



**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE
FRAMEWORK CONVENTION FOR THE
PROTECTION OF NATIONAL MINORITIES**

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COUNCIL OF EUROPE



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Fifth Report submitted by Poland

**Pursuant to Article 25, paragraph 2 of the Framework
Convention for the Protection of National Minorities –
received on 7 March 2023**

5th Report

Report to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on the implementation by the Republic of Poland of the provisions of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities

Warsaw 2022

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Introduction

The obligation of the Republic of Poland to transmit to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe this Report on the implementation of the *Framework Convention for the Protection of Minorities* arises from Article 25 of the *Framework Convention*. Prepared by the Department for Religious Denominations and National and Ethnic Minorities of the Ministry of the Interior and Administration, the Report covers a four-year period including the data for the years 2017 - 2021.

The present document is the fifth report on the implementation of the *Framework Convention for the Protection of Minorities* prepared by the Republic of Poland for the Secretary General of the Council of Europe. The previous report was transmitted on 19 December 2020.

The indicated publications of cited legal acts refer to the situation as of 31 December 2021.

The term "national and ethnic minorities" used in the text of the Report refers to the national and ethnic minorities referred to in the *Act of 6 January 2005 on national and ethnic minorities and on the regional language*¹ as well as to the users of the Kashubian language.

When preparing the *5th Report*, it was decided to present updated information included in the *4th Report* in addition to matters subject to e.g. legal or factual changes. The authors believe that this should enhance the clarity of the document.

In the period covered, Statistics Poland (*Główny Urząd Statystyczny*) conducted the 2021 National Census of Population and Housing. The 2021 Census was the third post-war Polish census that asked the respondents about their national or ethnic identity, and the second in which the respondents could indicate a dual affiliation. Detailed data regarding national and ethnic minorities has not been elaborated yet and its publication is expected in 2023.

The previous reports can be found on the following website:

- <https://www.coe.int/en/web/minorities/poland>

Resolution CM/ResCMN(2020)12 of the Council of Europe of 21 November 2020 on the implementation of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities by Poland contained a number of valuable remarks on strengthening actions for national and ethnic minorities. The matters raised by the Council of Europe in the Resolution are reflected in the information contained in the *5th Report*. The authors of the Report decided not to refer to individual remarks raised in the Resolution as they considered that the information on the respective rights covered by the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities provides also a clear response to the recommendations made in Resolution CM/ResCMN(2020)12 of the Council of Europe of 21 November 2020 and confirms the implementation of those recommendations.

It must be highlighted that bodies implementing tasks in support of national and ethnic minorities and users of the regional language constantly receive subsidies for the implementation of tasks aimed at protecting, maintaining and preserving the cultural identity. Their actions include *inter alia* projects supporting teachers of minority languages, minority art groups and initiatives addressed to school children and youth as well as initiative popularising the literature of a specific national or ethnic minority or the Kashubian community. Subsidies are also granted to projects addressed to wide groups of audience, with target groups including minority members at school age as well as seniors.

¹ Journal of Laws of 2017, item 823.

Furthermore, a dialogue with representatives of the Joint Commission of the Government and National and Ethnic Minorities (*Komisja Wspólna Rządu i Mniejszości Narodowych i Etnicznych*, KWRiMNIe) was opened to specify the procedure for nominating its members. In response to a letter of 30 June 2020 by dr Grzegorz Kuprianowicz, Co-Chair of the KWRiMNIe, in which he transmitted the document *Mniejszości narodowe i etniczne w Polsce – najważniejsze zagadnienia nurtujące środowiska mniejszości narodowych i etnicznych* (National and ethnic minorities in Poland – the key issues of interest to national and ethnic minority communities), the manner of appointing and dismissing Commission members representing minorities was specified in Point Re. 6 "Functioning of the Joint Commission".

Moreover, it must be highlighted at the outset that on 21 December 2020 the Council of Ministers adopted the multi-annual *Programme of social and civic integration of the Roma population in Poland for the years 2021–2030*. The programme is implemented by the Minister competent for matters of religious denominations and ethnic and national minorities.

Acronyms

A list of acronyms and terms used in the Report:

GUS – Statistics Poland

IPN – Institute of National Remembrance – Commission for the Prosecution of Crimes against the Polish Nation (*Instytut Pamięci Narodowej – Komisja Ścigania Zbrodni przeciwko Narodowi Polskiemu*)

Language Charter – European Charter of Regional or Minority Languages

Joint Commission – Joint Commission of the Government and National and Ethnic Minorities (*Komisja Wspólna Rządu i Mniejszości Narodowych i Etnicznych*)

Framework Convention – Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities

KRRiT – National Broadcasting Council (*Krajowa Rada Radiofonii i Telewizji*)

MEiN – Minister of Education and Science (*Minister Edukacji i Nauki*)^I or Ministry of Education and Science (*Ministerstwo Edukacji i Nauki*)^{II}

MEN – Minister of National Education (*Minister Edukacji Narodowej*)^{III} or Ministry of National Education (*Ministerstwo Edukacji Narodowej*)^{IV}

MKDiS – Minister of Culture, National Heritage and Sport (*Minister kultury, dziedzictwa narodowego i sportu*)^V or Ministry of Culture, National Heritage and Sport (*Ministerstwo Kultury, Dziedzictwa Narodowego i Sportu*)

MKiDN – Minister of Culture and National Heritage (*Minister Kultury i Dziedzictwa Narodowego*)^{VI} or Ministry of Culture and National Heritage (*Ministerstwo Kultury i Dziedzictwa Narodowego*)

^I Since 2020

^{II} Since 1 January 2021

^{III} Until 2020

^{IV} Until 31 December 2020

^V In 2020 – 2021.

^{VI} Until 2020 and since 2021

minority – an national minority, an ethnic minority, users of the regional language

MSWiA – Minister of the Interior and Administration (*Minister Spraw Wewnętrznych i Administracji*) or Ministry of the Interior and Administration (*Ministerstwo Spraw Wewnętrznych i Administracji*)

NSP - National Census of Population and Housing (*Narodowy Powszechny Spis Ludności i Mieszkań*)

PKW – State Election Commission (*Państwowa Komisja Wyborcza*)

Integration Programme – the Programme of Integration of the Roma Community in Poland in 2014-2020

FCNM Report – a Report on the implementation of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities

RP – Republic of Poland

Kashubian community – the community of users of the Kashubian regional language

Minorities Act – the Act of 6 January 2005 on national and ethnic minorities and on the regional language

Part I

General

Characteristics of the State

The Republic of Poland covers the area of 312,679 km² and is inhabited by 38.15 million people.

It borders the Federal Republic of Germany, the Czech Republic, the Slovak Republic, Ukraine, the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Lithuania and the Russian Federation.

The Republic of Poland is a unitary state, with a parliamentary-cabinet government system. The legislative power is exercised by the *Sejm* (460 Members) and Senate (100 Senators)ⁱ. The two chambers are elected for a 4-year term in a universal and direct election through secret ballot, while the election of the *Sejm* is also equal and proportional. During the current term, which ends in 2023, the *Sejm* includes one Member elected from the election committee of the German minority. Although some Members of Parliament publicly declare belonging to a national or ethnic minority, they have been elected from committees other than minority committees.

The executive power is exercised by the President of the Republic of Poland and the Council of Ministers. The President of the Republic of Poland is elected in a general election for a 5-year termⁱⁱ. The current presidential term ends in 2025. The Council of Ministers is appointed by the President of the Republic of Poland, and the *Sejm* gives the Council a vote of confidenceⁱⁱⁱ.

The judicial power is exercised by independent courts and tribunals^{iv}.

Poland is divided into 16 voivodeships (*województwo*), which are divided into 314 counties (*powiat*) and 2,477 communes (*gmina*), including 66 cities with county rights, which gives a total of 2,807 local government units.^v

Status of international law in the national legal system

In accordance with Article 9 of the *Constitution of the Republic of Poland* of 2 April 1997 (Journal of Laws No. 78, item 483, as amended), "The Republic of Poland shall respect international law binding upon it." According to the case law of the Constitutional Tribunal is understood not only as "a grandiose declaration addressed to the international community, but also an obligation of state bodies, including the government, parliament and the courts, to observe the international law, which is binding for the Republic of Poland. Apart from appropriate changes in the national legal order, the implementation of this obligation may require the bodies of public administration to undertake specific actions within the

ⁱ Articles 95-124 of the Constitution of the Republic of Poland.

ⁱⁱ Articles 126-145 of the Constitution of the Republic of Poland.

ⁱⁱⁱ Articles 146-162 of the Constitution of the Republic of Poland.

^{iv} Articles 173-201 of the Constitution of the Republic of Poland.

^v Articles 163-172 of the Constitution of the Republic of Poland.

scope of their assigned competencies".¹. Considering the above, it must be highlighted that respect for international law, including in particular the fundamental principles of international law set forth in the Charter of the United Nations or the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe is among the priorities of the Polish State's policy and is reflected in *inter alia* the international activity of Poland.

Pursuant to Article 87 of the *Constitution*, the sources of universally binding law of the Republic of Poland are: the Constitution, legislative, ratified international agreements, regulations and enactments of local law applicable in the territory of the local organ issuing such enactments.

Furthermore, Article 91 of the *Constitution* provides that after promulgation of a ratified international agreement in the Journal of Laws of the Republic of Poland (*Dziennik Ustaw*), that agreement shall constitute part of the domestic legal order and shall be applied directly, unless its application depends on the enactment of a legislative act. An international agreement ratified upon prior consent granted by a legislative shall have precedence over an act if such an agreement cannot be reconciled with the provisions of that act. Furthermore, if an agreement, ratified by the Republic of Poland, establishing an international organisation so provides, the laws established by that organisation shall be applied directly and have precedence in the event of a conflict of laws.

The *Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities* is an agreement ratified by the Republic of Poland with a prior consent granted in an act, which makes it part of national legal order and gives it precedence over any act that cannot be reconciled with the *Convention*. As a consequence, the *Framework Convention* may be applied directly by domestic bodies, including courts, unless its application depends upon an act being adopted. The Polish Government considers that the *Framework Convention* includes a number of self-executing rules.

General characteristics of national and ethnic minorities and the community using the regional language in Poland

Under the Second Polish Republic (1918-1939), national and ethnic minorities accounted for ca. 30% of the overall population. The presence of national and ethnic minorities arises from the multinational and multicultural historical heritage of the Republic of Poland. It is also an important element of the established cultural richness.

Population of minorities

Poland is inhabited by representatives 13 national and ethnic minorities and a group using the regional language – the Kashubians. In the reporting period (in 2021), a National Census of Population and Housing was conducted, but its detailed findings regarding national minorities will be published in 2023. Therefore, the statistics provided in this Report come from the 2011 Census (NSP 2011).

According to the NSP 2011, members of national minorities constitute the majority of population in 5 communes. These communes are located in Podlaskie Voivodeship and are inhabited by the Belarusian minority. They are: Czyże (Hajnówka County – 76.5% of the population), Dubicze Cerkiewne (Hajnówka County – 63.7% of the population), Orla (Bielsk Podlaski County – 56% of the population), the rural

¹ Judgement of the Constitutional Tribunal of 27 April 2005, file ref. P 1/05, Point 5.5.

commune of Hajnówka (Hajnówka County – 51.7% of the population) and the commune of Puńsk inhabited by the Lithuanian minority (Sejny County – 75.7% of the population). In 5 other communes the majority of population uses the Kashubian language at home. These include: Lipnica (Bytów County – 58.8% of the population), Sierakowice (Kartuzy County – 58.3% of the population), Chmielno (Kartuzy County – 57.9% of the population), Sulęczyo (Kartuzy County – 53.8% of the population), Linia (Wejherowo County – 52.3% of the population). The population of the respective minorities and people who use the regional language at home is shown in the table below.

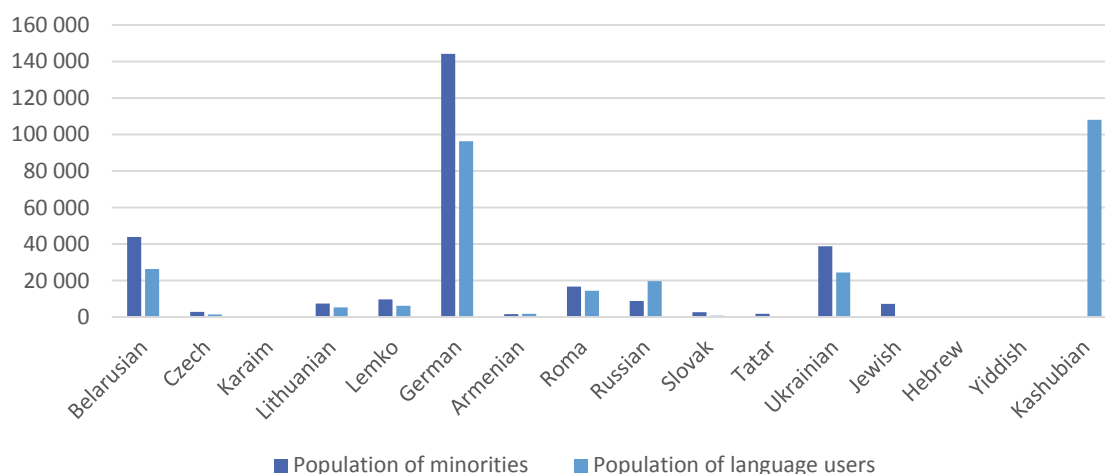
Population of minorities and users of minority languages

| Minority | Members of the minority | | Users of the minority language | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | population | share in overall population | population | share in overall population |
| Belarusian ^l | 43,878 | 1.14‰ | 26,448 | 0.69‰ |
| Czech | 2,831 | 0.07‰ | 1,451 | 0.04‰ |
| Karaim | 314 | 0.01‰ | <50 | 0.00‰ |
| Lithuanian | 7,376 | 0.19‰ | 5,303 | 0.14‰ |
| Lemko | 9,640 | 0.25‰ | 6,279 | 0.16‰ |
| German | 144,236 | 3.75‰ | 96,461 | 2.50‰ |
| Armenian | 1,683 | 0.04‰ | 1,847 | 0.05‰ |
| Roma | 16,723 | 0.43‰ | 14,468 | 0.38‰ |
| Russian | 8,796 | 0.23‰ | 19,805 | 0.51‰ |
| Slovak | 2,739 | 0.07‰ | 765 | 0.02‰ |
| Tatar | 1,828 | 0.05‰ | <50 | 0.00‰ |
| Ukrainian ^{ll} | 38,795 | 1.01‰ | 24,539 | 0.64‰ |
| Jewish | Hebrew | 7,353 | 321 | 0.01‰ |
| | Yiddish | | 90 | 0.00‰ |
| users of the Kashubian language | 108,140 | 2.81‰ | 108,140 | 2.81‰ |
| TOTAL | 394,113 | 10.23‰ | 301,805 | 7.84‰ |

Statistics Poland (GUS)

^l Furthermore: 669 people declared using "the Polish-Belarusian borderland dialect" at home, 626 people – "the Ruthenian language", 549 people – "the Belarusian dialect (simple language)", 516 people – "the Belarusian-Ukrainian dialect".

