founded in 2008 by the Government of the Autonomous Province and the National Council of Ruthenians), Ruthenian National Theatre *Petro Riznic Djadja* (founded in 2003 by the National Council of t Ruthenians), the Association for the Ruthenian Language, Matica Rusinska, Association of Ruthenians and Ukrainians, as well as around fifteen associations of citizens, mostly cultural-artistic and cultural-educational.

The National Council of Ruthenians has established around 20 Ruthenian events which, through their programmes, the best represent all aspects of the Ruthenian community's culture and which are financed from the budget of the National Council.

Activities of the Institute of Culture of Vojvodina Ruthenians are financed from the provincial budget, while all other institutions and associations (except the National Council) are financed only through projects. The Law on Culture and the Law on Local Self-Government have made the financing of the minorities' associations of citizens more difficult because the budget of the local self-governments is used for financing only of their concrete projects, but not for their direct costs (except the possibility for the local self-government to provide to associations of citizens space for their work). When an association of citizens whose activities greatly contribute to preservation and development of national identity and culture does not have funds for covering its basic direct costs (heating, telephone bills, electricity...), then the work of such association comes to depend primarily, if not only, on the level of volunteerism of its members. This is mostly the case with smaller national communities such as the Ruthenian, that do not have sufficient number of sponsors, donors... to provide bigger donations that could finance the

work of the associations of citizens. The Provincial Secretariat for Education, Administration and National Communities is the only one appropriating funds for regular functioning of associations of citizens, and it is done through tender.

Financing of cultural activities by the state bodies on all levels is done through projects, in the amounts that usually do not meet the needs of national minorities, and when the budget re-balances are done for the state, provincial or local budgets, the first item that gets cut is the one related to culture.

Publishing activities of the Ruthenian community members are mostly focused on publications of the Newspaper Publishing Company *Ruske Slovo*, and they are mostly financed from the budget of the Provincial Secretariat of Culture and Public Information. Some of the writers also publish their books through private publishers, using their own money or with the help of sponsors.

Theatre activities in Ruthenian language exist in one professional theatre and in several amateur drama sections functioning as part of cultural-artistic associations. Due to the fact that preparation and performance of a theatre play require more finances than preparation of some other types of cultural or artistic expression, the number of amateur premiers decreases every year and some drama sections even shut down because their managements are more reluctant to decide to prepare theatre plays due to lack of funds. The status of professional theatres is also questionable, since the theatres are also financed solely through projects, and the National Council of Ruthenians as the founder does not have enough funds to cover direct costs (more details on this issue are provided in the supplement to the Alternative Report in the 2. monitoring cycle). The current situation is such that the professional theatre does not have any employees, director's position is on voluntary basis, and the local self-government has still not shown enough political will to take over the theatre's founding rights or at least to cover its direct costs.

There is no library, museum, archive, gallery... where the books or displays would gather the entire cultural opus or heritage of the Ruthenian national minority. However, several libraries have books in Ruthenian language; in the Archive of Vojvodina, the Theatre Archive, and the Museum of Vojvodina and in several galleries, there are various works of art, documents, displays that showcase the existence of Ruthenians in these territories.

General comments on application of the European Charter

The legal framework of the Republic of Serbia provides for application of all provisions of the Charter. The problem is that the laws adopted are not being applied in practice, or they are applied partially. The Law on the National Councils of the National Minorities gives high authorities to national councils in the field of education, culture, information, official use of

language and script... On the other hand, special laws regulating these fields are not harmonised with the Law on the National Councils, regardless of the fact that some of them were adopted on the same day (the Law on the National Councils and the Law on Culture). For example, the Law on Textbooks regulates publishing of low-circulation textbooks (in national minority languages) in an acceptable way, but due to oversights in its application, pupils attending classes in their mother tongue cannot use all the textbooks because they are simply not printed out.

The optional subject of the mother tongue with elements of national culture should have the status of a compulsory optional subject and the mother tongue grade should be a part of the grade point average calculation at the end of school year, while forming of groups should be more flexible and possible even for the low number of pupils. With such conditions, more children and their parents would choose studying of Ruthenian language. If the state does not provide such conditions, less and less pupils would attend the mother tongue classes and the interest in the studying would decrease, which would result in higher and faster assimilation of Ruthenian community and would definitely contribute to disappearance of Ruthenian language from these territories.

The Republic of Serbia's Council for the National Minorities is the body that should consolidate and resolve all issues in the areas of importance for national minorities in one place, but the Council is completely non-functional.

