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EUROPEAN CHARTER FOR REGIONAL OR MINORITY LANGUAGES

**Second periodical report
presented to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
in accordance with Article 15 of the Charter**

ROMANIA

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Second periodical report **on the implementation by Romania of the *European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages***

Introduction

Since the first report regarding the implementation of the *European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages*, submitted on 26 October 2010, the Romanian authorities have continued their efforts towards consolidating the general system of protection of the rights of persons belonging to national minorities, considered to be one of the defining elements of the democratic society built up after 1989. Having ratified the *Charter* in 2007 and currently undergoing the second monitoring cycle, Romania has deepened its experience in applying this European instrument and has improved its cooperation with the Committee of Experts of the Charter, as well as with other relevant structures of the Secretariat of the Council of Europe. This process has unfolded simultaneously with the complex process of monitoring the implementation of the *Framework Convention on National Minorities*, both instruments currently creating a solid legal system of protection of the rights of persons belonging to national minorities by the Romanian state.

The second report covers the interval 2010-2013, during which relevant measures aimed at further improving interethnic relations in Romania were taken. In the reporting period, Romania took steps towards creating a system that will allow for a more structured approach of the implementation of the *Charter* to be adopted. This approach will involve a close cooperation between institutional actors and the organisations that represent persons belonging to national minorities and also the process of developing an improved data collection system.

Taking into account that Romania is now only undergoing the second monitoring cycle of the implementation of the Charter and given the complexity of the undertaking, there are still a number of commitments that constitute challenges at the level of implementation. However, significant progress has been made as to the overall implementation since the submission of the first report and the present report tries to highlight the progress as well as clarify the particular questions/requests transmitted by the Committee of Experts. The present report therefore consists of five main parts. The first three are dedicated to a detailed analysis of the current demographic situation according to the 2011 census and of the relevant legislative framework in force. The other two are devoted to the analysis of each of the minority languages covered by Part II and Part III of the *Charter*, as specified in the outline transmitted by the Committee of Experts.

During the reporting period, Romania continued to improve its legislation, the functioning of the institutions and the implementation of the relevant policies concerning the rights of persons belonging to national minorities. All this was a result of the direct and constant participation of the representatives of persons belonging to national minorities.

In two decades of democratic evolutions, during which it became a member of the Council of Europe and of the European Union, Romania developed a complex, inclusive and well-articulated system of protection of the rights of persons belonging to national minorities, and intends to further improve it through adequate public policies.

Part I – Number and geographic distribution of speakers of regional or minority languages and the general demographic situation. Minority language situation in Romania (including validated 2011 census data)

a. Analysis of census results and methodology

In the last three censuses held in Romania after 1989 (1992, 2002, 2011), questions regarding ethnic affiliation and mother tongue were included. The declaration of ethnic affiliation and mother tongue was voluntary, without any constraints, and was recorded as declared by citizens. The complete privacy of these declarations was guaranteed.

According to the census methodology, ethnicity was defined as an attachment to a particular group based on cultural traits, such as language and/or traditions. Mother tongue was defined as the first language customarily used within the family of origin in early childhood.

The final and official results of the 2011 census were based on a specific methodology: the data obtained from classic censuses (all-inclusive population head count) were corrected on the basis of population registers. This correction was considered necessary because at the moment of the census the pollsters were unable to contact many families who were living abroad. In the case of persons whose relevant data were extracted from population registers, ethnic affiliation and mother tongue were not registered. Thus, out of 20.1 million persons included in the overall population, for 6.1% there are no data regarding ethnic affiliation and mother tongue. The 2011 census data on mother tongue and ethnicity presented in the report include therefore only the population that was directly questioned during the census. When interpreting the data and the analysis presented herein, the above mentioned methodological aspect should be considered.

On 4 July 2013, the National Institute for Statistics (INS) published on its official internet site the final results of the 2011 census. The data reveal a general decreasing trend of the population of Romania, which entails a similar trend as regards the number of persons belonging to national minorities. The data below¹ show the comparative analysis of the ethnic structure of Romania's permanent population in 2011 and 2002.

<u>Ethnics</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2011</u>
Hungarians	1,431,807	1,227,623
Roma	535,140	621,573
Ukrainians	61,098	50,920
Germans	59,764	36,042
Turks	32,098	27,698
Lippovan Russians	35,791	23,487
Tatars	23,935	20,282
Serbians	22,561	18,076
Slovaks	17,226	13,654
Bulgarians	8,025	7,336
Croatians	6,807	5,408
Greeks	6,472	3,668
Italians	3,288	3,203
Jewish	5,785	3,271
Czechs	3,941	2,477

¹ Source: <http://www.recensamantromania.ro/rezultate-2/>

Polish	3,559	2,543
Armenians	1,780	1,361
Macedonians	695	1,264

b. Presentation of the regional or minority language situation in Romania based on the data collected in the 2011 census

As stated in the first report, Romania applies the *Charter* to 20 regional or minority languages. Ten languages are covered by Part II only: Albanian, Armenian, Greek, Italian, Macedonian, Polish, Romani, Ruthenian, Tatar, and Yiddish.

Furthermore, another ten languages are covered by both Parts II and III: Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, German, Hungarian, Russian, Serbian, Slovak, Turkish and Ukrainian.

According to the **census conducted in 2011**² and its results, published in July 2011, the current situation of the **20 languages** is the following:

Albanian

In the census of 2011, Albanian belonged to the group of “other languages”. The number of Albanian speakers is estimated at about 500. They are concentrated in Constanța, Craiova and Bucharest. Albanian is covered by Part II of the *Charter*.

Armenian

According to the 2011 census, there are 1,361 Armenians in Romania, out of which 739 declared Armenian as their mother tongue. The Armenian language is covered by Part II of the *Charter*.

Bulgarian

According to the 2011 census, 7,336 persons belong to the Bulgarian minority, out of which 6,518 declared the Bulgarian language as their mother tongue. The Bulgarian minority is compactly settled in Timiș and Arad counties and spread in several counties of Southern Romania, mainly along the Danube. Bulgarian is covered by Parts II and III of the *Charter*.

Croatian

According to the 2011 census, 5,408 persons belong to the Croat minority, out of which 5,167 declared the Croatian language as their mother tongue. The Croat minority is concentrated in Caraș-Severin and Timiș counties. Croatian is covered by Parts II and III of the *Charter*.

Czech

According to the 2011 census, 2,477 persons belong to the Czech minority, out of which 2,174 have Czech as their mother tongue. The Czech minority is concentrated in the Caraș-Severin and Mehedinți counties (Moldova Noua, Orșova, Eibenthal/Eibentál). Czech is covered by Parts II and III of the *Charter*.

² Data regarding the permanent population based on ethnicity and declared mother tongue is available at http://www.recensamantromania.ro/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/sR_TAB_11.xls

German

According to the 2011 census, 36,042 persons belong to the German minority, out of which 26,557 declared German to be their mother tongue. The German minority includes several geographical groups: the Transylvanian Saxons, *Landler* (near Sibiu/Hermannstadt), Zipser Germans (northern Transylvania), Sathmar Swabians (Satu Mare), Banat Swabians, *Banater Berglanddeutsche* (Germans of the Banat mountain region in/around Reșița), Bukovina Germans, Dobrogea Germans, and urban communities (Bucharest, Iași, Craiova and others). German is covered by Parts II and III of the *Charter*.

Greek

According to the 2011 census, there are 3,668 Greeks in Romania, out of which 2,561 speak Greek. They are concentrated mostly in urban areas – Bucharest, Ploiești, Pitești, Târgoviște, Craiova, Constanța, Iași, Brașov etc. Greek is covered by Part II of the *Charter*.

Hungarian

According to the 2011 census, 1,227,623 persons (6.1% of the total population of Romania) belong to the Hungarian minority, the most numerous minority in the country, and 1,259,914 persons speak Hungarian as a mother tongue. The Hungarians represent the majority population in the counties of Harghita/Hargita and Covasna/Kovácsna. Significant proportions of Hungarians also live in the counties of Mureș/Maros, Satu Mare/Szatmárnémeti/Sathmar, Bihor/Bihar and Sălaj/Szilágy and also in Bucharest. Hungarian is covered by Parts II and III of the *Charter*.

Italian

In 2011, the census registered 3,288 Italians, out of which 2,210 speak Italian. They live mainly in urban areas – Bucharest, Galați, Timișoara, Oradea, Iași etc. The Italian language is covered by Part II of the *Charter*.

Macedonian

In the census of 2011, 1,264 persons declared themselves Macedonians. There are 769 speakers of Macedonian as a mother tongue. The number of Macedonian ethnics doubled compared to 2002. A possible explanation is that many persons belonging to the Aromanian community (*Macedo-romanians*, “*machedoni*”), who speak the Aromanian dialect of the Romanian language, declared themselves Macedonians (“*macedoneni*”) by mistake, given the almost similar sound of the two ethnonyms. This assumption is based on the fact that many of the persons residing in Constanta and Tulcea counties, where significant groups of Aromanians are traditionally concentrated, show up in the census data as “Macedonians”. The Macedonian language (of Slavic origin) is covered by Part II of the *Charter*.

Polish

In Romania, according to the 2011 census, 2,543 people belong to the Polish minority, out of which 2,079 speak Polish. A large portion of the Polish-speaking population is concentrated in Suceava county. The villages of Calafindesti (704 speakers) and Manastirea Humorului (642) have a high number of speakers. Polish is covered by Part II of the *Charter*.

Romani

According to the 2011 census, there are 245,677 Romani speakers in Romania. It is obvious that large numbers of Roma do not identify themselves as Roma and Romani speakers in censuses, thus displaying a tendency of language shift (which will be analyzed in a subsequent sub-chapter of the present report). Unofficial estimates of the number of Roma

range from 1.2 million to 2.5 million. The 2011 census shows however **a significant increase in the number of Roma**, caused by the fact that more persons have declared their Roma ethnicity in 2011, compared to 2002. This increase is the result of the involvement of Roma organisations that have encouraged this trend, of the participation of the Roma ethnics in the census, and of the talks with the members of the community. Romani is covered by Part II of the *Charter*.

Russian

According to the 2011 census, the Lippovan Russian minority in Romania amounts to 23,487 individuals, of whom 18,346 declared the Russian language as their mother tongue. The Russian minority is concentrated mainly in Dobrogea (mostly in the Danube Delta), but is also present in Moldavia and Wallachia. Russian is covered by Parts II and III of the *Charter*.

Ruthenian

In the 2011 census, Ruthenian belonged to the group of “other languages”/ “other ethnic groups”. According to the information provided by the Cultural Union of the Ruthenians in Romania, the 2011 census indicated there are 548 Ruthenian ethnics, an increase in number compared to the 2002 census. Ruthenian is covered by Part II of the *Charter*.

Serbian

According to the 2011 census, 18,076 persons belong to the Serbian minority, 16,805 of which declared the Serbian language as their mother tongue. The Serbian minority is concentrated in the following counties: Arad, Timiș, Caraș-Severin, and Mehedinți. Serbian is covered by Parts II and III of the *Charter*.

Slovak

According to the 2011 census, 13,654 persons belong to the Slovak minority, of whom 12,802 persons declared Slovak as their mother tongue. The Slovak minority is concentrated in the Arad, Bihor, Sălaj and Timiș counties. Slovak is covered by Parts II and III of the *Charter*.

Tatar

In the census of 2011, 20,282 people declared themselves Tatar ethnics. 17,677 of them stated that their mother tongue is Tatar. Tatar speakers live in the counties of Constanța and Tulcea, as well as in Bucharest. Tatar is covered by Part II of the *Charter*.

Turkish

According to the 2011 census, 27,698 persons belong to the Turkish minority, of whom 25,302 declared Turkish as a mother tongue. The Turkish minority is concentrated in Dobrogea (Constanța and Tulcea counties). Turkish is covered by Parts II and III of the *Charter*.

Ukrainian

According to the 2011 census, 50,920 persons belong to the Ukrainian minority, of whom 48,910 declared the Ukrainian language as their mother tongue. Most Ukrainians live in Maramureș, Suceava, Caraș-Severin, Timiș, Tulcea, Arad, Botoșani, and Satu Mare counties. Ukrainian is covered by Parts II and III of the *Charter*.

Yiddish

Yiddish is spoken in Romania by a part of the members of the Jewish community, namely 643 people of the total of 3,271 people that declared themselves of Jewish ethnicity in the 2011 census. Yiddish is covered by Part II of the *Charter*.

c. Dynamics of the major linguistic groups of Romania³

As a general trend, **Romania's population is decreasing constantly**, and (with few exceptions) the number of speakers belonging to different minority linguistic groups is decreasing too, **following this general trend**.

Table 1. *Comparative dynamics of the number of persons assuming a given mother tongue for the 2002 and 2011 censuses*

Mother tongue	Census year		Percentage in 2011 compared to 2002
	2002	2011	
Romanian	19736517	17176544	-13.0
Hungarian	1443970	1259914	-12.7
Romani	237570	245677	3.4
German	44888	26557	-40.8
Ukrainian	57407	48910	-14.8
Turkish	28115	25302	-10.0
Tatar	21272	17677	-16.9
Russian	29246	18946	-35.2
Serbian	20411	16805	-17.7
Slovak	16027	12802	-20.1
Bulgarian	6735	6518	-3.2
Croatian	6355	5167	-18.7
Italian	2531	2949	16.5
Greek	4170	2561	-38.6
Czech	3381	2174	-35.7
Polish	2690	2079	-22.7
Armenian	721	739	2.5
Macedonian	No data	769	-
Yiddish	951	643	-32.4
Other	15887	18880	18.8
No data available	2130	1230028	-

As seen in Table 1, the number of the two largest linguistic groups (above 1 million), namely Romanians and Hungarians, decreased by roughly 13%. Similarly, the decrease of the number of persons who have Ukrainian as their first language is within the range of the average decrease of the population. The number of persons assuming Turkish as their first language diminished, but to a lesser extent compared with the average decrease of the population. The number of persons declaring Romani as their first language increased, directly influenced by the fact that there is also an increase in the number of people who declare themselves Roma ethnics. An increase could be noticed in the case of Armenians and Italians too. In these cases, the most probable explanation is immigration. The case of Bulgarians should be also

³ According to data provided by the Institute for the Study of the Problems of National Minorities

highlighted, since the 3.2 % decrease of the Bulgarian speaking population was far below the average decrease of 13 %.

Slightly above average, a **decrease** may be also noticed with respect to the Tatar, Slovak, Serbian, Croatian and Polish speakers, whereas the number of persons assuming German and Russian as their first language registered a rough decline. The Greek, Czech, Russian, German and Yiddish linguistic communities lost one third or even more of their native speakers in the 2002-2011 period.

d. Assessing the ethno-linguistic vitality of the major minority linguistic groups of Romania⁴

Based on a more subtle analysis of the dynamics of linguistic identity and the process of preservation of minority languages, further nuances can be added to the situation of Romania's linguistic minorities. This can be done based on the analysis of the degree of congruence between ethnic affiliation and linguistic identification. Since ethnicity is defined as an attachment to a particular group based on cultural traits such as language and/or traditions, we might assume that the differences in numbers between the persons declaring a certain ethnic affiliation and those assuming the language spoken by that group as mother tongue highlight specific socio-linguistic processes (e.g. language shift). In an ideal case, there is a perfect overlap between these two populations. However, if the number of persons assuming the mother tongue specific to a given group is lower than the number of those who declare themselves members of that particular ethnic group, we might assume the existence of processes facilitating language shift.

We will compare the congruence between ethnicity and mother tongue for three consecutive censuses in order to highlight the specific dynamics of the major minority linguistic communities of Romania

Table 2. *The congruence between ethnic affiliation and mother tongue for the Hungarians of Romania in the 1992, 2002, 2011 censuses*

	Census year		
	1992	2002	2011
Ethnic affiliation	1614959	1431807	1227623
Mother tongue	1639135	1443970	1259914
Congruence	101.5	100.8	102.6

Although both the number Hungarian speakers and Hungarian ethnics decreased significantly, the data of the three consecutive censuses reveal that the number of those assuming Hungarian as their first language was higher than the number of those declaring Hungarian ethnic affiliation. This is due to the fact that, in several regions, **people assuming Roma ethnicity and, in some regions, people assuming German affiliation declare Hungarian as their mother tongue.**

Table 3. *The congruence between ethnic affiliation and mother tongue for the Roma of Romania in the 1992, 2002, 2011 censuses*

	Census year		
	1992	2002	2011
Ethnic affiliation	401087	535140	621573
Mother tongue	166635	237570	245677
Congruence	41.5	44.4	39.5

⁴ Study provided by the Institute for the Study of the Problems of National Minorities

Although the number of persons declaring Romani as their mother tongue constantly increased, the congruence between ethnic affiliation and mother tongue is rather low and fluctuated during the three censuses. Less than half of the ethnic Roma declared Romani as their mother tongue (approximately 40% in 2011). The phenomenon of language shift of the Roma has deep historical traces and is specific to the large majority of Roma communities in European countries. Though the number of persons declaring Roma as their mother tongue increased in the 2002-2011 period, the indicator of congruence has lower values than at the previous censuses.

Table 4. *The congruence between ethnic affiliation and mother tongue for the Germans of Romania in the censuses 1992, 2002, 2011*

	Census year		
	1992	2002	2011
Ethnic affiliation	119462	59764	36042
Mother tongue	98530	44888	26557
Congruence	82.5	75.1	73.7

The German community in Romania drastically decreased during the last two decades and the size of the local communities shrunk dramatically due to migration, whereas the number of interethnic marriages is considerably high. Therefore, a decrease of the congruence between ethnic affiliation and mother tongue may be noticed in time. This means that people of German descent are less and less likely to assume German as their first language (mother tongue). This process may be explained by the drastic changes in the sociolinguistic conditions of the German linguistic communities. In local communities, the number and share of native German speakers is continuously decreasing and primary linguistic socialization in German (family, community) is less and less likely.

Table 5. *The congruence between ethnic affiliation and mother tongue for the Ukrainians of Romania in the 1992, 2002, 2011 censuses*

	Census year		
	1992	2002	2011
Ethnic affiliation	65764	61353	50920
Mother tongue	63585	57407	48910
Congruence	96.7	93.6	96.1

Though the number of Ukrainians decreased too, a large segment of this population still lived in settlements with a significant number of Ukrainian speakers. This is reflected by the congruence indicator that allows us to conclude the socio-linguistic conditions are relatively stable. In this case, the processes of language shift are marginal, as those assuming Ukrainian descent also assume Ukrainian as their native language.

Table 6 *The congruence between ethnic affiliation and mother tongue for the Turks of Romania in the 1992, 2002, 2011 censuses*

	Census year		
	1992	2002	2011
Ethnic affiliation	29832	32098	27698
Mother tongue	27587	28115	25302
Congruence	92.5	87.6	91.3

The Turkish language seems to have a rather stable sociolinguistic position. Although the number of people assuming Turkish as mother tongue (under the circumstances of a general decrease in the population) diminished during the last decade, the congruence indicator

increased. This means that, compared to 2002, it was more likely for people of Turkish ethnic origin to assume Turkish as mother tongue in 2011.

Table 7. *The congruence between ethnic affiliation and mother tongue for the Tatars of Romania in the 1992, 2002, 2011 censuses*

	Census year		
	1992	2002	2011
Ethnic affiliation	24596	23935	20282
Mother tongue	22754	21272	17677
Congruence	92.5	88.9	87.2

The decrease of the population assuming Tatar as their first language is faster than the decrease of those assuming Tatar ethnic affiliation. The congruence indicator (though still considerably high) gradually lowered since 1992.

Table 8. *The congruence between ethnic affiliation and mother tongue for the Russians of Romania in the 1992, 2002, 2011 censuses*

	Census year		
	1992	2002	2011
Ethnic affiliation	38606	35791	23487
Mother tongue	31447	29246	18946
Congruence	81,5	81,7	80,7

The demographic decline of the ethnic Russians (Lipovans) and Russian speakers was above country average in the 2002-2011 period. This unfavourable demographic evolution might have affected to some extent the ethno-linguistic vitality of the community since the congruence indicator registered a slight decrease. However, census data also reflect a relatively stable condition.

Table 9. *The congruence between ethnic affiliation and mother tongue for the Slovaks of Romania in the 1992, 2002, 2011 censuses*

	Census year		
	1992	2002	2011
Ethnic affiliation	19594	17226	13654
Mother tongue	18283	16027	12802
Congruence	93.3	93.0	93.8

The Slovak language seems to have a rather stable sociolinguistic position. The number of persons assuming Slovak as mother tongue (under the circumstances of a general decrease of the population) diminished only slightly during the last decade, while the congruence indicator remained relatively high and stable.

Table 10. *The congruence between ethnic affiliation and mother tongue for the Czechs of Romania in the 1992, 2002, 2011 censuses*

	Census year		
	1992	2002	2011
Ethnic affiliation	5797	3941	2477
Mother tongue	4953	3381	2174
Congruence	85.4	85.8	87.8

The Czech language seems to have a rather stable sociolinguistic position. The number of persons assuming Czech as mother tongue (under the circumstances of a general decrease of the population) considerably diminished during the last decade and the congruence indicator

slightly increased. This means that the demographic decrease has not necessarily had (at least until now) a considerably negative impact on the chances of linguistic reproduction of this linguistic community.

Table 11. *The congruence between ethnic affiliation and mother tongue for the Serbs of Romania in the 2002, 2011 censuses (in 1992 Serbo-Croatian language was registered).*

	Census year	
	2002	2011
Ethnic affiliation	22561	18076
Mother tongue	20411	16805
Congruence	90.5	93.0

The Serbian language seems to have a rather stable sociolinguistic position. The number of persons assuming Serbian as mother tongue (under the circumstances of a general decrease of the population) considerably diminished during the last decade and the congruence indicator slightly increased. This means that demographic decrease has not necessarily had (at least until now) a considerably negative impact on the chances of linguistic reproduction of this linguistic community.

Table 12. *The congruence between ethnic affiliation and mother tongue for the Croats of Romania in the 2002, 2011 censuses (in 1992 Serbo-Croatian language was registered).*

	Census year	
	2002	2011
Ethnic affiliation	6807	5408
Mother tongue	6355	5167
Congruence	93.4	95.5

The Croatian language seems to have a rather stable sociolinguistic position. The number of persons assuming Croatian as mother tongue (under the circumstances of a general decrease of the population) considerably diminished during the last decade and the congruence indicator slightly increased. This means that the demographic decrease has not necessarily had (at least until now) a considerably negative impact on the chances of linguistic reproduction of this linguistic community.

Table 13. *The congruence between ethnic affiliation and mother tongue for the Greeks of Romania in the 1992, 2002, 2011 censuses*

	Census year		
	1992	2002	2011
Ethnic affiliation	3940	6472	3668
Mother tongue	2605	4170	2561
Congruence	66.1	64.4	69.8

As regards Greek, in 2011, more than 3 out of 10 persons of Greek descent declared another mother tongue than Greek. However, compared to the data of other Romanian censuses, the congruence indicator has not diminished in time.

Table 14. *The congruence between ethnic affiliation and mother tongue for the Bulgarians of Romania in the 1992, 2002, 2011 censuses*

	Census year		
	1992	2002	2011
Ethnic affiliation	9851	8025	7336
Mother tongue	9421	6735	6518
Congruence	95.6	83.9	88.8

The sociolinguistic position of the Bulgarian speakers, as reflected by the congruence indicator, is fluctuating. However, signs of stability may be noticed in the last decade. The value of congruence indicator increased from 83.9 % in 2002 to 88.8 % in 2011.

Table 15. *The congruence between ethnic affiliation and mother tongue for the Polish speakers of Romania in the 1992, 2002, 2011 censuses*

	Census year		
	1992	2002	2011
Ethnic affiliation	4232	3559	2543
Mother tongue	3047	2690	2079
Congruence	72.0	75.6	88.8

The changes of the congruence indicator for the Polish language are reflecting signs of linguistic revitalization. Although the number of ethnic Poles and Polish speakers decreased considerably, the chances for a person assuming Polish descent to learn Polish as first language has increased significantly during the last two decades.

e. Possible legal consequences regarding the protection of linguistic rights. Discussion concerning the revision of the 20% threshold⁵

According to the Romanian legislation, minority linguistic rights are granted for local linguistic communities representing at least 20% of the population in the local administrative unit. Since demographic processes may lead to positive evolutions, a list of such communities will be presented for consideration for the implementation of the linguistic rights as stipulated by the domestic regulations and international conventions signed by Romania. According to the data provided by the relevant institutions, there are 29 administrative units where the percentage of minority population increased and reached the legal threshold of 20% (see table below).

Administrative units where, according to the 2011 census, the share of minority language speakers increased above 20% of the entire population of the given local administrative unit

No	Language	County	Locality	Inhabitants 2011	% of minority language speakers 2011	% of minority language speakers 2002
1.	Hungarian	Bihor	LUGASU DE JOS	3 480	26.06	19.16
2.	Hungarian	Satu Mare	APA	2 575	25.40	15.52
3.	Romani	Dolj	CATANE	1 741	45.55	13.09
4.	Romani	Caras-Severin	TICVANIU MARE	1 908	34.38	12.97
5.	Romani	Mehedinti	GRUIA	3 028	31.90	16.69
6.	Romani	Dolj	COTOFENII DIN FATA	1 803	30.50	0.00

⁵ According to the information provided by the Institute for the Study of the Problems of National Minorities

7.	Romani	Buzau	RIMNICELU	4 444	29.43	0.32
8.	Romani	Teleorman	BUZESCU	3 746	29.12	17.46
9.	Romani	Dolj	VARTOP	1 564	28.58	18.57
10.	Romani	Bihor	LAZARENI	3 146	25.43	18.62
11.	Romani	Bacau	BUCIUMI	2 808	24.39	12.96
12.	Romani	Bihor	BATAR	4 686	23.84	15.45
13.	Romani	Mures	OGRA	2 308	23.70	19.13
14.	Romani	Dolj	AMARASTII DE JOS	5 318	23.24	15.40
15.	Romani	Salaj	BOGHIS	1 877	23.07	13.34
16.	Romani	Caras- Severin	RACASDIA	1 882	22.90	19.13
17.	Romani	Bistrita- Nasaud	CICEU MIHAIESTI	1 282	22.85	12.71
18.	Romani	Caras- Severin	VARADIA	1 302	22.43	14.80
19.	Romani	Vaslui	ORAS MURGENI	6 423	22.19	13.16
20.	Romani	Dolj	NEGOI	1 853	21.69	9.51
21.	Romani	Dambovita	POTLOGI	8 496	21.60	19.97
22.	Romani	Salaj	SAG	3 225	21.58	14.15
23.	Romani	Dolj	URZICUTA	3 085	21.17	13.37
24.	Romani	Calarasi	SARULESTI	3 131	20.79	13.77
25.	Romani	Mures	BEICA DE JOS	2 251	20.52	8.16
26.	Romani	Mures	BAND	6 214	20.02	13.56
27.	Ukrainian	Timis	VICTOR VLAD DELAMARI NA	2 521	22.13	19.19
28.	Ukrainian	Tulcea	CRISAN	1 218	21.51	6.93
29.	Turkish	Constanta	BANEASA	5 017	21.87	16.98

It is necessary to emphasize that, according to the legislation in force, in the event of an unfavorable demographic evolution, if the share of a given minority population falls below the threshold of 20%, **they will enjoy the most favourable linguistic status granted by the Law no. 215/2001** (art. 131 of the aforementioned law, republished on 29 February 2007).

Mention should therefore be made that there are cases, such as the counties of Sibiu, Timis, Constanta, Arad and Bacau that have maintained the bilingual place-name signs, although the share of the minority population **has fallen beneath the 20% threshold**, according to the

2011 census. In **Bacau** county, the place-name signs in Hungarian were maintained in the villages of Faget, Tarhausi, Ghimes and Fagetul de Sus. In **Arad County**, there are 30 localities that display bilingual place-name signs, most of them in Hungarian. In 13 of these localities, the share of German and Hungarian ethnics has fallen beneath 20%, but the respective place-name signs were maintained (see **Annex no. 10**). In **Constanta county**, there are 5 localities that display bilingual place-name signs (all in Turkish except the locality of Ghindaresti that displays the place-name in Russian). In two of these localities, the share of minority ethnics has fallen below 20% (see **Annex no.11**). In Timis county, there are 29 localities that display bilingual or multilingual place-names. In 14 of these localities, the share of minority ethnics has fallen below 20%, but the respective place-names have been maintained. The same is true for the county of Sibiu in which bilingual or multilingual place-name signs have been maintained although the share of German or Hungarian ethnics is below 20% (see **Annex no.12** for data on Timis and Sibiu counties).

Part II – Recommendations to be addressed as a matter of priority. Developments that are expected to occur in the next monitoring cycle that may have a direct or indirect effect on the situation of the regional or minority languages. New legal provisions adopted after the submission of the first State Report. Relevant considerations as to the existing legislative framework and its implementation

1. Developments that are expected to occur in the next monitoring cycle that may have a direct or indirect effect on the situation of the regional or minority languages

As regards the developments that are expected to occur in the next monitoring cycle, the Government would first like to address the question of the **Constitutional revision**.

This is a complex process that entails several procedural steps, such as an approval by the Legislative Council and the Constitutional Court of Romania. It is to be underlined that the revision process of the Romanian Constitution does not affect the rights of the persons belonging to national minorities.

Important actors of the civil society such as universities, NGOs, etc. have submitted their proposals, via the *Constitutional Forum*, to the parliamentary commission for the elaboration of the legislative proposal for the Romanian Constitution. The interests of the minority/regional language speakers have been duly taken into account in the debate phase of the proposals and in the draft revision law resulted.

According to the national procedure, on 17 February 2014, the Constitutional Court of Romania pronounced itself as regards to the draft revision law. Following the request for legal assessment of the Government of Romania, the *Opinion on the draft law on the review of the Constitution of Romania* was adopted by the Venice Commission at its 98th Plenary Session which took place on 21-22 March 2014.

Based on the recommendations and decisions of the Venice Commission and the Constitutional Court of Romania, the revision process is expected to continue in 2015.

As regards the **draft law on the territorial-administrative re-organisation of Romania**, it is to be mentioned that the reorganisation will not be done on ethnicity-connected criteria. The future 8 regions in which Romanian is to be organised will be established according to **economic efficiency** criteria, with a view to a better accession of European funds by regional entities. The territorial-administrative reorganisation will in no case be conducted on ethnic criteria.

The decentralization process was prompted solely by the need to narrow down the economic development disparities between Romania and the other EU member states. It is therefore a process aimed at consolidating Romania's performance as an EU member state. None of the measures are intended to affect the rights of persons belonging to national minorities, nor the system of protection developed with the aim to protect and promote their rights.

The Government would like to also emphasize that the activities reported on in the current report, have been affected by the economic and financial crisis that has entailed, as a main consequence, the reduction of available resources. This has affected all public institutions (both at central and local level) one way or another, and it should be taken into account that these institutions have been and **will continue to fulfill their tasks in an efficient manner**,

under conditions of budgetary reductions. The effects of the economic and financial crisis on the state budget will also be present in future years.

2. Relevant considerations as to the existing legislative framework and the implementation of the Charter. New legal provisions adopted after the submission of the first State Report.

Is it to be emphasized that, in the interval 2011-2013, despite the difficulties entailed by the financial crisis, **there were no significant changes in the budgets allocated to the minority organisations that are members of the Council of National Minorities.**

The **financial support** granted by the Government of Romania, through the Department for Interethnic Relations (DIR) to the 19 organisations, members of the Council of National Minorities, evolved as follows:

2010	70,000,000 lei, according to GD (Government Decision) no. 100/ 2010;
2011	73,710,000 lei, according to GD no. 56/ 2011;
2012	79,200,000 lei, according to GD no. 31/ 2012;
2013	83,160,000 lei, according to GD no. 111/ 2013.

A significant part of these budgets was used for several types of activities aimed at preserving and promoting minority languages. Thus, according to Government Decision no. 111/2013, the budgets allocated to national minority organisations include:

- Expenditures for the publishing of reviews, books and school textbooks;
- Expenditures for the organization of cultural and scientific events, symposia and other such events in the country and abroad;
- Human resources expenditures (for the employees of the organisations, their publications, etc.).

Particular aspects on each of the fields covered by Part III of the Charter:

A. EDUCATION

- a. **As regards the Recommendations of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on the application of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages in Romania** (Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 13 June 2012 in the framework of the 1145 meeting of the Ministers' Deputies):

“Develop comprehensive educational models for teaching languages in/of Tatar and Turkish, in cooperation with representatives of the minority language speakers”

Adopted measures: - The Turkish language, history and culture-based teaching approach was maintained (teaching of 3-4 hours / week of Turkish for grades 1st to 12th and 1 hour / week of history and traditions of the Turks and Tatars for grades 6th and 7th). Out of the more than 4,700 students attending these classes in the 2012-2013 school year, 380 were kindergarten children.

- Teaching positions and funding for the courses on the language and history of the Turks and Tatars were provided. In the 2010-2011 school year, 45 teachers taught Turkish, as well as the history and traditions of the Turks and Tatars in Romania, while four teachers taught optional

classes of the Tatar language in 4 schools in Constanța county (*M. Dragomirescu* School in Medgidia – grades 1st to 8th, *Lumina* School – grades 1st to 8th, *Emil Racoviță* High School in Techirghiol, *Mihai Kogălniceanu* High School in Mihai Kogălniceanu).

- Funding continued to be provided every year for the Turkish National Olympics, (for instance, the sixteenth edition, January-April 2012) and for the participation in the International Turkish Olympics in Turkey.

- Improvement of the curriculum continued, as well as publishing of educational materials and textbooks for the language, history and traditions of the Turks and Tatars, intercultural education etc. The Ministry of Education published the Turkish language and literature textbooks (grades 1st to 8th), entitled “The history and traditions of the Turks and Tatars of Romania”.

- At university level, Turkish is taught in the Turkish language and literature departments. In the 2000-2010 period, about 80 Turkish school principals, as well as teachers of kindergarten, primary and secondary education, graduated from the Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures of the University of Bucharest, the Faculty of Letters of *Ovidius* University in Constanța, and the *Kemal Atatürk* Institute in Medgidia, Constanța county. Turkish is also taught at the Institute of Turkish and Central Asian Studies of the *Babeș-Bolyai* University in Cluj-Napoca (since 2009), and at the Faculty of Languages and Literatures of the *Dimitrie Cantemir* Christian University in Bucharest (since 2011).

- After a very positive experience of two private international high-schools (in Constanța and Bucharest), as a result of a bilateral arrangement between Romania and Turkey, a private Romanian-Turkish university was also opened in Bucharest (*Lumina* University).

*“provide the basic and further training of a sufficient number of teachers to fully implement the undertakings under Article 8 with regard to **German, Hungarian, Turkish and Ukrainian**”*

Adopted measures:

For German language:

Initial teaching training is done in universities. There is a wide range of academic study lines (about 70). Some of the major universities that train teachers are:

- *Babeș - Bolyai* University in Cluj-Napoca (Mathematics - Computer Science, Chemistry and Chemical Engineer, Biology, Geology, Geography, Literature, Political Science, History, Philosophy, Psychology, Science Education)
- *Lucian Blaga* University of Sibiu
- Western University of Timișoara,
- *Transilvania* University of Brașov,
- University of Bucharest,
- *Alexandru Ioan Cuza* University of Iași etc.

The Centre for Lifelong Training in German (CFCLG) of Mediaș, with a branch in Timișoara, is a unit of the Ministry of National Education and its main goal is to provide training programs for teachers of German as mother tongue and of German as a foreign language at primary, secondary and high school levels.

CFCLG conducted the following activities in 2010-2013:

Table 1

School Year	Preschool	Primary education	German language	German language disciplines

	Activities	Participants	Activities	Participants	Activities	Participants	Activities	Participants
2010-2011	18	400	20	391	42	1019	7	113
2011-2012	16	215	18	295	34	454	7	90
2012-2013	17	204	26	275	47	480	10	125

It should be mentioned that the training of teachers of German is constantly supported also through projects promoted by various NGOs, such as **the Annual International Conference of the Association of Teachers of German Language of Romania (www.deutschlehrerverband.ro)**. The members of the Associations are teachers of German language as foreign language and as mother tongue that belong to all ethnic minorities in Romania. Representatives from professional associations of teachers of German from other countries attend this event every year. Within the framework of the annual conference organised by the Association, the teachers of German exchange experience and promote projects concerning the German language that are developed in different schools from Romania. Workshops are also organised as well as train-the-trainer courses organised in cooperation with the Centre for Lifelong Training in German in Medias.

For **Hungarian**:

- Academic degrees in various fields can be obtained at "Babeş-Bolyai" University of Cluj Napoca; the University of Bucharest – Foreign Languages Faculty includes a Hungarian Language division;
- Training courses are organized by the **Hungarian Teachers' Union** from Romania, during the "Bolyai" Summer Academy;
- Training sessions are also organized as part of various OPHRD projects (European funds - operational programme human resources development) as well as within CCDs (Centres for Continuous Development functioning in many counties).

Pedagogical Institutes in Hungarian:

- Pedagogical Institute in Tg. Mureş
- Pedagogical Institute in Satu Mare
- Pedagogical Institute in Tg. Secuiesc
- Pedagogical Institute in Odorheiu Secuiesc
- Pedagogical Institute in Oradea

For **Turkish**:

The continuation of the intensive training courses in Turkish language, Turkish language teaching methodology, and Turkish and Tatar language and history. 40 people attended the courses organized by the Ministry of Education every year, and there were also courses in Turkish language and methodology organized in collaboration with the Consulate of Turkey in Constanta (25 teachers from Constanta, Tulcea and Bucharest took part annually in these specialized courses). The formation courses were organized in 2013 by the Yunus Emre Turkish Cultural Institute in Nevsehir - Turkey. Academic degrees in Turkish could be obtained at the University of Bucharest.

For **Ukrainian**:

First training of teachers is done in universities, among which the University of Bucharest. Training courses are also organized in Ukrainian universities for Ukrainian school teachers

from Romania (through the Ukrainian Embassy in Romania) such as the course conducted in 2010 in Czernowitz (20 teachers from all 8 counties), in Lviv in 2011 (20 teachers from all 8 counties) and in Ivano-Frankivsk (10 teachers from Maramures, in the framework of the partnership between Ivano-Frankivsk and the Maramureş County School Inspectorate / Ministry of Education). In 2012, 15 teachers participated in another training course. A number of pedagogical circles, conferences, exchanges, contests and festivals for Ukrainian minorities were also organized.

“continue to develop a comprehensive offer of teaching in/of Romani, taking account of the needs and wishes of the Romani speakers”

Adopted measures:

- 21 places are provided every year for young Roma in the Romani language and literature section at the Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures of the University of Bucharest. Meanwhile, between 2000 – 2011, about 600 Roma teachers for primary and pre-school level, as well as Romani language teachers were trained at the same university (department ID CREDIS) and at the "Babeş-Bolyai" University of Cluj Napoca (Faculty of Psychology and Education);
- Continuation of the intensive summer courses in English and Romani language teaching methodology for future teachers of Roma language and history. 56 persons were trained every year in courses organized and financed by UNICEF MEN. The program started in 1999;
- Preserving the language, history and culture of the Romani in the teaching approach (teaching of 3-4 hours / week of Romani language at grades I-XII and 1 hour / week of Roma history and traditions, for the sixth and seventh grades). Of the 220,000-260,000 students who assume Roma identity annually (kindergarten children and grade 1-12 students), 32,158 study language classes and history of Roma or Romani language (a total of 863 are kindergarten children);
- Further support for Romani language teaching at primary school level and for bilingual teaching methods (Romanian-Romani, Romani-Hungarian). In the 2012-2013 school year, more than 20 kindergartens providing teaching in Romani used bilingual teaching methods;
- Providing jobs and funding for the Roma language and history teachers and for the school teachers that teach in Romani. Every year, 443 teachers provide teaching of Romani history and traditions of Roma or teaching in Romani as a mother tongue;
- Maintaining the network of methodology trainers for language, history, traditions and schooling of Roma (in every county there are 2-6 trainers, of which at least one for the language, history and traditions of Roma; there is a total of 146 trainers in the country);
- Continuation of funding of the national competitions in the Romani language and history, such as the fourteenth edition of the National Olympiad of Romani (January-April 2013, 72 competitors at the national stage), the National Competition of Roma history and traditions (sixth edition, April 2013, 56 participants) and the national contest of artistic creation in Romani (second edition, April 2013); organization of the first edition of the International Romani Olympics (June 2013, Oradea) with the participation of students from Romania, Serbia and Turkey;
- Continued development of curriculum and educational materials, publishing textbooks and auxiliary manuals for language, history and traditions of Roma, intercultural education and diversity, etc. The Ministry of Education provides the whole set of textbooks for Romani language and literature, history and traditions of Roma used in the compulsory education system up to the 12th grade, and also at university level. In the years 2012-2013 four mathematics textbooks in Romani were published in partnership with UNICEF;

- Continued drafting of new regulations and reviewing of the existing ones, initiated by MEN on Roma educational opportunities, in the context of the new National Education Law no. 1/2011; drafting the methodology on the study of: Romani as a native language, Romani literature, the history and traditions of the persons belonging to national minorities, and the study of music in the mother tongue (Order of the Ministry of Education no. 5671/2012).

New legal provisions adopted after the submission of the first state report in the education field

Law on National Education no. 1/2011

In 2011, a new law on education was adopted (Law no. 1/2011 on National Education) which provides a more detailed legal framework for education in minority languages. The law stipulates that persons belonging to national minorities have the right to be educated in their mother tongue at all levels, types and forms of pre-university education. Groups, classes or schools with education in the minority language can be established upon request of parents or legal guardians and the number of children required for such study formations may be lower than the minimum stipulated for those with education in Romanian. It is also stipulated that schools which offer minority language education are granted the legal status of public institution if they are the only establishments providing such education in their municipality. The Law on Education includes day care (crèche) into the pre-university education system, therefore day care groups with education in minority languages may also be established upon request. The new Law on Education provides that in pre-university education with tuition in minority languages the subject „Romanian language and literature” is taught according to syllabi and textbooks especially elaborated for the national minority in question. The history and geography of Romania are taught in minority languages throughout the whole pre-university education system according to identical curricula and textbooks as for the classes with tuition in Romanian. The law also introduces a provision on the teaching of the history and culture of persons belonging to national minorities to all students in the curriculum for elementary, middle and high school education. Moreover, persons belonging to national minorities have the right to have their history and culture adequately reflected in the teaching of history. Tuition in minority languages is also granted at all levels of university education (undergraduate, masters and doctoral studies). The law grants the status of multicultural and multilanguage university to three public higher education institutions that provide education in the languages of persons belonging to national minorities: *Babeş-Bolyai* University in Cluj-Napoca, which provides tuition in Romanian, Hungarian and German, the University of Performing Arts and the University in Târgu-Mureş School of Medicine and Pharmacy, which provide education in Romanian and Hungarian. The new Law on Education establishes a principle according to which the basic financing of both pre-university educational institutions and universities with tuition in the languages of persons belonging to national minorities is calculated by using a higher quota for each student receiving education in a minority language. In the case of pre-university education, financing is also provided for children who have to commute or attend boarding schools to receive tuition in a minority language under the form of supporting transport costs or boarding and lodging costs.

Law on National Education no. 1/2011

Section 12. Education for persons belonging to national minorities

Art. 45

(1) Persons belonging to national minorities have the right to study and receive instruction in their mother tongue, at all levels and forms of education with appropriate request, in compliance with this law.

- (2) Taking into account local needs, groups, classes, sections or school units with teaching in the languages of national minorities may be established, upon request of parents or legal guardians and in compliance with the provisions of law.
- (3) Any Romanian citizen or citizen of the EU or Swiss Confederacy may enrol and study, irrespective of their mother tongue and of the language in which he/she has previously studied, to all forms of education in the Romanian language, in the languages of the national minorities, or in international languages.
- (4) High school and vocational classes with groups of students on various qualifications may be organized within the sole units and sections with tuition in the languages of the national from the respective city, in compliance with the law.
- (5) Within a territorial –administrative unit (city, town, commune), with several educational institutions with tuition in the languages of the national minorities, at least one legal entity school operates for each maternal language, irrespective of the number of students.
- (6) The sole middle schools or high schools with tuition in the languages of the national minorities from the city town or commune shall become legal entities irrespective of their number of students;
- (7) Pupils belonging to the national minorities who do not have the possibility to study in their native language in their town shall be supported by receiving the cost of the transportation at the closest school with tuition in the language of the minority in question, or shall receive free board and lodging in the boarding house of the educational institution with tuition in the language of the minority in question where they are educated
- (8) National minorities have the right to a representation proportional to the number of classes in the management of the Educational facilities, of the school inspectorates or equivalent institutions, according to the professional competence criteria, in compliance with the law;
- (9) In the schools with tuition in Romanian as well as in the languages of the national minorities, one of the principals shall be a teacher belonging to the minority in question, according to the professional competence criteria.
- (10) In the institutions related to pre-university education, located in the counties where educational institutions operate in the language of national minorities, specialists belonging to national minorities are also employed, according to the criteria of professional competence.
- (11) The teaching staff who teaches groups or classes with full tuition in the language of national minorities must prove their competence in the language of the respective minority and have the right to receive training and skills for the language in which they teach, within the country or abroad. The staff who teaches Romanian language and Literature is exempt from the obligation to prove their professional competence in the language of the respective minority.
- (12) The Ministry of Education, Research, Youth, and Sports provides the didactic materials specific to the subjects taught in the maternal language;
- (13) For pupils belonging to national minorities, the Ministry of Education, Research, Youth, and Sports provides the schoolbooks, which may be: books elaborated in the language of the minorities, books translated into the Romanian language or imported textbooks, approved by the Ministry of Education, Research, and Sports, for the unpublished textbooks, on account of their limited circulation.
- (14) The education performed in the language of the national minorities, the internal communication, and the communication with the pupils' and pre-schoolers' parents may be carried out in the language in which the tuition is performed.
- (15) In primary education with tuition in the languages of the national minorities, the qualifications shall be mentioned in writing and orally as well as in the language in which the tuition is performed.
- (16) One research and innovation resource section in the field of education with tuition in the languages of the national minorities shall operate within the Institute of Education Sciences subordinated to the Ministry of Education, Research, Youth and Sports.
- (17) For the basic financing of the pre-university educational institution with tuition in the languages of the national minorities, the standard cost per pupil and pre-schooler is calculated by using a bigger coefficient based on correction factors, by taking into account tuition in the language of the national minority or teaching of the language of the national minority. In the case of such units, the linguistic and geographical isolation and the low number of pupils and pre-schoolers are taken into account, as well as the pupils to whom paragraph (7) refers. The same language coefficient is also applied in the case of the schools with tuition in the Romanian language with similar conditions.

Art. 46

- (1) In the pre-university education with tuition in the languages of the national minorities, all the subjects are studied in the maternal language, with the exception of the Romanian language and literature.
- (2) The subject “Romanian language and literature” is taught based on syllabi and schoolbooks especially elaborated for the minority in question throughout the whole pre-university school year.
- (3) As an exception, in the educational institutions with tuition in the language of a national minority, following the request of the parents or legal guardians, at the request of the organization of the national minority, represented in the Romanian parliament or in case the respective minority does not have parliament representation, at the request of the Parliamentary group of national minorities, the subject Romanian language and literature shall be taught on the basis of the textbooks used in the educational institutions with tuition in Romanian.
- (4) The Romanian language and literature tests are elaborated based on a special syllabus.
- (5) The evaluation tests, the examination subjects of any type from the pre-university education and the term papers of the pupils attending schools with tuition in the languages of the national minorities are elaborated based on the didactic and methodological requirements set by the national curriculum.
- (6) In the pre-university education, the teaching activity and the study of the maternal language and literature, history and tradition of the national minorities in question, and musical education are performed based on specific syllabi and methodologies elaborated by teams of experts in the language and culture of the minority in question and approved in compliance with the law.

(7) For the pupils belonging to national minorities who attend schools with tuition in Romanian or in another language than their maternal language, the study of the language and the literature of their mother tongue as well as the history and traditions of the respective national minority shall be approved as school subjects upon request, and according to this law. The syllabi and text books for the history and traditions of the national minority in question are approved by the Ministry of Education, Research, Youth, and Sports.

(8) In the primary, middle, and high school education with tuition in the languages of the national minorities, Romania's history and geography are taught in these languages, according to identical curricula and textbooks as for the grades with tuition in Romanian; it is compulsory to transcribe and acquire the place names and Romanian proper names.

(9) In middle education with tuition in the language of national minorities the history and traditions of the national minorities in question with tuition in the maternal language are implemented as subjects. The curricula and schoolbooks for these subjects are approved by the Ministry of Education, Research, Youth and Sports.

(10) The history curricula and school book shall reflect the history and traditions of the national minorities in Romania.

(11) In the high school and post-high school educational institutions with tuition in the maternal language for the subjects included in the specialty modules, the specialized terminology shall also be taught and learned in Romanian.

(12) In pre-university educational institutions the entrance and graduation examinations may be taken in the language in which the subjects in question have been studied, in compliance with the law.

Art. 47

(1) Within an administrative-territorial unit – commune, town, and city – where several educational institutions operate with tuition in the Romanian language, at least one of them has juridical personality, irrespective of the number of students.

(2) Middle and high-school educational institutions with tuition in the Romanian language, which are unique within the city, town or commune are legal entities irrespective of the number of students.

Art. 63

(1) In pre-university education, the study structures include groups, classes or grades, as follows:

a) ante-preschool education: the average group is made up of 7 children, but not less than 5 and not more than 9;

b) in pre-school education: the group with an average number of 15 pre-schoolers, but no less than 10 and no more than 20;

c) primary education: classes with an average number of 20 pupils, but no less than 12 and no more than 25;

d) in middle education : classes with an average number of 25 pupils, but no less than 12 and no more than 30;

e) high school education : classes with an average number of 25 pupils, but no less than 15 and no more than 30;

f) post-high school education : classes with an average number of 25 pupils, but no less than 15 and no more than 30;

g) special education for children with light or moderate disabilities: a group with an average number of 10 pupils, but not less than 8 and not more than 12;

h) Special education for pupils with serious disabilities: the group with an average number of 5 pupils, but not less than 4 and not more than 6.

(2) as an exception from the provisions of par.(1), in those places where there is demand for the form of education in the maternal language of a national minority, the number of study formations may be lower than the minimum stipulated in the present law. The decision regarding the creation and operation of these study formations lies with the Ministry of Education, Research, Youth and Sports, upon consultation with the board of directors of the respective educational institution.

Art. 97

(1) The School Principal ensures the executive management of the facility. For the facilities with teaching exclusively in the national minorities' languages, the School Principal has the obligation to know that language. For the facilities with classes with teaching in the national minority's language, one of the School Principals has the obligation to know that language. In this case, the principal is appointed after consulting the organization representing the minority in question in the Romanian Parliament, or, if the minority is not represented in the parliament, upon consultation of the parliamentary group of the national minority.

Art. 161

The PhD may be in Romanian, in the language of the national minorities or in a frequently used foreign language, in compliance with the education services agreement concluded between IOSUD, the PhD mentor and the student.

Art. 211

(1) The rector, appointed in compliance with Art. 209, is confirmed by order of the Minister Education, Research, Youth, and Sports, within 30 days from the date of his/her selection. After issuing the confirmation order, the rector may sign any official writs, documents financial and accounting documents, diplomas and certificates.

(2) The rector confirmed by the Minister of Education, Research, Youth and Sports, based on the university's senate consultation, shall appoint the pro-rectors. In multilingual and multicultural universities at least one of the pro-rectors is appointed by the rector at the proposal of then teaching staff belonging to the national minorities in the section or line of the department with tuition in a language of the national minorities, with the exception of the case in which the rector works in the study section or line with tuition in the language of the respective national minority. The teaching staff working in the study section or line in question must propose at least 3 candidates.

(3) The Rector confirmed by the Minister concludes with the University Senate a management contract, which includes the management performance criteria and indicators and the contractual rights and obligations of the parties.

(4) The deans are selected by public contest organized by the new rector and validated by the University Senate. Candidates approved by the Council of the faculty by vote of the simple majority of its members and compliance with the

specific methodology elaborated by University Senate may take part into the contest. The Council of the faculty validates at least 2 candidates.

(5) The general administrative director is kept on his/her position based on the written agreement for the executive support of the managerial plan of the new rector.

(6) The rector, the pro-rectors, the deans and the general administrative director and one student representative form the administrative board of the university.

(7) The administrative board of private universities is appointed by the founders.

Art. 263

(1) The teachers for the primary education from the classes with tuition in the languages of the national minorities are paid by the hour, for the hours exceeding the number of hours stipulated in the schooling plans of the classes with tuition in Romanian.

b. Government Ordinance no. 129/2000 on vocational training for adults

Government Ordinance no. 129/2000 was amended and provisions on vocational training for adults in minority languages were introduced. Vocational training programmes shall also be provided in minority languages upon **written request of the beneficiaries**. (articles 2,5,14,23)

C. JUDICIAL AUTHORITIES

As a general observation, it is to be mentioned that, at the moment of the ratification of the Charter, statistical data concerning the practical application of the provisions in Article 9 were not available.

For the period 2010-2012 the following **data were obtained as regards the use of minority languages for which the authorisation for an interpreter or translator was issued by the Ministry of Justice:**

No.	Language	2010	2011	2012
1.	Bulgarian	6	10	10
2.	Croatian	4	1	1
3.	Czech	5	3	4
4.	German	586	407	370
5.	Hungarian	164	177	112
6.	Russian	68	63	54
7.	Serbian	9	8	5
8.	Slovak	14	10	7
9.	Turkish	14	5	8
10.	Ukrainian	13	7	5
	TOTAL	883	691	576

As regards the use of translators and interpreters in the judicial proceedings developed in courts, the statistics shown in **Annex 4 demonstrate the use of minority languages in 2011 and 2012** in those first instance courts and tribunals that are under the jurisdiction of the *courts of appeal shown in the table in civil and criminal matters*. *It is to be underlined that in a total number of 5152 (in 2011) and 7138 (in 2012) cases, interpreters were used in civil and criminal matters. Specified data is available only for the languages mentioned in the table in Annex 4.*

As to the legal set-up in practice, a point on which the Committee asks for clarification when analysing each of the languages covered by Part III of the Charter, it is first to be mentioned that, according to Article 128 of the Romanian Constitution, judicial proceedings

are to be conducted in Romanian. Paragraph 2 and 3 of the same articles stipulates that the citizens belonging to national minorities can use their mother tongue in court, by means of translators/interpreters. **In criminal proceedings**, translation/interpretation is provided **free of charge**, according to the provisions of articles 8⁶ and 128⁶, par. 1 and 2 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

Article 14 of Law no. 304/2004 on the judicial system, republished, stipulates the right of citizens belonging to national minorities to express themselves in their own language before courts:

"(1) Proceedings shall be conducted in Romanian.

(2) The Romanian citizens belonging to national minorities have the right to express themselves in their language before the courts, in accordance with this law.

(3) Where one or more parties require expressing themselves in their own language, the court shall provide, free of charge, an authorized interpreter or translator.

(4) Where all parties agree to express themselves in their own language, the court must ensure this right and proper administration of justice, with the principles of contradictoriness and publicity.

(5) Applications and procedural provisions shall be made only in Romanian.

(6) The proceedings held by the parties in their mother tongue are recorded, being registered in Romanian. The objections raised by those concerned about the translation and their record is resolved by the court before the conclusion of the discussions in that case, and will be registered at the end of the meeting.

(7) The interpreter or translator will sign all documents for compliance, declaring that the written documents or the recordings were based on his/her translation.

Also, according to article 137⁷ par. 1 and 3 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, a person detained or arrested shall be promptly informed, in the language they understand, of the reasons for the detention, arrest or prosecution.

As regards **civil and administrative proceedings**, according to Article 142⁸ of the Code of Civil Procedure, if the party or witness does not speak Romanian, an authorized translator will be used or the judge may perform the translation without oath.

As regards particular examples related to the courts' activity, the following situations are to be mentioned:-The Court of Appeal of Cluj was faced with a **criminal case** (proposal for detention on remand) in which the defendants were Hungarian ethnics and had limited knowledge of Romanian. They requested the assistance of an authorized translator for **Hungarian**. The demand was admitted and a translator from the list of the authorised translators was present in the court session. The translator was paid according to the legislation in force.

-The Tribunal for Family Law Litigations and Minors in Brasov was faced with a **criminal case** in which the evidence and the file pieces were translated into **German** in order to initiate a commission-rogatory on a medical examination;

-The first instance court of Fagaras was faced with **criminal matters** in which the files were translated in **Hungarian, Czech and Croatian**;

- The county court of Covasna communicated that, as regards **civil matters**, the obligation as regards the services of an authorised translator is incumbent on the party, according to the provisions the Civil Procedure Code. In criminal matters, files and file pieces were translated, in several cases, in **Hungarian and Czech**;

⁶ In the new Criminal Procedure Code, the articles were renumbered as follows: article 8 was renumbered as article 12; article 128 (1) and 128 (2) were renumbered as article 105 (1), 105 (2) and article 107(1).

⁷ Article 137 (1) was also renumbered as article 209 (2).

⁸ As the Civil Procedure Code underwent a revision procedure, too, article 142 was renumbered in the new Civil Procedure Code as article 225.

- In the First Instance Court of Târgu Secuiesc, in **civil matters**, if the judge is a **Hungarian ethnic, the parties can use the language in court**. If not, translation is provided by the bailiff or by lawyers present. In **criminal matters**, translation is provided by an authorised translator. Also in criminal matters, files and file pieces were translated into **Hungarian and German** upon request of the interested party;
- The first instance court of Targu Mures was seized with cases in which witnesses, defendants, or persons upon whom interdictions were applied were interrogated by means of an interpreter (**Hungarian**);
- In cases brought before the First Instance Court of Targu Mures, parties in civil and criminal matters, translations were provided in and from the spoken minority language (**Hungarian**);
- Within the First Instance Court of Odorheiu Secuiesc, the magistrates speak the **Hungarian** language and in many cases, upon agreement with the parties to the trial, this language is used;
- Before the First Instance Court of Gheorgheni the parties were allowed to plea in their minority language (**Hungarian**), and translations were provided according to the relevant provisions of the Criminal and Civil Procedure Codes. In criminal matters, in the 2010-2012 period, 44 documents were translated from Romanian into **Hungarian** (European warrants of arrest, extradition warrants, letters from Hungarian authorities, rogatory commission demands, *sub poenas*, criminal sentences, etc.);
- In the District Court of Bihor there were **18 cases** in which the proceedings before the court were held in the **Hungarian** language. In the area of jurisdiction of the Court of Appeal of Oradea, documents were translated in the following minority languages: **Slovak(3), Hungarian (17), German (59)**.

Activity of the prosecutors' offices and the Territorial Anticorruption Office as well as that of the specialized Direction for combating terrorism and organized crime

As regards the activity of the prosecutor's offices, there were situations in which minority languages were used in practice, during criminal proceedings.

As such, the Timisoara Territorial Service of the National Anticorruption Directorate conducted *criminal prosecution proceedings* in **Hungarian, German and Slovak**.

As regards the demands made in minority languages, the Targu Mures Territorial Service of the Anticorruption Office translated documents in **Hungarian** with the help of translators authorized by the Ministry of Justice. Also, there were cases in which the interrogation of witnesses or defendants was made in the presence of interpreters, as well as the translation of file pieces.

The Cluj Territorial Service of the Anticorruption Office reported that there were two situations in which the interrogated persons made depositions in **Hungarian (witness)** and **Turkish (defendant)** and an authorized translator made subsequent translations in Romanian.

The Brasov Territorial Service of the Anticorruption Office reported that, in the period 2010-2011, there were 3 cases in which the procedure was made **in Hungarian** (witness interrogation, minutes regarding criminal pursuit, ordinance regarding detention on remand, etc.). In the period 2010-2012, in 4 criminal investigations, 65 documents regarding criminal pursuit were translated (minutes regarding telephone conversations and demands for rogatory commissions).

Regarding the activity of the Directorate for Investigating Organized Crime and Terrorism, there were situations in which the proceedings were completed in minority languages as follows:

- *The Territorial Service of Oradea and the Territorial Bureau of Satu Mare* reported that the parties in the instrumented cases were provided with an authorized translator for **Hungarian** in the process of formulating their depositions in front of the criminal pursuit authority. In the same units, documents in **Hungarian** were deposited as file pieces, and these had been translated by an authorized translator. (Between 2009–28.06.2013, 5 interpreters were used for the interrogation of 5 Hungarian ethnics in the *Territorial Service of Oradea*; Between 2009–28.06.2013 interpreters were used in the Territorial Bureau of Satu Mare for the interrogation of 8 **Hungarian** ethnics, 2 **Ukrainian** ethnics and 1 **German** ethnic).
- *The Territorial Bureau of Harghita*: in 6 criminal investigations the parties were provided with an authorised translator for **Hungarian**;
- *The Territorial Service of Brasov*: although the proceedings were mostly done in Romanian, whether needed (by request or *ex officio*), translation was provided for documents or proceedings in which the parties participated;

New legislative provisions adopted since the first state report in the judicial field

Law No. 134/2010 on the Civil Procedure Code – Republished in 2012

ART. 225 - The use of translator and interpreter

(1) *When one or several of the parties to be interviewed does not speak the Romanian language, the court will use an authorised translator. If the parties agree, the judge or the bailiff can provide the office of a translator.*

(3) *The provisions regarding the experts are applicable also to the translators and interpreters.*

Law no. 36/1995 on Public Notaries and Notarial Activity – Republished in 2013

ART. 82

(1) *The documents requested by the parties and any documents related to the notarial procedure are to be drawn up in Romanian.*

(2) *The citizens belonging to national minorities and the persons that do not speak or understand Romanian are granted the possibility to take account of the document's content through the use of an interpreter. The office of translator or interpreter can be fulfilled by the notary, if the notary's mother tongue is Romanian or if the notary is authorized as a translator or interpreter by the Ministry of Justice, according to the relevant legal conditions, by the Ministry of Justice.(...)*

(3) *The documents presented by the parties in order to effect notarial operations will be drawn up in Romanian.*

(4) *Upon justified request by the parties, the notary can draw up documents in a different language only if the has knowledge of this language or after he has took note of the document's content by means of an interpreter.*

d. ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITIES AND PUBLIC SERVICES

The current Romanian legislation contains several provisions that allow for the use of regional or minority languages in relation with the local public authorities. As such, according to article 19 of the Law on public local administration 215/2001, with the subsequent modifications, “*in those territorial-administrative units in which persons belonging to national minorities have a share of over 20% of the total population, the authorities of the local public administration, the public institutions coordinated by these and public deconcentrated services will also ensure the use, in relation with the citizens belonging to national minorities, of the respective mother tongue, in conformity with the provisions of the Romanian Constitution, of the present law and of the international treaties to which Romania is party*”.

According to article 19 of the Law no. 340/2004 regarding the Prefect and the Prefect's institution, the prefect, in his quality of representative of the Government, "*will ensure the use, according to the legal provisions in force, of minority languages, in the relations between the citizens belonging to national minorities and the public deconcentrated services in which their share is of over 20% of the total population.*"

As regards the recruitment and training of civil servants, it is to be mentioned that **the legal basis in force is the statute of civil servants**, the Law no. 188/1999 sets the general regime of juridical reports between civil servants and government or local public administration, through autonomous administrative authorities or through public authorities and bodies of central and local public administration.

The aim of this law is to insure according to legal provisions, a stable, professional, transparent, efficient and impartial civil service, in the interest of both the citizens and the public authorities and bodies within the central and local public administration.

This legal provision is linked to the implementation of the undertakings in **Paragraph 4 of Article 10** of the Charter in the following manner:

According to the provisions of article 54, letter b of this law, a general requirement in the recruitment of civil servants is the good command of the Romanian language, written and spoken. The statute of civil servants is complying with the provisions of the Constitution, recognizes and guarantees the right of persons belonging to national minorities to the preservation, development and expression of their ethnic, cultural, linguistic and religious identity, as well as with the provisions of the Law no. 188/1999 on the status of civil servants, which, in its article 108 sets the obligation that "*in the territorial-administrative units in which the citizens belonging to national minority reach a share of over 20% of the number of inhabitants, some of the civil servants shall also use the language of the national minority in relations with the citizens*".

In practice, this is done either by requesting, as a specific condition for employment the knowledge of the minority language or by training the civil servants to develop language skills. This will be decided by the head of the authority where the civil servant operates.

The Ministry of the Interior presented in **Annex 14** a situation of the number of **minority-language speaking staff** employed in the mayor's offices/county councils and of those employed in the local public services subordinated to local/county council. In Annexes 8 and 9, the Ministry of the Interior presented a situation of the number of **minority ethnics** employed in the mayor's offices.

1. As regards **the use of minority languages within local structures**, the situation is as follows:

- a. **The use of regional or minority languages in Prefects' Offices**

The Prefect's Offices of Alba, Bihor, Braşov, Covasna, Harghita, Mureş, Satu Mare and Sălaj counties employed **Hungarian speakers** in the **Public Relations Department**.

The Prefect's Office of Arad county employed speakers of **Czech, Croatian, Serbian, Slovak and Ukrainian** in the Public Relations Department. At the same time, **replies in Slovak and Czech language** can be drafted.

The Prefect's Office of Bihor county accepts the **questionnaire for obtaining the driving license in Hungarian and can answer in Hungarian** to the applications submitted to the services that issue simple passports and driving licenses.

The Prefect's Office of Cluj county receives verbal or written requests and provides answers in **Hungarian**, on request. At the same time, documents for getting land registry book excerpts, contracts, etc., drawn up in **Hungarian** are accepted, if they are accompanied by a legalized translation.

The Prefect's Office of Maramureş county employed **Hungarian** speakers in the community public service for driving licenses and cars' registration. At the same time, it provides answers in **Hungarian** on request.

The Prefect's Office of Mureş county accepts verbal or written requests in **Hungarian**, has employees speaking this language and provides answers in Hungarian on request.

The Prefect's Office of Harghita county has a **Hungarian** version website with information of public interest (e.g. simple passports issue, current activities, working hours).

Knowledge of **Hungarian** is not a must when recruiting or transferring personnel in case of vacancies within the above mentioned prefect's offices, but in certain cases it is **considered a plus**.

b. The use of regional or minority languages in public deconcentrated services

As the Government has shown above, the Prefect's Office is tasked with ensuring the use of minority languages in **public deconcentrated services**.

Legal basis for the functioning of these services

According to the provisions of the Emergency Ordinance no. 37/2009, the public deconcentrated services are territorial structures of the central ministries, organised at local level. These continue to be **subordinated to the respective ministries and are only organised at county level, in the form of county directorates**. There is therefore no subordination to local authorities. The Ministries of the Interior, Health, Culture, Economy, Labour, Education, Sports, Finances, Agriculture and Rural Development, Communication have such public deconcentrated services. Their activity is monitored by the Prefect's Office.

The data on the use of minority languages in these services is relevant as regards the implementation of **Paragraph 1** of Article 10 of the Charter.

As these services are organised at county level, the provisions of article 19 of the Law 215/2001 regarding the 20% threshold will be applied to the **entire county population**. After the 2011 census, it became clear that **the Hungarian minority is the only minority that can exceed the 20% share at county level, or for which a threshold close to 20% at county level could be taken into account**. As a consequence, the present report includes information only as regards the use of Hungarian in public deconcentrated services in the counties of Bihor, Covasna, Harghita, Mures, Satu Mare, Salaj.

Here is some relevant information:

In the Public Relations Departments of the public deconcentrated services in Covasna, Bihor, Harghita, Mureş, Sălaj and Satu Mare counties, **Hungarian speakers** are employed in order

to provide communication with **Hungarian** ethnics, mainly in the field of agriculture, health, education, finance, customs, social protection, environment, waters and forestry.

In Mureş, Sălaj, Satu Mare counties, some public deconcentrated services (mainly in the field of agriculture, education, culture, finance, customs, social protection) received verbal or written applications in **Hungarian** and most of them can provide answers in this language, if requested. In Covasna and Harghita counties, all the public deconcentrated services can provide answers in **Hungarian**, if requested.

At the same time, in Covasna, Bihor and Mureş counties, some public deconcentrated services accept as valid documents drawn up in **Hungarian**, mainly in the field of agriculture, education, culture, labour, social protection, environment, waters and forestry.

Most of the public deconcentrated services in Covasna, Bihor and Harghita counties can provide, on request, the use of **Hungarian** language, mainly in the field of health, education, culture, labour, social protection, environment, waters, forestry, finance and customs.

All the public deconcentrated services in **Harghita county** can provide answers to **Hungarian** ethnics in their language, if requested, while in Covasna, Bihor, Mureş and Sălaj counties, only some of the public deconcentrated services could do that.

c. The use of regional or minority languages in the territorial structures of the Emergency Situations General Inspectorate

Hungarian ethnics represent 30 – 35 % of the personnel of the Harghita Emergency Situations Inspectorate, and they work mainly in the public relations structures. If the person in charge of a specific problem does not know **Hungarian**, the inspectorate provides the translation of the respective request. At the same time, materials aimed at promoting civil protection activities and fire prevention are published both in **Romanian** and **Hungarian** (e.g. rules of conduct and actions in case of earthquakes – Felkeszules foldrengesre; the institution's name is displayed in three languages: **Romanian, Hungarian and English**).

The personnel working in the public relations office in Covasna Emergency Situations Inspectorate is able to communicate in **Hungarian**. Hungarian ethnics can submit requests and get answers both in Romanian and Hungarian. They can also submit documents in their mother tongue. On the institution's website, information is displayed in both languages.

Hungarian speakers are also employed in the Emergency Situations Inspectorates in Bihor, Mureş and Sălaj counties, thus being able to communicate with Hungarian ethnics in their mother tongue.

Although the **Hungarian speakers fall below 20% in Alba, Bihor, Braşov and Maramureş counties, the Emergency Situations Inspectorates employed Hungarian speakers in order to communicate in the respective minority language.**

d. The use of minority or regional languages in the Romanian Gendarmerie territorial units

The Romanian Gendarmerie paid special attention to the observance of minority rights by monitoring its own personnel's conduct in relation with ethnic minorities. In **2012, 90 training sessions** were organised on issues related to human rights and non-discrimination.

At the same time, persons belonging to various minorities were employed in the territorial units. The distribution of minority language speakers is the following:

- Bulgarian – 4 persons;
- Croatian – 1 person
- Yiddish – 1 person
- German – 15 persons;
- Greek – 2 persons;
- Italian – 50 persons;
- Macedonian – 7 persons;
- Hungarian – 233 persons;
- Romani – 9 persons;
- Russian – 20 persons;
- Serbian – 5 persons;
- Slovak – 2 persons;
- Turkish – 14 persons;
- Ukrainian – 4 persons.

Special places are allocated in the Romanian Gendarmerie's educational institutions for **Hungarian and Roma ethnics** (Police Academy, Gendarmerie and Inspectorate General of Gendarmerie, Dragasani and Falticeni agent schools).

e. The use of minority or regional languages in the National Archives territorial units

In the territorial units where the **Hungarian** minority stands for at least 20% of the population, the public relations offices, the reading room and the offices for solving the citizens' requests of archive documents are staffed with speakers of both **Romanian and Hungarian**.

The applications for restoring certain individual rights based on archive documents, submitted in writing in the **Hungarian** language, are registered in **Hungarian**, then translated into Romanian. The resolution is written on the original submitted in **Hungarian**. As the documents issued in such cases bear legal value against other institutions on Romania's territory, the answers are provided in **Romanian**, so that the citizens do not have to bear the cost of translating them in an authenticated version.

Information of public interest concerning the functioning program of the public relations office, reading room, the list of services provided by the National Archives, information related to applications, the Treasury account where payment must be made, free of charge phone line belonging to the Ministry of Internal Affairs where corruption deeds can be reported, as well as the list of Fund archives and collections available for study within the reading room are posted both in Romanian and **Hungarian**, on the bulletin board placed in the hallway of the respective units.

The territorial units of Bihor, Cluj, Maramureş, Covasna, Bistriţa-Năsăud, Mureş, Sibiu, Satu Mare, Harghita, and Hunedoara counties have **Hungarian** speakers.

f. The use of regional or minority languages in the Police General Inspectorate territorial units

The Law 275/ 4.07.2006 on the enforcement of sentences and measures decided by judicial bodies during criminal trials and the Government Decision 1897/ 21.12.2006 for the approval of the Regulation for its implementation stipulate the obligation of judicial bodies to inform the persons in custody, in their mother tongue, about their rights and obligations.

As regards the rights and obligations of the retained and arrested persons in retention and pre-trial centres, these are available in **ten languages** in the centres subordinated to the **Romanian Police**.