^{ll} Furthermore: 626 people declared using "the Ruthenian language" at home, whereas 516 people – "the Belarusian-Ukrainian dialect".



Population of minorities and population of users of minority and regional languages

Statistics Poland (GUS)

Geographical distribution



Voivodeships where the number of residents who are members of minorities¹ is higher than 1% of the overall population

2011 Census

The structure of the identity declaration

The 2011 *National census of population and housing* was the first such survey in the history of Polish statistics to examine the so-called "complex identity" of the respondents, i.e. a situation where the subject declares affiliation with more than one national or ethnic identity. The census results show

¹ Including the community using the Kashubian language.

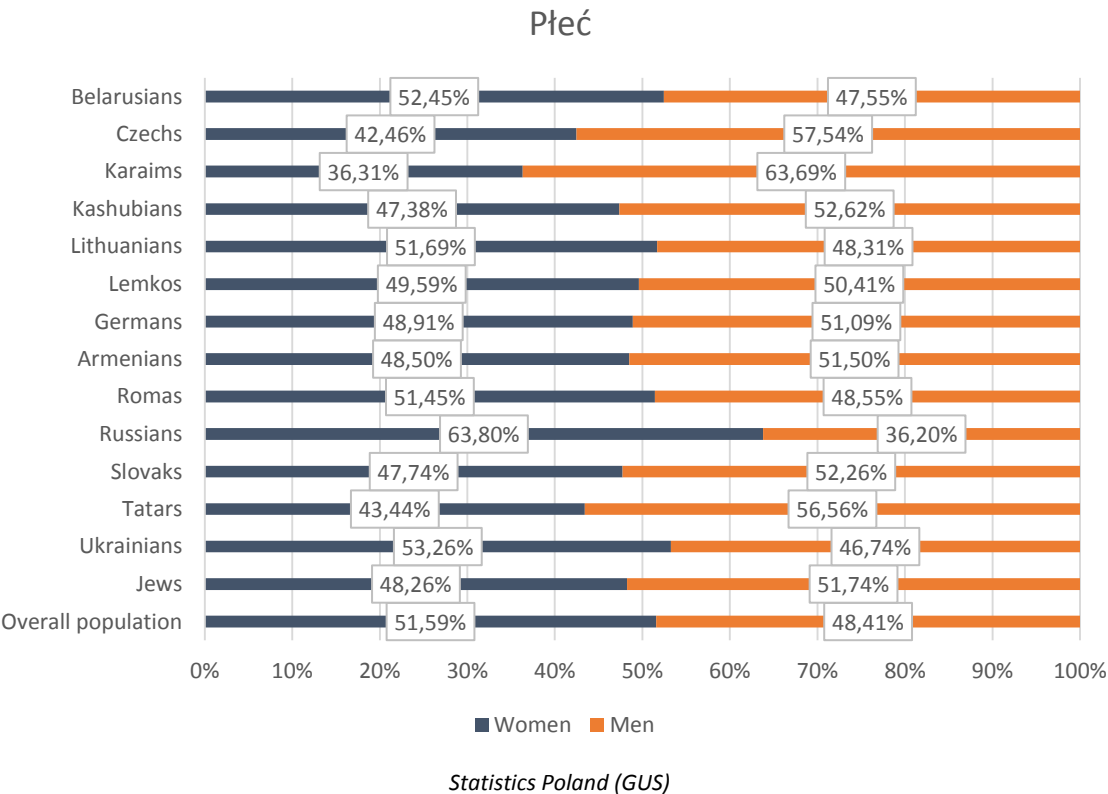
that this stance is very common among the minorities, especially when the minority identity is accompanied by Polish identity. In the case of as many as six minorities (Jewish, Czech, Russian, Tatar, Armenian and German), the percentage of persons, who declared both the minority and Polish identity, is larger than the percentage of persons, who declared that they belong only to the minority in question.

On the other hand, only in three minorities (Karaim, Belarusian and Lithuanian) more than 60% members declared that only this national-ethnic minority identity. For the other minorities, the share ranged between 58.06% for Lemkos and 21.2% for Czechs.

Overall, it should be noted that, except for the Roma minority, the situation of the different national and ethnic minorities and the community using the regional language does not deviate significantly from the national average. Data obtained during the previous *National Census of Population and Housing* shows that being part of a minority does not, with the exception of the Roma, determine the socio-economic situation of the minority citizens. The situation is affected rather by other factors, like the respondents' education, place of residence (rural-urban), status on the labour market and age.

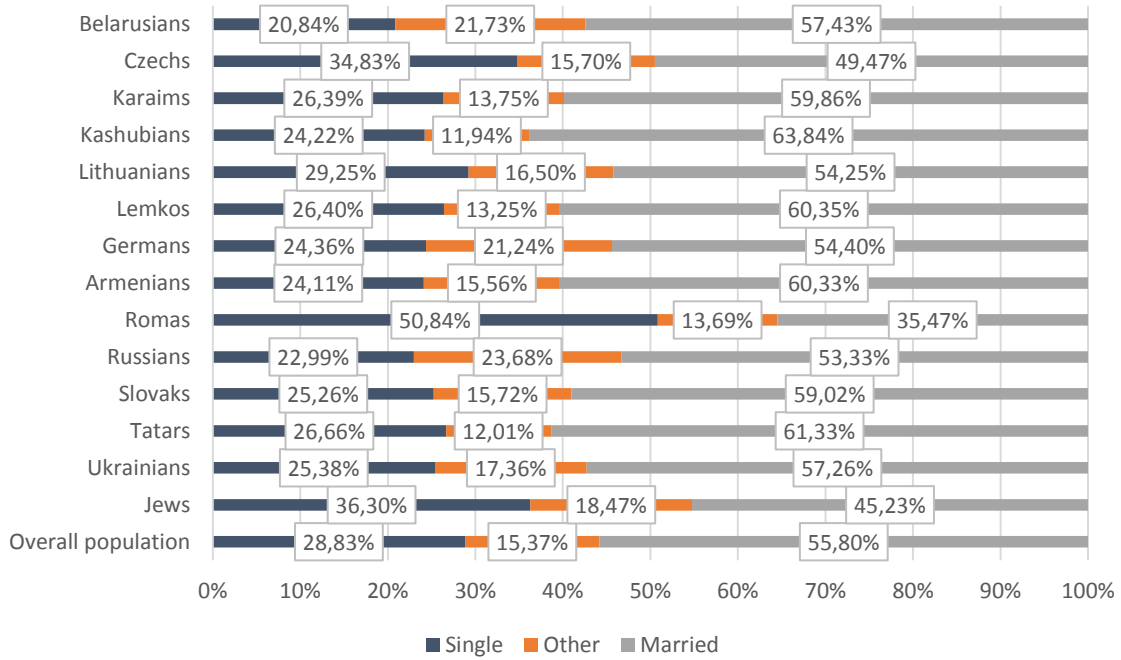
The detailed characteristics of the respective minorities provided in the *4th Report*¹ remains valid, and therefore is has been omitted in this *Report*.

The graphs shown below characterise the socio-demographic situation of national and ethnic minorities based on the data from the 2011 Census.



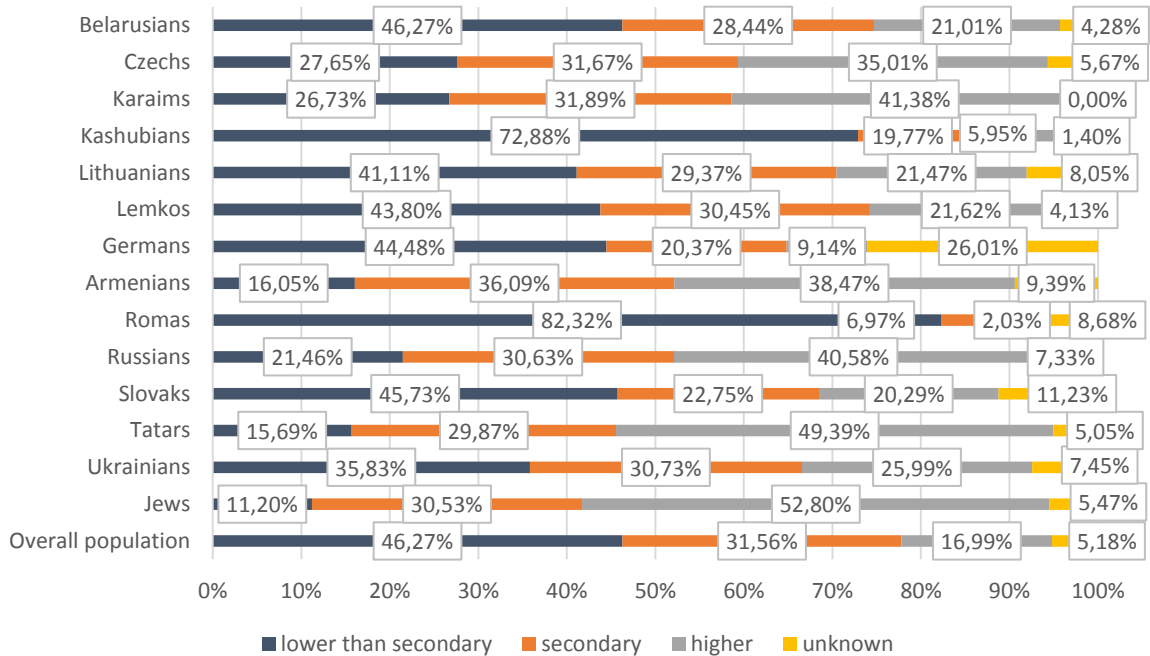
¹ 4th Report – url: <https://rm.coe.int/4th-sr-poland-en/168093ed27>, pp. 11-27.

Stan cywilny



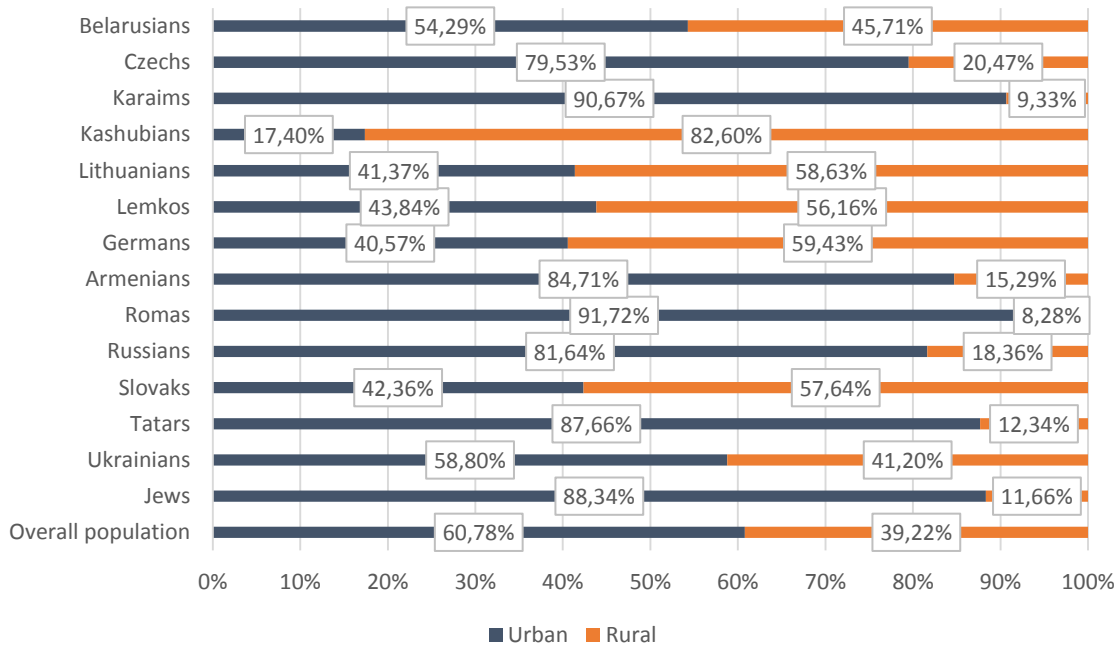
Statistics Poland (GUS)

Wykształcenie



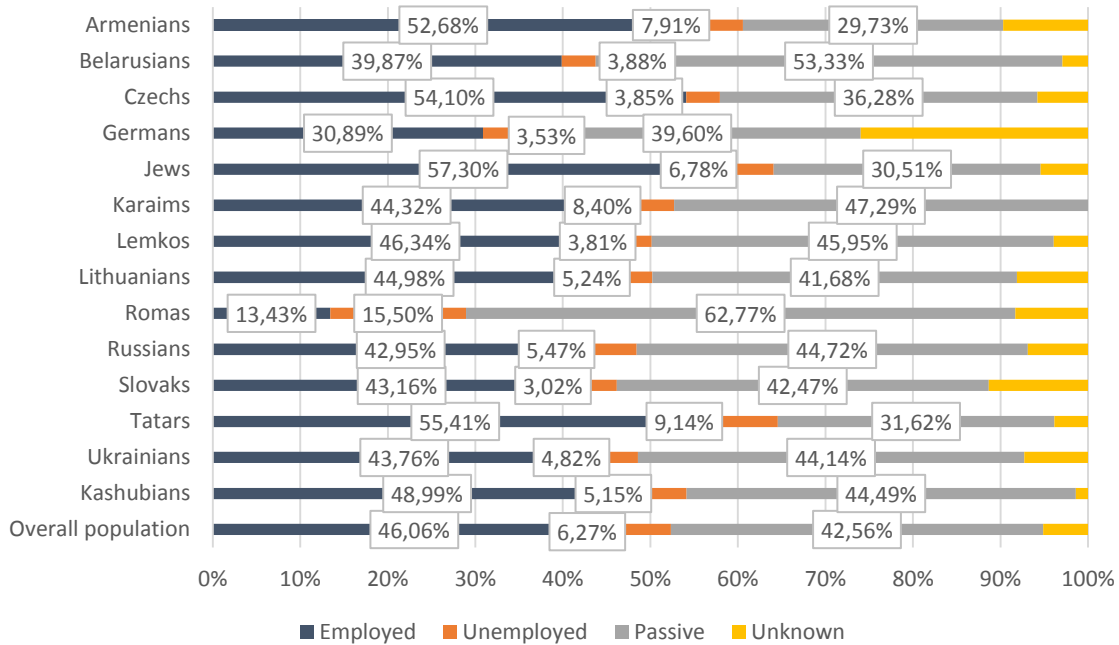
Statistics Poland (GUS)

Miejsce zamieszkania



Statistics Poland (GUS)

Aktywność ekonomiczna



Statistics Poland (GUS)

Authorities and institutions responsible for the implementation of the policy towards minorities

Supreme bodies

In accordance with the Minorities Act, the body competent for matters covered by the Act is the Minister with responsibility for religious denominations and national and ethnic minorities. The role is currently played by the Minister of **the Interior and Administration**. Furthermore, the following other bodies and institutions whose remit covers issues that affect the situation of minorities:

- the Minister of Education and Science,
- the Minister of Culture and National Heritage,
- the National Broadcasting Council,
- the Institute of National Remembrance,
- the Joint Commission of the Government and National and Ethnic Minorities,
- the Government Plenipotentiary for Equal Treatment,
- the Commissioner for Human Rights,
- the National and Ethnic Minorities Committee of the *Sejm*.