5.5. Supplement of the National Council of the Croatian National Minority

The general impression is that the Republic of Serbia has partly fulfilled its obligations, especially through adoption of regulations, but these are rarely implemented in practice.

More concrete views and objections are given in the text below, per articles, paragraphs and items of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages.

Education (Article 8)

1.

a) There is pre-school education in Croatian language in four kindergartens in the territory of the city of Subotica, solely at parents' initiative.

b) The worst condition is in this area. Formally, there is a primary education in Croatian language in five primary schools in the territory of the city of Subotica, at the initiative of the community representatives (the National Council and parents), and in the villages of Žednik (the Municipality of Subotica), Monoštor (the Municipality of Sombor), Sonta (Apatin), Vajska and Plavna (the Municipality of Bač) and Sremska Mitrovica it is possible to study Croatian language with elements of national culture as an optional subject, also at the initiative of the community representatives. In the 2012/2013 school year, 286 primary school pupils and 126 secondary school pupils attended classes in Croatian language. When it comes to the Croatian language

with elements of national culture, in the 2012/2013 school year, the total of 379 primary school pupils and 37 secondary-school pupils attended that class.

However, the issue of textbooks for teaching in Croatian language and for the Croatian language with elements of national culture has not been resolved at all and the authorities delay process for approval of textbook translations; they do not finance the printing, but it is rather financed only by the National Council so the pupils study from books written in Serbian or from notes; import of textbooks from Croatia is approved for very limited number of textbooks, because they are more or less not in line with the curriculum in Serbia according to which the Croatian language teaching is also carried out; requirements for Croatian language teachers are not completely regulated; the teachers who graduated in Serbo-Croatian language faculties are formally qualified, and the existing norm that those who know the language can teach is not applied in practice because school principals do not want to employ teachers from other schools with knowledge of minority languages; particularly, professional training of teachers is not possible considering the fact that there is no study programme in Croatian language in the Republic of Serbia.

For the previous 2012/2013 school year, the textbooks for Croatian language as mother tongue were published only thanks to the efforts of BIGZ (Publishing and Graphics Institution of Belgrade) publishers. The Croatian National Council bought the textbooks as support to education in Croatian language and donated them to pupils, while the Ministry of Education refused to refund the costs for the first four grades, which made the pupils attending classes in Croatian discriminated against in the free textbooks programme since that programme applied to all other pupils. For the current 2013/2014 school year, solely thanks to the efforts of the Croatian National Council and of the publishers, despite the obstructions from the Ministry of Education and the Institute for the Promotion of Education – through delays in giving approval for translations, the textbooks are waiting to be printed out. The entire work was financed by the Croatian National Council; the Ministry of Education did not contribute even one dinar. The textbooks for the higher grades are translated, but the Ministry will not provide funds for translation and publishing. The Ministry of Education ignores any constructive contacts with the Croatian National Council aimed at resolving issues of education in Croatian language.

c) Teaching in Croatian language is carried out in two secondary schools in Subotica – the Grammar School and the Polytechnic School. For this school year, there was an intention to open a section in the Chemical-Technological Secondary School, but this was not approved by the competent ministry. Everything that was said for the primary schools also applies to secondary schools – not one textbook has been printed out so far, and there are issues with teachers, their professional training, etc. The import has been approved for only few textbooks from Croatia.

d) This is not implemented.

e) This is not implemented at all, despite numerous initiatives from the Croatian National Council.

f) This is not implemented.

g) There are curricula, but the textbooks have not been published; schools are reluctant to conduct polls among pupils and they do that only due to the pressure from the Croatian National Council; and, the subject is not attractive because it falls into the group of second optional subjects in primary schools, together with the subjects of Computer Science, Protectors of the Nature, Home Economics, Folk Tradition; it is also planned as two hour per week class, while other optional subjects are one hour per week; there is an initiative by the Coordination of the National Councils of the National Minorities for the optional subject of mother tongue with elements of national culture to be offered as a third optional subject, but there is still no response from the education bodies regarding this; in secondary schools, it is studied as an elective subject that does not count towards the teachers' norm, which makes the teachers unmotivated to teach it.

Judicial authorities (Article 9)

1.
 - a) The laws stipulate the right;
 - b) This is implemented.
 - d) This is not implemented.
2.
 - a) This is implemented.
 - b) This is implemented.
 - c) This is implemented.
3. This is not implemented, except for the minority legislation, but that is also to a very small extent.