At the same time, the new Criminal Proceedings Code, Title V, Chapter 1, Preventive measures, section 2, retention, the item 209 para. 2 stipulates that *“the crime he/she is suspected of and the reasons for retention must be brought to the notice of the retained person, in the language he/she understands”*.

g. The use of regional or minority languages in the territorial units of the Romanian Border Police

The regional or minority language speakers employed in the Border Police are as follows:

- The Territorial Inspectorate Sighetu Marmăției – Ukraine border: 251 **Hungarian** speakers and 141 **Ukrainian** speakers;
- The Territorial Inspectorate Oradea – Hungary border: 251 **Hungarian** speakers and 6 **Serbian** speakers;
- The Territorial Inspectorate Timișoara – Serbia border: 214 **Serbian** speakers and 38 **Hungarian** speakers
- The Territorial Inspectorate Giurgiu – **Bulgaria** border: 1 **Bulgarian** speaker;
- Coast Guard: 8 **Hungarian** speakers, 12 **Ukrainian** speakers and 1 **Serbian** speaker.

In the territorial structures where minority language speakers have a significant weight, **verbal and written applications are received and answers are given in the respective languages**.

At the same time, in the joint contact structures on the border, bilingual forms for assistance requests are used (English included), and the answers are given in the language of the request.

h. Providing dedicated places for the representatives of national minorities in the education institutions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs

Dedicated places for national minorities were provided as follows:

- In the 2006 session, for **Roma** ethnics,
- In the 2010 session for **Hungarian** ethnics,
- In the 2011 session for **other minorities**.

Statistical data per year are shown in **Annex 3**.

The candidates must fully comply with the conditions and criteria stipulated in Order no. 665/2008 on human resources management signed by the minister of internal affairs:

Further to the documents comprised in the recruiting file, the candidates running for special places dedicated to minorities must submit a certificate issued by an ethnic organization, established according to the law, stating that the person belongs to the respective ethnic group (except for Hungarians). According to the request of the Democratic Union of Hungarians in Romania, the candidates belonging to this ethnic group applying for the Police Academy „Alexandru Ioan Cuza” must prove that they passed high school graduation exams in Hungarian.

i. The use of minority languages in social services at local level

According to Law no. 292/2011 **on social assistance**, Art. 37:

(1) Social service providers are individuals or legal entities, public or private.

(2) Public providers of social services may be:

a) specialized structures within / subordinated to local authorities and executive authorities of administrative units organized at the village, town, city and districts of Bucharest level;

b) central public administration authorities or other institutions under their subordination or coordination tasked to provide social services for certain categories of beneficiaries;

c) medical units, education establishments and other public institutions providing integrated social services at community level.

The **National Agency for Payments and Social Inspection** as an institution subordinated to the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Protection and Elderly, as well as the county agencies for payments and social inspection, has **a number of employees who can provide assistance in one of the regional or minority languages**, as follows:

- 8 employees can provide assistance in **German**
- 72 employees can provide assistance in **Hungarian**
- 2 employees can provide assistance in **Turkish/Tatar**
- 1 employee can provide assistance in **Serbian**

j. The situation of the implementation of the Charter provisions by the authorities of the local public administration

The Ministry of Internal Affairs provided detailed information on the implementation of **each undertaking contained in Article 10**, for each of the languages covered by Part III of the Charter and for some of the languages covered by Part II. Reference to this information will be made when analysing each of the ten languages covered in Part III

The information was gathered and structured as shown and analysed below:

1. *Employment of persons belonging to national minorities in the local administration and information on the issue of documents (upon demand) in the regional/minority languages*

In **Annex 8, the Ministry of Internal Affairs** provided an updated situation of the employment of **persons belonging to national minorities as public servants** in the structures of local administration and on **the issue of documents in the regional/minority languages** for 9 minority languages covered by Part III of the Charter. The collected data covers the period from October 2011 to October 2013. **Annex 9** provides such information for the **Ukrainian** language.

The analysis of the aggregated data in Annex 8 shows that a total number of **5454** public servants belonging to national minorities are employed in the territorial offices of the local administration offices (mayor's offices), most of which are Hungarian ethnics (**5084**). Significant numbers of people belonging to other ethnic groups occupy positions in the local administration: **Russians (109), Slovaks (74), Germans (50), Turks (49)**. The number of **Ukrainian** ethnics is **149**.

As regards **the issuing of documents** (upon demand) in minority languages by the mayor's offices, the data shows that a total number of **3086** documents were issued in the abovementioned period, out of which **3084** in Hungarian.

The information provided in **Annex 8 and Annex 9** should be relevant **for the implementation of Paragraphs 1 and 4 of Article 10 of the Charter**.

2. *The use of minority languages in local public administration in relation to the speakers of minority languages*

In **Annex 13**, the Ministry of the Interior provided an updated situation of the use of minority languages in the structures of local public administration. The situation covers the 10 languages protected by Part III of the Charter, as well as Romani, Polish and Italian, languages covered by Part II of the Charter.

The Government will make the necessary references when analysing each of the languages covered by Part III. As regards the languages covered by Part II, it is to be noted that **Polish** is used in the county of Suceava, locality of Musenita, although the share is below 20%. **Romani** is used in the counties of Arad and Bacau, although the share is below 20% in some of the localities.

The information provided in **Annex 13** should be relevant for the implementation of **Paragraph 1 of Article 10**.

3. *The employment of minority-language speaking staff in the mayor's offices, local and county councils and in the local specialized public services subordinated to the local councils or county councils*

Clarification of the legal basis

As the Government has stated above, Article 19 of the Law on Local Government no. 215/2001 states that "[i]n the territorial-administrative units where citizens belonging to national minorities have a share of over 20% of residents, the local government authorities and public institutions subordinated to them shall ensure their use of **decentralized public services in their mother tongue**, according to the Constitution, the present law and international treaties to which Romania is party."

The Committee of Experts stated, in its June 2012 evaluation report, that it is not clear whether the "public institutions subordinated to" local authorities cover public services in conformity with the Charter provisions – thereby meaning "services provided by the administrative authorities or other persons acting on their behalf (e.g. railway, urban transport, electricity, water and gas, cleaning and sanitation, telephone services, refuse collection and disposal, cemeteries, sporting facilities, entertainment venues). This question is repeated for the implementation of Paragraph 3 of Article 10 for all the 10 languages covered by Part III of the Charter.

The Government states that the answer to this question is positive and that such services are in fact specialized public services directly administered and subordinated to the local/county councils. In practice, these are services such as day-care centres, information services on civil status, community development, etc. The legal basis is found in Article 36 of the Law 215/2001 on local public administration, republished in the Official Gazette no 123 of 20 February 2007, paragraph 6, which details the competencies of the local councils.

In **Annex 14**, the Ministry of Internal Affairs provided an updated situation of the number of minority-language-speaking personnel employed in the mayor's offices and the apparatus of the county councils, as well as in the local specialized public services subordinated to the local/county councils.

The situation covers the 10 languages protected by Part III of the Charter as well as Romani, Polish, Italian, Tatar, Greek and Armenian, languages covered by Part II of the Charter.

The Government will make the necessary references when analysing each of the languages covered by Part III. As regards the languages covered by Part II, it is to be noted that **two Polish** speakers are employed in the mayor's office/county council of Suceava. A total of **190 Romani** speakers are employed in all the counties indicated in the table, both in the mayor's office/county council and in the specialized services subordinated to these (significant

numbers of Romani are employed in the mayor's office/county councils of Galati-42, Constanta-21, Ialomita-14, Mures-12, Sibiu-11). A total of 36 **Tatar** speakers are employed in the county of Constanta, 6 in the mayor's office/county council and 30 in the specialized services subordinated to these. 1 **Greek** speaker is employed in the specialized services subordinated to the local/county council of Brasov. 2 **Armenian** speakers are employed in the specialized services subordinated to the local/county council of Brasov.

The information provided in **Annex 14** should be **relevant for the implementation of Paragraphs 3 and 4 of Article 10 of the Charter**.

4. The use by local authorities of regional/minority languages in debates in their assemblies

With regard to the use of minority languages in local councils, it is to be mentioned that, according to paragraph 2 of Article 42 of the Law on public administration no. 215/2001, republished on 20 February 2007, combined with the provisions of Articles 3 and Articles 6 paragraphs 1 and 2 of Government Decision no. 1206/2001 for approving the Rules for implementing the provisions concerning the right of citizens belonging to national minorities to use their mother tongue in local government, contained in the Law on Local Administration no. 215/2001, local council meetings are held in Romanian. In the cases in which minority ethnics represent at least 1/3 of the total number of councillors in office, the minority language may be used and the mayor will ensure that translation is provided. During working meetings, the minority language may be used also if the councillors belonging to the national minority represent at least 1/5 of the total number of councillors, as set by Article 42 of the Law on Public Administration.

In practice, the implementation of these provisions is not linked to the 20% threshold set in the Law on public administration no. 215/2001, but, for the purpose of collecting concrete practical data from local authorities, it has been suggested that the 20% threshold be used as a criterion for organizing the questionnaires sent to each territorial-administrative unit, as it is possible that in those localities in which the share of minority ethnics is of over 20%, the number of minority ethnics in the local councils might be large enough to justify the applications of the legal provisions presented above.

The updated situation presented by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 15**, contains information for the use of the 10 minority languages covered by Part III of the Charter in meetings of local assemblies. Information is also provided for Romani and Tatar, covered by Part II of the Charter. The Government will make the necessary references when analysing each of the languages covered by Part III. As regards the languages covered by Part II, it is to be noted that meetings of local assemblies in Romani are held in Barbulesti, county of Ialomita. Meetings of local assemblies in Tatar are held in the locality of Independenta, county of Constanta.

The information provided in **Annex 15** should be relevant for the implementation of letters **e** and **f** of **Paragraph 2 of Article 10**.

5. The possibility for users of regional/minority languages to submit oral or written applications in these languages

According to Articles 2 and 8 of Government Decision no. 1206/2001, citizens belonging to national minorities have the right to address oral or written requests to local authorities and the local and county councils and to receive answers in Romanian and the minority language.

The updated situation presented by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 17**, contains information as regards the possibility, for users of minority languages, to submit oral or written applications in the 10 minority languages covered by Part III of the Charter. Information is also provided for Romani and Tatar, covered by Part II of the Charter.

The Government will make the necessary references when analysing each of the languages covered by Part III. As regards the languages covered by Part II, it is to be noted that there is the possibility to submit applications in **Romani** in the localities of Arad (the share of ethnics is below 20%), Ianca, Bertestii de Jos (share of ethnics is below 20%), Calvini (county of Ialomita, share is over 20%), Barbulesti, Boranesti, Fetesti (county of Ialomita, share of ethnics is over 20% in the first two localities and beneath 20% in the third one), Pantelimon (Ilfov district, share is below 20%), Bagaciu, Beica de Jos (county of Mures, share is over 20%), Nades, Saulia (county of Mures, share is below 20%), Socond (county of Satu Mare, share is over 20%), Sinmihaiu Almasului, Crasna (county of Salaj share is below 20%), Buzescu, Branceni, Storbaneasa, Zimnicea (county of Teleorman, share is over 20% only in the locality of Buzescu). There is the possibility to submit applications in **Tatar** in the locality of Independenta, county of Constanta, in which the share is below 20%.

The information provided in **Annex 17** should be relevant for the implementation of letter **b** of **Paragraph 2 of Article 10**.

6.The publication by local authorities/county councils of their official documents also in the relevant regional/minority languages

According to the provisions of Articles 39 (7), 50, 94(8) of the Law no. 215/2001 on local public administration, republished on 20 February 2007, combined with the provisions of Articles 7 paragraph 2 of Government Decision no. 1206/2001 for approving the Rules for implementing the provisions concerning the right of citizens belonging to national minorities to use their mother tongue in local government, contained in the Law on Local Administration no. 215/2001, citizens belonging to national minorities are entitled to be informed, in their mother tongue, about **the agenda of the local/county council meetings** and of the **normative decisions** adopted by these bodies.

According to Article 1 of Government Decision no. 1206/2001, these provisions are applied in the territorial-administrative units in which the share of minority ethnics represents over 20% of the population.

The updated situation presented by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 18**, contains information as regards the publication by local authorities/county councils of their official documents also in the 10 minority languages covered by Part III of the Charter.

The information provided in **Annex 18** must be considered relevant for the implementation of letters **c** and **d** of **Paragraph 2 of Article 10**.

7.The situation of drafting of documents by local public authorities in regional/minority languages

As the Committee of Ministers has stated it in the June 2012 evaluation report, this provision covers all forms of written communication by local branches of the State authorities, both for internal use or in relations with one or several addressees outside the administration. As far as Romanian legislation is concerned **there is no such general obligation in the Law 215/2001 and the GD no. 1206/2001**. In practice however, such documents are drafted in **Hungarian**.

The situation provided by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 19** covers the **implementation of paragraph c of Article 10** of the Charter.

In this context, it is to be mentioned that also the information presented in **Annex 8**, covering the **issue of documents, upon demand**, in minority languages, by the mayor's offices, may be considered relevant for the implementation of **paragraph c of Article 10**.

8. The situation of the availability of the widely used administrative texts and forms for the population in the regional/minority languages

As the Committee of Ministers stated it in the June 2012 evaluation report, this provision concerns administrative texts and forms that are widely used by local branches of the State authorities both internally or in relations with the public. It extends, for example, to administrative texts and (applications) forms related to identity documents.

The situation provided by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 20** covers the **implementation of letter b of paragraph 1 of Article 10** of the Charter.

This paragraph was ratified for the **Hungarian** and **German** languages, but the information in **Annex 20** covers all languages protected by Part III of the Charter, as well as **Romani**, covered by Part II of the Charter. For Romani, this provision is implemented in the county of Mures, locality of Bagaciu.

e. **MEDIA**

In conformity with the provisions of Article 11, "Media" of the ratification Law no. 282/2007, the public authorities have, directly or indirectly, attributions in insuring the access to audio-visual programs in minority or regional languages, in so far as the radio and television broadcasting fulfill a mission of public service.

The Romanian audio-visual legal framework is based on the provisions of Law no. 41/17 June 1994 regarding the organization and functioning of the Romanian Radio Society and of the Romanian Television Society and on those of Law no. 504/2002 on audio-visual broadcasting with subsequent modifications and completions. Article 7 paragraph 3 of the aforementioned law stipulates at least 30% of the broadcast will be produced locally (i.e. in Romania), which will also include programmes dedicated to persons belonging to national minorities. It therefore results that the **Romanian Radio Broadcasting Corporation** and the **Romanian Television Corporation**, in their capacity of public autonomous institutions of national interest, are the main institutions called upon to apply the provisions of the Charter in respect of media.

According to the law, **the Romanian Television** is tasked to broadcast programmes for and about the ethnical minorities from Romania. These programmes must be subtitled in Romania.

The Romanian Television has 5 (five) territorial studios and each has a different channel grid. Due to the population distribution, each territorial station focuses on a different minority. Also, Romanian Television has 4 (four) main channels and each has a separate programme schedule. In each schedule there are programmes in a language other than Romanian, in accordance with the 41/1994 Law.

The Department for Minorities of the Romanian Television produces programmes for persons belonging to national minorities in Romania. The programmes are mainly conducted in Romanian, but also in the language of some of the ethnic groups: **Roma, Russians, Turks, Tatars, Greeks**, all broadcasted on **TVR3**, with subtitles in Romanian. The audience includes the persons belonging to national minorities but also the majority population. Despite the financial situation of TVR, in 2012, the Department for Minorities produced a total of 133 hours in premiere and 179 hours of rebroadcasted programmes. They were broadcasted according to the weekly schedules shown below:

Channel	Title	Day of Broadcasting	Hours	Duration/ effective	Observation
TVR 1	„Cohabitation ”	Wednesday	16.00-17.00	60min./48 min.	News, infotainment
TVR 2	„First step ”	Monday	14.35-15.35	60min./48 min.	Infotainment dedicated to the Roma minority
	„Together in Europe”	Friday	14.35-15.35	60min./48 min.	News reports
TVR 3	„All together”	Monday	12.40-13.20	40min./34 min.	Infotainment in the minorities language
	„All in Romania”	Friday	17.00-18.30	90min./82 min.	Infotainment
TVR Cultural	„Identities”	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday	16.45-17.15	30min./26 min.	Documentary

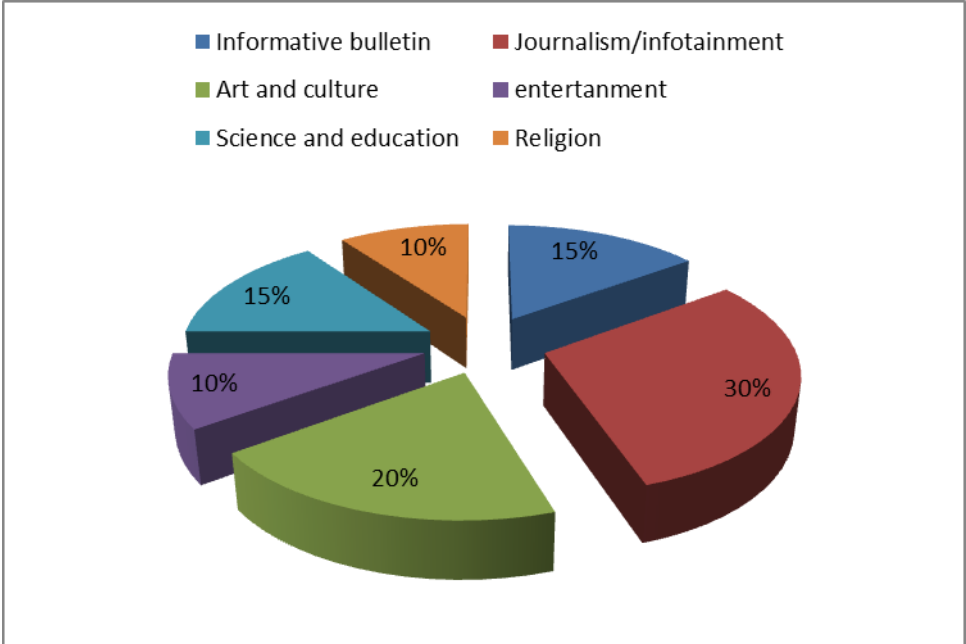
Total min./week: 400/338

Programmes broadcasted according to the EBU (European Broadcasting Union) classification:

Programme type	Share (%)
Informative bulletin	15%
Journalism/infotainment	30%
Art and culture	20%
Entertainment	10%
Science and education	15%
Religion	10%

TOTAL	100%
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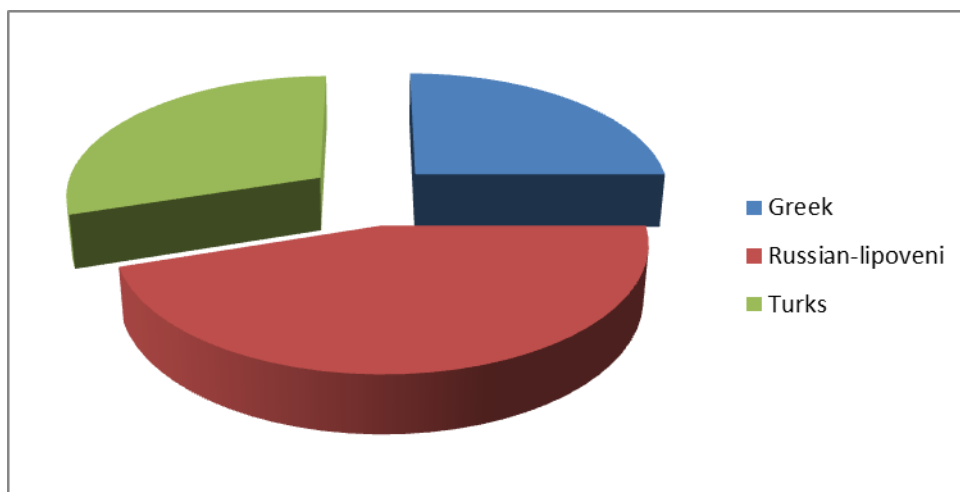
Structure of programmes according to the EBU classification



Regarding the programmes in minority languages, the Minorities Department in the TVR produced programmes in Russian, Turkish, Tatar and Greek. Therefore, in response to the Committee’s point of clarifications in paragraphs **51** (relating to Greek language), **676,682,684,687** (concerning the **Russian** language), and 969,977 (on the Turkish language) we mention that channel TVR 3 broadcasted the programme “*All together*”, produced weekly by the Minorities Department, on Wednesdays, between 12.40-13.14 hours. The 34 minutes are divided as follows: **6 minutes in Greek, 10 minutes in Russian and 9 minutes in Turkish with Romanian subtitles.**

The time structure (in minutes) of the programmes in minority languages produced in 2012 by the Department for Minorities for the Muntenia-Dobrogea region is as follows:

Ethnic groups	Programme All together on channel TVR 3	Total	%
Greek	306	306	306,00
Russian-Lippovans	510	510	510,00
Turks	459	459	459,00
TOTAL :	1275	100	1275,00



The activity of the TVR territorial stations:

TVR Timisoara

The station broadcasts the programme “All Together” as follows:

Language	Minutes	Frequency	Total time/ year
Hungarian	48	Weekly	46 hours and 15 min.
German	34	Twice a month	34 hours and 56 min.
Serbian	20	Weekly	20 hours and 33 min.
Croatian	14	Monthly	15 hours and 25 min.
Ukrainian	14	Monthly	15 hours and 25 min.
Romani	34	Monthly	35 hours and 58 min.
Bulgarian	14	Monthly	15 hours and 25 min.
Slovak	14	Monthly	15 hours and 25 min.

- One representative of the national minorities is a member of the Board of directors of TVR Timisoara, in charge with coordinating the Minorities Department
- For each broadcast the editorial team cooperates with minority representatives.
- In 2011 TVR Timisoara organized the seminar/training “*The Expression of Minorities in Audio-visual Media*” with the aid of the Government’s Interethnic Relations Department. This project was aimed at the producers of minority programmes. In 2013, TVR Timisoara organized a project with the same theme (detailed description on page 48 of the present report).

2. Other Programmes dedicated to minorities (Germans, Ukrainians, Roma and Jewish):

- “**Transylvania polychrome**” – 105 minutes every Monday on TVR Cluj, between:17.00-18.00 and 18.15- 19.00, and rebroadcasted next day at 10.00-11.00. It is an infotainment program dedicated to the Transylvanian minorities, which includes also Armenian, Russian and Polish minorities.
- “**All together**” /**Sendung in Deutscher Sprache** – 34 minutes program in German language, twice a week , broadcast on TVR 3, Friday: 12.40-13.15, rebroadcasted at night:01.50-02.25;

- **“All together “/Ukrainians** – programme in Ukrainian language, 20 minutes weekly, broadcast on TVR 3, Thursdays between: 12.40-13.00, rebroadcasted at night: 01.50-02.10;
- **“All together “/Shalom** programme for the Jewish community, 14 minutes weekly, broadcast on TVR 3, Thursdays, between: 13.00-13.15 and rebroadcasted at night: 02.10-02.25.
- **“All together”/Amari** , programmes for Roma communities in Romanian and Roma language, 34 minutes once in 5 weeks, broadcasted on TVR 3, on Mondays between: 13.15-13.50 and rebroadcasted at night: 02.25-03.00.

Ukrainian language

Information relevant for the Committee’s request in paragraph **1067**: TVR Cluj produces and broadcasts the program for Ukrainian minorities called: „Ucraineni” („Ukrainians”), 20 minutes weekly, broadcast on TVR 3 , on Thursdays between :12.40-13.00, and rebroadcasted at night between 01.50-02.10.

Information relevant for the Committee’s request in paragraph **1071**: Since October 2008 TVR Cluj broadcasted programmes in the Ukrainian language. The duration of this programmes (20 minutes weekly) remained unchanged over the years.

Information relevant for the Committee’s request in paragraph **1074**: There is only one journalist at TVR Cluj who produces the programs in Ukrainian language. Training opportunities at the TVR Cluj studios are limited and are the same for all the others colleagues.

TVR –Târgu Mures

Programmes in Hungarian language, broadcasted as premiere :

Monday to Friday – 60 minutes/day

Saturday and Sunday – 120 minutes/day

Programmes in German language, broadcasted as premiere: Saturday 60 minutes/day

Number of broadcasting hours of the Minorities Department of **TVR Târgu Mures**:

Broadcasting hours	S I 2012	S II 2012	Total 2012
TVR Târgu Mureş	413h06’	433h11’	846h17’
TVR 3	18h 22’	21h19’	39h41’
Total	431h28’	454h30’	885h58’

Number of broadcasting hours in Hungarian and German language:

Broadcasting hours	S I 2012	S II 2012	Total 2012
Hungarian language	386h06’	409h11’	795h17’
German language	27h	24h	51h
Total	413h06’	433h11’	846h17’

The structure of the programmes for persons belonging to national minorities on TVR Targu Mures in German and Hungarian:

On week days, from Monday to Friday: 60 min. in Hungarian language, starting at 17.00 (including: 15 min. of news, live talk-show and a programme of 20 minutes).

On Monday the program consists of a sport talk-show called: „After the final whistle”, followed by a medical magazine „Informed”, a documentary based on old newspapers called „ It happened 100 years ago”, and the regional news in Hungarian language.

From Tuesday to Friday, the Hungarian program starts with a talk show called “ Today’s point of view” followed by an interview/report as follows: Tuesday: ”Origo”, Wednesday: ”Portrait”, Thursday: ”Green style” or “Wooden iron wheel”, and the program “Bruxelles connection”; Friday: “Buffet at the theatre”.

On weekends, the programmes start at 8.00 a.m. and the duration is 180 minutes: 120 minutes in Hungarian language and 60 minutes in German language.

On Saturday, the program starts with a news retrospective entitled “5 days in 60 minutes”, followed by a program on agriculture, “ Agricultural magazine”, another one dedicated to the youth, “ Donkey ears”, and a programme in German language: “German Stunned”.

On Sunday, the program starts at 8.00 (duration: 120 minutes) with a life style magazine called “Cappuccino”, followed by a religious program, “Sunday thoughts”, and an entertainment program, “Musical box”.

TVR Târgu Mures produces for TVR 3 a 48-minute weekly magazine. According to the format, the programme consists of reports, interviews, traditions of the Hungarian communities.

Training for TVR employees from the minorities departments:

- In 2011, 5 persons were trained: **3** belonging to the **Hungarian** minority, and **2** to the **German** minority;
- In 2012, **16 employees** belonging to the **Hungarian** minority and **1** from the **German minority** were trained;
- In 2013, **3 Hungarian** ethnics of the staff were trained.

As regards the **Romanian Radio Broadcasting Corporation (Radio Romania)**, it is to be mentioned that its Minorities Department broadcasts programmes for minorities through the regional stations network.

Starting March 2nd 2013, Radio Romania Targu Mures broadcasted a special radio programme for persons belonging to national minorities, and **extended the time allocated to the Hungarian language** program from 7 hours to 17 hours a day.

Programmes for persons belonging to national minorities through the network of regional stations

Radio Romania Constanta

1. The station produces and broadcasts programs in the following languages: **Greek, Turkish, Lipovan-Russian, Tatar, Armenian** (57 min/week each).
2. The broadcasting schedule (day, broadcasting time) is:

Greek	Monday	19.03-20.00
Turkish	Tuesday	19.03-20.00
Lipovan Russian	Wednesday	19.03-20.00
Tatar	Thursday	19.03-20.00
Armenian	Friday	19.03-20.00

The programs are broadcasted by Radio Constanta AM on 909 KHZ (Constanta County) and 1530 KHZ (Tulcea county).

Radio Romania Cluj

1. The station produces and broadcasts programmes in the following languages: **Hungarian** (1680 min/week in AM band, 2880 min/week in FM band) and **Ukrainian** (15 min/week).
2. The broadcasting schedule (day, broadcasting time) is:

Hungarian	Monday-Friday	08.00-10.00
		15.00-16.00
		16.00-18.00
		02.00-04.00
Sunday	14.00-18.00	
	02.00-04.00	
Ukrainian	Saturday	06.05-06.20

The programmes are broadcasted on the frequencies 909 KHZ (Jucu), 1404 KHZ (Sighet), 1593 KHZ (Oradea), and 1593 KHZ (Sibiu), and on the FM frequencies of 95,6 MHz (Feleac), 95,4 MHz (Sibiu) and 87.9 MHz (Negresti).

Radio Romania Sighet (branch of Radio Cluj territorial station)

1. Produces and broadcasts programmes in **Hungarian (100 min/week)** and **Ukrainian (45 min/week)**:
2. The broadcasting schedule (day, broadcasting time) is:

Hungarian	Monday-Friday	14:00-14:20
Ukrainian	Friday	19:00-19:45

The programme is broadcasted in AM band on 1404 KHZ (Sighet).

Radio Romania Iasi

1. Produces and broadcasts programmes in **Ukrainian (30 min/week)** and **Russian (30 min/week)**:
2. The broadcasting schedule (day, broadcasting time) is:

Ukrainian	Wednesday	13:30-14:00
Russian	Thursday	13:30-14:00

The program is broadcasted on the 1053 KHz transmitter (Uricani).

Radio Romania Timisoara

1. The station produces and broadcasts programmes in the following languages: **German (420 min/week)**, **Hungarian (420 min/week)**, **Serbian (420 min/week)**, **Romani (30 min/week)**, **Czech (30 min/week)**, **Slovak (60 min/week)**, **Ukrainian (60 min/week)**, **Bulgarian (60 min/week)**, **Italian (60 min/month)**.
2. The broadcasting schedule (day, broadcasting time) is:

German	Monday-Sunday	13.00-14.00
		19.00-20.00
Hungarian	Monday-Sunday	14.00-15.00
		20.00-21.00
Serbian	Monday-Sunday	15.00-16.00
		21.00-22.00

Romani	Sunday	16.00-16.30
Czech	Sunday	16.30-17.00
Slovak	Sunday	17.00-18.00
Ukrainian	Sunday	18.00-19.00
Bulgarian	Sunday	19.00-20.00
Italian	Monday (1st of month)	19.00-20.00

The programmes are broadcasted in AM band on 630 KHZ frequency (Ortisoara), and FM band (Timisoara FM) on the 105.9 MHZ frequency (Urseni).

Radio Romania Resita

1. The station produces and broadcasts programmes in the following languages: **Ukrainian, Serbian, Croatian, German, Romani, Czech, Slovak, Hungarian**, 30 minutes per week each.
2. The broadcasting schedule (day, broadcasting time) is:

Ukrainian	Monday	21:30-22:00	Radio Resita
Serbian	Tuesday	21:30-22:00	Radio Resita
Hungarian	Wednesday	21:30-22:00	Radio Resita
German	Thursday	21:30-22:00	Radio Resita
Croatian	Friday	21:30-22:00	Radio Resita
Romani	Friday	22:10-22:40	Radio Resita
Slovak	Saturday	21:30-22:00	Radio Resita
Czech	Sunday	21:30-22:00	Radio Resita

Programmes are broadcasted by Radio Romania Resita on the FM frequency of 105.6 MHz (Semenic).

Radio Romania Targu Mures

1. The station produces and broadcasts the Radio Tg. Mures FM programme dedicated to minorities, in **Hungarian** (6180 min/week) and **German** (420 min/week). There are also AM broadcasts in **Hungarian** (2160 min/week) and **German** (390 minutes/week);
2. The broadcasting schedule (day, broadcasting time) is:

Hungarian:	Monday – Friday	06:00-21:00	Radio Tg Mures (minorities)
	Saturday	08:00 – 22:00	
	Sunday	08:00 – 22.00	
German	Monday – Friday	21:00 – 22:00	Radio Tg Mures FM (minorities)
	Monday – Saturday	21:00 – 22: 00	Radio Tg Mures AM
	Sunday	10: 00 – 10:30	

Radio Tg Mures FM (minorities) broadcasts on 106.8 MHz (Harghita).

Radio Tg Mures AM broadcasts on 1197 KHz, (Bod) 1323 KHz (Tg-Mures), 1593 KHz (Miercurea Ciuc).

National Minorities Department

1. The department produces and broadcasts programmes in **Hungarian** (380 min/week) and **German** (370 min/week).
2. The broadcasting schedule (day, broadcasting time) is:

Hungarian	Monday–Saturday 15:00-16:00	Hungarian programme	–	German
	Sunday 10:00-10:20	Hungarian programme	–	German
German	Monday – Saturday 14:00-15:00	Hungarian programme	–	German
	Sunday 10:20 – 10: 30	Hungarian programme	–	German

The program is broadcasted on the AM frequencies of 603 KHz (Bucuresti – Herastrau), 909 KHz (Jucu), 1197 Khz (Bod), 1314 KHz (Timisoara), 1323 KHz (Tg. Mures), 1404 KHz (Sighet), 1593 KHz (Miercurea Ciuc), 1593 (Oradea), 1593 KHz (Sibiu)

Programmes in Romanian for persons belonging to national minorities, broadcasted by regional stations

Radio Romania Bucharest FM

1. The station broadcasts a 55-minute programme per week dedicated to the persons belonging to national minorities that live in Bucharest (Bulgarian, Turkish, Greek, Jewish, Macedonian, Albanian, German, Hungarian, Roma, etc.)
2. The programme is broadcasted on Sunday, between 21:05-22:00 on 98.3 MHz (Herastrau)

Radio Romania Constanta

1. The Romanian language programme *Interethnic – Dobrogea Mix* for the minorities in Dobrogea (Greeks, Turks, Tatars, Lipovan Russians, Armenians, Bulgarians, Ukrainians, Italians, Jews, Germans).
2. 15-minute programme broadcasted Monday to Friday from 12:15- 12:30. It is broadcasted by Radio Constanta AM on 909 kHz (Valu lui Traian, Constanta county) and 1530 kHz (Nufaru, Tulcea county).

Radio Romania Oltenia Craiova

1. The station broadcasts the 20-minute Romanian-language weekly programme *Living Together* for Bulgarians, Serbians, Albanians, Macedonians, Czechs, Jews, Roma, and, occasionally, other minorities (Germans, Hungarians).
2. The programme is broadcasted every Friday between 20:10 and 20:30, and may be listened to on Radio Oltenia Craiova in the AM band, on 1314 kHz (Craiova) and 603 kHz (Drobeta Turnu Severin), and in the FM band on 102.9 MHz and 105 MHz (Cerbu).

Radio Romania Iasi

1. The station broadcasts the programme *Jews Today* (30 min/ week), a programme for the Roma (30 min/week), and *Intercultural Dialogue* – for Armenians, Italians, Poles and Slovaks (30 min/week). The programmes are in Romanian with inserts in the respective languages.
2. The broadcasting schedule (day, broadcasting time) is:

Jews Today	Monday	13:30- 14:00	Radio Iasi Clasic
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(AM)

Roma	Tuesday	13:30- 14:00	Radio Iasi Clasic (AM)
Intercultural Dialog	Friday	13:30- 14:00	Radio Iasi Clasic (AM)

The program of Radio Iasi Clasic is broadcasted in the AM band on 1053 kHz (Uricani).

Radio Romania Timisoara

1. The station broadcasts the Romanian language programme *Living Together* – reports, interviews and music about the German, Hungarian, Serbian, Roma, Czech, Slovak, Ukrainian, Bulgarian, Italian, Jewish minorities.
2. The 25-minute broadcast is aired every Sunday between 20:05- 20:30, on the Radio Timisoara and Arad FM frequencies (AM 630 kHz, 102.9 MHz Arad and 193.9 MHz Faget).

Radio Romania Tg. Mures.

1. The station broadcasts programs dedicated to the Roma community, 120 min/ week, mostly in Romanian, occasionally in Romani and Hungarian.
2. Programs are broadcasted Saturday and Sunday, between 07:00 and 08:00, as part of the Radio Tg. Mures FM (minorities) broadcast on 106.8 MHz (Harghita).

The Romanian Radio Broadcasting Corporation organizational structures dedicated to persons belonging to national minorities:

The National Minorities Department (Bucharest) broadcasts programmes in Hungarian and German through a network of stations with national coverage (Radio Cluj, Radio Constanta, Radio Iasi, Radio Resita, Radio Timisoara and Radio Tg. Mures); in these regional stations there *production groups for broadcasts in national minority languages*.

The management positions corresponding to these structures are:

Deputy General Secretary for Minorities – Regional Stations Network;
Editor-in-Chief – National Minorities Department;
Minority Representative in the Steering Committee of Radio Cluj radio station;
Minority Representative in the Steering Committee of Radio Constanta radio station;
Minority Representative in the Steering Committee of Radio Iasi radio station;
Minority Representative in the Steering Committee of Radio Resita radio station;
Minority Representative in the Steering Committee of Radio Timisoara radio station;
Minority Representative in the Steering Committee of Radio Tg. Mures radio station;

With respect to the “Media” chapter, there are also several **paragraphs in Article 11** upon which the Committee of Experts demands clarifications for each of the ten languages protected under Part III of the Charter.

The Government will address these questions in this section and will make the necessary references to this section when analysing each language separately:

- a. **Paragraph 1, letters b ii and c ii and Paragraph 2 (freedom of direct reception of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in a language used in identical or similar form) - Regarding the question of access to audio-visual broadcasts in minority languages on commercial/private radio and TV stations,** it is to be mentioned that a specific legal framework was put in place which ensures a compatibility with the Charter's provisions. As such, the provisions of article 82 of the Law no. 504/2002 on audio-visual broadcasting require the commercial cable TV distributors to include in their offer the programs broadcasted by the public television and radio stations. According to the provisions of paragraph 4 of the same article, in those localities where persons belonging to national minorities represent over 20% of the share of population, an **obligation to re-broadcast the programs** that are emitted free of charge in the language of the relevant minority has been imposed. After the EU-accession on the 1st of January 2007, the EU Directive on Media Audio-visual Services 2007/65/EC finds application on the Romanian territory. Its Article 3 paragraph 1 stipulates that member States shall ensure freedom of reception and shall not restrict retransmissions on their territory of audio-visual media services from other Member States for reasons which fall within the fields coordinated by the Directive.

From the perspective of the Charter, this provision will apply to **Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, Poland, Slovakia and Hungary** as EU member states. As regards, the non-EU member states, the re-broadcasting is permitted on the basis of an agreement with the National Audio-visual Council (NAC), unless the requests for re-broadcasting are covered by another international agreement of free re-transmission. Positive examples will be offered for Ukrainian and Serbian when analysing the respective chapters in Part III. It is however in principle **possible to receive radio and television broadcasts in all languages covered by Part II and Part III** of the charter but the concrete action depends on factors such as demand of the market, involvement of the minorities' organizations and financial resources available.

It is also to be mentioned that, in spite of the offer of the audio-visual authorities, in the reporting period, there have been no requests for allocation of regional/local frequencies for commercial channels broadcasting **exclusively** in minority languages. A significant impediment in this direction is probably the lack of financial resources necessary for starting such projects and the relatively low financial potential that the targeted audience would bring to the potential broadcaster. There are however **positive examples** that have been synthesized in **Annex 1**, which contains the **programs that the private cable operators RCS-RDS, ROMTELECOM and UPC retransmit in minority languages** by including those in the standard programs package (languages concerned are **Hungarian, German, Turkish, Serbian, Ukrainian, Russian**).

- b. **Paragraph 1, letter g – support for the training of journalists and other media staff using regional or minority languages**

It is to be mentioned that in 2011, TVR Timisoara in partnership with the Department for Interethnic Relations has organized, in the period 4th May to 7th of May 2011, a seminar with the title "*The Expression of Minorities in Audio-visual Media*". Over **50 editors of television and radio stations** in Cluj, Iasi, Craiova, Tirgu Mures and Timisoara participated to this event that has also included a training session for those interested. This event benefited **all interested communities representing persons belonging to national minorities**. A similar project was developed in **2013**: TVR Timisoara, in cooperation with the Department for

Interethnic Relations organized, between 1st October – 4th December, a seminar with the title “*The Expression of Minorities in Audio-visual Media*” in Timisoara. The seminar was dedicated to journalists involved in producing media programmes for minorities and the objective was to train journalists in producing programmes that would also appeal to the majority of the population and not only target the minorities. The event included two sections, and trainings for journalists were organized in the October section of this seminar. The second section (December 2013) of this seminar included projections of the coverages made by the participants (on the topic of traditional minority gastronomy). The working language was Romanian and a number of approximately **25-30 journalists** from Romania and from abroad (Serbia, Hungary) participated. The coverages were subtitled in Romanian and projected in Timisoara on a public wide screen. On the 29th of December 2013, the coverages were broadcasted on TVR 3.

In addition, from 2010 to 2012, the Department for Interethnic Relations regularly organized the conference with the title “*The Dialogue of Minority Journalists*”.

The TVR also organized trainings **for its own staff in the Minorities Department**, as follows:

- In 2011, 5 persons were trained: 3 speakers of Hungarian and 2 speakers of German;
 - In 2012, 16 Hungarian speakers were trained and 1 German speaker;
 - In 2013, 3 people, Hungarian speakers, were trained.
- c. Paragraph 3 - the representation of the interests of regional or minority language speakers in the bodies that guarantee freedom and pluralism of the media**

According to article 10, paragraph, 3, letter f of the Law on Audio-visual, the National Council of the Audio-visual is the main institution tasked with the responsibility to ensure the protection of the culture and language of persons belonging to national minorities.

According to Article 11 of the same Law, the 11 members are appointed following proposals coming from the Senate (3 members), the Chamber of Deputies (3 members), the President of Romania (2 members), the Government (3 members).

After their appointment, the members are warrants of public interest and they do not represent the institution that submitted their proposal, but are mainly tasked with ensuring the respect of the law, **including the protection of the culture and language of persons belonging to national minorities**. It is therefore clear that the interests of the minority language speakers are represented and taken into account by **all members** of the NAC and a system of **individual representation** of each minority is not in place.

At the moment, the minorities’ interests are represented collectively by the representative of the Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania.

Furthermore, the persons belonging to national minorities have a representative in the *Culture, Arts, and Mass Media Committee*, which is a Chamber of Deputies’ permanent committee. In the commission’s current composition, the vice-president position goes to the representative of the Serbian minority.

f. **CULTURE**

After the entry into force of Law no. 282/2007 on the 6 November 2007, concerning the ratification of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, the Ministry of

Culture and Cults, through the conducted programs, has taken into consideration the provisions of Art 12 regarding cultural activities and facilities.

Between 2010-2012, through the Priority Projects Program and the Emergency Cultural Needs Program of the Ministry of Culture, in the section concerning the support and promotion of cultural diversity, 111 cultural projects have been implemented, with the main objective: the promotion of traditional folklore, festivals and other forms of expression. Specific initiatives have been held in regional or minority languages based on projects proposed and held mostly by Romanian nongovernmental organizations of persons belonging to national minorities. They had as partners, guests and attendees from other countries representatives of similar organizations. The events **had audio-video technical support, bilingual posters as well as written and audio-video media broadcast in Romania, both in each minority's language, as well as in Romanian.** The beneficiary nongovernmental organizations recorded the main actions and manifestations of the cultural projects using audio-video means, and stocked these into archives. The legislative framework set into place by the entry into force of the Law 282/2007 is being completed by the legislation concerning the cultural management and that of financing cultural activities, through which the event's unfolding and financial sustainability of the programs and projects that promote and protect cultural identities and diversity are ensured.

At the “*Dimitrie Gusti*” National Village Museum, the building of an Alley of National Minorities as part of the Southern Expansion Project was started, which shows the emphasis that the museum has put on bringing forward the minorities, their habitats and providing a space that they could relate to in the future, once those exhibitions will be on display. A series of events will capitalize both the research carried out by the museum's specialists (the multiannual research program of MNSDG “*Ethnic communities in Romania*”) and the collaborations with the communities and ethnic associations. This alley already exhibits the Hungarian, the Jewish and the Hutula households, with the German and the Turkish households to open in 2013.

On the other hand, the importance the museum gives to highlighting and protecting ethnic communities and their languages by facilitating them the access to these is being manifested through the **multitude of cultural programs** that take place:

The budget for implementing these projects, within the Priority Projects Program and the Emergency Cultural Needs Program, totalled around 384,261 RON in 2010, 526,430 RON in 2011, and 441,097 RON in 2012. The financing obtained following an application for a grant submitted in accordance with the provisions of the Government's Ordinance no. 51 of the 11th of August 1998 concerning the improvement of the financing system for programmes, projects and cultural activities, with the subsequent changes and amendments, as well as in accordance with art. 5 (1) point 3 and of art. 11 (3) of the Government's Decision no. 90 of February 2010 concerning the organization and functioning of the Ministry of Culture, with the subsequent changes and amendments and on the basis of the specific criteria elaborated and approved annually by the Order of the minister of culture.

With respect to the “Culture” chapter there are also several **paragraphs in Article 12** upon which the Committee of Experts demands clarifications for each of the ten languages protected under Part and III of the Charter

The Government will address these questions **in this section** and will make the necessary references when analysing each language separately

- Paragraph 1, letter h- if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.

The Centre for Professional Training in culture, public institution subordinated to the Ministry of Culture, organizes exam sessions for obtaining translator's certificates. Translators' certificates can be obtained for the following languages: **German, Russian, Bulgarian, Czech, Hungarian, Modern Greek, Polish, Romani, Serbian, Slovak, Turkish, Ukrainian**. The fields for which these certificates are issued are: arts, chemistry, electronics, telecommunications, philosophy-religion, physics, geography, information science, history, literature, medicine-pharmaceutics, sociology, politics, law, agricultural science, mathematics, economics, technical sciences.

In 2012, **24 applicants obtained translator's certificates for German**, and in the first session of 2013, **17 applicants**. For **Bulgarian, 6 applicants obtained the certificate in 2012; 12 for Hungarian; 6 for Turkish and 4 for Ukrainian. For Russian, 12 translators were certified in 2012 and 13 during the first session of 2013.**

- Paragraph 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.

- Paragraph 3 - The Parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect. Based on the collaboration agreements established with ministries from different countries, it has been taken into consideration to set and develop good collaboration relations between the persons belonging to national minorities in Romania and the country in which those are national, as well as between the ethnic communities in Romania and similar communities in other countries (in the Diaspora).

In this context, the activities and cultural policies developed by the Ministry of Culture externally, during the 2012-2013 timeframe, illustrate the importance given to regional and minority languages, and in the agreements concluded at an intergovernmental and inter-ministerial level with the institutions in the states that have a minority on the territory of Romania, provisions that ensure cultural exchanges, such as facilitating the access to libraries, translating and promoting books in their respective languages, participating to book fairs, establishing cultural institutes, organizing conferences and minority languages seminars have been included. In defining the related cultural policies, the Ministry of Culture through the Department for International European Affairs takes into consideration the provisions of the following agreements and collaboration programs:

Collaboration program in the fields of culture, education, mass-media, youth, sport and tourism between the Government of Romania and the Government of the Russian Federation for the years 2011-2013 (to be signed);

Collaboration protocol between the Ministry of Culture and the national Patrimony of Romania and the Ministry of Culture and Transports in **Ukraine** for the period 2012-2015 (to be signed);

Collaboration agreement between the Government of Romania and the Government of the **Russian Federation** on the cooperation in the fields of culture, education and sciences (signed in Moscow, on the 27th of September 1993);

Cooperation program between the Government of Romania and the Government of Republic of **Turkey** in the fields of education, culture and arts, mass-media, youth and sport;

The cooperation agreement in the fields of culture, science and education, between the Government of Romania and the Government of **Ukraine**, signed in Bucharest on the 3rd of September 1992;

The cooperation agreement in the fields of culture, education and sciences, youth and sport between the Government of Romania and the Government of **Czech Republic**, signed in 2007, which entered into force in November 2008;

The agreement between the Government of Romania and the Government of Republic of **Croatia** in the fields of education, culture and science, signed at Zagreb, on the 19th of May 1991;

The agreement between the Government of the Popular Republic of Romania and the Government of the Popular Republic of **Hungary** regarding the collaboration on culture and science, signed at Budapest, on the 7th of September 1961;

The agreement between the Government of Romania and the Government of the Republic of **Hungary** regarding the functioning of the Romanian Cultural Institute in Budapest and the Cultural Centre of the Republic of Hungary in Bucharest, signed in Bucharest, on the 20th of October 2005;

The collaboration agreement in the field of culture between the Ministry of Culture and National Patrimony in Romania and the Ministry of Culture in the Republic of **Croatia** for the timeframe 2012-2016;

The framework agreement in the field of culture and education between the Government of Romania and the Government of the Republic of **Serbia**;

The collaboration agreement between the Ministry of Culture in the **Slovak Republic** and the Ministry of Culture in Romania for the timeframe 2013-2015;

As part of the same bilateral actions, organized by the Ministry of Culture and its subordinated institutions and/or in collaboration with the Embassies and Cultural Institutes of the respective states in Romania, and other associations that represent the minorities on our country's territory, we can mention: book exhibitions, poetry festivals, film viewings, international cultural and scientific conferences, shows by folkloric ensembles (specific dances and songs), theatre performances in the mother tongue of students of bilingual high schools.

We also mention the main provisions in the field of culture meant to encourage various forms of expression and specific initiatives regarding regional and minority languages, which enhance access to the works produced in the respective languages, and which are mentioned in the collaboration protocols. The following cultural activities were promoted between 2010 and 2012 by the Ministry of Culture, in which the minority/regional language was promoted as part of the bilateral relations:

1. In the period 14-21 November 2010, the Ministry of Culture and National Patrimony together with the Cultural Centre of the Republic of **Hungary** to Bucharest organized at the headquarters of the National Village Museum the fourth edition of the “*Week of the Hungarian Film in Bucharest*”, event held based on signing on the 20th of October 2005 of a “*cultural collaboration program between the Ministry of Culture and National Patrimony in Romania and the Cultural Centre of the Republic of Hungary*”. The event became a tradition and also took place in 2011 and 2012.
2. **The League for Romanian-Serbian Friendship** with the support of the National Council for Cinematography in Romania organized between 9-11 November 2010 at the National Village Museum, Horia Bernea Studio, the “*Serbian Film Week in Romania*”. The presented films were subtitled in Romanian. The event, organized in partnership with the Association of the League for Romanian-Serbian Friendship, also took place in April 2013 under the name “*The Festival of the Serbian Film Days*”.
3. The Ethnographic Museum in Brasov organizes annually, since 1991, with the support of the Ministry of Culture, the project “*Research for saving the ethnographic heritage in the multicultural localities in the Brasov county*”. The results of this research are reunited in a rich documentation consisting of recordings, audio and video, black-and-white, colour and digital photos, and a great collection of representative pieces of the persons belonging to national minorities from that area of the country. The interviewed people use their mother tongue. Based on the impressive documentation resulted after the research in multi-ethnic localities, temporary exhibitions have been organized, some in collaboration with institutes and museums in **Germany**. As a follow-up, a series of scientific articles were published in the museum’s magazine (etno.brasov.ro) and in the magazine of the Ethnologic Scientific Association in Romania (Caietele ASE) as well in the “*Ghidul Muzeului de Etnografie Brasov*”, “*Patrimoniul Textil*” (in English, French and German), “*Pottery centres in South-Eastern Transylvania/Fazekas koypontok delkelet-erdelyben, vol I*”, “*Transylvanian glass from centuries XVII-XIX*”, “*The topography of the monuments in Transylvania, Brasov/Denkmaltopograpgie Siebenburgen-Kreis Kronstadt*”, “*Jocul Borita, obicei de Craciun la Ceangaii din zona Sacele*”, “*Sasii transilvaneni despre ei insisi/Sibenburgischen Sachsen uber sich selbst, vol I*”.
4. The multicultural festival “*ProEtnica*” takes place annually in Sighișoara; it is an initiative that started in 2000, with the support of the German Institute for External Relations in Stuttgart (IFA) and of the Ministry of Culture, organized by the Association for the Interethnic Educational Centre for Youth, with the participation of all communities representing persons belonging to national minorities in Romania. As part of the multicultural festival, the **direct participation of the minorities’ representatives is encouraged**, in order to present and understand the most significant aspects of each culture. In the planning and developing of the event, representatives of ethnic communities also take part, and the use of minority languages is **promoted through specific popular dances and songs**, presented in minority languages and in Romanian by the users of these languages. This is an annual collective event to which contribute and participate all communities representing persons belonging to national minorities.

5. The Colloquium for the **National Minorities' Theatres** is organized biannually, in odd years, with the consistent support of the Department for Interethnic Relations. The 9th edition, which benefited also of financial support from the Ministry of Culture, took place between 29 September – 10 October 2011, at Gheorgheni, being organized by the *Figura* Association and the *Figura Studio* Theater. The main objective of the project was to promote ethnic, linguistic and cultural diversity of the minorities through theatrical performances. This project offered a response to the existing need of a forum at which the representatives of the national minority's theatres would participate, offering the basis for professional debates, experience-sharing, workshops, meetings between directors.

The 9th edition of the Colloquium hosted 23 shows, 4 concerts, lecture shows, symposiums. The concept of this festival originated in the need of **professional Hungarian, German and Yiddish theatres**. The main participants at the edition in 2011 were:

1. The Jewish State Theatre in Bucharest
2. The German State Theatre in Timisoara
3. Csiki Jatekszin Theatre in Miercurea Ciuc
4. Szigligeti Theatre in Oradea
5. Tomesa Sandor Theatre in Odorheiu Secuiesc
6. Targu Mures National Theatre – “Tompa Miklos” Band
7. Satu Mare Northern Theatre – Harag Gyorgy Company
8. The Hungarian State Theatre Cluj
9. Tamasi Aron Theatre in Sfantu Gheorghe
10. Sziky Gergely Hungarian State Theatre – Timisoara
11. Aradi Kamarzhinhaz Theatre Company in Szeged, Hungary
12. The Town Theatre in Targu Secuiesc
13. Figura Studio Theatre in Gheorgheni
14. Studio M, Sfantu Gheorghe
15. Waiting Room – Cluj Napoca
16. Academic Workshop Theatre – Targu Mures
17. Yorick Studio – Targu Mures
18. “Cinka Panna” Gipsy Theatre in Budapest
19. University of Arts in Targu-Mures, Faculty of Theatre, Department of Choreography
20. Western University of Timisoara, Acting – German Language
21. University Babeş – Bolyai, – Faculty of Theatre and Television, Cluj Napoca

As part of the **bilateral activities organized in 2012-2013 by the Ministry of Culture and the institutions in its subordination**, and/or in collaboration with the Embassies and Cultural Institutes of the respective states in Romania, **aimed at preserving the different types of expression and specific initiatives for the regional/minority languages**, we mention the following:

- “**The Polish Culture Days**” organized in Suceava in September 2011, financially supported by the Ministry of Culture. As part of this event, organized by the Polish Union in Romania, a number of relevant manifestations aimed at enriching the Polish language took place. A symposium entitled “*The world of Polish-Romanian relations*” was dedicated to the history and culture of the two peoples. Concerts were also organized.
- The National Village Museum, an institution subordinated to the Ministry of Culture, hosted on the 10th of June 2013, the “**Polish Evening**”, under the title “*Polish*”

literature and language, gems of the Polish culture” organized by the “Dom Polski” Centre in Bucharest and by the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Bucharest.

- The “*Dimitrie Gusti*” National Village Museum organized the program “***Interethnic Dialogue***” as part of the Museum Days in which participated assemblies and craftsmen or producers of the **Ukrainian, Lipovan, Armenian, Bulgarian and Romani communities**. A number of ensembles performed on this occasion: the Orfeas folkloric assembly of the Hellenic Union, the Serenada Assembly of the Albanian’s League in Romania and the Hora Assembly of the Jewish Community in Romania.
- The organization of events dedicated to minorities, such as “***The Armenian Days of Culture at the Village Museum***”, held during 21-23 September 2012, in partnership with the Youth Organization of the Armenian Church in Romania, with the support of the Armenian Archiepiscopate in Romania and the Union of the Armenians in Romania, under the patronage of the Embassy of Armenia to Romania. Also, in 2012, in collaboration with the Youth Organization of the Armenian Church in Romania, during 21-23 September, a photography exhibition “*On the road through Armenia*” was presented.
- The collaboration between the “***Dimitrie Gusti***” National Village Museum and the “***Yunus Emre***” Turkish Cultural Centre in Bucharest in partnership with the “Anton Pann” Association for Culture and Tradition resulted in the organization in 2012 of the cultural events “*Ottoman music lectures*” on the 18th of May 2012 and the paintings exhibition “*Lucruri marunte*”. The Ministry of Culture, organized yearly in 2010-2013, in collaboration with the Democratic Union of the Turkish-Muslims Tatars in Romania, the *International Festival of the Traditional Dresses, Dances and Songs*, a festival in which bands from Turkey, Bulgaria, Crimean region in Ukraine and Romania participated.

Other important cultural actions and projects that benefited from grants from the Ministry of Culture, **aimed at preserving the different types of expression and specific initiatives for the regional/minority languages** are:

- The International Folklore Contest-Festival “*In gradina cu flori multe*” (the 8th edition, June – July 2012), Cernauti; the National Minorities Festival “*Serbarile Deltei*” (the 12th edition, August 2012), Sulina, Tulcea county;
- The International Scientific Symposium “*Romanian-Ukrainian Relations. History and contemporarity*”, the 5th edition, Satu Mare (November 2012); The book fair in Istanbul, Turkey (November 2012);
- Welcoming a team of Turkish researchers and experts which came to Romania for a field research, with the purpose of obtaining the necessary information for a study about *The folklore of the Turkish and Tatar communities living in the Dobrogea area* (November, 2012);
- The International Book Festival in Budapest, Hungary – April 2013; The Book Fair in Prague, Czech Republic – May 2013.

f. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL LIFE

As a first point, the Government would like to mention that, pursuant to the provisions of **Article 13, paragraph 1** of the Charter, **letter a**, the Romanian legislation **does not contain any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of regional or**

minority languages in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations.

Also, according to **letter b** of the same **paragraph 1**, the insertion in internal regulations of companies and private documents of any clauses excluding or restricting the use of regional or minority languages, at least between users of the same language, **is not permitted**. In this regard, it is to be noted that **any such case would be reported to the National Council for Combating Discrimination and dealt with accordingly**. The same is true for **letter c** of paragraph 1 of article 13 which foresees the obligation to oppose practices designed to discourage the use of regional or minority languages in connection with economic or social activities.

It is to be added that no such cases contained in the abovementioned paragraphs have been reported by the respective minority organisations when filling in the questionnaire addressed to them by the Department for Interethnic Relation in July 2013, with the purpose of consulting them and gathering information for the completion of the report.

As regards **Paragraph 2 of Article 13 of the Charter**, it is to be recalled that the undertakings contained in the **letters c, d and e** have only been ratified for the **Hungarian and German** languages, covered by Part III of the Charter.

As regards the undertaking contained in **letter c**, which foresees that the obligation to ensure that **social care facilities** such as hospitals, retirement homes and hostels offer the possibility of receiving and treating in their own language persons using a regional or minority language who are in need of care on grounds of ill-health, old age or for other reasons, it is to be mentioned that the Ministry of the Interior has provided, **in Annex 21**, a list of the counties in which the abovementioned structures ensure the possibility of receiving treatment in German and Hungarian languages. The information provided in **Annex 16**, which contains information provided by the Association of Municipalities as regards the use of these languages in providing treatment in the municipalities of Cluj Napoca, Lugoj, Oradea, Pitesti, Reghin, Resita, Sebes must also be considered relevant.

The provision under **letter d** compels to **ensure by appropriate means that safety instructions are also drawn up in regional or minority languages**. According to the elements provided by the Committee of Experts in the June 2012 evaluation report this provision concerns all forms of instructions whose aim it is to prevent accidents, including at the workplace.

The undertaking in **letter e** compels to **arrange for information provided by the competent public authorities concerning the rights of consumers to be made available in regional or minority languages**. According to the elements provided by the Committee of Experts in the June 2012 evaluation report this provision concerns both information concerning consumer rights provided in public (e.g. information boards regarding passenger rights at stations or airports) or relevant information on products.

As regards **the implementation of the undertakings contained in letters d and e of Paragraph 2**, the following information is relevant:

The Romanian State, by its fundamental act, i.e. **the Constitution, recognizes and guarantees the right of persons belonging to national minorities to preserve develop and express their ethnic, cultural, linguistic and religious identity.** The protective measures taken by the state for the preservation, development and expression of identity of persons belonging to national minorities shall conform to the principles of equality and non-discrimination in relation to the other Romanian citizens.

- a. Thus in the field of **employment**, the Romanian legislation regulated the individual employment contract in Romanian language as a compulsory prerequisite that applies to all Romanian citizens. However, in order to observe the rights of persons belonging to national minorities, according to the constitutional provisions, the respective employment contract **can be drawn-up in the languages of the minorities, conditional to the identity of information and legal force of the two versions of the document.**

In accordance with Article 5 para 1 and 2 of **Law no. 53/2003** on the Labour Code, republished, with subsequent amendments, industrial relations are based on the principle of equal treatment for all employees and employers. Any direct or indirect discrimination against a person based on gender, sexual orientation, genetic characteristics, age, nationality, race, colour, ethnicity, religion, political, social origin, disability, family status or responsibilities, membership or union activity is prohibited.

Article 6 paragraph 1 of the same law stipulates that any employee who performs work enjoys adequate working conditions, social protection, health and safety at work, the respect of his/her dignity and conscience, without any discrimination.

In this context, we mention that according to Article 16 para. 1 of Law no. 53/2003 on the Labour Code, republished, with subsequent amendments, the employment contract shall be concluded on the basis of the parties' consent, written in Romanian.

According to **Law no. 319/2006 on safety and health at work**, transposing the provisions of Directive 89/391/EEC, the employer shall ensure the safety and health of workers in every aspect related to work (Article 6 para. 1). Moreover, as part of his responsibilities, the employer shall take appropriate measures to inform and train the workers (Article 7 para. 1 lit. c). In order to ensure the measures on health and safety at work and on preventing work accidents and occupational diseases, employers are required to provide information to each person prior to employment on the risks it is exposed to at work and on the preventive and protective measures required (Article 13, letter h).

Likewise, according to the **Government Decision no. 1146/2006 on the minimum requirements on health and safety for the use of work equipment by workers, which transposes the provisions of Directive 89/655/EEC**, the employer shall take the necessary measures to ensure that workers have adequate information and, if appropriate, worksheets on the use of work equipments at work (Article 8). They must include a minimum number of health and safety data concerning:

- a) the conditions for using the work equipment;
- b) foreseeable abnormal situations;
- c) the conclusions that can be drawn, where appropriate, from the experience gained following the use of work equipments.

Workers must be made aware of the risks they are exposed to, of the work equipments that are in close proximity to their workplace, and of the changes expected to be made, insofar as these changes affect the work equipments placed in the immediate vicinity of their workplace, even if the workers do not use directly those equipments.

The information and data sheets must be comprehensible to the workers concerned (art. 9).

Information of this kind is available in **Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, German, Hungarian.**

b. According to **Law no. 319/2006** on health and safety, which transposes Directive 89/391/EEC, with a view to ensuring **health and safety conditions at work and in order to prevent work accidents and occupational diseases**, the employer shall:

- develop instructions, in the spirit of this law, for the completion and/or implementation of health and safety regulations at work, taking account of the specific activities and jobs under their responsibility (Article 13, letter e);
- ensure and check the knowledge and application by all workers of the measures provided in the prevention and protection plan, as well as of the legal provisions in the field of health and safety at work, by designated workers by their competence or by external services (Article 13, letter f).

Also, according to the Methodological Norms for the application of Law no. 319/2006 on health and safety, and approved by Government Decision no. 1425/2006, as amended and supplemented, the result of the workers' training on health and safety are mandatorily recorded in the individual training fiche, indicating the material taught, the length and date of training. After training, the individual training fiche is signed by the worker, the trainer and the people who verified the training (Article 81 paragraphs 1 and 3).

Thus, the employer has **a general duty to provide training to workers on the basis of their own instructions on health and safety at work**, in a manner it deems appropriate, so that this activity achieves its goal of providing knowledge and training on health and safety.

The trained worker must sign the individual training fiche after each training, showing that information and instructions have been communicated in an accessible and understandable way, and the employee has acquired the necessary knowledge.

Information of this kind is available in **German and Hungarian.**

c. As regards the use of minority languages in **instructions for use of products or installations and technical documentation in general**, the present legislation only foresees the use of the **Romanian language**.

The use of other languages **is not restricted but it is neither compulsory**. It is therefore **up to the producer to decide on the necessity to display instructions in other languages**.

According to Article 20 of the Law no. 37/2002 *“The manufacturer must inform with regard to the product name, name and/or trademark of the manufacturer, quantity and, if applicable, the warranty, validity or the date of minimum durability, main technical and qualitative features, composition, additives used, eventually foreseeable risks, the usage, handling, storage, conservation or preservation, as well as nutritional value for the pre-packaged food products and the origin country, for imported products.*

Long-term/use products must be accompanied by the warranty certificate and if the legislations in force provide it, by the declaration of conformity and the technical manual or instructions for use, installation, operation, maintenance, issued by the manufacturer.

The seller must inform customers about product price and provide them with all the information and technical documents that must accompany the product.

All information regarding the products and services offered to consumers, accompanying documents as well as pre-formulated contracts must be written in Romanian, regardless of country of origin of the products, without excluding their presentation in other languages”.

In this context, in order to obtain concrete data on the implementation of the Charter, **the Ministry of the Economy** has contacted the **several producers' associations** and two unions

have replied as follows: the Romanian Union of Cosmetics' and Detergents' and the Associations of the Paints' Industries' in Romania. According to the first association, the cosmetic products and the detergents are labelled in Romanian, according to the specific legislation. There is also labelling in **Bulgarian, Czech, Hungarian, German, Italian, Polish** etc., on account that these products are transported/exported towards other EU countries.

The second Producers' Association has reported that the paint products are chemical products and are thus subjected to specific legislation on chemical products (EU Regulation no. 1272/2008 on chemical substances and EC Directive no. 1999/45). The EU Regulation foresees, in this particular case, the condition that the labels in other languages contain the same amount of information as the labels in Romanian. The producers in this field **also label their products in Bulgarian, Czech, Hungarian, German, Italian, Polish** etc. also on account that these products are transported/exported towards other EU countries.

Part III - General issues arising in the evaluation of the application of the Charter in Romania

The Romanian authorities have taken steps towards adopting a **structured approach** for the **implementation of each undertaking under the Charter**, in co-operation with the representatives of the minority-languages speakers.

As such, the Department for Interethnic Relations (DIR) contacted and maintained a permanent link with the representatives of other central institutions and the organisations of persons belonging to national minorities and the following activities have been organized:

Regarding **the adoption of a structured approach** on the fulfillment of the commitments assumed according to the *Charter*, it is to be mentioned that DIR has organized a series of reunions and debates which reunited the main voices of the communities representing persons belonging to national minorities and partner institutions, as it follows:

- **9th of February 2012** - DIR headquarters - the event consisted in consultations with specialists from the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Justice, Internal Affairs Ministry and Foreign Affairs Ministry, concerning the project issued by the Experts Committee and sent to the Romanian party. During the debate, the participants have agreed on the means of cooperation which should issue observations and comments of the Romanian authorities, concerning the project of opinion;
- **February 2012** – DIR forwarded a new request, to both involved Ministries and minority organizations to send updated information and comments; the requested data has been sent to the DIR in March and became the core of Romania's comments;
- **29th of February 2012** - the first reunion of the Commission for Education and Youth (*Comisia pentru Învățământ și Tineret*) of the Council of National Minorities, took place. The representatives of all communities representing persons belonging to national minorities were informed about the provisional results of the first monitoring of the *Language Charter*, in Romania; DIR translated and distributed all the recommendations, to the involved organizations. Considering the abovementioned data, the minority representatives included some of the initiatives into their plans, which are meant to support educational programs for minority children (enlarging the area of use of minority languages through informal educational programs, visits to schools and high schools which host classes taught in minority languages, encouraging minority members to participate at the manifestations organized for the European Day of Languages etc.)
- **1st of March 2012** - the same written information was transmitted to the *Culture, Cults and Mass Media Commission (Comisia de Cultură, Culte și Mass-media)* department within the CMN (Council of National Minorities), organization which had a reunion in Bucharest, at the DIR headquarters. The representatives specialized in minority culture suggested activities which are meant to promote the languages used by minorities, at a cultural level (book and publication exhibitions, Theatre shows in multiple languages, visits at various embassies);
- **28th of March 2012** - **with the support of the National Village Museum Dimitrie Gusti** in Bucharest, **and the National Audio-visual Council of Romania (NAC)**, DIR organized a reunion focused on the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages applied into the cultural and audio-visual fields. The reunion's main purpose was to identify new means of promoting minority languages, means of encouraging the use of these languages on a daily basis, in the cultural and audio-

visual field. The event reunited members from the National Minorities Commission, from the National Audio-visual Council, from the UNESCO department within the Romanian National Commission, from the Village Museum and from the Department for Interethnic Relations.

The program included two parts:

1.Cultural and intercultural programs – means of stimulating interethnic dialogue, lectured by Associate Professor Doctor Paula Popoiu, CEO at the National Village Museum *Dimitrie Gusti*.

2.Radio and television shows for minorities in the online era, lectured by Dr. Rodica Anghel, counsellor at the Regulations Department, within the National Audio-visual Council.

During the event a few aspects were noted, such as the diversity and the creativeness of the programs which have been in progress at the Village Museum, one of the main cultural attractions in Bucharest. Other aspects which have been discussed were projects of the museum, which included the communities of persons belonging to national minorities, or were exclusively focused on the history and the traditions of persons belonging to national minorities. With regard to these ideas, a special place is conferred to *“The Alley of Minorities “Nicolae Cajal”*, a developing project launched by the museum. The project will be finalized with the support offered by minorities’ organisations. The aid they offer consists in donations of traditional houses from different rural areas of Romania. An important and worth-mentioning aspect is the fact that the space offered by the museum provides an environment suited for numerous activities, such as object exhibitions. At the same time, the space encourages the use of minority languages.

The second part of the reunion was dedicated to debates centred on the theme of minority languages used in traditional mass-media, radio and television and in the online environment. The main focus was on social media and internet means which, during the present time, became accessible to numerous users. The CNA representative encouraged the present members of the minorities to take advantage of the benefits that the internet has to offer. The minority organizations were encouraged to collaborate and ultimately create channels and relevant, interesting shows, which serve the purpose of drawing the attention of different audiences, including the speakers of their own language. Another highlighted aspect was the fact that the new means of communication offer the possibility of attracting the minority youths towards community activities. In order to emphasize the idea mentioned above, **an example of good practice was given: Radio T, from Constanța broadcasts in three languages - Turkish, Tatar and Romanian**. A proposal agreed by all the participants consisted in **establishing a multilingual and multicultural radio channel, in Bucharest**, through a partnership between the CMN organizations. Follow-up on this proposal is expected.

- **June 2013** - DIR, in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, organized two reunions on the following theme: *“Priorities in applying the European Charter of Regional or Minority Languages”*.

The first reunion, which took place in Bucharest on the **5th of June 2013**, was addressed to the representatives of ministries and to the representatives of public institutions, officials who are directly involved in applying the provisions of the *European Charter of Regional or Minority Languages*. The main goal of the meeting was to re-establish the institutional

dialogue, focused on the theme of applying the statements of the European Convention and to reach an agreement, together with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on the procedures which should be used in order to prepare the upcoming monitoring exercise, on the same theme.

The participants were reminded about the results of the first monitoring cycle and the main observations and recommendations, which were included in the first report of the Expert's Committee. The participants insisted on approaching the norms of the *Charter* in a more structured manner. The participants also mentioned the need of a better collaboration and coordination between institutions and insisted on the integrating role of the Foreign Affairs Ministry. The debates were structured in modules which follow the model of the *Language Charter*. Due to the technical nature of the debate, the discussions involved opinions of experts from various domains such as: education; administrative authorities and public services; justice; mass media; cultural activities and facilities; Economic and social life; cross-border exchanges. During the final discussion, the Department for Interethnic Relations, together with the Foreign Affairs Ministry, agreed on the means of cooperation between the institutions involved and the calendar of activities and events.

On the **12th of June 2013**, a **second round of debates** was organized. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs hosted the event, which gathered the leaders and representatives of minorities' organisations, members of the Council of National Minorities (CMN). The main goal of the meeting was to continue the dialogue started with the organisations of persons belonging to national minorities on the first monitoring cycle, and the recommendations at the end of this exercise.

Another aspect which was highlighted at the meeting was the importance of cooperating with the minorities themselves, who are both beneficiaries and actors under the *Charter*. The organisations of persons belonging to national minorities should be aware of all the provisions of the *Charter* and should apply and use its provisions regularly. It was emphasized that dialogue and collaboration between the minority organizations and the public institutions is essential for making visible progress. The organisations of persons belonging to national minorities were encouraged to identify the main issues which get in the way of applying the rules mentioned into the *Charter*, and to propose solutions.

Apart from the abovementioned debates and meetings, which were focused strictly on aspects related to applying and monitoring the *Language Charter*, DIR has organized a series of **intercultural and interethnic programs**, which were meant to increase the interest in learning more about the **minority languages** and the use the minority languages. A list of programs organized and financed by the DIR, in 2011, 2012 and 2013 is presented in **Annexes 6 and 7**.