Government administration in regions

At regional level, the following bodies must be listed:

- Voivodes/Voivode Plenipotentiaries for national and ethnic minorities,
- Plenipotentiaries of Voivodeship Commanders of Police for the protection of human rights.

Since the scope of activity of the aforementioned bodies was described in detail in the *4th Report*, presented below are only the institutions whose tasks related to national and ethnic minorities which were not described in the previous report.

Ministry of Culture and National Heritage

It must be noted in the context of national and ethnic minorities that the system of MKiDN subsidies for implementation of tasks commissioned by the Ministry covers also projects submitted by non-governmental minority organisations or other organisations which carry out projects in support of minority or promote the culture and cultural heritage of national and ethnic minorities. Detailed information regarding support of minorities can be found in further sections of this *Report*.

National Broadcasting Council

The National Broadcasting Council provides licence fee funds for the production of programmes in the amount equal to the needs reported by the broadcasters. Public radio and television companies prepare annual programme and financial plans regarding projects which require public funding, including with respect to creating and disseminating programmes for national and ethnic minorities and the community using the regional language. Having considered those plans, the National Broadcasting Council distributes the licence fee funds among public media companies. In the case of regional broadcasting companies, allocations from licence fees are provided by the National Broadcasting Council to specific companies. Due to the different organisational structure of Polish Television (TVP SA), the allocation of funds to respective field branch offices falls within the remit of TVP SA.

Institute of National Remembrance – Commission for the Prosecution of Crimes against the Polish Nation

In the context of national minorities, the Institute of National Remembrance conducts a wide variety of scientific, research, education and martyrdom commemoration related projects.

Plenipotentiaries of Voivodeship Commanders of Police for the protection of human rights

The Plenipotentiaries' responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- popularising human rights and ensuring compliance with standards of their protection at organisational units and sections of the Police in their voivodeships,
- on-going monitoring of Police actions in the area of respect for human dignity and observance of human rights, as well as proposing solutions aimed at maintenance of high standards in this respect,
- initiating cooperation and maintaining continuous contact with non-governmental institutions and organisations which can support actions taken by the Police in the area of protection of human rights,
- compiling information, opinions and positions regarding assessment of compliance of actions carried out by Police officers with the standards of protection of human rights,
- diagnosing the training needs, initiating or organising professional development training required to ensure the appropriate level of respect for human rights by Police officers in their voivodeships.

The Plenipotentiaries are in close working cooperation with Voivode Plenipotentiaries for national and ethnic minorities.

Part II

Implementation of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities

Article 3 [Declaration]

1. Every person belonging to a national minority shall have the right freely to choose to be treated or not to be treated as such and no disadvantage shall result from this choice or from the exercise of the rights which are connected to that choice.
2. Persons belonging to national minorities may exercise the rights and enjoy the freedoms flowing from the principles enshrined in the present framework Convention individually as well as in community with others.

In the Polish legal system, the rights encompassed by Article 3 of the Convention are reflected in Article 4 of the *Act of 5 January 2005 on national and ethnic minorities and on the regional language* .

No changes regarding this Article have been recorded in relation to the previous report.

Article 4 [Equality]

1. The Parties undertake to guarantee to persons belonging to national minorities the right of equality before the law and of equal protection of the law. In this respect, any discrimination based on belonging to a national minority shall be prohibited.
2. The Parties undertake to adopt, where necessary, adequate measures in order to promote, in all areas of economic, social, political and cultural life, full and effective equality between persons belonging to a national minority and those belonging to the majority. In this respect, they shall take due account of the specific conditions of the persons belonging to national minorities.
3. The measures adopted in accordance with paragraph 2 shall not be considered to be an act of discrimination.

In the Polish legal system, the rights encompassed by Article 4 of the Convention are reflected in Article 6 of the Minorities Act and in the provisions of the *Act of 26 June 1974 on the Labour Code* (Journal of Laws of 2022, item 1510).

No changes regarding Paragraphs 1 and 3 of this Article have been recorded in relation to the previous report.

In the context of Paragraph 2, one must mention the government programmes for integration of the Roma minority in Poland implemented by the Ministry of the Interior and Administration since 2001. The relevant information is provided in the part referring to Article 15.

Article 5 [Culture]

1. The Parties undertake to promote the conditions necessary for persons belonging to national minorities to maintain and develop their culture, and to preserve the essential elements of their identity, namely their religion, language, traditions and cultural heritage.

2. Without prejudice to measures taken in pursuance of their general integration policy, the Parties shall refrain from policies or practices aimed at assimilation of persons belonging to national minorities against their will and shall protect these persons from any action aimed at such assimilation.

In the Polish legal system, the rights encompassed by Article 5 of the Convention are reflected in Articles 5 and 18 of the Minorities Act.

Below is a detailed review of actions aimed at maintaining and developing the identity of national and ethnic minorities taken by various State agencies.

Ministry of the Interior and Administration

The Minister of the Interior and Administration, who is the Minister competent for religious denominations and national and ethnic minorities, supports actions leading to protection, preservation and development of cultural identity of minorities through specific-purpose subsidies (i.e. ones allocated to the implementation of a specific public task) or beneficiary-dedicated subsidies (i.e. ones allocated to the subsistence of a minority organisation, e.g. rent of premises, utilities, legal and financial support etc.). Subsidised actions are taken in the following areas:

- cultural institutions, artistic movement, art of minorities, and artistic events;
- investments;
- printed and other publications;
- TV and radio programmes;
- sites associated with the minority culture;
- cultural clubs;
- libraries and documentation of the minority cultural and artistic life;
- education of children and youth;
- dissemination of knowledge about minorities;
- other actions.

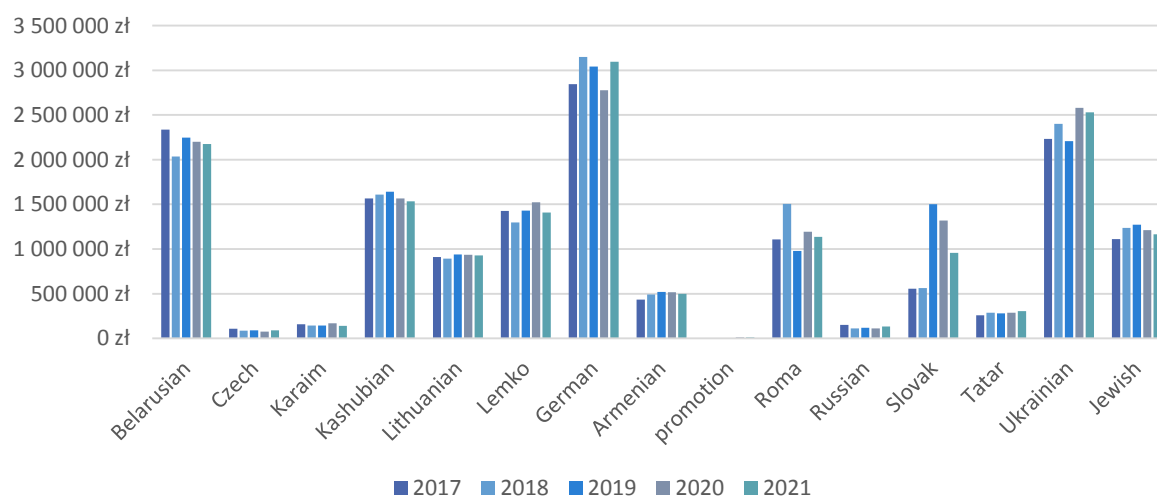
It must also be highlighted that the system of MSWiA subsidies granted under the Minorities Act covers largely tasks which are addressed not only to representatives of minorities but also to the general public that is naturally the audience of such cultural events as festivals, art reviews etc. Furthermore, the subsidies cover separate projects regarding the so-called promotion of culture. With their multi-cultural and educational character, those tasks often concern more than one minority and are addressed to all people interested in culture. Throughout the reporting period, the number target audiences of tasks addressed to minorities remained at a constant and relatively high level of nearly 2.5 million people per year (between 2.3 million and 2.4 million). Since the population of minorities is nearly 300,000 people according to NSP 11, the foregoing confirms that the target audiences include also the general public.

Full data regarding amounts of MSWiA subsidies granted to the respective minorities in the period covered by the 5th Report is shown in the table and diagram below.

Amounts of subsidies granted to minority organisations to support actions aimed at protecting, preserving and developing the cultural identities of national and ethnic minorities as well as at preserving and developing the regional language (in PLN)

| minority | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Belarusian | 2,337,640 | 2,034,118 | 2,246,500 | 2,200,500 | 2,176,330 |
| Czech | 108,990 | 85,473 | 88,450 | 74,757 | 91,224 |
| Karaim | 158,800 | 143,040 | 145,000 | 169,800 | 141,770 |
| Kashubian re- gional language | 1,565,400 | 1,609,208 | 1,640,050 | 1,565,554 | 1,535,460 |
| Lithuanian | 911,637 | 893,706 | 937,580 | 936,853 | 927,800 |
| Lemko | 1,427,600 | 1,296,100 | 1,429,140 | 1,523,451 | 1,408,200 |
| German | 2,846,405 | 3,149,552 | 3,041,995 | 2,776,834 | 3,097,052 |
| Armenian | 433,512 | 492,130 | 521,318 | 516,861 | 498,782 |
| promotion | | | | 9,942 | 12,550 |
| Roma | 1,107,000 | 1,506,212 | 977,252 | 1,193,014 | 1,137,400 |
| Russian | 150,000 | 112,800 | 117,100 | 111,600 | 131,500 |
| Slovak | 557,100 | 563,350 | 1,500,600 | 1,317,980 | 956,880 |
| Tatar | 259,000 | 285,325 | 281,650 | 285,250 | 306,151 |
| Ukrainian | 2,232,850 | 2,400,912 | 2,206,475 | 2,579,492 | 2,529,640 |
| Jewish | 1,111,930 | 1,237,971 | 1,271,995 | 1,211,945 | 1,166,415 |

MSWiA



MSWiA

Amounts of beneficiary-dedicated subsidies granted to minority organisations (in PLN)

| Minority | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
|------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Belarusian | 157,000 | 175,000 | 163,300 | 200,415 | 206,480 |
| Czech | 9,000 | 9,000 | | 5,850 | 10,590 |
| Karaim | 30,000 | 27,000 | 29,000 | 30,800 | 51,500 |

| Minority | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
|------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Kashubian regional language | 169,000 | 176,000 | 169,000 | 169,000 | 173,000 |
| Lithuanian | 177,500 | 168,000 | 189,000 | 203,600 | 269,700 |
| Lemko | 128,500 | 133,000 | 118,000 | 128,000 | 142,700 |
| German | 571,000 | 567,980 | 612,650 | 572,200 | 693,100 |
| Armenian | 49,300 | 78,500 | 92,100 | 116,546 | 148,212 |
| Roma | 71,000 | 88,600 | 181,792 | 183,312 | 235,000 |
| Russian | 18,000 | 18,500 | 17,500 | 18,500 | 33,500 |
| Slovak | 35,000 | 50,000 | 61,000 | 61,000 | 71,000 |
| Tatar | 15,000 | 12,600 | 7,400 | 13,500 | 49,550 |
| Ukrainian | 226,000 | 235,900 | 212,000 | 272,000 | 309,480 |
| Jewish | 152,000 | 153,800 | 206,895 | 238,495 | 283,015 |
| Total | 1,808,300 | 1,893,880 | 2,059,637 | 2,213,218 | 2,676,827 |

MSWiA

Ministry of Culture and National Heritage

An important part of actions in support of minorities is carried out by the MKiDN (MKDniS). They will be presented below in the following areas:

- art and cultural education,
- patronage of folk culture,
- literary activity, readership, book market, libraries,
- theatre, music, dance, visual arts,
- museums,
- cultural institutions operating abroad.

Art and cultural education

As regards the Roma ethnic minority, the activity in question is conducted by the Miklosz Deka Czureja Non-Public Music School of the I Degree in Murowana Goślina (run by the BAHTAŁE ROMA Foundation and supported by the MKDniS).

As regards the Kashubian language, the activity in question is conducted by:

- State Music School of the I Degree in Kościerzyna,
- State Music School of the I Degree in Wejherowo,
- State Music School of the I Degree in Puck.

Patronage of folk culture

The National Centre for Culture supported tasks for:

- the Belarusian minority (3 tasks in 2017),
- the Lithuanian minority (1 task in 2017),
- the Lemko minority (6 tasks in 2017-2019),
- the Armenian minority (2 tasks in 2017-2018),
- the Roma minority (5 tasks in 2017 and 2019),
- the Tatar minority (2 tasks in 2017 and 2019),
- the Ukrainian minority (119 tasks in 2017-2019),
- the Jewish community (20 tasks in 2017-2019),
- the Kashubian language (12 tasks in 2017-2019).

Literary activity, readership, book market, libraries

The Ossoliński National Institute gathered the following numbers of books and journals in 2017-2021:

- 201 in Belarusian
- 671 in Czech
- 86 in Hebrew
- 11 in Yiddish
- 123 in Kashubian
- 209 in Lithuanian
- 5,855 in German
- 9 in Armenian
- 5 in Roma
- 1,545 in Russian
- 222 in Slovak
- 1,094 in Ukrainian

In this area, the National Library took actions (involving mainly publishing in the digital library) for:

- the Belarusian minority (2,145 publications in Belarusian),
- the Jewish minority (3,137 publications in Hebrew and 40,484 in Yiddish),
- the Karaim minority (3 publications in Karaim),
- the Kashubian language (125 publications in Kashubian),
- the Armenian minority (66 publications in Armenian),
- the Lithuanian minority (2,509 publications in Lithuanian),
- the German minority (437,082 publications in German),
- the Roma minority (226 publications in Roma),
- the Russian minority (51,555 publications in Russian),
- the Slovak minority (1,571 publications in Slovak),
- the Ukrainian minority (12,288 publications in Ukrainian).

The Book Institute spent funds for:

- the Jewish minority (in support of publishing the *Midrasz* journal and other publications),
- the Karaim minority (in support of publishing the *Almanach Karaim* and *Awazymyz* journals),
- the Kashubian language (in support of publishing the *Pomerania* journal and other publications),
- the Roma minority (in support of publishing the *Dialog Pheniben* journal).

Furthermore, actions in the area in question were conducted in support of the Jewish minority by:

- the National Archives in Kraków
- the State Archives in Częstochowa
- the State Archives in Malbork
- the State Archives in Łódź
- the State Archives in Opole
- the State Archives in Zielona Góra
- the State Archives in Warsaw
- the Central Archive of Historical Records
- the State Archives in Bydgoszcz
- the State Archives in Katowice
- the State Archives in Kielce
- the State Archives in Przemyśl
- the National Digital Archives

Furthermore, actions in the area in question were conducted in support of the Kashubian language by:

- the State Archives in Koszalin
- the State Archives in Szczecin

Furthermore, actions in the area in question were conducted in support of the Armenian minority by:

- the General Directorate of State Archives
- the Central Archive of Historical Records

Furthermore, actions in the area in question were conducted in support of the Roma minority by:

- the State Archives in Gorzów Wielkopolski,
- the State Archives in Koszalin,
- the State Archives in Wrocław, Branch in Bolesławiec.