Administrative authorities and public services (Article 10)

1.
 - a) This is implemented.
 - c) This is not implemented.
2.
 - b) This is respected.
 - c) This is respected on the level of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina.
 - d) This is implemented in Subotica, but not in the territories of other municipalities with the settlements where Croatian language is in official use (the total of 6 villages in Vojvodina: Monoštor/Bački Monoštor, Sonta, Bereg/Bački Breg, Sot, Batrovci, Stara Bingula) outside of the municipality of Subotica, and there are no any consequent results in other areas (signboards on institutions, forms, ballots, etc.), including also this obligation accepted by the Republic of Serbia.

g) The decision on traditional names of places is not respected in the six abovementioned settlements in Vojvodina, except in the city of Subotica, but it is also not respected in the villages around Subotica (Mirges/Ljutovo, Bajmak/Bajmok). Introduction of Croatian as a language in

official use in the six abovementioned villages usually meant only that the municipality or city statute was amended, but everything that needed to follow after that was missing (Sot, Batrovci, Bereg....). Particularly, in Sot and Batrovci, nothing has been done regarding this after the amendment of the Šid Municipality Statute. In Bereg, only some signboards were amended in line with the Croatian National Council's decisions on traditional names of places, so that there are two boards next to each other (Local Office and Local Community) with Bački Breg written on one and Bereg on the other board.

3.

c) This is respected

4.

c) This is not implemented.

5. This is respected.

Media (Article 11)

1.

a) Legal norms exist.

b) Regular broadcasting of radio programme in Croatian language has been done once a week through the Vojvodina public radio agency since 2012, but from the first day until now, there are still unresolved issues of editorial board, employees, work space, change of broadcasting times (unattractive time slot at 21:00 on Saturdays), and a possibility to broadcast the show more than once a week, if not on daily basis, which other, even smaller minority communities (especially Romanian and Ruthenian) with programmes in this agency already have; three-hour radio show is broadcast daily on Radio Subotica, but if this radio station gets privatised (which is planned for the local media according to the media strategy), the programme in Croatian language would not survive, which means that a large area inhabited by the members of our community would not be covered by radio shows in mother tongue that contribute to preservation of culture, customs, tradition and language; there are also two-hour weekly shows on Radio Sombor and Radio Bačka: Radio Sombor provides only a free broadcast time slot for the show which is produced solely by the Croatian Cultural Association *Vladimir Nazor* from Stanišić, while Radio Bačka from Bač produces the show on its own, and its editor is not employed at the radio station but he is a free-lance contributor to the Croatian Association and this radio station mostly plays music.

c) There is a regular broadcasting of television programme in the form of a ten-minute News Journal in Croatian language on the Radio Television of Vojvodina six days per week, but until now there are still unresolved issues of editorial boards, employees, freelance contributors, work space, almost non-existent work equipment, expansion of time slots, or editor in chief – other national communities that have their programmes on this television do not have these issues. There are also two half-hour time slots for cultural and political shows, but due to the abovementioned unresolved issues, these shows have not been established as regular. We

especially emphasise the fact that the Television of Vojvodina does not respect the legal authority of the Croatian National Council to propose editor in chief for the Croatian language programme, because it cancelled the competition and appointed its own candidate as acting editor in chief.

e) It is true that printing of the weekly newspapers in Croatian is financed from the provincial budget, but the amount from that budget is 10-20% lower than for other minority weeklies (Slovakian, Ruthenian, Romanian); however, even that amount will be under question mark, because with the adoption of new media laws, primarily the Law on Public Information and Media, the budget financing will be cancelled and those newspapers would not be able to survive without budget assistance.

f) Only small funds are given in other tenders – either general tenders at competent republic or provincial ministries (secretariats), or minority-related tenders that include other minority projects.

2. This is respected when it comes to radio and television programmes, although, several years ago, the Republic Radio-Broadcasting Agency wanted to cancel broadcasting of Croatian programmes on cable channels, but it later abandoned that idea. Press media from Croatia are almost not distributed in Serbia at all.

3. This is not respected.

Cultural activities and facilities (Article 12)

1.

a) This is not implemented, except in Subotica (it is not implemented in the Republic, the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina and other local self-governments where Croatian language is in official use)

b) This is currently not an issue, due to absence of language barriers.

c) The same as above.

f) This is not implemented at all, except partly in Subotica, i.e. in the Historic Archive and the Artists' Meetings, but not in the National Theatre or in the Children's Theatre.