As a result of the abovementioned measures, a mechanism of cooperation was established with the representatives of these organisations and information submitted by these were included in the preparation of this present report.

The present report was therefore drafted after careful consultation of all involved stakeholders and when analysing the languages covered under Part II and Part II and III of the Charter, the Government will refer to the paragraphs in the June 2012 report in which precise and detailed information from the Government was required by the Committee.

The present report includes contributions from the following institutions and their respective subordinated or partner bodies:

- The Department for Interethnic Relations- www.dri.gov.ro
- The Institute for the Study of the Problems of National Minorities- www.ispmn.gov.ro
- The National Council for Combating Discrimination- www.cncd.org.ro
- The Ministry of Culture- www.cultura.ro
- The Ministry of Economy- www.minind.ro
- The Romanian Television Society- www.tvr.ro
- The Romanian Radio Society- www.radio.ro
- The Ministry of the Interior- www.mai.gov.ro
- The Ministry of Justice- www.just.ro
- The Ministry of Labour- www.mmuncii.ro
- The National Agency for Roma- www.ano.ro
- The National Institute of Magistracy-www.inm-lex.ro
- The National Institute of Statistics- www.insse.ro
- The Association of Municipalities of Romania- www.amr.ro
- All the 19 minority organisations represented in the Council of National Minorities.

During the next reporting period, the Department for Interethnic Relations in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will concentrate on establishing an implementation strategy of the Charter, as a working document, concentrated on deadlines and allocated resources and involving all the responsible authorities.

One of the objectives is to improve, during the next reporting period, **the data collection system** for all relevant chapters of the Charter.

a. Percentage thresholds as regards the application of Article 10

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 33 of the June 2012 report to provide a complete overview of the possibility to voluntarily install bi- or multilingual place-name signs if minorities do not reach the 20%-threshold and specify examples, the Government would like to refer to **Annex 5**, which contains both the list of the localities in which the share of minority ethnics is over 20% of the total and where bilingual or multilingual signs are displayed, and the list of localities where minority communities fall below 20%, but which **voluntarily installed bi- or multilingual place-name signs**.

We should emphasize that these lists must also be considered the **lists of the localities in which the minority language speakers live in numbers relevant for the purposes of Article 10 (issue on which the Committee has inquired)**. The Government will refer to these lists when analysing the implementation of Article 10 for each of the ten languages covered in Part III of the Charter.

As regards the particular case of the localities which **voluntarily** install bi- or multilingual place-name signs, the Annex contains a number of **98 localities in 13 counties** that have adopted this **voluntary approach**. There are examples of localities (Timisoara, Seica Mare, Ticusu Vechi) which voluntarily install place names in **two, three or four minority languages**. The approach is encouraged by the active involvement of the local authorities that periodically monitor the share of minority ethnics in their respective localities.

As to the Committee's **general recommendation in paragraph 37 to lower the general thresholds in the field of administrative authorities** (recommendation which was also contained in the **Recommendation** issued by the Committee of Ministers in June 2012) in order to make them compatible with the Charter as well as to encourage local authorities to voluntarily apply the Charter irrespective of thresholds, the Government would like to refer to the **information provided by the Institute for Studying National Minorities Problems (ISPMN), comprised in the present report**⁹. According to this updated information, it is possible that in some localities the minority population does not achieve the 20% limit provisioned by the legislation in force.

In this context, it is possible that **the revision of the 20% limit should be taken into account in the future**. However the amending of the Law 215/ 2001 is a complex procedure, since the law is organic and its modification requires an ample process of consultation and public debate, as well as an important allocation of **financial resources**.

b. Provision of minority-language education

As to the Committee's point in paragraph 38 according to which Chapter III of the Education Law requires that for minority-language education to be provided, 12 parents or pupils (at primary and lower secondary levels) and 15 students (at upper secondary and vocational levels) must demand it and the fact that Romania ratified those options of Article 8.1.a-d which put an obligation on the state party to provide minority-language education **without the need for prior demand by parents or students**, the following elements are to be mentioned:

The National Education Law no. 1/2011, with subsequent amendments foresees in Article 63 that:

- (1) Secondary education formations include study groups, classes or years of study, as follows:
- a) the provision of ante-pre-school: group contains an average of 7 children, but not less than 5 and not more than 9;
 - b) pre-school education: preschool group contains an average of 15, but not less than 10 and not more than 20;
 - c) primary: the class containing on average 20 pupils, but not less than 12 and not more than 25;
 - d) gymnasium: class containing on average 25 pupils, but not less than 12 and not more than 30;
 - a) high school: average class comprising 25 students, but not less than 15 and not more than 30;

Therefore the condition in the law currently in force is not the "*prior request from parents*", but simply **the size of the class**.

As to the Committee's comment in paragraph 39 according to which "*the set minimum number of pupils may seem too high in the context of minority language education. According to the authorities, classes may be set up also with fewer pupils than the legal minimum number, but this practice is limited to "well-grounded cases" requiring the approval of the Ministry of Education. The Committee of Experts is unsure of the practical consequences of this minimum number and asks the Romanian authorities to provide information about this aspect in the next periodical report*", the following elements are to be mentioned:

⁹ Page 13 of the present report contains a table of 15 localities in which, according to the information provided by the ISPMN, the share of Hungarian ethnics is below 20%

The National Education Law no. 1/2011, which among others amended Law no. 84/1995, lays down the conditions which constitute the exception from the general rule contained in art. 63, paragraph 1, 2 and 3 as it follows:

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of para. (1) in areas where there is demand for the type of education in the language of a national minority, the number of trial configurations may be less than the minimum prescribed by law. Decision on the establishment and operation of these formations belong the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, in consultation with the board of the school concerned.

(3) In exceptional circumstances, parties or preschool large group of students can work under minimum or above the maximum effective number, with the approval of the school board, based on justification, taking into account compliance with the standard cost per student and the maximum number of positions approved for secondary education in the county and in Bucharest.

This procedure must be seen must be seen as a whole (necessity, costs, number of posts available, etc.) and not as a procedure setting restrictions. The practical consequence of this provision is that, in those cases where **the school board** is confronted with a number of requests **under the minimum limit**, these will be carefully analysed and tailored to the resources (financial, staff, etc.) of the school. A subsequent decision, based on these elements, will then be taken by the school board.

This decision is thus entirely left to the discretion of the local school board - the institution which is best placed to appraise these elements - and only the *formal* approval is left to the ministry in its capacity of central coordinating authority.

Part IV- Evaluation in respect of Part II of the Charter

General Issues

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 44 to ensure that new administrative divisions do not constitute an obstacle to the promotion of **Hungarian** (proposals under discussion aims at the integration of the counties of Harghita/Hargita (84.6% Hungarian population), Covasna/Kovászna (73.8%) and Mureş/Maros (39.3%) into a larger unit), the Government would like to refer to the general considerations made in Part II, chapter on "*Developments that are expected to occur in the next monitoring cycle*" and wishes to accentuate that the territorial-administrative reorganisation **will not be conducted on criteria linked to ethnicity**. On the other hand, the acquired linguistic rights of the persons belonging to the Hungarian minority **will not be affected**.

As the Government has already stated it in the beginning of Part II of the present report, the decentralization process is prompted solely by the need to narrow the economic development disparities between Romania and the other EU member states. It is therefore a process aimed at consolidating Romania's performance as an EU member state. None of the measures are intended to affect the rights of persons belonging to national minorities, nor the system of protection developed with the aim to protect and promote their rights.

It is to be added that, after the consultation of the organisations of persons belonging to national minorities represented in the Council of National Minorities, most of these have indicated that **they do not foresee that the new administrative divisions would be an obstacle to the promotion of the minority language in question**.

Article 7

Paragraph 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

The Government submits that the ratification of the Charter represents a form of recognition of the regional or minority languages as an expression of cultural wealth. The Romanian instrument of ratification also mentions all languages that are covered by Part II. Furthermore, 19 national minorities have each a reserved seat in parliament and this represents also an indirect form of recognition of the language groups concerned.

b the respect of the geographical area of each regional or minority language in order to ensure that existing or new administrative divisions do not constitute an obstacle to the promotion of the regional or minority language in question;

As regards the particular situation of the implementation of the abovementioned undertaking for each of the 10 languages covered by Part II, the situation is as follows:

According to the updated information transmitted by the League of **Albanians** of Romania (ALAR) in July 2013, there were no obstacles in using and promoting Albanian. In the recent years, although the number of Albanian speakers has registered a diminishing tendency, the interest of the youth for this language seems to have increased. As regards the respect of the geographic area of the language, no issues were reported. It is to be noted that the Albanian minority is dispersed in all areas of Romania.

According to the updated information transmitted by the **Armenian Union of Romania (UAR)** in July 2013, there were no obstacles in using and promoting Armenian. As regards the respect of the geographic area of the language, no issues were reported. It is to be noted that the Armenian minority is dispersed in all areas of Romania.

According to the updated information transmitted by the **Hellenic Union of Romania (UER)** in July 2013, there were no obstacles in using and promoting Greek. As regards the respect of the geographic area of the language, no issues were reported.

According to the updated information transmitted by the **Association of Italians in Romania (ROASIT)** in July 2013, there were no obstacles in using and promoting Italian. As regards the respect of the geographic area of the language, no issues were reported. It is to be noted that the Italian minority is dispersed in all areas of Romania.

According to the updated information transmitted by the **Federation of Jewish Communities of Romania (FCER)** in July 2013, there were no obstacles in using and promoting Yiddish. As regards the respect of the geographic area of the language, no issues were reported. The only reported issue relates to the fact that the size of the Jewish community continues to decrease and it is mainly composed of elderly persons. These are members of the community are the main speakers of Yiddish.

According to the updated information transmitted by the **Association of Macedonians of Romania (AMR)** in July 2013, there were no obstacles in using and promoting Macedonian. As regards the respect of the geographic area of the language, no issues were reported.

According to the updated information transmitted by the **Polish Union of Romania (UPR)** in July 2013, there were no obstacles in using and promoting Polish.

According to the final results of the 2011 census, in Romania there are 2543 persons belonging the Polish minority. 2079 of them are speaking Polish as a mother tongue. The Polish language is recognized as an expression of cultural wealth in Romania. In Suceava County live 1922 Poles. In Bucharest live 160 Poles, in the rest of the counties the number of Poles is under 100. Taking into account this geographical distribution, no problems were reported, regarding the promotion of the **Polish** language.

According to the updated information transmitted by the **Roma Party of Romania** in July 2013, there were no obstacles in using and promoting Romani.

According to the final results of the 2011 census, in Romania there are 621.600 persons belonging the Roma minority, which represents 3,3% of the total population of Romania. 1,3% of these speak Romani as a mother tongue. The specificity of this language is that it is composed of many dialects and these are influenced by the languages spoken by the majority population. In Romania, there is a unified system for teaching Romani, for all the spoken dialects. Most Roma ethnics live in the counties of Alba, Argeş, Arad, Bacău, Bihor, Bistriţa-Năsăud, Braşov, Buzău, Cluj, Călăraşi, Caraş-Severin, Covasna, Dâmboviţa, Dolj, Galaţi, Ilfov, Ialomiţa, Iaşi, Mehedinţi, Maramureş, Mureş, Olt, Sibiu, Sălaj, Satu Mare, Suceava, Timiş, Teleorman, Vrancea. Taking into account this geographical distribution, no problems were reported, regarding the promotion of the **Romani** language.

According to the information transmitted by the **Cultural Union of Ruthenians from Romania (UCRR)** in July 2013 there were no obstacles in using and promoting Ruthenian. As regards the respect of the geographic area of the language, no issues were reported. The language is used by different Ruthenian communities.

According to the updated information transmitted by **the Democratic Union of the Turkish-Muslim Tatars of Romania (UDTTMR)** and its subsidies in July 2013 there were no obstacles in using and promoting Tatar. However, the community has indicated that there is no substantial support coming from abroad, as opposed to the situation of other minorities (in this case, the Autonomous Region of Crimea from Ukraine is not in a position to offer substantial support to UDTTMR).

As regards the respect of the geographic area of the language, no issues were reported. It is to be noted that the number of Tatar ethnics, according to the results of the 2011 census, was of 20.282 compared to 23.035 in 2002. According to the unofficial data of UDTTMR, the number of Tatar ethnics is of over 36.000 but not all ethnics have declared themselves as Tatars at the 2011 census because, especially in the rural areas, some members of the community have erroneously declared themselves as Turks. Also, a significant number of Tatars could not be quantified in the census due to the fact that they were abroad. According to the National Institute of Statistics, 96,9% of Tatars are concentrated in the Constanta county and the rest reside in Bucharest and Tulcea. There are few localities where their number is over 20% of the total resident population but these display bilingual signs (Fantana Mare (Baspinar), Independenta (Bayramdede), Faurei (Calaici), all in Dobrogea region.

As to the Committee's concern expressed in paragraph 45, that **measures taken by the Government in response to the financial crisis may disproportionately affect the promotion of minority languages**, the Government would like to refer to its comments made in Part I of the present report. It is to be pointed out that significant reduction in state resources have been carried out in the period 2009-2012, in **the context of the international financial crisis**, but these have targeted the whole institutional system of Romania, the central state budget and the local budgets as well.

All public institutions have been confronted with this situation and the exigency of reducing their expenses, while still carrying out their duties in an efficient manner. It cannot be therefore inferred that the minority languages have been affected in any way or even more in a "*disproportionate*" way compared to other state actors affected by the crisis.

In addition, the organisations representing the persons belonging to national minorities of Romania, consulted when drafting the present report, **have indicated that these reductions have not affected their capacity to efficiently respond** to the needs of the minority language speakers.

As regards the particular situation of the implementation of the abovementioned undertaking for each of the 10 languages covered by Part II, the situation is as follows:

In the last 3 years, the Association of Albanians has taken the following measures **in order to promote Albanian**:

- the encouragement of the elderly members of the community to use the language in meetings and celebrations, especially in those organised in the community;
- the support given by the organisation to the members that wanted to find their relatives in Albania;
- the re-editing of albums with Albanian music and books and bilingual books published by own publishing house (*Privirea – Vështrimi*), very much demanded by the community;
- the participation in numerous book fairs in several regions of the country;
- the participation of the musical assembly *Serenada* at different shows, festivals, manifestations in Bucharest and the country.

As regards the promoting of **Armenian**, it is to be mentioned that the Union of Armenians of Romania is currently implementing a programme that facilitates the learning of this language in areas inhabited by Armenian-speaking population. It is an *e-learning system* that allows for a teacher in Bucharest to teach courses in other areas, such as Constanta. The Union envisages the extension of this system to other areas such as Bacau and Gherla. This system was set up by the Union after careful consultation of its territorial subsidies, in order to assess the needs for teaching.

As regards the promoting of **Greek**, the following measures have been taken:

- starting with the 2010-2011 school year, the national Greek Language Olympiad is organised by the Ministry of Education and no longer by the Hellenic Union;
- starting with the school year 2012-2013, students of Greek language classes are evaluated with marks from 1-10, both for those studying Greek as a mother tongue as well as for those studying Greek as a foreign language;

As regards the promoting of **Italian**, the following measures have been taken by ROASIT:

- the itinerant exhibition “From immigration to integration”, with explanations in Romanian, English and Italian has promoted the Italian language, culture and civilization in Romania, as well as the history of Italian immigration in Romania. The exhibition was shown in Bucharest, Rome, Oradea, Tulcea, Rm. Vâlcea, Brezoi, Suceava, and in the locality of Greci, Tulcea county, where a significant Italian community resides. In September 2013, the DIR has supported financially the showing of the exhibition at the UN Palace in Geneva, Switzerland. The exhibition was well received by the public.

As regards the promoting of **Yiddish**, the following measures have been taken by FCER:

- the stimulation of the activity of the Jewish State Theatre in Bucharest, institution which is now managed by a famous Jewish actress – Maia Morgenstern – who promotes interethnic communication and dialogue;
- the request for accrediting Yiddish studies departments in the Universities of Iasi and Bucharest;
- the organisation of Yiddish courses for those interested in the Jewish cultural centres;
- the organisation of the annual symposium *Idișland (Țara idișului)*;
- the editing of a paper on the history of Yiddish in Romania, to be printed by the publishing house *Hasefer* of FCER in 2014;

As regards the promotion of **Yiddish** through cultural activities and facilities, the following elements are to be mentioned:

The Federation of the Jewish Communities in Romania in partnership with the Ministry of Culture and National Patrimony, the Department for Interethnic Relations, the Embassy of Israel, the Austrian Cultural Forum, the European Jewish Fund, the Jewish State Theatre, the Jewish Community Oradea and the Jewish Community of Bucharest organized in the period of 2-5 September 2010 the YIDDISH-er VELT – “*The world of Yiddish, Yiddish language and culture festival*”, an important cultural event. Through this festival the recreation of the atmosphere specific to ante-bellum Central and Eastern Europe, in which Yiddish culture was part of the daily life of many cities and villages was desired. The festival included a series of colloquiums and conferences, documentary film projections, Theatre shows, traditional music and dance concerts, traditional Jewish food tasting, visit of the Great Synagogue in Bucharest and of the Jewish History Museum in Romania.

The poster, the advertising campaign and the event itself were in **Romanian, Hebrew and English**, and the organizers created a web page on which the main moments of the program were posted.

The Jewish community in Bucharest received a grant from the Ministry of Culture for the period 2010-2013 for the cultural project “*The Festival – School of Jewish and Israeli Machol Dances Romania*”, a unique cultural event in Romania, which includes several types of activities that trains professionals from the field of culture – directors, choreographers, musicians – members of the Jewish community in Romania, in the preservation, through the learning process, of specific elements of the Jewish folkloric traditions and dances. The project was also intended to be a link with the national culture in Romania and to protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions. **The entire repertoire of the festival was recorded on a CD.**

In 2013, the DIR has continued to financially support the project of the *Colloquium of the Theatres of National Minorities*, developed by the NGO *Figura*. Thus, in the period from 27

September to 6 October 2013, the *Jewish* Theatre in Bucharest along with **Hungarian and German** Theatres projected **plays in the respective minority languages** with Romanian subtitles. Approximately 2000 people watched the projections and a total number of 470 people supported the actual organization of the event.

The National Village Museum hosted in April 2010 the cultural event “**KOGEL-MOGEL. Jewish traditions in Poland**” in which the **Polish Institute** brought to the attention of the public the importance of the Jewish traditions for Polish culture. The event included Polish poetry, photo exhibitions and short and medium film screenings: *Stranger VI (Obcy VI)*, 2008. Fiction. Directing: Borys Lankosz; *Kroke Town (Miasteczko Kroke)*, 2007. Documentary. Scenario and Directing: Nataia Schmidt, Kuba Karys, Radegast, 2008. Documentary. Directing and image: Broy Lankosz. The exhibition by Wojciech Wilczyk part displayed photographs of the synagogues and temples in Poland. The exhibition was arranged in cooperation with the Atlas Sztuki Gallery in Lodz.

As regards the promoting of **Macedonian**, the AMR has contributed to this objective through editing and publishing bilingual works; the Sunday courses of Macedonian were continued, and a part of the members of the community participated to the courses in Ohrid, dedicated to deepening the knowledge of Macedonian language, culture and literature. The editing of publications for the Macedonian ethnics was continued, as well as the editing of literary works of Macedonian authors.

Other measures were:

- the participation of the musical ensemble “*Raze macedonene*” (*Macedonian rays*) in a number of shows and festivals in and outside Bucharest;
- participation in book fairs;
- editing of bilingual books by the publishing house of the association;
- organizing of cultural events and meetings of members of the Macedonian speaking community.

As regards the promoting of **Polish**, the Union of Poles in Romania (UPR) has adopted the following measures for promoting and safeguarding this language:

- According to the educational curriculum, in 11 schools from Suceava County (primary and secondary schools) Polish classes are held every week, 3-4 hours/week. These schools are in the following localities: *Suceava, Siret, Moara, Pleșa, Poiana Micului, Păltinoasa, Gura Humorului, Solonețu Nou, Cacica, Vicșani, Mănăstirea Humorului*.
- Also, for the Polish community children, UPR organizes poetry contests, summer camps in the Polish language (Cacica, Poiana Micului), summer camps for high school students in Wrzesnia (Poland).

As regards the promoting of **Romani**, it is to be mentioned that the Roma Party has continued to develop its media department, in which journalists and speakers of Romani work. In 2011-2012, this department continued to produce the programme “*the Roma Caravan*” dedicated to the Roma history, tradition and culture. The show was broadcasted in Romani and Romanian and aired weekly on Sundays, at 15-17:00 hrs, on the private television channel OTV(closed at present).

In 2013, a new project was started – the show “*Si eu m-am nascut in Romania/ Vi me sim kotar i Romanja*”. It has a duration of 60 minutes and is broadcasted every Sunday on the private television channel *Prima TV*. The show is broadcasted in Romanian but includes documentaries and interviews in Romani, with Romanian subtitles.

Translations into Romani of works produced in Romanian were done. Such an example is the theatre play *O noapte furtunoasa / Jekh reat Lisjame*“, by Ion Luca Caragiale, translated into Romani by the Roma actor Sorin Sandu. An audio material was made with the translated version and the play was performed in Bucharest, on 16 September 2010.

In 2012, the Roma Party continued to publish the magazine “*Asul de trefla*”- a news magazine dedicated to the social, economic and cultural life of the Roma, published every 2 months. In 2013, the online edition of this newspaper appeared: <http://www.partidaromilor.ro/asul-de-trefla>

The trilogy “*Romii*” (the Roma), an ethnographic work regarding the social, economic and historical background of the period of Roma slavery, issued its third volume “*Trandafira*” in 2011. The book is written in Romanian but addresses the majority population as well as the Roma.

As regards the promotion of **Ruthenian**, it is to be noted that, in the last years, the Cultural Union of the Ruthenians from Romania (UCRR) has encouraged the activities to promote Ruthenian at local level, in small communities. The organisation has organised projects in which all communities participated, an opportunity to use the Ruthenian language. Such projects were „*The Days of Ruthenian Culture*” in Pojoga-2011, county of Hunedoara; the „*Days of Ruthenian Culture*” in Peregu Mare, Arad- 2012.

As regards the promotion of **Tatar**, it is to be noted that this language is becoming less used (Tatar language was recognized as an endangered language by the European Union). Hence, the UDTTMR is striving to preserve it. Through its activities, the organization tries to arouse the interest of community members for valuing and using their native language.

The 5th of May was legally declared by law the Tatar Language Day. On this occasion, activities have been organized annually to preserve and to promote the language. For example, at the contest “*Guzel tilim*” - *My beautiful native language* - held on May 5 2013, from a total of 300 children enrolled, 42 have qualified for the finals and they were awarded. Through the celebration and the events organized on this occasion, the community has the opportunity to maintain and promote its mother tongue, the own identity and culture.

U.D.T.T.M.R. has organized various events and activities to promote the Tatar language such as:

- June 2, 2013 - the second edition of the performance contest in Tatar language “*The flower in the garden*”;
- April 13, 2013 – The round table on “*Trends and developments of Tatar language from Dobrogea*” and an open lesson at one of the Tatar language groups at the local school from Constanta;
- March 16, 2013 – literary contest and poetry recitation in Tatar language at the symposium “*Yasar Memedemin – a personality of Tatar literary life*”;
- In the past three years, the following books have been published or are in process of publication, through the effort of the U.D.T.T.M.R.:

2010:

From the history of Tatars, collective, 1500 copies;

Tatar musical folklore, by Gizela Suliteanu, 200 copies;

The historic heritage of Tatars, collective, 500 copies;

A broken daffodil, by Cidem Narcis Braşlaşu, 300 copies;

Romanians and the Golden Horde, by Alexander Gonta, 100 copies;

Yasin Suresi ve Mevlid, 1000 copies;

2011:

Derylar deniz bolganda, by Ibraim Neriman, 350 copies;

From the history of Tatars, by an collective author, 1000 copies;

From the secrets of creation, by Rustem Seitabla, 200 copies;

Hatîralar, by Ekrem Menlimbay, 500 copies;

Autobiographical stories, by Cidem Narcis Brâslaşu, 200 copies;

Tatars in Romanian archives, by Valentin Ciorbea, 300 copies;

Tatars vol.2, by Acnola Ghiuner, 200 copies;

2012:

From the history of Tatars, vol. 2, collective, 1000 copies;

Dobruca kirimtatar agzi sozlik, (dictionary), Vol. 1,2,3, by Saim Osman Karahan, 1000 copies;

Gonûlîm Sîzde tatarlar, by Nejdît Yaya, 350 copies;

The historic heritage of Tatars, vol 2, by Tahsin Gemil, Nagi Pienaru, 700 copies;

Sîr saglagan sozler, by Cidem Narcis Brâslaşu, 350 copies;

Tatars in Romanian archives, by Valentin Ciorbea, 700 copies;

2013:

Adetler – by Neriman Ibraim, in process of publication;

When apple trees bloom again – by Selma Calil Rasid, forthcoming;

From Tatar poetry. Bilingual anthology of poems –by Nuredin Ibram & Neriman Ibraim, forthcoming;

Romanian-Tatar Dictionary, by Altay Cherim, forthcoming;

Dobruca'nin Dawusi –by Mehmet H. Vani Yurtsever, forthcoming;

Dobruca'nin Dawusî- by Mehmet H. Vani Yurtsever, 324 pages, 250 copies;

Gramatika –by Ekrem Gafar, forthcoming;

Kinali Kurban –by Nevzat Yusuf Sarigol, forthcoming;

Kînalî Kurban- by Nevzat Yusuf Sarigol, 272 pages, 500 copies;

Saylama Eserler – vol.1, 356 pages, by Ismail H.A. Ziyaeddin, forthcoming;

Saylama Eserler – vol.2, 216 pages, by Ismail H.A. Ziyaeddin, forthcoming;

Tatar Tilin Suygen Insanlarga –by Necibe Sucuri, forthcoming;

The voice of my spirit (Ruhimnin sedasi) – by Kiyaseddin Uteu, forthcoming.

As to the Committee's point of clarification on the situation of the **Csango language** (paragraph 48), it is to be mentioned that, on a practical level, **the authorities have taken measures in order to support the preservation of the culture and identity of this group.**

It is to be recalled that the issue of the *Csango* group is approached by the Romanian authorities mainly in the context of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. This document provides for a series of fundamental rights of persons belonging to national minorities, among which the right to preserve and develop their culture, and to preserve the essential elements of their identity, namely their religion, language, traditions and cultural heritage.

The specific approach of the *Csango* group is also based on the provisions of the Council of Europe's Permanent Assembly Recommendation no. 1521/2001 regarding the "*Csango minority culture*" in Romania as well as on the reply to this Recommendation adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 14 November 2001. These documents were drafted on the basis of the report of Tytti Isohookana-Asunmaa, former member of the Parliamentary Assembly.

These documents recommend that the *Csango* group be granted access to education in their mother tongue, on the basis of their requests, as well as access to religious service in their mother tongue.

Romania attaches great importance to the principle of free self-identification of persons belonging to national minorities and, with regard to the persons belonging to *Csango* group, we consider their opinion on the question of identification as essential.

As a consequence, in Romania the *Csango* who consider themselves “Hungarians” are placed under the protection offered to the Hungarian minority, those who consider themselves “Romanians” are assisted in preserving their customs, traditions and specific culture.

Concrete measures *in the field of education* have been taken by the Ministry of Education. Namely, the catholic pupils from Bacău county have the possibility to study Hungarian if their parents make a request in this respect. In the year **2012-2013 more than 1000 pupils** in the region of Bacău were enrolled in schools and studied Hungarian as a native language at pre-university level. There is also a high-school in Ghimes, Bacău county, which has three classes (9th grade, 10th grade, 11th grade) where pupils study all subjects in Hungarian.

Also, in so far as they addressed the authorities with *specific cultural projects*, persons assuming the *Csango* identity were assisted: in 2011 the Department for Interethnic Relations responded positively to a request of the *Csángó Hungarian Association of Moldova*, funding of 10,000 RON a camp for preparatory school in Bacău county for *Csango* children. The camp took place from 30 June to 7 July 2011 in Miercurea Ciuc.

Also, in May 2013, the President of the UNESCO General Conference, Mrs Katalin Bogayay paid a visit to Bacău County. On this occasion, she met the representatives of both the Romanian and the Hungarian local *Csango* communities. The visit was supported by both central and local authorities and it proved to be a fruitful opportunity to evaluate the current cultural and education state of the *Csango* community.

d *the facilitation and/or encouragement of the use of regional or minority languages, in speech and writing, in public and private life;*

As regards the particular situation of the implementation of the above-mentioned undertaking for each of the 10 languages covered by Part II, the situation is as follows:

The use, in speech or in writing, of the language in public and private life, was facilitated by the appearance of new and useful works on the usage of the Albanian language:

- the 4-volume textbook entitled *Învățați albaneza singuri*, by Oana Manolescu – president of ALAR;
- *Frazeologie comună româno – albaneză*, by Renata Topciu;
- the study *Frazeologie comună româno – albaneză* by Renata Topciu, published in the Review of South-East European Studies; other articles and linguistic studies;
- the construction of new and spacious quarters in Craiova, that will provide better conditions for organising courses in Albanian language.

As regards the use, in speech or in writing, of the Armenian language in public and private life, it is to be noted that, due to the size of the minority, no specific problems were encountered. Armenian is mostly used as a spoken language by the members of the community. In its written form, it is used in relation with the Armenian Government or with

the diaspora. As to the Committee of Experts' point of clarification (paragraph 50) on the language in which the weekly programme from the local radio station in Constanța (“*The Armenian nation and civilization*”) is broadcasted, it is to be specified that the broadcasting language is Armenian and the duration of the programme is now 57 minutes/week. The programme is broadcasted on Fridays, between 19.03-20.00 hrs.

As regards the use, in speech or in writing, of the **Greek** language in public and private life, it is to be noted that the 20 territorial branches of the Hellenic Union frequently organise events at local level. The promotion of and communication in these events is done bilingually. As to the Committee of Experts' question (paragraph 51) on whether the weekly programme broadcasted by TVR3 uses Greek, it is to be clarified that the programme “*All together*”, produced weekly by the Other minorities section in TVR (34 minutes broadcasted on Wednesdays, between 12.40-13.14 hours), includes **6 minutes in Greek, 10 minutes in Russian and 9 minutes in Turkish with Romanian subtitles.**

As to the duration of the Radio Constanta broadcast in Greek, it is to be specified that the duration of the programme is now 57 minutes/week. The programme is broadcasted on Mondays, between 19.03-20.00 hrs.

As regards the use, in speech or in writing, of the **Italian** language in public and private life, it is to be mentioned that the use of Italian is quite frequent in Romania, also due to the closeness of Italian and Romanian languages that allows for this language to be learned fast, at a high proficiency level. In the last three years, the number of Italian speakers has increased significantly, due to reasons such as the establishment of numerous Italian companies in Romania after the 1990 or to the increase in the number of mixed Romanian-Italian families.

As to the Committee of Experts' question (paragraph 52) on the programme broadcasted by Radio Timisoara, it is to be pointed out that the programme is broadcasted between 19:00-20:00 hours on the first Monday of each month. Due to the development of the partnership between the Association of the Italians in Romania (RO.AS.IT.) and Radio Timisoara, this programme will be also broadcasted on Sundays.

As regards the promotion of Italian in the *cultural field*, the following elements are to be mentioned:

The project “Interethnic musical dialogue”, which continued the project “*Dialogue with the Italian music*”, was started in 2012 by the Association of the Italians in Romania – RO.AS.IT. Using the universality of the musical language, the project stimulates the dialogue between the folkloric heritage of a number of national minorities – Hungarians, Greeks, Jews, Germans, etc. – with the Italian minority in order to create a musical-instrumental anthology for a better knowledge, preservation and understanding of the cultural values/symbols specific to each ethnicity and for the preservation of the diversity and intercultural dialogue. Recordings will be done on CDs and DVDs. Through the active involvement of the youth, artists and minorities representatives, intercultural dialogue will be facilitated and stimulated, as well as the preservation and promotion of the minorities' musical heritage as an expression of cultural richness.

The Project: “*From emigration to integration*” started in 2010, when the Ministry of Culture financed the cultural project “*Italians in Romania – an ethnicity with deep roots*”. A documentary photo exhibition of the Italian minority is organized in Bucharest on May 29 of

each year, with the aim of highlighting the cultural heritage of the Italian minority in Romania. Italian music and dances are also presented.

In 2013 a cultural event took place in Tulcea municipality and in the Greci village where an important Italian community lives and where the setting up of a museum dedicated to this community is being considered. Italian folk songs and dances show, specific of the Northern part of Italy, especially the Friuli area, was performed by the “*Di nuovo insieme*” Dances Ensemble and by 20 children from the “*Allegria*” Ensemble from the village of Greci. The event was rounded up by the photo exhibition “*From emigration, to integration*” and the photo album “*Italians in Romania – A history in images*”, which illustrates the history of the Italian minority in Romania, with texts both in Romanian and Italian. The cultural project can contribute to the positioning of the Italian minority in the Romanian cultural market, and to promoting multiculturalism and minorities as determinant factors of Romania’s cultural identity. In 2012 this cultural event was hosted by Oradea, at the “*Tara Crisurilor*” Museum, a historic building designed by the Italian architect Giovanni Battista Ricca.

The project “*On the tracks of the ancestors*” initiated in 2011 by the Association of the Italians in Romania – RO.AS.IT, in partnership with institutions and organizations from Italy and Romania, had as purpose to promote Romanian culture values, as well as those of the persons belonging to national minorities, in the international circuit. It also supported the mobility of artists and cultural managers. The project included photo and painting exhibitions, round tables, film projections, etc. in an attempt to get to understand the contribution to contemporary Romanian art of representative artists of the Italian minority - Angela Tomaselli and Mihaela Profiriu Mattescu. In Milan, representatives of the Italian community in Romania participated, along with a Romanian organization from Italy, in a series of events: “*Romania – European Traditions and Values*,” the photo exhibition “*Italian contributions to Bucharest’s architecture*”, the “*Traditional crafts fair*”, where a stand was set up for Romanian and Italian traditional artefacts made by the Horia Colobichio and Constantin Conghilete. As part of the program, meetings with the representatives of the European Academy for the Study of Minorities – EURAC from Bolzano and the Romanian Cultural Institute and Humanistic Research in Venice were also organized.

As regards the use, in speech or in writing, of the **Yiddish** language in public and private life, it is to be mentioned that no particular obstacles have been reported. The Yiddish language is however used mostly in private life by the elderly members of the Jewish community.

Regarding the promotion of the use of Yiddish in public life, we should point out that ART PROMO Association, in partnership with the Department for Interethnic Relations and other partners, developed “*The international Jewish Movie Festival*”, the second edition, in 2013. .

The festival is part of a network which includes over 130 events, organized around the world and is addressed to the movie fans and public who want to know more about the Jewish cultural heritage.

In 2013, the Festival presented over 50 movies, most of them seen for the first time in Romania.

Besides movie projections, workshops and debates on Jewish issues were also organized. They touched upon topics such diversity, combating discrimination, rejecting the stereotypes, etc.

As regards the use, in speech or in writing, of the **Macedonian** language in public and private life, it is to be mentioned that this is done through the events/activities organised by AMR

(Sunday schools, editing of materials, etc.). No restrictions were reported in the use of Macedonian.

As regards the use, in speech or in writing, of the **Polish** language in public and private life, it is to be mentioned that, in order to increase the number of Polish language teachers, UPR asked support from Poland and, as a result, teachers from Poland work as visiting teachers in four schools in the Moara, Suceava, Manastirea Humorului and Cacica localities. As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 55 to explore ways of promoting the Polish language, it is to be mentioned that the Romanian authorities are currently exploring, in cooperation with representatives of the Polish speakers, how the Polish language could be promoted in the fields of the broadcast media, local authorities, and Economic and social life in general.

We should point out that Radio Iasi broadcasts every Friday in the interval 13.30-14.00 the program "Intercultural dialogue" for the **Armenian, Italian, Polish, Slovak minorities** in Romanian language, including inserts of minorities languages. Radio Romania Broadcasting Corporation will analyse, in cooperation with the representatives of this minority, the possibility of **broadcasting a stand-alone program in Polish**.

Romani

Though Romani is relatively rarely used in public life, it is mostly promoted through oral communication. The network of Roma health and school mediators, that covers the entire territory of Romania, constantly uses Romani in direct contacts with the members of the community.

It is to be mentioned that, in the period 2011-2013, the National Institute of Magistracy continued to grant a particular attention to the training to future magistrates on issues related to human rights. Aspects related to human rights and fight against discrimination were also included in the initial training of judges and in the continuous training programs. Some of these programs were organized in partnership with the National Council for Combating Discrimination (NCCD) or with NGOs in the field of minority issues (**Romani Criss**).

As to the Committee's request on the **promotion of Romani in social and economic life** (paragraph 60 of the June 2012 report), **as well as in justice**, as a recent example of good-practice, it is to be emphasised that, at the initiative of the Romani CRISS Association (Roma Centre for Social Intervention and Studies) in September 2010 a project proposal under the European Commission Grant Action Program "*Criminal Justice*" was submitted in partnership with the National Institute for Magistracy. The project was approved by the European Commission and the implemented project was "*Equal access to justice for Roma*", aimed at training magistrates in national and international legislation on combating racism in criminal matters. In May 2011-August 2012, two seminars on "*Fighting discrimination. Equal access to justice for Roma*" and "*Fighting racism throughout juridical procedures*" were organized. 35 judges and 36 prosecutors attended these seminars.

In addition, the Centre for Professional Training in Culture, institution subordinated to the Ministry of Culture, has certified, starting with 2010, **translators for Romani specialized in literature and justice**.

It is also to be mentioned that in the **Government Strategy for the Inclusion of the Roma for the period 2012-2020**, adopted by Government Decision no. 1221/2011, the National Agency for the Roma annually conducts a call for projects that are meant to stimulate the participation of Roma in the economic, social, educational, cultural and political life of the country. In the years 2011 to 2013, the National Agency for the Roma has financed a total of **151 programs** in the fields of **education, culture, health, media, sports, community development, professional qualification** (details in **Annex 2**). These have been carried out by NGOs that are active on Roma issues.

As regards the Committee's request in paragraph 63 to provide information on the promotion of **Tatar** in other fields of public life (judicial authorities, administrative authorities, including the use of Tatar place names, Economic and social life), the following elements are relevant:

The Tatar language is still not present enough in some public administration sectors (justice, public administration, Economic and social life). UDTTMR initiated campaigns to teach children in the public education system for learning Tatar language, but the main challenge continues to be the lack of Tatar language teachers with proper certification from the Ministry of National Education. Moreover, none of the Romanian universities teach Tatar, because of the lack of professors.

Some of the concrete actions that UDTTMR will initiate, in cooperation with the Romanian authorities, are the following:

- In order to solve the issue of the Tatar language teachers, the union filed a petition with the Minority Languages Education Department of the Ministry of National Education requesting the budgeting of cultural exchanges between Romania and the Tatar community in Crimea in training **Tatar language teachers**. These teachers would then be certified by the Ministry of Education and used in teaching pupils and for developing train-the-trainers programmes for the Tatar language;

- Teaching the Tatar language to experts, with a view to introducing it in a few years in the local public administration.

- Starting with the school year 2013-2014, the Institute for Turkish Sciences and Eastern Sciences at the Babes-Bolyai University of Cluj teaches, apart from courses of Turkish language, a course on **Tatar history and culture**.

As regards the use, in speech or in writing, of the **Ruthenian** language in public and private life, it is to be mentioned that the use of this language is encouraged by the UCRR mainly in the families of Ruthenian communities. Also, in the village of Peregu Mare locality, Arad county, Ruthenian is used in religious services in the Greek-Catholic Ruthenian Church.

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;*

As regards the particular situation of the implementation of the abovementioned undertaking for each of the 10 languages covered by Part II, the situation is as follows:

As regards the relations between the **Albanian** community and other communities that use a regional or minority language, it is to be mentioned that these are maintained, especially through exchange of publications. Thus, the Association distributes the monthly newspaper, which reached its 140th edition in June 2013. Cultural relations with other ethnic groups are maintained through interethnic and intercultural events hosted or financed by the Department for Interethnic Relations.

As regards the relations between the **Armenian** community and other communities that use a regional or minority language, it is to be mentioned that these are maintained through the participation at the numerous events organized by the Ministry of Culture, the Department of Interethnic Relations and other organisations.

As regards the relations between the **Greek** community and other communities that use a regional or minority language, it is to be noted that these are maintained through the work commissions of the Hellenic Union and the events organized by the DIR. Many reunions on different issues, involving all minority NGOs, were hosted by the Hellenic Union.

As regards the relations between the **Italian** community and other communities that use a regional or minority language, it is to be noted that these are maintained through the work of the ROASIT, which participated in all the events organized by the DIR and other structures such as the Ministry of Culture. Relevant examples are:

- the organizing by ROASIT of the Interethnic Festival „*Confluente*”, fourth Edition, Iasi, 2013;
- the participation in the event „*Primăvara comunitară*” /Community Spring in Constanța, organized by the Turkish Democratic Union;
- participation at „*ONGfest*”, Bucharest, 2013;
- participation at the Festival of Minorities, Cișmigiu, Bucharest, 2013;
- participation at The „*ProEtnica Sighișoara*” Festival– August 2013;
- participation at The bookfair „*Gaudeamus*”, November 2013, Bucharest etc.

As regards the relations between the **Jewish** community and other communities that use a regional or minority language, it is to be mentioned that these are maintained through the regular participation in the interethnic and intercultural events organized by the DIR and by other structures such as the Ministry of Culture. Among these in 2013, the participation of the *Hasefer* Publishing House in several book fairs, and the participation of Jewish Federation at the *Proetnica* Festival in Sighisoara and the *Alfabetul Convieturii* Festival in Ploiesti are to be mentioned.

As regards the relations between the **Macedonian** community and other communities that use a regional or minority language, it is to be mentioned that these are maintained through the exchange of publications and through the participation in working committees and joint events. As such, AMR distributes the monthly bilingual magazine “*The Macedonian*”. The participation in interethnic and intercultural events organized by the DIR and by other structures such as the Ministry of Culture is also ensured.

As regards the relations between the **Polish** community and other communities that use a regional or minority language, it is to be mentioned that UPR maintains and develops relations with most of the national minorities’ communities. The Polish community developed a common program with the German speakers from Romania (“*Europe’s Day*”, June 2012) and with the Slovak speakers (the program “*Let’s know each other better*”, August, October 2011 and 2012). In 2013 UPR initiated the project “*Let’s learn from our elders – solidarity between generations*” (August-September 2013). Representatives of the German, Ukrainian, Russian minorities attended the program. In Solonetu Nou, the Polish community organizes every year the program “*Fruitage Festival*”, where the minorities’ communities from Bucovina participate with their traditional products.

As regards the relations between the **Roma** community and other communities that use a regional or minority language, it is to be mentioned that the relations with the Armenian community have been particularly strong. Thus on 2-4 August 2013, the “*Strada Armeneasca*”(the Armenian street) Festival in Bucharest took place. To this event, Romani craftspeople participated and the minority language was spoken. Also, the Roma Party Pro Europa participated in book fairs, Council of Minorities meetings, festivals etc.

As regards the relations between the **Ruthenian** community and other communities that use a regional or minority language, it is to be mentioned that the UCRR has a folk ensemble which participates in different events, along with other ethnic communities. For instance, at the “*Days of the Peregu Mare locality*”, in the Arad county, the UCRR participated along with Hungarians, Slovaks, Roma. Such contacts are also fostered during the ProEtnica Festival in Sighisoara, the interethnic festival in Bistrita Nasaud, the *Szejke* festival in Odorheiu Secuiesc, etc.

As regards the relations between the **Tatar** community and other communities that use a regional or minority language, it is to be mentioned that In the past three years UDTTMR participated in various programs organised by DIR or other institutions or organisations, programs focused on the communication between languages and cultures. In 2012, UDTTMR organised a visit with DIR to Crimea for the representatives of the National Minority Council. UDTTMR participated along with the Romanian Embassy to official events organised by The Parliament of Crimean Tatars and Ukrainian authorities in the memory of Tatar deportation victims during Stalinist regime. The group visited the History Museum of Bakhchisaray and the memorial house of Ismail Gaspirali, one of the brilliant Tatar intellectuals. All this contributed to the mutual understanding and improvement of dialogue between ethnic groups. In 2011 and 2012 UDTTMR was also a partner of the multicultural student camps organized by DIR. The camps were named *I want to learn your language too* and were held in two rounds: in Neptun – Constanta county, in Herculane – Mehedinti county. Pupils and teachers belonging to national minorities from Dobrogea and Mehedinti attended these camps and they debated about the mother tongue knowledge, its expression in different activities, practice of interethnic dialogue for children.

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

As regards the particular situation of the implementation of the abovementioned undertaking for each of the 10 languages covered by Part II, the situation is as follows:

Albanian

There were no essential exchanges as regards the forms and means of study and teaching Albanian. The language continues to be taught in ALAR headquarters, weekly, with a very low number of students, but with qualified teachers. As a general rule, children learn elementary notions of Albanian at home. The interest for learning the language has increased for the younger and middle-aged generations.

Armenian

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 70 to be informed, in the next periodical report, about how many pupils learn **Armenian** at the different levels of education and how many hours per week are devoted to teaching Armenian, it is to be mentioned that the number of students in the current school year is **43**. The Armenian language is taught 3 hours per week within the Armenian Church by the 43 students enrolled in schools and high schools in Bucharest. Additionally, one hour per week is dedicated to the Ancient Armenian study. It is

to be added that since the submission of the first report, in 2012, the Romanian-Armenian conversation guide was published (author Arsaluis Gurau), and in 2013, the Ministry of Education (author Ulnia Blanaru Maganian) has published the first textbook of western Armenian, destined to be used by pupils in secondary studies and high schools.

Greek

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 72 to be informed in the next periodical report, about how many pupils learn **Greek** at the different levels of education and how many hours per week are devoted to teaching **Greek**, is to be mentioned that the number of students in the current school year is **117**. Modern Greek language and literature is studied in Romania 3 hours per week, starting from primary school till the 12th grade in High School (Hristo Botev, Bucharest). Greek is also taught in Prahova at primary and secondary level and at primary level in Tulcea County. In addition, Modern Greek language and literature is taught in grades 6th and 7th and one hour per week is dedicated to studying history and traditions of the Greek minority in Romania.

UER established classes or learning groups for Greek language, in several cities – Bucuresti, Braila, Galati and Ploiesti – starting with 1990 mixed classes are in place, with teaching being conducted in Greek, as part of the Romanian education system. Annually, the best school pupils meet for the Greek language Olympics, in 2013 the 12th edition took place in Barlad. The teaching in Bucuresti, Ploiesti, Galati and Braila is done by professors from Greece, paid by the Greek state, based on Greek textbooks. Over the time, the hosts of these Greek language competitions have been the communities in Bucuresti, Tulcea, Brasov, Ploiesti, Craiova, Iasi. The teachers teaching in the subsidies of UER are both in Romania (with the support of the Faculty of Foreign Languages in Bucharest) and in Greece. The number of the pupils participating in the Greek Olympics has grown in the recent years.

UER has also organized other activities such as: the editing and acquiring of teaching materials; the administering of internet pages for all its subsidies; the organising of the first international Greek Language Olympics, to take place in September 2014.

The language courses organized at the UER headquarters address both pupils as well as all individuals that are interested in learning Greek. For pupils, the curriculum is approved by the Ministry of Education and for other categories, it is decided by the teachers according to the needs and requests expressed.

Italian

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 74 to be informed in the next periodical report, about how many pupils learn **Italian** at the different levels of education and how many hours per week are devoted to teaching **Italian**, is to be mentioned that the number of students in the current school year is **257**. Italian is studied at the High School "*Dante Alighieri*" in Bucharest. In the primary school, there is a number of 112 students studying Italian language and literature 3 hours per week, and 145 students at the middle school and high school students. In addition, Italian language and literature is taught in grades 6th and 7th and one hour per week is dedicated to studying history and traditions of the Italian minority in Romania.

According to the information transmitted by ROASIT, in the last few years, the measures taken in view of creating means of teaching Italian in schools, at all levels, starting with grade 0, have been intensified.

Yiddish

The Yiddish language is studied in the Educational Complex “*Lauder Reut*” in Bucharest – a private school unit.

In addition, as the Government has mentioned above, FCER has undergone demarches in order to accredit Yiddish language departments at the Universities of Iasi and Bucharest.

Courses and contests of Yiddish language are organized in the Jewish cultural centres of FCER.

Macedonian

The AMR organizes Sunday language courses at its headquarters. No significant change has been brought to this system in the reporting period.

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 75 to be informed, in the next periodical report, about how many pupils learn **Macedonian** at the different levels of education and how many hours per week are devoted to teaching Macedonian, it is to be mentioned that this language is **not studied in the pre-university institutionalized educational framework, due to the lack of demands**. The University of Bucharest however, in the Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures hosts a department for Russian and Slavic philology within which this language can be studied.

Polish

UPR took several measures to improve the teaching and study of the Polish language. In cooperation with the *Promyk* Association from Poland, UPR developed the project “*Bucovina’s Children*” (October 2011, 2012). Several conferences for teachers regarding methods of teaching the Polish language were part of this program. As mentioned above, visiting teachers are invited every year to teach the Polish language in several localities from Suceava county. In 11 schools from Suceava county, 573 pupils study the Polish language (from the first to the twelfth grade) and 137 children in 5 kindergartens learn Polish as mother tongue in the current school year.

At the “*Alexandru cel Bun*” College from Gura Humorului (ninth to twelfth grade) 85 pupils belonging to the Polish community, study in classes with partial teaching in Polish. The teaching of Polish language as mother tongue was reintroduced. This fact revived the approach of this subject, providing a larger basis of selection for the Bucharest University.

Romani

As to the Committee’s recommendation in paragraph 77 to continue to develop a comprehensive offer of **Romani** teaching, taking into account the needs and wishes of the speakers of regional and local varieties of Romani and also related to the Committee’s points of clarification in paragraphs 85 and 93 on **the promotion of Romani language in education, the following elements are to be taken into account:**

Nowadays, in the Romanian educational system (from kindergarten to the last class of high school) there are between 220,000-260,000 Roma pupils annually. Out of these, 32,158 students study Romani language and literature in classes taught in Romanian or Hungarian (3-4 hours / week) and also study one hour weekly of Roma history and traditions (only for

grades 6th and 7th). In the 2012-2013 school year, 863 children (kindergarten and grades I-IV elementary school) were taught Romani (as well as 4 classes of Romanian language and literature). Only in one locality, at School no. 12 Măguri (which belongs to the town of Lugoj, Timiș county), classes are taught in Romani language from kindergarten to the eighth grade included.

For teaching the language in the preschool, school and high school level, Romania has edited the whole set of textbooks, financed and edited by the Ministry of Education in a percent of 70% and 30% by UNICEF, as part of a program aimed at sustaining the Romani language in education, which started in 2001. Also between 2012 and 2013, the two partner institutions published mathematics textbooks for grades 1st to 4th. A similar set of textbooks in Romani exists, from 2000, in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literature, Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures - University of Bucharest (here, the study of Romani started in October 1992).

Other ways to promote the Romani language are the Romanian national competitions in schools with Roma language and history profile (National School Olympiad for Romani, Fourteenth Edition – April 2013, 72 contestants at the national stage, the National Competition for Roma history and traditions – 6th edition, April 2013 65 students participated, the National Creative Arts contest in Romani – 2nd edition, April 2013). As a novelty, in June 2013 the first **International** Romani Olympics took place, organized by the Ministry of National Education - General Directorate for Education in Minority Languages, with the participation of students from Romania, Serbia and Turkey.

As for Romani teaching at university level (also teacher training for Romani language) the following elements are to be mentioned:

I. 21 different study places are awarded annually to young Roma for their admission to the Department of Language and Literature (in the Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures - University of Bucharest). A Masters' program in Romani was established in the academic year 2009-2010. Among the graduates of the department (during 1992-2013), 3 have completed PhD studies in Romani language and literature, and other two are in preparation of a PhD in the same field.

Teachers of the department of Romani professionally endorse a series of activities in the country and abroad, as part of collectives organizing conferences on Romani culture or conferences focused on language (for ex. collaboration with *Soros Bucharest*, with the Institute for the Study of National Minority Problems (ISPMN),, with the *Roma Cultural Centre* etc.)

II. Related to **training potential teachers for Romani**, the training scheme consists of two stages:

1. The first, intensive stage of their preparation includes "summer courses and methods of teaching Romani language." Annually, 50 persons attended the courses organized by MECTS and UNICEF. The program started in 1999 (in some years two summer schools were conducted);
2. The second stage of training is the preparation at the university level. In the period 2000 - 2011, some 600 Roma tutors and teachers for primary and pre-school level and / or teachers of Romani language were taught. The institutions that have implemented these programs were: the University of Bucharest (Department ID CREDIS) and the "*Babeș - Bolyai*"

University of Cluj Napoca (between 2006-2011- the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences).

In the interval 28 July-4 August 2013 and 5-12 August 2013, national courses for the training of 65 Roma school mediators were hosted by the Costinesti school, Constanta county. They were organised by the Ministry of Education and the UNICEF representation in Romania. The courses were focused on the inclusive schooling of Roma and on the teaching of Romani. From the start of this project in 2003 up to 2013, the programme contributed to the schooling of a total number of approximately 1001 school mediators in 25 separate programmes.

In the interval 13-27 August 2013, the 20th edition of the Summer Courses of Romani language and Teaching Methodology was hosted by the Costinesti school, Constanta county. They were organised by the Ministry of Education and the UNICEF representation in Romania. 30 Roma teachers participated in these courses.

It is to be added that, annually, approximately 31,000-33,000 pupils choose to have 3-4 weekly courses of Romani and/or opt for the courses of Roma history and traditions. Approximately 800 pre-school and school pupils study annually in Romani. Romania also has the complete set of textbooks translated into Romani (from 1st grade to 10th grade).

As for the promotion of **Romani** language *in the cultural field*, the following elements are to be mentioned:

The Ministry of Culture has as subordinated unit the National Centre for Romani Culture (CNCR), established as a public institution through Government decision 834/2003, having as central objective the preservation and promotion of traditional Roma culture, but also the promotion of the ethnic group's modern culture. The main objectives of CNCR are based on Law 430/2001, regarding the Strategy for improving the situation of the Roma, modified and completed with Decision no. 522 from the 19th of April 2006. Besides traditional Roma arts, CNCR cultivates the development of Theatre, arts and literature, which in turn reflect the mentality, practices and psychology of the Roma community.

According to Article 2, Paragraph (1) of the Government Decision mentioned above, "The Centre fulfils its role as cultural service of public utility, holding activities in the fields of culture, information, permanent education, support and carrying out of cultural programs and projects for the Roma community and/or to promote Roma culture, in conformity with the Romanian legislation in force."

According to the Operation and Functioning Rules of the institution, one of the objectives of the National Centre for Romani Culture – Romano Kher (CNCR-RK) represents the preservation, research, protection, transmission, promotion and valuing the Roma culture and immaterial heritage of the Roma minorities.

In as much as the Romani language is a central element of the Roma culture and the heritage of this minority, we mention that most of the projects developed by the national Centre for Romani Culture – CNCR-RK during the 2009-2013 timeframe have also had a component regarding the Romani language, especially during the show organized by the institution where the musical assembly "Romani Kher" held concerts in Romani language, through which artistic expression in Romani language has been encouraged.

In the subordination of the Programs and Projects Service there is the Documentations and Research Compartment of CNCR-RK which deals with developing specific publications and through which the institution guarantees the public's access to brochures, studies, books and other types of specific materials, including those on the Romani language.

CNCR-RK supports the access in Romani to papers produced in other languages, supporting the promotion of translated activities, such as the translation of the Roma actor and director Sorin Sandu of the play "*O noapte furtunoasa*" by I. L. Caragiale, by distributing 35 copies of the translation to the collaborators and partners of the institution.

Through its project from **2009, CNCR-RK organized two sessions for Romani language attestation as translator, in partnership with the Centre for Professional Improvement of the Ministry of Culture, issuing 12 translator's certificates.**

The CNCR-RK's manager during 2008-2012 was one of the experts on Romani language which developed the first curriculum for the Romani language in Romania but also author of numerous Romani language books. CNCR-RK managed to employ personnel speaking both Romani language and Romanian.

The National Centre for Romani Culture – Romano Kher **promoted and financed terminological research services in order to maintain and develop in the Romani language of a specific terminology** by organizing conferences for experts. During the activities, in 2012 the National Centre for Romani Culture – Romani Kher granted a special attention to the collaboration with the Department of Romani Language and Literature of the Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures of the University of Bucharest, with the occasion of celebrating 20 years of accomplishments in professionalizing young people on Roma linguistic profile. Starting with the 22nd of December 1991, the Romani language classes of the department have been attended by 250 young Roma ethnics and non-Roma, some of these standing out ever since studentship as interpreters, translators, authors of philology studies, researchers, activists on cultural and linguistic Roma profiles in Romanian and international institutions and as Romani language teachers in schools. In the department's activity 20 professors are involved, as well as social and institutional entities which contributed to its development. The event was accompanied by a book fair in Romani. The Romani language is still evolving, and through the national seminar "*Romani language, where to?*" , developed in partnership with the Department of Romani Language and Literature in the Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures of the University of Bucharest, the National Centre for Romani Culture aimed to identify the best methods for maintaining, promoting and developing the Romani language, analysing the way in which the language is being preserved, promoted and cultivated, and analysing the way in which his language serves as messaging means for literary, artistic and journalistic messages.

The project "*Romani Language: History, morphology, Indo-European lexical structures*" developed by SC AIUS PRINTED SRL with financing from the National Centre for Romani Culture in the timeframe 09.06.2012 – 31.10.2012, has as main objective to sustain the development, editing and printing of this book by Lucian Cherata. Teachers that teach in school with Romani ethnics as well as young Roma were involved in the project.

The project "*Roma stories and tales. Paramica thai phenimata le rromenqe*", held during 15.06.2012 – 15.10.2012 by the "Cultus Humani" Cultural Association, with financing from

the National Centre for Romani Culture – Romani Kher, proposes the editing of a paper which will include the most beautiful stories and tales of the Roma communities. In the context in which the culture and traditions of the Roma are being spoken, and the literature pieces written by Roma authors are very few, the present work represents an important step in promoting Roma literature and mobilizing the Roma elites, the teachers, for developing studies, researchers that would value the folkloric Roma elements. During the project four Roma and non-Roma teachers were involved in gathering and presenting the stories from the oral history of the local Roma communities; also, in the project at least 2000 Roma and non-Roma teachers from 30 academic institutions in Romania were included, which distribute the paper that will be used as an auxiliary tool during lecture and history classes of the minorities. Students and parents coming from the 40 communities in which the paper has been distributed, which will benefit from the knowledge on the specific culture of the Roma were also involved.

The project “*Roma proverbs, poems and stories*”, implemented during 09.06.2012 – 30.10.2012 by the Centre for the Social Intervention and Study of the Roma – Romani CRISS with financing from the National Centre for Romani Culture – Romano Kher, has as main objective the editing and publishing of a book containing Roma proverbs, poems and stories in the Roma language, with translations in Romani, in 500 copies, as well as promoting the success models of the Roma ethnic community through a book fair. Students and teachers from 5 schools in Bucuresti – Ilfov region, as well as people interested in the Roma culture at a national and international level were involved in the project. The main result was the promotion and preservation of the Roma culture, including the language.

The project “*Pakivale Bukiahe Chiba – Romanipen: Political ideas and essayistic and literary samples*” implemented between 15.06.2013 – 30.10.2012 by the Romano ButiQ Association with financing from the National Centre for Romani Culture – Romano Kher and in partnership with “*O Del Amenca*” Association and PAKIV Foundation – The European Fund for Roma, in order to edit and publish a book that would contribute to building a political culture in the Romani language for the Roma activists at the European, national and local level, preparing for the European Year of Active Citizenship 2013, as well as constructing a political and civil language inside the Romani language, inspired by the practice of social intervention in the Roma communities by documenting some words and key-themes, important in building the political culture in the Romani language, such as Romanipe, Them, Themunitpe, Kris, Chachipe, etc. During the project, documentary and text collection activities were conducted, on the topics of Roma self-organizing, their rights in Romani language and on the topic of the international organizations of Roma such as European Roma and Travelers Forum (ERTF), the International Roma Union (IRU).

The project “*Sikloven romanes. Roma language and culture classes, 15 lectures*”, organized by the National Centre for Romani Culture – Romano kher, set in partnership with Media Institute for Diversity, had as objective to elaborate a video material to be introduced in the teaching of Roma language and culture, which constitutes support for the Romani learning classes as part of curriculum of the Popular Universities or the Houses of Culture, culture centres, etc. As part of the project which took place between 10.10.2011 – 09.12.2011, the activities included the updating of the introductory classes, with the support of other specialists, including media experts, advertising the event to the large audiences, taping and broadcasting it on BAHT TV.

The project “*Art without colours*” developed by the Association of Young Roma Centre “Amaro Suno” during the timeframe 10.10.2011 – 10.12.2011 in Bucharest and Craiova,

proposed to promote the talented Roma youth, who are literature creators as well as their cultural products. It contributed significantly to the development of the Roma minority's heritage as well as to improving intercultural dialogue. 1600 copies of the book were published, 800 of which were sent to educational institution. 10 cultural partnerships and at least 1000 students and 60 teachers will be in contact with Roma literature through the use of the distributed books and presentations made. 2 cultural events were organized in 2 cities. 5 press communiqués were issued. 5 websites were identified to disseminate the information. 100 guest invitations were sent, and 300 flyers informing on the broader audience about the cultural events organized in the two cities were distributed.

The “*O Del Amenca*” Association organized between 10.10.2011 – 10.12.2011, in Fetesti, Calarasi, Alba-Iulia, Napoli and Salerno, the project Pakivale Bukiake Chiba – ROMAPIE-nul – a “cultural matrix” of an intercultural, multi-linguistic language in an accessible Europe. Part of this project are the persons that deal with implementing the projects and politics – experts who implement projects co-financed by structural funds, etc.; the metal buckets makers (Căldărari¹⁰) from Fetesti; the tinsmiths from Calarasi, including those who work constantly in Napoli and Salerno province; Italian Roma and Sinti from Eboli, Salerno province, Italy; “acculturated” Roma from Calarasi County, speakers or non-speakers of Romani language; Italians who learned Romani and work with Roma that emigrated to Italy.

The National Centre for Romani Culture – Romano Kher inaugurated on the 12th of December 2011 for the first time at the School No. 135 in Bucharest a Theatre play for children entitled “*King Baxt*” directed by the same play writer – the well-known Rudy Moca – and put into play with Roma actors. The project had as main objective the promotion of the young Roma artists, attracting the attention on the diversity and importance of the cultural acts in Roma communities, but also the support and encouragement of contemporary creations.

The National Centre for Romani Culture – Romano Kher in partnership with the Writers Union of Romania ran between April to September 2010 a drama contest, designed to contribute to the emphasizing of the cultural and civilization values of the Roma community and which consisted of selecting some dramaturgic texts of which three have been nominated.

The promotion of authentic Roma culture through deconstructing the stereotypes and prejudices towards Roma has been the main objective of the National Centre for Romani Culture – Romano Kher. By producing a CD with folk music titled “Sweet and sour”, played by the “Grigoras Dinicu” Ensemble, the message that Roma music means talent, rhythm, a wonderful freedom of movement and expression, a philosophy of life which contributed to the survival of this ethnicity throughout the years was conveyed.

Ruthenian

Due to the small size of the community, Ruthenian is not studied in schools. In the last years, the UCCR has preserved the tradition of organising the „week-end study groups” in the localities of Peregu Mare and Darmanesti.

Tatar

UDTTMR continued to organise and participate together with other minorities in many activities that focused on education for mutual respect and a better understanding of all minority groups and languages. From the past three years' important activities we can list: folklore festivals, Turkish Teacher's Day, religious events, sport competitions, ethnographic

¹⁰ Based on the traditional crafts of the Roma ethnics, this is related to the making of metal buckets

exhibitions, cooking art. UDTTMR believes that the Tatar community for decades embraced the idea of respect and tolerance between minority languages and other religions.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 79 regarding the training of teachers for **Tatar** and the extension of the partnership between the University of Constanța and the Technical and Pedagogical University of Simferopol (Crimea) to the benefit of counteracting language loss among Tatar speakers, it is to be mentioned that such a demand was also submitted by the Democratic Union of Turkish Muslim Tatars in Romania to the Ministry of Education and the ministry **is currently exploring the possibilities of extending the cultural and education bilateral framework in order to include the training of teachers of Tatar in foreign universities.**

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 80 regarding information about how many pupils currently learn **Tatar** at the different levels of education and how many hours per week are devoted to teaching Tatar, it is to be mentioned that, during the most recent school years, **45 teachers** have insured the teaching of the Turkish and Tatar traditions in Romania and 4 teachers are teaching Tatar as an optional subject taught in one hour/week in 4 schools in the Constanta county (the "M. Dragomirescu" school in Medgidia, the "Lumina" school, the "Emil Racovita" high school in Techirghiol and the "Mihail Kogalniceanu" high school in the locality of Mihail Kogalniceanu). 45 students currently attend these optional courses.

As to the Committee's recommendation in article 82 to explore, in co-operation with representatives of the speakers, how **Albanian, Ruthenian and Yiddish** languages can be strengthened in education, it is to be mentioned that, in the recent years, there were no requests for the study of **Albanian** and **Ruthenian**. The minorities' associations ensure the teaching of these languages at their own headquarters, for those interested.

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;

As regards the particular situation of the implementation of the above-mentioned undertaking for each of the 10 languages covered by Part II, the situation is as follows:

As regards **Albanian**, there were 5 cases of persons – Romanians who wanted to learn the language for professional reasons. Access to basic notions of **Albanian** was provided in organised courses, and also instructions to continue individual study.

As regards the **Armenian** language, it is to be recalled that the size of the minority is small and it is dispersed in all areas of Romania, so that there is no specific area for Armenian. For those interested in learning Armenian, the Union of Armenians provides weekly courses of Armenian, through its schools.

As regards the **Greek** language, it is to be recalled that, for those interested in learning Greek, the UER provides appropriate courses, structured on different levels.

As regards the **Italian** language, it is to be recalled that, for those interested in learning Italian, ROASIT provides appropriate courses. In addition, the "Dante Alighieri" high school in Bucharest, in which Italian is studied as a mother tongue, has many pupils that are Romanian ethnics or belong to other ethnicities.

As regards the **Macedonian** language, it is to be recalled that, for those interested in learning Macedonian, the AMR provides appropriate Sunday courses at its headquarters. We should

mention that, due to the decline of the population of Romania, the size of this community has also decreased. At present, due to this fact, Macedonian can no longer be taught as a mother tongue, as the number of pupils would not be sufficient to form a class and the language is taught in the AMR headquarters for those interested.

As regards the Yiddish language, it is to be recalled that, for those interested in learning this language, the FCER provides appropriate courses through the Jewish cultural centres.

As regards the Polish language, it is to be recalled that those interested in learning Polish have the opportunity to follow courses at the UPR headquarters or in the schools mentioned above. In each of these schools there are special laboratories with all the necessary equipment for learning a foreign language. This equipment was provided by the Polish state through the Embassy of Poland in Romania. Also there are other institutions and organizations in Poland that support the teaching of Polish (Wspolnota Polska Association, Semper Polonia, etc.).

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 84 to provide specific information regarding the implementation of this provision for Romani and Ruthenian, the Government recalls that, as regards Ruthenian, in order to ensure the study of this language for any interested person, the UCRR has contributed to the elaboration of a Ruthenian spelling book (*abecedar*) along with the World Ruthenian Council. The UCRR is also editing books for preschool and primary school pupils in Ruthenian. In 2013, an important work was edited and published- *The Romanian-Ukrainian-Ruthenian Conversation Guide* (Publishing House *Cetatea Deva*).

As regards the Romani language, the Government would like to refer to the elements presented in the Part II of the present report, in the "Education" chapter, as well as to the abovementioned elements regarding the teaching of Romani.

As regards the Tatar language, it is to be recalled that there are groups of Tatar language study organized within some existing local schools in localities where UDTTMR has branches (Agigea, Castelu, Cobadin, Constanta – 2 groups, Eforie Nord, Lumina, Mangalia, Medgidia – 4 groups, Mihail Kogalniceanu, Ovidiu, Techirghiol, Tuzla, Tulcea, Valu lui Traian). Also, study groups have been organized for optional Tatar language courses in Techirghiol, Mihail Kogalniceanu and Lumina schools, but just for the primary education level.

Also, starting with the school year 2013-2014, the Institute for Turkish Sciences and Eastern Sciences within the Babes-Bolyai University of Cluj teaches, apart from courses of Turkish language, a course on Tatar history and culture. The courses are open to all those interested and start at beginner level (more data available at <http://orient.institute.ubbcluj.ro/cursuri.html>)

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

As regards the particular situation of the implementation of the abovementioned undertaking for each of the 10 languages covered by Part II, the situation is as follows:

At the University of Bucharest, studies and research as regards the Albanian language were organised, such as:

- the volume *Frazeologie comună româno – albaneză*, by professor Renata Topciu;
- the study *Frazeologie comună româno – albaneză cu terminologie mitologică*, by Renata Topciu, published in the of South-East-European Studies Review;

- other linguistic studies, written by Ion Teodorescu and Lascu Stoica.

As regards **Armenian**, no such linguistic studies were done in the last three years.

As regards **Greek**, research and studies were conducted on several levels, of which we mention:

- Monographs of the Greek minority edited by UER such as: *Calafat- a pion on the chess table of Romanian-Greek relations*, *Greeks from Northern Dobrogea- the Greek community in Izvoarele Prahova*, *the Greek community in Constanta*;

- The textbook “*The history of persons belonging to national minorities*”, addressed to teachers of history was edited for Greek by specialists coming from the Greek community (Professor dr. Scalcau);

- The subject “History and traditions of the Greek minority in Romania” is an elective subject in the school year 2013-2014, for technical high schools, Tourism department (the subject is called: *Greek and the touristic Greece*) and for theoretical high schools (the subject is called *Greek and the Civilisation of Ancient Greece*); the curriculum was elaborated by the same professor Scalcau;

- The editing and publication of books by UER Press, in partnership with the Byzantine Cultural Association such as: *Constantin the 11th - the last emperor of Byzantium (2010)*; *The Unification of Churches and the Fall of Byzantium (2011)*, *The Fanariot Greek and the Romanian History (2012)*, *Christian Avatars of the Imperial Idea (2013)*. The studies were written by famous specialists in history, religion and culture, such as: Georgeta Filitti, Răzvan Teodorescu, Tudor Teoteoi, Constantin Rezachevici, Constantin Bălăceanu Stolnici, Ioan Robu, Nicolae Șerban Tanașoca, Manuela Dobre, Constantin Răileanu, Cosmin Dumitrescu and others. A bilingual volume, *I.L. Caragiale – 7 Schițe*, was also published.

As far as terminological research is concerned, UER has developed partnerships with the Faculty of Foreign Languages, Greek Section of the University of Bucharest, and has participated in meetings, conferences, symposia on Greek culture and language, such as:

- *The byzantine odyssey of Digenis Akritas*, by professor Javier Alonso Aldama– Spain (March 2012);

- A trip to the byzantine monuments in Cyprus, by professor Charalambos G. Chotzakoglou, president of the Society of Cyprus Studies and of the Cyprus Society of Byzantine Studies (November 2012);

- *Greeks in the Habsburg Empire (centuries XVII-XIX): Expectations, accomplishments, nostalgia*, by Professor Olga Katsiardi-Hering of the University of Athens (April 2013);

- *The Impact of Western literature on Greek literature*, by Professor Mario Vitti of the University of Viterbo – Italy (May 2013);

- *The Balkans in the 19th century*, by Thanos Veremis, professor at the University of Athens (October 2013).

As regards **Yiddish**, it is to be recalled that experts within the FCER are currently working on a paper on the history of the Yiddish language in Romania. The volume will be published by Hasefer Publishing House.

As regards **Polish**, during the symposium *Polish Culture's Days*, a number of lecturers presented papers on linguistic issues (for example, Karina Stempel presented the paper entitled *Linguistic problems in learning the Polish language by speakers of the Romanian Language*).

As regards **Romani**, studies and research on the language continued to be developed in the reporting period. One example is the conference organised on 8 December 2011 by the Institute for the Study of the Problems of National Minorities – “*The use of Romani in different fields of activity*”. To the event university professors and teachers of Romani participated as well as representatives of local councils that deal with Roma issues. Details about the event are available at http://dir.groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/Romanian_Roma/conversations/topics/4980

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 86 to explore, in consultation with the representatives of the **Ruthenian** speakers, whether it is possible to conclude or initiate an agreement on academic co-operation on **Ruthenian** with relevant institutions in other countries where this language is used (e.g. Serbia, Slovakia) it is to be mentioned that, even though study and research on Ruthenian is not done in Romania, the UCRR consults, in its activity, studies undergone by the Universities of Presov-Slovakia and Cracow-Poland.