Theatre, music, dance, visual arts

Actions in support of minorities in the area of theatre, music, dance and visual arts were conducted by:

- the Ujazdowski Castle Centre for Contemporary Art (Lithuanian, Ukrainian),
- the Mieczysław Karłowicz Philharmonic in Szczecin (Lithuanian, German, Roma, Ukrainian, Jewish),
- the Zbigniew Raszewski Theatre Institute (Belarusian, Slovak, Ukrainian),
- the Polish National Radio Symphony Orchestra in Katowice (Roma),
- the Witold Lutosławski National Forum of Music in Wrocław (Jewish),
- the National Institute of Music and Dance (Ukrainian, Jewish),
- the Ester Rachel and Ida Kaminska Jewish Theatre – Center for Yiddish Culture (Jewish),
- Zachęta – The National Arts Gallery (Russian).

Detailed information regarding support of projects in the area of theatre, music, dance and visual arts aimed at preserving the cultural identity of national and ethnic minorities is provided in the *4th Report to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on the Implementation by the Republic of Poland of the Provisions of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages*. Given its size, the authors decided not to repeat it in this *Report*. However, it must be highlighted here that in the reporting period institutions subordinated to the MKiDN¹ carried out the aforementioned tasks by *inter alia* organising language courses, literary meetings, workshops, seminars, theatre performances, records, concerts etc.

It is also worth noting that in 2021 Ms. Małgorzata Mirga-Tas, an artist of Roma descent and a graduate of of Kraków's Academy of Fine Arts, won the contest for the so-called Polish pavilion during the Venice Art Biennale 2022.

Museums

As regards museums, actions in support of minorities were conducted by:

- the Central Museum of Prisoners of War (German, Russian),
- the European Solidarity Centre in Gdańsk (Belarusian),
- the Silesian Institute (German),
- the Warsaw Ghetto Museum (under organisation) (German, Jewish),

¹ the Zbigniew Raszewski Theatre Institute, the Ester Rachel and Ida Kaminska Jewish Theatre – Center for Yiddish Culture, the National Institute of Music and Dance, the National Forum of Music, the Ujazdowski Castle Centre for Contemporary Art, the Polish National Radio Symphony Orchestra in Katowice, Zachęta – the National Gallery of Art

- the Gross-Rosen Museum in Rogoźnica, the German Nazi Concentration and Extermination Camp (1940-1945) (German, Russian),
- the Polish History Museum in Warsaw (Czech, Lithuanian, German, Russian, Ukrainian),
- the Museum of the History of Polish Jews POLIN (German, Jewish),
- the Józef Piłsudski Museum in Sulejów (Ukrainian),
- the Royal Łazienki Museum in Warsaw (Lithuanian, Armenian, Ukrainian),
- the National Museum in Gdańsk – Ethnography Branch (Tatar, Ukrainian, Jewish),
- the National Museum in Kielce, Branch: Museum for Intercultural Dialogue (Armenian, Roma, Ukrainian),
- the National Museum in Kraków (German, Russian, Ukrainian),
- the National Museum in Poznań (Czech, Lithuanian, Roma, Jewish),
- the National Museum in Szczecin (Lithuanian, German),
- the National Museum in Warsaw (German, Russian, Ukrainian),
- the National Museum in Gdańsk (Belarusian, German, Russian),
- the National Museum in Wrocław – Branch: Ethnography Museum (Karaim, Armenian, Roma, Jewish),
- the Podlaskie Museum in Białystok (Belarusian),
- the Ulma Family Museum of Poles Saving Jews in World War II in Markowa (German, Jewish),
- the Museum of Modern Arts in Warsaw (Belarusian, Ukrainian),
- the Museum of Arts in Łódź (German, Russian, Ukrainian),
- the Treblinka Museum. The Nazi German Extermination and Forced Labour Camp (1941-1944) (German, Roma, Russian, Jewish),
- the Alf Kowalski Museum of the Miedzyrzecz Region (Lemko, Jewish),
- the "Memory and Future" Centre (Belarusian, Czech, Roma, Slovak, Ukrainian),
- the State Museum of Auschwitz-Birkenau in Oświęcim (German, Russian, Jewish),
- the State Museum at Majdanek in Lublin (German, Russian, Ukrainian, Jewish),
- the Wawel Royal Castle – State Art Collections (German, Russian, Ukrainian),
- the Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute (Jewish).

Language

Detailed information regarding support of projects aimed at preserving the language identity of national and ethnic minorities is provided in the *4th Report to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on the Implementation by the Republic of Poland of the Provisions of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages*. Given its size, the authors decided not to repeat it in this *Report*. Suffice it to highlight here that in the reporting period institutions supervised by the MKiDN¹ carried out tasks aimed at preserving the language identity of minorities by *inter alia* subsidising journals, various types of publications, including books, digitalisation of collections, exhibitions, meetings with authors, conferences, contests, audioguides, exhibition catalogues in minority languages etc.

¹ including, but not limited to, State Archives, the General Directorate of State Archives, the Central Archive of Historical Records, National Museums, the Wawel Royal Castle – State Art Collections, the Museum of the Second World War, the Central Museum of Prisoners of War, the Polish History Museum, the Museum of the History of Polish Jews POLIN, the Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute, the Book Institute, the Józef Piłsudski Museum in Sulejów, the Alf Kowalski Museum of the Miedzyrzecz Region, the Podlaskie Museum, art schools subordinated to the MKiDN, the National Centre for Culture, the Ossoliński National Institute, the National Library, the Jagielloonian Library, the National Digital Archives, Museums of the former extermination camps, the "Memory and Future" Centre, the Museum - The Family Home of John Paul II in Wadowice.

Popularisation of knowledge about minorities

The Institute of National Remembrance – Commission for the Prosecution of Crimes against the Polish Nation plays a prominent role in popularising the knowledge about minorities and mutual, often very difficult, relations in the 20th century. Such initiatives can be counted in dozens. They have a research, education and publishing character, and involve preparation of scientific conferences, seminars, lessons for school children, development and dissemination of lesson scenarios, educational materials for schools, study visits etc. It is also worth mentioning actions taken by the Institute's Office for Commemorating the Struggle and Martyrdom with respect to national and ethnic minorities. The Office's responsibilities include activities related to commemoration of historical events, sites and figures in the history of the struggle and martyrdom of the Polish Nation, both in the country and abroad, as well as sites of the struggle and martyrdom of other nations in the territory of the Republic of Poland, in the period between 8 November 1917 and 31 July 1990. Most of those actions related to commemorating the martyrdom of Polish citizens of Jewish descent murdered by the Nazi Germany during World War II, but also commemorations concerning the Ukrainian, German, Slovak, Roma and Lemko minorities.

The IPN website offers two electronic inventories: "Polish Jews and Jews in Poland" and "Ukrainians in Poland in 1941-1956". The former is dedicated to Jews and their history in Poland in 1939-1989, and is combined with documentation from investigations conducted also in later years. The latter presents the variety of issues relating to the Ukrainian minority in Poland in 1944–1956 in combination with materials reaching back to the interwar period and even the times before World War I, as well as the period after 1945 during which the Ukrainian minority continuously remained an object of interest of the communist security authorities.

Article 6 [Tolerance]

1. The Parties shall encourage a spirit of tolerance and intercultural dialogue and take effective measures to promote mutual respect and understanding and co-operation among all persons living on their territory, irrespective of those persons' ethnic, cultural, linguistic or religious identity, in particular in the fields of education, culture and the media.
2. The Parties undertake to take appropriate measures to protect persons who may be subject to threats or acts of discrimination, hostility or violence as a result of their ethnic, cultural, linguistic or religious identity.

In the Polish legal system, the rights encompassed by Article 6 of the Convention are reflected in Article 6 of the Minorities Act.

Protection against aggression

As part of counteracting hate crimes, the Polish Police will continue the training programme *Training Against Hate Crimes for Law Enforcement* (TAHCLE). The purpose of the TAHCLE programme is to ensure that all Police officers who may face hate crimes during their service are equipped with adequate knowledge in order to efficiently combat these crimes. Within the framework of the undertaking in question, obligatory training sessions for Police officers and employees are conducted across the country covering *inter alia* identification of hate crimes, correct conduct of detecting activities in such cases, adequate response of Police officers to such incidents and prevention of hate

crimes. In 2020, the TAHCLE Programme involved a total of 326 local editions of professional development in the area of the prevention and combating hate crimes, which were completed by a total of 5,975 police officers and employees. In 2021, a total of 530 local editions of professional development in the area of the prevention and combating hate crimes, which were completed by a total of 12,840 police officers and employees.

Prejudice-motivated crime is monitored by the National Police Headquarters which keeps a register of hate crimes, a tool for monitoring and analysing that kind of crime. The monitoring encompasses information on investigations into hate crimes conducted (by the Police) across the country, which provides for analysing the data collected in a number of ways in order to estimate the phenomenon of hate crimes in Poland, in terms of, e.g., the type of underlying motivation and the type of offence. The monitoring and analyses allow the Police to take into account the groups that are particularly exposed to those types of offences.

Hate crimes

The Ministry of Justice gathers data on court judgements regarding hate crimes. They refer to the provisions laid down in the Criminal Code (CC) in Article 119 § 1^I, Article 256 § 1^{II} and 2^{III}, and Article 257^{IV}.

The number of convictions for those offences in respective years is below 1‰ of all convictions.

*First instance trials
at district courts (excluding the Fiscal Penal Code)*

| | Year | Total | Offences | | |
|--------------|------|---------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| | | | Article 256 § 1 CC | Article 256 § 2 CC | Article 257 CC |
| Total trials | 2017 | 291,881 | 88 | 3 | 92 |
| | 2018 | 307,615 | 63 | 10 | 114 |
| | 2019 | 316,840 | 59 | 8 | 181 |
| | 2020 | 275,925 | 60 | 4 | 114 |
| | 2021 | 315,973 | 65 | 41 | 65 |
| Convictions | 2017 | 245,378 | 59 | 3 | 68 |
| | 2018 | 261,397 | 47 | 9 | 85 |
| | 2019 | 270,180 | 36 | 7 | 142 |

^I Whoever uses violence or makes unlawful threat towards a group of persons or towards an individual, because of their national, ethnic, political or religious affiliation, or because of their lack of religious denomination, shall be subject to the penalty of deprivation of liberty for a term of between 3 months and 5 years.

^{II} Whoever publicly promotes a fascist or other totalitarian system of state or incites hatred based on national, ethnic, race or religious differences or for reason of lack of any religious denomination shall be subject to a fine, the penalty of restriction of liberty or the penalty of deprivation of liberty for up to 2 years.

^{III} Whoever produces, records or imports, acquires, stores, owns, presents, transports or sends hard copies, recordings or other carriers containing the above-mentioned content in order to disseminate it, shall be subject to the penalty specified in § 1.

^{IV} Whoever publicly insults a group within the population or a particular person because of his/her national, ethnic, race or religious affiliation or because of his/her lack of any religious denomination or for these reasons breaches the personal inviolability of another individual, shall be subject to the penalty of deprivation of liberty for up to 3 years.

| | Year | Total | Offences | | |
|--|------|---------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| | | | Article 256 § 1 CC | Article 256 § 2 CC | Article 257 CC |
| | 2020 | 237,419 | 45 | 2 | 82 |
| | 2021 | 271,657 | 50 | 39 | 137 |
| Conditional discontinuation of proceedings | 2017 | 28,565 | 18 | 0 | 20 |
| | 2018 | 28,452 | 11 | 1 | 26 |
| | 2019 | 28,559 | 12 | 0 | 37 |
| | 2020 | 23,875 | 10 | 1 | 29 |
| | 2021 | 25,155 | 11 | 1 | 50 |
| Discontinuation of proceedings | 2017 | 10,245 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| | 2018 | 10,136 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| | 2019 | 10,466 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| | 2020 | 9,156 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| | 2021 | 11,493 | 2 | 0 | 3 |
| Acquittal | 2017 | 7,132 | 6 | 0 | 3 |
| | 2018 | 6,991 | 4 | 0 | 1 |
| | 2019 | 6,959 | 9 | 1 | 2 |
| | 2020 | 4,986 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| | 2021 | 7,061 | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| Waiver of penalty | 2017 | 561 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| | 2018 | 639 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 2019 | 676 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 2020 | 489 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 2021 | 607 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Ministry of Justice

Convicted and victims

| | Year | Total | Offences | | |
|------------------|------|---------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| | | | Article 256 § 1 CC | Article 256 § 2 CC | Article 257 CC |
| Convicted | | | | | |
| Men | 2017 | 220,957 | 57 | 3 | 66 |
| | 2018 | 237,502 | 41 | 8 | 83 |
| | 2019 | 244,512 | 31 | 7 | 130 |
| | 2020 | 214,008 | 41 | 2 | 73 |
| | 2021 | 244,154 | 48 | 36 | 127 |
| Women | 2017 | 24,421 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| | 2018 | 23,895 | 6 | 1 | 2 |
| | 2019 | 25,668 | 5 | 0 | 12 |
| | 2020 | 23,411 | 4 | 0 | 9 |
| | 2021 | 27,503 | 2 | 3 | 10 |
| Victims | | | | | |
| Men | 2017 | 107,401 | 3 | 0 | 81 |
| | 2018 | 97,292 | 0 | 0 | 70 |

| | | Year | Total | Offences | | |
|--------|-------|------|---------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| | | | | Article 256 § 1 CC | Article 256 § 2 CC | Article 257 CC |
| | | 2019 | 96,320 | 2 | 0 | 496 |
| | | 2020 | 81,586 | 2 | 0 | 56 |
| | | 2021 | 100,877 | 6 | 0 | 89 |
| Women | | 2017 | 76,079 | 0 | 0 | 27 |
| | | 2018 | 80,741 | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| | | 2019 | 79,023 | 0 | 0 | 159 |
| | | 2020 | 68,676 | 1 | 0 | 18 |
| | | 2021 | 86,797 | 4 | 0 | 31 |
| Minors | Boys | 2017 | 8,478 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| | | 2018 | 27,348 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 2019 | 28,257 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| | | 2020 | 21,032 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 2021 | 21,602 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Girls | 2017 | 8,432 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| | | 2018 | 27,373 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 2019 | 28,257 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| | | 2020 | 21,032 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 2021 | 21,315 | 0 | 0 | 1 |