2. This is implemented through financing of the Institute of the Culture of the Croats of Vojvodina, through the tenders of the Provincial Secretariat for Education, Administration and National Communities, and, for very small amounts of funds, through the tender of the Ministry of Culture. However, regarding the tenders announced by the Ministry of Culture and the Provincial Secretariat for Culture, there is a lack of information on any criteria for the funds allocation, especially to minority communities, and the Ministry of Culture completely disrespects the proposals of the Croatian National Council regarding allocation of funds which are based on authorities stipulated by the Law on the National Councils of the National Minorities.

We especially emphasize that the programme activities of the cultural institutions, except partly in Subotica, there are no programme contents related to culture and cultural works of the Croatian language speakers.

Economic and social life (Article 13)

1.

c) As well as in other areas of life, the authorities, primarily the state authorities, that is, republic (but not on the level of Vojvodina and the city of Subotica, where the taken obligation is mostly respected) and local self-government authorities in the settlements where Croatian language is in official use, do not have the policy of encouraging the use of minority languages, or the policy of opposing the practice of discouraging the use of Croatian language.

Cross-border exchange (Article 14)

a) Bilateral agreements with the Republic of Croatia that could contribute to solving of these issues, especially those dealing with cooperation and culture and education, do not have any influence on this issue.

b) This is not applied.

5.6. Supplement of the National Council of the Czech National Minority

The period between the second and the third report on application of the European Charter is very important for the Czech national minority because of the establishment of the National Council of the Czech National Minority. Due to the adoption of new Law on the National Councils of the National Minorities in 2009, the provisions of which significantly simplify establishment of national councils, the Czech community in Serbia established its own National Council and it has just completed the third year of its mandate.

Establishment of the National Council of the Czech National Minority has given an opportunity to the Czech community to represent the interests of its members on the highest level, and this is seen as a significant progress compared to the period before its establishment.

OBJECTIVES AND PRINCIPLES in accordance with Article 2, paragraph 1

In regard to compliance with the objectives and principles of the Charter, the State of Serbia recognizes Czech language as a form of cultural treasure, and it does not limit the studying of Czech language on any level. However, Czech language does not belong to the group of protected languages and the objective of this community is for Czech language to receive that status.

EDUCATION

Due to permanent assimilation of the Czech national minority members, their number decreased according to the results of the latest census. Percentage of the Czech language speakers has

slightly increased, primarily thanks to the courses organized in Serbia during the last ten years with assistance from the Government of the Czech Republic, and thanks to the introduction of the subject of *Czech language with elements of national culture* into the educational system of the Republic of Serbia back in 2011.

Teaching in Czech language used to be carried out in several schools in the Municipality of Bela Crkva, from the first to the fourth grade – in Češko Selo from 1852 to 1974, in Bela Crkva till 1960, and in Kruščica till 1964. Teaching was cancelled due to lack of qualified teaching staff, inability to continue schooling in Czech language and decrease in the number of pupils attending these classes.

Since the establishment of Matica Češka in Bela Crkva (1997), there were several requests for introduction of Czech language with elements of national culture in primary schools in the Municipality of Bela Crkva. For several reasons, these requests were not fulfilled until the establishment of the National Council.

Currently, the curricula for all primary school grades have been adopted and a textbook for the first grade has been created.

In the 2011/2012 school year, 8 pupils in the first grade of the Primary School *Sava Munćan* in Kruščica attended these classes, and in the 2012/2013 school year, there was the total of 25 pupils (9 in PS *Žarko Zrenjanin* in Bela Crkva, 3 in PS *Dositej Obradović* in Bela Crkva, 2 in PS *Miša Stojković* in Gaj and 10 in PS *Sava Munćan* in Kruščica).

The biggest problem concerning the studying of *Czech language with elements of national culture* is the production and printing of textbooks which requires significant funds and for which we expect the state bodies to find appropriate solution.

Since 1999, studying of Czech language has also been also carried out through elective courses for pupils in primary and secondary schools. Special classes are organised two times a week for adults, most of whom are the members of the Czech minority. The number of participants varies each year.

In these courses, significant percentage of participants is of Serbian and other nationalities. The programme is organized in separate groups for various language skill levels.

The courses are free, with the Czech language literature also provided for free. They are part of the official programme of the Government of the Czech Republic, and the Czech Ministry of Education fully covers the costs of the guest teachers in Serbia.