- 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.**

As regards the particular situation of the implementation of the abovementioned undertaking for each of the 10 languages covered by Part II, and in response to the Committee's general request in paragraph 87 to submit more specific information for each of the languages covered, the situation is as follows:

In the last years, the **Albanian** community has intensified its collaboration with Albania, by organising visits and participating in different events organised by the Albanian authorities.

Of these, we mention:

- tours of the *Serenada* ensemble are organized annually, and visits of ALAR in Albania take place every summer ;
- university exchange visits;
- the visit of a group of journalists from Albania in Romania, August 2012, project organised in collaboration by the Association of Journalists and Writers of Ethnic Minorities in Romania „Europe 21”and the Department for Interethnic Relations; the journalists have had the occasion to visit communities in Bucharest, Sibiu, Braşov, and assist at an interethnic event organised in Râşnov; upon their return to Albania, a TV film was made and articles about the minorities of Romania, their life and their language were written;
- the historic symposium *Popearele din Balcani, de la Imperiul Otoman la integrarea in Uniunea Europeana (The peoples of the Balkan Region, from the Otoman Empire to Eu integration)*, organised in collaboration by the Association of Journalists and Writers of Ethnic Minorities in Romania „Europe 21”and the Department for Interethnic Relations in Bucharest in November 2012;
- the exhibitions of photography and paintings entitled *Alianța Civilizațiilor. Omul. Casa. Biserica (The Alliance of Civilisations. Man. House. Church)*, made by painters and graphic designers belonging to minorities of Romania, among which one representative of the

Albanians; the exhibition was presented in Bucharest in 2011 and at the UN headquarters in Geneva in October 2012;

- for his activity as a writer and translator, Marius Dobrescu was decorated by the president of Albania at the end of 2012;

- international projects and participations to which personalities of the national minorities participated such as the writer and diplomat Luan Topciu, writer Vlad Zografi, writer and translator Marius Dobrescu, journalist Maria Dobrescu; thus, writer Luan Topciu received an award for translating poetry by Lucian Blaga in Albanian at the Lucian Blaga international festival (May 2013) ; the event was covered by the Albanian media; bilingual volumes about the works of Blaga are in preparation;

- In July 2013, the Bucharest-based Association of Journalists and Writers of Ethnic Minorities in Romania „Europe 21” inaugurated the *Lucian Blaga Book Fund* at the Korcea Municipal Library of Albania. The volumes were donated by the organisations, the Lucian Blaga Cultural Fund from Sebes and the National Library of Romania; the writers Marius Dobrescu and Vlad Zografi were present.

In the last years, the **Armenian** community has intensified the collaboration with **Armenia**, by participating in different programmes organized by the Armenian authorities , such as:

- The ARI TUN programme, organized by the Ministry of Diaspora in Armenia, focused on the teaching of the language and customs in Armenian families addressing students from all over the world; the courses are organized yearly;

- The Armenian language summer courses organized annually at the University of Venice;

- Training courses for teachers, journalists, writers organized by the Ministry of Diaspora in Armenia;

The UER has, for the purpose of **promoting Greek** through transnational programmes, set the bases of a television project, in cooperation with a management team from Italy, which will entail the promotion of Romania, Greece and Italy through a common TV show.

The ROASIT has, for the purpose of **promoting Italian** through transnational programmes, initiated and conducted the programme “*In the footsteps of our ancestors*”, for Italian ethnics residing in Romania. The programme was supported by the authorities in the city of Trento, seen as the ancestors of the majority of the Italian historical community in Romania originate in the area of Venice Friuli.

The FCER has, for the purpose of **promoting Yiddish** through transnational programmes, a very active and well-organised external relations department. Permanent international contacts are fostered with Holocaust Museums all over the world, universities and institutions in Israel, Yiddish language theatres etc. Many of the activities are conducted in cooperation with the *Elie Wiesel* Institute for the Study of Holocaust in Romania- a public institution subordinated to the Prime Minister’s Office- which also helps in fostering connections between FCER and international universities.

The DIR has repeatedly supported the participation of the Jewish State Theatre to various international festivals of Yiddish theatre. The most recent initiative was the participation in the

Singer’s Warsaw festival, event from August 2013, for which DIR has supported the travel costs.

The AMR has, for the purpose of **promoting Macedonian** through transnational programmes, participated in programs such as the yearly folklore festival “*Skrb i uteha*” –

Skopje, the summer camps of Macedonians in Ohrid, promoting the Macedonian language, culture and folklore, organising camps to the country of origin, participating in the children's festival of songs "Zlatno Slaveice" - Skopje, participating in Congresses organised by Macedonian ethnics around the world.

The UPR has, for the purpose of **promoting Polish** initiated cross-border exchanges as for example summer camps in Poland and Romania (Krakowia, Krzysova, Pultusk, Wrzesnia, Wolbrom, Cacica, Poiana Micului, Zielona Gora), international poetry contests (Kresy). This kind of activities are organized during summer holidays in July-August. *The Bucovina Meetings* Festival was attended by several Polish folklore bands. This festival took place in Jastrowie and Pila (Poland), Ukraine, Hungary, Slovak Republic and Romania. Other similar international festivals took place in Zywiec, Rzeszow and Wroclaw - Poland.

As to the **promoting of Romani** through transnational exchanges and as a response to the Committee's question in paragraph 93 on relevant exchanges in this field, it is to be mentioned that the Roma Party is represented in the European Roma and Travelers Forum (ERTF). In this capacity, Roma representatives participated in 2011, 2012, 2013 at the sessions of the General Assembly of ERTF. The working language of the General Assembly is Romani.

Another important project focused on Roma is the construction of a Museum of Roma Culture, in the Giulesti district of Bucharest. The project is the result of a joint initiative of the Mayor's Office of District 6 and the NGO *Romano ButiQ* and supported by the European Commission and the Council of Europe and was launched in July 2013.

As to the **promoting of Ruthenian** through transnational exchanges, and in response to the Committee's encouragement in paragraph 94 to explore, in consultation with the representatives of the Ruthenian speakers, what other appropriate types of transnational exchanges (out of the Ruthenian congresses of linguistics), in the fields covered by this Charter, could be promoted to the benefit of Ruthenian, it is to be mentioned that UCRR is member of the World Ruthenian Council and has a permanent collaboration with this forum. Thus, through this organisation, the Ruthenians from Romania have participated since 2002 to all events organised in Poland, Ukraine, Hungary, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Serbia, Croatia. The UCRR has participated in the "Days of Ruthenian Culture" in Lemky Krinica – Poland, the annual folkloric festivals of Ruthenian youth in Medzilaborce - Slovakia, to the Ruthenian World Congresses in 2011 in Piliszenkereszt - Hungary and Ujgorod in 2013 and also in Mukacevo – Ukraine.

As regards the **promotion of Tatar** and in response to the Committee's question in paragraph 95 on the authorities' contribution to the co-operation activities taking place between the Tatar minority and Tatar organisations of and other relevant exchanges that take place, the following elements are relevant:

The Tatar language is used in Romania, Crimea (Ukraine), Turkey, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Macedonia, Kazakhstan and Tatarstan (Russian Federation). UDTTMR maintained cooperation relationships with these countries and regions. UDTTMR worked on establishing cross-border official exchanges, especially with the Simferopol region in Ukraine, where most of the Tatars in Romania originate. Some progresses were made, for instance, UDTTMR was invited to take part at events organised by officials of Crimea – Ukraine (remembrance of Tatar deportation during the Stalinist regime, celebrations etc.). There were also contacts established with the University of Simferopol, targeting cooperation for improving the Tatar vocabulary used in these two countries. Compared to other minorities in Romania – German,

Turkish, Russian, Greek, Hungarian, Polish, etc. – the Tatar minority is **supported exclusively by the Romanian state**, being unable to benefit of a native country which can better support the language preservation and traditions. However, there is a very good collaboration with Turkey that facilitates the learning of Turkish language by the community members. Turkish authorities provide scholarships to students to study in universities from Turkey, teacher training courses, summer camps for children etc.

Paragraph 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.

As regards the particular situation of the implementation of the abovementioned undertaking for each of the 10 languages covered by Part II, the situation is as follows:

The League of Albanians of Romania has not reported any exclusion, restriction or preference related to the use of **Albanian** in Romania.

The UAR has not reported any exclusion, restriction or preference related to the use of **Armenian** in Romania.

The UER has not reported any exclusion, restriction or preference related to the use of **Greek** in Romania.

The RO.AS.IT. has not reported any exclusion, restriction or preference related to the use of **Italian** in Romania.

The AMR has not reported any exclusion, restriction or preference related to the use of **Macedonian** in Romania.

The FCER has not reported any exclusion, restriction or preference related to the use of **Yiddish** in Romania.

The UPR has not reported any exclusion, restriction or preference related to the use of **Polish** in Romania.

The Roma Party has not reported any particular exclusion, restriction or preference related to the use of **Romani** in Romania. The only reported difficulties were those related to suspicions that, in some cases, in the census conducted in 2011, in some localities, the Roma ethnics were not correctly identified and quantified which led to a smaller number of Roma being declared, compared to the estimates of the organisation.

The UDTTMR has not reported any exclusion, restriction or preference related to the use of **Tatar** in Romania. The only reported problem was the confusion sometimes made between the Turkish and Tatar languages.

The UCRR has not reported any exclusion, restriction or preference related to the use of **Ruthenian** in Romania.

As to the Committee's specific question regarding the **current legal set-up guaranteeing non-discrimination (paragraph 97), the Government wishes to submit the following:**

In Romania, the general framework for protection of persons belonging to national minorities against discrimination is provided first of all by the **Constitution of Romania** which in Article 4 par.(2) states that "*Romania is the common and indivisible homeland of all its citizens irrespective of race, nationality, origin, ethnicity, language, religion, sex, opinion, political adherence, property or social origin.*"

Also, according to Article 6 of the Constitution "(1) *The State recognizes and guarantees the right of persons belonging to national minorities to preserve, develop and express their ethnic, cultural, linguistic and religious identity.*(2) *The measures for protection the preservation, development and expression of the persons belonging to national minorities taken by the state must meet the principles of equality and non-discrimination in relation to the other Romanian citizens.*"

Referring to the **particular framework of non-discrimination and minority languages**, Government Ordinance no.137/2000 by Article 2 par.(1) states that discrimination is any distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference based on language aiming to or resulting in the restriction or elimination of the recognition, use or exercise, in conditions of equality, of human rights and fundamental liberties or of rights granted by law in the political, economic, social and cultural field or in any other domains of public life.

Both direct and indirect discrimination, instruction to discriminate, harassment and victimization on grounds of language are considered a contravention, according to the same article 2 of Government Ordinance no.137/2000.

There are various areas where such behaviours might occur, and the Government Ordinance no.137/2000 covers all areas of social and economic life, from the economic activity, in terms of employment and profession to access to legal, administrative and health public services, to other services, goods and facilities, access to education, freedom of movement, choice of residence and access to public places and to the right to personal dignity.

When a deed of discrimination is ascertained by the Steering Board of the National Council for Combating Discrimination (NCCD)¹¹, it is sanctioned under the provision of G.O.137/2000 and a penalty is applied which may consist of a written warning, usually accompanied by a recommendation to abstain from such future behaviour. A contravention fine may also be applied. The fine, according to the Article 26 as it was amended by Ordinance 19/2013 is from 1,000 to 30,000 lei if perpetrated against a natural entity or from 2.000 to 100.000 lei if perpetrated against a group of persons or a community.

It is to be mentioned that in the period **October 2010 to August 2012**, the Council has been seized in over **114 cases on the criteria** of minority language/nationality/ethnicity.

¹¹ The Romanian institution tasked with implemented the Ordinance 137/2000

25 petitions having linguistic rights as basis were addressed to the NCCD (**only the Hungarian** community addressed petitions). In 4 cases, the NCCD decision was grounded by reference to the Charter provisions.

In **16 cases**, the decision rendered was that of discrimination.

In 4 cases the sanction was that of a written warning followed by a recommendation to remedy the situation. It is to be mentioned that **all petitions** concerned the use of **Hungarian language**.

Below you will find some examples of decisions in which the Council proceeded to concluding that a discrimination act had occurred and recommended that the situation be remedied:

- File no. 374/2011, decision no. 244 of 1 August 2012- discrimination on ground of omission to display the name of public institutions and other public information in the Hungarian language for 18 public institutions; a recommendation was issued to remedy the situation; the NCCD referred to the Charter provisions in the decision's grounds;
- File no. 114/2012, decision no. 465 of 7 November 2012- discrimination on ground of omission to display the name of the Miercurea Ciuc Fire Department in the Hungarian language; a recommendation was issued to remedy the situation; the NCCD referred to the Charter provisions in the decision's grounds;
- File no. 443/2012, decision no. 528 of 26 November 2012- discrimination on ground of omission to display the name of the Mures county Consumer Office in the Hungarian language; a recommendation was issued to remedy the situation; the NCCD referred to the Charter provisions in the decision's grounds;
- File no. 95/2010, decision no. 284/20 October 2010-discrimination on ground of refusal to reply in the Hungarian language to a petition addressed in this language; the sanction of a written warning was applied;

Paragraph 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.

As to the Committee's point of clarification in paragraph 98 regarding **measures taken with the purpose to promote mutual understanding between all the linguistic groups of the country**, it is to be mentioned that a number of institutions have developed projects as follows:

1. **The Institute for Research on National Minorities** initiated several projects aimed at raising awareness about and promoting linguistic rights among persons belonging to national minorities from Romania.
 - a. **Romanian and Hungarian forms**

This project refers to the implementation of Romanian legislation on the rights of persons belonging to national minorities, namely to the use of minority languages in public administrative units where citizens belonging to a national minority exceed 20% of the total number of inhabitants.

In 2008, the Institute launched a bilingual version (**Romanian – Hungarian**) of the most **commonly used forms in communicating with local public administration units**. Both the text and the aspect of these forms are informative in nature and their approval is within the competence of each institution.

In 2009, upon request from the Department for Interethnic Relations, the Institute completed its database of forms with certain forms used by ministries through deconcentrated public services under their authority.

At the same time, **upon express request**, the forms addressed at the elderly and at people with disabilities used by the General Directorate of Social Assistance and Child Protection under the authority of county councils **were also made available**.

The Government submits that this project is also an answer to the Committee's requests in the paragraphs pertaining to **the implementation of Article 10 regarding the Hungarian language**.

b. Legislative database – MinLex

Within the framework of this project, the Institute created a database of legal norms adopted after 1989 which contain provisions on ethnic issues and persons belonging to national minorities from Romania or which affect their political, social or economic situation.

This database is available for the public online and it allows for rather complex search operations. It may be accessed both in **Romanian and Hungarian**.

The original text in Romanian, published in the Official Gazette of Romania, as well as its translation into Hungarian, where available, is attached to each legal norm.

The Government submits that this project is also an answer to the Committee's requests in the paragraphs pertaining to the implementation of Articles 9 and 10 regarding the **Hungarian language**.

c. Linguistic rights of persons belonging to national minorities from Romania – A practical guide

In 2002, the Institute elaborated *a practical guide in Hungarian* on the linguistic rights of persons belonging to national minorities from Romania. This guide presents the linguistic rights of persons belonging to national minorities in an easily accessible and intelligible way, through describing certain real situations such as the way in which minority languages may be used in relationships with different public administration authorities, the police, in courts of law, in the education system, in medical institutions etc. At the moment, a Romanian version of this guide is being elaborated.

d. National conference „The Romani language in Romania: its use in different fields of activities”

At the end of 2011, a national conference entitled „*The Romani language in Romania: its use in different fields of activity*” was organised by the Institute aimed at offering a framework for debating the need and utility of the Romani language in formal and informal spaces.

The papers presented by researchers, educational actors from the educational system for the Roma (Romani language teachers, Roma school inspectors, employees of public institutions, representatives from the field of culture, religion and mass-media had all contributed to sketching a picture of the use of the Romani language **in the main fields of activity**.

Some of the articles presented at the conference were included in the volume *Rom sau țigan. Dilemele unui etnonim în spațiul românesc*, edited by the publishing house of the Institute in 2012.

The Government submits that this event can also be considered as an answer to the Committee's request in **paragraph 60** on the **promotion of the Romani language in economic and social life and in justice.**

2. Projects developed by the Ministry of Culture

CULTURAL PROJECT	DATE AND PLACE	PARTNER ORGANIZATION OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE
“Shevcenco Days in Bucharest”, 20 th Edition –artistic performance and roundtable	31.03-01.04.2012, Bucharest	Ukrainian Association in Romania
“International Roma Days”	8.04.2012, Bacau	Roma Centre “Amare rromentza”
“International Day of Roma from all over the world”	8.04.2012, Targoviste	Romanes Association, Dambovita
“International Youth Theatre Festival in German Language”	11-16.04.2012, Timisoara	“Nikolaus Lenau” High school
“Varadinum Festival”	29.04-6.05.2012, Oradea	Varadinum Cultural Foundation
“Körösi Csoma Sándor Days”	11-15.04.2012, Covasna	Arcus Cultural Centre
International Congress “ Szatmari – pioneer of photography”	14-16.05.2012, Bucharest	Institute for Arts History “G. Oprescu”
“School Festival of Jewish and Israeli Machol Dances”, 3 rd Edition	2-6.05.2012, Predeal	Jewish Community in Bucharest
300 years since the settlement of Danube Svabs in the Satu Mare county	18-19.05.2012, Satu Mare	County Museum in Satu Mare
“German Literature Days” in Resita, 21 st Ed.	4-6.05.2012, Reşita	German Democratic Forum
“Folkloric Festival Szejke, 46 th Edition	17-21.05.2012, Odorheiul Secuiesc – Băile Szejke	Cultural Centre Odorheiul Secuiesc
“From Emigration to Integration” – cultural event	25-27.05.2012, Oradea	Italian Association in Romania
“Calvin Week”	2-8.07.2012, Chirus, Tg. Secuiesc	Haromszeki Mara Association
“German Cultural Days”	18-20.5.2012, Satu Mare, Carei	German Democratic Forum, County Forum Satu Mare
“156 Years of Freedom”	19.02.2012, Oltenița	Roma Association “Pro Europe” – Oltenița Branch
“Hunedoara Days”	28.04.-6.05.2012, Hunedoara	Corvin Savaria Tarasasag Association
International Dance Camp, 8th Edition	15-22.07.2012, Ocna de Sus	Dance Group Pipacsok

“1000 Szekely Girls” Festival, 9 th Edition	7.07.2012, Miercurea Ciuc	Miercurea Ciuc Town Hall
International Dance Camp, 31 st Edition	22-29.07.2012, Lunca de Jos	Association of Young Csango People, Lunca de Jos
International “Saint Stephen” Festival, 14 th Edition	16-20.08.2012, Cluj Napoca	Librarian Association “Heltai Gaspar”
National Minorities Festival “Danube Celebrations”, 12 th Edition	10-12.08.2012, Sulina	Sulina Cultural Centre
International Symposium “Turkish Women in the Balkans”, 6 th Edition	7-10.06.2012, Constanta	Democratic Turkish Union in Romania
International Folkloric Festival of Slovak Youth	1-3.06.2012, Suplacu de Barcau	Democratic Czech and Slovak Union in Romania
Emke Folkloric Festival, 9 th Edition	31.05.-2.06.2012, Tg. Mures	Hungarian Culture Society from Transylvania
Russian Poetry Festival, 5 th Edition	15-17.06. 2012, Braila	Russian Lippovan Community
International Camp for Acknowledging and Keeping the Intercultural Traditional Values , 21 st Edition	29.07-5.08.2012, Sancraiu, Cluj county	Archivum Cultural Foundation
International Camp of Folk Dance and Music – Romanian, Hungarian and Roma dance and music classes , 21 st Edition	5-12.08.2012, Rascrucei Village, Cluj county	Kallos Zoltan Foundation
ProEtnica 2012 – Intercultural Festival	20-22.07.2012, Sighisoara	Educational Interethnic Youth Centre
Hellenic Festival in Romania, 12 th Edition	23-26.08.2012, Ploiesti	Hellenic Union in Romania
International Festival of Turkish and Tatar Song, Dance and Costumes, 18 th Edition	6-9.09.2012, Constanta	Democratic Union of Muslim Turks and Tatars in Romania
Bulgarian Cultural Days	13-16.08.2012, Dudestii Vechi	Bulgarian Union in Banat Region
International Folkloric Festival of Slovak Youth, 14 th Edition	28-30.09.2012, Nadlac	Democratic Czech and Slovak Union in Romania
Harvest Festival -Erntedankfest	25-26.08.2012, Satu Mare	German Democratic Forum
‘Bernady Days 2012’	25-27.10.2012, Tg. Mures	“Dr. Bernady Gyorgy Cultural Foundation”
Russian Cultural Days, 6 th Edition	26-28.10.2012, Iasi	Russian Lippovan Community
Serbian Cultural Days, 7 th Edition	10.11-3.12.2012, Timisoara	Serbian Union in Romania
Ethnographic Research “Ukrainian Minority in North-West Romania”	4-11.12.2012, Satu Mare and Maramures	County Museum Satu Mare

	Counties	
International Symposium “Tatar History”	11-13.12.2012, Constanta	Democratic Union of Muslim Turks and Tatars in Romania
Rescue Research Regarding the Ethnographic Heritage of Multi-ethnic places in Brasov county	15-31.10.2012, Brasov County	Ethnographic Museum in Brasov
The Decade of German Culture in the mountain region of Banat	5-14.10.2012, Caras-Severin County	German Democratic Forum Caras-Severin County

3. **The Department for Interethnic Relations** has developed, on its own initiative, a **number of projects aiming at promoting the knowledge and use of minority languages.**

The comprehensive list of these programmes, organized in 2011, 2012 and 2013 is given in **Annex 6.**

Another category of projects is represented by those promoted by NGOs that have benefited from **non-refundable financing from DIR.** Many of these projects focus on the promotion of minority languages and culture and education (editing of textbooks, etc.). Also, most of these projects **have an interethnic dimension** (such as the *Proetnica* Festival in Sighisoara, the participation in *ONG Fest-May 2013* for which DIR supported all the minority organisations or the *Ethnic 2013* series of events, conducted by the German Forum in Resita but in which the Czech, Italian and Slovak communities were included), as they involve participants from various minority organisations in the same event. The complete list of these projects is presented in **Annex 7.**

The above-mentioned activities supported by DIR and by other partner institutions/organisations have benefited **all the organisations of persons belonging to national minorities,** as they participated and contributed to their organisation, including through financial support.

The programs and meetings on the **implementation of the Charter** benefited from the presence of these organisations, which were thus involved in a consultation process with the relevant state institutions, followed by a consultation of their members.

As regards **special measures undertaken for the promotion of languages** covered in Part II, the following elements **are relevant for each of the 10 languages:**

Albanian

- the publishing of the 4th volume of the textbook for learning the language without a teacher, distributed freely to the majority of the Albanian community;
- the editing of 2 bilingual CDs with music in Romanian and Albanian, as part of the 10-volume collection of music albums;
- the re-editing of books published by the *Vështrimi* publishing house;
- the traditional presence at book fairs organised at national or regional level (Iași, Bucharest, Craiova, Timișoara, Cluj Napoca, Sinaia etc.).

Armenian

- the organization, by the Union of Armenians of Romania, of *Strada Armeneasca Festival* (July 2013, Bucharest), *The Days of Armenian Culture* at the Village Museum in Bucharest, Constanta and Iasi (September 2013)
- the participation in events such as the *Proetnica Festival* in Sighisoara or the *Alfabetul Convieturii Festival* in Ploiesti;
- the organizing of the yearly summer courses in of Armenian culture and civilisation, in Suceava, that approach the theme of tolerance, among others;
- though no specific programs targeting the media were organised, Armenian language and culture are well represented in the Romanian media; thus, the celebration of the 500 years of existence of the Hagigadar monastery in Suceava (August 2012) and the *Strada Armeneasca Festival* in 2013 have benefited from extensive media coverage.

Greek

- The UER has promoted the language through all the measures described in the paragraphs above;
- UER is also one of the associations which is most active in organising programs and activities that promote *mutual understanding and contact between all minority groups*, and such examples are:
 - on the occasion of the event *The Day of the Mother Tongue*, in February 2010, UER hosted a project in which all minorities in Bucharest participated and in the following years, it participated when event was organized by other institutions (The Mayor's Office of District 4 - Bucharest);
 - on the occasion of the 2012 event *The Caragiale Year*, UER participated in events organised by the Ministry of Culture and in the performance Multilingual Caragiale, organised by the association of minority journalists and writers of Romania and supported by DIR;
- The UER, in partnership with the Government of Romania, the DIR and the Mayor's Office of Ploiesti initiated the project *Alfabetul Conviețuirii (the Alphabet of Living Together)* dedicated to the day of 26 September – The European Day of Languages. The event was developed under the auspices of the European Commission and held on 26 September 2013 in Ploiesti. It reunited representatives of all national minorities of Romania. Guests from Italy and Bulgaria also participated.
- Another event organised by the UER – *the Festival of Hellenism* – occasioned the participation of Lipovan Russian, Hungarian, Turkish, and Italian folk ensembles;
- UER promoted its programmes in the media and the most important events benefited from wide coverage, such as: *the Greek Language Olympics, The Festival of Hellenism of Romania, Romanian Diversity- Let's talk about Romania* (dedicated to the National Day of Romania-1 December); Representatives of printed and visual media were invited to all UER events.
- UER is also one of the associations that has constantly participated in local and national TV shows with broad audience, dedicated to minorities, such as *Conviețuiri* (TVR1), *Răzvan and Dani* (Antena 1), *Happy Hour* (ProTV).

Italian

- the Ministry of Education, following demarches initiated by the ROASIT, approved that high school students who learn in Italian as mother tongue can also participate in the national phase of the foreign Language Olympics, starting with the school year 2013-2014 (until now, their participation was only allowed up until the county phase of this contest). Also, starting with

the 2013-2014, there will be 4 reserved places in the Departments of Italian of the state universities in Romania, dedicated to Italian ethnics.

The ROASIT has organised and participated in projects organised by DIR and other institutions, such as:

- The international conference “*National minorities in European Strategies: the Italians in Romania*”, organized by DIR and financed by the European Parliament. Representatives of the European Parliament as well as of Romanian institutions were present. The priest of the “Santa Lucia” church in the locality of Greci (Tulcea) was also present. The bilingual works edited by the ROASIT were exhibited;

-The participation in the „*LinguaFEST*” project– 2012 in which students presented theatre performances in Italian; ROASIT was represented by a group of students from the “*Dante Alighieri*” high school;

-Though no specific measures were taken regarding the promotion in the media, ROASIT has continued its fruitful cooperation with the TVR Department for Minorities;

-As a result of the consultation process that ROASIT has done with the members of the community in the village of Greci, starting with 2013, there is an opportunity that Italian could be studied as a mother tongue in the schools in this locality;

-ROASIT has continued to publish the following bilingual publications, with financial support from DIR:

- 1) „*Piazza Romana*” – monthly bilingual review (Romanian and Italian);
- 2) „*Siamo di nuovo insieme*” – bilingual three-monthly review;
- 3) The album: „*Italienii din România – o istorie în imagini*”/”*Italians from Romania – a history of images*”.

Yiddish

FCER organised on 27 April 2012 a visit of the Youth Commission of the Council of National Minorities to the Jewish Community Centre in Bucharest. The visit was made on the occasion of the reunion „*The role of non-formal education in preserving national identity of minorities*”. The minority representatives had the occasion to share own experiences as regards education in the mother tongue and non-formal education.

It is to be added that the Jewish Community Centre in Bucharest develops numerous cultural events and it is a result of the partnership between the FCER and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. Many of the cultural and social events organised by the centre are held in the Yiddish language.

The Jewish community publishes the *Realitatea Evreiască* magazine and is constantly present in radio and TV shows. The Jewish community centre also has a private radio station- *Shalom Romania* which broadcasts online and has both live and registered broadcasts (4-5 hours/day). Its functioning is supported by voluntary contributions and it has a wide audience both in Romania and in Israel, where a very large Romanian-speaking Jewish community lives.

The Yiddish language has also been subject to documentary and artistic films. The most recent film by the director Radu Gabrea – *Evrei de vânzare/Jews for Sale* – was based on the book „*The Ransom of Romanian Jews*“ by Radu Ioanid, published in the United States and translated into Romanian. The Radu Gabrea movie is in Yiddish. It participated at the third edition of MECEFF – *Mediaș Central European Film Festival* - a festival dedicated to Central European cinematography – an event organised in Sibiu on 24-28 June 2013. Other 4 classical movies were also presented during this festival.

The FCER was consulted in all decisions related to issues that regard the persons belonging to national minorities of Romania and it has, at its turn, consulted the members of the Jewish community through its subsidies, as well as the Rabbinic Chancery and other partner NGOs (such as the Association of Holocaust Survivors).

Macedonian

The history and traditions of the Macedonian minority are reflected in the materials that the AMR teaches in the Sunday courses of Macedonian, at its headquarters. Data about the Macedonian minority and language have also been included in the „*History of persons belonging to national minorities*”, edited in 2008.

The AMR has participated in events with an interethnic dimension, organised by the DIR or other structures such as the Ministry of Culture.

The AMR was consulted in all decisions related to issues that regard the persons belonging to national minorities of Romania and it has, at its turn, consulted the members of the Macedonian community on such issues.

Polish

For 15 years UPR has been organizing the program “*Polish Culture’s Days*”. The program includes an international conference on Romanian-Polish relations bringing together historians, philologists, ethnographers and sociologists from Romania, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine. The conference takes place in Suceava, for two days, at the beginning of September. On the third day, the “Fruitage Fest” is celebrated in Solonetu Nou, event described above. Romanian and Ukrainian ethnic groups participate in this event. At the end a folk show is organized.

UPR tried to promote the mutual understanding and dialogue between linguistic groups from Romania through the following programs: “*Polish Culture’s Days*”; “*Let’s know each other better*”; “*Let’s learn from our elders – solidarity between generations*”, all projects for which UPR has benefited from support from the DIR (2012 – 2014).

Respecting traditions and characteristics of the Polish community and understanding and promoting minorities’ languages are some of the objectives fulfilled by UPR through the programs it organizes such as: “*Bucovina’s Children*”; “*Let’s know each other better*” and “*Let’s learn from our elders*”.

Regarding the media, although there are no radio or TV broadcasts in Polish, UPR is trying to promote the Polish language through broadcasts for persons belonging to national minorities, at Radio Romania News, Radio Iasi, TVR 1 and PRO TV and at the local stations as Bucovina TV, Plus TV, Radio Suceava. UPR continues its efforts to have radio and TV broadcasts in the Polish language, depending on the funds that will be allocated in the future.

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 92 to clarify to what extent the Romanian authorities contribute to the activities of the UPR and whether other relevant exchanges take place, it is to be mentioned that the Union of Poles in Romania participates regularly at consultations at the Department for Interethnic Relations. UPR was consulted and contributed to the present report and is also consulted, on regular basis, during the meetings of the culture and education commissions of the CNM. In addition, UPR also participated and was involved in the relevant intercultural projects and programmes that DIR has developed and supported.

Romani

It is to be mentioned that, after the adoption of the Law no. 28/2011, Romania commemorates, on each 20th of February the day of the Roma liberation. Every year, the Roma Party, in cooperation with local authorities organise events on this occasion. At the same time, the Holocaust and the deportation of Roma in the Second World War are commemorated through events at which both Roma and members of other communities participate. The current institutional and legal frameworks contribute to the combating of stereotypes concerning Roma and to a better understanding of the history of this minority.

Every year, the Roma Party has participated in events with an interethnic dimension, organised by the DIR or other structures such as the Ministry of Culture. The collaboration with the specialized commissions in the Romanian Parliament continued. In 2013, a joint project of the Roma Party and DIR established the basis of a minority women's network.

In 2011-2013, the Roma Party continued to develop the project "*Eu iti dau recomandarea*" (*I provide you with the recommendation*). The project focuses on consolidating the communication between Roma communities and school units. Meetings were organised with teachers of Romani and Roma history, school inspectors, Roma councillors from the Mayor's offices as well as parents and students. The purpose of the project is to increase the number of Roma pupils attending schools and pre-schools, to reduce the rate of school drop-out among Roma, to increase the number of Roma admitted on the special places provided in high schools and faculties as well as to favour the return to school of Roma children. The first results show that the special places allocated to Roma have come to be better occupied, including those provided at the Faculty of Foreign Languages of the University of Bucharest.

As regards media, the Roma Party has continued to contribute to the broadcasting of the shows "*Caravana Romilor*" (The Roma Caravan) – 2011-2012 and *Si eu m-am nascut in Romania*" (*I was born in Romania too*) – 2013, 2014 presented above.

The Roma Party was consulted in all decisions related to issues that regard the persons belonging to national minorities of Romania and the implementation of the *Charter* and it has, at its turn, consulted the members of the Romani community on such issues through its subsidies.

In the next period, the Roma Party intends to promote legislation in the field of education that will allow for an inspector for Romani to be present in each county, and for a special bureau for Roma to be created within the Directorate for Minorities in the Ministry of Education.

Ruthenian

As the Government has shown above, UCRR continued to organise and participate together with other minorities in many activities that focused the encouragement of respect in education understanding and tolerance between the minority languages. All the events organised by UCRR benefited from media coverage, both in central and in local media.

Regarding the activities developed to encourage the media to follow the same objective, it is to be mentioned that the publication "*The Ruthenian*" and the magazine "*Ruthenian faith*" continue to be published. The UCRR website is permanently updated – www.rutenii.ro. In order to ensure a means of information for the community members, the UCRR edits the monthly publication "*Ruthenian Journal*".

UCRR was consulted and contributed to the present report and is also consulted, on a regular basis, during the meetings of the culture and education commissions of the CNM. In addition, UCRR regularly consulted the community members through its subsidies. One of the results of this regular consultation process was the publishing of the "*Romanian-Ruthenian-Ukrainian Conversation Guide*" mentioned above.

In the next period, the UCRR intends to continue its demarches in order to promote a project of teachers' and students' exchange with the Ruthenian Department of the Philosophy Faculty in Novi Sad – Serbia, with the Ruthenian Department of the University of Presov-Slovakia, with the Ruthenian Department of the Pedagogical Academy of Cracow and with the Nyiregyhaza University in Hungary.

The UCRR also intends to develop new cooperation projects with linguistic institutions in Romania and abroad in order to continue the process of codification of the Ruthenian language. The subject was approached on the occasion of the participation to the World Ruthenian Congress in Munkacevo and Svaleava, Ukraine in July 2013. The organisation also intends to increase the number of Ruthenian language courses.

Tatar

As the Government has shown above, UDTTMR continued to organise and participate together with other minorities in many activities that focused the encouragement of respect in education, understanding and tolerance between the minority languages. UDTTMR believes that the Tatar community for decades embraced the idea of respect and tolerance between minority languages and other religions.

Regarding the activities developed to encourage the media to follow the same objective, UDTTMR worked on this issue especially with Radio T. In 2012, UDTTMR signed a media partnership with the *Ziua de Constanta* newspaper and *Litoral TV* television channel promoting the Tatar minority in general.

UDTTMR is aware of the needs of the community members. Branches' presidents of UDTTMR consult the Tatars from their regions. Reports regarding the language, culture, religion, tradition issues are then sent to UDTTMR headquarters, where are analysed by the expert commissions and solved according to the legal framework and financial resources.

Part V- Evaluation in respect of Part III of the *Charter*

Bulgarian

Article 8 – Education

General issues

Regarding the Bulgarian language, Romania has ratified the Articles 8.1., 1.ii, b.ii and c.iii which obliges a Member State to provide education in minority languages without requiring prior request from parents or students.

Bulgarian language study is set up according to the National Education Law, no. 1/2011, Article 45 and on the Methodology of study of a language as a native language, the study of the Romanian language and literature, the study of the history and traditions of persons belonging to national minorities and the study of music in the mother tongue - Articles 33, 34, 35 of the Order of the Ministry of Education no. 5671/2012. As the Government has presented in detail in the Part II “Education” chapter of the present report, classes with a smaller number than the minimum provided by law can be organized, according to the special procedure foreseen in Article 63 of the National Education Law.

Paragraph 1

With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:

a ...

ii to make available a substantial part of pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or

The main area with compact Bulgarian population is Timiș county. The type of education is the study of Bulgarian native language adopted in schools with tuition in Romanian language at all levels: primary and secondary, according to the option of the minority organisation. In kindergartens, the teaching is bilingual - Romanian and Bulgarian in the localities of Dudeștii Vechi and Breștea (60 and, respectively, 25 pupils in 2012-2013 school year). In Timis county, at the kindergarten of the *Cyril and Methodius High school* from the Dudeștii Vechi locality, there is a group of 31 children who studied in Bulgarian in the 2013-2014 school year. In Bucharest, in the Hristo Botev High school approximately 85 pupils studied Bulgarian at preschool level in 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 school years.

b ...

ii to make available a substantial part of primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or

Bulgarian is studied also as a mother tongue in Dudeștii Vechi and Breștea. In Dudeștii Vechi, the “Saints Cyril and Methodius” High School is active and is representative for the study of Bulgarian as a mother tongue. Other places in which Bulgarian is taught as a mother tongue are: Breștea, in the Timiș county, and Vinga in Arad county.

In addition to studying Bulgarian as a mother tongue, students also study in Bulgarian the language, history and traditions of the Banat Bulgarian minority, in the 6th and 7th grades. Study in Bulgarian is also conducted in the afterschool system

in: Izvoarele (Teleorman county), Bucharest, Targoviste and Baleni Sarbi (both in Dambovita county), Arad (Arad county), Timisoara and Vinga (both in Timiș county).

It is therefore clear that the Committee's recommendations in paragraphs 105 and 106 to make available a substantial part of primary education in Bulgarian are fulfilled.

c ...

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

In the Arad and Timis counties, Bulgarian is studied as a subject in the gymnasium cycle three hours per week. As regards the high school cycle, Bulgarian is studied as a subject in the Theoretical Bulgarian High school "Hristo Botev" in Bucharest and in the "Saints Cyril and Methodius" High School in Dudeștii Vechi three hours per week.

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 109 to provide information about the implementation of this undertaking in the next periodical report, it is to be mentioned that no requests were made regarding technical or vocational education in Bulgarian language.

e ...

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

The Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literature at the University of Bucharest has a section of Bulgarian.

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

As to the Committee's question in paragraph 115 to provide specific information on whether also non-speakers benefit from the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the Bulgarian language, it is to be noted that the subject History and traditions of persons belonging to national minorities, is taught as a discipline of the core curriculum for grades 6th and 7th, for each minority, it was developed especially for minority students and is mandatory for these students.

The history and traditions of the Bulgarian minority in Banat is taught in the "Saints Cyril and Methodius" High School, in grades 6th and 7th in the Dudeștii Vechi Timis, where students are ethnic Bulgarians. Textbooks are compiled and edited by the Bulgarian Union of Banat.

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 117 to provide specific information on how they organise the basic and further training of teachers who are qualified to teach Bulgarian as a subject as well as to teach other subjects in Bulgarian, it is to be mentioned that teachers of Bulgarian participate in language training activities organized by the county school

inspectors and are concerned with improving their personal career by obtaining teaching degrees. Courses for teachers of Bulgarian are organized in Dudeştii Vechi (Timis county), Baleni Sarbi and Targoviste (Dambovită county), Bucharest (Hristo Botev High school). If there are demands, the Union of Bulgarians is able to provide teachers of Bulgarian.

- i to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.*

As to the Committee's undertaking in paragraphs 119 and 120 to set up a supervisory body or bodies dedicated to monitoring minority language education, it is to be mentioned that within the Ministry of National Education and the School Inspectorates organizing education for the Bulgarian minority- Arad, Bucharest, Timiş - one inspector is responsible for the monitoring of the educational process on the study of the Bulgarian. In Timiş county one methodical teacher was nominated for the Bulgarian language. The Union of Bulgarians is also willing to support the education process in Bulgarian.

Paragraph 2

With regard to education and 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 or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all the appropriate stages of education.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 122 to provide additional information on whether there are sufficient numbers of Bulgarian-speaking children in areas outside Banat that would justify teaching in or of Bulgarian and to what degree the needs of these children are taken care of in the educational system, it is to be mentioned that, according to the General Directorate for Education in the Languages of National Minorities within the Ministry of Education, there were no applications for the study of Bulgarian in villages in southern Romania, where ethnic Bulgarian population lives. Also, in the Hristo Botev High School in Bucharest, Bulgarian language study is organized only at the high school level, because students have not opted to study this language at other levels. School graduates in the 12th grade pass an examination for a certificate of Bulgarian language skills and some of them continue their studies at universities in Bulgaria.

According to the information transmitted by the Union of Bulgarians, the situation of the children, speakers of Bulgarian, outside Banat is, approximately¹², as follows: Constanta county - 10-50 children, Braila county - 5-30 children, Galati county - 5-20 children; Calarasi county - 10-50 children, Giurgiu county - 100-500 children; Teleorman county - 300-1000 children (in Izvoarele, Licurici, Zimnicea, Paraschia, Videle, Rosiorii de Vede, Cervenia); Dambovită county- 400-500 children (in Baleni Sarbi, Targoviste, Puntea de Greci); Prahova county – 10-50 children; Giurgiu county-100 children (villages of Schitu, Iepuresti, Bila); Olt county – 50-100 children (in Coteana and Bredeni localities); Gorj county - approximately 20 children; Dolj county - approximately 100 children.

Article 9 – Judicial authorities

Paragraph 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

¹² The exact number of speakers is not known, but the Union of Bulgarians appreciates, based on the available data, that the exact number varies as indicated

on condition that the use of the facilities afforded by the present paragraph is not considered by the judge to hamper the proper administration of justice:

a in criminal proceedings:

...

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 124 to provide specific information about the practical implementation of this undertaking concerning Bulgarian, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. It is to be mentioned that, in 2011 and 2012, the Ministry of Justice has issued authorisations for a number of **20** interpreters and translators of Bulgarian.

a 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; and/or

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 127 to clarify, in the next periodical report, whether the legal set-up allows in practice that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, may be produced in Bulgarian, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. Evidence will in no case be considered inadmissible if produced in a minority language. An authorised translation may be required in some cases, while in others (see aforementioned chapter) the proceedings are done in the minority language (see the example of the first instance court of Odorheiu Secuiesc in the aforementioned chapter).

b in civil proceedings:

...

ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 129 to provide specific information about the practical implementation of this undertaking concerning Bulgarian, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

b iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 131 to clarify, in the next periodical report, whether the legal set-up allows in practice that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, may be produced in Bulgarian the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. Evidence will in no case be considered inadmissible if produced in a minority language. An authorised translation may be required in some cases, while in others (see aforementioned chapter) the proceedings are done in the minority language (see the example of the first instance court of Odorheiu Secuiesc in the aforementioned chapter).

c in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:

...

- ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or*

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 133 to provide, in the next periodical report, specific information about the practical implementation of this undertaking concerning Bulgarian the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

- c iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,*

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 135 to clarify, in the next periodical report, whether the legal set-up allows in practice that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, may be produced in Bulgarian, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

Paragraph 2

The Parties undertake:

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 138 to provide, in the next periodical report, information about the implementation of this undertaking, it is to be mentioned that, as a general rule the validity of a legal document drawn up within the state is not denied only on account of the document being drafted in other language than Romanian. As the Government has stated above relating to producing evidence, an authorised translation might be required for court proceedings. No such cases of denying the validity of a document solely because it was drawn up in **Bulgarian** were reported.

Paragraph 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.

140. The Committee of Experts encourages the Romanian authorities to make available in Bulgarian the most important national statutory texts and those relating particularly to users of this language, unless they are otherwise provided.

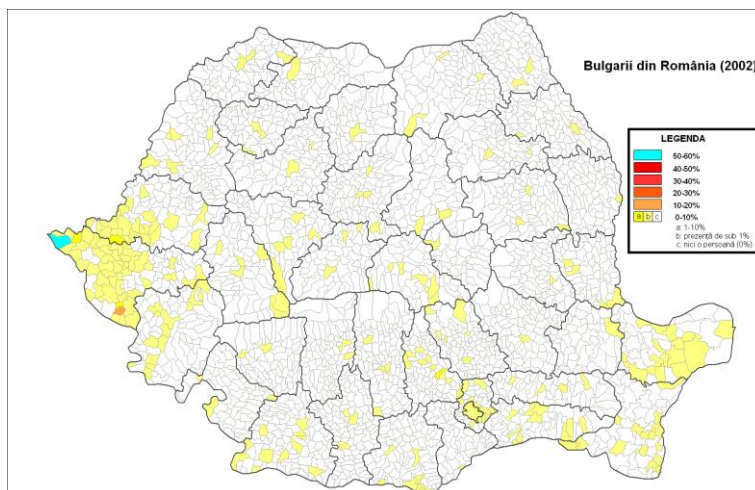
This is an objective that Romania is striving to implement in the next reporting period and eventual measures will be established in cooperation with the Department of Interethnic Relations and the Institute for the Study of Problems of National Minorities.

Article 10 – Administrative authorities and public services

According to the published results of the 2011 census, in Romania there are 7336 Bulgarian ethnics out of which 6518 have declared Bulgarian as their mother tongue. Though there is a

decrease in the number compared to the 2002 census, the geographical distribution has remained unchanged.

The maps below illustrate the current demographic situation of the Bulgarian minority (geographical area of distribution, localities with a significant percentage of Bulgarians)



As to the Committee's request in paragraph 141 to submit, in the next periodical report, a list of the localities where the Bulgarian speakers live in numbers relevant for the purposes of Article 10, the Government would like to refer to the elements presented in **Annex 5**. The share is over 20% in the Dudestii Vechi locality in the county of Timis. The locality of Denta (with the village of Brestea) in the county of Timis also has a significant share of Bulgarian ethnics –16,06%. There are however more localities that display bilingual place-names in Bulgarian (for example, Timis).

Paragraph 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 ...

- ii to ensure that such of their officers as are in contact with the public use the regional or minority languages in their relations with persons applying to them in these languages; or
- iii to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications and receive a reply in these languages; or
- iv to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications in these languages; or
- v to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may validly submit a document in these languages;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 146 to provide more information on the use of Bulgarian in local branches of the state administration in Banat, the Government would like to refer to the information presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report (4 Bulgarian speakers employed in the territorial units of the Romanian Gendarmerie and 1 Bulgarian speaker employed in the Territorial Inspectorate of Giurgiu). A total number of **19 public servants of Bulgarian ethnicity** are employed in territorial offices of the local administration (mayor's offices) in the Timis county, according to the situation presented by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 8** of the present report.

According to the situation presented by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 14**, a total number of 30 **Bulgarian speakers** are employed in the in the mayor's offices/county councils and the specialized services subordinated to these. Out of these, 25 are employed in in the mayor's office/county council of Timis, and 4 are employed in the specialized services subordinated to the local/county council of Timis.

Paragraph 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;

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 148 to allow and encourage the possibility for users of Bulgarian to submit oral or written applications in this language to local authorities, the Government would like to refer to the information presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report, where specific examples have been presented for the possibility of addressing requests in minority languages. In addition, in the Mayor's offices of Dudestii Vechi and Denta, Bulgarian is used in relation to Bulgarian speakers and these can also submit written applications, although in Denta the share of Bulgarian ethnics has fallen beneath 20%. This information is confirmed by the elements presented by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 17**.

- 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;

As to the Committee's requests and recommendations in paragraphs 149 and 151 to submit more information on the publication of documents in Bulgarian and to encourage the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in Bulgarian, it is to be mentioned that the mayor's office of Dudestii Vechi also has an internet site edited in Bulgarian <http://starbisnov.ro/3v/ro/> where official documents are published in Bulgarian (decisions of the local council etc.)

- e *the use by regional authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;*
- f *the use by local authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;*

As to the Committee's requests in paragraphs 152 and 154 to submit more information on the implementation of these undertakings, it is to be mentioned that Bulgarian is used in debates in the council meetings of the local assembly of Dudestii Vechi, as shown also in **Annex 15** provided by the Ministry of the Interior.

- 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.*

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 157, to provide more information on the use of place-names in Bulgarian in the next periodical report, the Government would like to refer to the details presented in **Annex 5**. Traditional and correct forms of place-names in Bulgarian are used in practice.

Paragraph 3

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

- a *to ensure that the regional or minority languages are used in the provision of the service; or*
- b *to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request and receive a reply in these languages; or*
- c *to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request in these languages.*

As to the Committee's request in paragraphs 158-160, to provide information about the implementation of this undertaking for Bulgarian, the Government would like to refer to the specific examples presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. With regard to Bulgarian, the language is used, according to the information transmitted by the Union of Bulgarians, in public services at local level in the localities with a share of over 20%, such as the Post Office, CEC Bank, local House of Culture, local library, local doctor's office, the *Saints Cyril and Methodius* high school. These public services dispose of sufficient Bulgarian-speaking staff.

Relevant information is provided in **Annex 14** (number of minority-language-speakers employed in the specialized services subordinated to the local/county councils- 4 Bulgarian-speaking employees in the county of Timis).

Paragraph 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:

...

- b *recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required;*
- 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.*

As to the Committee's requests in paragraphs 161-162, to provide information regarding measures taken in accordance with this provision, the Government would like to refer to the

specific examples presented in the “Administrative authorities” chapter, Part II of the present report (4 Bulgarian speakers employed in the territorial units of the Romanian Gendarmerie and 1 Bulgarian speaker employed in the Territorial Inspectorate of Giurgiu). In addition, the Mayor’s Office of Dudestii Vechi has over 50% of personnel that is composed of Bulgarian ethnics or Bulgarian language speakers, according to the information transmitted by the Bulgarian Democratic Union of Romania. Relevant information is provided in **Annex 14**.

Paragraph 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.

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 163 to submit relevant information in the next periodical report, it is to be mentioned that the adoption of family names in the regional or minority languages is permitted, according to the option of the applicant, as the Law no. 287/2009 on the Civil Code, Articles 82 to 85, sets no interdiction in this regard. Family names and surnames in Bulgarian are used in official documents. No refusals were reported.

Article 11 – Media

Paragraph 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;

As for the Committee’s request (question in paragraph 164) regarding the broadcast of the regional radio station of Timisoara, it is to be mentioned that the Timisoara territorial station of the Romanian Radio Broadcasting Corporation broadcasts a one-hour program in Bulgarian per week, every Sunday between 19:00-20:00 hours. This a general knowledge program targeting the Bulgarian community as a group and including program for all age categories. The radio broadcast is also accessible in online content, on the editor’s internet page, at the address www.nicoletaciocani.blogspot.com, after its broadcasting.

As to the Committee’s requests regarding the TVR shows in Bulgarian (questions in paragraphs 165-167) it is to be mentioned that the television channel TVR 3 broadcasts an eight-minute program in Bulgarian which covers general content. Also, the territorial studio of TVR Timisoara broadcasts a weekly 14 minutes show in Bulgarian. It is to be mentioned that the programs produced by TVR 3 are retransmitted by the national channel TVR in all regions of Romania.

b ...

ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of radio programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;

With regard to the broadcasting of private radio and television programs (question in paragraph 169), the Government would like to refer to the considerations presented in Part II of the present report.

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 173 to submit additional information about measures taken to encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audio-visual works in Bulgarian, it is to be mentioned that the Bulgarian Union of Banat is supported by the Department of Interethnic Relations in creating works through advanced means of technology.

- e i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages; or*

As to the Committee's recommendations in paragraphs 174-175 to facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in Bulgarian, it is to be mentioned that the newspaper "Nasa Glas" (which appears 2 times/month) and the newspaper Gandul Literary (Literaturna Miselj) are both financed by the Government/ DIR from the state budget.

- g to support the training of journalists and other staff for media using regional or minority languages.*

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 176 regarding the training of journalists, the Government would like to refer to the considerations presented in Part II regarding training of journalists and other staff media.

Paragraph 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 above-mentioned 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.

As to the Committee's requests in paragraphs 177 and 178, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in Part II of the present report, regarding media retransmission and media re-broadcasting.

Paragraph 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.

As regards the Committee's request in paragraph 179, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in Part II of the present report regarding the representation of interests of persons belonging to national minorities in audio-visual bodies.

Article 12 – Cultural activities and facilities

Paragraph 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, post-synchronisation 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;*

As to the Committee's request in paragraphs 182 and 183 to submit information on the application of these undertakings in the next periodical report, the following elements are to be mentioned:

The Ministry of Culture, through the Administration of the National Cultural Fund, granted a **financial aid to the Unions of the Bulgarians in Banat in 2013 summing 51.100 lei for:** The Bulgarian Cultural Days, the 20th edition of the Traditional Bulgarian Costumes, Songs and Dances in Banat, and the Jubilee for the 275 years since the establishment of Bulgarians in Banat.

In 2012, the Democratic Union of the Bulgarians in Romania in collaboration with the Romanian National Village Museum organized the event "*The Cyril and Methodius Days*".

Both in the Ministry of Culture, as well as in the subordinated institutions, the planning of cultural activities and facilities is being developed in collaboration and direct participation of representatives of the Bulgarian minority. In the last three years, the Union of Bulgarians has promoted and organised events such as the Festival of Bulgarian Folk Dance and Costumes, the Days of Bulgarian Culture in Banat, the Days of the Bulgarian Community of Banat. These have all promoted the Bulgarian language.

Every year (since 1994), the Romanian Government provides an important budget to the NGO representing the Bulgarian community in public life, through the intermediate of the Department for Interethnic Relations. For example in 2013 the Bulgarian Union of Banat – Romania has received a total amount of 2 924 250 lei for its activities (administration of headquarters, investments, staff, publications and books, cultural programs and activities, reunions and cooperation activities). In 2014 the same union has received 3 013 040 lei (equivalent to approx. 700 000 EUR), according to the Governmental Decision no. 52/ 2014.

The National Library of Romania holds copies of published papers in the minority languages, including those edited by the Bulgarians from Romania and it receives annually 138 titles as part of the Exchange Program with the Bulgarian National Library "*Cyril and Methodius*", the St Kliment Ohridski University of Sofia, the Classical and Modern Philosophy Faculty and the Central Library of the Sciences Academy in Bulgaria.

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 187 to submit information concerning audio-visual materials and publication of works in Bulgarian in the next periodical report, the

Government would like to refer to the elements presented in the paragraph above regarding the activities of the National Library.

- h if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.*

As to the Committee of experts' request in paragraph 189 to submit the relevant information, especially commenting on any need to develop necessary terminology in Bulgarian, the Government would like to refer to the elements presented in the Part II, "Culture" chapter of the present report.

Paragraph 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.

As to the Committee of experts' request in paragraph 190 to clarify the application of this provision in the next periodical report, the Government would like to refer to the elements presented in the Part II, "Culture" chapter of the present report. All the cultural and interethnic events mentioned have helped to promote the language in other territories than in those where the language is traditionally used.

Paragraph 3

The Parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect.

As to the Committee of experts' request in paragraph 191 to clarify the application of this provision in the next periodical report, the Government would like to refer to the elements presented in the Part II, "Culture" chapter of the present report.

Article 13 – Economic and social life

Paragraph 1

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

- a to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of regional or minority languages in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations;*

As to the Committee's requests in paragraphs 192 and 193, the Government would like to refer to the considerations made in Part II of the present report as regards "Economic and social life". No cases of restriction or prohibition were reported for Bulgarian.

Article 14 – Cross-border exchanges

The Parties undertake:

- a to apply existing bilateral and multilateral agreements which bind them with the States in which the same language is used in identical 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;*

As to the Committee's point of clarification in paragraph 195 on bilateral agreements promoting contacts between the users of the same language in the States concerned

in the fields of **culture, education, information, vocational training and permanent education**, the Government would like to submit the following:

Juridical framework

- ✓ *Agreement between the Government of Romania and the Government of Bulgaria concerning the collaboration in the fields of education, science and culture (Bucharest, Nov 10, 1998);*
- ✓ *Collaboration and mutual assistance agreement concerning the activity of the Bulgarian-Romanian European Inter-University Centre(BRIE) between the Government of Romania and the Government of Bulgaria (Giurgiu, Feb 4, 2005);*
- ✓ *Program of collaboration in the fields of education, science, culture, mass-media, youth and sport between the Government of Romania and the Government of Bulgaria spanning 2009 to 2012 (Bucharest, Dec 11, 2009).*

Provisions of the Program:

- ✓ reciprocal annual allocation of 5 scholarships at a Bachelor's, Master's, or PhD. level, as well as 20 months of scholarship for post Bachelors or College-level specialized training [internships], with the possibility to variate their duration from two to nine months;
- ✓ reciprocal annual allocation of up to ten places, to Romanian and Bulgarian language, culture and civilization classes;
- ✓ proper functioning of Bulgarian language lectorates at the University of Bucharest and the University of Craiova, reciprocally the chairs of Romanian language at the University of Sofia and the University of Veliko-Târnovo;
- ✓ Support for the activity of the Romanian high school "Mihai Eminescu" in Sofia, as well as the "Hristo Botev" high school of Bucharest; the commitment exists from both sides to create an inter-ministerial committee for supporting education in the native languages of Romanians and Bulgarians alike.
- ✓ Exchanges between experts, specialists, professors, scholars and students.

Student mobility: Bulgarian citizens registered for study in Romania:

Year	BA	MA	Internship/Residency	PhD
2012	221	14	11	5

Scholarships for Romanian ethnicities:

	Study Level	Number of places	Financial status
2010-2011	B.A.	28	No tax, with scholarship
		9	No tax, w/o scholarship
	Masters	2	No tax, w/o scholarship
	Residency	6	No tax, with scholarship
	PhD	1	No tax, with scholarship
2011-2012	B.A.	39	No tax, with scholarship
		14	No tax, w/o scholarship
	Masters	3	No tax, with scholarship
		4	No tax, w/o scholarship
	Residency	4	No tax, with scholarship
PhD	0	No tax, with scholarship	
2012-2013	B.A.	20	No tax, with scholarship
		25	No tax, w/o scholarship
	Masters	1	No tax, with scholarship

		3	No tax, w/o scholarship
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Lecturers:

As per previous years, the academic year 2012-2013 hosts professors of Bulgarian language and culture at the University of Bucharest and the University of Craiova; reciprocally, the Institute of the Romanian Language (ILR) has sent Romanian language and culture professors to the Universities of Sofia and Veliko Tarnovo.

Note: For 2013-2014, the Bulgarian side has conveyed their acceptance for Romanian professors (Ms. Georgeta BOLD – University of Sofia, and Rucsandra LAMBRU – University of Veliko-Târnovo) to continue their teaching.

Bulgarian high school of Bucharest and the Romanian high school of Sofia:

Starting with school year 1999/2000, the Bulgarian theoretical high school „Hristo Botev” of Bucharest and ”Mihai Eminescu” intensive-Romanian high school in Sofia are operational.

The number of ethnically Bulgarian students at the „Hristo Botev” high school of Bucharest is falling year by year, and given the circumstances, starting with the school year 2007-2008, the Romanian education minister has approved the participation of other communities of persons belonging to national minorities at this high school, making it a multicultural one.

Currently, at this high school in Bucharest, in addition to Bulgarian, Modern Greek is also being taught, as well as Russian language.

Concerning the Romanian-language high school in Sofia “Mihai Eminescu”, this institution has functioned under improper conditions, hence at the end of 2008, the principal of the high school, Ms. Nezabravka TASEVA received authorization for relocating the high school to the third floor of the „Stefan Stambolov” general high school no. 123 in the same city.

In the school year 2011-2012, at this high school there were 71 students, accordingly:

Grade	No. Of Students	No. of Romanian language hrs/week
VIII	12	18
IX	15	7
X	15	5
XI	15	7
XII	9	9
Low frequency	5	
TOTAL	71	*

At the international language, communication and Romanian literature contest (Constanța, 16-19 May 2010) 16 youngsters from Bulgaria participated, all of them students of the „Mihai Eminescu” high school of Sofia.

Notes: At 01.16.2012 [all dates herein are in U.S. standard format], during the celebration of Romanian Culture Days, the Romanian high school of Sofia organized a cultural programme. With the same occasion, the principle of the high school Ms. Nezabravka Taseva, presented the objectives of the high school for the upcoming period: increasing enrolment, developing their technical-material and educational base, strengthening ties with the University of Sofia, the Romanian Language Institute (ILR) and the Romanian Embassy in Bulgaria.

Following these developments, ILR donated 50 courses and textbooks printed in Romanian as well as other curricular documents.

On 4.04.2012, in Sofia, there was a joint commission meeting, at the expert level, to analyse the functioning of the Romanian high school from Sofia and the Bulgarian „Hristo Botev” high school from Bucharest, as well as to promote the Romanian language in Bulgaria and the Bulgarian language in Romania.

The bilateral dialogue was to continue in 2013 (the latest scheduling was set by the Romanian side for March 2013, but given the governmental changes with the Bulgarian counterparts, there was no confirmation).

Education in Bulgarian in Romania:

In schools that teach in Romanian, Bulgarian language classes are taught as a native language prerequisite (3-4 hours per week). Illustrative of this fact is the Theoretical high school

“Sfinții Kiril și Metodii” from Dudeștii Vechi, Timiș county that covers all educational cycles: preschool, elementary, secondary and high school.

The Bulgarian high school „Hristo Botev” in Bucharest, a public institution teaches ethnically Bulgarian students grades IX-XII but also other ethnic groups. Graduates of the twelfth grade assume their language competency exam in Bulgarian. A part of the graduates of former years have undertaken University level studies in Bulgaria.

The high school is well equipped logistically (cafeteria, dorms, library, lecture hall, computer classroom, internet access, wellness centre, sports arena and a ballroom), both from MECTS funding, as well as from local budgeting and sponsorships.

Starting with school year 2005-2006, based upon the intergovernmental, bilateral cooperation program regarding education, a professor has been sent from the Ministry of Education and Science in Bulgaria to teach Bulgarian full-time.

Note: In the following timeframe 04.22-24.2010, in Sofia, a delegation of the theoretical high school “Hristo Botev” (Prof. Florica DEMETER and Prof. Codruț DUMITRACHE – counsellor on educational and representation affairs, as well as 3 ethnically Bulgarian students) have participated at the fifth edition of the Bulgarian Educational Festival.

In the southern parts of the country, where many ethnically Bulgarians live, the study of Bulgarian is organized in their communities.

For the purposes of forming specialists with higher degrees, at the University of Bucharest there is a lectorate of Bulgarian language and literature. Additionally, young Bulgarians study at various higher educational facilities in Bulgaria.

Within MECTS, the activity of the national commission on Bulgarian language and literature, respectively of the attached working group, has proved effective through their implementation of Bulgarian language programs (grades: I-XII), history and traditions within the Bulgarian minority (grades VI-VII), as well as Bulgarian language programs concerning the occupation of vacancies and earning didactical degrees.

For the purposes of monitoring the process of Bulgarian language education, at the county inspectorate in Timis, a specialty inspector was instated (on Slavic minorities) as well as a Bulgarian methodical teacher.

Professional apprenticeship education:

The National Centre for the Development of Professional and Technical Education coordinated in the 2011-2012 timeframe: Cluster of Knowledge "Modernizing the VET system – improving performance, quality and attractiveness of VET." which numerous SE European countries are members of, including Bulgaria.

The result of this activity was the development of a Compendium of good practices identified in partner countries, for facilitating exchanges to make the VET program more attractive.

Cultural Exchanges

December 2010 – “The Era of King Ferdinand I - Return of Bulgaria to Europe” – Exhibition at the Romanian National Museum of History organized by the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria to celebrate 100 Years since the Declaration of Independence of Bulgaria.

2 March 2010 - The National Theatre “Ivan Vlazov” from Sofia delivered a performance on the stage of the National Theatre “I.L. Caragiale” of Bucharest on the occasion of the National Day of Bulgaria

- b for the benefit of regional or minority languages, to facilitate and/or promote co-operation across borders, in particular between regional or local authorities in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form***

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 197 to submit, in the next periodical report, more specific information about the promotion of the Bulgarian language in the context of cross-border co-operation, the following **twinning agreements** have been concluded between Romanian and Bulgarian municipalities:

In 2006- Bechet and Oriahovo; Năvodari and Kavarna (Bulgaria); the Local Council of Basarbi and the Local Council of Shabla; Băneasa and Krusari; the Local council of sector 1 Bucharest and the local council of the city of Ruse; Calarasi and Montana; the villages of Bragadiru and Vardim; the county of Olt and the region of Plevne; the villages of Cumpana and Dobrichka; the municipalities of Topalu and Tervel; the prefect's institution of Timis and the Prefect's institution of Plovdiv; the local council of Caracal and the mayor's office of Montana; **In 2007-** Daia and Svalenik; Mioveni and Petrich; Mangalia and Balchik; Videle and Kubrat; Mioveni and Petrich; the county of Gorj and the region of Razgrad; Jibou and Byala; **In 2008-** Petroșani and Bansko; **In 2009-** the local council of District 1 from Bucharest and the city of Ruse; Suhaia and Oresh; **In 2010-** Popesti Leordeni and Belene; the prefect's institution of Mehedinti and Vidin; Medgidia and Kardhali; the prefect's institution of Tulcea and the region of Varna; **In 2011-** the municipality of Bistrita and Razgrad; the villages of Ghighera and the city of Dolna Mitropolia; the county of Prahova and the region of Sofia; **In 2013-** the locality of Dudestii Vechi has concluded a twinning protocol with the locality of Biala Slatina from Bulgaria.

The internet site <http://cbcromaniabulgaria.eu/> presents the details of the cross-border cooperation programmes developed between Romanian and Bulgarian municipalities.

Croatian

Article 8 – Education

General issues

Regarding Croatian language, Romania has ratified Article 8.1.a.i and c.ii that obliges the state to provide education in the minority language regardless if parents or students have requested this in advance.

Croatian language study is conducted based on the National Education Law, no. 1/2011, Article 45 and on the Methodology of the study of a language as a native language, of the study of Romanian language and literature, of the study of the history and traditions of persons belonging to national minorities and of the study of music in the mother tongue - Articles 33, 34, 35 of the Order of the Ministry of Education no. 5671/2012). As the Government has presented in detail in the Part II "Education" chapter of the present report, study formations with a smaller number than the minimum provided by law can be organized, according to the special procedure foreseen in Article 63 of the National Education law.

Paragraph 1

With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:

a i to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages;
or

Preschool education in Croatian is organised in the localities of Iabalcea, Nermed, Carasova, Rafnic, Clocotici, Vodnic in the county of Caras-Severin. These are attended by a total number of 66 pupils in the 2013-2014 school year.

b i to make available primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or

Primary education in Croatian is organised in the localities of Vodnic, Rafnic, Lupac, Clocotici and there is also a bilingual Romanian-Croatian High school in Carasova. The total number of students in this cycle in the 2013-2014 school year was 165.

c ...

ii to make available a substantial part of secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraphs 204-205 to make available a substantial part of secondary education in Croatian, it is to be mentioned that Croatian is studied at gymnasium level, 3-4 hours/week in the localities of Lupac, Clocotici, Rafnic and Vodnic, in the county of Caraş-Severin.

Subjects taught in Croatian in the secondary school education level are Croatian language and literature, the History of national minorities and Religion. In the upper secondary school Mathematics and Biology are also taught in Croatian.

Also, teaching in Croatian is ensured in the Bilingual Romanian-Croatian High school in Carasova and the School no. 1 in Carasova, county of Caras-Severin. The total number of students in this cycle in the 2013-2014 school year was 242.

e

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

Croatian language and literature can be studied at the University of Bucharest, in a special section for Croatian. Approximately 20 students follow these courses annually. Croatian is also studied in the Western University of Timisoara (16 students enrolled in the 2013-2014 school year in the first year of study).

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

As to the Committee's question in paragraph 209 on whether Romanian authorities contribute to the textbook "History and Traditions of the Croatian Minority", donated by the Croatian authorities, it is to be mentioned that they are currently working on a program to develop a manual of "History and Traditions of Croatians".

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 211 to provide, in the next periodical report, specific information on whether non-speakers also benefit from the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the Croatian language it is to be mentioned that

for Romanian students, there is an optional course entitled *History of national minorities*, designed with the support of the Department for Interethnic Relations, which also contributed to the editing of a textbook in 2008. The textbook contains information about all minorities living in Romania and is written in Romanian and was edited with the help of history teachers belonging to all minorities. This subject can be studied in upper secondary education, not only in the tenth grade, as indicated in the report from June 2012. In the 2012-2013 school year, 50 classes chose this course.

Students that do not speak a minority language can learn about the history and traditions of minorities on the general course of history, or, if they so wish, by opting for the above-mentioned course in upper secondary education cycle.

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 213 to provide, in the next periodical report, specific information on how they organise the basic and further training of teachers who are qualified to teach Croatian as a subject as well as to teach other subjects in Croatian, it is to be mentioned that at the University of Bucharest, in the Foreign Languages Department, there is a study line on Croatian Language and Literature and Modern Languages. This department teaches, once every three years, a number of 20 high-school laureates as teachers and translators.

In addition, the continuous formation of teachers that teach subjects in Croatian is ensured by two special programmes accredited by the Ministry of Education through the National Centre for Teacher Education- "*The education and formation of didactical personnel teaching in minority languages*" and "*Ecological education*".

i to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 215 to set up a supervisory body responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of Croatian and for drawing up public periodic reports of its findings, it is to be mentioned that, in the Ministry of Education and in the county school inspectorates that organize teaching in minority languages, there are inspectors in charge of monitoring of the educational process on the study of the minority language.

Paragraph 2

With regard to education and 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 or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all the appropriate stages of education.

As regards the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 217 to provide teaching in or of Croatian at all the appropriate stages of education in territories other than those in which this language is traditionally used, it is to be noted that, according to the Ministry of Education, there were no applications for studying Croatian coming from areas in which this language is not traditionally used. According to the Union of Croats of Romania, the number of ethnic Croats living outside the traditional area does not justify providing teaching in/of Croatian.

Article 9 – Judicial authorities

Paragraph 1

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

a in criminal proceedings:

...

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 219 to provide specific information about the practical implementation of this undertaking concerning Croatian, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. It is to be mentioned that, in 2011 and 2012, the Ministry of Justice has issued authorisations for a number of **6 interpreters and translators of Croatian**.

a 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; and/or

As to the Committee's request in paragraphs 221-222 to clarify, in the next periodical report, whether the legal set-up allows in practice that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, may be produced in Croatian, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. Evidence will in no case be considered inadmissible if produced in a minority language. An authorised translation may be required in some cases, while in others (see aforementioned chapter) the proceedings are done in the minority language (see the example of the first instance court of Odorheiu Secuiesc in the aforementioned chapter).

b in civil proceedings:

...

ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 224 to provide specific information about the practical implementation of this undertaking concerning Croatian, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

b iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 226 to clarify, in the next periodical report, whether the legal set-up allows in practice that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, may be produced in Croatian the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. Evidence will in no case be considered inadmissible if produced in a minority language. An authorised translation may be required in some cases, while in others (see aforementioned chapter) the proceedings are done in the minority language (see the example of the first instance court of Odorheiu Secuiesc in the aforementioned chapter).

c in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:

...

- ii *to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or*

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 228 to provide, in the next periodical report, specific information about the practical implementation of this undertaking concerning Croatian the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

- c iii *to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,*

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 230 to clarify, in the next periodical report, whether the legal set-up allows in practice that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, may be produced in Croatian, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

Paragraph 2

The Parties undertake:

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 233 to provide, in the next periodical report, information about the implementation of this undertaking, it is to be mentioned that, as a general rule the validity of a legal document drawn up within the state is not denied only on account of the document being drafted in other language than Romanian. As the Government has stated above relating to producing evidence, an authorised translation might be required for court proceedings. No cases were reported of denying the validity of a document, solely for being drafted in Croatian.

Paragraph 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.

235. The Committee of Experts encourages the Romanian authorities to make available in Croatian the most important national statutory texts and those relating particularly to users of this language, unless they are otherwise provided.

This is an objective that Romania aims to implement in the next reporting period and eventual measures will be established in cooperation with the Department of Interethnic Relations and the Institute for the Study of Problems of National Minorities.

Article 10 – Administrative authorities and public services

According to the 2011 census, 5.408 persons have declared themselves as Croatian ethnics, out of which 5.167 declared the Croatian language as their mother tongue.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 236 to submit, in the next periodical report, a list of the localities where the Croatian speakers live in numbers relevant for the purposes of

Article 10, the Government would like to state that the demographical situation of the Croatian minority has not changed, as regards the geographical area of distribution. Localities with a significant %age of Croats are in the county of Caras-Severin: Carasova (2380 ethnics, representing 46% of the total population) and Lupac (2318 ethnics, which represent over 80 % of the population). Relevant elements are presented in **Annex 5**, as regards the use of bilingual and multilingual place-names.