Ministry of Justice

First instance convictions

| | | Year | Total | Offences | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|------|---------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| | | | | Article 256 § 1 CC | Article 256 § 2 CC | Article 257 CC |
| Total persons convicted | | 2017 | 245,378 | 59 | 3 | 68 |
| | | 2018 | 261,397 | 47 | 9 | 85 |
| | | 2019 | 270,180 | 36 | 7 | 142 |
| | | 2020 | 237,419 | 45 | 2 | 82 |
| | | 2021 | 271,657 | 50 | 39 | 137 |
| Imprisonment | total | 2017 | 100,113 | 9 | 0 | 7 |
| | | 2018 | 97,213 | 8 | 6 | 21 |
| | | 2019 | 97,862 | 4 | 0 | 37 |
| | | 2020 | 84,303 | 9 | 2 | 16 |
| | | 2021 | 105,990 | 7 | 15 | 34 |
| | more than 8 years | 2017 | 44 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 2018 | 70 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 2019 | 70 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 2020 | 60 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 2021 | 69 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | between 5 | 2017 | 262 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 2018 | 277 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 2019 | 320 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| | | Year | Total | Offences | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|------|--------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| | | | | Article 256 § 1 CC | Article 256 § 2 CC | Article 257 CC |
| | and 8 years | 2020 | 228 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 2021 | 218 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | between 2 and 5 years | 2017 | 3,648 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 2018 | 3,364 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 2019 | 3,433 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 2020 | 3,129 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 2021 | 3,312 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| | between 1 year and 2 years | 2017 | 11,353 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 2018 | 9,292 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | | 2019 | 8,817 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | | 2020 | 7,849 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 2021 | 10,496 | 0 | 3 | 2 |
| | 6 months ÷ 1 year | 2017 | 64,254 | 6 | 0 | 2 |
| | | 2018 | 63,222 | 5 | 5 | 9 |
| | | 2019 | 63,231 | 2 | 0 | 26 |
| | | 2020 | 54,673 | 5 | 1 | 12 |
| | | 2021 | 68,958 | 4 | 9 | 20 |
| | 2 ÷ 5 months | 2017 | 19,976 | 3 | 0 | 5 |
| | | 2018 | 20,515 | 3 | 1 | 11 |
| | | 2019 | 21,541 | 2 | 0 | 8 |
| | | 2020 | 18,028 | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| | | 2021 | 22,543 | 3 | 2 | 12 |
| | 1 month | 2017 | 576 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 2018 | 473 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 2019 | 450 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| | | 2020 | 336 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 2021 | 394 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Restriction of freedom | | 2017 | 57,913 | 24 | 0 |
| 2018 | | | 80,083 | 20 | 1 | 31 |
| 2019 | | | 83,698 | 13 | 2 | 45 |
| 2020 | | | 72,572 | 18 | 0 | 28 |
| 2021 | | | 76,761 | 17 | 12 | 33 |
| Mixed penalty | | 2017 | 3,341 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | | 2018 | 2,902 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | | 2019 | 2,918 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 2020 | 2,372 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 2021 | 2,618 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Fine as the sole sanction | | 2017 | 83,838 | 26 | 3 | 32 |
| | | 2018 | 81,037 | 19 | 2 | 32 |
| | | 2019 | 85,542 | 19 | 5 | 60 |
| | | 2020 | 78,018 | 18 | 0 | 38 |
| | | 2021 | 86,116 | 26 | 12 | 69 |

| | Year | Total | Offences | | |
|---|------|-------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| | | | Article 256 § 1 CC | Article 256 § 2 CC | Article 257 CC |
| Correctional and educational measures | 2017 | 43 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 2018 | 31 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 2019 | 36 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 2020 | 30 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 2021 | 42 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Punitive measures ordered as sole sanctions | 2017 | 130 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 2018 | 131 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 2019 | 124 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 2020 | 124 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 2021 | 130 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Ministry of Justice

Article 7 [Associations]

The Parties shall ensure respect for the right of every person belonging to a national minority to freedom of peaceful assembly, freedom of association, freedom of expression, and freedom of thought, conscience and religion.

In the Polish legal system, the subject of this Article is regulated under *inter alia* the following legislative acts:

- the Act of 7 April 1989 on the law of association (Journal of Laws of 2020, item 2261),
- the Act of 27 June 1997 on political parties (Journal of Laws of 2022, item 372),
- the Act of 17 May 1989 on the guarantees of the freedom of conscience and religion (Journal of Laws of 2022, item 1435).

No legal changes regarding this Article have been recorded in relation to the previous report.

Article 8 [Religion]

The Parties undertake to recognise that every person belonging to a national minority has the right to manifest his or her religion or belief and to establish religious institutions, organisations and associations.

In the Polish legal system, the subject of this article is regulated under the Act of 17 May 1989 on the guarantees of the freedom of conscience and religion (Journal of Laws of 2022, item 1435).

No legal changes regarding this Article have been recorded in relation to the previous report.

Six organisations were entered in the *Register of Churches and other religious organisations* in the reporting period. At present, the *Register* includes 170 entities and is available in full at:

- <https://www.gov.pl/web/mswia/rejestr-kosciolow-i-innych-zwiazkow-wyznaniowych>

Article 9 [Media]

1. The Parties undertake to recognise that the right to freedom of expression of every person belonging to a national minority includes freedom to hold opinions and to receive and impart information and ideas in the minority language, without interference by public authorities and regardless of frontiers. The Parties shall ensure, within the framework of their legal systems, that persons belonging to a national minority are not discriminated against in their access to the media.

2. Paragraph 1 shall not prevent Parties from requiring the licensing, without discrimination and based on objective criteria, of sound radio and television broadcasting, or cinema enterprises.

3. The Parties shall not hinder the creation and the use of printed media by persons belonging to national minorities. In the legal framework of sound radio and television broadcasting, they shall ensure, as far as possible, and taking into account the provisions of paragraph 1, that persons belonging to national minorities are granted the possibility of creating and using their own media.

4. In the framework of their legal systems, the Parties shall adopt adequate measures in order to facilitate access to the media for persons belonging to national minorities and in order to promote tolerance and permit cultural pluralism.

In the Polish legal system, the rights encompassed by Article 6 of the *Convention* are reflected in Article 8 of the *Minorities Act* and in the provisions of the *Act of 29 June 1992 on radio and television broadcasting* (Journal of Laws of 2020, item 805).

It must be highlighted that the *Minorities Act* introduced into the tasks of public radio and television the obligation of "paying due regard to the needs of national and ethnic minorities and the community using the regional language, including broadcasting news programmes in the languages of national and ethnic minorities and in the regional language". The cited provision provides for taking actions without imposing the restriction in the form of broadcasting programmes solely in a minority language.

Article 54 of the *Constitution*, concerning the freedom of speech and the press, guarantees the freedom of expressing opinions and acquiring and disseminating information. As regards public media, that principle is guaranteed under the *Act of 29 December 1992 on radio and television broadcasting* (Journal of Laws of 2016, item 639), in particular by means of the definition of public service mission introduced by the *Act of 2 April 2004 amending the Act on radio and television broadcasting* (Journal of Laws of 2004, No 91, item 874).

Radio and television broadcasting

Programmes addressed to national and ethnic minorities should meet jointly the following conditions:

- be entirely dedicated to issues concerning national and ethnic minorities and the community using the regional language,
- allow representatives of national or ethnic minorities to not only participate, but also discuss themselves and their matters,
- be clearly addressed to a particular national or ethnic minority or the community using the regional language,
- be produced in the language of a national or ethnic minority or in the regional language,

- be edited by a team composed of representatives of the national or ethnic minority or the community using the regional language concerned.

Moreover, the KRRiT is involved in a number of activities concerning national and ethnic minorities and the community using the regional language, such as:

- participation in the sessions of the National and Ethnic Minorities Committee of the *Sejm* and the Joint Commission of the Government and National and Ethnic Minorities,
- participation in meetings and conferences relating to issues of national and ethnic minorities and the community using the regional language,
- interventions in cases of complaints and statements by representatives of national and ethnic minorities and the community using the regional language,
- providing support to representatives of these groups in their contacts with broadcasters,
- consultations with representatives of national and ethnic minorities and the community using the regional language as regards their needs,
- monitoring of programmes broadcast by public media in terms of the percentage of programmes addressed to national and ethnic minorities and the community using the regional language,
- supporting the idea of training and broadening the competencies of journalists from the aforementioned groups.

In accordance with Article 33 of the *Act of 29 December 1992 on radio and television broadcasting*, dissemination of radio and television programmes – with the exception of the public media – requires a license. The authority competent in matters of licensing is the President of the National Broadcasting Council, who makes decisions based on resolutions of the Council. In addition, Article 39(b) of the aforementioned Act is important from the perspective of national and ethnic minorities as it allows associations and foundations – in pursuit of their statutory objectives – and legal persons of a church or a religious association with regulated legal status to apply to the National Broadcasting Council to be recognised as a social broadcaster. A social broadcaster is exempt from fees for applying for a licence or amending it.

Furthermore, in the period covered by the present Report, five private radio broadcasters were allowed to broadcast programmes addressed to national and ethnic minorities and the community using the regional language. These were: Belarusian Radio "Racja", Radio "Kaszëbë", Radio "Orthodoxia" from Białystok, Radio "Vanessa" from Racibórz, and Radio "Doxa" (which operated under the name "Radio Plus Opole" until May 2014).

Information on licensed radio and television channels addressed to national and ethnic minorities in Poland

| Minority | Channel | Broadcaster | Licence no. |
|------------|-------------------------------------|---|--------------|
| Belarusian | Belarusian Radio Racja ¹ | Białoruskie Centrum Informacyjne Sp. z o.o. | 358/K/2018-R |

¹ A universal local channel. The channel can be broadcast in Belarusian either in whole or in part.

| Minority | Channel | Broadcaster | Licence no. |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Belarusian, Lemko, Ukrainian | Radio ORTHODOXIA ^I | Białystok-Gdańsk Orthodox Diocese | 415/K/2021-R |
| Lemko | lem.fm ^{II} | "Ruska Bursa" Association | 678/2017/-R |
| German | Radio Vanessa ^{III} | Radio VANESSA Sp. z o.o. | 300/K/2017-R |
| | Radio DOXA ^{IV} | Opole Diocese | 424/K/2021-R |
| Kashubian community | Radio KASZĘBĘ ^V | <i>Ziemia Pucka</i> Association | 168/K/2012-R |
| | Twoja Telewizja Morska ^{VI} | Twoja Telewizja Morska Sp. z o.o. | 743/2019-TK |

KRRiT

Sound radio

Furthermore, since 2006, the Polish-German Internet Radio "Mittendrin", run by the Social-Cultural Association of Germans in Silesian Voivodeship, broadcasts online from Racibórz

Since 1997, the private Radio "Vanessa" broadcasting from Racibórz airs a weekly programme titled "Die deutsche Stimme aus Ratibor". Produced by the Social-Cultural Association of Germans in Silesian Voivodeship (production team from the editorial office of "Mittendrin"), the programme includes documentaries on the life of the German minority, local news, greetings and wishes, as well as music. The programme is also aired by the Polish-German Internet Radio "Mittendrin".

Since June 2011, the Ruska Bursa Internet Radio "LEM.fm" broadcasts in the Lemko language from Gorlice (previously under the name of "Łemkowskie Radio Internetowe Stowarzyszenia 'RUSKA BURSA'").

The Belarusian Radio "Racja" is a private radio station broadcasting in Belarusian from Białystok. It addresses its programmes to the Belarusian national minority in Poland and to citizens of the western

^I A local channel of socio-religious character, addressed to the Orthodox community in eastern Poland. In general, the channel is addressed to a religious group rather than a national or ethnic minority.

^{II} A universal local channel with programmes and other content addressed to the Lemko ethnic minority, encompassing local and other matters, including programmes broadcast in the language of that minority.

^{III} A universal local channel. The channels broadcasts regular Sunday programmes addressed to the German minority and produced by the editorial team of the Internet radio "Mittendrin".

^{IV} A local channel of socio-religious character. Radio DOXA cyclically broadcasts two programmes addressed to the German minority:

- "Abgekanzelt", Saturdays at 16:15, duration: 15 minutes – a religious and cultural programme in German;
- "Musikschachtel", Sundays at 21:00, duration: 60 minutes – a musical request show in German.

^V A universal local channel. The channel broadcasts programmes and other content addressed to the Kashubian community, encompassing local and other matters, including programmes broadcast in the language of that community.

^{VI} A universal channel disseminated by CATV networks, with programmes on cultural and language individuality of Kashubians.

part of the Republic of Belarus. The content features mostly news, commentaries, socio-cultural topics and music. The radio was on air between 1999 and 2002, and suspended broadcasting due to financial reasons in 2002. The channel resumed broadcasting in February 2006. The radio station receives support from the State budget (seven programmes addressed to the Belarusian minority in Poland were financed by the Minister of the Interior and Administration). Radio signal reception of "Racja" broadcasts is possible in the Podlaskie Voivodeship and via the Internet. Radio "Kaszëbë" is a private radio station broadcasting from Władysławowo (Pomorskie Voivodeship). It was launched in December 2004. Since then, the station's share in regional radio market grew by 164%, making it the most-listened-to local station in the Pomerania region. The station's coverage area includes the citizens of the following counties: Pucki, Wejherowski, Kartuski, Kościerski, parts of the counties Bytowski, Chojnicki and Lęborski, as well as the Tricity. At the same time, the network of transmitters is constantly being expanded and the signal is being amplified to reach even more people from the Pomeranian region. Between 40% and 60% of air time is dedicated to programmes in the Kashubian language. The channel's profile can be defined as universal, as it features mostly news, commentary, cultural, entertainment and educational programmes. The majority of programmes focus on a wide range of local topics. Furthermore, "Kaszëbë" broadcasts music with lyrics in the Kashubian language. Since 2006, the activities of the channel are supported from the funds of the Government of the Republic of Poland. The channel's broadcasts are also available online.

Radio "Orthodoxia" from Białystok airs a weekly programme in Ukrainian titled "Ukraińskie Słowo", raises issues relating to the tradition, culture, language, religion and history of the Ukrainian community in the Podlasie region and other regions inhabited by the Ukrainian minority. These weekly programmes last 20 minutes. Radio "Orthodoxia" reaches Białystok and the surrounding area and is also available online.

Television

A new aspect of media activity of national and ethnic minorities and the community using the regional language involves broadcasting television programmes via private broadcasters. Programmes in the Kashubian language are aired on local cable networks "TVT Teletronik" from Kartuzy and "Twoja Telewizja Morska" from Wejherowo. A particularly large number of programmes in the Kashubian language is broadcast by "Twoja Telewizja Morska" – they are created by the Kashubian-Pomeranian Association with the financial support of the Polish Government. During the period covered by the *Report*, CSBTW and the satellite television TVS also aired a weekly magazine programme "Schlesien Journal" in German, developed by the Union of German Socio-Cultural Associations in Poland (Pro-Futura Production Team).

Telewizja Polska S.A. airs programmes addressed to national minorities mainly through the regional branches of TVP S.A., but also on national television. As part of that offer, the shared broadcast of TVP regional branches includes the information programme "Telenowyny" addressed to the Ukrainian minority in Poland and viewers with an interest in Ukrainian matters (episode length: 24 minutes, on air throughout the year, three times a month). "Telenowyny" is broadcast in Ukrainian and simultaneously interpreted into Polish. The programme presents the history and up-to-date information on Polish-Ukrainian relations and comments on the current political and cultural events.

Telewizja Polska S.A. airs programmes for national minorities in six of its regional branches: in Białystok (83 hours), Gdańsk (26 hours and 30 minutes), Katowice (10 hours), Olsztyn (15 hours), Opole (23 hours and 30 minutes) and Szczecin (10 hours). Additionally TVP Regionalna, a shared broadcast, aired a total

of 13 hours of programmes. In 2016, TVP S.A. aired a total of 181 hours (through branches and on country-wide television).