In addition, every summer, Charles University in Prague organizes free one-month language courses for the Czechs in Diaspora from around the world, and besides the language studying, the goal of the courses is also to learn about the Czech culture and tradition, as a kind of promotion of that country.

At the Department of Slavic Studies of the Faculty of Philology in Belgrade, there are regular studies of Czech language.

Every year, depending on funds availability, the National Council of the Czech National Minority provides several scholarships for students or pupils by announcing scholarship competition.

JUDICIAL AUTHORITIES

Thanks to the Serbian authorities' assessment of importance of the use of minority languages in multiethnic environments, Czech language is recognized as a minority language and it has been in official use in the municipality of Bela Crkva for decades, even though the number of minority members does not exceed legally defined census. This is an example of a good practice carried out by the Government of Serbia with regard to the members of this national community.

However, due to reorganisation of courts, the Basic Court in Bela Crkva was turned into a court unit of the Court in Vršac, and is currently facing possible closure. Parties, lawyers and judges travel over 70 kilometres every day for hearings in Vršac, which is completely uneconomic.

The biggest problem is the fact that Czech language is in official use only in the municipality of Bela Crkva, while it is not so in Vršac, so members of the Czech community cannot address institutions in their mother tongue and fulfil their right guaranteed by law which they were able to fulfil in Bela Crkva.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND PUBLIC SERVICES

Due to the Municipality of Bela Crkva's status of an undeveloped municipality, and due to fewer employees in public services, it is not possible to ensure the use of Czech language in those services, in terms of submitting requests and receiving responses in Czech language.

In addition, forms and other documents are not available in Czech language, except during parliamentary and other elections.

MEDIA

Establishment of the National Council of the Czech National Minority has significantly contributed to the Czech community in terms of its presence in written and electronic media.

As per distribution schedule of frequencies in Serbia, the Municipality of Bela Crkva got only one radio broadcasting frequency with local coverage, and at the Republic Radio-Broadcasting Agency's tender, municipal radio station *Radio Bela Crkva* founded by the local self-government received the license, while the non-governmental sector's radio station *Radio Sunce* which used to broadcast daily programme in Czech language got closed, which was a great loss for the Czech community.

There is one show left on the municipal radio station *Radio Bela Crkva* and it is broadcast once a week (on Mondays) for 60 minutes, with a rerun on Wednesdays that was arbitrarily cancelled in 2012 by the director of that public company. Radio presenter's fees are paid by the National Council of the Czech National Minority.

In every other aspect, there is an obvious significant progress in the field of information: on the regional Television Banat located in Vršac, a TV show is broadcast once a month for 40 minutes, with a rerun.

In addition, this TV Company frequently produces pieces about the Czech community in its information programmes and forwards them to the TV Novi Sad. The costs of production and broadcasting are covered by the National Council.

Since 2011, the *Beseda Češka* newspaper is published by the National Council as a bilingual monthly, with circulation of 350 copies. In 2011, publishing of this newspaper was supported by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia. Regular publishing has become difficult lately due to high costs of low-circulation printing.

There are often articles in Serbian and Czech language about the Czech community sent by the National Council members and published by the newspapers *BC Fleš* (a monthly) and *Vršačka Kula* (a weekly). News correspondent from Bela Crkva occasionally writes articles for Novi Sad-based *Dnevnik* newspapers.

In 2011, a web presentation www.savetceha.rs was created with lot of visits and regular updates. More recently, information about the Czech minority may also be found on the *Minority News* Internet portal.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES

The National Council of the Czech National Minority has taken over the founding rights of the Czech Library in Bela Crkva with around 4000 books, some of which are of great historical value, and of the Museum of the Czechs in Češko Selo. Thanks to the funds for development activities received by the National Council based on these founding rights, its own investments and the funds of the Government of the Czech Republic, these institutions present the highest cultural value of the Czech community.

Many cultural events, shows, concerts, exhibitions which promote and preserve Czech tradition and culture, are held in Czech associations, in *Češke Besede*, and they present an important factor in preservation of the mother tongue. These events are financed indirectly from the budgets of the Republic of Serbia and the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, through the National Council, as well as directly, through tenders to which these associations apply.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL LIFE

In terms of economic and social life, members of the Czech national community are quite equal with all citizens in the areas they live in.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members of the Czech minority are encouraged by efforts of the Committee of Ministers to use its recommendations to assist state bodies and national communities on the road to implementation of the Charter's objectives. As a small community, the Czech minority will, in line with its capacities, take over certain part of obligations and assess the level of exercising of its rights, in the best interest of all.