Paragraph 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 ...
- ii *to ensure that such of their officers as are in contact with the public use the regional or minority languages in their relations with persons applying to them in these languages; or*
- iii *to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications and receive a reply in these languages; or*
- iv *to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications in these languages; or*
- v *to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may validly submit a document in these languages;*

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 236 to provide more information on the use of Croatian in local branches of the state administration, the Government would like to refer to the information presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report (1 Croatian speaker employed in the territorial units of the Romanian Gendarmerie). A total number of 11 public servants belonging to the **Croatian ethnic minority** are employed in the territorial offices of the local administration (mayor's offices) in Caras-Severin county, according to the situation presented by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 8** of the present report.

In Carasova, the most representative Croatian concentration, the Mayor belongs to the Croatian community. The Croatian language is used in all local activities.

cParagraph 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;*

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 244 to allow and encourage the possibility for users of Croatian to submit oral or written applications in this language to local authorities, the Government would like to refer to the information presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report, where specific examples have been presented for the possibility of addressing requests in minority languages.

Croatian is frequently used in local public administration in the mayor's offices in relation with Croatian speakers in the localities of Carasova and Lupac, in which the share of minority ethnics is of over 20%. Croatian ethnics can submit applications in Croatian in the locality of Lupac, in the county of Caras-Severin.

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

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 246 to allow and/or encourage the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in Croatian, it is to be mentioned that, according to the information presented in **Annex 18**, official documents are published in Croatian in the locality of Lupac, in the county of Caras-Severin, in which the share of ethnics is of over 20%. The same goes for Carasova, where the speakers of Croatian account for more than 50%.

f the use by local authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 248 to allow and/or encourage the use by local authorities of Croatian in debates in their assemblies, it is to be mentioned that local council meetings are held in Croatian in the locality of Lupac (Caras-Severin), according to the situation presented by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 15**. Meetings are also held in Croatian in Carasova.

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.

As to the Committee's request in paragraphs 250-251, to provide more information on the use of place-names in Croatian in the next periodical report, the Government would like to refer to the details presented in **Annex 5**. Correct place-names in Croatian are used in the abovementioned localities.

Paragraph 3

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

- a to ensure that the regional or minority languages are used in the provision of the service; or*
- b to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request and receive a reply in these languages; or*

As to the Committee's request in paragraphs 252-254, to provide information about the implementation of this undertaking for Croatian, the Government would like to refer to the specific examples presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. Croatian is used in the provision of public services in the abovementioned localities, in health services, post office, cable providers, etc.

Relevant information is provided in **Annex 14** (number of minority-language-speakers employed in the specialized services subordinated to the local/county councils- 3 Croatian-speaking employees in the counties of Caras-Severin and Timis).

Paragraph 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:

...

- b recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required;*
- 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.*

As to the Committee's requests in paragraphs 255-257, to provide information regarding measures taken in accordance with this provision, the Government would like to refer to the specific examples presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report (1 Croatian speaker employed in the territorial units of the Romanian Gendarmerie). Public deconcentrated services dispose of sufficient Croatian-speaking personnel, according to the data transmitted by the Union of Croatians. Relevant information is provided in **Annex 14**.

Paragraph 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.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 257 to submit relevant information in the next periodical report, it is to be mentioned that the adoption of family names in the regional or minority languages is permitted, according to the option of the applicant, as the Law no. 287/2009 on the Civil Code, Articles 82 to 85 sets no interdiction in this regard. No refusals were reported as regards the use of family names in Croatian. In addition, traditional family names such as Dobra, Radan, Crsta, Lukacela are frequently used and have been preserved for generations.

Article 11 – Media

Paragraph 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;

As to the Committee's question in paragraph 258 it is to be mentioned that the programme broadcasted by Radio Romania Resita in Croatian is broadcasted on Fridays between 21:30-22:00 hours. It targets the Croatian community as a group and includes program for all age categories.

As to the question in paragraph 259, it is to be mentioned that the television channel TVR3 broadcasts a six-minute programme in Croatian. The TVR 3 content is also accessible in online format.

c ...

ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of television programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 262 to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of private television programmes in Croatian on a regular basis, the Government would like to refer to the consideration presented in Part II regarding the promotion private radio and television broadcasts.

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 264 to submit additional information about measures taken to encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audio-visual works in Croatian, it is to be mentioned that the Union of Croats has produced audio and audio-video works in Croatian, financially supported by the state, through the annual budget allocated to the organisation.

- e i** to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages; or

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 265 to submit relevant information about the implementation of this undertaking, it is to be mentioned that, there is a monthly publication in Croatian – "HRVATSKA GRANČICA" – fully supported by the state and edited by the Union of Croats.

The Union also has a Facebook and a web page, mostly in Croatian, where the TV and radio broadcasts in Croatian are published, as well as news relevant for the community.

<http://www.zhr-ucr.ro/index.php?lang=ro>

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/uniunea-croatilor-din-romania/157845597561219>

- g** to support the training of journalists and other staff for media using regional or minority languages.

The Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in Part II of the report on the training of journalists and media staff.

Article 12 – Cultural activities and facilities

Paragraph 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;

Every year the Union of Croats receives important allocations from the state budget through the Government/ DIR, with the purpose to sustain its own cultural life and facilities. According to the Governmental Decision no. 111/ 2013, the Union of Croats has received 2 037 000 lei. In 2014 the organization has received a total amount of 2 098 850 lei (the equivalent of 477 000 EUR).

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 270 to encourage types of expression and initiative specific to the Croatian language, it is to be mentioned that the participation of the Union of Croats of Romania to the *Proetnica* festival in Sighisoara has been supported from the state budget in 2012 and 2013. In 2013, the Union of Croats has participated at the *Proetnica* festival with a folkloric ensemble ~Karasevska Zora~.

- 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, post-synchronisation 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;

As to the Committee's requests in paragraphs 271 and 272 to submit specific information on the application of these undertakings, it is to be mentioned that, in 2012, the publishing house C.H. Beck has issued the first "Croatian-Romanian" dictionary, authors Ionila Lazar Florin. The dictionary contains a comprehensive list of words from the contemporary vocabulary of both languages, in a variety of fields.

Access to works in Croatian is granted through translation. For instance, the translation of the book "*Tri dana u Karaševu*" (*Trei zile în Carașova/Three Days in Carasova*), author Milo Jukić was funded from the state budget and published by the Union of Croats.

- d to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities of various kinds make appropriate allowance for incorporating the knowledge and use of regional or minority languages and cultures in the undertakings which they initiate or for which they provide backing;*
- e to promote measures to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities have at their disposal staff who have a full command of the regional or minority language concerned, as well as of the language(s) of the rest of the population;*
- f to encourage direct participation by representatives of the users of a given regional or minority language in providing facilities and planning cultural activities;*

As to the Committee's requests in paragraphs 273-275 to provide more information on the application of these provisions, it is to be mentioned that the Union of Croats has participated with a folkloric ensemble at the *Proetnica* Festival in Sighisoara and in the ONG *Fest* in Bucharest (August and May 2013). Both events were supported by the DIR and other partners.

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

It is to be mentioned that the National Library of Romania holds copies of published papers in the minority languages, including those edited by the Union of Croats from Romania and it receives annually 4 titles as part of the Exchange Program with the Croatian National Library of Zagreb. The Union of Croats collects and keeps copies of works published in Croatian.

- h if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.*

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 277 to submit specific information on the application of this provision, it is to be mentioned that terminological research is done within the specialized departments of the University of Bucharest and of the Western University of Timisoara.

Paragraph 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.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 279 to clarify whether the Croatian language has benefited from events that have taken place and if outside the area where Croatian is traditionally used, the Government would like to point, as it has been stated above, that the participation of the Union of Croats of Romania to the *Proetnica* festival in Sighisoara has been supported from the state budget in 2012 and 2013. This event is located outside the area

in which Croatian is traditionally used. The Croats also participated in several editions of *ONG Fest*, at Bucharest (out of their traditional living area).

Paragraph 3

The Parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 280 to submit specific information on the application of this provision in the next periodical report, it is to be mentioned that no such policy exists, as the spread area of Croatian is reduced. As it is shown when analysing article 14, the Union of Croats is consulted and participates in events with an international dimension such as study visits with a cultural component.

Article 13 – Economic and social life

Paragraph 1

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

- a to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of regional or minority languages in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations;*

As to the Committee's questions in paragraphs 281 and 282, the Government would like to refer to the considerations made in Part II of the present report as regards "Economic and social life". Romanian legislation does not contain provisions prohibiting or limiting the use of Croatian.

- b to prohibit the insertion in internal regulations of companies and private documents of any clauses excluding or restricting the use of regional or minority languages, at least between users of the same language;*

No cases of clauses excluding or restricting the use of Croatian used in the internal regulations of private companies were reported.

Article 14 – Cross-border exchanges

The Parties undertake:

- b for the benefit of regional or minority languages, to facilitate and/or promote co-operation across borders, in particular between regional or local authorities in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form*

As to the Committee's point of clarification in paragraph 285 regarding the promotion of cooperation across borders, the Government would like to submit the following:

Juridical Framework:

- *Agreement between the Government of Romania and the Government of Croatia regarding the collaboration in education, culture and science (Zagreb, May 19, 1993);*
- *Formal collaboration Agreement regarding education between the Ministry of Education, Research, Youth and Sport of Romania and the Ministry of Science, Education and Sport of the Republic of Croatia, spanning 2010-2013 (Bucharest, 04.30.2010), valid to: 12.31.2013.*

- *Collaboration Program in the field of culture between the Ministry of Culture of Romania and the Ministry of Culture of Croatia for the period 2012-2016 (under negotiation)*

Student mobility: In the university year 2009 - 2010, in Romanian higher education there were 4 Croatian citizens registered: 2 at B.A. level, one at Master's level and one at PhD level.

In the university year 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 respectively, no Croatian citizen was registered to study in Romania.

Lectorates: Promoting Romanian language, culture, literature and civilization, and reciprocally for Croatia is done through lectorates that function at the universities in Zagreb, and Bucharest. It is important to mention that at the University of Zagreb there is a lectorate of Romanian language and culture, and starting with the 2005-2006 university year, Romanian language has become a subject also at the Philosophy department of the University of Zagreb. Additionally, the University of Bucharest is hosting a professor from Croatia.

Teaching Croatian as a native language in Romania:

The Croatian language schools network from Romania (Caraş-Severin and Timiș counties) is made up of 13 pre-college educational facilities (6 kindergartens, 6 primary schools and one high school) that host over 466 students and 17 teachers.

Starting with the 1996 – 1997 school year, in the municipality of Caraşova, the bilingual Romanian–Croatian high school commenced activity, which teaches around 50% of the disciplines in Croatian.

Annually, a national contest of Croatian language and literature is held.

The Croatian language-based curriculum is developed by a collective team of specialists that have also written manuals. There are new manuals being worked on as we speak.

The Croatian Minister of Education organizes professional development classes (speciality and teaching methods) at the University of Zagreb where teachers from Romania take part.

Through **the Union of Croatians in Romania**, every summer break, 5 to 12 teachers are invited to the Croatian culture and civilization seminar organized by the University of Zagreb.

In the interval 1-10 July 2013, DIR and the Union of Croatians of Romania organised a documentary visit to Croatia. 30 representatives of the organisations members of the Council of National Minorities participated at the visit. The purpose was to promote a better knowledge of the situation of minorities in Croatia as well as to establish possible contacts and collaborations with similar institutions from Croatia. 1st of July 2013 - the official day of Croatia's access to the EU- was chosen for the starting point of the visit. Meetings with the mayor of Split and Dubrovnik as well as a visit to the Janovasec monument were organised during the visit.

As regards the **cross-border cooperation** it is to be mentioned that a **twinning agreement** between the municipality of Alba Iulia and Biograd na Moru was concluded **in 2011**.

Czech

Article 8 – Education

General issues

Regarding the Czech language, Romania has ratified the Articles 8.1.a.ii, b.ii and c.iii which oblige the state to provide education in the minority language regardless of prior application from parents or students.

Czech language study is conducted based on the National Education Law, no. 1/2011, Article 45 and on the Methodology of the study of a language as a native language, of the study of the Romanian language and literature, of the study of the history and traditions of persons belonging to national minorities and of the study of music in the mother tongue - Articles 33, 34, 35 of the Order of the Ministry of Education no. 5671/2012). As the Government has presented in detail in the Part II “Education” chapter of the present report, study formations with a smaller number than the minimum provided by law can be organized, according to the special procedure foreseen in Article 63 of the National Education law.

Paragraph 1

With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:

a...

ii to make available a substantial part of pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or

In Caras-Severin county, in the Sfanta Elena locality, there is the *Ján Amos Komenský* Gymnasium School, which provides teaching of preschool children in Czech. In the 2013-2014, the number of children enrolled in these studies was 10.

b ...

ii to make available a substantial part of primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or

Although this commitment was declared as fulfilled by the Committee, it has made a comment in paragraph 290 to encourage the Romanian authorities to investigate whether a **substantial part of primary education in Czech could be provided in Mehedinți county as well**. In this respect, it is to be mentioned that in Mehedinți county, at the city’s secondary school in Eibenthal, **the educational process is conducted in Romanian and Czech is studied as a subject**, 3 hours/week. It is to be added that the parents did not express a wish to shift to teaching entirely in Czech.

It is to be mentioned that the Carolina University of Prague ensures annual continuous education courses for teachers of Czech and Czech language teaching methodology courses.

c ...

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

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 291 to submit specific information on the application of this provision in the next periodical report, it is to be mentioned that the Czech language is studied in a number of 3 hours/week in the schools from the localities of Caras-Severin and Mehedinți: Garnic, Sfanta Elena and Eibenthal.

d i to make available technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages;
or

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

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

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 292 to submit specific information on the application of this provision in the next periodical report, it is to be mentioned that the graduates that are Czech ethnics in Caras Severin and Mehedinti did not make any requests for studying in high schools and in technical and vocational education in the Czech language.

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 296 to provide, in the next periodical report, specific information on whether also non-speakers benefit from the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the Czech language, it is to be mentioned that the history and traditions of the Czech minority is taught in the units mentioned above. Textbooks are edited in Czech and are published by the Democratic Union of Slovaks and Czechs in Romania.

For Romanian students, there is an optional course entitled *History of persons belonging to national minorities*, designed with the support of the Department for Interethnic Relations, which also contributed to the editing of a textbook in 2008. The textbook contains information about all minorities living in Romania and is written in Romanian and was edited with the help of history teachers belonging to all minorities. This subject can be studied in upper secondary education, not only in the tenth grade, as indicated in the report from June 2012. In the 2012-2013 school year, 50 classes chose this course.

- i to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.*

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 299 to submit specific information on the application of this provision in the next periodical report, it is to be mentioned that in the Ministry of Education and in each of the county school inspectorates that organize teaching in the Czech language – Caras-Severin and Mehedinti – there is one inspector in charge of monitoring the educational process on the study of the Czech language.

Paragraph 2

With regard to education and 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 or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all the appropriate stages of education.

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 301 to provide information on whether it is feasible to provide teaching in or of Czech also in areas where this language has not been traditionally used, it is to be mentioned that, according to the data submitted by the Ministry of Education and by the Democratic Union of Slovaks and Czechs of Romania, there have been no applications for the study of this language from outside the area in which it is traditionally used. In addition, the estimated number of children is too low to allow for teaching in/of Czech.

Article 9 – Judicial authorities

Paragraph 1

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

a in criminal proceedings:

...

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 303 to provide specific information about the practical implementation of this undertaking concerning Czech, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. It is to be mentioned that, in 2011 and 2012, the Ministry of Justice has issued authorisations for a number of 12 interpreters and translators of Czech.

a 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; and/or

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 306 to clarify, in the next periodical report, whether the legal set-up allows in practice that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, may be produced in Czech the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. Evidence will in no case be considered inadmissible if produced in a minority language. An authorised translation may be required in some cases, while in others (see aforementioned chapter) the proceedings are done in the minority language (see the example of the first instance court of Odorheiu Secuiesc in the aforementioned chapter).

b in civil proceedings:

...

ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 308 to provide specific information about the practical implementation of this undertaking concerning Czech, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

b iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 310 to clarify, in the next periodical report, whether the legal set-up allows in practice that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, may be produced in Czech the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. Evidence will in no case be considered inadmissible if produced in a minority language. An authorised translation may be required in some cases, while in others (see aforementioned chapter) the

proceedings are done in the minority language (see the example of the first instance court of Odorheiu Secuiesc in the aforementioned chapter).

c in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:

...

ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 312 to provide, in the next periodical report, specific information about the practical implementation of this undertaking concerning Czech the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

c iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 314 to clarify, in the next periodical report, whether the legal set-up allows in practice that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, may be produced in Czech, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

Paragraph 2

The Parties undertake:

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 317 to provide, in the next periodical report, information about the implementation of this undertaking for Czech, it is to be mentioned that, as a general rule the validity of a legal document drawn up within the state is not denied only on account of the document being drafted in other language than Romanian. As the Government has stated above relating to producing evidence, an authorised translation might be required for court proceedings. No cases were reported of denying the validity of a document on account of it being drafted in Czech.

Paragraph 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.

319. The Committee of Experts encourages the Romanian authorities to make available in Czech the most important national statutory texts and those relating particularly to users of this language, unless they are otherwise provided.

This is an objective that Romania aims to implement in the next reporting period and eventual measures will be established in cooperation with the Department of Interethnic Relations and the Institute for the Study of Problems of National Minorities.

Article 10 – Administrative authorities and public services

According to the 2011 census, there are 2.477 Czech ethnics of which 2.174 have declared Czech as their mother tongue

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 320 to submit, in the next periodical report, a list of the localities where the Czech speakers live in numbers relevant for the purposes of Article 10, the Government would like to state that the Czech minority has a significant presence in Romania, especially in the counties of Caras-Severin and Mehedinti in the villages of Girnic, Eibenthal, Baia Noua of the Dubova locality, where the share of ethnics is of 34,39%. Significant numbers of Czechs are also in the localities of Coronini (16,65%), Lapusnicel (7,59%), Sopotu Nou (6,22%) in the county Caras-Severin.

It is to be pointed out that, according to the elements presented in **Annex 5**, there are a number of localities that display place-names in Czech, although the share of 20% is not reached, such as Coronini, Lapusnicel, Sopotu Nou.

The map below illustrates the geographical distribution of the population of Czech ethnicity.



Paragraph 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 ...
 - ii to ensure that such of their officers as are in contact with the public use the regional or minority languages in their relations with persons applying to them in these languages; or
 - iii to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications and receive a reply in these languages; or
 - iv to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications in these languages; or
 - v to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may validly submit a document in these languages;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 325 to provide more information on the use of Czech in local branches of the state administration, the Government would like to refer to the information presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report (Czech speakers employed in the offices of the prefect's institution of Arad and answers to petitions provided to this institution, translated into Czech). A total number of 11 public servants belonging to the **Czech ethnic minority** are employed in territorial offices of the local administration (mayor's offices) in the Arad, Caras-Severin and Mehedinti Counties, according to the situation presented by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 8** of the present report.

According to the situation presented by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 14**, a total number of 15 **Czech speakers** are employed in the in the mayor's office/ county councils and the specialized public services subordinated to these. Out of these, 5 are employed in in the mayor's office/ county council of Mehedinti, and 2 are employed in the specialized services subordinated to the local/county council of Mehedinti. 6 are employed in in the mayor's office/ county council of Caras-Severin.

Paragraph 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;*

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 327 to allow and/or encourage the possibility for users of Czech to submit oral or written applications in this language to local authorities, the Government would like to refer to the example of good-practice of issuing responses to petitions in Czech, provided by the prefect's institution of Arad (Part II of the present report). In addition, according to the information provided by the Union of Slovaks and Czechs of Romania, in localities like Eibenthal, the language is used by the authorities in relation with the minority language speakers, but mostly in oral communication. According to the information provided by the Ministry of the Interior, in **Annex 13**, Czech is used in relation with the minority language speakers in the mayor's offices in the counties of Arad (locality of Nadlac) and Caras-Severin (localities of Berzasca, Coronini, Moldova Noua, county council of Caras-Severin), although the share of Czech ethnics is below 20% in these localities.

According to the information provided in **Annex 17**, there is the possibility to submit applications in Czech, in the localities of Nadlac (county of Arad) and Coronini (Caras-Severin), although the share of Czech ethnics is below 20% in these localities.

- 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;*

As to the Committee's requests and encouragements in paragraphs 328 and 330 to submit more information on the implementation of these undertakings and to encourage the publications of official documents in Czech, it is to be mentioned that, according to the data presented in **Annex 18**, documents in Czech are not published.

- e the use by regional authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;*

- f the use by local authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;*

As to the Committee's recommendations in paragraphs 331 and 333 to allow and/or encourage the use by local authorities of Czech in debates in their assemblies, it is to be mentioned that, according to the situation presented in **Annex 15**, the language is not used.

- 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.*

As to the Committee's request in paragraphs 336, to provide more information on the use of place-names in Czech in the next periodical report, the Government would like to refer to the details presented in **Annex 5**. Correct forms of place-names in Czech are used in the localities presented in the list.

Paragraph 3

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

- a to ensure that the regional or minority languages are used in the provision of the service; or*
- b to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request and receive a reply in these languages; or*
- c to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request in these languages.*

As to the Committee's request in paragraphs 338-339, to provide information about the implementation of this undertaking for Czech, the Government would like to refer to the specific examples presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

Relevant information is provided in **Annex 14** (number of minority-language-speakers employed in the specialized services subordinated to the local/county councils- 2 Czech-speaking employees in the county of Mehedinti).

Paragraph 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:

...

- b recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required;*
- 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.*

As to the Committee's requests in paragraphs 340-341, to provide information regarding measures taken in accordance with this provision, the Government would like to refer to the specific examples presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. Relevant information is provided in **Annex 14**.

Paragraph 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.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 342 to submit relevant information in the next periodical report, it is to be mentioned that the adoption of family names in the regional or minority languages is permitted, according to the option of the applicant, as the Law no. 287/2009 on the Civil Code, Articles 82 to 85, sets no interdiction in this regard. No cases were reported of refusals to draw-up civil status acts in Czech.

Article 11 – Media

Paragraph 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;

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 346 to extend the duration of radio and television broadcasts in Czech, it is to be mentioned that the Romanian Radio Broadcasting Corporation and the Romanian Television Corporation are analysing any request of extending the broadcasting in Czech.

b ...

ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of radio programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 348 to facilitate the broadcasting of private radio programmes in Czech on a regular basis, the Government would like to refer to the considerations made in Part II of the present report.

c ...

ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of television programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 350 to facilitate the broadcasting of private television programmes in Czech on a regular basis, the Government would like to refer to the considerations made in Part II of the present report.

d to encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audio-visual works in the regional or minority languages

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 352 to submit, in their next periodical report, additional information about measures taken to encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audio-visual works in Czech, the Government would like to refer to the particular activities/events detailed in article 12 which also led to the production and distribution of audio and audio-visual works in Czech. Funding for these projects was provided by the Ministry of Culture.

e i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages; or

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 354. to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in Czech, it is to be mentioned that the Democratic Union of Slovaks and Czechs of Romania edits and publishes, with the support of DIR, the magazine *Naše Snahy*". The Organisation also has a Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Uniunea-Democratica-a-Slovacilor-si-Cehilor-din-Romania/149151461802214>

g to support the training of journalists and other staff for media using regional or minority languages.

As to the Committee's point of clarification in paragraph 355 regarding the support for the training of journalists, the Government would like to refer to the considerations made in Part II of the present report.

Paragraph 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 above-mentioned 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.

As to the Committee's point of clarification in paragraph 356 regarding the possibility to receive radio and television programmes in Czech, the Government would like to refer to the considerations made in Part II of the present report.

Paragraph 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.

As to the Committee's point of clarification in paragraph 357 regarding the representation of the Czech speakers in the National Audio-visual Council of Romania, the Government would like to refer to the considerations made in Part II of the present report.

Article 12 – Cultural activities and facilities

Paragraph 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, post-synchronisation 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;*

As to the Committee's requests in paragraphs 360 and 361 to submit information on the implementation of these undertakings in the next periodical report, the following elements are to be mentioned:

During the 2010 – 2012 timeframe, the Ministry of Culture continued the collaboration with the Democratic Union of the Slovaks and Czechs in Romania. The “*Dimitrie Gusti*” National Village Museum along with the Czech Republic's Embassy to Bucharest, the Czech Centre

and the Democratic Union of the Slovaks and Czechs in Romania have organized during the 11th and 12th of May 2013 the cultural event “*The Czech Days in Banat*”. For two days, at the “Dimitrie Gusti” National Village Museum, old practices, traditional crafts, music and dance, the Czech language and the living tradition of the Czech minority living in Romania at the beginning of the 19th century have been the subject of the event. During the event, the Czech Centre presented the documentary film *Piemule* (1984, 42 min), a documentary **subtitled** in English, about the Czech minority from Banat. Also, a couple of folk dance and music ensembles performed, such as the “Bohemia” instrumental band and the “Bohemia” dance ensemble.

The instrumental ensemble “*Bohemia*” continues the tradition of an instrumental band in the village of Girnic; it was established between 1856-1881 under the guidance of the first teacher in the village. This band plays especially Czech traditional music. “*Bohemia*” holds numerous concerts in Serbia or in the Czech Republic. The “*Bohemia*” dance ensemble is a “mixed group of Czech popular dances” which participates in a multitude of festivals and events. In the past 20 years, the instrumental band and the dance one participated annually to numerous cultural events both in the country and in the Czech Republic and Serbia.

During the cultural events mentioned before, a photography exhibition opening called “*The Czechs from Banat*” of the artist Pavel Hroch took place. The exhibition was accompanied by traditional music, and the participants to the exhibition had the chance to admire the national traditional costumes from some of the Czech villages in Romania. Photographer and translator, freelancer Pavel Hroch (1967) photographed Mexico, Russia, Kazakhstan, Spain, Slovakia and the Czech minorities in Banat. In 2002 he published a photo album about the Czechs in Banat “*In Valahia Ramanem*” (We live in Wallachia).

The National Village Museum organized in partnership with the Czech Centre and the Embassy of the Czech Republic between 5-23 October 2011, for the celebration of Vaclav Havel’s 75th anniversary, a series of events dedicated to his personality. Societas Romano-Bohemica organized a conference named “*Vaclav Havel: writer and dramatist*”. The Czech Centre and the Czech Republic’s Embassy organized the **film projections** of “*Citizen Havel*” and “*The Departure*” as well as a photography exhibition by Oldrich Skacha.

It has already become a tradition at the National Village Museum for the Codex assembly to have an **old music performance** as part of a tour that covers different cities across the country, promoting the musical patrimony of Transylvania. The project was launched in 2012 and is held on the 5th of November: it brings forward the connections between music and European court dances as well as the traditions from Transylvania and Moldova. The event is organized in partnership with the Cultural Centre of the Hungarian Republic to Bucharest.

The National Village Museum organized on its premises, on the 14th of May 2013, in partnership with the Embassy of the Czech Republic and the Embassy of the Slovak Republic in Bucharest, a musical “battle” between Czechs and Slovaks on the occasion of 20 years since the break-up of Czechoslovakia.

It is to be also mentioned that the Romanian Government continued to offer support to the Czech community for different types of activities, including the functioning of the main organizations and cultural activities. The budget is allocated every year, through the DIR, to the Democratic Union of Slovaks and Czechs from Romania. The Czech community receives a part of this budget and functions like a subsidiary branch of the union. In 2013 The Government has allocated 2 885 400 lei to the Democratic Union of Slovaks and Czechs from Romania and 2 973 000 lei (the equivalent of 660 000 EUR) in 2014. –

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

As to the Committee of experts' recommendation in paragraph 366 to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of a body or bodies responsible for collecting, keeping a copy of and presenting or publishing works produced in Czech, it is to be mentioned that the National Library of Romania developed annually an exchange of 84 book titles and publications with the National Library of the Czech Republic. In addition, works produced in Czech are kept in the Moldova Noua branch of the Union of Slovaks and Czech of Romania.

- h** *if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.*

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 368 to submit information on the implementation of this undertaking, especially commenting on any need to develop necessary terminology in Czech, in the next periodical report, the Government would like to refer to the elements presented in the Part II, "Culture" chapter of the present report.

Paragraph 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.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 369 to provide information on other relevant activities, the Government would like to refer to the elements presented in the Part II, "Culture" chapter of the present report. It is to be emphasized that there are cultural activities that take place outside the area in which Czech is traditionally used, such as: Bucharest- The Days of the Czechs from Banat, the National Day of the Czech Republic.

Paragraph 3

The Parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 370 to submit information on the implementation of this undertaking, the Government would like to refer to the elements presented in the Part II, "Culture" chapter of the present report.

Article 13 – Economic and social life

Paragraph 1

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

- a** *to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of regional or minority languages in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations;*

As to the Committee's points of clarification in paragraphs 371 and 372, the Government would like to refer to the considerations made in Part II of the present report as regards "Economic and social life". Romanian legislation does not contain any provisions prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of Czech.

- b** to prohibit the insertion in internal regulations of companies and private documents of any clauses excluding or restricting the use of regional or minority languages, at least between users of the same language;

No cases of such regulations restricting the use of Czech were reported. In addition, the use of Czech in private mixed companies is promoted and such an examples is the company ”SC Hame Romania SRL “.

Article 14 – Cross-border exchanges

The Parties undertake:

- a** to apply existing bilateral and multilateral agreements which bind them with the States in which the same language is used in identical 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;

As regards the Committee’s request in paragraph 373 on bilateral agreements promoting contacts between the users of the same language in the States concerned in the fields of **culture, education, information, vocational training and permanent education**, the Government would like to submit the following:

Juridical Framework:

- ✓ *Agreement of Collaboration in the field of culture, education and science between the government of Romania and the government of the Czech Republic (Prague, 10.23. 2007);*
- ✓ *Memorandum of Understanding between the Romanian Ministry of Education and the Czech Ministry for Education, Youth and Sport regarding the collaboration in the field of education between 2007-2010 (Prague, 01.22. 2008). This accord is valid and will be renewed afterwards every year, if neither part denounces it with six months prior through a notification sent by through diplomatic channels.*

Provisions of the program:

- ✓ Sending teachers to Romania to teach Czech in schools;
- ✓ Supporting the activity of Romanian language and literature, as well as Czech, within the University Carolina of Prague and the University of Bucharest respectively;
- ✓ The exchange of specialists in the domains of education, totalling 10 days per year;
- ✓ Exchanging university-level faculty for the duration of one month; totalling 3 months a year, for studying and teaching.
- ✓ Granting reciprocally, 27 months of scholarship annually;
- ✓ Granting reciprocally, 4 scholarships for summer classes of Romanian culture, language and civilization, as well as Slavic studies.

Scholarships

School Year	Romanian side granted:	Czech side granted:
2010-2011	4 scholarships (24 months)	2 scholarships (5 months)
2011-2012	3 scholarships (5 months)	3 scholarships (5 months)

Student Mobility

In the university year 2010-2011, no Czech citizen was enrolled in Romanian universities. In the university year 2011-2012 one Czech student was enrolled.

Lectorates

Currently there is one Romanian lectorate at the University Carolina of Prague and one Czech professorship at the University of Bucharest.

At the Department of Slavic Languages at the Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures, University of Bucharest received a Czech language and literature lecturer in the academic year 2010-2011, whose work has been extended in the 2011-2012 academic year.

Summer Courses

In 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012 the Ministry of Education did not release the scholarship offers for summer Romanian language, culture and civilization courses.

Note: There were still summer courses organized by Ovidius University of Constanta, continuing a long tradition of status and academic value, being attended by young people from the Czech Republic: a student in 2010 and 2 in 2011 were enrolled. In 2012, two students were enrolled but did not attend. Funding for these courses was provided in part by the Ministry of Education through institutional agreement. For 2013 resumption of Romanian language courses in collaboration with universities in the country is foreseen. Given current budgetary constraints, co-financing is expected for these scholarships, 50% of the estimated expenditure supported by universities, but not more than 100 euro / day / person.

The Czech side has confirmed 2 scholarships for the school year 2009, and for the school years 2010, 2011 and 2012 there were no requests made.

Cultural exchanges

30 September – 12 November 2011 – “*Slovakian and Czech Days in Romania*” Festival organized in Bucharest, Sibiu and Cluj, with the cooperation of the Ministry of Culture

b for the benefit of regional or minority languages, to facilitate and/or promote co-operation across borders, in particular between regional or local authorities in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 374 to submit, in the next periodical report, more specific information about the promotion of the Czech language in the context of cross-border co-operation, the following **twinning agreements** have been concluded between Romanian and Czech municipalities: In **2008-** the agreement between the county council of Caras Severin the county council of the region of Pilsen; the villages of Dubovaidin and the Union of the localities of Prostejov-Venkov; in **2011-** the city of Nadlac and the city of Novy Byzdov;

German

Article 8 – Education

General issues

Regarding German language, Romania ratified Articles 8.1.a.i, b.i, c.i and also d.i, which require the state to provide education in the minority language without requiring prior request from parents or students.

German language study is conducted based on the National Education Law, no. 1/2011, Article 45 and on the Methodology of the study of a language as a native language, of the study of the Romanian language and literature, of the study of the history and traditions of persons belonging to national minorities and of the study of music in the mother tongue - Articles 33, 34, 35 of the Order of the Ministry of Education no. 5671/2012). As the Government has presented in detail in Part II “Education” of the present report, classes with a

number of pupils smaller than the minimum stipulated by law can be organized, according to the special procedure foreseen in Article 63 of the National Education law.

Paragraph 1

With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:

- a i to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or*
- b i to make available primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or*
- c i to make available secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or*

Pre-university education in German is organised in two main types of units:

- units with teaching in German as a mother tongue in the counties of Alba, Arad, Bihor, Bistrița-Năsăud, Brașov, Caraș-Severin, Cluj, Hunedoara, Maramureș, Mureș, Satu-Mare, Sălaj, Sibiu, Timiș and Bucharest;
- units with teaching in Romanian and the study of German in preschool, primary and secondary education, in the county of Suceava.

There are 216 schools which have classes and sections in German as mother tongue in the 2013-2014 school year in the pre-university level. There were a total of 22,158 pupils studying in German as a mother tongue in the 2013-2014 school year at this level and 531 teachers that taught these classes.

The following schools are representative in this respect: „*Samuel von Brukenthal*” National College in Sibiu, „*Johannes Honterus*” High school in Brasov, „*Nikolaus Lenau*” High school in Timisoara and *Goethe* German College in Bucharest; all have a rich tradition of teaching in German. But there are also high school lines of teaching in German at „*Joseph Haltrich*” High school in Sighișoara, „*Stefan Ludwig Roth*” High school in Medias, „*Adam Müller Guttenbrunn*” High school in Arad, „*Liviu Rebreanu*” National College in Bistrița, „*George Coșbuc*” National College in Cluj-Napoca, „*Andrei Șaguna*” Pedagogical High school in Sibiu.

There are also schools that have resumed the tradition of teaching in German after 1990, such as „*Diaconovici-Tietz*” High school in Reșița, „*J. Ettinger*” High school in Satu Mare, „*Papiu Ilarian*” National College in Tg. Mureș, „*Colegiul Bănățean*” in Timișoara, „*Onisifor Ghibu*” High school in Sibiu, „*Fr. Schiller*” High school in Oradea, „*Alexandru Vlahuță*” High school in Bucharest.

As to the Committee’s comments in paragraphs 376, 380 and 382 to ensure the continuity between pre-school, primary and secondary levels of study, it is to be mentioned that children from German-speaking families **have the possibility to attend all the above-mentioned levels of education in German.**

- d i to make available technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or*

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 383 to submit information on the implementation of this undertaking for German in the next periodical report, the following elements are to be taken into consideration:

Starting with the school year 2012-2013, the technical and vocational education has a duration of 2 years starting with the 10th grade and has some elements in common with the German teaching model that favours a dual approach:

- practical training represents, in the 10th grade, 60% of the total number of classes and 75% of this number of classes in the 11th grade;
- practical training is conducted at the company/firm on the basis of the contract concluded between the company and the school;
- the companies participate in selecting the students, in carrying out their professional training, in evaluating and certifying them.

Starting with the school year 2012-2013, **the German Professional Kronstadt School was established** in Brasov, as part of the “Mircea Cristea” technical college. In the school year 2012-2013, 4 classes were formed, specializing in digital machine operation, with a total of 97 students and 1 class specializing in electro mechanics for industrial machinery with 34 students.

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

There are study lines in German in the “Politehnica” University of Bucharest, the Academy of Economic Studies in Bucharest, the University of Bucharest, the “Babes-Bolyai” and the Technical Universities in Cluj, the “Lucian Blaga” University in Sibiu, the Western and the “Politehnica” Universities in Timisoara, the “Transilvania” University in Brasov, the “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University in Iasi.

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;*

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 386 to submit information on the implementation of this undertaking for German in the next periodical report, the following elements are to be considered:

Initial training of teachers is done in universities. For German there is a wide range of academic study lines (about 70). Various training courses for adults take place in the cultural institutions that are not under the supervision of the Ministry of Education such as: the Romanian Institute for Adult Education, education centres, community centres or other institutions.

Continuous training in education is achieved through the **Teacher Training House** (*Casa Corpului Didactic*) or through the Continuous Education Centre in German from Mediaş, with a branch in Timișoara. The Centre for Lifelong Training in German (CFCLG) is subordinated to the Ministry of Education and aims mainly at providing training programs for teachers of German language as a mother tongue or for those who teach German at preschool, primary, and secondary levels (see table in Part II, “Education” chapter for details).

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

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 390 to provide, in the next periodical report, specific information on whether non-speakers also benefit from the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by German it is to be mentioned that the subject “History and

traditions of persons belonging to national minorities” is part of the core curriculum for the 6th and 7th grades. As regards particularly the German minority in Romania, a textbook was developed, which was approved by the Ministry of Education and is used for these classes.

For Romanian students, there is an optional course entitled *History of national minorities*, designed with the support of the Department for Interethnic Relations, which also contributed to the editing of a textbook in 2008. The textbook contains information about all minorities living in Romania and is written in Romanian and was edited with the help of history teachers belonging to all minorities. This subject can be studied in upper secondary education, not only in the tenth grade, as indicated in the report from June 2012. In the 2012-2013 school year, 50 classes chose this course.

Students that do not speak a minority language can learn about the history and traditions of minorities on the general course of history, or, if they so wish, by opting for the above-mentioned course in the upper secondary education cycle.

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

As to the Committee’s recommendation in paragraph 394 to provide the training of a sufficient number of teachers to meet the demand for education in German, the Government would like to refer to the considerations presented in Part II, “Education” chapter of the present report.

i to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 397 to submit information on the implementation of this undertaking in the next periodical report, it is to be mentioned that in the Ministry of Education and in the county school inspectorates that organize teaching in minority languages, there are inspectors in charge of monitoring of the educational process on the study of the minority language.

Paragraph 2

With regard to education and 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 or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all the appropriate stages of education.

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 398 to submit information on the implementation of this undertaking for German in the next periodical report, it is to be mentioned that in secondary education there is the possibility of studying the German language as a foreign language throughout the country. In the school year 2010-2011, a total of **122,941** students studied German as their first or second foreign language.

Article 9 – Judicial authorities

Paragraph 1

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

a in criminal proceedings:

...

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 400 to provide specific information about the practical implementation of this undertaking concerning German, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. It is to be mentioned that, in 2011 and 2012, the Ministry of Justice has issued authorisations for **1363 interpreters and translators of German**.

a 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; and/or

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 403 to clarify, in the next periodical report, whether the legal set-up allows in practice that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, may be produced in German the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. Evidence will in no case be considered inadmissible if produced in a minority language. An authorised translation may be required in some cases, while in others (see aforementioned chapter) the proceedings are done in the minority language (see the example of the first instance court of Odorheiu Secuiesc in the aforementioned chapter). Also, as it clearly results from the table in **Annex 4**, in the period 2011-2012, interpreters of German were used in a number of **49** civil and criminal cases.

b in civil proceedings:

...

ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 405 to provide specific information about the practical implementation of this undertaking concerning German, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

b iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 407 to clarify, in the next periodical report, whether the legal set-up allows in practice that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, may be produced in German the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. Evidence will in no case be considered inadmissible if produced in a minority language. An authorised translation may be required in some cases, while in others (see aforementioned chapter) the proceedings are done in the minority language (see the example of the first instance court of Odorheiu Secuiesc in the aforementioned chapter).

c *in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:*

...

ii *to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or*

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 409 to provide, in the next periodical report, specific information about the practical implementation of this undertaking concerning German, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

c **iii** *to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,*

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 411 to clarify, in the next periodical report, whether the legal set-up allows in practice that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, may be produced in German, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

Paragraph 2

The Parties undertake:

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 317 to provide, in the next periodical report, information about the implementation of this undertaking for German, it is to be mentioned that, as a general rule the validity of a legal document drawn up within the state is not denied only on account of the document being drafted in other language than Romanian. As the Government has stated above relating to producing evidence, an authorised translation might be required for court proceedings. No cases of denying the validity of a document solely for being drafted in German were reported

Paragraph 3

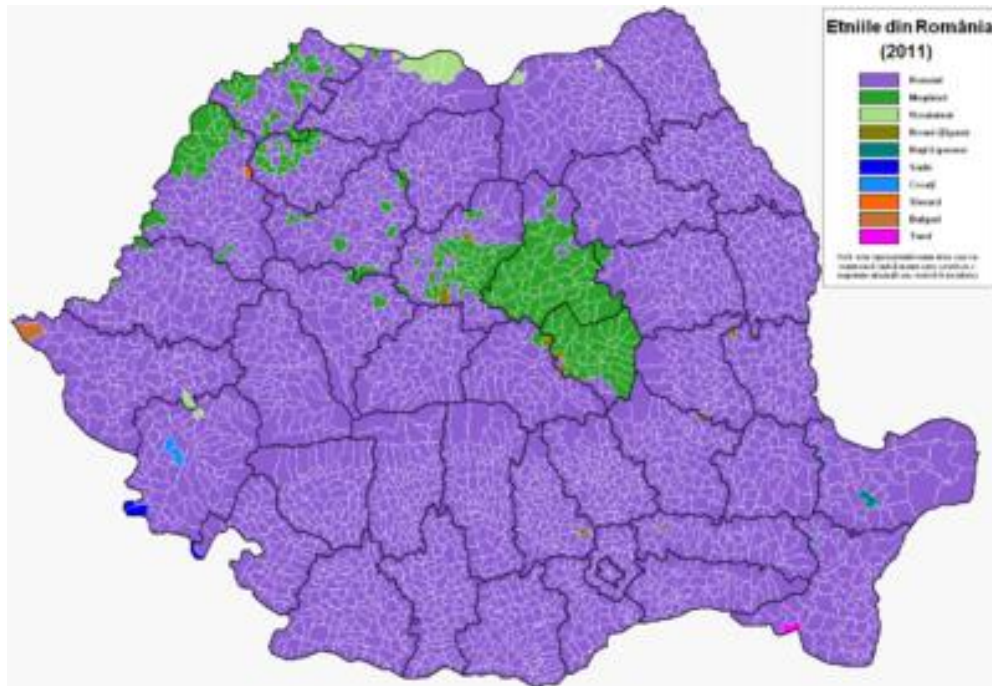
The Parties undertake to make available in the regional or minority languages the most important national statutory texts and those relating particularly to users of these languages, unless they are otherwise provided.

415. The Committee of Experts encourages the Romanian authorities to make available in German the most important national statutory texts and those relating particularly to users of this language, unless they are otherwise provided.

This is an objective that Romania aims to implement in the next reporting period and eventual measures will be established in cooperation with the Department of Interethnic Relations and the Institute for the Study of Problems of National Minorities.

Article 10 – Administrative authorities and public services

The map below illustrates the situation of ethnic communities in Romania, after the 2011 census.



According to the data provided by the 2011 Census, 36,042 German ethnics live in Romania, which represents 0.3% of the entire population of the country. Timiș is the county with most German ethnics (8,504), followed by Satu Mare, Sibiu, Maramureș, Mureș, Caraș-Severin, Arad, Brașov. Compared to the 2002 Census, the 2011 research shows a decrease of 37%. In 2002, 59,764 people declared themselves German ethnics, as compared to 36,042 in 2011.

German represents the mother tongue of 26,557 individuals. According to the results of the 2011 census, the share of German ethnics is over 20% in the counties of Caras-Severin (locality of Brebu Nou - 23,52%) and Satu Mare (localities of Camin - 22,62%, Foieni - 20,86%, Petresti - 27,32%, Urziceni -23,91%).

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 416 to submit, in the next periodical report, a list of the localities where the German speakers live in numbers relevant for the purposes of Article 10, the Government would also like to refer to the elements presented in **Annex 5**. It is to be mentioned that there is a significant number of localities in the counties of Alba, Brasov, Bihor, Caras-Severin, Sibiu, Timis that **voluntarily display place-names in German** (since there is still a significant number of German ethnics living in those localities) even if the share of 20% is no longer reached in all of them after the 2011 census.

Paragraph 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 ...
 - ii to ensure that such of their officers as are in contact with the public use the regional or minority languages in their relations with persons applying to them in these languages; or
 - iii to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications and receive a reply in these languages; or

- iv *to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications in these languages; or*
- v *to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may validly submit a document in these languages;*

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 421 to provide more information on the use of German in local branches of the state administration, the Government would like to refer to the information presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report (15 German speakers employed in the territorial units of the Romanian Gendarmerie, 8 German speakers employed in the National Agency for Payments and Social Inspection, etc.). A total number of 50 public servants belonging to the **German ethnic minority** are employed in the territorial offices of the local administration (mayor's offices) in the Timis, Sibiu, Satu-Mare, Mures, Bistrița-Nasaud, Alba and Bihor Counties, according to the situation presented by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 8** of the present report.

According to the situation presented by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 14**, a total number of 58 **German speakers** are employed in the in the mayor's offices/ county councils and the specialized services subordinated to the local/county councils. Out of these, 11 are employed in in the mayor's office/ county council of Timis, and 12 are employed in the specialized services subordinated to the local/county council of Timis.

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

As to the Committee's encouragement in paragraph 424 to make available widely used administrative texts and forms for the population in German, it is to be mentioned that, as it results from the content of **Annex 20**, such forms are not published.

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

As to the Committee's encouragement in paragraph 427 to allow the local branches of the State authorities to draft documents in German and to ensure an appropriate level of implementation in practice, it is to be mentioned that, as it results from **Annex 19**, such documents are not published.

Paragraph 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;*

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 429 to allow and/or encourage the possibility for users of German to submit oral or written applications in this language to local authorities, the Government would like to refer to the example of good-practice provided for in the "Administrative authorities" chapter of the present report.

According to the situation presented by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 13**, German is used in relation with the speakers of this language in the counties of Alba (Sebes), Arad (Nadlac), Bihor (Girisu de Cris), Bistrita (Teaca), Brasov (Prejmer), Mures (Nades), Sibiu (Agnita, Cisanadie, Saliste, Mihaileni), Suceava (Dorna Candrenilor), Timis (Timisoara),

although the share of German ethnics of the total population is below 20%, Caras-Severin (county council although the share is below 20% at county level).

According to the information provided in **Annex 17**, there is the possibility to submit applications in German in the localities of Ocna Mures (Alba county), Nadlac, Peregu Mare, Sinte Mare, Arad (Arad county), Matei, Nuseni, Sintereag, Lechinta, Petru Rares, Nimigea, Teaca (Bistrita Nasaud county), Rasnov (Brasov county), Rosiori (Braila county), Nades (Mures county), Agnita, Cismadie, Saliste, Mihaileni (Sibiu county). As it was stated above, the share of over 20% is not reached in all of these localities.

- 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;*

As to the Committee of Experts requests and comments in paragraphs 430 and 432 to submit more information on the implementation of these undertakings and to encourage the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in German, it is to be mentioned that, according to the information presented in **Annex 18** no such documents are published.

- e the use by regional authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;*
- f the use by local authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;*

As to the Committee's recommendations in paragraphs 433 and 436 to allow and encourage the use by local authorities of German in debates in their assemblies and to present more specific information regarding the implementation of this undertaking, it is to be mentioned that this language is not used, according to the information presented in **Annex 15**.

- 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.*

As to the Committee's request in paragraphs 439-440, to provide more information on the use of place-names in German in the next periodical report, the Government would like to refer to the details presented in **Annex 5**.

Paragraph 3

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

- a to ensure that the regional or minority languages are used in the provision of the service; or*
- b to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request and receive a reply in these languages; or*
- c to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request in these languages.*

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 443, to provide information about the implementation of this undertaking for German, the Government would like to refer to the specific examples presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

Relevant information is provided in **Annex 14** (number of minority-language-speakers employed in the specialized services subordinated to the local/county councils - 27 German-speaking employees in the counties of Arad, Brasov, Caras-Severin, Satu Mare, Timis).

Paragraph 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:

...

- b recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required;*
- 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.*

As to the Committee's requests in paragraphs 445-446, to provide information regarding measures taken in accordance with this provision, the Government would like to refer to the specific examples presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. Relevant information is provided in **Annex 14**.

Paragraph 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.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 439 to submit relevant information in the next periodical report, it is to be mentioned that the adoption of family names in the regional or minority languages is permitted, according to the option of the applicant, as the Law no. 287/2009 on the Civil Code, Articles 82 to 85 sets no interdiction in this regard. No interdiction was reported as regards the use of family names in German.

Article 11 – Media

General issues

Paragraph 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;*

As regards the Committee's requests in paragraphs 452-454 on the providing of **updated information on radio and television broadcasts in German**, the Government would like to submit the following:

The TV programmes produced by the **TVR department of German language** are a mirror of the Germans from Romania and a link to the German-speaking countries. The German department aims and engages in social and cultural life of the German minority in order to preserve the ethnic identity of persons belonging to this minority. The programmes cover the

following genres according to the EBU classification: informative bulletins, journalism/infotainment, news, documentaries. 95% of programmes are own productions.

Programmes on TVR 1

AKZENTE – weekly – The programme has a wide audience due to its continuity along the years.

Bucharest stories – monthly – Presentation of places with a German history.

The recipe of the month - A Swabian food recipe is presented each month.

Where to? – weekly - Swabian and Saxon villages from Romania are presented with a view to promoting tourism.

Subjects - twice a month- interviews with personalities from Germany, Austria and Switzerland

Faith Forts – Presentation of Saxon churches from Transilvania.

Business plan – Presentation of business investors from Germany and other parts of the world.

Programmes on TVR 2

Step by step - twice a month - German investors that help create jobs in Romanian villages.

Faith – monthly - Saxons and Swabs with extraordinary stories.

The TVR German language programmes have maintained a steady audience, as follows:

German language programmes broadcasted according to the EBU classification (by type, duration and rates)

	Type of programme	Annual duration - hours	Share (%)
1.	Informative bulletin	11	8,8
2.	Journalism/infotainment	35	28
3.	Art and culture	45	36
4.	Entertainment	24	19,2
5.	Science and education	10	8
	Total	125	100

TV grid example 2012

Channel	Title	Broadcast day	Time	Length	Name of show
TVR 1	Show in German	Thursday	15.30-17.00	90 min	Akzente
TVR2	Show in German	Tuesday	14.30-15.30	60 min	Together in Europe
TVR 3	Show in German	Monday	10.35-11.15	40 min	All Together
TVR Cultural (till 15.09.2012)	Show in German	Friday	16.30-17.00	30 min.	Cultural magazine

TVR Cluj also broadcasts the programme: *Sendung in Deutscher Sprache* - in German language, duration: 34 minutes twice a month, broadcasted on TVR3, Friday, between:

12.40 – 13.15 hrs., rebroadcasted at night: 01.50 – 02.25. The program duration remained unchanged.

Further information on the television broadcasts in German (territorial studios) can be found in Part II, under the „Media” chapter.

As regards the transmission of radio programmes in German, it is to be mentioned that the following central and local radio stations broadcast in German:

No	Regional studio	Broadcasting	Interval
1	Radio Timisoara	Monday-Sunday	13.00-14.00
2	Radio Resita	Weekly, every Thursday	21.30-22.00
3	Radio Targu Mures	Monday-Friday Monday-Saturday	11.00-14.00 21.00-22.00
4	Minorities Editorial Office Bucharest	Monday-Saturday Sunday	14.00-15.00 10.20-10.30

b ...

- ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of radio programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;*

As to the Committee’s recommendation in paragraph 454 to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of radio programmes in German on a regular basis in all regions where German is used, it is to be noted that both the Radio Broadcasting Corporation and the Television Broadcasting Corporation currently broadcast such programmes, as shown above.

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

- f i to cover the additional costs of those media which use regional or minority languages, wherever the law provides for financial assistance in general for the media; or*

As to the Committee’s recommendation in paragraphs 455 and 459, to provide more information on the implementation of these undertakings, the Government would like to refer to the detailed activities presented under Article 12 for the German language, and which also include the activity of facilitating the distribution of audio and audio-visual works, within various projects financed by the Ministry of Culture and by the Department for Interethnic Relations.

- g to support the training of journalists and other staff for media using regional or minority languages.*

As to the Committee’s recommendation in paragraph 461, the Government would like to refer to its considerations made in Part II of the present report, in the “Media” section.

Paragraph 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 above-mentioned 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.

As to the Committee's point of clarification in paragraph 462 regarding the possibility to receive radio and television programmes in German, the Government would also like to refer to the considerations made in Part II of the present report.

Paragraph 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.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 463 regarding the representation of the German speakers in the National Audio-visual Council of Romania, the Government would like to refer to the considerations made in Part II of the present report.

Article 12 – Cultural activities and facilities

Paragraph 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, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;*

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 466 to provide, in the next periodical report, information on how they implement this provision for German, the Government wishes to point out the following relevant elements:

The cultural project “*The German Culture Decade*” held at Resita and Satu Mare, is a complex manifestation and has a tradition that dates back over 20 years, being annually financed partially by the Ministry of Culture because the main objective is to maintain, promote and highlight the traditions, and also the creativity of the youth in a series of poetry creative workshops, amateur Theatre groups, dance ensembles, choirs etc. At each edition, over 40 cultural manifestations take place, in 12 localities of Caras-Severin and Mehedinti counties. At last year's edition German ethnics from Austria, Italy, Ukraine and Serbia also participated, as well as members of a popular dance group from Tirol (Austria) and from Southern Tirol (Italy).

The 2011 edition of the “*The German Culture Decade in the Banat Mountains*” was one of the most important cultural manifestations of the German ethnics. A parade of traditional German costumes took place in the town of Anina, with the participation of the dance ensemble Steiedorf.

German cultural manifestations also included literary lectures (writer Edith Guip-Cobilanschi), book exhibitions (“Baile Herculane – arc peste timp”, by Dorin Balteanu), film projections, but also two photography exhibitions (“*Madrid, heart of Spain*” by Erwin Josef

Tigla and “*Toamna in Muntii Poiana Ruscai si Retezat*” by prof. Francis Finta) and one of sculpture, signed by George Molin.

Other projects partially financed by the Ministry of Culture were the “*Anniversary of 300 years since the arrival of Swabians into the North-West of Romania*” (2012) organized in cooperation with the Tübingen Institute of History and Geography for the southern Danubian Swabians from Germany, the “Harvest Celebrations” organized by the Swabians from Satu mare and the “German literature days at Resita”.

“*The international German language Theatre festival for the youth*” is organized annually since 2000, in Timisoara. It has been started by the Institute for External Relations from Stuttgart (IFA), Germany, in collaboration with the “Nikolaus Lenau” Theoretical High School in Timisoara and the Democratic Forum of the Germans in Romania, and it benefits from financial support from the Ministry of Culture.

In all the cultural projects of the German minority, the language used was German, with **translations into Romanian or Hungarian where necessary** (in the cases of some counties where there is a Hungarian minority). Also, the presentations, press communications, local press and TV shows have been produced in Romanian and German, but also in Hungarian, where necessary.

It is to be also mentioned that the Romanian Government continued to offer support to the German community for different types of activities, including the functioning of the main organizations and cultural activities (The Democratic Forum of Germans from Romania and its branches). In 2013 the Government has allocated 6 527 850 lei to the German Democratic Forum and 6 726 060 lei (the equivalent of approx. 1, 5 million EUR) in 2014 –.

Several cultural projects proposed by the German Forum were also financed by the DIR through grants. In 2014 a project initiated by the German Forum of Resita has received a journalistic prize from the Union of the Writers in Romania.

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;

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 467 to provide, in the next periodical report, information on how they implement this provision for German, the following elements are relevant:

The Ministry of Culture cooperates annually with the Democratic Forum of the Germans from the Caras-Severin county and the German Association for the Culture and Education of Adults in Resita to organize and partially finance the “*German Literature Days in Resita*”, an ample project with international participation. The only major cultural manifestation of this kind, organized in Romania with international participation (guests from Romania, Germany or other central and south-western European), the event highlights the importance of the German language literary creations of this minority in Romania. At the 2013 event, German writers from five countries, German ethnics as well as Romanians, participated. On this occasion, a bilingual (Romanian and German) press communiqué was issued, press articles were published in the local media (Romanian, German), and the event was covered on local TV and radio stations in German and Romanian. The 2013 edition took place between the 26th and 29th of April 2013, in a series of locations in the Resita county: the Mountain Banat Museum, the Alexander Tietz Library, the “*Diaconovici-Tietz*” High School etc., the grand

opening being made in German and Romanian. During the events there was a photography exhibition entitled “*Coincidence*” by the Banat-born writer Ilse Hehn (Ulm, Germany) and a documentary exhibition “*From the life and writings of Hans Dama – between countries and literatures*”; a book exhibition by dr. Olivia Spiridon presenting her volume “*German writers in Romania after 1945. A prose anthology*”, published in 2012 at “*Curtea Veche*” Publishing House from Bucharest; the following lectures: “*Hans Kehrler zum 100. Geburtstag*” (“*Hans Kehrler, 28.02.1913 – 18.12.2009, la 100 de ani de la nastere*”) by dr. Annemarie Podlipny-Hehn (Timisoara), “*Adam Muller-Guttenbrunn und nie Rumanen*” by dr. Hans Dama (Vienna, Austria), “*Josef Puvak (13.07.1913) zum 100. Geburtstag*” by Edith Guip-Cobilanschi (Timisoara).

As part of the same project, at “Alexander Tietz” German Library a series of lectures and book exhibitions in German took place. Edith Guip-Cobilanschi from Timisoara held the lecture “*Die Wiener <<Kronen Zeitung>> auch in Temeswar zwischen 1890 und 1944 gelesen, und danach aus Horensagen*” (“*Vienna’s <<Kronen Zeitung>> newspaper lectured between 1890 and 1944 in Timisoara*”). Hans Dama (Vienna, Austria) presented the volume “*Wie die Jahre verletzen*” (“*How the years hurt*”) by Dagmar Dusin (Bamberg, Germany), published at the “*Johannis Reeg*” Publishing House in Bamberg, Germany in 2012. Another book exhibition was made by dr. Hans Dama (Vienna, Austria) presenting the volume “*Über drei Grenzen*” (“*Three frontiers*”) by Laurian Lodoaba (Lugoj), published at “*Pollischanky*” Publishing House in Vienna, Austria in 2012. Simiona Danila delivered a lecture entitled “*Nietzsche und die rumanische Kultur. Nietzsches vollstandige Werke in Rumanisch*” (“*Nietzsche and the Romanian culture. Nietzsche’s complete operas in Romanian*”).

At “Alexander Tietz” Germany Library literary lectures with authors from Maribor, Slovenia, were held, among which we wish to mention the 2013 anthology by Veronika Haring (Maribor, Slovenia): “*Vezi med ljudmi. 11. Zbornik kulturnega drustva nemsko govorecih zena MOSTOVI Zwischenmenschliche Bindungen; Sammelband des Kultuvereins Deutschsprachiger Frauen Brucken*” (...)

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

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 471 to submit information concerning audio-visual materials and publication of works in German, the following elements are of interest:

The National Library of Romania and also the regional and local libraries, especially those placed in regions with large German minorities, ensured a permanent acquisition of written volumes in German or works translated into German. The National Library of Romania carries an Exchange Program of international publications as part of its strategy regarding the acquisitions in order to develop the foreign book collections. In conformity with its policy concerning the international exchanges, the National Library of Romania receives annually 90 titles from similar institutions in Germany, such as die *Akademie der Wissenschaften und der Literatur, Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Göttingen, Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, Bundesarchiv, Kubon&Sagner Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, Deutsche Nationalbibliothek, Friedrich Schiller Universität Jena, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin, Institut für Archäologische Wissenschaften – Freiburg Universität, Internationale Jugendbibliothek, Martin Luther Universität zu Halle-Wittenberg, Redaktion Osteuropa Aachen, Rheinische Friedrich Wilhelms Universität Bonn, Universität Rostock,*

Sudostdeutsches Kulturwerk, Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Bibliothek, Sudost-Institut, Universität Bremen, Universität Hamburg, Universität- und Stadtbibliothek Köln, Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy, Staatsbibliothek in Berlin, Herzogin “Anna Amalia” Bibliothek, Württembergische Landesbibliothek. .

- h** *if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.*

As regards the Committee’s recommendation in paragraph 473 to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services with a view to developing appropriate administrative, technical or legal terminology in German, in particular in light of the application of the Charter, the Government would like to refer to the elements presented in the Part II, “Culture” chapter of the present report.

Paragraph 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.

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 474 to provide information on other relevant activities, the Government would like to refer to the elements presented in the Part II, “Culture” chapter of the present report.

Paragraph 3

The Parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect.

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 476 to provide information on how they implement this provision for German, the following elements are of interest:

Besides the book fairs in the German space – Frankfurt, Leipzig – the Ministry of Culture ensures each year the participation in the book fairs in Paris, Budapest, and Jerusalem, where German volumes or translations are presented. The Ministry of Culture has also facilitated the shows presented abroad by the German - speaking Theatres in Sibiu and Timisoara or of traditional artistic ensembles.

Also, according to the data provided by the German Democratic Forum in Romania, the most important cultural programs that promoted German language were the following:

- Summer camps in German language;
- literary evenings with German authors from Romania;
- *Teachers’ Day in the Banat*, symposium;
- *German Literature Days*;
- *German Theoretical High School Days*;
- Theatre Festival in German*;
- Dialects and literature written in German dialects of Germans in Romania*, symposium;
- Methods of teaching traditional German songs and dances for children*, seminar;
- Book editing, CD and DVD (Methods of teaching traditional German songs and dances, in kindergartens and secondary schools with tuition in German) „*Unsere kleinen Wurzeln* –

Tänze und Spiele für eine neue Generation“(Our little roots – dances and songs for a new generation);

-*German Teachers' Conference*, organized yearly by the members of the *Teachers of German Language Association* in Romania. The conference reunites professors who teach German as a foreign language as well as professors who teach the language as a mother tongue. The conference has a tradition of over 20 years and its popularity grew from year to year. For about 10 years it has been organized with the support of the Department for Interethnic Relations. Sibiu was the host city of the event, both in 2012 and in 2013, when the organizers were happy to have guests both from the country and abroad. Representatives of the German authorities consider this event as an educational model for Central and South-eastern Europe.

Concerning cultural facilities, centres focused on German language and civilization can be found in Timișoara, Cluj, Sibiu, Sighișoara, Brașov and Iași. The German Cultural Centres have established a strong connection with *Goethe Institut* – Bucharest, collaboration which resulted in numerous cultural events, organized in together with Romanian and German partners. The aforementioned centres connect with representatives of the German authorities, who work as cultural and community event managers and initiators.

It is important to mention that the German Cultural Centres include pedagogical consulting departments, which are meant to support teachers and professors in the process of organizing German classes, as well as personal development. The Centres offer complex libraries in German language. The books and the audio-video materials are mostly focused on German literature, politics, economics and education.

Bucharest hosts the Friedrich Schiller House of Culture – institution which is part of the network of public institutions, subordinated to the Municipality, through the General Directorate for Culture. *Friedrich Schiller House of Culture* is a public institution, with legal personality, property, budget and management. The institution managed to finance itself through carrying out a wide and diverse range of activities, primarily German courses and exams. The House of Culture is an institution open to both members of the German community and the general public, individuals who have interest in learning and using the German language.

The *Friedrich Schiller House* organizes cultural, educational and social activities and develops efficient connections with the Evangelical and Catholic community, with both professors and students from Goethe High School, in Bucharest and with students from the German Faculty at the University of Bucharest, with the German departments at the Polytechnic University and the Economic Studies Academy. *Schiller House* is a partner institution of Goethe Institut – Bucharest, therefore it is authorized to organize the annual *Goethe-Zertifikat Deutsch (B1)* exam, in February and July.

Schiller House offers a rich library, organized with the support of the German Embassy and Goethe Institute. The institution also organizes lecture evenings, movie presentations for children and young people. The events have the purpose of spreading knowledge about the cultural legacy of Germans in Romania, as well as the current accomplishments of the German community in Romania, as well as of those who, during the last decades, have moved to Germany.

Five issues of books published and edited by the German Democratic Forum in Romania and by their branches around the country, are sent to the Department for Interethnic Relations.

Alexander Tietz library, in Reșița, offers a broad collection of all the books edited in German, during 1990-2012.

The *Social-Human Research Institute of the Romanian Academy* in Sibiu is focused on the Saxon dialect, on the history and culture of the Transylvanian Saxons, as well as on the relationship between Saxons and the Romanian culture and history in this area. The institute has contributed to the elaboration of the *Dictionary of Saxon Dialects from Transylvania*, document which has been published in numerous editions. The Institute's yearbook is mostly focused on themes connected to the following fields: history-archaeology, sociology, history of literature and cultural/linguistics, literature/ culture/ art, ethnology, reviews and lecture notes.

The *Friedrich Teutsch* Culture Centre in Sibiu offers the possibility of researching historical documents in Transylvania, with a special accent on the Evangelical Church and on the Saxon population of Transylvania.

Article 13 – Economic and social life

Paragraph 1

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

- a to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of regional or minority languages in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations;*
- b to prohibit the insertion in internal regulations of companies and private documents of any clauses excluding or restricting the use of regional or minority languages, at least between users of the same language;*
- c to oppose practices designed to discourage the use of regional or minority languages in connection with economic or social activities;*

As to the Committee's points of clarification in paragraphs 477, 478 and 479, the Government would like to refer to the considerations made in Part II of the present report as regards "Economic and social life".

The Government would like to recall the fact that the legislation in force does not contain any provisions which might ban or limit the use of the German language, in documents related to either economic or social life.

Although the Democratic Forum of Germans in Romania has not communicated any data concerning the use of German language within Romanian-German, or Austrian-Romanian mixed companies, in practice there have been many cases when knowledge of the German language came as a great advantage for the employee. The **high demand of German speakers**, especially in the urban areas is an indicator of the fact that, within mixed companies, German is used or is partially used.

Paragraph 2

With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, in so far as the public authorities are competent, within the territory in which the regional or minority languages are used, and as far as this is reasonably possible:

- c to ensure that social care facilities such as hospitals, retirement homes and hostels offer the possibility of receiving and treating in their own language persons using a regional or minority language who are in need of care on grounds of ill-health, old age or for other reasons;
- d to ensure by appropriate means that safety instructions are also drawn up in regional or minority languages;
- e to arrange for information provided by the competent public authorities concerning the rights of consumers to be made available in regional or minority languages.

As to the Committee's points of clarification in paragraphs 481, 483 and 485, the Government would like to refer to the considerations made in Part II of the present report as regards "Economic and social life".

It is to be added that the German community has nursing homes, which offer treatment in German: *Dr. Carl Wolff* Retirement Home, in Sibiu and *Adam Müller - Guttenbrunn* House, in Timișoara. In addition, as it results from the information provided by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 21**, public services offering treatment and medical care, directly administered by the local public authorities in the counties of **Alba, Arad, Mures, Timis** offer services in German.

Article 14 – Cross-border exchanges

The Parties undertake:

- b for the benefit of regional or minority languages, to facilitate and/or promote co-operation across borders, in particular between regional or local authorities in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form.

As to the Committee's point of clarification in paragraph 488 regarding relevant co-operation between local and regional authorities, the Government would like to submit the following:

Juridical Framework:

1. *Agreement between the Government of Romania and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany on cultural cooperation (Bucharest, 16.05.1995), a document ratified by Law 62/1996, promulgated by Presidential Decree 251/07.02.1996;*
2. *February. Protocol of the XI Meeting of the Joint Commission for Cultural Cooperation (Bucharest, 03.25.2004);*
3. *Agreement between the Government of Romania and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany on cooperation in education (Bucharest, 03.15.1996), published in Official Gazette 309/1999;*
4. *Convention on sending German teachers in Romanian schools (Bonn, 10.04.1991);*
5. *Protocol of the sixteenth session of the Romanian-German Governmental Commission for issues of ethnic Germans in Romania (Sibiu, 03.04.2013);*
6. *Protocol between the Ministry of Education in Romania and the Prime Minister of the Land of North Rhine - Westphalia on supporting education centres for paediatric health care and rehabilitation pedagogy "Hilfe für Rumänien" of Timisoara (Timisoara, 09/29/1998), approved by Government 764/2001);*
7. *Joint Declaration on cooperation between the Ministry of Education in Romania and the Bavarian State Ministry for Science, Research and Art in education (Bucharest, 10.13.2000);*
8. *OMER 5262/09.24.2009 Trials wards / German special schools in Romania, completed "Diploma for General Access in German Higher Education" and "Baccalaureate"*
9. *Protocol of the eighth session of the Joint Governmental Commission Romania - Bavaria (Regensburg, 03.5-6.2012);*

10. *Protocol of the Sixth Session of the Joint Governmental Commission Romania - Baden-Württemberg (Donaueschingen, 06.7-8.2010).*
11. *Joint Declaration on enhanced cooperation in vocational training and cooperation between chambers of commerce and crafts (IHK and HWK) in the promotion of SMEs, Stuttgart, June 11, 2013*

The German Democratic Forum's external contacts are permanent and extremely rich. Regarding the cooperation with Germany, the closest links have been established with the Bavarian region, where most organizations belong to Saxons and Swabs originally from Romania.

Some of the events organized as a result of this effective cooperation are the following:

- *Days of the German speaking media*, 6th - 10th of June 2012, 24th -26th of May 2013, in Timișoara. The participants came from Hungary, Germany and Brazil.
- The International Conference on promoting German, as a minority language in Eastern European countries, 16th -18th of June 2013.

Bilateral cooperation in education

Student mobility: German nationals studying in Romania: BA - 302, MA - 9; internship - 10, PhD - 40.

Romanian lecturers:

The Federal Republic of Germany hosts a series of professorships or courses of Romanian language, exclusively taught in German.

Also, the Romanian Language Institute (ILR) posts lecturers annually at universities in Berlin, Heidelberg and Leipzig.

Romanian professorship at:	Re-opening year/ reinstated	Operating framework	Level of Study	Types of Classes	Number of Students 2010-2011	Lecturers
University of Regensburg	2011	The Institute for South-East European Studies	BA, MA and PhD	Optional	20	Alexandra Crăciun
University of Mainz	2012					

Note: Between 03.8-9.2013, at the Romanian Embassy in Berlin, a meeting by the Romanian language teachers and specialists in Romanian studies in Germany was held, an event organized in partnership with the Romanian Language Institute and the Romanian Cultural Institute.

Two high schools in Romania - "Goethe" German school in Bucharest and "Nikolaus Lenau" high school in Timișoara – have one "special section" for German. Students who attend these sections are able to complete their training with a recognized baccalaureate in both states.

Pre-university education in German exists in Alba, Arad, Bihor, Bistrita-Nasaud Brasov, Caras-Severin, Cluj, Hunedoara, Maramures, Mures, Satu-Mare, Sibiu, Timis counties and Bucharest.

Indicators on education in native German (school year 2012/13)

- ✓ 0,91% kindergarten children (5166),
- ✓ 0,83% students in primary education (7623),
- ✓ 0,55% students in secondary education (4501),
- ✓ 0,42 % students in high school (3494).

In total, 20,784 children and students studied in kindergartens and schools in 2012-2013, which represents 0.66% of the children and students of the country.

Other aspects of the collaboration:

- ✓ collaboration with DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service);
- ✓ collaboration between the German Research Society and the Romanian Academy;
- ✓ supporting university-level faculty exchanges;
- ✓ logistical support and study materials for the Romanian-German baccalaureate;
- ✓ publication of textbooks for teaching in German schools,
- ✓ exchange of information and documentation about the two educational systems, as well as conferences on topics of common interest;
- ✓ mediation and support by the **German Rectors' Conference of cross-border cooperation project between ESA Bucharest** (New Economic College of Giurgiu) and the University of Rousse (Bulgaria).