The programmes for the Ukrainian minority in their mother tongue are aired through the regional branches in Białystok, Olsztyn and Szczecin. Programmes for the Russian and Belarusian minorities are aired through the regional branches in Białystok, for the Lithuanian minority – through the regional branches in Białystok and in Szczecin, for the German minority – in Katowice, Opole and Szczecin, for the Kashubian community – in Gdańsk. The area in which the regional branch of TVP in Białystok operates is inhabited by the largest groups of national minorities, which is why this regional branch offers the broadest range of programmes addressed to national minorities and broadcasts the biggest number of programmes addressed to such a variety of minorities.

The programmes for national and ethnic minorities and the community using the regional language are currently aired by twelve regional stations, namely on Radio: Białystok, Gdańsk, Katowice, Koszalin, Kraków, Lublin, Olsztyn, Opole, Rzeszów, Szczecin, Wrocław and Radio Zachód. The regions in which those companies operate are inhabited by the largest groups of minorities.

The number of hours dedicated by regional stations to programmes for national and ethnic minorities and the community using the regional language in 2012 – 2016 is provided in Annex 3.

Belarusian minority:

- *Tydzień Białoruski* (O/TVP Białystok) – a 22-minute news and commentary magazine addressed to the Belarusian minority, raising topics of social and cultural life of Belarusians living in the Podlaskie Voivodeship. Aired twice a week (premiere and rerun) throughout the year, the programme is produced in Belarusian with Polish subtitles,
- *Pod Znakiem Pogoni* (Radio Białystok) – a 7-minute news and commentary programme in Belarusian aired daily throughout the year. It raises topics relating to the Belarusian minority and is entirely focused on regional issues,
- *Duchowe Spotkania* (Radio Białystok) – a 15-minute programme aired once a week throughout the year, it promotes Christian values and is dedicated to the matters of the Orthodox Church. It is produced in Belarusian and Ukrainian,
- *Przed wyjściem do cerkwi* (Radio Białystok) – a 15-minute religious programme dedicated to the matters of the Orthodox Church. It is aired once a week throughout the year. A religious, educational and commentary programme in Belarusian and Ukrainian, it promotes Christian values based on the Decalogue and is focused entirely on regional issues,
- *Pożądalnaja Pieśńia* (Radio Białystok) – a music programme aired in Belarusian and dedicated entirely to regional issues. Length: 25 minutes, aired once a week throughout the year.

Lithuanian minority:

- *Głos Litwinów Polskich* (Radio Białystok) – a 20-minute news and commentary programme raising topics of the Lithuanian minority and focusing entirely on regional issues. It is aired three times a week throughout the year in Lithuanian with Polish subtitles,
- *Panorama Litewska* (O/TVP Białystok) – a 7-minute programme, aired twice a week. Addressed to the Lithuanian minority, the programme raises the topic of the social and cultural life of Lithuanians living in the Podlaskie Voivodeship as well as matters relating to the Lithuanian minority in Poland; aired in Lithuanian,

- *Pomerania Ethnica* (O/TVP Szczecin) – a 12-minute programme addressed to national minorities and ethnic groups living in the Western Pomerania region (including Lithuanians). Aired twice a week throughout the year, it raises social and cultural topics related to minorities.

German minority:

- *Schlesien Journal* (O/TVP Katowice and O/TVP Opole) – an 11-minute programme aired once a week throughout the year, with the total length of 9 hours and 27 minutes (O/TVP Katowice) and three times a week, with the total length of 28 hours and 43 minutes, including reruns (O/TVP Opole). A cyclical news and feature magazine addressed to the German minority in Silesia and the Opole region, with news and comments about social, political, economic and cultural events connected with the German minority. The programme is broadcast in German with Polish subtitles,
- *Pomerania Ethnica* (O/TVP Szczecin) – a 12-minute programme addressed to national minorities and ethnic groups living in the Western Pomerania region (including Germans). Aired once a week throughout the year, it raises social and cultural topics related to minorities,
- *Pojednanie i Przyszłość* (Radio Katowice) – a 55-minute culture and commentary magazine aired twice a month. Produced by the German "Pojednanie i Przyszłość" Association, the programme focuses on German tradition and culture and the history of Silesia, with frequent references to the achievements of the representatives of German culture, art and science. It is generally commentary in nature, with some musical content in German. The topics raised relate mainly to the German tradition and culture, as well as the history of Silesia. It very often makes references to the heritage of numerous representatives of German culture, arts and science (Eichendorf, Noble Prize winners born in Silesia etc.). Due to its design, which results from the intention of the producing team associated with the aforementioned organisation, the programme is addressed to old-age members of the German minority. The programme has practically no content addressed to young listeners,
- *Präsent* (Radio Katowice) – a 55-minute commentary magazine addressed primarily to the younger and middle generations of members of the German minority, broadcast twice a week throughout the year. Produced by the Social-Cultural Association of Germans of Silesian Voivodeship, the programme's spoken content includes reportage, accounts, interviews and commentaries about the life and activities of German minority communities across the Śląskie Voivodeship. It is created by the producer team "Mittendrin", which operates within DFK and is composed of young people, which is reflected in the character of the programme. It is addressed to middle-age members of the German minority as well as younger listeners who identify with this nationality group. This is reflected in the range and topicality of the topics raised, the editing and presenting style, as well as the character of the musical content,
- *Allensteiner Welle* (Radio Olsztyn) – a 21-minute commentary programme dedicated to the matters of the German minority in the Warmińsko-Mazurskie Voivodeship; aired once a week throughout the year,
- *Allensteiner Welle* (Radio Olsztyn) – 5-minute news programme, aired once a week throughout the year,
- *Powiedz: „Die Musik”* (Radio Opole) – a new (recorded in 2016) series of educational broadcasts in the form of German language lessons based on the presentation of selected parts of popular German-language musical hit singles,
- *Publicystyka niemieckojęzyczna* (Radio Opole) – a series of 50-minute commentary programmes aired twice a week, raising the topic of German culture as well as activities taken by

the minority and its representatives in the region. The series will include the following broadcasts: "Kulturviertel", "Die Brücke/Most", "Schönes Schlesien", "Schlesien Aktuell – das Magazin", "Mittendrin", "Treffpunkt Opole". The programmes use only German-language music,

- *Geschichten um Oder (Stories from the Oder Area)* (Radio Zachód) – a new 10-minute programme aired twice a week throughout the year. The radio magazine is about events relating to the activity of German minority organisations in the Lubuskie Province. The magazine programme covers cultural and social events, as well as topics related to cross-border cooperation. Its guests include representatives of the Sorbian minority from the area of eastern Germany and journalists from Antenne Cottbus, a public radio station.

Roma minority:

- *My Romowie* (o/TVP Białystok) – an 8-minute commentary programme aired twice a month throughout the year both in Polish and Roma at this minority's request. It covers topics related to the social and cultural life of the Roma living in the Podlaskie Voivodeship. The programme presents various aspects of the Roma minority's life,
- *Poznajmy się* (o/TVP Katowice) – a 13-minute programme aired twice a week in June 2016. A periodic magazine addressed to the Roma minority in Silesia and covering matters related to the education of Roma children and youth in order to spread awareness about education and work in the Roma society, as well as promote tolerance and knowledge about the Roma among the Polish audience,
- *Serwis Romski* (Radio Koszalin) – a 3-minute news programme aired once a week throughout the year. Apart from covering events relevant for the minority, the programme features announcements and advertisements of cultural events. It is aired every Sunday at 7:30 am. Additionally, it includes discussions on the EU legislation and projects that might be of interest to the Roma minority,
- *Magazyn Romski* (Radio Koszalin) – a 10-minute news and commentary programme aired once a week every Sunday at 7:10 pm throughout the year, it is addressed to the Roma minority. A permanent content element addressed to the Roma minority, "Romano Dżipen" is designed to shed some light for the general public on the hitherto hermetically closed Roma community. The programme presents different aspects of the Roma life and refutes established stereotypes, shows the Roma community as it really is – this is one of the primary goals of the programme. Moreover, it features elements of the Roma culture that are passed from generation to generation – both the well-known and widely unknown,
- *Romscy Bracia (Radio Opole)* – a 50-minute programme aired twice a week throughout the year. It presents various areas of the life of the Roma community - education, culture, tradition, family life, talents and interests. The programme presents persons who come from this community and have become prominent figures, achieved excellent education, hold important positions and act for the benefit of others. It includes accounts and reports from various events organised by Roma, including Roma Culture Days, Festival of Roma Songs and Culture, events organised by schools and institutions. The programme's purpose is to inform the listeners about everyday problems, difficulties in finding employment and in education, support projects created by Roma, build good social relations and eliminate stereotypes, mutual animosities and dislikes, show Roma as they really are, integration. The programme takes account of the needs of national and ethnic minorities and the community using the regional language,
- *Szlakiem taborów* (Radio Zachód) – a new 10-minute programme aired twice a week throughout the year. The programme is aimed at promoting the Roma history, tradition, customs and culture among residents of the Lubuskie Voivodeship, fostering more complete participation

of the Roma people in the social life of the region, developing pro-education attitudes within the Roma community, overcoming the Roma reluctance to school, promoting artists who come from the Roma community, strengthening the Roma identity, encouraging Roma cultural and organisational, doing away with stereotypes which form the negative image of the Roma community, as well as changing the way the general Polish audience perceives Roma people, building a platform for understanding between Roma and non-Roma communities.

Russian minority:

- *Wiadomości Rosyjskie* (O/TVP Białystok) – A 10-minute news and commentary programme aired twice a month throughout the year. The magazine raises topics relating to the social and cultural life of Russians living in the Podlaskie Voivodeship. It is broadcast in Russian, with Polish subtitles.

Tatar minority:

- *Tatarskie Wieści* (O/TVP Białystok) – an 8-minute programme aired twice a month throughout the year. Addressed to the Tatar minority, it raises the topic of the social and cultural life of Tatars living in the Podlaskie Voivodeship.

Ukrainian minority:

- *Telenowyny* (Telewizja Polska S.A. TV Regionalna) – a 24-minute programme aired 4 times a month on TVP Regionalna (a common spectrum band). Addressed to the Ukrainian minority in Poland and viewers interested in the matters of Ukraine, the programme is produced in Ukrainian with simultaneous interpreting into Polish. The programme presents history and current information on Polish-Ukrainian relations, as well as comments on the current political and cultural events,
- *Przegląd Ukraiński* (O/TVP Białystok) – an 11-minute news and commentary programme aired twice a week (première and rerun) throughout the year. Addressed to the Ukrainian minority living in the Podlaskie Voivodeship, the programme raises the topic of social and cultural life of Ukrainians. It is broadcast in Ukrainian with Polish subtitles,
- *Pomerania Ethnica* (O/TVP Szczecin) – a 12-minute programme addressed to national minorities and ethnic groups living in the Western Pomerania region (including Ukrainians). Aired once a week throughout the year, it raised social and cultural topics related to minorities,
- *Ukraińskie Wieści* (O/TVP Olsztyn) – a 12-minute news and commentary magazine aired in Ukrainian twice a week throughout the year. *Ukraińskie Wieści* informs its viewers about most important current events regarding the Ukrainian minority. The magazine shows everyday life of Ukrainians living in Warmia and Mazury - their traditions, customs, education, cultural activity. It presents concerts, festivals and social campaigns, and reports on events in Ukraine and regional cooperation. Although it is addressed to the Ukrainian national minority, the magazine presents also universal topics (such as culture, tourism) which might be of interest to all viewers,
- *Przed wyjściem do cerkwi* (Radio Białystok) – a 15-minute religious programme dedicated to the matters of the Orthodox Church. It is aired once a week throughout the year. A religious, educational and commentary programme in Belarusian and Ukrainian, it promotes Christian values based on the Decalogue and is focused entirely on regional issues,

- *Ukraińska Dumka* (Radio Białystok) – a 20-minute news and commentary programme aired in Ukrainian three times a week throughout the year, it raises various problems of the Ukrainian minority,
- *Duchowe Spotkania* (Radio Białystok) – a 15-minute religious, commentary and educational programme aired in Belarusian and Ukrainian once a week throughout the year; it promotes Christian values based on the Decalogue and is dedicated to the matters of the Orthodox Church; it focuses entirely on regional issues,
- *Serwis Ukraiński* (Radio Koszalin) – a 4-minute news programme aired once a week throughout the year. A fixed schedule item aired every Sunday at 7.40 am.
- *Magazyn Ukraiński* (Radio Koszalin) – a 16-minute news and commentary magazine aired in Ukrainian once a week on Sundays at 7.20 pm throughout the year. The magazine discusses socio-political and cultural issues relating to the Ukrainian minority in Poland, with particular focus on the Pomerania region, as well as contemporary problems of Ukraine,
- *Kermesz – serwis informacyjny* (Radio Kraków) – a 5-minute news programme aired once a week (both première and rerun),
- *Kermesz – magazyn* (Radio Kraków) – a 25-minute social and cultural magazine aired in Ukrainian once a week (both première and rerun) for the Lemko and Ukrainian minorities living in Małopolska region. Edited and hosted by journalists representing these minorities, the programme provides information on the life of these communities, with particular attention to documenting the voice of older generations, accounts of witnesses to historic events, rites on the verge of extinction, customs, as well as products of the material and spiritual culture,
- *Przyszłość Ukrainy* (Radio Lublin) – a 28-minute news and commentary programme aired in Polish and Ukrainian once a week throughout the year. It provides a summary of the week's events relating to Ukraine and is produced by two Ukrainian female journalists who cooperate with Radio Lublin. The programme features news directly from Ukraine, but also from Poland; it is useful for Ukrainian students who study in Lublin and for other residents of that region,
- *Wiadomości kulturalne w języku ukraińskim* (Radio Lublin) – a 5-minute programme aired in Ukrainian five times a week throughout the year. Discussing the day's cultural events, it is addressed to Ukrainians in the Lublin region: residents, students and tourists,
- *Od Niedzieli do Niedzieli* (Radio Olsztyn) – a 5-minute news programme aired once a week throughout the year. It discusses issues relating to the Ukrainian minority,
- *Od Niedzieli do Niedzieli* (Radio Olsztyn) – a 24-minute commentary programme aired once a week throughout the year. It discusses current issues of the Ukrainian minority in the region,
- *Wiadomości Ukraińców* (Radio Rzeszów) – a 30-minute news programme aired four times a week from Tuesday to Friday. It is a news and commentary magazine in Ukrainian prepared by the Ukrainian Editing Team of Radio Polonia,
- *Święta u wschodnich chrześcijan* (Radio Rzeszów) – a 55-minute programme in Ukrainian aired occasionally during the Christmas and Easter period in the Orthodox Church,
- *Posydeńki* (Radio Szczecin) – a 55-minute (on average) commentary programme aired once a week throughout the year. It presents the life, views and culture of the Ukrainian minority living in the region. The broadcast includes a 7-minute news section aired in Ukrainian every-day throughout the year,
- *Skrynia* (Radio Rzeszów) – a 50-minute commentary programme aired twice a week (première and rerun) throughout the year. The programme is addressed mainly to people of Ukrainian descent who live in south-eastern Poland and to all lovers of the Ukrainian language and culture. The magazine contains information about the life of the Ukrainian minority in Poland,

historical information, audio reports from celebrations, concerts, exhibitions, scientific conferences and meetings of the community, as well as cultural announcements and press reviews. The content is illustrated with Ukrainian music (ranging from folk to pop and rock). The programme's constant element is the musical series "Muzyczna skrzynka" which presents Ukrainian performers and composers. The programme often presents the activities of the Union of Ukrainians in Poland as well as interviews with interesting people of the world of politics, science and culture,

- *Besidy pro Ukrainu czyli Gawędy o Ukrainie* (Radio Zachód) – a 10-minute programme in Polish and Ukrainian aired once a week throughout the year. This radio magazine presents the life of Ukrainians in the Lubuskie Voivodeship and news from Ukraine, as well as the history of the Ukrainian minority in the region. The programme hosts representatives of the Association of Ukrainians in Poland and is addressed to the Ukrainian minority in Lubuskie Voivodeship and the general public.