Note: 26-27 April 2012 in Bucharest, the Bologna Ministerial Conference was held as well as the Bologna Policy Forum. Germany participated with a delegation of 10 people: Helge Braun, Secretary of State, Marco Tullner, Secretary of State, Birger Hendriks, Deputy Secretary of State, Udo Michallik, general secretary, Birgit Gabler, Peter Greisler, Ulrich Schueller - Federal Ministry of Education and Research, Isabelle Sieh and Dieter Leuzen - German Rectors Conference, Julian Heller - student.

Beginning with the 2012-2013 school year, VET has a term of two years from the tenth grade, with a few elements that approach the **dual education of the German model**, namely:

- Practical training is done in the tenth grade - 60% of the total number of hours and in the eleventh - 75%;
- Practical training takes place mainly in the *economic field*, and is done under the contract concluded between the company, the school and the student / guardian;
- Companies participate in student selection, training, assessment and certification exam.

In higher education with teaching exclusively in German;

- ✓ There are 11 universities that include German in their course offerings;
- ✓ There are 5 departments of German attended by over 1000 students (offer includes master / graduate level courses);
- ✓ There are approx. 30 German professors who teach in Romanian universities;
- ✓ There are a significant number of Romanian students studying in Germany (based on inter-university agreements or otherwise).

In higher education, there are:

- Study tracks in German at:
 - ✓ University "Politehnica" of Bucharest (Electrical Engineer, Mechanical Engineer, Chemical Engineer, Economic Engineer)
 - ✓ "Babes - Bolyai" University of Cluj-Napoca (Mathematics - Computer Science, Chemistry and Chemical Engineer, Biology, Geology, Geography, Literature, Political Science, History, Philosophy, Psychology, Educational sciences)
 - ✓ Technical University of Cluj-Napoca (Mechanical Engineering),
 - ✓ University "Politehnica" Timisoara (Civil, Industrial Robots, Communication - Public Relations)
 - ✓ University College of Education in German, Sibiu
 - ✓ Academy of Economic Studies (Economics).
- Tracks in German at Postgraduate and Masters level at:

- ✓ "Babes - Bolyai" University of Cluj-Napoca,
- ✓ University "Lucian Blaga" of Sibiu,
- ✓ West University of Timisoara;
- ✓ Academy of Economic Studies in Bucharest.

Note: During 09.17-21.2012, a delegation of vice-rectors for international relations of the most important Romanian universities participated in an information visit to Germany at the invitation of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). The main theme discussed was a strategy of internationalization of universities. In this context, participants welcomed the potential establishment in Romania of a similar structure to the DAAD service, the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and MECTS will consider the possibility of creating such an institution.

A working group on the state of education in German was established within the Romanian-German Joint Governmental Commission on the issues of ethnic Germans in Romania. The first meeting took place in Sibiu, in September 2011, and was concluded with the signing of a protocol and the launch of a program **to strengthen education in German.**

The referral Program for teachers from German schools / sections with German language and sections teaching modern German as a modern language, developed by the Centre for Educational Activity Abroad (ZFA sending teachers, expert advice, teaching in Germany, Romania) is appreciated by the Romanian side, which, in recent years has sent annually over 30 teachers as part of this exchange program.

Continuous teacher Training is conducted by the Centre for German language training in Medias with educators – Romanian-German ethnics and German specialists - from: the Academy for teacher training and leadership in Dillingen (Bavaria), Sambachshof / Bad Königshofen (Bavaria), the Studienhaus Wiesneck, Baden Württemberg etc.

Examples of **projects for promotion of languages in education and direct cooperation between schools in Romania and schools in Germany:**

School partnerships and student visits:

The Brukenthal National College has several school partnership with Apian-Gymnasium in Ingolstadt, Edith-Stein-Gymnasium Munich, Johannes-Scharrer-Gymnasium in Nuremberg and the Bodensee boarding school in Schloss Gaienhofen.

The "Nikolaus Lenau" high school of Timisoara has a partnership with Wirsberg School Gymnasium for the eleventh grade, with Carl Spitzweg Realschule in Munich for the seventh grade, and with the Realschule Prien / Chiemsee for the tenth grade.

The entire "Nikolaus Lenau" high school of Timisoara runs a school partnership with the Max Planck Gymnasium in Böblingen. Students of grades XI or XII can participate in an annual study tour of Karlsruhe University of Technology and Economics. Partnership exists also with the association "Friends of Lenau" which involves provision of school furniture and other educational activities.

The "Johannes Honterus" high school in Brasov has a partnership of over 10 years with the Gymnasium Geretsried school involving classes IX to XI.

Projects at local level:

Projects, such as "Projekt-Weltethos", have been supported by the **Land Baden-Württemberg and the Centre for Educational Activity Abroad.**

The Danube Swabian Cultural Foundation, provides scholarships for students from partner schools involved and financially support a number of projects in collaboration with the **Centre for Continuing Education in German Language from Medias**, with a branch in Timisoara, such as theatre festival for students, seminars, etc.

Promotion of the German minority in Romania is also done by the Institute for Relations with Foreign Countries (IFA), which promotes the German language, the German press, and extracurricular activities among the German minority students by initiating and organizing projects.

Cultural exchanges

In the period 2011-2012, the Ministry of Culture financed the conservation and restoration of 29 monuments belonging to the German minority in Romania

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 488 to submit in the next periodical report more specific information about the promotion of the German language in the context of cross-border co-operation, the following **twinning agreements** have been concluded between Romanian and German municipalities:

In 2006 - Vlasinesti and Eigeltingen; Vlasinesti and Stockach; Vlasinesti and Koln; Sighisoara and Dinkelsbuhl; the local council of Bistrita-Nasaud and the county council of Kuffhauser.

In 2007 - the local council of Jimbolia and the Association *Heimatortsgemeinschaft*.

Hungarian

Article 8 – Education

General issues

Concerning the Hungarian language, Romania ratified the Articles 8.1.a.i, b.i, c.i and d.i. which oblige the signatory State to provide education in the minority language without requiring prior request from parents or students.

Hungarian language study is conducted based on the National Education Law, no. 1/2011, Article 45 and on the Methodology of the study of a language as a native language, of the study of the Romanian language and literature, of the study of the history and traditions of persons belonging to national minorities and of the study of music in the mother tongue - Articles 33, 34, 35 of the Order of the Ministry of Education no. 5671/2012). As the Government has presented in detail in the Part II "Education" chapter of the present report, classes with a number of pupils smaller than the minimum stipulated by law can be organized, according to the special procedure foreseen in Article 63 of the National Education law.

Paragraph 1

With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:

- a i to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or*

b i to make available primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or

c i to make available secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or

Pre-university education in Hungarian language is available in 17 counties: Alba, Arad, Bacau, Bistrița-Năsăud, Bihor, Brașov, Cluj, Caraș-Severin, Covasna, Harghita, Hunedoara, Maramureș, Mureș, Satu Mare, Salaj Sibiu, Timiș and in Bucharest. It has a stable network, consisting of kindergartens, primary schools, secondary schools, high schools and vocational schools. There is a total number of 2198 education units in this system, and a total number of 165,130 students studying in the 2013-2014 school year in Hungarian. In the preschool education there are 35,375 students, in the primary education there are 53,346 students, in the secondary education there are 75,474 students, in the technical preuniversity education there are 935 students. There are 3957 students studying in Hungarian in schools with teaching in Romanian and 15,978 teachers involved in this system. Schools with tuition in Hungarian are, in some cases, very old school units, with 300 or 400 years of tradition. Such examples are the Reformed College in Cluj, established in 1560, the „*Bolyai Farkas*” Reformed College in Târgu Mureș, established in 1557, the Catholic School in Odorheiu Secuiesc, established in 1593, the „*Bethlen Gábor*” National College, established in 1622 in Alba Iulia and relocated to Aiud, where it currently operates.

As to the Committee’s recommendations in paragraphs 494 and 496 to ensure continuity between the different levels of education reaching from pre-school to the secondary level, it is to be mentioned there is the possibility to study Hungarian and in Hungarian in all these levels of study.

d i to make available technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or

As to the Committee’s recommendation in paragraph 499 to ensure that there is a sufficient number of teachers able to teach subjects in Hungarian in technical and vocational education, it is to be mentioned that technical education in the school year 2012-2013 in Hungarian schools was organized in Alba, Arad, Bihor, Brașov, Cluj, Covasna, Hunedoara, Harghita, Mureș, Satu Mare and Salaj, with a higher number of students in Harghita, Covasna, Mureș, Satu Mare and Bihor. In the mentioned school year, the number of students attending vocational education in Hungarian was of 16 120. The number of Hungarian students in post-secondary education in the aforementioned school year was of 1 717.

In Covasna county for instance, there are two vocational high schools, seven technological and services profile high schools and three high schools focused on the technological profile. In Harghita county, there are eight technological high schools (which also include the agricultural profile), two vocational high schools and four high schools which offer several departments (services profile), with tuition in Hungarian.

As regards the Committee’s comment in paragraph 498 on the lack of teachers who teach subjects in Hungarian at technical and vocational level, it is to be noted that the problem of teachers who teach specialized technical education in Hungarian language is mainly due to the fact that most teachers in specialized technical fields prefer to work in the private field. Problems also persist as regards the editing of specialized textbooks which is required in a small number of copies because of the small number of students.

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

University education in Hungarian is provided in particular at the Babeș-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca/Kolozsvár for over 78 specialties (e.g. computer science, anthropology, political science, religion, environment, philosophy, geography, sociology). 1386 students were

enrolled in the 2013-2014 academic year (in the first year of study). Masters' courses in Hungarian are offered at the same university for 40 specialities and 447 students attended these courses in the 2013-2014 academic year.

University education in Hungarian is also provided by the University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Targu Mures (general medicine, paediatrics, dentistry, pharmacy etc. – 200 places), which also offers a Master's Degree in Hungarian (50 places), the Arts University in Targu Mures (50 BA and 25 MA students in 2013-2014), the Protestant Theology Institute in Cluj-Napoca (34 BA and 19 MA students in 2013-2014), "Sapientia" University in Cluj (694 BA and 122 MA students in 2013-2014), "Partium" University in Oradea (260 BA and 108 MA students in 2013-2014).

In addition, "Transilvania" University of Brasov and "Babes-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca" each have a section for the study of Hungarian (36 students enrolled in the first year of study in 2013-2014 in Braşov, and 497 students enrolled in the first year of study in 2013-2014 in Cluj).

f i to arrange for the provision of adult and continuing education courses which are taught mainly or wholly in the regional or minority languages; or

As regards the Committee's request in paragraph 502 to provide, in the next periodical report, information on how they implement this provision for Hungarian, the following elements are to be taken into account:

The state provides training courses in Hungarian, at Babeş-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca. The department in charge with further training of professors and teachers ensures training courses in Romanian, Hungarian and German. These courses are structured as follows:

- Pedagogical courses: Level 1, for first grade students from all the faculties within Babeş-Bolyai University.

- Pedagogical courses: Level 2, for graduates of Level 1.

- Psychological and Pedagogical courses (pedagogical module): Level 1, post-university training (according to the Order of the Minister of Education no. 5745/2012) for 2013-2014 academic year. For further training, courses for first and second grade teachers are provided.

Furthermore, training is provided by the *Teachers' Houses (Casele Corpului Didactic)*, which are part of the Ministry of National Education structure. For instance, The Teachers' House in Harghita County organizes a training course, taught in Hungarian, which is meant to draft the Hungarian language and literature curriculum. The event takes place at *Apáczai Csere János* Teachers' House.

The Teachers' House in Covasna County offers courses taught in Hungarian as well.

Further training courses are organized by Hungarian NGOs, or – occasionally – by Hungarian owned companies.

Improving the training of teachers of Hungarian language is thus achieved through activities organized by:

- the schools themselves;

- the teaching staff;

- universities (e.g. "Babeş Bolyai" University in Cluj-Napoca and in cities and towns where it has units, such as Targu Mures, Odorheiul Secuiesc, Târgu Secuiesc, Satu Mare, Gheorgheni, Sfântu Gheorghe, Miercurea Ciuc);

- "Babeş-Bolyai" University of Cluj-Napoca organized a special course for teaching Romanian as a non-native language entitled "*Improving teachers in secondary education, who teach Romanian*". The course for teachers in primary and secondary school covers both planning of and teaching of Romanian language and literature classes and evaluating student performance;
- the Hungarian Teachers Union of Romania held thematic training courses throughout the school year on various topics and projects (e.g. effective communication and conflict resolution, children with disabilities, dyslexia)
- the Hungarian Teachers Union of Romania organized training courses as part of the Summer Academy "Nyári Akadémia Bolyai" in partnership with prestigious universities in Romania and Hungary ; the 2013 edition is the 19th edition;
- the Hungarian Teachers Union of Romania organized lectures in Hungary (Szolnok, Debrecen, Budapest Szekszárd, Szombathely) and for the Hungarian minority in other countries, such as: Serbia (the Summer Academy and the Academy Szabadka Summer "Apáczai Nyári Akadémia "in Újvidék) and Ukraine (the Summer Academy" Kölcsey Nyári Akadémia "in Beregszász);
- Exams to obtain academic degrees in Hungarian for various specializations are organized by "Babeş-Bolyai" University.

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraphs 505 and 506 to provide, in the next periodical report, specific information on whether also non-speakers benefit from the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by Hungarian is to be mentioned that the subject "History and traditions of persons belonging to national minorities" is a discipline which is part of the core curriculum for the 6th and 7th grades. As regards particularly the Hungarian minority in Romania, a textbook approved by the Ministry of Education was published and is currently used to support these classes.

For Romanian students, there is an optional course entitled *History of national minorities*, designed with the support of the Department for Interethnic Relations, which also contributed to the editing of a textbook in 2008. The textbook contains information about all minorities living in Romania and is written in Romanian and was edited with the help of history teachers belonging to all minorities. This subject can be studied in upper secondary education, not only in the tenth grade, as indicated in the report from June 2012. In the 2012-2013 school year, 50 classes chose this course.

Students that do not speak a minority language can learn about the history and traditions of minorities on the general course of history, or, if they so wish, by opting for the above-mentioned course in the upper secondary education cycle.

It is also to be added that the Handbook on the History and Geography of Romania for grades 8th and 12th was translated into Hungarian, starting with the school year 2011-2012 and Hungarian students have the possibility to study these subjects in their mother tongue.

A progress to be noted is that according to the Education Law no, 1/2011, Romanian history is taught in Hungarian.

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

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 509 to provide the training of a number of teachers that is sufficient to meet the demand for education in Hungarian, it is to be

mentioned that teachers who teach in minority languages do not receive additional bonuses or incentives, as Romania practices a unified teacher salary system.

The following structures are set up to ensure the training of trainers in Hungarian:

- The Pedagogical Institute for educators and teachers in Hungarian
- The Pedagogical Institute for teachers and parish clerks Tg. Mureş
- The Pedagogical Institute for teachers and educators Tg. Mureş
- The Pedagogical Institute for teachers and educators Satu Mare
- The Pedagogical Institute for teachers and educators Tg. Secuiesc
- The Pedagogical Institute for teachers and educators Odorheiu Secuiesc
- The Pedagogical Institute for teachers and educators Oradea

i to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 510 to provide, in the next periodical report, information on how they implement this provision for Hungarian, it is to be mentioned that in the Ministry of Education and in the county school inspectorates that organize teaching in minority languages, there are inspectors in charge of monitoring of the educational process on the study of the minority language.

Authorities who organize and monitor the educational process are compelled to take into account the wishes of the representatives of persons belonging to national minorities in major decisions at institutional levels. Basically, persons belonging to national minorities, including the Hungarian, are entitled to be represented in the management boards of the school units, according to the number of classes in schools, and according to the number of teachers in the county school inspectorates.

At the School Inspectorate of Harghita, there are 27 specialized inspectors, 19 of them are Hungarians, but they don't only supervise Hungarian fields of study. At the School Inspectorate from Mureş county, there are three inspectors who supervise Hungarian language education: preschool education in Hungarian, primary school education in Hungarian fields of study: pre-school education in Hungarian, primary education and mathematics-informatics in Hungarian. The county's school inspectorates release on regular basis public reports (quarterly and annual reports) which can be found on the official websites. The sites also provide the annual management plans, as well as the annual inspection plans.

There are national committees and working groups that collaborate in developing the curriculum for the following subjects:

- Romanian Language and Literature for the persons belonging to the Hungarian minority
- Hungarian language and literature
- Music education
- The history and traditions of the persons belonging to Hungarian minority
- Roman Catholicism in Hungarian language
- Hungarian Reformed religion in Hungarian language
- Hungarian Unitarian religion in Hungarian language

Paragraph 2

With regard to education and 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 or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all the appropriate stages of education.

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 511 to provide, in the next periodical report, information on how they implement this provision for Hungarian, the following elements are to be taken into account:

As stated above, pre-university education in Hungarian language is available in 17 counties: Alba, Arad, Bacau, Bistrița-Năsăud, Bihor, Brașov, Cluj, Caraș-Severin, Covasna, Harghita, Hunedoara, Maramureș, Mureș, Satu Mare, Salaj Sibiu, Timiș and in Bucharest. It has a stable network, made up of kindergartens, primary schools, secondary schools, high schools and vocational schools.

There are 165,130 students learning in Hungarian (data provided by the Ministry of Education for the 2012-2013 school year) in 2198 schools that teach in Hungarian as a mother tongue. These are taught by 15,978 teachers.

The education for the Hungarian minority has two types of organization:

- Schools in Hungarian language;
- Schools with tuition in Romanian language or in another language, where the ethnic Hungarian students study Hungarian and Hungarian minority history as a subject.

In Bucharest, "Ady Endre" High School is an independent educational institution with tuition in Hungarian which has classes for kindergarten, primary, secondary and high school (259 students in total). In Bucharest there is a higher number of Hungarian speakers. In 2013 alone, the high school offered 28 places, available for pupils interested in studying in Hungarian.

In the villages inhabited by the *Csangos* in Bacău county, there were 309 students who studied in Hungarian (from pre-school to the 12th grade) in the 2012-2013 school year. 1033 students also learn their mother tongue in schools with tuition in Romanian.

In Caraș-Severin, there were two groups of preschool children (28 children) and a primary class (12 children), where students were taught Hungarian as a mother tongue in 2012.

Article 9 – Judicial authorities

The Government recalls that in paragraph 441 of the June 2012 report, the Committee of Experts required specific information (including statistics) in order to assess whether the provisions concerned in Article 9 are implemented in practice for the Hungarian language. The Government would like to point out that relevant statistics concerning the issue of authorisations for translators and interpreters, the use of translators and interpreters in court proceedings as well as specific examples have been provided for in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. Most of the **specific examples** provided for by the Ministry of Justice **refer to the use of the Hungarian language.**

Paragraph 1

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

- a in criminal proceedings:*

...

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 514 to provide, in the next periodical report, specific information about the practical implementation of this provision concerning Hungarian, the Government would like to refer to the elements presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. It is to be mentioned that, in 2011 and 2012,

the Ministry of Justice has issued authorisations for a number of **453 interpreters and translators of Hungarian**.

- a 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; and/or*

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 517 to clarify, in the next periodical report, whether the legal set-up allows in practice that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, may be produced in Hungarian, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. Evidence will in no case be considered inadmissible if produced in a minority language. An authorised translation may be required in some cases, while in others (see aforementioned chapter) the proceedings are done in the minority language (see the example of the first instance court of Odorheiu Secuiesc in the aforementioned chapter and also other examples provided for in the **Annex 4**).

- b in civil proceedings:*

...

- ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or*

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 519 to provide specific information about the practical implementation of this undertaking concerning Hungarian, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. As it clearly results from the information provided in this chapter, there are specific examples of courts in which the litigants use the Hungarian language (first instance court of Targu Secuiesc, first instance court of Odorheiu Secuiesc, district court of Bihor, etc.). Otherwise, the costs of translation/interpretation are incumbent on the party.

- b iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,*

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 521 to clarify, in the next periodical report, whether the legal set-up allows in practice that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, may be produced in Hungarian the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. Evidence will in no case be considered inadmissible if produced in a minority language. An authorised translation may be required in some cases, while in others (see aforementioned chapter) the proceedings are done in the minority language (see the example of the first instance court of Odorheiu Secuiesc in the aforementioned chapter).

- c in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:*

...

- ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or*

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 523 to provide, in the next periodical report, specific information about the practical implementation of this undertaking concerning Hungarian, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

- c* *iii* *to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,*
if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 525 to clarify, in the next periodical report, whether the legal set-up allows in practice that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, may be produced in Hungarian, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

Paragraph 2

The Parties undertake:

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 527 to provide, in the next periodical report, information about the implementation of this undertaking for Hungarian, it is to be mentioned that, as a general rule the validity of a legal document drawn up within the State is not denied only on account of the document being drafted in other language than Romanian. As the Government has stated above relating to producing evidence, an authorised translation might be required for court proceedings, while for Hungarian there is the possibility that court proceedings may be held in this language (see specific examples offered in the aforementioned chapter).

Paragraph 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.

Legal texts translated into Hungarian exist. Some translations are provided by state authorities. Such an example is the Official Gazette of Romania. It contains translated legislation which is published in the First Part of the Official Gazette. Due to the diversity and the large number of these documents and to the limited capacity of the specialized editorial staff, the documents are selectively translated and published. Some texts can be found online at: <http://www.monitoruloficial.ro/?lang=hu>

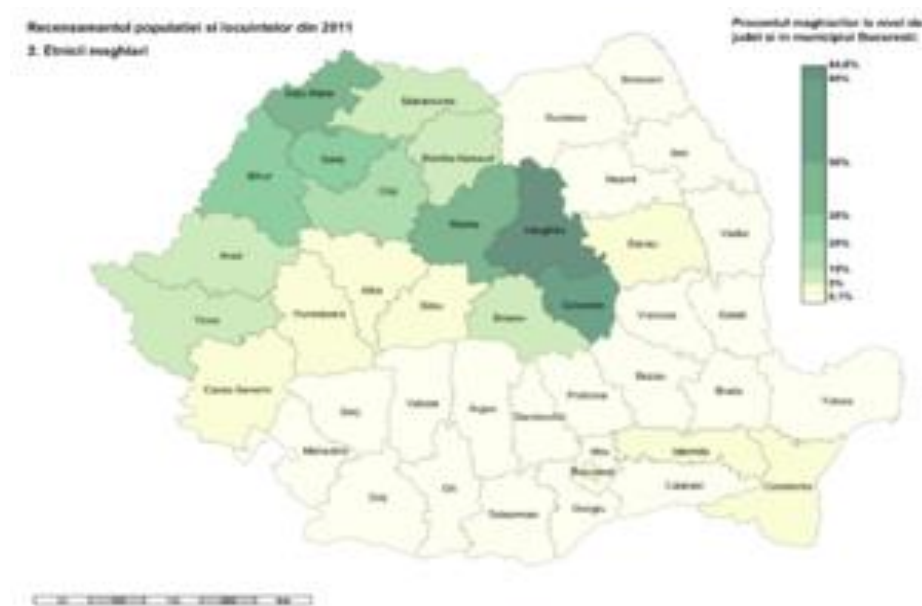
Article 10 – Administrative authorities and public services

According to the final data provided by the 2011 Census, from a total number of 20,121,641 citizens, 1,259,914 are Hungarian speakers and 1,227,623 are Hungarian ethnics. The map below shows the Hungarian minority distribution throughout the country. Compared to the 2002 Census, when 1,431,807 Hungarian ethnics were registered, the Census in 2011 reveals a decrease of approximately 14%. As the Government has already stated in the introductory chapter, there is a general tendency of decrease in Romania's stable population which is reflected by the decrease in the number of ethnics belonging to other ethnicities.

The chart below illustrates data concerning localities where the Hungarian population represents more than 20 % of the total population. In the rural area, the three counties

mentioned in the table below, include many localities where the number of Hungarians reaches or overcomes the 20% threshold. In counties such as Cluj, Bihor, Braşov, Sălaj, Sibiu etc. there are also localities in the same situation. More detailed information can be found in **Annex 5** (situation of the territorial-administrative units that display bilingual/multilingual place-name signs). It is to be noted that in some localities bilingual place-name signs are kept even though the share is below 20%

Green colour in the picture bellow shows the %age of the Hungarian population in Romania according to the 2011 census



County/city	Total population	Hungarian ethnics	%age
HARGHITA	310867	257707	
A. Municipalities and cities	132418	101894	
MIERCUREA CIUC Municipality	38966	30607	79%
GHEORGHENI Municipality	18377	15388	84%
TOPLITA Municipality	13929	3080	22%
ODORHEIU SECUIESC Municipality	34257	31665	92%
BAILE TUSNAD	1641	1463	89%
BALAN	6115	2092	34%
BORSEC	2585	1972	76%
CRISTURU SECUIESC	9650	8923	92%
VLAHITA	6898	6704	97%
COVASNA	210177	150468	

A. Municipalities and cities	100811	72041	
SFANTU GHEORGHE municipality	56006	41233	74%
TARGU SECUIESC municipality	18491	16292	88%
BARAOLT	8672	8129	94%
COVASNA	10114	6354	63%
MURES	550846	200858	
A. Municipalities and cities	276773	97701	43%
TARGU MURES municipality	134290	57532	25%
REGHIN municipality	33281	8252	17%
SIGHISOARA municipality	28102	4643	14%
TARNAVENI municipality	22075	3157	13%
IERNUT	8705	1112	23%
LUDUS	15328	3557	80%
MIERCUREA NIRAJULUI	5554	4452	74%
SANGEORGIU DE PADURE	5166	3808	22%
SARMASU	6942	1504	88%
SOVATA	10385	856	9104
UNGHENI	6945	5039	580

Paragraph 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 ...

- ii to ensure that such of their officers as are in contact with the public use the regional or minority languages in their relations with persons applying to them in these languages; or*
- iii to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications and receive a reply in these languages; or*
- iv to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications in these languages; or*
- v to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may validly submit a document in these languages;*

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 538 to ensure that the officers who are in contact with the public use the Hungarian language in their relations with persons applying to them in this language, the Government would like to refer to the very detailed information it has presented in the "Administrative authorities" section, Part II of the present report. As the Government has presented it, Hungarian speakers are well represented as several counties employ Hungarian speakers in the Public Relations Department and public deconcentrated services. Hungarian speakers are also employed within the territorial structures of the Inspectorate General for Emergency Situations. 233 Hungarian speakers are employed in the territorial units of the Romanian Gendarmerie and over 500 speakers are employed in the territorial units of the Romanian Border Police.

As the Government has shown in the "Administrative authorities" chapter of the present report, of the total number of **5454** public servants belonging to this **ethnic minority** are employed in the territorial offices of the local administration (mayor's offices), the majority

of which are **Hungarians (5094)**. All these offices issue documents in Hungarian, upon demand and, according to the information presented in **Annex 8, 3084** such documents have been issued in the Hungarian language from 2011 until October 2013.

In numerous localities where the number of Hungarians is high, the representatives of the authorities use Hungarian language when addressing them. For example, the website of the City Hall in, Sfântu Gheorghe, contains information about the institution's activity and the local council's activity, written both in Romanian and Hungarian. The following link, <http://www.sepsiszentgyorgyinfo.ro/index.php?page=170>, contains all the proceedings of the council meetings, in Hungarian. In the case of this municipality, from a total number of 21 municipal counsellors, four are speaking Romanian.

Concerning the local council of the City Hall in Târgu Mureș, from a total number of 22 members, 10 are Hungarians and even though the official website is conceived both in Romanian and Hungarian, public information is translated also into Hungarian (http://www.tirgumures.ro/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=52&Itemid=180&lang=hu).

According to the situation presented by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 14**, a total number of **9862 Hungarian speakers** are employed in the mayor's offices/ county councils and the specialized public services subordinated to the local/county council. Significant numbers are employed in the counties of Harghita, Satu Mare and Bihor.

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

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 541 to make available widely used administrative texts and forms for the population in Hungarian or in bilingual versions, the Government would like to refer to the very detailed information it has presented in the "Administrative authorities" section, Part II of the present report.

The forms available for the public have a bilingual structure, if edited by authorities in counties which are mostly inhabited by Hungarians. For an easy processing, because the system is structured in Romanian, the forms in Romanian are often used, but the informative materials are in Hungarian.

As it results from the information provided by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 20**, widely used text in forms in Hungarian are provided in localities in the counties of Arad, Bihor, Bistrita-Nasaud, Covasna, Harghita, Maramures, Mures, Satu-Mare, Salaj, Timis. In Arad and in the locality Osorhei in the county of Bihor, these are provided even if the share of ethnics is 17,87%.

The Institute for the Study of National Minority Issues from Cluj-Napoca, institution under the authority of the Romanian Government, conducted a program which aimed to offer, to all those interested, bilingual forms (both in Romanian and Hungarian), used to communicate with the departments of the local public administration, the decentralized public services under the subordination of the ministries, respectively the General Departments for Social Assistance and Child Care, under the Counties' Councils.

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

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 544 to allow the local branches of the State authorities to draft documents in Hungarian and to ensure an appropriate level of

implementation in practice, the Government would like to refer to the very detailed information it has presented in the “Administrative authorities” section, Part II of the present report.

As it results from the updated situation provided by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 19**, administrative authorities draft documents in Hungarian in the counties of Arad, Bihor, Brasov, Covasna, Harghita, Mures, mostly in localities in which the number of Hungarian ethnics is significant (over 20%).

Paragraph 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;*

As to the Committee’s recommendation in paragraph 547 to allow and/or encourage the possibility for users of Hungarian to submit oral or written applications in this language to local authorities, the Government would like to refer to the example of good-practice provided for in the “Administrative authorities” section, Part II chapter of the present report. Hungarian speakers may submit written or oral applications in Hungarian, according to the Public Local Administration Law (in the localities where Hungarians overcome the threshold of 20%).

According to the information provided by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 13**, Hungarian is used in relation with the speakers of this language in the mayor’s offices in the majority of counties. It is to be noted that in the counties of Arad, Alba, Bihor, Bistrita-Nasaud, Brasov, Caras-Severin, Cluj, Covasna, Harghita, Maramures, Mures, Sibiu, Timis, Hungarian is used in relation with the speakers of this language in localities in which the share of Hungarian ethnics is below 20%.

According to the information provided in **Annex 17**, there is the possibility to submit applications in Hungarian in the majority of counties (exceptions are the counties of Buzau, Caras, Constanta, Ialomita, Ilfov, Teleorman). In the counties of Alba, Arad, Bacau, Bihor, Bistrita-Nasaud, Brasov, Braila, Covasna, Harghita, Maramures, Mures, Sibiu, Timis, this possibility is ensured even for localities in which the share of ethnics is below 20%.

- 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;*

As to the Committee’s requests in paragraphs 549 and 552 to submit information on the publication of documents of the counties in Hungarian and, respectively, on the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in Hungarian, it is to be mentioned that the local authorities have the possibility of publishing official documents in Hungarian, according to the existing legal provisions, presented in the “Administrative authorities” chapter of the present report. As it was stated previously, the official website of Sfântu Gheorghe city hall provides, for those who are interested, the official report of the local council, or official decisions of the council, in Hungarian.

In addition, as it is presented in **Annex 18**, in the counties of Arad, Bihor, Bistrita-Nasaud, Bistrita-Nasaud, Brasov, Covasna, Harghita, Maramures, Timis, local/county councils publish their documents in Hungarian, even in localities in which the 20% share has not reached (such as Arad or the county council of Bihor).

e the use by regional authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;

f the use by local authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;

As to the Committee's requests in paragraphs 554-555 and 558 to submit additional information as to the implementation of these undertakings, it is to be noted that within some local councils, where there are numerous Hungarian Council's members, Hungarian is used in Council's meetings. According to the information presented by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 15**, Hungarian is **largely used** in the meetings of local assemblies. With the exception of the counties of Caras-Severin, Constanta, Ialomita, Mehedinti, Suceava, Tulcea, local council meetings are held in Hungarian in localities **in all the other counties shown in the table.**

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.

As to the Committee's request in paragraphs 561, to provide more information on the use of place-names in Hungarian in the next periodical report, the Government would like to refer to the details presented in **Annex 5**. As a general comment, this undertaking is respected and applied in practice. There are also cases of localities in which, even if the population has decreased fewer than 20% after the last census, the bilingual signs are still used.

Paragraph 3

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

- a to ensure that the regional or minority languages are used in the provision of the service; or*
- b to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request and receive a reply in these languages; or*
- c to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request in these languages.*

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 565, to provide information about the implementation of this undertaking for Hungarian, the Government would like to refer to the specific examples presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

Relevant information is provided in **Annex 14** (number of minority-language-speakers employed in the specialized services subordinated to the local/county councils- a total number of **5050** Hungarian-speaking employees, most of them in the counties of Bihor, Harghita, Satu Mare). Separate information was provided by the Association of Municipalities in **Annex 16** (www.amr.ro) as regards the municipalities of Cluj Napoca, Lugoj, Oradea, Pitesti, Reghin, Resita, Sebes. Hungarian is used in hospital services in Cluj and there are 57 employees speaking Hungarian in the public services subordinated to the local council of Oradea.

Paragraph 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:

...

- b recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required;*
- 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.*

As to the Committee's requests in paragraphs 567-569, to provide information regarding measures taken in accordance with this provision, the Government would like to refer to the specific examples presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. Relevant information is provided in **Annex 14**.

Paragraph 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.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 439 to submit relevant information in the next periodical report, it is to be mentioned that the adoption of family names in the regional or minority languages is permitted, according to the option of the applicant, as the Law no. 287/2009 on the Civil Code, Articles 82 to 85 sets no interdiction in this regard. Hungarian surnames may be used in official documents. No refusals from authorities concerning the compiling of civil status acts in Hungarian have been reported.

Article 11 – Media

Paragraph 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:*

...

- ii to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or*

The Public Radio and Television service does not provide radio stations, or TV channels, that broadcast **exclusively in Hungarian**. However, both the public radio and the public television broadcast shows in Hungarian. Nevertheless Radio Romania Târgu Mureş has separate frequencies for broadcasting in Romanian and Hungarian, from this point of view Radio Romania Târgu Mureş can be considered a **radio station completely broadcasting in Hungarian**.

Compared to the first periodical report, the airtime for both radio channels and national television, has increased.

The current situation of the **television and radio programmes** in Hungarian is as follows:

Television

For the Hungarian speakers in Romania, the Romanian Television, through its Hungarian editorial team, is constantly working to produce materials. In 2012 the editorial team has produced over 201 hours of material for TVR1, TVR2, TVR3, and TVR Cultural (till 15th of September 2012). Out of these 201 hours, 96 hours were transmission in premiere, 46 hours were re-broadcasted and 59 hours were selections.

The subjects of the programmes are:

Informative-Political: “Under Press”, “Weekly Memorial”, “Student life”. “Podium”, “Imaginary Coffee-Shop”, “The way, the truth, life”, “New editorials”;

Entertainment: Entertainment programmes, Folk dance shows, Folk music

Science and education: “Databank Cafe”, “Portraits”, “Ancient Churches”, “Ancient Crafts”, studio talk shows.

The TVR bilingual site: www3.tvr.ro/magyar contains information on editorial and programmes production, text, images and recording of broadcasts with Romanian subtitles ensure visibility of Hungarian language programmes, broadcasts on internet, and supported the transition to the new media content and to the associated Facebook page.

In 2012 this page registered over 180,000 visitors.

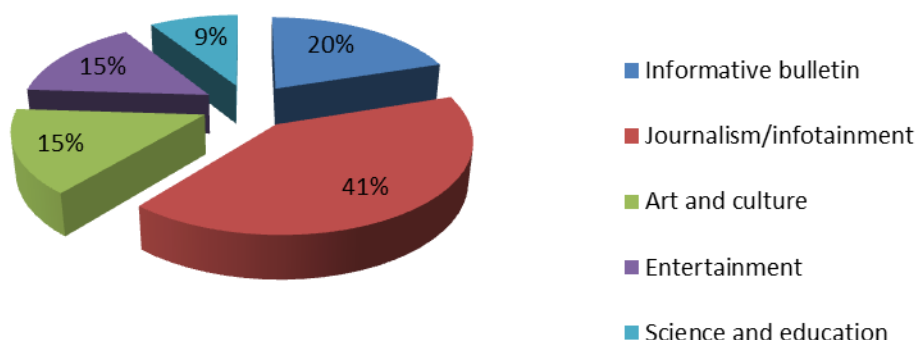
TV grid example 2012

Channel	Title	Day	Hour	Length	Observations
TVR 1	Hungarian on 1	Monday/ Tuesday	15.30-17.00/ 16.00-17.00	90 min /60 min	-
TVR 2	Hungarian on 2	Thursday	14.35-15.35	60 min	Together through Europe
TVR 3	Friday Hungarian	Friday	11.50-12.45	50 min	All Together
TVR Cultural	Hungarian - selections	Thursday	16.45-17.15	30 min./27 min.	Suspended on 15.09.2012

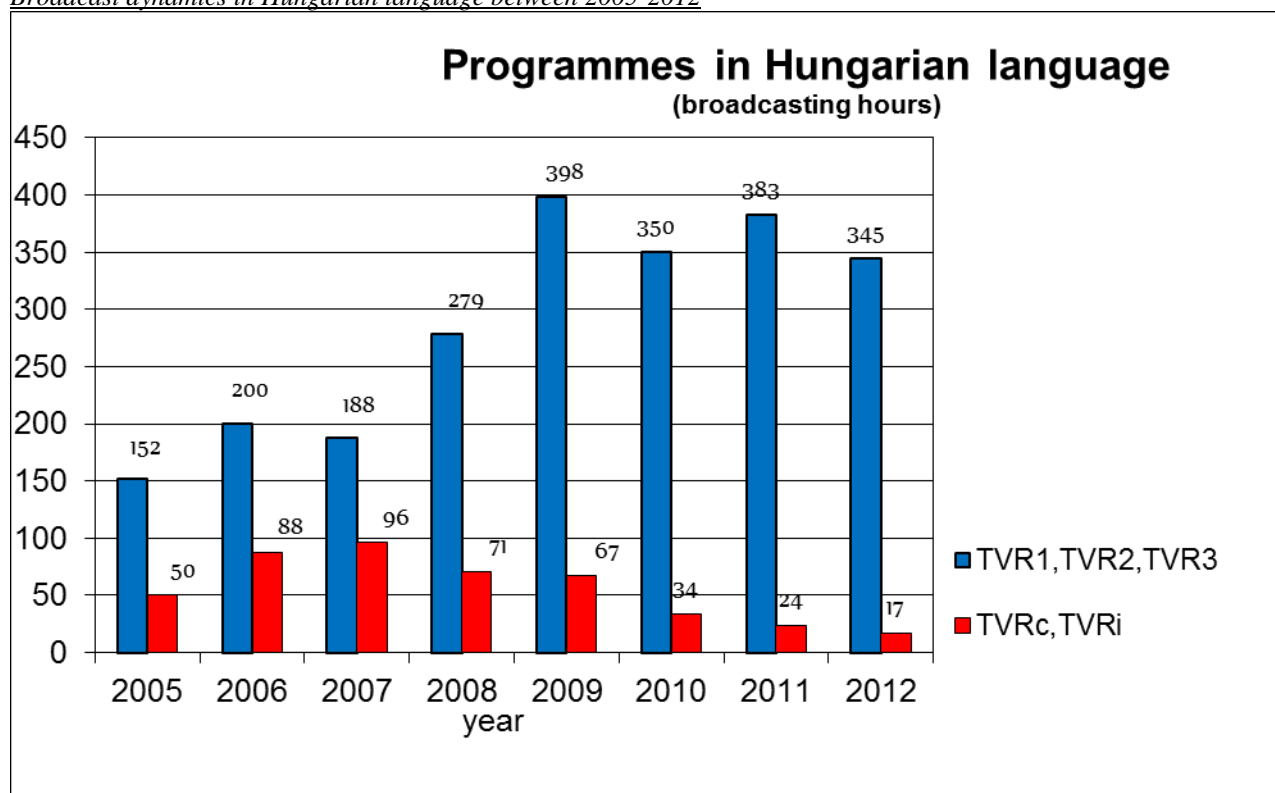
Hungarian language programmes broadcasted according to the EBU classification (by types, duration and rates)

Type of programmes	Annual duration (hours)	Share (%)
Informative bulletin	40	20
Journalism/infotainment	83	41
Art and culture	30	15
Entertainment	30	15
Science and education	18	9
TOTAL	201	100 %

Programmes in Hungarian language by genre



Broadcast dynamics in Hungarian language between 2005-2012



The TVR Cluj territorial studio broadcasts in Hungarian as follows:

“**Transylvanian observer**” (Erdelyi Figylo)- 60 minutes program, from Monday till Saturday broadcasted on TVR Cluj, between: 16.00-17.00, and re-broadcasted next day in the morning from 9.00-10.00.

Total : 360 minutes (6 hours) x 2 rebroadcasting / week “**All together**”- 48 minutes, broadcasted on Tuesday and Thursday on TVR3, between: 11.50-12.40, re-broadcasted during the night: 01.00- 01.50.

Total 96 minutes x 2 re-broadcasting/ week

TVR Targu Mures territorial studio also broadcasts in the Hungarian language, as presented in the general considerations on “Media” in Part II of the present report.

As to the Committee’s recommendation in paragraph 575 to set up a television channel in Hungarian, it is to be mentioned that such a possibility is currently being explored in cooperation with the representatives of the Hungarian minority.

http://www.dri.gov.ro/index.html?page=cultura_emisiuni - this link contains a chart, which mentions the **private radio and television stations**, broadcasting programs in Hungarian.

As regards **radio broadcasting** in Hungarian, the Government would like to refer to the details presented in Part II of the present report in the “Media” chapter.

d to encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audio-visual works in the regional or minority languages

As to the Committee’s recommendation in paragraph 581 to further facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audio-visual works in Hungarian, it is to be mentioned that the duration of Hungarian programmes broadcasted on TVR Cluj increased with 60 minutes weekly, in 2012, within the regional program. The institutions in charge with producing and distributing such materials are, mostly, the Hungarian minority NGOs. If funding from the state budget is requested, the grants are provided through the Department for Interethnic Relations and through the National Cultural Fund Management Department, institution within the Ministry of Culture.

e i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages; or

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 582 to provide information on how this provision is implemented for Hungarian, the following list contains publications (magazines, newspapers) in Hungarian. Some of these publications are partially supported by the state, but usually they appear on market basis (supply and demand).

Newspapers

Erdélyi Riport – weekly

Haromszék

Központ

Krónika

Népújság

Polgári Élet

Szabadság

Székely Hírmondó

Új Magyar Szó

Vásárhelyi Hírlap, Csíki Hírlap, Udvarhelyi Híradó

Online newspapers:

erdelyinaplo.ro (Erdélyi Napló)

hirkereso.ro (Hírkereső)

impulzus.ro

ujkelet.ro (Új Kelet)

transindex.ro

manna.ro
szekelyhon.ro (Székelyhon)

Many of these publications are daily newspapers, while others are weekly newspapers.

f i to cover the additional costs of those media which use regional or minority languages, wherever the law provides for financial assistance in general for the media; or

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 583 to provide information on how this provision is implemented for Hungarian, it is to be mentioned that the Department for Interethnic Relations financially supports two supplements, in Hungarian: *Ethons* edited in collaboration with the weekly *Erdélyi Riport*; *Minoritáti (Kisebbségben)*, edited in collaboration with the central Hungarian newspaper, *Új Magyar Szó*.

g to support the training of journalists and other staff for media using regional or minority languages.

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 585, to support the training of journalists and other staff for media using Hungarian, the Government would like to refer to the considerations made under Part II of the present report, in the "Media" section.

The Journalism Department of *Babeş-Bolyai* University is the only specialized institution in Romania, which provides graduation diplomas in the field (Hungarian programs established in 1993). Besides the mandatory curriculum, which contains theoretical and practical disciplines in audio-video and written press, as well as provides internship programs in specialized institutions, students also have the possibility of following a two-week internship program, organized in collaboration with the University of Communication and Business in Budapest. After graduation, students may choose to follow a Master's Program in Social and Cultural Communication, lectured in Hungarian. The Journalism Department also offers various training programs, co-financed through European funds.

Article 12 – Cultural activities and facilities

Paragraph 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;

The NGOs of the Hungarian community are involved in many programs that aim at promoting Hungarian language. Some of these programs are financially supported by the state budget. Some of these programs are the following:

- Szépen the Hungarian – Poetry competition;
- The Hungarian Days in Cluj Napoca;
- The Hungarian Days in Hunedoara County;
- The Hungarian Days in Sibiu County;
- The Hungarian Days in Arad;
- The Hungarian Cultural Days in Rodna - Bistrița Năsăud;
- The Hungarian Days in Aiud;

- The Hungarian Cultural Days in Partium;
- The Hungarian Cultural Days in Sălaj;
- The Hungarian Days in Banat;
- Traditional Dance and Music Camp in Ceauș;
- *Ars Hungarica* Festival (Sibiu);
- Days of the Hungarian Movie (Sibiu);
- Book fair, meetings reader-writer, book presentation for *Mentor* Publishing House in Tg. Mureș;
- Day of the Hungarian Culture in Mureș county;
- *Implom József* National spelling contest, for high school students, in Sfântu Gheorghe;
- Day of the Hungarian Poetry;
- In 2012, the *Communitas* Foundation, in partnership with the Department for Interethnic Relations, managed to publish a history manual, for the 12th grade, in Hungarian, as well as a Geographical Atlas for the 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th grade;
- *The Communitas* Foundation supports young artists by offering support in domains such as: literature, fine arts, photography, music, television, film, Theatre;
- *Who knows, wins* competition, quiz involving questions from arts and literature. Camps for protecting the mother tongue, traditional dance and songs camps and handicraft workshops.
- Support in maintaining the *Hungarian Houses and organizing cultural events* which aim to preserve the Hungarian culture, language and traditions, within an intercultural and interethnic environment;
- *The Communitas* Foundation supports cultural, literary, scientific, artistic, youth, children and domestic diaspora magazines, as well as the appearance of a few cultural articles;
- The Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania offers the Award for Transylvanian Hungarian Contemporary Culture;
- DRAMA – Contemporary Theatre Festival (Odorheiu Secuiesc);
- Interethnic Theatre Festival (Oradea)
- INTERFERENȚE – International Theatre Festival (Cluj-Napoca);
- TEST – Euro regional Theatre Festival (Timișoara);
- *Without Boundaries* – Multicultural Festival (Satu Mare);
- REFLEX – Theatre Festival (Sfântu Gheorghe);
- Puppetry Festival (Miercurea Ciuc);
- *Puck* International Puppetry and marionette Festival (Cluj-Napoca);
- *Petőfi Sándor* poetry recital competition (Ardud, Satu Mare county);
- Poetry recital competition (Vadu Crișului);
- *Only from the pure spring* poetry recital (Seini);
- Poetry competition (Geoagiu);
- *Kolozsvári Ünnepi Könyvhét* Cluj Napoca Book Festival;
- International Book Fair in Târgu Mureș;

- 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, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 592 to clarify aspects related to translations into Hungarian and to provide information about dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities, the following elements are to be presented:

During the 2010-2013 timeframe, the Hungarian cultural associations have received grants from the Ministry of Culture for the projects financed through the Cultural Priority Program and the Fund for Cultural Emergency Needs. Thus, through the Intercultural Compartment, 10 projects were undertaken in 2010, 17 projects in 2011 and 15 projects in 2012.

Of these projects, we mention the international dance camps from various regions of the country where traditional dance lessons took place, teaching classes for musical instruments, traditional songs and crafts, cultural lectures, lectures held by scientists, ethnographers and daily evening shows for the maintenance of the traditions in the region. The camps ensured the participants coming from all over the country and those from abroad the possibility to discover the Hungarian culture and to promote the specific region's traditions, thus contributing to the knowledge and respect of the cultural rights of the persons belonging to national minorities in Romania. Of these camps we mention "*The international dance camp from Ghimes*", region where a high number of *Csangos* live.

As an example we also mention the projects linked to Korosi Csoma Sandor, outstanding personality of the Hungarians. As a follow-up to the Alexander Csoma of Korosi project in 2012– Three Stations and as part of the UNESCO International Year of Cultural Rapprochement, a study volume dedicated to the life and works of the great scholar has been translated **from Hungarian into Romanian and English**. The "Korosi Csoma Sandor Days" project included the International Conference "Korosi Csoma Sandor and the spiritual life of the people", with the participation of many foreign anthropologists, archaeologists, historians and scientists .

The project "The International Traditional Dance and Music Camp from Rascruci" – is a project that reunites traditional Romanian, Hungarian and Roma dances and instrumental music from Transylvania. The project covers traditional dances and music lessons with the participation of some folk music bands and dancers, as well as performers of folklore from Palatca, Suatu, Fizesu Gherlii from Cluj county. The main objective of these camps was to meet the cultural needs for maintaining the folkloric traditions and the specific traditions of the area, as well as the deepening of the knowledge and the direct contact with and between ethnographers, folklore collectors, ethnologists, instructors and trainers of folklore.

The main organizer is the KALLOS ZOLTAN Foundation, founded by the folklorist Kallos Zoltan, and the partners "Teká" Cultural Foundation and the Primary School from Rascruci. The project is being implemented in Rascruci village, Bontina locality from the county of Cluj, where the band ensures the participants the available facilities. Kallos Zoltan's collectible artefacts are exhibited at the Ethnographic Centre and Museum established on the premises which he owned. A part of the art objects' inventory is included in an album-catalogue which contains folkloric texts of the Hungarians, *Csangos* and Romanians gathered and printed into Romanian and Hungarian. The inventory list is drawn up in Hungarian, Romanian, German and English languages. At the Ethnographic Museum and Centre also a valuable audio collection with recorded folkloric songs exists, such as: pentatonic Hungarian songs with Eastern influences, circle dances, youth and army dancing songs, Transylvanian songs.

During the 2010-2012 timeframe, the Ministry of Culture also awarded a grant for organizing the cultural project “**The International Dance Camp at Ghimes**” initiated by *the Csango Youths’ Association*, founded in November 2001. The local town hall granted a space in its building in order for the association to establish its headquarters. The main objectives of the association were: to promote the specific folklore of Ghimes, where the *Csangos* live, to organize and support the organization of cultural, religious manifestations and other events about the life of the young people. The main objective is the promotion of the folkloric dances camp, of traditional music and crafts. All the traditional music interpreters from Valea Ghimesului were invited to the camp. The participants had the opportunity to learn the traditional dances from the areas of Ghimes and Ciucu de Sus, to play traditional instruments used by the local assemblies (violin whistle, cobza), to get to know the local crafts (to spun, weave, cross-stitch, embroider, carve in wood, paint furniture), attend the held lectures. The programme was covered via the website www.gyimesitabor.nextra.ro, and also through *informational materials, posters* and the *local newspaper* in which a series of articles and photographs were published. The camp’s organizers also participated in the Folkloric Festival in Budapest, program organized early in April 2013, where the camp was promoted. The camp was also promoted through the “*Folk radio*” photo gallery throughout the year.

In 2013, the National Administration of the National Cultural Fund helped finance the following translations: Dánél Mónika - *Áttetsző keretek – az olvasás intimitása* (Transparent frames –the intimacy of reading); Kántor Lajos - *Párbeszéd nemzetről, nemzetköziségről* (Dialogue about nation and internationalism); A pásztor bölcsessége és egy népballada színeváltozásai (The pastor's wisdom and the changes of a traditional ballad); Bocz Borbála album (Host: József, Kopacz Attila).

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;

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 593, to clarify the aspects related to translations into Hungarian and to provide information about dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities, the following elements are to be presented:

Concerning subtitles, the institutions responsible with this aspect are the local televisions and studios, which may benefit of local co-financing, from the local authorities. As regards translation of works, there are cases in which the Abel or the Kriterion publishing houses have received funding through the National Administration of the National Cultural Fund, for translating Romanian literature into Hungarian.

Another means of aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling is the theatre performance in Hungarian and the following elements are relevant:

The Hungarian State Theatre in Cluj-Napoca is the oldest Hungarian Theatre company in Romania, established in 1792, at present being a member of the Theatres Union in Europe. At the moment, the institution is subordinated to the Ministry of Culture and financed by it. The theatre is also supported by the Romanian Cultural Institute and the Cluj Napoca City Hall and Local Council.

The purpose of the Hungarian State Theatre in Cluj is to create Theatre performances at the highest level, through the involvement of the best artists, directors, and writers in the country and abroad, in order to capitalize the cultural potential. The Theatre’s activity has a positive perception among specialists and Theatre critics in Romania and Europe, but equally among

spectators. It ensures a broad opening to the Hungarian culture and the involvement to the cultural diversity which characterizes the European culture.

Its programs are mainly **addressing the Hungarian community**, but **Romanian and English translations** are also provided. The theatre is involved in cultural exchanges, co-productions, partnerships, having as a goal the promotion of the Hungarian minority's culture.

During the last four years, over 26 premiers took place, along which older plays have been put on stage. Hungarian contemporary and classical Theatre performances have been presented. We should also mention the readings hosted by the new studio hall of the Theatre, with the purpose of attracting youth to the Theatre.

The theatre maintains a strong collaboration with a number of companies in Hungary: between 2010 and 2013, an annual exchange of performances with the Vigszinhaz Theatre in Budapest took place, which continues to the date.

The Hungarian State Theatre in Cluj-Napoca creates a common dialogue not only through the use of Hungarian, but through theatrical language, between the Hungarian minority in Romania and the Hungarians that live in the neighbouring countries. All the plays presented from the universal literature and Romanian literature **have been translated into Hungarian, and the shows presented in Hungarian have been subtitled into Romanian**, and, depending on the case (international festivals or tours) in English, French or other languages. At the initiative and with the support of the Hungarian State Theatre in Cluj, a number of plays have been translated. These translations are done by specialised literature translators and they can be put into play in other Theatres in the future. Examples of the last four years are the translations into Romanian of Zsigmond Moricz drama: "I cannot live without music", those of Andras Visky's plays "The alcoholics" and "I killed mama" or the text translation of the musical "The Wizard of Oz" signed by Frank L. Baum and Zalan Tibor. Thus, the Theatre creates the access for the Romanian public not only to performances, but also to Hungarian works of literature.

Between 2010 and 2013, the Theatre received 7 awards of the Theatrical Union of Romania, and presented a total of eight performances in the aforementioned period in Bucharest. The institution is present with content in four languages on the internet. The Theatre's web page (www.hunTheatre.ro) is translated into Romanian, English and French. It's most important function is to inform the public, but the page also works as a veritable online archive. All the Theatre's publications have a bilingual content (Romanian and Hungarian), some publications being also **translated into English and French** (the program's guide or the international festival's schedule).

Targu Mures National Theatre consists of two Companies, the Liviu Rebreanu Company and the Tompa Miklos Company, which address a mixed audience in an area where both Romanian and Hungarian speakers are present. The theatre promotes multiculturalism by using bilingual inscriptions (Romanian-Hungarian) in the Theatre, for the use of the technical, administrative and artistic personnel. In addition, all the shows by the Liviu Rebreanu Company are subtitled in Hungarian, as well as the Tompa Miklos Company plays which are translated into Romanian. With the same intercultural purpose and taking into consideration the area's linguistic specificities, all the new plays are subtitled in Romanian if it is a Hungarian play or in Hungarian if it is a Romanian play. Partners in this promo campaign have been, besides the cultural institutions in the area, Radio Romania Targu-Mures, other local radio and television channels, specialized websites, cultural promo publications (7 seri,

Zile si nopti). The campaign has also used promotion material such as posters, flyers, marketing emails. The theatre **published books in Hungarian** about the most important actors and directors of the Tompa Miklos Company.

There is a perfect collaboration between the two Companies regarding linguistic communication both in Hungarian and Romanian. In 2012, there were 16 premieres. The Targu Mures National Theatre's repertoire included 34 titles.

Answering to a number of invitations from international festivals, the Theatre participated in 2011 in the Hungarian Theatres' Festival in Kisvarda with a play entitled "Platonov", receiving the best female actress award. Also, with the "Journey to the centre of the world" the theatre participated in October 2011 to the International Children's Theatre Festival "100, 1.000, 1.000.000 stories" from Bucharest, organized by the "Ion Creanga" Theatre. In 2012, the Theatre has co-organized and hosted the 18th edition of the International Book Fair in Targu-Mures, together with the Hungarian Book Guild from Romania, and during the three days event, it hosted in its lobby 118 publishers on 34 stands which were visited by 8000 people. The Theatre's new website has been launched in September 2012, in the beginning of the season, and contains a bilingual programme. A newsletter system has also been set up through which the public is constantly informed about the programs.

The **Hungarian Opera in Cluj-Napoca** has as a main goal the promotion of the Hungarian national culture. Hungarian lyrical scene in Cluj has existed for 220 years, starting with 1792. According to its Rulebook, the Hungarian Opera in Cluj-Napoca has the task of presenting opera shows, operetta and ballet not only on its premises but also in tours around Transylvania, as well as promoting classical and modern music. The institution launches projects with a nationwide scope with the participation of artists invited from all over the country or abroad.

The activity of the Hungarian Opera in Cluj is primarily addressing the Hungarian minority of the Cluj city and county. The performances are in Hungarian and the institution has been a cultural symbol of the Hungarian community in the town and region.

Next we will analyse the program of the Hungarian Opera in Cluj during 2011-2012 and the way in which it serves its specific purpose of presenting musical operas in Hungarian and providing **access to them by subtitling or translation.**

The program of the Hungarian Opera in Cluj in 2011

Month	Project name	Number of performances	The project's language		Titled/ Translated
			Hungarian	Other	
JANUARY	Cabaret Show 2011	3	3		
	Rossini: The Barber from Sevilla	1		1	1
	Kalman: The Contess Marica	1	1	-	-
	Demeny: Ultimul sambure de	1	1	-	-

	visin				
	Kacsoh: Janos the brave	1	1	-	-
	Verdi: Attila	1	-	1	1
	Venczel- Moravetz: Ali Baba	1	1	-	-
	Puccini: Boema	4		1	1
	Szirmai: Magnatul Miska	1	1	-	-
Total for January		11	8	3	3
FEBRUARY					
	Verdi: Masked Bal	1		1	1
	Szirmai: Magnatul Miska	1	1	-	-
	Demeny: Ultimul sambure de visin	1	1	-	-
	Venczel- Moravetz: Ali Baba	1	1	-	-
	Mozart: The magic flute	1	1	-	-
	Gala concert "Together again"	1	1	-	-
Total for February		7	6	1	1
MARCH					
	Abraham: Bal at the Savoy	2	2	-	-
	Kalman: Countess Marica	1	1	-	-
	Erkel: Hunyadi Laszlo	2	2	-	-
	Huszka: Locotenent Maria	2	2	-	-
	Puccini: Boema	1		1	1
	Kacsoh: Janos vitez	1	1	-	-
	Verdi: Rigoletto	1		1	1
Total for March		10	8	2	2

April	Szirmai: Magnatul Miska	1	1	-	-
	Venczel- Moravetz: Ali Baba	1	1	-	-
	Puccini: Boema	1	-	1	1
	Puccini: Madama Butterfly	1	-	1	1
	Kalman: Contesa Marica	1	1	-	-
	Grieg: Peer Gynt	1	-	1	1
	Opera Gala	1	-	1	1
	Festiv Concert	1	1	-	-
Total for April		8	4	4	4
May	Donizetti: Lucia di Lammermoor	1	-	1	1
	Leoncavallo: Paiate	2	-	2	2
	Kalman: Silvia	2	2		
	Mozart: Der Schauspieldirek tor	1	-	1	1
	Venczel: Balet en blue	1	-	-	-
	Belrioz: Symphonie fantastique				
	Szirmai: Magnatul Miska	1	1	-	-
	Opera Gala	1	-	1	-
Total for May		8	3	5	5
June	Venczel: Balet en blue	1	-	-	-
	Berlioz: Symphonie fantastique				
	Puccini: Gianni Schicchi	1	1	-	-
	Vajda: Mario si vrajitorul	1	1	-	-
	Kalman: Contesa Marica	1	1	-	-
	Session closing concert	1		1	
Total for June		4	3	1	-

September	Kalman: Countess Marica	1	1	-	-
	Bartok: Castelul printului Barba Albastra	1	1	-	-
	Boer: Conte Bonneval	1	1	-	-
Total for September		3	3	-	-
October	Liszt Ferenc International Festival	13	1	1	-
	Sfinti si Demoni	1	1	-	-
	Kalman: Silva	1	1	-	-
Total for October		15	3	1	-
November	Bartok: Castelul printului Barba Albastra	1	1	-	-
	Puccini: Gianni Schicchi	1	1	-	-
	Vajda: Mario si vrajitorul	1	1	-	-
	Puccini: Boema	1		1	1
	Boer: Conte Bonneval	1	1	-	-
	Musical and operetta gala	1	1	-	-
	Verdi: Rigolletto	1		1	1
	Kalman: Silvia	1	1	-	-
	Donizetti: Lucia di Lammermoor	1		1	1
	Kacsoh: Janos vitez	1	1	-	-
	Szirmai: Magnatul Miska	1	1	-	-
	Leoncavallo: Paiate	1		1	1
Total for November		12	8	4	4
December	Concert: Balogh Ferenc	1	-	-	-
	Kalman: Printesa circului	2	2	-	-
	Concert: "Three	1		1	-

	divas”				
	Venczel-Moravetz: Ali Baba	1	1	-	-
	Cabaret 2012	1	1	-	-
Total for December		6	5	1	
Total for 2011		84	51	22	19

The program of the Hungarian opera in Cluj in 2012

Month	Project name	Number of representatives	The project’s language		Titled/ Translated
			Hungarian	Other	
January	Cabaret 2012	3	3	-	-
	Kalman: Printesa circului	2	2	-	-
	Csemiczky: Musicians of Brema	1	1	-	-
	Concert: “Va, pensiero...”	1	-	1	-
	Kacsoh: Janos vitez	1	1		-
	Donizetti: Lucia di Lammermoor	1	-	1	1
	Venczel-Moravetz: Ali Baba	1	1	-	-
Total for January		10	8	2	1
February	Operetta concert	1	1	-	-
	Opera workshop	1	-	1	-
	Verdi: Rigoletto	1	-	1	1
	Abraham: Bal at the Savoy	1	1	-	-
	Czemiczky: Musicians of Brema	1	1	-	-
	Mozart: The magic flute	1	1	-	-
	Cabaret 2012	1	1	-	-
	Venczel: Balet en blue	1	-	-	-
	Berlioz:				

	Symphonie fantastique				
	Venczel-Moravetz: Ali Baba	1	1	-	-
Total for February		10	6	2	1
March	Bizet: Carmen	1	-	1	1
	Kalman: Printesa circului	1	1	-	-
	Verdi: Bal mascat	1		1	1
	Kalman: Silvia	1	1	-	-
	Erkel: Bank ban	1	1	-	-
	Mozart: The magic flute	1	1	-	-
	Czemiczky: Musicians of Brema	1	1	-	-
Total for March		9	6	3	3
April	Kalman: Countess Marica	1	1	-	-
	Contemporary dances show	1	-	-	-
	Abraham: Bal at the Savoy	1	1	-	-
	Le sacre du printemps	1	-	-	-
	Umbrella – ballet show				
	Szigligeti: Liliomfi	1	1	-	-
	Kalman: Silvia	1	1	-	-
Total for April		6	4	-	-
May	Donizetti: Elixirul Dragostei	3		3	3
	Farkas: Dulapul Fermecat	1	1	-	-
	Queen balet	1	-	-	-
	Bartok: Castelul printului Barba Albastra	1	1	-	-
	Gala show	1	-	1	1

	Vegh Sandor gala concert	1	-	-	-
	Kalman: Countess Marica	1	1	-	-
Total for May		9	3	4	4
June					
	Piano Concert	1	-	-	-
	Kalman: Countess Marica	1	1		
Total for June		2	1		
September					
	Jazz concert	1	-	1	-
	Szomor: Bathory Erzsebet	3	3	-	-
	Violin concert	1	-	-	-
	Leoncavallo: Paiate	1	-	1	1
Total for September		6	3	2	2
October					
	The lyrical stories of the scene in Cluj	1	1	-	-
	Kacsoh: Janos vitez	1	1	-	-
	Verdi: Traviata	1		1	1
	Szomor: Bathory Erzsebet	1	1	-	-
	Le sacre du printemps	1	-	-	-
	Umbrella – balet show				
	Kalman: Silvia	1	1	-	-
	Donizetti: Elixirul dragostei	1	1	-	-
	Kalman: Printesa circului	1	1	-	-
Total for October		8	5	2	2
November					
	Kacsoh: Janos vitez	1	1	-	-
	Serata Orkeny	1	1	-	-
	Kalman:	1	1	-	-

	Countess Marica				
	Symphonic concert	1	-	-	-
	Kalman: Silvia	1	1	-	-
	The lyrical stories of the scene in Cluj	1	1	-	-
	Famous opera choruses	1	-	1	-
	The musical gala	1	1	-	-
Total for November		8	6	1	
December	Kodaly: Sezatoare la secui	1	1	-	-
	Kodaly concert gala	1	1	-	-
	Vasary Andre concert	1	1	-	-
	Kalman: Printesa circului	1	1	-	-
	Ceaikovski: Spargatorul de nuci	1	-	-	-
	New York-Paris-Cluj – cabaret 2012	1	1	-	-
Total for December		6	5	-	-
Total for 2012		74	47	16	13

As shown in the two tables, the Hungarian Opera in Cluj presented 84 shows in 2011 of which 51 (60.7%) were held in **Hungarian**, 22 (26.7%) in other foreign languages (Italian, French) and 19 (22.6%) of the shows were subtitled.

In 2012 the Hungarian Opera in Cluj presented 74 performances, of these 47 (63.5%) were performed in **Hungarian** and 16 (21.6%) in other foreign languages (Italian, French) and 13 (17.56%) were subtitled.

Also, the Administration of the National Cultural Fund subordinated to the Ministry of Culture, offers annually grants to public institutions, non-governmental organizations, judicial persons with private rights that undertake cultural activities.

During the financing sessions for cultural projects and editorials organized by the National Cultural Fund the following **Hungarian-language based** projects received funding:

2012

Hungarian language: Editorial projects – books,

No.	Applicant's name	Included titles	Amount allocated
1	Korunk Friendship Association	Gyani Gabor: Az urbanizacio tarsadalomtortenete (The social history of the urbanization process)	8.085,00
2	The Association for the Cultivation of the Hungarian Language in Transylvania	Regional Hungarian variations in Transylvania of the interpersonal contact, Erdely Judit	6.590,00
3	Pallas-Akademia Publishing	Ritualis szimbolumok a szekely-magyar jelkepkultura vilagabol (Ritual symbols of the expressive culture of the Hungarian Szekely), Balays Lajos	10.511,00
		Munchhausen baro kalandjai a melabus tornyok varosaban (The adventures of baron Munchausen in the Land of the Melancholic Towers), Bogdan Laszlo	7.273,00
4	The Hungarian Museum Society	Bajusz Istvan, Kovacs Kuruc Janos, Szalai Istvan: Szilagysagi magyarok, vol. II	7.837,00
		Bajusz Istvan, Kovacs Kuruc Janos, Szalai Istvan: Szilagysagi magyarok, vol. I	7.837,00
		Berki Timea: Magyar-roman kulturalis kapcsolatok a 19. Szazad feleben. Erelmisegtorteneti keret	7.610,00
		Nemeth Boglarka: Aspectual system and stativity on in Hungarian	7.179,00
5	SC Pro-Print Kiado SRL	Black March. The 1990 Targu Mures interethnic conflict, Novak Csaba Zoltan – Laszlo Marton	16.450,00

Hungarian language – magazines

No.	Applicant's name	Included titles	Amount allocated
1	Communitas Foundation	Magyar Kozoktatas – Hungarian Public Education	34.313,00
2	Korunk Friendship Association	Korunk	37.348,00
3	Our Transylvania Foundation	Our Transylvania magazine no 3/2012 and 4/2012	23.375,00

Cultural Publications

No.	Applicant's name	Included titles	Amount allocated
1	Minimum Party Group Association	Minimum Party 2009/2010	10.000,00

New Media

No.	Applicant's name	Included titles	Amount allocated
1	Live Music Association	Peninsula.ro 2012	23.745,00
2	Jakabffy Elemer Alapitvany Foundation	Digitalization for intercultural purposes II	31.835,00
3	The Association for Intercultural Development Harghita	The unique gate of Harghita county's cultural heritage	29.485,00

Cultural Projects

	Organization's name	Project title	Amount allocated
1	Pro Regio Siculorum	The electronic cultural register of Covasna county	52.875,00
2	Harghita County Cultural Centre	FREE Camp 2012 – International Imitative Arts Camp	28.254,00
3	BAZIS Association	BAZIS. Contemporary Art Platform. 2012	55.491,00
4	“Szigligeti” Cultural and Welfare Foundation	Last Hour – Promoting folklore in the region's school through folk informative-educational shows	40.745,00
5	“Varoterem Projekt” Association	Polaroid Stories	42.189,00
6	Media Index Association	Romania's Virtual Encyclopaedia – the development of Romanian and Hungarian descriptions of the national cultural patrimony	37.001,00
7	Living Transylvania Association	“The seven architectural wonders of Transylvania” – community project for the valorisation and promotion of the national cultural heritage	37.001,00
8	Targu Mures National Theatre	50 years of intercultural relations	55.581,00
9	Intercommunity Development Association Harghita	Generations School	36.517,00
10	Transylvania Trust Foundation	All to the castle! Heritage days for children and adults	55.821,00
11	Botorka Cultural Association	Botorka International Folk Dances Festival 2012	31.885,00
12	The Association for Folk Dances of the Hungarians in Romania	Art and choreography camp	16.800,00
13	AltArt for Alternative Art	Cultural Development: Urban Development	61.090,00

	Foundation		
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2013

Cultural Project – Hungarian Language

1	Kelemen Lajos Association for monuments protection	Continuing the project “Promoting heritage by building data bases of the built heritage in Transylvania”	32.120,00
2	Figura Association	The Colloquium of the National Minority’s Theatre – 10 th edition	47.999,00
3	“Varoterem Projekt” Association	We come for freedom	35.479,00
4	BAZIS Association	BAZIS – Contemporary Art Space. Cluj-Napoca and Berlin, 2013	63.000,00

It is to be also mentioned that the Romanian Government continued to offer support to the Hungarian community for different types of activities, including the functioning of the main organizations and cultural activities (The Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania and its branches). In 2013 the Government has allocated 18 011 900 lei to the Hungarian Union and 18 558 820 lei (the equivalent of approx. 4, 15 million EUR) in 2014.

The Hungarian community also benefitted from an important number of grants allocated by the Department for Interethnic Relations for different projects. In all these projects the language used was Hungarian. An image of the thematic and geographic representativity of these projects is given by annex 7.

g to encourage and/or facilitate the establishment of a responsible body with the collection, maintenance and presentation of a copy or the papers publishing in regional or minority languages

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 598 to submit information concerning audio-visual materials and publication of works in Hungarian in the next periodical report, the following elements are to be mentioned:

The Hungarian Theatre’s documentary archive of Cluj contains various documents, photos and commemorative objects regarding the life of the Hungarian State Theatre in Cluj, such as specialized papers and Theatre magazines, Theatre plays (around 7000 copies), prompter, technical directions and directing books. The oldest text dates back to the year 1817.

The archive contains 2500 specialized books, on fields such as Theatre history, general Theatre history, history of costumes, dramatic theory or scene technique, the oldest manuscript dating back to 1796. Along these, the library contains documentary folders about all the plays presented since the beginning of the 1990s, and posters and programs. The oldest poster dates back to 1822. The archive, and especially the photos and posters, are being digitized, so that in the future they would be accessible to the broader audience. In 2010, the Theatre published the anniversary volume entitled “*Two decades on the turn of the millennium – The Hungarian State Theatre in Cluj premiers 1990-2010*” which contains dates and photos from the documentary archive. Between 2010 and 2013 a number of exhibitions with materials from the Theatre’s archive were organised (the most recent inaugurated with the occasion of the *Interferences* festival in 2012, in the Theatre’s lobby).

The National Library of Romania has an Exchange Program of international publications as part of its strategy regarding the acquisitions in order to develop the foreign book collections. In conformity with its policy concerning the international exchanges, the National Library of Romania manifests its interest towards the book titles in original language for the majority of languages and translations, also including minority and/or regional languages. Thus, from the perspective of access to the book titles produced and published in Hungarian, the National Library of Romania carries out annually an exchange of around 20 books and publications with the Szechenyi National Library, the Central Hungarian Office for Statistics, the Economic and Technological University in Budapest, the Hungarian Academic Library for Sciences, the University of Debrecen, the University of Szeged.

In addition, there are a few libraries which collect and keep copies of work written and published in Hungarian such as:

- Teleki-Bolyai library;
- Bód Péter library of the county;
- Kájoni János library of the county;
- Heltai Gáspár library;
- Jakabffy Elemér library;
- Brukenthal Museum;
- Székely Museum of Ciuc;
- Székely National Museum;
- Haáz Rezső Museum (Odorheiu Secuiesc);

h if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 600 to inform about any measures taken to promote and finance translation and terminological research services with a view to developing appropriate administrative, technical or legal terminology in Hungarian, the Government, would like to refer to the elements presented in the Part II, "Culture" chapter of the present report. The institution dealing with linguistic and terminological research, in order to maintain and develop administrative, commercial, economic, social and technical terminology in Hungarian, is the *Attila T. Szabó* Language Institute.

Paragraph 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.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 601 to clarify in the next periodical report whether the activities supported regularly by the authorities which bring together all or some of the minorities have used the Hungarian language, the Government would like to refer to the activities presented in the Part II, "Culture" chapter of the present report. It is to be added that some of the projects and programs mentioned at paragraph 1, conducted by Hungarian NGOs, were carried out in areas where Hungarians are not compact communities (Timișoara, Arad, Oradea and Sibiu).

Paragraph 3

The Parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 602 to provide, in the next periodical report, information on how this provision is currently implemented for Hungarian, the following elements are to be taken into account:

The Hungarian State Theatre in Cluj-Napoca is also an ambassador of the theatrical movement from Romania in the world and is part in the most representative associations in the country. Becoming a member of the European Theatres Union (UTE) in 2008, the Hungarian State Theatre in Cluj-Napoca entered the European Theatres circuit, a change being noticeable in the number of artists exchanges, shows, participation to workshops and international Theatre festivals, thus continuously contributing to the encouragement of cooperation between Hungarian, Romanian and foreign artists.

In the period 2010-2013, the company participated to numerous international festivals such as: the Theatre Festival in Avignon (France), the MESS Theatre Festival in Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina), the 13th edition of the Latin-American Theatre Festival in Bogota (Columbia). The plays have been presented in several tours, among others in South Korea, France, Luxembourg, Poland and the Czech Republic. During this period the Theatre participated in several international projects, initiated or supported by the European Theatres Union. The international Theatre project "Emergency Entrance" was held in 2011, with the participation of five European Theatres – among these the Hungarian State Theatre in Cluj-Napoca – and one from Israel. Around 50 directors, actors, video artists and musicians from Athens, Palermo, Cluj, Tel Aviv, Prague and Graz performed shows about migration, as part of international workshops. One of these workshops was hosted by the Hungarian State Theatre in Cluj-Napoca, in September 2011, with the participation of the members of the companies Teatro Garibaldi from Palermo and of the National Theatre of Greece. In 2013, the Theatre participated in the project "ATELIER 200": during this project, workshops for the amateurs in a number of UTE member Theatres were organized. The workshop in Cluj took place in March 2012. The Theatre maintains a strong bond with a couple of companies from Hungary: between 2010 and 2013 an annual exchange of shows with the Vigszinhaz Theatre in Budapest took place and it will continue in the future. At the moment, the Theatre participates at a theatrical project initiated by the Szputnyik Shipping Company, also from Budapest.

The Targu-Mures National Theatre's play, "Banyavirag" (Mine Flowers) participated at the International Multicultural Festival "No Borders" in Satu Mare in 2012, after which followed the National Theatre Festival at Pecs (POSZT) in Hungary, where the play received the award for the best play. The play "Banyavirag" was also present during the *Temps D'Image* International Festival at Cluj. In November 2012, the Theatre participated at the International Festival ALTER-NATIVE, event with which it fosters a traditional collaboration.

Also, among the programs developed by the Romanian Cultural Institute abroad, some are dedicated to the promotion of the national minority culture from Romania. The links below illustrate a few examples:

<http://www.icr.ro/budapesta/evenimente-2/icr-budapesta-sarbatoreste-ziua-europeana-a-limbilor.html>
<http://www.icr.ro/budapesta/evenimente-2/spectacolul-familia-tot-in-regia-lui-victor-ioan-frunza-prezentat-la-budapesta-si-gyula-1.html>

Article 13 – Economic and social life

Paragraph 1

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

- a to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of regional or minority languages in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations;*
- b to prohibit the insertion in internal regulations of companies and private documents of any clauses excluding or restricting the use of regional or minority languages, at least between users of the same language;*
- c to oppose practices designed to discourage the use of regional or minority languages in connection with economic or social activities;*

As to the Committee's requests in paragraphs 603, 604, 605 the Government would like to refer to the considerations made in Part II of the present report in the "Economic and social life" section. It is to be added that, according to the information transmitted by the Hungarian Democratic Union, in regions where the Hungarian community has a significant demographic weight such as Covasna, Harghita, Mures, Salaj, Bihor, Satu Mare, Hungarian language use is widespread in private companies.

Paragraph 2

With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, in so far as the public authorities are competent, within the territory in which the regional or minority languages are used, and as far as this is reasonably possible:

- c to ensure that social care facilities such as hospitals, retirement homes and hostels offer the possibility of receiving and treating in their own language persons using a regional or minority language who are in need of care on grounds of ill-health, old age or for other reasons;*

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 606 to provide, in the next periodical report, information on how they implement this provision for Hungarian, it is to be mentioned that there are social assistance units, which provide contact in Hungarian, primarily in areas mostly inhabited by Hungarian ethnics. There are provisions and regulations of the local or regional counties, which provide equal opportunities, in this regard. Specific examples are offered in **Annex 16** for hospital services in Cluj-Napoca. In addition, as it results from the information provided by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 21**, public services offering treatment and medical care, directly administered by the local public authorities in the counties of Arad, Bihor, Bistrita-Nasaud, Cluj, Covasna, Harghita, Maramures, Mures, Satu-Mare, Salaj, Timis offer services in Hungarian.

- d to ensure by appropriate means that safety instructions are also drawn up in regional or minority languages;*

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 608 to provide, in the next periodical report, information on how this provision is implemented for Hungarian, the Government would like to submit that this undertaking is fulfilled and refers to the elements presented in Part II of the present report in the "Economic and social life" section. Safety instructions, drawn and displayed in Hungarian, mainly occur in regions mostly inhabited by Hungarians

- e to arrange for information provided by the competent public authorities concerning the rights of consumers to be made available in regional or minority languages.*

In regions where Hungarian speakers have a significant number, information about consumer rights is provided in Hungarian (e.g.: product labels, especially if the producers are local).

Article 14 – Cross-border exchanges

The Parties undertake:

- a to apply existing bilateral and multilateral agreements which bind them with the States in which the same language is used in identical 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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 612 regarding existing bilateral and multilateral agreements in view of fostering contacts between the users of the same language in the States concerned in the fields of culture, education, information, vocational training and permanent education, the Government wishes to submit the following elements:

Juridical Framework:

- ✓ *Agreement between the Romanian Government and the Government of the People's Republic of Hungary on cultural and scientific cooperation (Budapest, September 7, 1961);*
- ✓ *Convention between Romania and the Republic of Hungary on mutual recognition of diplomas, certificates of education and scientific degrees granted by accredited educational institutions in Romania and the Republic of Hungary (Bucharest, June 6, 1997);*
- ✓ *Understanding on cooperation between the Ministry of Education, Research and Youth of Romania and the Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republic of Hungary on cooperation in education 2007-2011 (Sibiu, 14 November 2007) - automatically extended until the signing of a new agreement.*
Note: In an exchange of verbal notes, the two sides confirmed the above extension of the understanding for one year (2011-2012).
Both sides have expressed willingness to sign a new inter Romanian-Hungarian cooperation agreement in education.
The Hungarian side has assumed transmission of the new document in the shortest time possible, which has not been carried out thus far.
- ✓ *Agreement between the Government of Romania and the Government of the Republic of Hungary regarding the functioning of the Romanian Cultural Institute in Budapest and the Cultural Centre of the Republic of Hungary in Bucharest, signed in Bucharest, on 20 October 2005.*

Scholarships, conferred on the basis of bilateral cooperation documents:

School Year	Scholarships awarded in Romania, to Hungarian citizens	Scholarships awarded in Hungary, to Romanian citizens
2010-2011	4	3
2011-2012	3	3
2012-2013	5	3

Summer courses:

In 2009-2012, for financial reasons the Ministry of Education did not offer scholarships for summer courses.

In the summer of 2013, the Romanian Ministry of Education resumed the co-funding of these courses.

Romanian language education in Hungary:

In accordance with the Governmental Decision (GD) 1006/3.09.2008, 100,000 EUR were allocated to providing teaching materials for Romanian education in the School of Bățania / Battonya, Republic of Hungary.

The funds were allocated from the budget, and the acquisition was conducted under Hungarian law.

Scholarships for ethnic Romanians:

Places were created with full or partial funding for young Romanians from Republic of Moldova, neighbouring countries (Hungary included), and Diaspora.

The situation of the Romanian ethnics from Hungary is as follows:

	Study level	Number of places	Financial situation
2010-2011	BA	2	No tax, with scholarship
		3	No tax, no scholarship
	MA	0	0
	Residency	0	0
	PhD	0	0
2011-2012	BA	2	No tax, with scholarship
		3	No tax, no scholarship
	MA	1	No tax, with scholarship
		1	No tax, with scholarship
	Residency	0	0
	PhD	0	0
2012-2013	BA	1	No tax, with scholarship
		5	No tax, without scholarship
	MA	2	No tax, with scholarship
		2	No tax, without scholarship
	PhD	0	0

Education in the Hungarian language in Romania

It is generally organized in Covasna and Harghita, and Arad, Bihor, Brasov, Cluj, Mures, Maramures, Satu Mare and Salaj counties at pre-university and university level.

Data concerning the education in Hungarian (2010):

PRESCHOOL EDUCATION		PRIMARY EDUCATION (CLASSES I-IV)				SECONDARY EDUCATION (CLASSES V - VIII)				HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION (CLASSES IX - XIII/XIII)			
NR OF KIDS	NO. OF TEACHER S/ DIDACTIC AL POSTS	A	B	C	NO. OF TEACHER S/ DIDACTIC AL POSTS	A	B	C	NO. OF TEACHER S/ DIDACTIC AL POSTS	A	B	C	NO. OF TEACHER S/ DIDACTIC AL POSTS
		NO. OF STUDEN TS	NO. OF STUDEN TS	NO. OF STUDEN TS		NO. OF STUDEN TS	NO. OF STUDEN TS	NO. OF STUDEN TS		NO. OF STUDEN TS	NO. OF STUDEN TS	NO. OF STUDEN TS	
34009	2166,5	38535	16	1977	2467,2	43096	35	2231	5715,81	36928	277	1958	3662

A = in native language;

B = partially in native language;

C = study of native language.

In Romania, there are teaching tracks in Hungarian language, both in public higher education at the "Babes-Bolyai" University of Cluj-Napoca, the University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Targu Mures, the "Szentgyörgyi István" Theatre University in Targu Mures, and private higher education at the "Partium" Christian University in Oradea and the "Sapientia" University in Cluj-Napoca.

There are four lectorates in Hungarian, one at the University of Bucharest, two at the "Babes-Bolyai" University of Cluj-Napoca, and one at the Theatre University in Targu-Mures. Starting with the academic year 2010/2011, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports approved positions for 3 lecturers / year for Hungarian at the University of Bucharest, the "Babes-Bolyai" University of Cluj-Napoca and the Theatre University in Targu Mures. For 2013-2014, two Hungarian lecturers were confirmed at the "Babes-Bolyai" University of Cluj-Napoca and the University of Arts in Targu Mures.

Cultural Exchanges

2006-2012 – Hungarian Film Festival in Bucharest;

May 2010 – 19 experts from Hungary took part in the Conference „Heritage of the Szekely County’s Landscape” organized by the Ministry of Culture in Cosmeni

In addition, it is to be mentioned that most of the localities from Harghita county have a „twin locality” from Hungary (and not only). Usually the Hungarians from Hungary are invited to participate to the events taking place in the twinning locality in Romania and vice versa. Many traditional dance ensembles, such as Hargita Nemzeti Székely Népi Együttes, Borsika Band, Koszo Szilveszter Band etc. are invited in Hungary to take part in cultural events, and ensembles from Hungary are invited to Romania.

As regards education, Hungarian speaking pupils from Romanian schools benefit of financial support from the Hungarian state, and Hungarian speaking students from universities in Romania can participate to a special program, offering courses in universities from Hungary and scholarships. Harghita county in Romania, Bács-Kiskun county in Hungary, Vienne county in France and Midtjylland in Denmark plan to develop an *European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation (GECT)*, having as objectives the development of rural regions, the promotion of local products, the use of renewable energy, the limiting of youth emigration and the organization of public health events.

b for the benefit of regional or minority languages, to facilitate and/or promote co-operation across borders, in particular between regional or local authorities in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 613 to submit, in the next periodical report, more specific information about the promotion of the Hungarian language in the context of cross-border co-operation, **twinning agreements** have been concluded between Romanian and Hungarian municipalities.

The total of **twinning agreements for the period 2006-2012 between Romanian and Hungarian local authorities is of over 140**, so that only examples will be offered for the years 2012, 2011 and 2010 as follows:

In 2012- villages of Brădești and Tóalmás; villages of Bretuc and Ellend; villages of Comandau and Tápíóság; the county council of Covasna and the Jasz-Nagykun Szolnok County Self-Governance; villages of Ernei and Nagypeterd; villages of Glodeni and Jászapáti; cities of Huedin and Derecske; cities of Livada and Lőrinci; villages of Livezeni and Kamond; village of Moftin and Csengerujfalu; villages of Ozun and Mezőkövesd; villages of Pănet and Gőnyü; villages of Siculeni and Ercsi;

In 2011- villages of Arcuș and Băta; city of Beiuș and village of Mehkerék; villages of Ciumani and Dany; the local council of the village of Lungasu de Jos and the local council of

Magyarhomorog; the local council of Miercurea-Ciuc and the city of Székesfehérvár; the county council of Mures and the county council of Jász-Nagykun-Szolnok; the local council of Zerind and the Kotegyan local council; the municipality of Arad and the city of Mezőhegyes; the cities of Turda and Kiskunfélegyháza;

In **2010** – the cities of Baraolt and Sarkad; the county of Mures and the city of Karcag;

In addition, the Ministry of Regional Development and Administration conducts one of the most important **border cooperation programs**. The 2007-2013 Hungarian-Romanian Border Cooperation Program continues to implement the past border programs, in the region (Interreg IIIA in Hungary and PHARE CBC in Romania). The programs have a common institutional structure and use common funds, while expanding and developing the results and experiences previously gained.

The road to strengthening the social and economic cohesion around the border of Hungary and Romania was opened on the 21st of December 2007, when the program was accepted by the EU Commission. 248 million Euros were available for the promotion of cross-border cooperation between 2007 and 2013, amount resulting of the EU contribution, through the European Fund for Regional Development and through the contribution of the two member states.

The main features of the new programming period (2014-2020) are:

- Territorial cooperation as a specific goal - increased visibility;
- Improved legal basis (specific clauses concerning cooperation, the principle of the Partner Leader Project, GECT, projects in the mirror and individual projects are not accepted);
- Focusing on the goals of the Lisbon and Gothenburg Treaty: greater emphasis on competitiveness and environmental issues;
- In some cases 85% co-financing from EU funds for all regions, plus 10-13% national co-financing - only 2-5% self-contribution;
- Joint financing: European financing (ERDF) and national financing;

The program offers a wide range of potential opportunities, through the two mentioned priorities.

-Improve the key conditions for sustainable development;

-Strengthen the social and economic cohesion in the border area.

The program allows public and organizations to apply for financing (state institutions, local public administrations, non-profit organizations, chambers of commerce, etc.).

Russian

Article 8 – Education

General issues

Concerning the Russian language, Romania ratified the Articles 8.1.a.i, b.i, c.i and d.i. which oblige the signatory State to provide education in the minority language without requiring prior request from parents or students.

Russian language study is conducted based on the National Education Law, no. 1/2011, Article 45 and on the Methodology of study of a language as a native language, of study of the Romanian language and literature, of study of the history and traditions of persons

belonging to national minorities and of the study of music in the mother tongue - Articles 33, 34, 35 of the Order of the Ministry of Education no. 5671/2012. The religion is also studied in Russian language. As the Government has presented in detail in the Part II “Education” chapter of the present report, study formations with a smaller number than the minimum provided by law can be organized, according to the special procedure foreseen in Article 63 of the National Education Law.

As the Government has presented in detail in the Part II “Education” chapter of the present report, classes with a number of students smaller than the minimum stipulated by law can be organized, according to the special procedure foreseen in Article 63 of the National Education Law.

Paragraph 1

With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:

- a*
 - i* to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or
 - ii* to make available a substantial part of pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or
 - iii* to apply one of the measures provided for under *i* and *ii* above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient; or

As to the Committee’s recommendation in paragraph 616 to take steps with a view to extending the offer of Russian-language pre-school education, it is to be noted that there are optional Russian courses at the kindergartens ”Arlechino” from Brăila (a kindergarten with extended programme), Sarichioi, Jurilovca, Slava Cercheză (Tulcea county) and Târgu Frumos (Brăila county).

The study of Russian language as a mother tongue is done starting with the preparatory kindergarten class, according to the schedule elaborated by the Ministry of National Education for ”*Communication in Russian native language (Lippovan Russians)*”.

(accessible online at http://programe.ise.ro/Portals/1/2013_CP_I_II/17_CLM_%20rusa_CP_II_OMEN.pdf)

- b* ...
 - iii* to provide, within primary education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or

Russian language is being studied as a mother tongue within primary education in 59 educational establishments from the following localities: Sarichioi, Jurilovca, Slava Rusă, Slava Cercheză, Carcaliu, Măcin, Babadag, Mahmudia, Tulcea, C.A. Rosetti, Mila 23, Sulina, Ghindărești – all in Tulcea county, Constanța, Brăila (in South – Eastern Romania) Suceava, Iași, and Botoșani (North – Eastern Romania).

As to the Committee’s recommendation in paragraph 618 to increase the number of Russian lessons per week, it is to be mentioned that the current curriculum includes 3-4 classes of Russian/week.

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

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 622 to take steps with a view to extending the offer of teaching in Russian, or teaching Russian as a subject, at technical and vocational education, it is to be mentioned that there were no requests for this type of education in Russian.

e ...

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

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 623 to provide, in the next periodical report, information about its implementation, it is to be mentioned that in higher education the study of Russian as a subject is conducted at the University of Bucharest, Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures - Department of Russian Philology and Applied Modern Languages, University "Dimitrie Cantemir" Bucharest, University of Craiova, Western University of Timișoara, University "Babes-Bolyai" of Cluj Napoca, University "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" of Iași.

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;*

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 624 to provide, in the next periodical report, information about its implementation, it is to be mentioned that in higher education, the study of Russian is conducted at the University of Bucharest, the Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures - Department of Russian Philology and Applied Modern Languages, the University "Dimitrie Cantemir" Bucharest, University of Craiova, the Western University of Timișoara, the University of Cluj, the University "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" Iași. In these universities, Master, PhD and Post-PhD studies in Russian are offered.

In addition, the Foreign Languages and Continuing Education Centre from within the *Alexandru Ioan Cuza* University of Iasi offers *general linguistic services or specialized courses* for the following languages: English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Norwegian, Arabic, Portuguese, Romanian, **Russian** etc., *training courses for language teachers and courses for upgrading communication skills*. The Centre is also collaborating with qualified native speakers. Language courses are generally structured each in a 30-hour module that lasts 8 weeks, with a 4-hour per week frequency. At the trainees' request, modules of a different length and frequency are also offered. Furthermore, The Teaching-Staff Resource Centre of Bucharest offers a *Russian language course for business*, addressed to both didactical and non-didactical staff.

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 628 to provide, in the next periodical report, additional information on how this provision is applied for the Russian language it is to be mentioned that the subject "*The history and traditions of persons belonging to national minorities*" is part of the core curriculum for the 6th and 7th grades.

For Romanian students, there is an optional course entitled *History of national minorities*, designed with the support of the Department for Interethnic Relations, which also contributed to the editing of a textbook in 2008. The textbook contains information about all minorities living in Romania and is written in Romanian and was edited with the help of history teachers belonging to all minorities. This subject can be studied in upper secondary education, not only in the tenth grade, as indicated in the report from June 2012. In the 2012-2013 school year, 50 classes chose this course.

For Russian as well as for all the other minority languages, this subject reflects the history and the traditions of the respective minority. The teaching is held in the minority language, an hour per week.

The Lipovan Russian Community has requested the extension of this subject to high-school level and the elaboration of proper textbooks also for the high-school level of study.

Students that do not speak a minority language can learn about the history and traditions of minorities on the general course of history, or, if they so wish, by opting for the abovementioned course in the upper secondary education cycle.

h

to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.

As to the Committee's request in paragraphs 634 and 635 to inform on the fulfillment of this commitment, it is to be mentioned that in the Ministry of Education and in the county school inspectorates that organize teaching in minority languages there are inspectors in charge of monitoring of the educational process on the study of the minority language. In Brăila county there is a school inspector for minorities also covering Russian. At the Local School Inspectorate of Iași there is a specialized inspector for English, German and Russian languages (as modern languages), and a specialized school inspector for minorities, who deals with Romani and Russian minorities.

Paragraph 2

With regard to education and 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 or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all the appropriate stages of education.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 635 to provide, in the next periodical report, information about the implementation of this undertaking, it is to be mentioned that there is no available data regarding the study of Russian as a mother tongue in areas in which this language is not traditionally used.

Article 9 – Judicial authorities

Paragraph 1

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

a in criminal proceedings:

...

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 637 to provide, in the next periodical report, specific information about the practical implementation of this provision concerning Russian, the Government would like to refer to the elements presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. It is to be mentioned that, in 2011 and 2012, the Ministry of Justice has issued authorisations for a number of **185** interpreters and translators of Russian.

- a* *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; and/or**

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 640 to clarify, in the next periodical report, whether the legal set-up allows in practice that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, may be produced in Russian, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. Evidence will in no case be considered inadmissible if produced in a minority language. An authorised translation may be required in some cases, while in others (see aforementioned chapter) the proceedings are done in the minority language (see the example of the first instance court of Odorheiu Secuiesc in the aforementioned chapter and also other examples provided for in the **Annex 4**). Also, as it clearly results from the table in **Annex 4**, in the period 2011-2012, interpreters of Russian were used in a number of **90** civil and criminal cases.

- b* **in civil proceedings:**

...

- ii* **to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or**

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 642 to provide, in the next periodical report, specific information about the practical implementation of this undertaking for Russian, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

- b* *iii* **to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,**

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 644 to clarify, in the next periodical report, whether the legal set-up allows in practice that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, may be produced in Russian, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. Evidence will in no case be considered inadmissible if produced in a minority language. An authorised translation may be required in some cases, while in others (see aforementioned chapter) the proceedings are done in the minority language (see the example of the first instance court of Odorheiu Secuiesc in the aforementioned chapter).

- c* **in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:**

...

- ii* **to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or**

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 646 to provide, in the next periodical report, specific information about the practical implementation of this undertaking concerning Russian, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

- c iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,
if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;*

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 648 to clarify, whether the legal set-up allows in practice that requests and evidence, whether written or oral may be produced in Russian, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

Paragraph 2

The Parties undertake:

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 650 to provide, in the next periodical report, information about the implementation of this undertaking, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. No cases were reported in which the validity of a document was denied because it was drafted in Russian.

Paragraph 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.

652. The Committee of Experts encourages the Romanian authorities to make available in Russian the most important national statutory texts and those relating particularly to users of this language, unless they are otherwise provided

This is an objective that Romania aims to implement in the next reporting period and eventual measures will be established in cooperation with the Department of Interethnic Relations and the Institute for the Study of Problems of National Minorities.

Article 10 – Administrative authorities and public services

The actual demographic situation of the Russian minority (geographical area, localities where the Russian population's percentage reaches or decreases below 20%, localities with a significant percent of Russian population) is given below:

Localities where a **significant share** of Lipovan Russian population exists, according to the data of the 2011 census, are the following:

<i>Ghindărești: 94,52%</i>	<i>Târgu Frumos: 8,02%</i>	<i>Focuri: 14,79%</i>
<i>Stolniceni-Prăjescu: 18,55%</i>	<i>Forăști: 11,25%</i>	<i>Mitocu-Dragomirnei: 7%</i>
<i>Mușenița: 19,61%</i>	<i>Sulina: 9,88%</i>	<i>Carcaliu: 84,16%</i>
<i>Crișan: 25,73%</i>	<i>Jurilovca: 37,28%</i>	<i>Mahmudia: 14,82%</i>
<i>Sarichioi: 39,75%</i>	<i>Slava Cercheză: 75,21%</i>	<i>C.A. Rosetti 27,25%</i>



After the 2011 census, the results show that 23,487 Lipovan Russians live in Romania, as opposed to the 2002 situation (as shown in the map above) where the Lipovan Russians were in a number of 35,791, but the geographical distribution area was maintained. This follows the general trend of decrease of Romania's population.

Also according to the 2011 census, for a thousand people to whom the Romanian language is the mother tongue, there is a person to whom Russian language is the mother tongue, 18,346 people being registered as having declared the Russian language as their mother tongue, as opposed to 29,242 people in 2002.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 653 to submit, in the next periodical report, a list of the localities where the Russian speakers live in numbers relevant for the purposes of Article 10, the Government would also like to refer to the elements presented in **Annex 5** (list of localities that display bilingual or multilingual place-names).

Paragraph 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 ...

- ii to ensure that such of their officers as are in contact with the public use the regional or minority languages in their relations with persons applying to them in these languages; or*
- iii to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications and receive a reply in these languages; or*
- iv to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications in these languages; or*
- v to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may validly submit a document in these languages;*

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 658 to provide more information on the use of Russian in local branches of the state administration, the Government would like to refer to the information presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report (**20 Russian** speakers employed in the territorial units of the Romanian Gendarmerie). A total number of **109 public servants belonging to the Russian ethnic minority** are employed in territorial offices of the local administration (mayor's offices) in the Tulcea, Constanța and Suceava Counties, according to the situation presented by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 8** of the present report.

According to the situation presented by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 14**, a total number of 63 **Russian speakers** are employed in the mayor's office/county councils and the specialized services subordinated to the local/county councils. Significant numbers are employed in the counties of Constanta (21 Russian speakers) and Tulcea (39 Russian speakers).

Paragraph 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;*

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 661 to allow and/or encourage the possibility for users of Russian to submit oral or written applications in this language to local authorities, the Government would like to refer to the considerations presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. According to the information provided by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 13**, Russian is used in the mayor's offices in the counties of Constanta (locality of Ghindaresti), Suceava (locality Musenita, although the share is below 20%) in relation with the speakers of these languages.

According to the information presented in **Annex 17**, there is the possibility to submit applications in Russian in the localities C.A. Rosetti, Jurilovca and Slava Cercheza in the county of Tulcea, in which the share of ethnics is over 20% and in the localities of Musenita and Manastirea Humorului in the county of Suceava, in which the share of ethnics is below 20%.

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

As to the Committee's encouragement in paragraph 63 to allow and/or encourage the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in Russian, it is to be mentioned that, from the information provided in **Annex 18**, it results that no such documents are published. It is to be added that the respective minority organisation (the Community of Lipovan Russians) communicated that there have also been no requests for the publishing of such documents, as in practice the members of this community are good users of Romanian.

- f the use by local authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;*

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 665 to allow and/or encourage the use by local authorities of Russian in debates in their assemblies, it is to be mentioned that, according to the information presented by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 15**, Russian is used in the local assembly meetings of Ghindaresti (Constanta county), C.A Rosetti and Slava Cercheza (county of Tulcea).

- 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.*

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 668 to provide more information on the use of place-names in Russian, the Government would like to refer to the details presented in **Annex 5**.

Paragraph 3

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

- a to ensure that the regional or minority languages are used in the provision of the service; or*
- b to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request and receive a reply in these languages; or*

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 671, to provide information about the implementation of this undertaking for Russian, the Government would like to refer to the specific examples presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. Relevant information is provided in **Annex 14**.

Paragraph 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:

...

- b recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required;*
- 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.*

As to the Committee's requests in paragraphs 672-673, to provide information regarding measures taken in accordance with this provision, the Government would like to refer to the specific examples presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. As it results from the information provided in **Annex 14**, there is Russian speaking staff within the local authorities.

Paragraph 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.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 674 to submit relevant information in the next periodical report, it is to be mentioned that the adoption of family names in the regional or minority languages is permitted, according to the option of the applicant, as the Law no. 287/2009 on the Civil Code, Articles 82 to 85 sets no interdiction in this regard. As for Russian, the family names are used in the Russian language, but in the official documents they are spelled using the Latin alphabet.

Article 11 – Media

Paragraph 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;*

As to the Committee's remarks in paragraphs 675-678 concerning the updated situation of the television and radio programs in Russian, the Government would like to refer to the information provided in Part II of the present report under the "Media" chapter which contains a detailed presentation of programs in minority languages.

With particular reference to the recommendation contained in paragraph 678 **to consider extending the duration of radio broadcasts in Russian**, the Government would like to submit that the Romanian Radio Broadcasting Society is currently considering such an extension, in cooperation with the representatives of the Russian minority.

b ...

- ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of radio programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;*

As the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 680 to facilitate the broadcasting of radio programmes in Russian on a regular basis, the Government would like to refer to the considerations presented in Part II of the present report, in the "Media" chapter which show that this undertaking has been fulfilled and regular programs in Russian are broadcasted.

As to the Committee's request in paragraphs 682,684,687 (concerning the Russian language) and 969,977 (on the Turkish language) we mention that channel TVR 3 broadcast the programme "All together", produced weekly by the Department for Minorities on Wednesdays, between 12.40-13.14 hours. The 34-minute programme is divided as follows: 6 minutes in Greek, 10 minutes in Russian and 9 minutes in Turkish with Romanian subtitles.

c ...

- ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of television programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;*

As the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 682 to facilitate the broadcasting of television programmes in Russian on a regular basis, the Government would like to refer to the considerations presented in Part II of the present report, in the "Media" chapter which shows that this undertaking has been fulfilled and regular programs in Russian are broadcasted.

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

As regards the Committee's questions in paragraph 684 concerning the Russian language the Government wishes to submit that channel TVR 3 broadcast the programme "All together", produced weekly, by the Minorities Department and broadcasted on Wednesdays, between 12.40-13.14 hours. The 34-minute programme is divided as follows: 6 minutes in Greek, 10 minutes in Russian and 9 minutes in Turkish with Romanian subtitled.

- e i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages; or*

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 686 to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in Russian, it is to be mentioned that the Lipovan Russian community of Romania publishes several publications, financially supported from the State budget. The most important is the bilingual monthly periodical (Romanian-Russian) *Daybreak (Zorile)*, edited since 1990 in Bucharest, currently with a 3000-copy print run. It is being disseminated in 30 villages in which the number of Lipovan Russians is considerable (Slava Rusă, Jurilovca, Periprava, Socolinți, Sarichioi, Carcaliu – Kamen', Ghindărești – Novinki etc.) and in 20 towns where there are also local Lipovan Russian communities (Bacău, Botoșani, Brașov, Brăila, București, Vaslui, Galați, Gura Humorului, Năvodari, Piatra Neamț, Rădăuți, Suceava, Timișoara, Târgu Neamț, Iași etc.). Another publication is the cultural bilingual monthly magazine (Romanian-Russian) *Kitej-Grad*, which has appeared in Iași since 1998. There are no daily papers or other publications that appear at a larger print run, as there is no request from the Lipovan Russian communities in this matter.

g to support the training of journalists and other staff for media using regional or minority languages.

As regards the Committee's point of clarification in paragraph 687 on training of journalists, the Government wishes to refer to the considerations presented in the "Media" chapter of Part II of the present report.

Paragraph 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.

As regards the Committee's point of clarification in paragraph 690, the Government wishes to refer to the considerations presented in the "Media" chapter of Part II of the present report.

Article 12 – Cultural activities and facilities

Paragraph 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;

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 692 to be informed in the next periodical report about the cultural activities and facilities that have been supported by Romanian authorities, the following elements are to be mentioned:

Between 2010 and 2011, the Ministry of Culture continued the collaboration with the Lipovan Russian Community for 5 projects, of which the *Russian poetry festival* is to be mentioned. The festival, structured around 3 modules (poetry interpretation, poetry writing, drama and theatre performance) gave the participants the opportunity to express themselves in their mother tongue through Russian, but also their own pieces of literature.

The Russian minority participates in the interethnic festivals, such as the *Proetnica Festival*, *Szejke* or the *Delta's Celebrations Festival*, where in 2013 the Lipovans Russian Community Ensemble from Sulina won the Festival's Trophy.

In 2013, the DIR financially supported several projects of the Lipovan Russian Community such as “*The importance of the Day of 9 May*”, the conference “*Let us know our traditions-cultural and interethnic living together in Dobrogea*” (10-12 August 2013), “*The Days of Russian Culture*” (25-27 October 2013), the participation in the *Songfest* event in May 2013 in Bucharest.

The Government of Romania continued to offer support to the Russian Lipovan community for cultural activities, through the Department for Interethnic Relations. In 2013, for example, the Community of the Russian - Lipovans has received a total budget of 4 557 000 lei, an important part of it being spent for the functioning of the Community and cultural activities. In 2014 the budget allocated to the Russian community was of 4 695 370 lei (more than 1 million EUR).

- 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, post-synchronisation 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;

As to the Committee’s requests in paragraphs 693 and 694 to submit information on the implementation of these undertakings, the following elements are of interest:

In 2011, “The Russian Film Days” were organized in Bucharest, Cluj-Napoca and Constanta. The event was part of the Russian Spiritual Cultural Days Festival in Romania. Actors and directors from Russia were invited, and the movies were subtitled in Romanian. “The Russian Film Days” event organized by the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation, the National Centre for Cinematography, with the support of the Embassy of the Russian Federation in Bucharest.

Between 2010 and 2013, the University of Bucharest and the Lipovan Russian Community in Romania organized, in partnership with the National Village Museum, *Kino – the Russian Film Festival*. Productions for children were also presented.

During the Gaudeamus Book Fair, roundtables on “The starover universe between past and future” and “The history of starover literature in short” were organized at the National Library of Romania, with the support of the Ministry of Culture.

Books by Lipovan Russian authors were published in Romanian and provided by the Lipovan Russian Community’s library (Ivan Evseev – “*Romanian Slavisms*”; Alexandra Fenoghen – “*Starovers - history, mythology, literature*”).

Funds for the publication of writings in national minority languages, if requested by the respective communities, are provided by the State through the Ministry of Culture – the Administration of National Cultural Fund and the Department for Interethnic Relations.

In November 2012, steps for opening a Romanian Cultural Institute in Moscow were initiated. Moreover, the Romanian Cultural Institute has a program for translating Romanian authors in various languages.

- d** to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities of various kinds make appropriate allowance for incorporating the knowledge and use of regional or minority languages and cultures in the undertakings which they initiate or for which they provide backing;
- e** to promote measures to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities have at their disposal staff who have a full command of the regional or minority language concerned, as well as of the language(s) of the rest of the population;

- f** *to encourage direct participation by representatives of the users of a given regional or minority language in providing facilities and planning cultural activities;*

As to the Committee's requests in paragraphs 695 to 697 to submit information on the implementation of these undertakings, the Government would like to refer to the considerations presented in the Part II, "Culture" chapter of the present report, as well as to the events supported by the DIR in partnership with the Lipovan Russian Community participated (**Annexes 6 and 7**).

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 698 to submit information concerning audio-visual materials and publication of works in Russian in the next periodical report, it is to be mentioned that the National Library of Romania holds copies of published papers in the minority languages, including those edited by the Romanian Russians. From the perspective of accessibility to book titles produced and published in Russian, the National Library of Romania undertakes annually an exchange of around 138 titles with the National Russian Library from Sankt Petersburg, the Moscow State Library and the State Library for Foreign Literature in Moscow.

In addition, at the „*Panait Cerna*” Local Library in Tulcea, writings in Russian or by Lipovan Russian community members are collected.

- h** *if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.*

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 700, to submit information on the implementation of this undertaking in the next periodical report, especially commenting on any need to develop necessary terminology in Russian the Government would like to refer to the considerations presented in the Part II, "Culture" chapter of the present report.

In addition, at the Department for Foreign Languages and Literatures of the State University of Bucharest, there are research centres specialized in terminological development such as: the Centre for the Study of Developing Language and Linguistic Communication and the Excellency Centre for Developing Cultural Identity.

A Russian Cultural Centre was established in 2009 at the Academy of Economic Studies in Bucharest, the result of a collaboration project between Romania and the Russian Federation. The Centre has a book and multimedia library, organizes cultural courses and events, collaborates with schools and institutions in Bucharest. Detailed information can be accessed at the following address <http://www.ase.ro/ccrus/> .

The multicultural *Babeş-Bolyai* University in Cluj-Napoca opened the second Russian Cultural Centre in Romania in 2011. Detailed information can be obtained at the following address: <http://news.ubbcluj.ro/tag/centrul-cultural-rus/> .

Paragraph 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.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 701 to provide information on other relevant activities, the Government would like to refer to the elements presented in the Part II, "Culture" chapter of the present report.

In addition, it is to be added that according to its competence, the DIR organizes, both in the country and abroad, various cultural events, through which the languages and traditions of the persons belonging to national minorities from Romania are being promoted. This kind of events take place with the occasion of the Minorities' Day, organized by the DIR in December and at which the representatives of embassies and international institutions in Bucharest and within the country are invited.

In June 2013, a Collaboration Programme in the Fields of Culture, Education, Media, Youth, Sports and Tourism was concluded between the Government of Romania and the Government of the Russian Federation. The Parties encourage participation in international book trade-fairs and in other similar events, collaboration between libraries (exchange of books, periodical publications and other informative materials), encourage direct contacts between the institutions, etc.

Paragraph 3

The Parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 702 to provide information on how they implement this provision for Russian, the Government would like to refer to the elements presented in the Part II, "Culture" chapter of the present report.

Article 13 – Economic and social life

Paragraph 1

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

- a to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of regional or minority languages in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations;*
- b to prohibit the insertion in internal regulations of companies and private documents of any clauses excluding or restricting the use of regional or minority languages, at least between users of the same language;*

As to the Committee's requests in paragraphs 703 and 704 the Government would like to refer to the considerations made in Part II of the present report in the "Economic and social life" section. Regarding the particular use of the Russian language, there have been no reports of companies restricting or prohibiting the use of Russian in their internal regulations and private documents.

Article 14 – Transfrontier exchanges

The Parties undertake:

- a to apply existing bilateral and multilateral agreements which bind them with the States in which the same language is used in identical 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;*

As to the Committee's point of clarification in paragraph 705 regarding existing bilateral and multilateral agreements in view of fostering contacts between the users of the same language in the States concerned in the fields of culture, education, information, vocational training and permanent education, the Government wishes to submit the following elements:

Juridical Framework:

1. *Agreement between the Government of Romania and the Government of the Russian Federation on cooperation in the fields of culture, education and science, signed in Moscow on 27 September 1993 in force;*

2. *Program of cooperation in culture, science and education between the Government of Romania and the Government of the Russian Federation for 2006-2009, signed in Brussels on December 4, 2006, expired on December 31, 2009.*

3. *Cooperation in the fields of culture, education, media, youth, sport and tourism between the Government and the Government of the Russian Federation for 2011-2014, ready for signing;*

4. *Protocol between the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of Romania and the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation on cooperation in the field of education for the years 2012-2017:*

- During the summer courses in 2008, Romania has awarded, exceptionally and unilaterally 13 scholarships and received 13 students;
- In 2010-2011, seven Russian citizens were studying at the BA level, while two were at Master's Degree.
- In the 2012-2013 academic year, two Russian citizens were enrolled in a Master's programme at the Academy of Economic Studies ,.

Note:

- On 25th of April 2012, in Bucharest, an *Inter-ministerial* Protocol was signed between Romania and the Russian Federation regarding education. In the intergovernmental program of cultural and scientific cooperation, each year, teachers receive refresher courses at the "A. S. Pushkin 'and State Pedagogical Institute "A. I. Herzen "in Moscow.
- In recent years, Lipovan students have participated in the Lipovan Russian International Olympiad of Russian organized in Moscow, where they were awarded gold and silver medals.
- Through the Lipovan Russian community in Romania, every year 5-7 teachers are invited at summer courses at the Pedagogical Institute in St. Petersburg.

Cultural exchanges

August-October 2011 – “The Days of Russian Spirituality in Romania”, organized at the National Village Museum “*Dimitrie Gusti*”, at the initiative of the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation and with the support of the Ministry of Culture of Romania

- b for the benefit of regional or minority languages, to facilitate and/or promote co-operation across borders, in particular between regional or local authorities in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form*

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 706 to submit information on the implementation of this undertaking in the next periodical report, it is to be mentioned that the following **twinning agreements** have been concluded between Romanian and Russian municipalities:

- In **2006**- Bucharest and Moscow; Constanta and Sankt Petersburg;
- In **2007**- Mioveni and Istra;

- county
- In **2010**- the city of Iasi and the Pskov Region; the city of Suceava and the Guvernia Tver.

Serbian

Article 8 – Education

General issues

On Serbian, Romania ratified the art. 8.1.a.ii, b.i and c.i which obliges signatory State to provide education in the minority language without requiring prior request from parents or students.

Serbian language study is conducted based on the National Education Law, no. 1/2011, Article 45 and on the Methodology of study of a language as a native language, of study of the Romanian language and literature, of study of the history and traditions of persons belonging to national minorities and of the study of music in the mother tongue - Articles 33, 34, 35 of the Order of the Ministry of Education no. 5671/2012. As the Government has presented in detail in the Part II “Education” chapter of the present report, classes with a number of students smaller than the minimum stipulated by law can be organized, according to the special procedure foreseen in Article 63 of the National Education Law.

Paragraph 1

With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:

a ...ii to make available a substantial part of pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or

Serbian is used in kindergartens in the Caras-Severin and Timis counties. In the 2013-2014 school year, 185 children were enrolled in these kindergartens and studied in Serbian as a mother tongue.

b i to make available primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages;

As regards the Committee’s recommendation in paragraph 711 to promote, in co-operation with the representatives of the Serbian speakers, a shift from mainly teaching Serbian as a subject to Serbian-medium education at primary level, it is to be mentioned that primary teaching in Serbian is conducted in Arad (Felnac), Caras-Severin (Belobresca) and Timis (Timisoara).

c i to make available secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or

As to the Committee’s recommendation in paragraph 713 to promote a shift from mainly teaching Serbian as a subject to Serbian-medium education at secondary level, it is to be mentioned that secondary education with tuition in Serbian is conducted in Caraş Severin (Belobreşca) and Timiş (Timișoara). In Timișoara there is the Dositei Obradovici High School teaching in Serbian, which includes all levels: primary and secondary. The county school inspectorates mentioned above have not been seized with organizing vocational or technical education with tuition in Serbian.

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 714 to provide, in the next periodical report, information about the implementation of this undertaking, it is to be mentioned that no such requests for this type of education have been submitted. According to the information provided by the Serbian Union of Romania, there are life-long learning programs in Serbian conducted in the counties of Caras-Severin and Arad.

e

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

Serbian can be studied at the University of Bucharest (Serbian Language Department) and at the Western University of Timișoara (Serbian-Croatian Languages Section) -16 students enrolled in the 2013-2014 school year in the first year of study.

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 720 to provide, in the next periodical report, specific information on whether also non-speakers benefit from the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the Serbian language, it is to be mentioned that the subject "History and traditions of persons belonging to national minorities", with tuition in minority language, is part of the core curriculum for the 6th and 7th grades.

For Romanian students, there is an optional course entitled *History of national minorities*, designed with the support of the Department for Interethnic Relations, which also contributed to the editing of a textbook in 2008. The textbook contains information about all minorities living in Romania and is written in Romanian and was edited with the help of history teachers belonging to all minorities. This subject can be studied in upper secondary education, not only in the tenth grade, as indicated in the report from June 2012. In the 2012-2013 school year, 50 classes chose this course.

school year

Students that do not speak a minority language can learn about the history and traditions of minorities or the general course of history, or, if they so wish, by opting for the abovementioned course in the upper secondary education cycle.

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 722 to provide, in the next periodical report, specific information on how they organise the basic and further training of teachers who are qualified to teach Serbian as a subject as well as to teach other subjects in Serbian, it is to be mentioned that basic training of teachers is done in the University of Bucharest and the Western University of Timisoara, in the Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures, where there are Serbian language and literature departments. Teachers who work at pre-school and primary school level (teaching in Serbian) studied in Serbia and their university and educational qualifications were recognised as equivalent by the National Centre for Equivalence. Regarding the continuous training of teachers, this is achieved in the activities organized by the school inspectorates or by training centres in Serbian.

- i to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.*

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 725 to provide additional information in the next periodical report, it is to be mentioned that within the school inspectorate of Timis there is an inspector for the Serbian language, in charge of monitoring the teaching process of Serbian as a mother tongue or as a foreign language. Also, the inspectorates of Arad and Caras Severin have one inspector, responsible for the Serbian language teaching process.

Article 9 – Judicial authorities

Paragraph 1

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

- a in criminal proceedings:*

...

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 727 to provide, in the next periodical report, specific information about the practical implementation of this provision concerning Serbian, the Government would like to refer to the elements presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. It is to be mentioned that, in 2011 and 2012, the Ministry of Justice has issued authorisations for a number of **22** interpreters and translators of Serbian.

- a 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; and/or*

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 729 to clarify, in the next periodical report, whether the legal set-up allows in practice that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, may be produced in Serbian, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. Evidence will in no case be considered inadmissible if produced in a minority language. An authorised translation may be required in some cases, while in others (see aforementioned chapter) the proceedings are done in the minority language (see the example of the first instance court of Odorheiu Secuiesc in the aforementioned chapter and also other examples provided for in the **Annex 4**).

- b in civil proceedings:*

...

- ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or*

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 732 to provide, in the next periodical report, specific information about the practical implementation of this undertaking for Serbian, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

- b iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,*

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 734 to clarify, in the next periodical report, whether the legal set-up allows in practice that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, may be produced in Serbian, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. Evidence will in no case be considered inadmissible if produced in a minority language. An authorised translation may be required in some cases, while in others (see aforementioned chapter) the proceedings are done in the minority language (see the example of the first instance court of Odorheiu Secuiesc in the aforementioned chapter).

c in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:

...

ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 736 to provide, in the next periodical report, specific information about the practical implementation of this undertaking concerning Serbian, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

c iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 738 to clarify, whether the legal set-up allows in practice that requests and evidence, whether written or oral may be produced in Serbian, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

Paragraph 2

The Parties undertake:

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 741 to provide, in the next periodical report, information about the implementation of this undertaking, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. There were no reports of cases in which the validity of a document was denied only because they were drafted in Serbian.

Paragraph 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.

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 743 to make available in Serbian the most important national statutory texts and those relating particularly to users of this

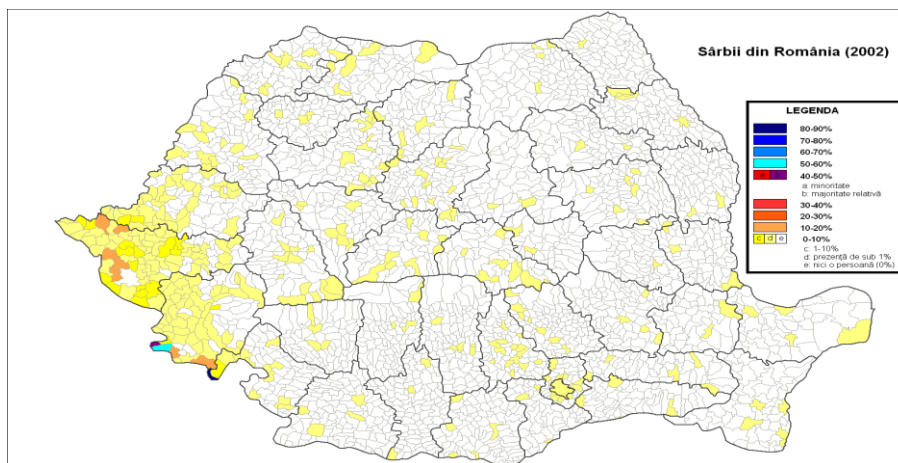
language, unless they are otherwise provided, it is to be mentioned that the Law on Corporations and the Accountancy Law have been translated into Serbian, according to the information provided by the Union of the Serbs of Romania.

Article 10 – Administrative authorities and public services

The current demographic situation of the minority is as follows, according to the results of the census in 2011: 18,076 persons that have declared themselves as belonging to the Serbian minority, which is 4455 persons less than in 2002 (20% less), out of which 16.805 have declared Serbian as their mother tongue. The localities in which the share has fallen beneath 20% are: Gad, Sanpetru Mare, Ivanda, Beregsau Mic, Rudna, Soca. The number of Serbian ethnics is significant in: Berzasca (20,82%), Pojejena (45,77%), Socol (50,39%), Svinita (90,27%), Macesti (98%).

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 744 to submit, in the next periodical report, a list of the localities where the Serbian speakers live in numbers relevant for the purposes of Article 10, the Government would also like to refer to the elements presented in **Annex 5** (list of localities which display bilingual or multilingual place-names).

The map below presents the geographical distribution of Serbian ethnics:



http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/4b/Sarbi_Romania_%282002%29.png

Paragraph 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 ...
 - ii to ensure that such of their officers as are in contact with the public use the regional or minority languages in their relations with persons applying to them in these languages; or
 - iii to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications and receive a reply in these languages; or

- iv *to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications in these languages; or*
- v *to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may validly submit a document in these languages;*

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 749 to provide more information on the use of Serbian in local branches of the state administration, the Government would like to refer to the information presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report (5 Serbian speakers employed in the territorial units of the Romanian Gendarmerie, 215 Serbian speakers employed in the territorial structures of the Romanian Border Police). A total number of 47 public servants belonging to the **Serbian ethnic minority** are employed in the territorial offices of the local administration (mayor's offices) in Timis, Mehedinti, Caras-Severin and Arad counties, according to the situation presented by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 8** of the present report.

According to the situation presented by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 14**, a total number of **101 Serbian speakers** are employed in the in the mayor's office/county councils and the specialized services subordinated to these. Out of these, 35 are employed in in the mayor's office/county council of Timis, and 18 are employed in the specialized services subordinated to the local/county council of Timis.

Paragraph 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;*

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 752 to allow and/or encourage the possibility for users of Serbian to submit oral or written applications in this language to local authorities, the Government would like to refer to the considerations presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter of the present report. In localities in which the share of 20% is reached, speakers of Serbian may submit oral or written applications in Serbian. Such is the case of the localities of Berzasca, Pojejena and Socol in the county of Caras Severin, and in Svinita in the county of Mehedinti in which the share is over 20%.

According to the information provided by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 13**, Serbian is also used in the mayor's offices in relation with the speakers of this language in the counties of Arad (Arad, although the share is below 20%), Caras-Severin (Moldova Noua, although the share is below 20%), Timis (Giulvaz, Denta, Deta, Timisoara, Sanpetru Mare, although the share is below 20% in all of these localities).

According to the information presented in **Annex 17**, there is the possibility to submit applications in Serbian in the localities of Felnac, Arad (share below 20%), Berzasca, Socol (share over 20%), Giulvaz, Denta, Cenei, Sanpetru Mare, Deta (county of Timis-share is below 20% in all of these localities).

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

As it results from the data presented in **Annex 18**, such documents are published in Serbian the locality of Cenei (county of Timis) even if the share of ethnics is below 20%.

- f the use by local authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;*

As to the Committee's recommendation to encourage the use by local authorities of Serbian in debates in their assemblies, it is to be mentioned that, according to the information provided in Annex 15, Serbian is used in the localities of Socol (county of Caras-Severin), Svinita (county of Mehedinti), Cenei and Sanpetru Mare (county of Timis).

- 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.*

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 759, to provide more information on the use of place-names in Serbian in the next periodical report, the Government would like to refer to the details presented in **Annex 5**. In localities in which the share of 20% is reached, place-names in Serbian are also used. As shown in **Annex 5**, place-names are used also in localities where the share is beneath 20%. Examples are: Măcești-Мачевци (share over 20%), Satu Mare (county of Arad) – Нађфала (share beneath 20%), Timis (share beneath 20%).

Paragraph 3

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

- a to ensure that the regional or minority languages are used in the provision of the service; or
b to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request and receive a reply in these languages; or*

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 762 to ensure that Serbian is used in the provision of public services and to provide information about the implementation of this undertaking for Serbian, the Government would like to refer to the specific examples presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

Relevant information is provided in **Annex 14** (number of minority-language-speakers employed in the specialized services subordinated to the local/county councils- 27 Serbian-speaking employees in the counties of Caras-Severin, Mehedinti, Timis).

Paragraph 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:

...

- b recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required;
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.*

As to the Committee's requests in paragraphs 763-764, to provide information regarding measures taken in accordance with this provision, the Government would like to refer to the specific examples presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. Relevant information is provided in **Annex 14**.

Paragraph 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.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 765 to submit relevant information in the next periodical report, it is to be mentioned that the adoption of family names in the regional or minority languages is permitted, according to the option of the applicant, as the Law no. 287/2009 on the Civil Code, Articles 82 to 85 sets no interdiction in this regard. No cases were reported regarding the interdiction of using family names in Serbian.

Article 11 – Media

Paragraph 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;

With regard to the Committee's recommendation in paragraphs 768 and 769 concerning television and radio broadcasts in Serbian, the Government would like to refer to the detailed considerations presented in the "Media" section of Part II of the present report. With regard to television broadcasting, it is to be mentioned that the broadcasts of TVR Timisoara in Serbian (30 minutes/week) are to be extended to other areas in which Serbian ethnics reside such as the Danube Gorge (*Clisura Dunarii*).

As regards private radio broadcasting, it is important to note that the **private radio RADIO BANAT LINK** broadcasts both in Serbian and in Romanian and the target audience is general.

b ...

ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of radio programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;

d to encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audio-visual works in the regional or minority languages

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 773 to submit more specific information regarding the abovementioned undertakings, it is to be mentioned that the Department for Interethnic Relations is now financing a project named "*Serbians of Romania - past and present*". The project will be materialized in a documentary about the Serbian community of Romania.

e i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages; or

There is a weekly newspaper in Serbian, published by the "Union of Serbs of Romania" with the financial support of the Department for Interethnic Relations. The name of the newspaper is *Nasa Rec*.

g to support the training of journalists and other staff for media using regional or minority languages.

As regards the Committee's point of clarification in paragraph 777, the Government wishes to refer to the considerations presented in the "Media" chapter of Part II of the present report.

Paragraph 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.

As regard's the Committee's point of clarification in paragraph 780, the Government wishes to refer to the considerations presented in the "Media" chapter of Part II of the present report.

Article 12 – Cultural activities and facilities

Paragraph 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, post-synchronisation 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;*

As to the Committee's requests in paragraphs 783 and 784 to submit, in the next periodical report, specific information (including examples) concerning the application of these provisions to the Serbian language, the following elements are to be mentioned:

The Ministry of Culture in Romania also continued during the period 2010 – 2012 its collaboration with the Serbian Union of Romania, the Serbian minority's organization in Romania, a non-profit association. In this collaboration the financial support of some cultural projects which contribute to the maintenance of national, cultural and linguistic identity of the Serbian minority in Romania has been considered.

As an example: in 2010, the Ministry of Culture allocated 10,000 lei for the cultural project turned into a tradition – the "Serbian Culture Days in Timisoara", held during 7-14 November. The event included a series of culturally-artistic manifestations such as: folklore performances, sacred and lay music concerts, symposia, book exhibitions, religious icons, handicrafts, photos, old fabrics and culinary art – in order to understand, promote, perpetuate and create an interactive environment of cultural, linguistic and artistic patrimony representative of the Serbian minority in Romania.

The display, organization, promotion and the management of the cultural activities financed was done bilingually, both on the premises of the Union, as well as on the locations of the project.

The organizers **translated and/or subtitled** the activities. The main moments of the event were **recorded for archiving**. The event received intense coverage by the media, both Romanian and Serbian. At the end of each edition a **DVD was issued that included all the events that took place**.

Despite the budget limitations, financing the cultural project “Serbian Culture Days in Timisoara” continued in 2012 as well, when 25,000 lei have been allocated, representing around 42 % of the entire costs of the project. Because the cultural project is a manifestation organized in collaboration with the General Consulate of Serbia, at the opening festivities officials from both countries participated, along with journalists from the local TV and radio stations and the news agency Tanjug from Serbia.

The film “Doctor Kosta Vuici’s Hat”, produced by Kostnjak Film from Belgrade, had its premiere in the opening of the event. At the book fair, editors from Romania and Serbia participated. At the “Royal Folkloric” event, held as part of the same project, guest ensembles from Serbia participated: “Laza Nancic” from Vrsec, “Svilen konac” from Kragujevac and Kruna ensemble from the Serbian Sanmartin. At the sacred and lay music concert held the 1st of December at the Serbian Orthodox Church, coral ensembles from Serbia and Bosnia-Herzegovina also participated. The “Serbian Culture Days in Timisoara” ended with a Theatre performance entitled “Transilvanija” by the Belgrade Theatre at the National Theatre of Timisoara.

At the Romanian Village Museum, institution subordinated to the Ministry of Culture and financed from its budget, the Romanian-Serbian League of Friendship with the support of the National Cinematography Council of Romania organized during 9-11 November 2010 the “Serbian Film Week in Romania”. The screened films were produced by Serbian film makers and were **subtitled in Romanian**. In April 2013, “The Serbian Film Days Festival” was also organized in partnership with the Romanian-Serbian League of Friendship.

Access to works produced in Serbian is ensured in other languages through translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation. An example is the translation of books edited by the Union of the Serbs of Romania, financed by the Department of Interethnic Relations.

In 2013 the Government has allocated to the Union of Serbs from Romania, through the Department for Interethnic Relations, a total amount of 3 240 300 lei. An important part of this budget was spent for editing books and the publication Nasa Rec, for numerous cultural activities as well as for reunions and working activities of the organization and its branches. In 2014 the budget allocated by the Government was of about 3 350 000 lei, equivalent 745.000 EUR.

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

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 788 to submit information concerning the application of this provision for the Serbian language, the following elements are to be mentioned:

The Serbian Union of Romania collects and keeps a copy of the works published in Serbian.

The National Library of Romania collects, maintains and deposits a copy of each piece of artwork produced and published in Romania and annually around two titles in Serbian and Croatian language are added to the National Bibliography. Also, the National Library of Romania performs an international publications exchange program in its acquisition strategy, in order to develop the foreign book collections. In conformity with the international exchanges policies, the National Library of Romania manifests its interest towards the book

titles in original language for the majority of languages and translations, but also towards the book titles in minority and/or regional languages. Thus, from the perspective of accessing the book titles produced and published in Serbian, the National Library of Romania develops annually around 100 exchanges with the National Library of Serbia, with the Matica Srpska Library and with the “Svetozar Markovic” University Library.

- h if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.*

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 790 to submit the relevant information, especially commenting on any need to develop necessary terminology in Serbian, the Government would like to refer to the considerations presented in the Part II, “Culture” chapter of the present report. The Western University of Timisoara and the University of Bucharest both have a Department of Slavic Studies that is involved in terminological research in Serbian.

Paragraph 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.

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 791 to clarify, in the next periodical report, if the Serbian language has benefited from the mentioned activities, the Government would like to refer to the detailed considerations it has made in the Part II, “Culture” chapter of the present report.

Paragraph 3

The Parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect.

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 792 to submit, in the next periodical report, information on the fulfilment of this undertaking, the Government would like to refer to the elements presented in the Part II, “Culture” chapter of the present report.

Article 13 – Economic and social life

Paragraph 1

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

- a to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of regional or minority languages in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations;*
- b to prohibit the insertion in internal regulations of companies and private documents of any clauses excluding or restricting the use of regional or minority languages, at least between users of the same language;*

As to the Committee’s point of clarification in paragraphs 793 and 794 the Government would like to refer to the considerations made in Part II of the present report in the “Economic and social life” section. The current legislation does not contain provisions prohibiting or limiting the use of Serbian in documents relating to economic or social life. There were no cases of private companies restricting or prohibiting the use of Serbian.

Article 14 – Transfrontier exchanges

The Parties undertake:

- b for the benefit of regional or minority languages, to facilitate and/or promote co-operation across borders, in particular between regional or local authorities in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form*

As regards the Committee's point of clarification in paragraph 798 on existing bilateral and multilateral agreements in view of fostering contacts between the users of the same language in the States concerned in the fields of culture, education, information, vocational training and permanent education, the Government wishes to submit the following elements:

Juridical Framework:

1. *Cultural Cooperation Agreement between the Government of Romania and Government of the Federative Republic of Yugoslavia (Brioni, October 27, 1956)*

2. *Collaboration program in education, science and culture between the Romanian Government and the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia for 1998, 1999 and 2000, extended until the entry into force of a new program.*

3. *Agreement between the Government of Romania and the Government of Serbia in the fields of education, science, culture, youth and sport is in the process of finalizing.* The Memorandum on the negotiation and signing of this document is approved.

School Year	Scholarships awarded by Romania to Serbians	Scholarships awarded by Serbia to Romanians
2010-2011	One 9 month scholarship	One 3 month scholarship; one 4 month scholarship and one 9 month.

Statement of placements **held** in the academic year 2012-2013: **2** places **with scholarship** for undergraduate studies, **143** places financed from the state budget, of which 93 places with a **scholarship** and 50 places with a **tuition waiver** for undergraduate study; **32** places financed from the state budget, of which **11** places with a **scholarship** and **21** places with a **tuition waiver** for **master studies**, **2** places financed from the state budget, of which one place with scholarship and one place with tuition waiver for **doctoral studies**, **4** places with **scholarship** for **residency**.

There were also relevant exchanges in 2013 between: *Dositei Obradovici* High School in Timisoara and schools from Kikinda and Varset; The School Inspectorate of the County of Timis and High Schools from Varset; the *Clisura Dunarii* Technological High School from Moldova Noua and the High Schools of Veliko Gradiste and Bela Trkva.

Cultural exchanges

April 2012 – The Museum of Romanian Literature, with the cooperation of the Embassy of Serbia in Romania organized a documentary exhibition dedicated to the great Serbian writer Ivo Andric, marking 50 years since the Nobel Prize was awarded to this author.

September 2010 – The National Museum “Iron Gates” in Drobeta Turnu Severin, in partnership with the National History Museum in Zajecar, organized the exhibition “The Roman Drobeta and its territory” within the framework of the Days of European Heritage.

It is also to be mentioned that the following **twinning agreements** have been concluded between Romanian and Serbian municipalities:

2006 - cities of Calarasi and Zaiiecear; cities of Orșova and Kladovo; cities of Deta and Coka; cities of Băile Herculane and Veliko Gradiste;
2007 - the municipalities of Drobeta Turnu Severin and Negotin;
2008 - cities of Băile Herculane and Zagubica; the county of Mehedinti and the Autonomous Province of Voivodina; the prefect's institution of Caraș Severin and the District of Central Banat (Serbia);
2009 - villages of Tîrnova and Jankov Most; villages of Svintia and Donji Milanovac; villages of Cenei and Nova Crnja; the prefect's institutions of Mehedinti and Bor;
2010 - the cities of Băile Tușnad and Backo Petrovo Selo; the municipalities of Reșița and Pozarevac;
2011 - the county of Alba and the Autonomous Province of Voivodina ; the municipalities of Reșița and Kikinda;
2012 - the villages of Săcălaz and Uzdin; the villages of Saravale and Ostojićevo;
2013 - the localities of Moldova Noua, Resita (Caras Severin county) and Foeni (Timis county) were also involved in cross-border cooperation.

Slovak

Article 8 – Education

General issues

On the Slovak language, Romania ratified the art. 8.1.a.i, b.i and c.i which oblige the signatory State to provide education in the minority language without requiring prior request from parents or students.

Slovak language study is conducted based on the National Education Law, no. 1/2011, Article 45 and on the Methodology of study of a language as a native language, of study of the Romanian language and literature, of study of the history and traditions of persons belonging to national minorities and of the study of music in the mother tongue - Articles 33, 34, 35 of the Order of the Ministry of Education no. 5671/2012. As the Government has presented in detail in the Part II “Education” chapter of the present report, classes with a number of students smaller than the minimum stipulated by law can be organized according to the special procedure foreseen in Article 63 of the National Education Law.

Paragraph 1

With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:

a i to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages;
or

b i to make available primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or

c to make available secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages;
or

The Committee of experts has considered these undertakings fulfilled in the first periodical report, based on the information provided regarding the number of children enrolled in the preschool, primary and secondary education levels. There is a stable network of kindergartens, primary schools and secondary schools with teaching in Slovak, which also includes 2 high schools. Teaching in Slovak as a mother tongue is organised in the counties of Arad, Bihor, Salaj, and Timis. In the school year 2013-2014, 940 pupils are enrolled in the

school units with tuition in Slovak. Out of these 230 children are enrolled in the pre-school system (Arad, Bihor, Salaj, Timis), 255 pupils are enrolled in primary schools (Arad, Bihor, Salaj, Timis), 212 pupils are in secondary schools (Arad, Bihor, Salaj, Timis) and 243 pupils are enrolled in high-schools. There are two high schools with tuition in Slovak as a mother tongue - the theoretical *Jozef Gregor Tajovsky* High school in Nadlac (Arad) and the theoretical *Jozef Kozacek* High school in Budoi (Bihor)

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 806 to provide, in the next periodical report, information about the implementation of this undertaking for Slovak, it is to be mentioned that at schools in Arad, Bihor, Sălaj and Timiș, who organize education in Slovak, no requests for organizing vocational or technical education with teaching in this language have been submitted.

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

Slovak can be studied at the Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures of the University of Bucharest (Section of Slovak language and literature).

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 812 to provide, in the next periodical report, specific information on whether also non-speakers benefit from the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the Slovak language, it is to be mentioned that the subject "The history and traditions of persons belonging to national minorities" is part of the core curriculum for the 6th and 7th grades.

For Romanian students, there is an optional course entitled *History of national minorities*, designed with the support of the Department for Interethnic Relations, which also contributed to the editing of a textbook in 2008. The textbook contains information about all minorities living in Romania and is written in Romanian and was edited with the help of history teachers belonging to all minorities. This subject can be studied in upper secondary education, not only in the tenth grade, as indicated in the report from June 2012. In the 2012-2013 school year, 50 classes chose this course.

Students that do not speak a minority language can learn about the history and traditions of minorities or the general course of history, or, if they so wish, by opting for the abovementioned course in the upper secondary education cycle.

The discipline "History and Traditions of the Slovak Minority" is taught in the schools mentioned above. Textbooks are written in Slovak and are edited by the Democratic Union of Slovaks and Czechs in Romania.

- i to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.**

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 817 to provide, in the next periodical report, information about the implementation of this undertaking for Slovak it is to be mentioned that at the school inspectorate of Bihor there is one inspector who activates and is in charge of monitoring the education process in the Slovak language. Also, the schools inspectorates in Arad, Timis and Salaj counties have each one inspector responsible for the monitoring of the education process in Slovak. The Democratic Union of the Czechs and Slovaks of Romania has a special school commission who monitors education in Slovak.

Paragraph 2

With regard to education and 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 or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all the appropriate stages of education.

As regards the Committee's recommendation in paragraph to 819 to provide information on whether it is feasible to provide teaching in or of Slovak also in areas where this language has not been traditionally used, it is to be mentioned that there have been no requests for studying in/ of Slovak coming from the areas in which this language is not traditionally used. The number of children speaking Slovak outside the traditional areas of Banat and Bihor is considered to be insufficient in order to justify the teaching in or of Slovak.

Article 9 – Judicial authorities

Paragraph 1

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

a in criminal proceedings:

...

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 821 to provide, in the next periodical report, specific information about the practical implementation of this provision concerning Slovak, the Government would like to refer to the elements presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. It is to be mentioned that, in 2011 and 2012, the Ministry of Justice has issued authorisations for a number of **31** interpreters and translators of Slovak.

a 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; and/or

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 824 to clarify, in the next periodical report, whether the legal set-up allows in practice that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, may be produced in Slovak, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. Evidence will in no case be considered inadmissible if produced in a minority language. An authorised translation may be required in some cases, while in others (see aforementioned chapter) the proceedings are done in the minority language (see the example of the first instance court of Odorheiu Secuiesc in the aforementioned chapter and also other examples provided for in the **Annex 4**).

b in civil proceedings:

...

- ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or**

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 826 to provide, in the next periodical report, specific information about the practical implementation of this undertaking for Slovak, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

- b iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,**

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 828 to clarify, in the next periodical report, whether the legal set-up allows in practice that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, may be produced in Slovak, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. Evidence will in no case be considered inadmissible if produced in a minority language. An authorised translation may be required in some cases, while in others (see aforementioned chapter) the proceedings are done in the minority language (see the example of the first instance court of Odorheiu Secuiesc in the aforementioned chapter).

c in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:

...

- ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or**

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 830 to provide, in the next periodical report, specific information about the practical implementation of this undertaking concerning Slovak, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

- c iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,**

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 832 to clarify, whether the legal set-up allows in practice that requests and evidence, whether written or oral may be produced in Slovak, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

Paragraph 2

The Parties undertake:

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 835 to provide, in the next periodical report, information about the implementation of this undertaking, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. No cases were reported in which the validity of a document was denied on account of it being drafted in Slovak.

Paragraph 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.

837. The Committee of Experts encourages the Romanian authorities to make available in Slovak the most important national statutory texts and those relating particularly to users of this language, unless they are otherwise provided.

This is an objective that Romania is striving to implement in the next reporting period and eventual measures will be established in cooperation with the Department of Interethnic Relations and the Institute for the Study of Problems of National Minorities.

Article 10 – Administrative authorities and public services

The current demographic situation of the Slovak ethnics is as follows:

Bohor, Bihor county - 11.74% of the population; Derna, Bihor county - 19,41%; Popesti, Bihor county -13,66%; Suplacu de Barcau, Bihor county -18,72%; Sinteiu, Bihor county - 98,41%; Plopiș, Salaj county - 32,01%; Peregu Mare, Arad county - 43,86%. The percentage is significant also in the localities of Brestovat - 15,13% (Timis county) and Nadlac - 42,97% (Arad county).

The map below was drawn after the 2002 census and even if the number of the Slovaks in Romania decreased from 17,199 to 13,654, the territorial distribution nowadays is the same as in 2002. There are 13,654 Slovak ethnics, out of which 12,802 declared Slovak as mother tongue.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 838 to submit, in the next periodical report, a list of the localities where the Slovak speakers live in numbers relevant for the purposes of Article 10, the Government would also like to refer to the elements presented in **Annex 5** (list of localities which display bilingual or multilingual place-names).

The map below shows the geographical distribution of Slovak ethnics.



Paragraph 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 ...
 - ii *to ensure that such of their officers as are in contact with the public use the regional or minority languages in their relations with persons applying to them in these languages; or*
 - iii *to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications and receive a reply in these languages; or*
 - iv *to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications in these languages; or*
 - v *to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may validly submit a document in these languages;*

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 843 to provide more information on the use of Slovak in local branches of the state administration, the Government would like to refer to the information presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report (Slovak speakers employed within the Public Relations Department of the prefect's institution of Arad and **2 Slovak** speakers employed in the territorial units of the Romanian Gendarmerie). A total number of **74 public servants belonging to the Slovak ethnic minority** are employed in the territorial offices of the local administration (mayor's offices) in the Timis, Sibiu, Satu-Mare, Mures, Bistria-Nasaud, Alba and Bihor counties, according to the situation presented by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 8** of the present report.

According to the situation presented by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 14**, a total number of **97 Slovak speakers** are employed in the mayor's office/county councils and the specialized services subordinated to these. Out of these, 37 are employed in in the mayor's office/county council of Arad, and 38 are employed in the specialized services subordinated to the local/county council of Arad.

Paragraph 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;*

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 846 to allow and/or encourage the possibility for users of Slovak to submit oral or written applications in this language to local authorities, the Government would like to refer to the considerations presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter of the present report.

According to the information provided by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 13**, Slovak is used in the mayor's offices in relation to the speakers of this language in the counties of Arad (Peregu Mare, Nadlac - the share is over 20%), Bihor (Sinteu, Derna, Alesd, Popesti, Oradea, Suplacu de Barcau, although the share is above 20% only in Sinteu), Salaj (Plopis) and Timis (Brestovat).

According to the information provided in **Annex 17**, there is the possibility to submit applications in Slovak in Nadlac (Alba county, share is below 20%), Peregu Mare (Arad county, share is over 20%), Sinte Mare, Arad (Arad county, share is below 20%), Plopis (Salaj county - share is over 20%).

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

According to the information presented in **Annex 18**, such documents are not published in Slovak. It is to be added though that, according to the information provided in **Annex 20**, administrative forms in Slovak are provided in the locality of Sinteu, county of Bihor.