Regional language:

- *Tedë jo* (O/TVP Gdańsk) – a 13-minute socio-political magazine aired twice a week throughout the year. Addressed to Kashubians, the magazine raises the broadly understood issues relating to the Kashubian community: culture, language, customs,
- *Kleka* (Radio Gdańsk) – a 20-minute news programme produced in Kashubian and aired four times a week throughout the year. A recap of the *Kleka* broadcast is also aired (two minutes, five times a week). The programme is addressed to the Kashubian community and is edited and hosted by representatives of the community using the regional language. The information presented is related to the region raises political, social, economic and cultural topics. The programme is edited and hosted by representatives of the community using the regional language,
- *Magazyn Kaszubski* (Radio Gdańsk) – a 55-minute commentary programme produced in Kashubian and aired five times a week throughout the year. The magazine features songs sung only in Kashubian. It is hosted by journalists representing the Kashubian community and raises the topic of the Kashubian identity, language and culture. *Magazyn Kaszubski* raises also economic and social topics and presents passages from literature – most often fiction written by Kashubian authors. *Magazyn Kaszubski* is also a platform for discussions on the contemporary matters relating to the Kashubian community,
- *Skarby Kaszub* (Radio Gdańsk) – a 5-hour programme aired once a week throughout the year. In most part it is a presentation of Kashubian minority's music performed in its regional language. The programme makes creative use of Radio Gdańsk archives and Kashubian music. Addressed to people who speak Kashubian, this programme is produced in the regional language by reporters who come from the Kashubian community,
- *Pogoda po Kaszubsku* (Radio Koszalin) – a 1-minute news programme (weather forecast) aired once a week throughout the year,
- *Magazyn Kaszubski* (Radio Koszalin) – a 15-minute commentary programme aired once a week every Sunday at 7.40 pm throughout the year. The programme is addressed to the Kashubian community in Central Pomerania. *Magazyn* raises topics mainly relating to the Kashubian culture (with focus on presenting old traditions and customs), as well as contemporary matters of the Kashubian community. It reports on the most important events regarding this ethnic group, e.g. the Kashubian Congresses and Kashubian Unity Days. It presents prominent figures of this community and scientific achievements either made by or dedicated to Kashubians, as

well as the multicultural coexistence in Pomerania region, including the Kashubian culture. *Magazyn* is edited by representatives of the Kashubian community,

- *Pogadanka o języku kaszubskim* (Radio Koszalin) – 1-2 minute programme aired once a week throughout the year. . A short lesson of the Kashubian language addressed to Kashubians and other listeners.

Multicultural programmes

Furthermore, the following programmes popularising multiculturalism in the regions were aired:

- *Etniczna scena Radia Koszalin* (Radio Koszalin) – a new 1-hour programme aired once a month; it is broadcast from meetings held at the Concert and Recording Studio of Polskie Radio Koszalin as part of *Etniczna Scena Radia Koszalin*. The meetings involved a presentation of the cultural heritage of national minorities: Jewish, Ukrainian, Roma ethnic minority and the community using the regional language (Kashubian). The meetings were attended by an audience,
- *Wieczorne Spotkania Radia Koszalin* (Radio Koszalin) – a new 1-hour broadcast aired six times a year. It is dedicated to the cultural heritage of national minorities: Ukrainian, German, Roma ethnic minority and the community using the regional language (Kashubian),
- *Opolski Śląsk* (Radio Opole) – a new programme presenting the life and activity of the national and ethnic minorities living in the region, with a special focus on the smallest of them. It is meant to refute stereotypes, while taking care of the needs of national and ethnic minorities, and of the community using the regional language, including broadcasting of news programmes in the languages of national and ethnic minorities and in the regional language.

TVP programmes for minorities aired in a minority language or Polish

| Branches | Minorities | Name of programme | Year | Broadcast time | Frequency | Total annual broadcast time |
|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------|----------------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| Radio Białystok S.A. | Belarusian | Pod znakiem Pogoni | 2017 | 2:20:00 | 7/month | 121:40:00 |
| | | | 2018 | | | |
| | | | 2019 | | | |
| | | | 2020 | | | |
| | | 2021 | 2:47:00 | 4/month | 127:00:00 | |
| | | Pożadalnaja pieśńia | 2017 | 0:25:00 | 1/month | 21:40:00 |
| | | | 2018 | | | 29:35:00 |
| | | | 2019 | | | 21:40:00 |
| | 2020 | | 24:00:00 | | | |
| | Belarusian, Ukrainian | Duchowe spotkania | 2017 | 0:15:00 | 1/month | 13:00:00 |
| | | | 2018 | | | |
| | | | 2019 | | | |
| | | | 2020 | | | |
| | | 2021 | 4/month | 15:00:00 | | |
| | | Przed wyjściem do cerkwi | 2017 | 0:15:00 | 1/month | 13:15:00 |
| | | | 2018 | | | 13:00:00 |
| 2019 | | | | | | |
| 2020 | | | | | | |

| Branches | Minorities | Name of programme | Year | Broadc ast time | Frequency | Total annual broadcast time |
|--------------------|------------|------------------------------|------------|-----------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| | Lithuanian | | 2021 | | 4/month | 15:00:00 |
| | | Głos Polskich Litwinów | 2017 | 0:20:00 | 3/month | 52:20:00 |
| | | | 2018 | | | |
| | | | 2019 | 1:00:00 | 1/month | |
| | | | 2020 | | | |
| | | | 2021 | | | |
| | | Ukraińska dumka | 2017 | 0:20:00 | 3/month | 52:20:00 |
| | | | 2018 | | | 52:00:00 |
| | | | 2019 | 1:00:00 | 1/month | 52:20:00 |
| | | | 2020 | | | 53:00:00 |
| 2021 | 53:00:00 | | | | | |
| Radio Gdańsk S.A. | Kashubian | Kaszubskie Radio DAB+ | 2019 | 0:50:00 | 1/month | 18:48:52 |
| | | Kaszubskie Radio Gdańsk DAB+ | 2018 | 0:50:00 | 1/month | 18:48:52 |
| | | Kleka | 2017 | 0:20:00 | 4/month | 69:00:10 |
| | | | 2018 | | | 66:17:00 |
| | | | 2019 | 1:20:00 | | 47:08:06 |
| | | | 2020 | | | 400:00:00 |
| | | | 2021 | | | 10:00:00 |
| | | Kleka - bulletin | 2017 | 0:20:00 | 5/month | 8:18:00 |
| | | | 2018 | 0:20:00 | | 8:20:00 |
| | | | 2019 | 0:02:00 | | 8:20:00 |
| | | | 2020 | 0:10:00 | | 8:26:00 |
| | | Magazyn kaszubski | 2017 | 0:55:00 | 4/month | 190:21:41 |
| | | | 2018 | 0:50:00 | 3/month | 167:14:14 |
| | | | 2019 | | 167:14:14 | |
| | | | 2020 | 0:55:00 | 4/month | 190:21:41 |
| | | Na szago | 2020 | 0:20:00 | 8/month | 6:37:41 |
| | | Skarby Kaszub | 2017 | 5:00:00 | 1/month | 229:25:30 |
| | | Skarby Kaszub | 2021 | 3:00:00 | 4/month | 148:00:00 |
| | | Skarby Kaszub - music | 2021 | 3:00:00 | 4/month | 148:00:00 |
| Skarby Kaszub DAB+ | 2020 | 11:00:00 | 3/2 months | 33:28:51 | | |
| Radio Katowice S.A | German | Pojednanie i przyszłość | 2017 | 0:55:00 | 2/month | 23:50:00 |
| | | | 2018 | 0:55:00 | 2-3/month | 22:55:00 |
| | | | 2019 | 0:55:00 | 2-3/month | 22:55:00 |
| | | | 2020 | 0:55:00 | 2/month | 23:50:00 |
| | | | 2021 | 0:55:00 | 2/month | 22:55:00 |
| | | Präsent | 2017 | 0:55:00 | 2/month | 23:50:00 |

| Branches | Minorities | Name of programme | Year | Broadc ast time | Frequency | Total annual broadcast time |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------|-----------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| | | | 2018 | 0:55:00 | 2-3/month | 23:50:00 |
| | | | 2019 | 0:55:00 | 2-3/month | 23:50:00 |
| | | | 2020 | 0:55:00 | 2/month | 23:50:00 |
| | | | 2021 | 0:55:00 | 2/month | 22:00:00 |
| Radio Koszalin S.A | Kashubian | Magazyn kaszubski | 2017 | 0:16:00 | 1/week | 13:46:05 |
| | | | 2018 | 0:15:00 | 1/week | 13:10:10 |
| | | | 2019 | 0:15:00 | 1/week | 13:00:10 |
| | | Pogadanka o jęz. kaszubskim | 2017 | 0:01:00 | 1/week | 1:22:05 |
| | | | 2018 | 0:02:00 | 1/week | 1:50:15 |
| | | | 2019 | 0:02:00 | 1/week | 1:50:15 |
| | | Pogoda po kaszubsku | 2017 | 0:01:00 | 1/week | 0:52:00 |
| | | | 2018 | 0:01:00 | 1/week | 0:52:00 |
| | | | 2019 | 0:01:00 | 1/week | 0:52:00 |
| | | Serwis kaszubski | 2017 | 0:03:00 | 1/week | 2:48:40 |
| | | | 2018 | 0:03:00 | 1/week | 2:27:40 |
| | | | 2019 | 0:03:00 | 1/week | 2:27:40 |
| | Roma | Magazyn romski | 2017 | 0:10:00 | 1/week | 8:39:10 |
| | | | 2018 | 0:10:00 | 1/week | 8:39:25 |
| | | | 2019 | 0:10:00 | 1/week | 8:39:25 |
| | | Serwis romski | 2017 | 0:03:00 | 1/week | 2:35:00 |
| | | | 2018 | 0:03:00 | 1/week | 2:41:00 |
| | | | 2019 | 0:03:00 | 1/week | 2:41:15 |
| | Roma, Ukrainian, Kashubian | Mniejszości Mniejszości | 2020 | 0:43:25 | 1/week | 37:38:40 |
| | Roma, Ukrainian, Kashubian | | 2021 | 0:53:00 | 1/week | 45:56:00 |
| | Roma, Ukrainian, Kashubian | Mniejszości - rerun | 2021 | 0:50:00 | 1/week | 43:20:00 |
| | - | Pogranicze ¹ | 2018 | 0:30:25 | 1/week | 2:22:55 |
| Roma, Ukrainian, Kashubian | Pogranicze | 2021 | 0:37:00 | 1/week | 32:04:00 | |
| Roma, Ukrainian, Kashubian | Serwis mniejszościowy | 2021 | 0:16:00 | 1/week | 13:52:00 | |
| Ukrainian | Magazyn ukraiński | 2017 | 0:16:00 | 1/week | 13:27:30 | |

¹ Prepared in 100% in Polish, this weekly programme refers to the multicultural character of our region, which is inhabited by Poles, Ukrainians, Lemkos, Germans, Romas, Kashubians and Jews; it develops the attitude of openness and agreement between the various social groups

| Branches | Minorities | Name of programme | Year | Broadc ast time | Frequency | Total annual broadcast time |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| | | | 2018 | 0:15:00 | | 16:44:45 |
| | | | 2019 | 0:15:00 | | 13:24:45 |
| | | Serwis ukraiński | 2017 | 0:04:00 | 1/week | 3:05:55 |
| | | | 2018 | 0:04:00 | | 2:57:55 |
| | | | 2019 | 0:04:00 | | 2:57:00 |
| Radio Kraków S.A. | Slovak | Pramen mag. słowacki | 2017 | 0:25:00 | 1/month | 21:40:00 |
| | | | 2020 | 0:25:00 | | 21:40:00 |
| | | | 2021 | 0:25:00 | | 21:40:00 |
| | Ukrainian | Kermesz - news service | 2017 | 0:05:00 | 1/month | 4:20:00 |
| | | | 2018 | 0:05:00 | | 4:20:00 |
| | | | 2020 | 0:05:00 | | 4:20:00 |
| | | | 2021 | 0:05:00 | | 4:20:00 |
| | Ukrainian, Lemko | Kermesz - magazine | 2017 | 0:25:00 | 1/month | 21:40:00 |
| | | | 2018 | 0:25:00 | | 21:40:00 |
| | | | 2019 | 0:25:00 | | 21:40:00 |
| | | | 2020 | 0:20:00 | | 17:20:00 |
| | | | 2021 | 0:20:00 | | 17:20:00 |
| | Radio Olsztyn S.A. | German | Allensteiner Welle | 2021 | 0:20:00 | 4/month |
| 2018 | | | | 0:20:00 | 1/month | 17:20:00 |
| 2019 | | | | 0:20:00 | | 17:20:00 |
| Deutsche Welle | | | 2017 | 0:05:00 | 1/month | 4:30:00 |
| Deutsche Welle | | | 2017 | 0:20:00 | 1/month | 16:40:00 |
| Deutsche Welle - news | | | 2020 | 0:05:00 | 1/month | 4:20:00 |
| Deutsche Welle - commentaries | | 2020 | 0:20:00 | 1/month | 17:20:00 | |
| Ukrainian | | Od niedzieli do niedzieli | 2017 | 0:05:00 | 1/month | 4:30:00 |
| | | | 2017 | 0:25:00 | 1/month | 21:00:00 |
| | | | 2018 | 0:25:00 | | 21:40:00 |
| | | | 2019 | 0:25:00 | | 21:40:00 |
| | | | 2020 | 0:05:00 | 1/month | 4:30:00 |
| | | | 2020 | 0:25:00 | 1/month | 21:00:00 |
| | 2021 | | 0:25:00 | 4/month | 21:40:00 | |
| Radio Opole Pro. FM. S.A | German | Czas mniejszości | 2018 | 0:45:00 | 1/month | 49:47:22 |
| | | | 2019 | | | 49:47:22 |
| | | Die Musik, Hudba, Zene | 2018 | 0:10:00 | 5/month | 42:52:51 |
| | | | 2019 | | | 42:52:51 |
| | | Powiedz Die Musik | 2017 | 0:05:00 | 10/month | 50:06:23 |
| | | | 2020 | | | 0:05:00 |
| | | Publicystyka niemieckojęzyczna | 2017 | 0:50:00 | 2/month | 100:09:51 |
| | | | 2020 | | | 0:50:00 |

| Branches | Minorities | Name of programme | Year | Broadcast time | Frequency | Total annual broadcast time |
|---------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|----------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| | | Wiadomości niemieckojęzyczne | 2017 | 0:03:00 | 7/month | 18:07:30 |
| | | | 2018 | | | 18:00:30 |
| | | | 2020 | 0:21:00 | | 18:28:09 |
| | | | 2021 | | 4/month | 18:15:30 |
| | Roma | Romscy bracia | 2017 | 0:50:00 | 2/month | 100:50:00 |
| | Roma, Ukrainian | Mój nowy opolski dom | 2018 | 0:45:00 | 1/month | 44:52:51 |
| | Roma, Ukrainian | | 2019 | 0:45:00 | | |
| | Roma, Ukrainian, Kashubian | Mój opolski dom | 2020 | 0:30:00 | 2/month | 42:35:15 |
| | | | 2021 | 0:30:00 | | 30:30:00 |
| | - | Kresowianie – Opolanie ¹ | 2017 | 0:50:00 | 2/month | 111:21:46 |
| | | | 2018 | | | |
| | | | 2019 | | | |
| | 2020 | | | | | |
| Radio Rzeszów S.A. | Ukrainian | Audycje okolicznościowe | 2017 | 0:50:00 | occasionally | 2:30:00 |
| | | | 2018 | | | 1:40:00 |
| | | | 2019 | | | 1:40:00 |
| | | | 2020 | | 2/year | 4:35:00 |
| | | | 2021 | | | 1:40:00 |
| | | Skrzynia | 2017 | 0:50:00 | 2/month | 80:50:00 |
| | | | 2018 | | | 78:20:00 |
| | | | 2019 | | | 82:30:00 |
| | | | 2020 | | | 78:00:00 |
| | | | 2021 | | 1:40:00 | 4/month |
| | Wiadomości dla Ukraińców | 2017 | 0:30:00 | 4/month | 103:30:00 | |
| | | 2018 | | | 103:00:00 | |
| | | 2019 | | | 104:30:00 | |
| | | 2020 | 2:00:00 | | 100:00:00 | |
| | | 2021 | | | | |
| Radio Szczecin S.A. | Ukrainian | Posydeńki | 2017 | 0:50:00 | 1/month | 28:18:57 |
| | | | 2018 | 0:55:00 | | 30:03:05 |