- f the use by local authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;*

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 850, to allow and/or encourage the use by local authorities of Slovak in debates in their assemblies, it is to be mentioned that, according to the information provided in **Annex 15**, Slovak is used in the locality of Plopis (county of Salaj).

- 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.*

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 853, to provide more information on the use of place-names in Slovak in the next periodical report, the Government would like to refer to the details presented in **Annex 5**. In localities in which the share of 20% is reached, Slovak is used in place-names, in its traditional form.

Paragraph 3

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

- a to ensure that the regional or minority languages are used in the provision of the service; or*
- b to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request and receive a reply in these languages; or*

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 856 to ensure that Slovak is used in the provision of public services and to provide information about the implementation of this undertaking for Slovak, the Government would like to refer to the specific examples presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

Relevant information is provided in **Annex 14** (number of minority-language-speakers employed in the specialized services subordinated to the local/county councils- 42 Serbian-speaking employees in the counties of Arad, Bihor, Caras-Severin, Satu Mare, Salaj, Timis).

Paragraph 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:

...

- b recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required;*
- 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.*

As to the Committee's requests in paragraphs 857-858, to provide information regarding measures taken in accordance with this provision, the Government would like to refer to the specific examples presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. Relevant information is provided in **Annex 14**.

Paragraph 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.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 859 to submit relevant information in the next periodical report, it is to be mentioned that the adoption of family names in the regional or minority languages is permitted, according to the option of the applicant, as the Law no. 287/2009 on the Civil Code, Articles 82 to 85 sets no interdiction in this regard. No refusal was reported as regards the adoption of family names in Slovak when drawing-up civil status acts.

Article 11 – Media

Paragraph 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;*

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 863 to consider extending the duration of radio and television broadcasts in Slovak, it is to be mentioned that the Romanian Radio Broadcasting Corporation and the Romanian Television Broadcasting Corporation are currently considering such an extension, in cooperation with the representatives of the Slovak minority.

- b ...*

- ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of radio programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;*

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 865 to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of radio programmes in Slovak also in other areas where Slovak is used, including Arad county, the Government would like to refer to the considerations presented in Part II of the present report in the "Media" chapter from where it results that, by comparison with the first report, **broadcasts in Slovak are also made by the territorial studios of Radio Romania Iasi, Radio Romania Resita and Radio Romania Timisoara. Also TVR Timisoara territorial studio broadcasts "All Together" in Slovak.**

c ...

- ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of television programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;*

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 867 Romanian to facilitate the broadcasting of private radio programmes in Slovak on a regular basis, the Government would like to refer to the considerations made in Part II of the present report, within the "Media" chapter.

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 869 to submit, in their next periodical report, additional information about measures taken to encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audio-visual works in Slovak, it is to be mentioned that the Democratic Union of Slovaks and Czechs of Romania issues audio and video works in Slovak, financed by the state.

- e i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages; or*

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 870 to submit information on the implementation of this undertaking, it is to be mentioned that there are the following newspapers in Slovak: Nase snahy, Nase snahy Plus and Donlozemy Slovak and three school newspapers.

- g to support the training of journalists and other staff for media using regional or minority languages.*

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 871 on the support of the training of journalists and other staff for media using Slovak, the Government would like to refer to the considerations made in Part II of the present report, within the "Media" chapter.

Paragraph 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.

As regards the Committee's point of clarification in paragraph 876 on the representation of minority language speakers in bodies guaranteeing the freedom and pluralism of media, the Government would like to refer to the considerations made in Part II of the present report, within the "Media" chapter.

Article 12 – Cultural activities and facilities

Paragraph 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, post-synchronisation 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;*

As to the Committee's requests in paragraphs 880 and 882 to submit more specific information in the next periodical report on the implementation of the abovementioned undertakings, the following elements are of interest:

From 2010 until 2012, the Ministry of Culture granted financial aid to the Arad Local Branch Democratic of Union of the Slovaks and Czechs in Romania for organizing a three-day Contest Festival for the Slovak traditional music band "*Cez Nadlac je...*" ("*Through Nadlac was I...*"). The cultural project was organized and financed by the Arad local branch of UDSCR, the Slovak Office for Diaspora from the Slovak Republic and with the support of the Arad County Council and the Arad County Cultural Centre. At this festival, 36 Slovak interpreters from Hungary, Serbia and Romania performed, competing in three age categories. Just like in the previous editions of the festival, the musical part has been ensured by the folkloric ensemble orchestra of the Democratic Union of the Slovaks and Czechs in Romania "*Salasan*" of Nadlac, directed by Professor Jozef Zifcak jr., the show being streamed live by a team from Radio Nadlac. At the cultural event of the Slovak minority in Romania, the ambassador of the Slovak Republic to Romania also participated.

At the 13th edition of the festival which took place in 2011, Slovak folk music artists, musicians, musicologists, ethnologists participated, as well as Slovak dancers which presented the songs and national costumes of the Slovaks in Romania. At the 2011 edition of the festival around 120 artists from all geographical areas of Romania in which Slovaks live, along with artists and dancers representing the Slovak organizations from Serbia, Hungary, Croatia, and Slovakia took part. The project was **covered in press, television and radio** (TVR 2's "*Impreuna in Europa*", TVR 3's "*All together*", Info Arad, TV Arad, Radio Romania Actualitati, Radio Timisoara, as well as in the media from the countries of the international participants).

The festival, participants and detailed information on the project are included in an annual bilingual or only Slovak language catalogue to be later archived and covered in the cultural bilingual magazine of UDSCR "*Nase Snahy*". Digitalized archiving on DVD is also being done.

In 2012 and 2013 the Ministry of Culture granted 10,000 lei and, respectively, 12,000 lei for the development of the cultural project entitled "*Slovak Youth's International Folklore Festival*" organized by the Democratic Union of the Slovaks and Czechs in Romania in

partnership with the Suplacu de Barceau Local Council, Bihor county and with the aid of the Slovak Office for Diaspora from the Slovak Republic. Being on the 9th edition in 2013, the festival also welcomed participants from Slovakia, Serbia and Romania in order to maintain the national and cultural identity of the Slovak youth from Diaspora and Romania, and it also was an opportunity to identify the similarities and differences, but also to learn and perpetuate new elements and traditions from the traditional culture of the Slovak minority. Thus, the “Cerovina” assembly from Valea Cerului, the county of Bihor, presented this year an artistic program inspired by one of the basic elements of the community: the birth and baptize of children. At the festival around 200 dancers participated, representing the Slovak folkloric assemblies from Romania: Cerovina from Valea Cerului, Lipa from Budoii, Datelinka from Varzari and Salasan from Nadlac, but also international assemblies such as: Skvarvare from Kosica Nova Ves – Slovakia, Czech, Zeleny javor from Krempachy – Poland, Zvolen from Kultin and Janosik from Janosik – Serbia. The organization, advertising and activities of this event were bilingual, **translation and the subtitles of the events** being provided by the organizers.

From the perspective of the accessibility of the book produced and published in Slovakia, the National Library of Romania carries out on average 11 exchanges per year with the National Library of Slovakia and the Comenius University of Bratislava.

In 2013 the Government has allocated to the Democratic Union of Czechs and Slovaks from Romania, through the Department for Interethnic Relations, a total amount of 2 885 400 lei. An important part of this budget was spent for editing books and publications, for numerous cultural activities as well as for reunions and working activities of the organization and its branches. In 2014 the budget allocated by the Government was of about 2 973 010 lei, the equivalent of approx. 661 000 EUR.

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

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 887 to submit more specific information in the next periodical report, the Government would like to refer to the considerations presented in the Part II, “Culture” chapter of the present report. It is to be added that the Democratic Union of Slovaks and Czechs of Romania and the Cultural and Scientific Society Ivan Krasko from Nadlac also collect and keep copies of works produced in Slovak.

h *if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.*

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 889 to submit the relevant information, especially commenting on any need to develop necessary terminology in Slovak, in the next periodical report the Government would like to refer to the considerations presented in the Part II, “Culture” chapter of the present report. It is to be added that the Department for Slavic Studies of the University of Bucharest is also involved in terminological research in Slovak.

Paragraph 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.

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 890 to provide information on relevant activities, the Government would like to refer to the considerations presented in the Part II, “Culture” chapter of the present report.

Paragraph 3

The Parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 891 to submit, in the next periodical report, information concerning the application of this provision to the Slovak language, the Government would like to refer to the considerations presented in the Part II, "Culture" chapter of the present report.

Article 13 – Economic and social life

Paragraph 1

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

- a to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of regional or minority languages in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations;*
- b to prohibit the insertion in internal regulations of companies and private documents of any clauses excluding or restricting the use of regional or minority languages, at least between users of the same language;*

As to the Committee's point of clarification in paragraphs 892 and 893 the Government would like to refer to the considerations made in Part II of the present report in the "Economic and social life" section.

There are no cases of legislative provision limiting or prohibiting the use of Slovak in documents relating to economic or social life.

No cases were reported of instances in which the use of Slovak within a private company was restricted or prohibited. According to the data provided by the Democratic Union of Slovaks and Czechs, there are joint companies in Romania that also use Slovak.

Article 14 – Transfrontier exchanges

The Parties undertake:

- b for the benefit of regional or minority languages, to facilitate and/or promote co-operation across borders, in particular between regional or local authorities in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form.*

As to the Committee's point of clarification in paragraph 897 regarding existing multilateral and bilateral agreements in view of fostering contacts between the users of the same language in the States concerned in the fields of culture, education, information, vocational training and permanent education, the Government wishes to submit the following elements:

Juridical Framework:

1. *Agreement between the Government of Romania and the Slovak Republic on cooperation in science, education, culture and sport (Bratislava, March 3, 1994);*

2. *Education cooperation program between the Ministry of Education, Research and Youth of Romania and the Ministry of Education of the Slovak Republic for 2007-2010 (Bucharest, February 6, 2008) automatically extended for another year.*

3. *Collaborative program between the Ministry of Education in Romania and the Ministry of Education of the Slovak Republic for the years 2013-2016 - the final stage of signing.*

4. *Program of collaboration between the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic and the Ministry of Culture from Romania for 2013-2015 (under negotiation).*

Scholarships

Romanian-Slovak cooperation program in education provides for annual, in reciprocity, the following grants:

- ✓ 25 scholarship months for partial studies, BA level (art.2);
- ✓ 20 scholarship months for doctoral studies/refresher programs (art.3);
- ✓ 5 scholarships for summer courses.

Achievements:

No.	School Year	Slovak scholarship recipients in Romania	Romanian scholarship recipients in Slovakia
3.	2010-2011	2	0
4.	2011-2012	0	0
5.	2012-2013	1	4

Lecturers:

As in previous academic years, in 2012-2013 there was a lecturer of Slovak language and literature at the University of Bucharest and reciprocally, the Romanian Language Institute sent a Romanian language and literature lecturer at the University "Jan Amos Comenius" in Bratislava.

Collaboration projects:

Each year, about 50 students and 4 teachers from ethnic Slovak minority participate in the camp "School of Nature" in Banska Bistrica, Slovakia.

Following Slovak language training centres are operational:

- ✓ in Romania: the „Josef Gregor Tajovsky” School of Nădlac, Arad county.
- ✓ in Slovakia: the Methodical centre by the University „Matej Bal” (Banska Bistrica) and the continuous Training Centre by the University of Comenius in Bratislava (Modra-Harmonia).

Every year about 25 teachers at all educational levels, in all specialties of Romanian schools that study Slovak language as a mother tongue participate for 5 days in Slovakia, at professional development courses and methodology.

Annually, at the end of the training session mentioned above, **2-day itinerant courses for Slovak teachers are held in Romania.** The location is the school of origin of Romanian teachers participating in the training courses in Slovakia.

Each year, Romanian schools receive teachers from the Slovak Republic. In the school year 2011-2012, the Slovak counterparts sent three teachers (to the High School "Jozef Kozáček" Budo in Bihor county, and to teach classes I-VIII in Şinteu, Bihor county and to the School of Faget in Salaj). In the 2012-2013 school year, the Slovak counterparts nominated one teacher, Erika FAJNOROVÁ, to the Făget school in Salaj.

Within the framework of the cross-border cooperation agreement between Romania-Hungary-Slovakia-Serbia, the following relevant activities were conducted in **2013**: a school

contest for Slovak pupils, awarding of the *Samuel Tesedik* Prize for teachers from areas where Slovak is taught and the editing of the *Dolnozemy Slovak* magazine.

It is also to be mentioned that the following **twinning agreements** have been concluded between Romanian and Slovak municipalities:

In **2006**- the cities of Nădlac and Krompachy; the localities of Sebiş and Kapusany;

In **2008**- the cities of Nădlac and Brezno (Slovakia); the cities of Nădlac and Jelsava;

In **2011**- the cities of Jimbolia and Dunajska Streda (Slovakia)

Turkish

Article 8 – Education

General issues

On the Turkish language, Romania has ratified the art. 8.1.a.i, b.i and c.i which obliges the signatory State to provide education in the minority language without requiring prior request from parents or students.

Turkish language study is conducted based on the National Education Law, no. 1/2011, Article 45 and on the Methodology of study of a language as a native language, of study of the Romanian language and literature, of study of the history and traditions of persons belonging to national minorities and of the study of music in the mother tongue - Articles 33, 34, 35 of the Order of the Ministry of Education no. 5671/2012. As the Government has presented in detail in the Part II “Education” chapter of the present report, classes with a number of students smaller than the minimum stipulated by law can be organized, according to the special procedure foreseen in Article 63 of the National Education Law.

Paragraph 1

With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:

As to the Committee’s requests and comments in paragraphs 902, 906, 910, 911 with regard to the situation of the offer of pre-school, primary and secondary education in Turkish, the Government would like to refer to the considerations it has made in Part II of the present report in the “Education” chapter, when presenting the detailed measures taken in order to ensure the implementation of the Committee’s recommendations issued on 13 June 2012.

The following elements are also relevant for the implementation by Romania of the undertakings contained in Article 8:

- a i to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or**

Though no other new pre-school education centres have been set up since the submission of the first report, the two kindergartens from Constanța and Medgidia began to function on an extended schedule. The institutions have been modernized, their facilities now offering the possibility of carrying out various activities. The kindergarten in Medgidia functions as part of the “Kemal Atatürk” National College and offers a generous space, various didactic materials, dormitories, and a dining hall. The transition from the regular schedule (8:00-12:00) to the prolonged schedule (8:00-18:00), together with the expansion and modernization of the living space, area intended to be used for teaching Turkish at a preschool level, represent a significant progress.

b i to make available primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or

As regards the elementary study cycle from the middle schools in Constanța and Tulcea, cities with numerous Turkish-speaking inhabitants, it is to be mentioned that the Turkish language is studied for three hours, every week, together with Islamic religion classes.

c i to make available secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or

As regards the secondary study cycle of the middle schools in Constanța and Tulcea, cities with numerous Turkish-speaking inhabitants, it is to be mentioned that the Turkish language is studied for three hours, every week, together with Islamic religion classes.

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

The “Kemal Atatürk” National College in Medgidia offers partial vocational education programs in Turkish language. Within the College, imams of Islamic denomination, pre-school pedagogues and teachers are prepared for pre-school education. The future teachers are divided into two classes of 28 students each, one focused on Muslim theology and the other focused on pedagogical skills for pre-school pedagogues/teachers.

e ii to provide facilities for the study of these languages in schools and universities, or

The Government would like to add in addition to the information presented in the initial report that the study of Turkish at university level has registered important progress. As such, in addition to studying Turkish in the universities of Bucharest and Ovidius University in Constanta, the “Dimitrie Cantemir” University in Bucharest and the “South-Eastern European Lumina” University in Bucharest, the Babeş-Bolyai University in Cluj and the „Andrei Șaguna” University in Constanța have introduced sections for the study of Turkish. A total of 114 students study Turkish in the Ovidius University in Constanta in the 2013-2014 academic year, in the first year of study.

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;**

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 914 to provide, in the next periodical report, information about the implementation of this undertaking, it is to be mentioned that the Consulate of Turkey in Constanta organises such courses annually in Romania and in Turkey. These courses are mainly targeted at teachers of Turkish language and literature and teachers of Islamic religion. The teachers also participate in the courses organized by the Centre for Continuous Development. Starting with 2012, the Turkish Cultural Institute “Yunus Emre” organizes in Bucharest and Constanta courses of Turkish language and different other courses for continuous education.

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 918 to provide, in the next periodical report, information on whether also non-speakers benefit from the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the Turkish language, it is to be noted that the subject "the history and traditions of persons belonging to national minorities" is a discipline which is part of the core curriculum for the 6th and 7th grades.

The history and customs of the Turkish minority are reflected into the history and customs textbook. The subject is taught in Turkish.

For Romanian students, there is an optional course entitled *History of national minorities*, designed with the support of the Department for Interethnic Relations, which also contributed to the editing of a textbook in 2008. The textbook contains information about all minorities living in Romania and is written in Romanian and was edited with the help of history teachers belonging to all minorities. This subject can be studied in upper secondary education, not only in the tenth grade, as indicated in the report from June 2012. In the 2012-2013 school year, 50 classes chose this course.

Students that do not speak a minority language can learn about the history and traditions of minorities or the general course of history, or, if they so wish, by opting for the abovementioned course in the upper secondary education cycle.

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

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 920 to provide the basic and further training of teachers who would be able to teach in Turkish, it is to be mentioned that annually, 40 teachers were trained by the Teacher Training Houses and by the Ministry of Education, in cooperation with the Consulate of Turkey in Constanta. In 2013, between 25 June and 7 July, courses on Turkish language and methodology were organized for 25 teachers from Constanța, Tulcea and Bucharest, in Nevsehir - Turkey, by the Yunus Emre Turkish Cultural Institute. Training to obtain academic degrees was held by the University of Bucharest in the Turkish language specialization.

i to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 923 to provide, in the next periodical report, information about the implementation of this undertaking it is to be mentioned that within the school inspectorates that organize the education process in Turkish, there are inspectors that are responsible for monitoring this educational process. There is the Turkish Language Inspectorate within the National Ministry of Education and one inspector of Turkish language, within the Inspectorate of Constanța County.

Paragraph 2

With regard to education and 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 or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all the appropriate stages of education.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 925 to provide additional information on whether there are sufficient numbers of Turkish speaking children in areas outside Dobrogea that would justify teaching in or of Turkish and to what degree the needs of these children are taken care of in the educational system, it is to be mentioned that the Ministry of Education has not communicated the existence of such requests coming from areas outside Dobrogea. According to the information provided by the Turkish Democratic Union of Romania, there

are very few children who belong to the Turkish minority outside Dobrogea. Therefore, teaching Turkish as a mother tongue is not justified.

The Turkish Democratic Union of Romania has reported that it will continue to make the necessary legal arrangements in order to set-up Turkish language kindergartens. In higher education, the Union facilitates the possibility of obtaining scholarships sponsored by the Republic of Turkey.

Article 9 – Judicial authorities

Paragraph 1

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

a in criminal proceedings:

...

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 927 to provide, in the next periodical report, specific information about the practical implementation of this provision concerning Turkish, the Government would like to refer to the elements presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. It is to be mentioned that, in 2011 and 2012, the Ministry of Justice has issued authorisations for a number of **27** interpreters and translators of Turkish.

a 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; and/or

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 930 to clarify, in the next periodical report, whether the legal set-up allows in practice that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, may be produced in Turkish, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. Evidence will in no case be considered inadmissible if produced in a minority language. An authorised translation may be required in some cases, while in others (see aforementioned chapter) the proceedings are done in the minority language (see the example of the first instance court of Odorheiu Secuiesc in the aforementioned chapter and also other examples provided for in the **Annex 4**). Also, as it clearly results from the table in **Annex 4**, in the period 2011-2012, interpreters of **Turkish** were used in a number of **315** civil and criminal cases.

b in civil proceedings:

...

ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 932 to provide, in the next periodical report, specific information about the practical implementation of this undertaking for Turkish, the

Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the “Judicial authorities” chapter, Part II of the present report.

- b** *iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages, if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;*

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 934 to clarify, in the next periodical report, whether the legal set-up allows in practice that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, may be produced in Turkish, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the “Judicial authorities” chapter, Part II of the present report. Evidence will in no case be considered inadmissible if produced in a minority language. An authorised translation may be required in some cases, while in others (see aforementioned chapter) the proceedings are done in the minority language (see the example of the first instance court of Odorheiu Secuiesc in the aforementioned chapter).

- c** *in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:*

...

- ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;*

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 936 to provide, in the next periodical report, specific information about the practical implementation of this undertaking concerning Turkish, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the “Judicial authorities” chapter, Part II of the present report.

- c** *iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages, if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;*

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 938 to clarify, whether the legal set-up allows in practice that requests and evidence, whether written or oral may be produced in Turkish, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the “Judicial authorities” chapter, Part II of the present report.

Paragraph 2

The Parties undertake:

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

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 941 to provide, in the next periodical report, information about the implementation of this undertaking, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the “Judicial authorities” chapter, Part II of the present report. The Turkish Democratic Union of Romania has not reported cases of refusal to recognize the validity of a legal document because it was presented in Turkish.

Paragraph 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.

943. The Committee of Experts encourages the Romanian authorities to make available in Turkish the most important national statutory texts and those relating particularly to users of this language, unless they are otherwise provided

This is an objective that Romania is striving to implement in the next reporting period and eventual measures will be established in cooperation with the Department of Interethnic Relations and the Institute for the Study of Problems of National Minorities.

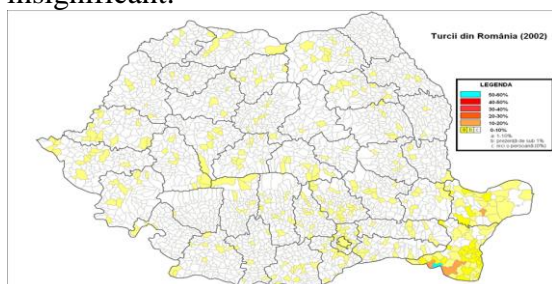
Article 10 – Administrative authorities and public services

According to the final results of the census of 2011, 27,698 Turkish ethnics live in Romania number which represents 0.1377 % of the total population of Romania (20,121,641). Out of 27,698 ethnic Turks, 25,302 are permanent inhabitants, declaring Turkish as their mother tongue.

As regards the rest of the counties, the Turkish ethnic population is rather reduced in number. Bucharest hosts 2,315 Turkish ethnics, a significant number at first sight, but reported to the total number of inhabitants, Turkish ethnics represent less than 1%. In the town of Băneasa and Dobromir commune, both situated in Constanța county, each present a share of over 20% in Turkish ethnic inhabitants.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 944 to submit, in the next periodical report, a list of the localities where the Turkish speakers live in numbers relevant for the purposes of Article 10, the Government would also like to refer to the elements presented in **Annex 5** (list of localities which display bilingual or multilingual place-names).

The map below represents the territorial distribution of Turkish ethnics. Although it was compiled in 2002, differences in comparison with 2011, in both numbers and distribution, are insignificant.



County/city/commune	Total stable population	Turks	% 3/2	Stable population with declared Turkish as a mother tongue
1	2	3	4	5
Constanța county	684082	20826	3,04	18932
Medgidia Municipality	39780	3340	8,4	2953
Băneasa	5384	1136	21,1	973
Hârșova	9642	813	8,43	741
Techirghiol	7292	430	5,9	348

Amzacea	2712	238	8,77	191
Castelu	4856	498	11,69	784
Cobadin	8779	1026	11,69	1153
<i>Dobromir</i>	<i>3031</i>	<i>1751</i>	<i>57,77</i>	<i>1750</i>
Independența	3121	392	12,56	394
Lipnița	3168	210	6,62	115
Tulcea county	213083	1674	0,79	1761
Babadag	8940	395	4,41	707

Paragraph 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 ...
 - ii *to ensure that such of their officers as are in contact with the public use the regional or minority languages in their relations with persons applying to them in these languages; or*
 - iii *to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications and receive a reply in these languages; or*
 - iv *to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications in these languages; or*
 - v *to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may validly submit a document in these languages;*

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 949 to provide more information on the use of Turkish in local branches of the state administration, the Government would like to refer to the information presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report (**14 Turkish** speakers employed within the territorial units of the Romanian Gendarmerie). A total number of **49 public servants belonging to the Turkish ethnic minority** are employed in the territorial offices of the local administration (mayor's offices) of the Constanta and Brasov Counties, according to the situation presented by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 8** of the present report and example of there are two employees that can provide assistance in Turkish/Tatar within the National Agency for Payments and Social Inspection.

According to the situation presented by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 14**, a total number of **70 Turkish speakers** are employed in the in the mayor's office/county councils and the specialized services subordinated to these. Out of these, 48 are employed in the mayor's office/county council of Constanta, and 20 are employed in the specialized services subordinated to the local/county council of Constanta.

Paragraph 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;*

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 951 to allow and/or encourage the possibility for users of Turkish to submit oral or written applications in this language to local

authorities, the Government would like to refer to the considerations presented in the “Administrative authorities” chapter of the present report.

According to the information presented in **Annex 17**, there is the possibility to submit applications in Turkish in the locality of Independenta (county of Constanta- share is below 20%).

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

As to the Committee’s encouragement in paragraph 953 to allow and/or encourage the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in Turkish, it is to be mentioned that, according to the information provided in **Annex 18**, such documents are not published.

- e the use by regional authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;*
- f the use by local authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;*

As to the Committee’s recommendation in paragraphs 954 and 956 to allow and/or encourage the use by local authorities of Turkish in debates in their assemblies and to provide more information on the implementation of this provision, it is to be mentioned that Turkish is used in the locality of Independenta (County of Constanta).

In the case of the Baneasa local council for instance, Turkish is not used because, from 15 council members, only two belong to the Turkish minority, and therefore the use of the language is not justified according to the legal provisions in force.

- 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.*

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 959, to provide more information on the use of place-names in Turkish in the next periodical report, the Government would like to refer to the details presented in **Annex 5**. It is to be added that, in 2001, through a Government Decision, the Turkish form of the names of the localities has been accepted. For example, regarding Constanța county, 44 translations have been accepted for 44 localities such as: Castelu (Kostel) Ghindărești (HobeHkoe); Independența (Bairamdede); Fântâna Mare (Başpunar). In Dobromir commune, Văleni village is also called by its old Turkish designation, Yenisenlia. The same situation appears in the case of Lespezi locality, which is also known as Tekekoy.

Paragraph 3

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

- a to ensure that the regional or minority languages are used in the provision of the service; or*
- b to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request and receive a reply in these languages; or*
- c to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request in these languages.*

As to the Committee’s recommendation in paragraph 962 to ensure that Turkish is used in the provision of public services and to provide information about the implementation of this undertaking for Turkish, the Government would like to refer to the specific examples presented in the “Administrative authorities” chapter, Part II of the present report.

Relevant information is provided in **Annex 14** (number of minority-language-speakers employed in the specialized services subordinated to the local/county councils- 20 Turkish-speaking employees in the county of Constanta).

Paragraph 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:

...

- b recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required;*
- 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.*

As to the Committee's requests in paragraphs 963-964, to provide information regarding measures taken in accordance with this provision, the Government would like to refer to the specific examples presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

The decentralized public services offer and employ Turkish-speaking staff, depending on the availability of jobs and requests. Relevant information is provided in **Annex 14**.

Paragraph 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.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 965 to submit relevant information in the next periodical report, it is to be mentioned that the adoption of family names in the regional or minority languages is permitted, according to the option of the applicant, as the Law no. 287/2009 on the Civil Code, Articles 82 to 85 sets no interdiction in this regard. Turkish surnames are used in official papers. No refusals from authorities concerning the compiling of civil status acts in Turkish have been reported.

Article 11 – Media

Paragraph 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;*

Article 82, line 4, concerning audio-video law no. 504/2002, stipulates that in the areas where ethnics represent more than 20 % of the total population, radio and television service providers must ensure the transmission of programs broadcasted in the specific language of the minority. Either periodically or after certain referrals, The National Audio-video Council (Consiliul National al Audiovizualului), through the Inspection Service, checks if the

providers respect the norms of the above mentioned law: the program list is checked according to the *must carry* principle and the retransmission notice is checked as well. If the list of programs includes shows in the minority language and the retransmission notices exist as well, but the provider refuses to air them, the providers will be fined accordingly.

As regards the Committee's point of clarification in paragraph 969 on the duration of **television programmes** in Turkish, the Government would like to refer to the detailed considerations presented in Part II of the report, in the "Media" chapter. There is also updated information as regards **radio programs**.

As regards the extension of the duration of radio broadcasts in Turkish, this possibility is currently being explored by the Romanian Radio Broadcasting Corporation, in cooperation with the representatives of the Turkish minority.

b ...

- ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of radio programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;*

In case such demands were made, the Romanian state offered audio-video licenses for terrestrial transmissions of radio programs, through networks of communication. The legal frame is ensured by the Audio-video Law no. 504/2002. Therefore, the Democratic Turkish Union obtained license for Radio T, channel within the Territorial Studio of Radio Constanța. The mentioned radio channel broadcasts in Turkish and Tatar, for 9 hours, every day. Turkish shows take 60 % of the program list. Regarding the online transmission, the programs are broadcasted 24/7.

As regards the Committee's point of clarification in paragraph 970 on the radio broadcasts in Turkish, the Government would like to mention that Radio Constanta broadcasts in Turkish every Tuesday, from 19.03-20.00

c ...

- ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of television programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;*

The public television broadcasts Turkish shows weekly. The show lasts an hour. According to the channel list of the public television, the minority programmes are aired after the following schedule:

- a.i.1. TVR 1 – 13:00 – 14:00
- a.i.2. TVR 2 – 14:30 – 15:00
- a.i.3. TVRI – 15:30 – 16:00
- a.i.4. TVR3 – 11:30 – 13:00 (retransmissions)

Programmes about different minorities are broadcasted every day and, during a week's time, all minorities are covered.

As regards the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 972 to facilitate the broadcasting of private television programmes in Turkish on a regular basis, the Government would like to refer to the considerations made in Part II of the present report in the "Media" chapter.

In addition, some of the private distributors of television services have included Turkish channels into their grids. Such an example is Kanal D.

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

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 974 to facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audio-visual works in Turkish, it is to be mentioned that the state supports the process of producing of audio materials (CD's) and audio-video materials (DVD's), in Turkish. Through the Department for Interethnic Relations, funding for producing Turkish music CD's has been obtained. Furthermore, Turkish music has been included in CD's, which represent final products of various projects conducted by the Department (ex: including *Telegrafın Telleri* song into *Confluente Muzicale* CD).

- e i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages; or**

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 976 to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in Turkish, it is to be mentioned that the State supports the bilingual (Turkish and Romanian), monthly publication *Hakses*. The magazine appears in an edition of 100 copies, which are distributed free of charge.

- g to support the training of journalists and other staff for media using regional or minority languages.**

As regards the Committee's point of clarification in paragraph 977 on the support of the training of journalists and other staff for media using Turkish, the Government would like to refer to the considerations made in Part II of the present report, within the "Media" chapter. In addition, the Institute of Turkish and Central – Asian Studies at the *Babeş-Bolyai* University offers a special package of courses for journalists. The Institute referred to is mostly financed by the state's budget. Turkish journalists, from Turkey, can also benefit from programs sponsored by the Romanian State, through the Turkish Democratic Union in Romania.

Paragraph 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 above-mentioned 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.

As regards the Committee's point of clarification in paragraph 979 regarding re-transmission of radio broadcasts in Turkish, the Government would like to refer to the considerations made in Part II of the present report, in the "Media" chapter.

Paragraph 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.

As regards the Committee's point of clarification in paragraph 980 on the representation of minority language speakers in bodies guaranteeing the freedom and pluralism of media, the

Government would like to refer to the considerations made in Part II of the present report, within the “Media” chapter.

Although the Turkish community has not got its own representative in the NAC, the interests of the national minority are represented by the representative of the Democratic Union of Hungarians in Romania, a current NAC representative.

Furthermore, minorities have a representative in the Committee for Culture, Arts and Mass-media, a permanent committee of the Chamber of Deputies. The current vice president of the commission belongs to the Serbian minority.

The National Council for Combating Discrimination (NCCD) may be referred to, both by individuals and institutions, in case the interests of Turkish speakers (the Turkish minority) are harmed in any way, through and by media programs.

The petitions filed from 2008 until present time did not contain such complaints regarding Turkish.

The Turkish Democratic Union of Romania envisages, in view of the fact that local televisions showed availability towards selling airtime, to broadcast shows in Turkish, at a local level.

Article 12 – Cultural activities and facilities

Paragraph 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, post-synchronisation 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;*

As to the Committee’s requests in paragraphs 984 and 985 to submit, in the next periodical report, specific information concerning the application of these provisions to the Turkish language, the following elements are relevant:

The Institute of Turkish and Central – Asian Studies at the *Babeş-Bolyai* University in Cluj-Napoca issued the following books: *Tasin Gemil, Români și otomanii în sec.XIV-XVI*, Ovidius University Press, Constanța; *Tasin Gemil, Romanians and Ottomans in XIVth -XVIth Centuries*, Encyclopaedia Publishing House, Bucharest. Furthermore, the Institute, in partnership with the British Council, is in charge of developing the documentary fund on the Turkish space (both in Turkish and translated from Turkish into Romanian and English), for academics and the general public.

The Institute's website provides for a number of publications in Turkish, Romanian and other international foreign languages, about Turkish history and culture:
(<http://orient.institute.ubbcluj.ro/publicatii.html>).

The Romanian Cultural Institute in Istanbul, financed from the state budget, organizes programs which aim to promote Romanian literature by translating Romanian texts into Turkish. An example of such an event dates from June 2013, when a bilingual recital has been organized. The event aimed to promote the work of Mihai Eminescu through a performance in which children from the diaspora were the main actors. The event also included a multimedia presentation of the life and work of the Romanian poet. At the same time, to mark the birthday of the national poet, ICR Istanbul sent a poem, translated from Romanian into Turkish, to all contacts in the database of the Institute.

Moreover, the Institute contributed to the publication of a poetry book into Turkish at Ozan Publishing House in Istanbul: *The legendary poet of the Romanian Lyric: Mihai Eminescu (Poetul legendar al versului romanesc: Mihai Eminescu)*, a translation by the famous writer and translator Ali Narçın. It is for the first time when Eminescu's work was translated into Turkish directly from Romanian.

The Turkish Democratic Union of Romania received state budgeting support for translations into Romanian from the work of Turkish authors:

- *"Metodologia cercetării etnopsihologice"* (*The Methodology of Ethno-psychological Research*) – Mictat Gatlan
- *"KUR'AN-I KERİM'DEN SURE VE DUALAR"* – Musledin Firdes
- *„Transferuri de izvoare"* (Transfer of historical sources) – Fatma Sadic
- *„Poezii"* (Poetry) – Irfan Memet
- *„Lasă-mă să scriu"* (*Let me write*) poetry volume – Fatma Sadic

The above mentioned books are not meant to be sold, but are available for those interested at the Union library, as well as at Constanța County Library.

The Romanian Ministry of Culture, through its specialized department and subordinated institutions, organized between 2010-2013 in collaboration with the Turkish Democratic Union of Romania a series of cultural events, of which we mention: the International Symposium *"The Turkish Woman in the Balkans"*, where participants used the Turkish language, as well as Romanian. Simultaneous translation was provided.

The National History and Archaeology Museum Constanta in collaboration with the Turkish Democratic Union of Romania organized in 2013 the project *"Romanian-Turkish Cultural Interferences in the Dobrogea Region"* which has received a grant of 48,347 lei from the Administration of the National Cultural Fund.

It is to be added that the DIR has also financially supported a number of projects initiated by the Turkish Democratic Union of Romania such as the programme *"My beautiful mother tongue"* (Constanta, June 2013) (**Annex 7**).

In 2013 the Government has allocated to the Turkish Democratic Union of Romania, through the Department for Interethnic Relations, a total amount of 3 095 200 lei. An important part of this budget was spent for editing books and the publication Hakses, for numerous cultural activities as well as for reunions and working activities of the organization and its branches. In 2014 the budget allocated by the Government was of about 3 189 180 lei, the equivalent of more than 700 000 EUR.

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 988 to submit information concerning audio-visual materials and publication of works in Turkish in the next periodical report, it is to be mentioned that the National Library of Romania has copies of the published papers in the minorities languages, including those edited by the Turks in Romania. The Library of Constanta County keeps copies of works in Turkish as well as copies of the work of Turkish writers, translated into Romanian.

h if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 990 to submit relevant information, especially commenting on any need to develop necessary terminology in Turkish, in the next periodical report, the Government would like to refer to the elements presented in the Part II, "Culture" chapter of the present report.

Though there is no specific institutions that deals with terminological research, at the Faculty of Turkish Language and Literature of the University of Bucharest, and the Institute of Turkish and Central – Asian Studies of the *Babeş-Bolyai* University in Cluj-Napoca such researches are in progress.

Paragraph 3

The Parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 993 to submit, in the next periodical report, specific information (including examples) concerning the application of this provision to the Turkish language, it is to be mentioned that the National Romanian Village Museum presented at Istanbul in 2011-2013, in collaboration with the Romanian Cultural Institute, the exhibitions "Ada Kale – island in the soul". The island's story was built step by step with photos from the personal archives of the former islanders, from postcards and illustrations of the island's history, from old maps and tales of the islanders. Objects from Ada Kale with symbolic value completed the exhibition.

In addition, the Department for Interethnic Relations organizes both in Romania and abroad various cultural events that promote the languages and traditions of persons belonging to national minorities, from the country. Such manifestations occur during events such as the Minorities' Day, which takes place in December, which allows the DRI to invite both representatives of embassies and representatives of international institutions in Bucharest and around the country. The mentioned programs frequently benefit from the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

It is important to mention that various cultural exchanges between Romania and Turkey have taken place in time. The actions were organized by the Democratic Turkish Union from Romania, with the support of the Romanian state and other cultural or educational institutions. For instance, on the 12th of September, 2013, the International Congress *Polyphonic Cultural: Limbo, Cultură și Civilization Turaco în lumen* took place and it represented the second stage of a scientific effort initiated by The Faculty of Letters of *Ovidius* University, in Constanța, in the spring of 2013. The main subjects discussed were:

- the place and the importance of Turkish worldwide;

- didactic means of teaching Turkish, as a mother tongue/ modern language;
- universal themes and values in the Turkish literature;

The languages used during the congress were Romanian, Turkish and English.

The *Andrei Laguna* University organized in 2013 a seminar focused on the relationship between the academic institutions in the Black Sea area. The event benefitted from the presence of two representatives from two important Turkish Universities, *Aidan* and *Karabuk*. The seminar also represented an occasion for highlighting the importance of education in the mother tongue. The *Andrei Şaguna* University in Constanţa, together with the *Yunus Emre* Cultural Institute, founded a centre for Turkish Studies, which functions in the University.

Article 13 – Economic and social life

Paragraph 1

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

...

- b to prohibit the insertion in internal regulations of companies and private documents of any clauses excluding or restricting the use of regional or minority languages, at least between users of the same language;*

As regards the Committee’s point of clarification in paragraph 994, the Government would like to refer to the considerations it has made in Part II of the present report in the “Economic and social life” chapter. Regarding the use of Turkish, no complaints have been registered concerning forbidding or restricting the use of the language.

Article 14 – Transfrontier exchanges

The Parties undertake:

- b for the benefit of regional or minority languages, to facilitate and/or promote co-operation across borders, in particular between regional or local authorities in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form.*

As to the Committee’s point of clarification in paragraph 997 regarding existing multilateral and bilateral agreements in view of fostering contacts between the users of the same language in the States concerned in the fields of culture, education, information, vocational training and permanent education, the Government wishes to submit the following elements:

Juridical Framework:

1. *Program of cooperation between Romania and the Republic of Turkey in the fields of education, culture and arts, the media, youth and sports*, signed in Bucharest on 3 March 2008, valid for a period of one year from the date of its entry into force and automatically renewed for successive periods of one year, if no party denounces it six months before the expiry date;
2. *Protocol between the Government of Romania and the Government of Turkey on recognition of diplomas, certificates and academic degrees*, proposed by Turkish counterparts in March 2012 during negotiations;
3. *Charter of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation*, signed in Yalta on 06.05. 1998 and approved by Law no. 68/1999;

4. *Protocol on the operating conditions of Muslim Theological School and School "Kemal Atatürk" Medgidia* signed on 22.12.1999, valid until 31.12.2005, in force until the conclusion of a new Protocol;
5. *Protocol on the establishment and functioning of the Pedagogical Community College of the Institute "Kemal Atatürk" University "Ovidius" of Constanta*, signed on 14.06.2000, valid until the entry into force of the new Protocol;
6. *Draft Protocol on the operating conditions of the National College "Kemal Atatürk" Medgidia* in process of negotiation.
7. *Agreement between the Government of Romania and the Republic of Turkey on the establishment, operation and activities of the Romanian Cultural Institute Cantemir in Istanbul and Yunus Emre Turkish Centre in Bucharest - in negotiations.*
8. *Protocol of cooperation in the field of education between the Government of Romania and the Government of the Republic of Turkey.*

Scholarships

In 2010, "Ovidius" University of Constanta offered five scholarships for language courses, Romanian culture and civilization, organized by the university.

Lecturers:

For the academic year 2011-2012, the Embassy of Turkey in Romania nominated a Turkish lecturer at the University "Ovidius" of Constanta, in the person of Mr. Ahmet Yeni Kale.

In February 2012, the University "Trakya" in Edirne addressed the Ministry with a request to nominate a lecturer in Romanian language at that institution. The request was being considered by the Romanian Language Institute at the time of reporting.

Romanian universities are attended by Turkish citizens, as follows:

Year:	Total Turkish citizens	Of which:			
		BA	MA	Residency	PhD
2010-2011	364	362	0	1	1
2011-2012	514	492	1	0	21
2012-2013	533	504	17	3	9

Collaboration:

Representative places in this respect are: Constanta, Medgidia, Cobadin, Mangalia, Valul lui Traian, Fântâna-Mare, Tuzla, Castelu, Basarabi, Tulcea, Eforie Sud and Bucharest.

A special position is held by the National College "Kemal Atatürk" in Medgidia, established in partnership with the Ministry of Education in Turkey in 1995. The school includes grades I-XII providing theological and pedagogical teaching. In classes I-VIII language and religion are studied, among other subjects. At the high school level, specialized disciplines in theological education are also taught in Turkish, in addition to teaching Turkish language and literature as a subject of its own.

In the 2000-2001 school year, the Moslem Theological School and School "Kemal Atatürk" became a National Community College. Continued operation of the school unit in this form, provides for a greater range of specializations, preparing graduates who belong to the Turkish-Tatar ethnicity in Romania.

Other collaborations:

Cooperation agreements and twinning arrangements have been signed between 43 schools in Romania and schools in Turkey. Between 2010 and 2013, 18 new partnerships were developed.

In addition, the Education Commission of the Turkish Democratic Union from Romania is a member of the International Federation of Teachers from Europe and Asia, based in Ankara, an institution which reunites teachers from Turkey, Azerbaijan, Kosovo, Iraq, Afghanistan, Macedonia, Ukraine and Romania. Teachers, members of the organization, meet periodically, in one of the member countries.

The Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization organizes programs of cooperation between countries such as Turkey, Bulgaria, and Romania, countries with Turkish-speaking inhabitants. Romania holds the position of Deputy General Secretary of the Permanent International Secretariat (PERMIS) of the BSEC.

Cultural exchanges

November 2011 – Film Festival “Cultural Heritage of the Black Sea Region” with the participation of a director from each of the following countries: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Serbia, Turkey, Ukraine.

November 2011 – Inauguration of the Cultural Centres “Yunus Emre” in Bucharest and Constanta.

April 2011 – Joint research programme of the Ministry of Culture of Romania and the UNESCO National Commission of Turkey “Sharing the same taste: Turkish and Romanian common traditional cuisine”.

It is to be added that the following **twinning agreements** have been concluded between Romanian and Turkish municipalities:

- **2006** - the cities of Năvodari and Gemlik; the local councils of Giurgiu and Edirne;
- **2007** - Constanta and Izmir; the villages of Cumpăna and Akcay; the local councils of Petrila and Adana;
- 2008** - the cities of Râmnicu Vâlcea and Aydin;
- 2009** - Mangalia and Bodrum and Cesme; Băile Olănești, Bârlad and Cumayeri;
- 2011** - Botoșani and Karaman ; the villages of Grădiștea and Kilimli; the villages of Maneciu and Sarkoy; District 1 of Bucharest and the municipality of Beyoğlu – Istanbul;
- 2012** - the municipalities of Dorohoi and Aksaray; the municipalities of Medgidia and Mudanya.

Ukrainian

Article 8 – Education

General issues

On Ukrainian, Romania ratified the art. 8.1.a.i, b.i and c.i which obliges signatory State to provide education in the minority language without requiring prior request from parents or students.

Turkish language study is conducted based on the National Education Law, no. 1/2011, Article 45 and on the Methodology of study of a language as a native language, of study of

the Romanian language and literature, of study of the history and traditions of persons belonging to national minorities and of the study of music in the mother tongue - Articles 33, 34, 35 of the Order of the Ministry of Education no. 5671/2012). As the Government has presented in detail in the Part II “Education” chapter of the present report, classes with a number of students smaller than the minimum provided by law can be organized, according to the special procedure foreseen in Article 63 of the National Education Law.

Paragraph 1

With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:

a i to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or

As the Committee’s request in paragraph 99 to clarify how many children are enrolled at kindergartens that offer pre-school education in Ukrainian it is to be mentioned that in the school year 2012-2013, 1584 children were enrolled in preschool education.

b i to make available primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or

As to the contents of paragraph 1000, the Government would like to point out that the number of pupils in primary education in Ukrainian in the school year 2012-2013 was of 125.

As to the Committee’s recommendation in paragraph 1002 to promote a shift from the model of teaching Ukrainian only as a subject to teaching in Ukrainian, in conformity with the undertaking chosen, it is to be mentioned that all disciplines in the framework plan, **when studying Ukrainian as a mother tongue**, are taught in this language, except Romanian literature.

c i to make available secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or

The Government would like to point out that **the contents of paragraph 1003 must be updated with new information**. As such, 461 students were enrolled in secondary education in Ukrainian (41 in schools and 421 in high schools) in the 2012-2013 school year. The Ukrainian Taras Sevcenko high school in Sighetu Marmatiei, Maramures county, had 167 students and teaching was done exclusively in Ukrainian. One section of the Iulia Hajdeu National College in Lugoj, Timis county (167 pupils) and one section of the Technical College Latcu Voda in Siret, Suceava county (202 pupils) also teach exclusively in Ukrainian.

The Government would like to point out **that the contents of paragraph 1004 must be updated as well**, as a significant number of students in secondary (3237) and primary (2944) education learn Ukrainian as a subject or learn disciplines such as Music or Religion in Ukrainian in the 2012-2013 school year.

In view of the above-mentioned elements the Government submits that the Committee’s recommendation in paragraph 1005 to promote a shift from the model of teaching Ukrainian only as a subject to teaching in Ukrainian, in conformity with the undertaking chosen, has been fulfilled since the submission of the first report.

d i to make available technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or
ii to make available a substantial part of technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or
iii to provide, within technical and vocational education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or

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

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 1007 to develop, in close co-operation with the representatives of the Ukrainian speakers a strategy for teaching in or of Ukrainian at the different levels of education, in conformity with the undertakings entered into under the Charter, it is to be mentioned that there is teaching in Ukrainian at all levels of study (pre-school, primary, gymnasium, high-school) according to the legislation in force. For example, the Technological High-school Poienile de Sub Munte also includes 4 gymnasium and primary schools and 7 kindergartens. There are 93 school units that also include kindergartens and units with study lines in Ukrainian in the counties of Maramures, Suceava, Timis, Caras-Severin, Satu Mare, Botosani, Arad, Tulcea or in which the Ukrainian language is studied. The total number of students is 8205 in pre-school, primary and secondary education in the current school year.

Representative school units for technical and vocational education in Ukrainian are: "Taras Sevcenco" Pedagogical High School in Sighetu Marmatiei, Maramures County (teaching in Ukrainian), „Lațcu Vodă“ Technical College in Siret, Suceava County and „Iulia Hașdeu“ National College in Lugoj, Timiș County (hosting departments with teaching in Ukrainian).

e

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

In addition to the Ukrainian section at the University of Bucharest, Ukrainian language can be studied in the "Stefan cel Mare" University in Suceava and the "Babes-Bolyai" University in Cluj-Napoca. 30 students were enrolled in the first year of study in 2013-2013 at "Babes-Bolyai" University of Cluj-Napoca, and 12 students were enrolled in the first year of study at the "Stefan cel Mare" University of Suceava in 2013-2014.

- 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;*

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 1011 to favour and/or encourage the offering of Ukrainian as a subject of adult and continuing education, it is to be mentioned that Ukrainian is not taught as a subject of adult and continuing education. There are however periodical train-the-trainer courses dedicated to the teachers that teach in Ukrainian or that teach Ukrainian as a subject. Every year, the councillor dealing with teaching of/in Ukrainian through the Embassy of Ukraine in Bucharest or through the Ministry of Education from Ukraine, contacts universities from Ukraine in order to ensure that 10-20 Ukrainian teachers are sent to participate in such courses, for a period of 5-10 days in Romania. Training courses for teachers have also been organised at the Maramures House of Teacher Training (*Casa Corpului Didactic*).

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 1015 to provide, in the next periodical report, specific information on whether also non-speakers benefit from the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the Ukrainian language, it is to be mentioned that the discipline "the history and traditions of persons belonging to national minorities" is a discipline which is part of the core curriculum for the 6th and 7th grades.

For Romanian students, there is an optional course entitled *History of national minorities*, designed with the support of the Department for Interethnic Relations, which also contributed to the editing of a textbook in 2008. The textbook contains information about all minorities living in Romania and is written in Romanian and was edited with the help of history teachers belonging to all minorities. This subject can be studied in upper secondary education, not only in the tenth grade, as indicated in the report from June 2012. In the 2012-2013 school year, 50 classes chose this course.

Students that do not speak a minority language can learn about the history and traditions of minorities or the general course of history, or, if they so wish, by opting for the abovementioned course in the upper secondary education cycle.

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 1017 to provide more information on the basic and further training of the teachers required to implement their undertakings under Article 8.1.a-g, it is to be mentioned that teachers that teach in Ukrainian or that teach Ukrainian can benefit from training in Ukrainian universities, with the help of the Embassy of Ukraine in Romania: in 2010, 20 teachers from 8 counties were trained in Cernauti, in 2011 the same number of teachers was trained in Lviv and also 10 teachers from Maramures were trained in Ivano-Frankivsk on the basis of the partnership between the Region of Ivano-Frankivsk and the County School Inspectorate of Maramures. In 2012, an additional group of 15 teachers was trained within the framework of this partnership.

i to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 1019 to set up a supervisory body responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of Ukrainian and for drawing up public periodic reports of its findings, it is to be mentioned that, in the Ministry of Education and in the county school inspectorates that organize teaching in minority languages, there are inspectors in charge of monitoring of the educational process on the study of the minority language. According to the data provided by the Union of Ukrainians from Romania, the county school inspectorates at county level from Suceava, Maramures and Caras-Severin hired Ukrainian speakers as school inspectors for the Ukrainian language. Their reports are duly taken into account by the Ministry of Education when elaborating policies regarding the teaching of the Ukrainian language.

Paragraph 2

With regard to education and 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 or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all the appropriate stages of education.

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 1020 to promote this possibility among Ukrainian speakers with a view to achieving at least a certain level of fulfilment it is to be mentioned that the Ministry of Education has not communicated the existence of such requests coming from areas in which Ukrainian is not traditionally used.

Article 9 – Judicial authorities

Paragraph 1

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

a in criminal proceedings:

...

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 1022 to provide, in the next periodical report, specific information about the practical implementation of this provision concerning Ukrainian, the Government would like to refer to the elements presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. It is to be mentioned that, in 2011 and 2012, the Ministry of Justice has issued authorisations for a number of **25** interpreters and translators of Ukrainian.

a 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; and/or

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 1025 to clarify, in the next periodical report, whether the legal set-up allows in practice that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, may be produced in Ukrainian, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. Evidence will in no case be considered inadmissible if produced in a minority language. An authorised translation may be required in some cases, while in others (see aforementioned chapter) the proceedings are done in the minority language (see the example of the first instance court of Odorheiu Secuiesc in the aforementioned chapter and also other examples provided for in the **Annex 4**).

b in civil proceedings:

...

ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 1027 to provide, in the next periodical report, specific information about the practical implementation of this undertaking for Ukrainian, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

b iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 1029 to clarify, in the next periodical report, whether the legal set-up allows in practice that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, may be produced in Ukrainian, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

Evidence will in no case be considered inadmissible if produced in a minority language. An authorised translation may be required in some cases, while in others (see aforementioned chapter) the proceedings are done in the minority language (see the example of the first instance court of Odorheiu Secuiesc in the aforementioned chapter).

c *in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:*

...

ii *to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or*

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 1031 to provide, in the next periodical report, specific information about the practical implementation of this undertaking concerning Ukrainian, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

c **iii** *to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,*

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 1033 to clarify, whether the legal set-up allows in practice that requests and evidence, whether written or oral may be produced in Ukrainian, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

Paragraph 2

The Parties undertake:

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 1036 to provide, in the next periodical report, information about the implementation of this undertaking, the Government would like to refer to the general considerations presented in the "Judicial authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report. No cases were reported of denying the validity of a document solely because it was drafted in Ukrainian.

Paragraph 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.

1038. The Committee of Experts encourages the Romanian authorities to make available in Ukrainian the most important national statutory texts and those relating particularly to users of this language, unless they are otherwise provided

This is an objective that Romania is striving to implement in the next reporting period and eventual measures will be established in cooperation with the Department of Interethnic Relations and the Institute for the Study of Problems of National Minorities.

Article 10 – Administrative authorities and public services

According to the final data of the 2011 population census, 50.920 Romanian citizens stated that they belong to the Ukrainian minority, 48.910 of them having declared Ukrainian as their mother tongue. In numerical terms, the Ukrainian minority represents the third national minority from Romania. Compared to the 2002 census, in 2011 there is a decrease in the number of Ukrainian ethnic citizens (61.098 in 2002 – 50.920 in 2011), as this follows the general trend of decrease of Romania's population.

The greatest concentration of Ukrainian population is in the Maramures county – 30,548, of which 29,684 of them live in the rural area, and 846 live in the urban area (according to the data provided by the National Institute of Statistics). Significant concentrations of Ukrainian population are found in counties like Suceava, Caras-Severin, Maramures, Tulcea, Arad, Botosani, Satu Mare. The share is of over 20% in the localities of Birna – 27.32%, (Timis) Copacele – 59.41%, Paltinis – 34.63% (Caras-Severin), Remeti – 70.92%, Ruscova – 90.43%, Repedea – 94.82%, Bistra – 84.88%, Rona de Sus – 83.34%, Poienile de Sub Munte – 91.86%, Bocicoiu Mare – 52.72% (Maramures), Balcauti – 69.67%, Izvoarele Sucevei – 55.11%, Ulma – 40.40% (Suceava), Stiuca – 96.28% (Timis).

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 1039 to submit, in the next periodical report, a list of the localities where the Ukrainian speakers live in numbers relevant for the purposes of Article 10, the Government would also like to refer to the elements presented in **Annex 5** (list of localities which display bilingual or multilingual place-names).

Paragraph 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 ...

- ii to ensure that such of their officers as are in contact with the public use the regional or minority languages in their relations with persons applying to them in these languages; or*
- iii to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications and receive a reply in these languages; or*
- iv to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications in these languages; or*
- v to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may validly submit a document in these languages;*

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 1044 to provide more information on the use of Ukrainian in local branches of the state administration, the Government would like to refer to the information presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report (4 Ukrainian speakers employed within the territorial units of the Romanian Gendarmerie, Ukrainian speakers employed within the Public Relations Department of the prefect's institution of Arad, 153 Ukrainian speakers employed in the territorial units of the Romanian Border Police). Also, a total number of **149 public servants** are **Ukrainian ethnics** employed in the territorial offices of the local administration (mayor's offices) in the Botosani, Maramures, Suceava and Timis Counties, according to the situation presented by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 9** of the present report.

According to the situation presented by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 14**, a total number of **168 Ukrainian speakers** are employed in the in the mayor's office/county

councils and the specialized services subordinated to these. Out of these, 104 are employed in in the local/county councils in the county of Maramures, and 41 are employed in in the mayor's office/county council of Suceava.

Paragraph 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;*

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 1047 to allow and/or encourage the possibility for users of Ukrainian to submit oral or written applications in this language to local authorities, the Government would like to refer to the considerations presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter of the present report.

According to the data provided by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 13**, Ukrainian is used in the mayor's offices in relation to the speakers of this language in the counties of Caras-Severin (localities of Copacele and Paltinis, in which the share of Ukrainian ethnics is over 20% and Moldova Noua in which the share is below 20%), Maramures (Remeti, Ruscova, Repedea, Bistra, Poienile de Sub Munte, Rona de Sus- in which the share is over 20%), Satu Mare (Micula, in which the share is below 20%), Suceava (Balcauti, Izvoarele Sucevei, Ulma- in which the share is above 20% and Siret, Darmanesti, Moldova Sulita, Musenita - even though the share is below 20% in each of these localities), Timis (Birna - in which the share is over 20%) and Nitchidorf (in which the share is below 20%), Caras-Severin (county council of Caras-Severin, although the share is below 20% at county level).

According to the information provided by the Ministry of the Interior in **Annex 17**, there is the possibility to submit applications in Ukrainian in the localities of Copacele, Paltinis, Sacu (county of Caras-Severin, even if the share is above 20% only in the first two localities), Remeti, Bistra, Poienile de Sub Munte, Rona de Sus (county of Maramures), Agris, Micula (Satu Mare - the share is below 20%), Balcauti, Izvoarele Sucevei, Ulma, Siret, Musenita (county of Suceava - the share is over 20% only in the first three localities), Birna (county of Timis - share is over 20%).

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

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 1049 to allow and/or encourage the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in Ukrainian, it is to be mentioned that, according to the situation presented in Annex 18, such documents are not published.

- e** *the use by regional authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;*
- f** *the use by local authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;*

As to the Committee's recommendations in paragraphs 1050 and 1052 to allow and/or encourage the use by local authorities of Ukrainian in debates in their assemblies and to present more information on this issue, it is to be mentioned that, according to the information presented in **Annex 15**, Ukrainian is used in the localities of Repedea, Bistra, Poienile de Sub

Munte, Rona de Sus in the county of Maramures and in the locality of Darmanesti (county of Suceava).

- 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.*

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 1055, to provide more information on the use of place-names in Ukrainian in the next periodical report, the Government would like to refer to the details presented in **Annex 5**.

Paragraph 3

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

- a to ensure that the regional or minority languages are used in the provision of the service; or*
- b to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request and receive a reply in these languages; or*
- c to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request in these languages.*

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 1058 to ensure that Ukrainian is used in the provision of public services and to provide information about the implementation of this undertaking for Ukrainian, the Government would like to refer to the specific examples presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

Relevant information is provided in **Annex 14** (number of minority-language-speakers employed in the specialized services subordinated to the local/county councils - 6 Ukrainian-speaking employees in the counties of Timis, Maramures, Suceava).

Paragraph 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:

...

- b recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required;*
- 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.*

As to the Committee's requests in paragraphs 1060-1061, to provide information regarding measures taken in accordance with this provision, the Government would like to refer to the specific examples presented in the "Administrative authorities" chapter, Part II of the present report.

Local public authorities and local decentralized public services from the counties where the Ukrainian citizens are in significant number employ Ukrainian speakers thus providing services in Ukrainian language. Relevant information is provided in **Annex 14**.

Paragraph 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.

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 1063 to submit relevant information in the next periodical report, it is to be mentioned that the adoption of family names in the regional or minority languages is permitted, according to the option of the applicant, as the Law no. 287/2009 on the Civil Code, Articles 82 to 85 sets no interdiction in this regard. The Union of

Ukrainians has not reported any problems regarding the use of family names in official documents, in Ukrainian.

Article 11 – Media

Paragraph 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;*

As to the Committee's point of clarification in paragraph 1067, regarding the broadcast time of the television programmes in Ukrainian, the Government would like to refer to the considerations made in Part II of the present report, in the "Media" chapter.

It is to be noted that the local broadcasting station TVR Cluj transmits a 30-minute programme dedicated to the Ukrainians in Romania. The programme is broadcasted also on TVR3 between 12.00 - 12.30 hrs and can be watched throughout the country. The Union of Ukrainians (UUR) has requested the Romanian National Television Broadcasting Company to set up an editorship for the Ukrainian language. This option is currently being considered in cooperation with the UUR and the decision will depend on the available financial resources.

As to the Committee's recommendation to consider extending the broadcasting time in Ukrainian on public radio, the Government would like to inform that such a possibility is currently being analysed by the Romanian Radio Broadcasting Corporation, in cooperation with the representatives of the Ukrainian minority.

b ...

ii *to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of radio programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;*

As to the Committee's question in paragraph 1069, the Government would like to refer to the considerations made in Part II of the present report, in the "Media" chapter.

It is to be added that Ukrainian programmes are broadcasted weekly by Sighet Radio (on Fridays from 19:00 o'clock to 20:00 o'clock), Timisoara Radio (on Sundays from 18:00 o'clock to 19:00 o'clock), Resita Radio (on Mondays from 14:20 to 14:50), Iasi Radio (from 15:00 o'clock to 15:30 o'clock).

c ...

ii *to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of television programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;*

As to the Committee's point of clarification in paragraph 1069, on information about private television programmes in Ukrainian, the Government would like to point out that the cable television operator UPC retransmits two Ukrainian channels "1+1" and "TRK Ucraina" as part of its standard program package.

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

As to the Committee's request in paragraph 1071 to submit, in their next periodical report, additional information about measures taken to encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audio-visual works in Ukrainian, the Government would like to refer to the considerations made in Part II of the present report, in the "Media" chapter as to the broadcasting by the territorial studio TVR Cluj of the programme "Ucraineni".

- e i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages; or*

As to the Committee's recommendation in paragraph 1073 to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in Ukrainian, it is to be mentioned that in 2012, UUR edited, **financially supported by the state budget**, 4 Ukrainian newspapers and 1 Romanian newspaper: "The Ukrainian Courier" (twice a month in Romanian language) - 24 editions of 30.000 copies each; "Ucrainskei Visnek" (twice a month in Ukrainian language) - 24 editions of 30.000 copies each; "Vilne Slovo" (twice a month magazine for children in Ukrainian language) - 24 editions of 27.600 copies each; Nas Hollos (twice a month in Ukrainian language) - 24 editions of 18.000 copies each; "Bell" (Zvonec) (twice a month in Ukrainian language) - 24 editions of 36.000 copies each. The periodicals are also posted on the organization's website – www.uur.ro

- g to support the training of journalists and other staff for media using regional or minority languages.*

As to the Committee's point of clarification in paragraph 1074, on the support of the training of journalists and other staff for media using Ukrainian, the Government would like to refer to the considerations made in Part II of the present report, within the "Media" chapter.

Paragraph 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.

As regards the Committee's point of clarification in paragraph 1077 on the representation of minority language speakers in bodies guaranteeing the freedom and pluralism of media, the Government would like to refer to the considerations made in Part II of the present report, within the "Media" chapter.

Article 12 – Cultural activities and facilities

Paragraph 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, post-synchronisation 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;*

As to the Committee's recommendations in paragraphs 1081 and 1083 to also support dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities, the following elements are relevant:

The Ministry of Culture, during all the culturally-scientific activities undertaken with the Ukrainian community from Romania, aimed to encourage the permanent use of the Ukrainian language including by supporting translations and, in some cases, dubbing, post-synchronization and subtitling.

As an example we mention: the fifth edition of the International Scientific Symposium “*Romanian-Ukrainian Relations. History and present*”, organized by the Satu-Mare County Museum, in November 2011, or the Scientific Symposium “*On the tracks of the Sevckenian destiny*” from the same year, held with the support of the University of Bucharest - the Faculty of Languages, to commemorate 150 years since the death of the Ukrainian national poet Taras Sevcenco, organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture, as well as the jubilee edition (the twentieth) of the poet Taras Sevcenco’s Celebrations in Bucharest, in March 2012.

In 2012, the Union of Ukrainians of Romania also organized, with financial support from the state budget, a series of cultural programs aimed at promoting the Ukrainian language: *The Ukrainian Culture Month Taras Sevcenco – The Ukrainian People’s Poet* (in the following counties: Arad, Caras-Severin, Cluj, Maramures, Suceava, Iasi, Galati, Botosani, Tulcea and Bucharest); “*Poetry Contest*”: *The artistic-literary recall of the Ukrainian writers of Bucovina*, cultural manifestations assigned to the International Day of Native Language (in the following counties: Timis, Maramures, Satu Mare, Botosani, Suceava).

In 2013 the Government has allocated to the Ukrainian Union of Romania, through the Department for Interethnic Relations, a total amount of 6 784 050 lei. An important part of this budget was spent for editing books and publications, for numerous cultural activities as well as for reunions and working activities of the organization and its branches. In 2014 the budget allocated by the Government was of about 6 990 000 lei, the equivalent of more than 1.55 million EUR.

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

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 1087 to submit information concerning audio-visual materials and publication of works in Ukrainian it is to be mentioned that the National Library of Romania possesses copies of the published papers in the minority languages, including those edited by and for the Ukrainians in Romania. From the perspective of accessibility to the titles produced and published in Ukraine, the National Library of Romania undertakes annually an exchange for 35 titles published by the Vernadsky National Library of Ukraine and the Parliamentary National Library of Ukraine.

The Ministry of Culture develops a data bank with audio-video content recorded at various cultural events, as well as books published in Ukrainian by the cultural institutions subordinated to the Ministry of Culture.

h *if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.*

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 1089 to submit the relevant information, especially commenting on any need to develop necessary terminology in Ukrainian, in the next periodical report, it is to be mentioned that the Ministry of Culture supported over time the ethnographic and sociologic research in various regions, including the one conducted in December 2011 and in many other previous editions by the Satu-Mare County Museum –

“*The Ukrainian Minority in North-Western Romania*”. The results will be published in a special volume.

Paragraph 3

The Parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect.

As to the Committee’s request in paragraph 1093 to clarify, in the next periodical report, to what extent the mentioned activities contribute to increase awareness of the Ukrainian language in Romania in the context of Romania’s cultural policy abroad, the following elements are relevant:

The Ministry of Culture, through its expertise and subordinated institutions, organized between 2010 and 2013 a series of cultural and scientific events in cooperation with the Ukrainian minority, contributing to a better maintenance and effective use of the Ukrainian language.

Of these, two scientific symposiums are worth mentioning: the International Scientific Symposium “*Romanian-Ukrainian Relations. History and present*” and the Scientific Symposium “*On the tracks of the Sevckenian destiny*”, as well as the “*100 years anniversary of the Ukrainian poet Havrylo Clempus*” held on the 24th -25th July 2010, in his native village of Valea Visului, Maramures county, both organized in cooperation with the Union of the Ukrainians in Romania.

“*The international festival of the Ukrainian folklore*”, organized by the Ministry of Culture, at the initiative of the Union of the Ukrainians in Romania, in Timisoara in 2010 and in Tulcea in 2011, contributed to a better collaboration between artistic ensembles from the entire country with similar ensembles from Ukraine and other countries. Communication was made mostly in Ukrainian. New Ukrainian songs were also composed on such occasions, thus contributing to the enrichment of the musical repertoire, as well as of the Ukrainian language.

Article 13 – Economic and social life

Paragraph 1

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

...

- b to prohibit the insertion in internal regulations of companies and private documents of any clauses excluding or restricting the use of regional or minority languages, at least between users of the same language;*

As to the Committee’s point of clarification in paragraph 1094 on the prohibition of insertion in internal regulations of the companies of any clauses excluding or restricting the use of regional or minority languages at least between users of the same language, the Government would like to refer to the comments made in Part II of the present report, in the “Media” chapter.

Article 14 – Transfrontier exchanges

The Parties undertake:

- b** for the benefit of regional or minority languages, to facilitate and/or promote co-operation across borders, in particular between regional or local authorities in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form.

As to the Committee's point of clarification in paragraph 1097 regarding existing multilateral and bilateral agreements in view of fostering contacts between the users of the same language in the States concerned in the fields of culture, education, information, vocational training and permanent education, the Government wishes to submit the following elements:

Juridical framework

1. Agreement between the Government of Romania and the Government of Ukraine on cooperation in the fields of culture, science and education, signed in Bucharest in 1992, the document in force.
2. Cooperation agreement between the Ministry of Education of Romania and the Ministry of Education of Ukraine, signed at Bucharest on 25 August 1995 for a period of five years, automatically extended for periods of one year, effective document.
3. Convention between the Government and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on mutual recognition and equivalence of diplomas and scientific degrees obtained in Romania and Ukraine, signed in Bucharest on February 19, 1999, document in force.
4. Protocol on cooperation in education between the Ministry of Education, Research and Youth of Romania and the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine for the years of education 2008 - 2009, 2009 - 2010 and 2010 - 2011, signed in Kiev on July 18, 2008, expired.
5. Protocol of cooperation between the Ministry of Culture of Romania and the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Ukraine for 2012-2015 (under negotiation).

School Year	Total Scholarships (B) and tuition waivers (FTB)	Of which:				
		Pre-University	BA	MA	Residency	PhD
2010-2011	82	4	50	14	10	4
2011-2012	59	-	47	7	5	-
2012-2013	63	6	50	6	-	1

Starting with the school year 2011-2012, in the absence of a new bilateral document, scholarships were awarded unilaterally to Ukrainian citizens of Romanian ethnic origin.

In the school / university year 2012-2013 **63** places financed from the state budget were occupied, of which **6** places with **scholarship** for **high school**, **50** places for **undergraduate** studies (**25** places with **scholarship** and **25** places with **tuition waiver**), **6** for **Master's Degree** (2 places with **scholarship** and **4** places with **tuition waiver**), **1** place with **scholarship** for **doctoral studies**.

Cultural exchanges

April 2011 – Concert of the Phoenix Quartet from Lvov at the “*Tinerimea Română*” Cultural Centre in Bucharest

It is to be added that the following **twinning agreements** have been concluded between Romanian and Ukrainian municipalities:

- **2006** - the County Council of Iași and the Regional Administration of Odessa; the localities of Sucevița and Voloca; the County Council of Iași and the Regional Administration of Vinnytsa;
- **2007** - the County of Iași and the Region of Ivano-Frankivsk; the County Council of Satu Mare and the Region of Transcarpatia; the County Council of Maramureș and the Regional State Administration of Transcarpatia;
- **2008** - the localities of Flămânzi and Hliboca; the County Council of Tulcea and the Regional Council of Odessa;
- **2009** - the County Council of Suceava and the Regional State Administration of Cernăuți; the villages of Balcauți and Opișeni; the localities of Tăuții Măgherauș and Hust; the villages of Mihăileni and Volcineții Vechi; the villages of Văculești and Stănești; the villages of Remeti and Visc; the villages of Sulița and Noua Sulița; the municipality of Timișoara and Cernăuți; the villages of Viișoara and Tirnăuca;
- **2011**- the cities of Darabani and Herța; the villages of Durnești and Horbova; the County Council of Maramureș and the Regional Administration of Ivano-Frankivsk;
- **2012** - the villages of Botiz and Grușevo; Constanța and Yalta; Cernăuți and Iași; the villages of Medieșu Aurit and Apșa de Jos; the cities of Negrești Oaș and Slatna; the villages of Supur and Topcino; the villages of Tarna Mare and Hija.

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ANNEX 11- Bilingual place-name signs in Constanta County

ANNEX 12 - Bilingual or multilingual place-name signs in Timis County

ANNEX 12 bis - Bilingual or multilingual place-name signs in Sibiu County

ANNEX 13 - The use of minority languages by the authorities of the local public administration (mayor's offices)

ANNEX 14 - Situation of minority language speakers employed in the offices of the local public administration (mayor's offices, county councils and the specialized services subordinated to the local/county councils)

ANNEX 15 - The use of minority languages in the debates of local assemblies

ANNEX 16 - The use of minority languages in the municipalities of Cluj Napoca, Lugoj, Oradea, Pitesti, Reghin, Resita, Sebes (source: Association of Municipalities of Romania)

ANNEX 17 - The possibility to submit applications to local public authorities in minority languages (mayor's offices/county councils)

ANNEX 18 - Publication of official documents of local/county councils in minority languages

ANNEX 19 - Documents issued by local public authorities in regional/minority languages

ANNEX 20 - The availability of the widely used administrative texts and forms in regional/minority languages

ANNEX 21 - The possibility of receiving treatment in German and Hungarian languages