¹ Première issues of a programme which raises a broad spectrum of social, cultural, educational, economic and historical matters of the multicultural Opole region. The regional topics show, in an even and balanced manner, the matters of various social and ethnic groups. Poles from the eastern borderlands and other regions, Silesians, Germans, Romas are presented in the context of their own problems or achievements, but always as an important element of the multicultural society of the Opolskie Voivodeship. The programme is produced in cooperation with persons affiliated with the national and ethnic minority communities in the Opole region. It pays due regard to the needs of national and ethnic minorities and the community using the regional language, including broadcasting news programmes in the languages of national and ethnic minorities and in the regional language (Article 21(1a)(8a)). The programme contributes to developing attitudes of tolerance which counteract discrimination and exclusion on the grounds of nationality

| Branches | Minorities | Name of programme | Year | Broadcast time | Frequency | Total annual broadcast time | |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|--|----------------|-----------|-----------------------------|----------|
| | | | 2019 | 0:50:00 | | | |
| | | | 2020 | 0:13:52 | 4/month | 12:01:20 | |
| | | | 2021 | 0:40:00 | 1/month | 10:40:00 | |
| | | Posydeńki (news) | 2017 | 0:55:00 | 1/month | 5:14:46 | |
| | | | 2018 | | | 4:01:44 | |
| | | | 2019 | | | 5:14:46 | |
| | | | 2020 | | | 4:20:00 | |
| | | - | Radio Szczecin na wieczór ¹ | 2017 | 1:50:00 | 4/month | 41:31:00 |
| | | | | 2018 | | | |
| | | | | 2019 | | | |
| 2020 | | | | | | | |
| 2021 | | | | | | | |
| Radio Wrocław S.A. | Lemko, Ukrainian, German, Armenian | Sami swoi | 2017 | 0:46:44 | 1/month | 40:30:00 | |
| | | | 2019 | 0:45:00 | | 36:45:00 | |
| | | | 2020 | 0:46:44 | | 38:15:00 | |
| | | | 2021 | 0:45:40 | | | |
| Radio Zachód S.A. | German | Opowieści wokół Odry | 2017 | 0:10:05 | 1/month | 8:03:43 | |
| | Roma | Szlakiem taborów | 2017 | 0:09:49 | 1/month | 8:40:35 | |
| | | | 2018 | 0:09:39 | | 8:21:38 | |
| | | | 2019 | 0:09:41 | | 8:23:39 | |
| | | | 2020 | 0:10:00 | | 8:40:00 | |
| | | | 2021 | 0:10:00 | | | |
| | Ukrainian | Besidy pro Ukrainu | 2017 | 0:09:50 | 1/month | 8:41:00 | |
| | | | 2018 | 0:09:48 | | 8:29:44 | |
| | | | 2019 | 0:09:39 | | 8:21:28 | |
| | | | 2020 | 0:09:39 | | 8:21:28 | |
| | | | 2021 | 0:10:00 | | 8:40:00 | |

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¹ This magazine includes different programme forms: commentaries, education, culture, reportage. The topics raised include issues relating to the Polish-German borderland, the European Union, the region's economy, economic activity, leaders of economy and innovation, as well as new technologies, prevention of digital exclusion, research projects conducted by Szczecin's higher education establishments. Presentation of pro-ecology, eco-education and health activities. Guidance regarding health, education, children and youth development, parent and child rights. Meetings with socially active people; presentation of the region's and city's history. Popularisation of literature as well as cultural and art events in the region. Education and commentary reportage presenting the region's culture and social and economic matters, as well as the historical heritage of residents of Szczecin and the region

TVP programmes for minorities aired in a minority language or Polish

| Branches | Minority | Name of programme | Year | Broad- cast time | Frequency | Total an- nual broadcast time | |
|----------------------------------|------------|------------------------------------|---------|------------------------|-------------------|--|----------|
| TVP's shared spectrum band | Ukrainian | Telenowyny ^I | 2017 | 0:24:00 | 3/month | 3:20:10 | |
| | | | 2018 | | | 8:58:28 | |
| | | | 2019 | 0:23:00 | 1-4/month | 4:47:51 | |
| | | | 2020 | 0:24:00 | 1/month | 4:25:38 | |
| | | | 2021 | | 3/month | 3:20:10 | |
| TVP Białystok | Belarusian | Tydzień białoruski ^{II} | 2017 | 0:22:00 | 2/month | 38:01:32 | |
| | | | 2018 | | | 36:54:09 | |
| | | | 2019 | | | 36:10:30 | |
| | | | 2020 | | | 0:40:00 | 33:25:42 |
| | | | 2021 | | | 0:44:00 | 36:50:00 |
| | Lithuanian | Panorama litewska ^{III} | 2017 | 0:07:00 | 2/month | 13:05:23 | |
| | | | 2018 | | | 12:31:50 | |
| | | | 2019 | | | 12:13:24 | |
| | | | 2020 | | | 0:14:00 | 12:02:47 |
| | | | 2021 | | | 0:15:00 | 12:30:00 |
| | Roma | My Romowie ^{IV} | 2020 | 0:15:00 | 1/month | 2:55:21 | |
| | Russian | Syberyjski bard ^V | 2020 | 0:15:00 | 1/month (Jul-Dec) | 2:39:23 | |
| | | Wiadomości rosyjskie ^{VI} | 2017 | 0:10:00 | 2/month | 3:09:27 | |
| | | | 2018 | 0:08:00 | | 3:10:59 | |
| | | | 2019 | 0:10:00 | | 3:07:15 | |
| | | | 2020 | | January - June | 1:15:49 | |
| | 2021 | 0:10:00 | 2/month | 2:50:00 | | | |
| | Tatar | Tatarskie wieści ^{VII} | 2020 | 0:15:00 | 1/month | 3:14:16 | |
| | Ukrainian | | 2017 | 0:12:00 | 2/month | 22:36:18 | |
| | | | 2018 | 0:13:00 | | 21:20:26 | |

^I A news and commentary magazine interpreted into Polish.

^{II} A news and commentary magazine raising the topic of the social and cultural life of Belarusians living in the Podlaskie Voivodeship as well as the topic of the socio-economic situation in Belarus.

^{III} A magazine which raises the topic of the social and cultural life of the Lithuanian minority in Poland.

^{IV} This magazine raises the topic of the social and cultural life of Roma in Poland. It is produced in cooperation with representatives of the Roma communities in the Podlaskie Voivodeship. The magazine is aired in Polish because the Roma language is not systematised in Poland and due to the fact that Roma generally speak Polish. However, materials containing Roma rituals and songs performed by Roma bands are broadcast in Roma.

^V This magazine raises the topic of the social and cultural life of Russians living in Poland. In 2020, it was replaced with the *Wiadomości rosyjskie* series.

^{VI} Addressed to the Russian minority, this magazine raises the topic of the social and cultural life of Russians living in the Podlaskie Voivodeship.

^{VII} Produced for the Tatar minority in cooperation with representatives of Tatar communities from the Podlaskie Voivodeship, this magazine raises the topic of the social and cultural life of Tatars living in the Podlasie Province. It is produced in Polish because this is the language spoken by the Tatar minority every day.

| Branches | Minority | Name of programme | Year | Broad-cast time | Frequency | Total annual broadcast time |
|--------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------|-----------------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| | | Przegląd ukraiński ^I | 2019 | | | 20:53:03 |
| | | | 2020 | 0:24:00 | | 20:22:43 |
| | | | 2021 | 0:25:00 | | 20:50:00 |
| TVP Gdańsk | Kashubian | Farwë Kaszëb ^{II} | 2019 | 0:10:00 | 5/month | 9:42:18 |
| | | | 2020 | 0:18:00 | 4/month | 15:41:52 |
| | | | 2021 | 0:11:00 | | 12:00:00 |
| | Tedë jo ^{III} | 2017 | 0:11:30 | 6/month | 14:04:48 | |
| | | 2018 | 0:12:00 | 5/month | 10:25:47 | |
| | | 2019 | 0:11:00 | 6/month | 12:21:12 | |
| | | 2020 | 0:14:30 | | 12:36:33 | |
| | | 2021 | 0:11:00 | | 12:00:00 | |
| TVP Katowice | German | Schlesien Journal | 2017 | 0:11:00 | 1/month | 9:15:14 |
| | | | 2018 | | | 9:03:55 |
| | | | 2019 | | | 9:21:29 |
| | | | 2020 | 0:11:20 | | 9:38:24 |
| | | | 2021 | 0:12:00 | | 10:24:00 |
| TVP Olsztyn | Ukrainian | Ukraińskie wieści ^{IV} | 2017 | 0:12:00 | 2/month | 14:19:37 |
| | | | 2018 | 0:13:00 | 8/month | 14:59:15 |
| | | | 2019 | | | 16:03:20 |
| | | | 2020 | 0:10:00 | 6/month | 11:50:24 |
| | | | 2021 | 0:52:00 | 2/month | 15:50:17 |
| TVP Opole | German | Program o mniejszościach ^V | 2021 | 0:15:00 | 1/month | 13:00:00 |
| | | Schlesien Journal ^{VI} | 2017 | 0:11:08 | 1/month | 9:27:52 |
| | | | 2018 | 0:11:13 | | 8:02:34 |
| | | | 2019 | 0:11:15 | | 9:56:05 |
| | | | 2020 | 0:11:18 | | 9:47:56 |
| TVP Szczecin | - | Pomerania Ethnica ^{VII} | 2017 | 00:12:00 | 4-6/month | 11:19:30 |
| | | | 2018 | | 0 | 2/month |
| | | | 2019 | | | |

^I A news and commentary magazine which raises the topic of the social and cultural of Ukrainians living in the Podlaskie Voivodeship.

^{II} A cyclical bi-lingual (Polish and Kashubian) programme which presents the everyday life of the Kashubian community.

^{III} A cyclical programme produced in Kashubian with Polish subtitles in which Kashubians talk about their community and matters in Kashubian.

^{IV} A series of programmes with Polish subtitles.

^V Programmes dedicated to national and ethnic minorities and addressed to the German minority. It is interpreted from German into Polish and *vice versa* (subtitles in the bottom of the screen).

^{VI} This programme consists of a news block and either an interview with an interesting guest or a report from an important event relating to the German minority.

^{VII} A magazine in Polish presenting national minorities and ethnic groups in Western Pomerania - their customs, rituals, problems which they face in everyday life.

| Branches | Minority | Name of programme | Year | Broad-cast time | Frequency | Total annual broadcast time | |
|----------|----------|-------------------------------|------|-----------------|-----------|-----------------------------|----------|
| | | | 2020 | | 1/year | 00:11:42 | |
| | | | 2021 | | | | |
| | | Pomorze Etniczne ^l | 2018 | 00:12:00 | 2-3/month | 02:50:48 | |
| | | | 2019 | | | | |
| | | | 2020 | | | 2/week (Jan-Mar) | 03:32:19 |
| | | | 2021 | | | | |

KRRiT

Costs of television programmes financed from licence fees and own resources of the companies concerned

| TV station | Execution [in PLN thousands] | | | | Plan [in PLN thousands] |
|--|------------------------------|-------|-------|---------|-------------------------|
| | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
| Telewizja Polska SA ^{II} | 865 | 802.7 | 934.8 | 1,027.8 | 1,125 |
| TVP3 Białystok | 579.8 | 556.4 | 644 | 721.2 | 614 |
| TVP3 Gdańsk | 109.6 | 89.1 | 170.4 | 203.3 | 235 |
| TVP3 Katowice | 5.3 | 5.1 | 5.6 | 16.8 | 6 |
| TVP3 Kraków | - | - | - | - | 35 |
| TVP3 Olsztyn | 42 | 36.9 | 39.8 | 29.4 | 64 |
| TVP3 Opole | 0.6 | 0.2 | 0.9 | 0.3 | 5 |
| TVP3 Szczecin | 44 | 25 | 20.1 | 11.8 | 67 |
| TVP3 Regionalna - shared spectrum band | 83.7 | 90 | 54 | 45 | 99 |
| POLSKIE RADIO | | | | | |
| Regional radio companies in total | 3,956 | 2,023 | 2,900 | 2,895 | 2,781 |
| Radio Białystok SA | 785 | 748 | 808 | 854 | 840 |
| Radio Gdańsk SA | 1,048 | 545 | 784 | 750 | 750 |
| Radio Katowice SA | 17 | 17 | 89 | 85 | 84 |
| Radio Koszalin SA | 159 | 124 | 225 | 218 | 231 |
| Radio Kraków SA | 33 | 36 | 24 | 42 | 36 |
| Radio Lublin SA | - | - | - | - | - |
| Radio Olsztyn SA | 395 | 384 | 433 | 454 | 420 |
| in a regional programme | 88 | 83 | 87 | 101 | 100 |

^l A magazine in Polish presenting national minorities and ethnic groups in Western Pomerania - their customs, rituals, problems which they face in everyday life.

^{II} Regional branches in total and TVP3 Regionalna.

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | a programme for the Ukrainian minority from the transmitter in Miłki | 307 | 301 | 346 | 353 | 320 |
| Radio Opole SA | | 1,215 | 241 | 271 | 239 | 140 |
| Radio Rzeszów SA | | 153 | 107 | 128 | 99 | 130 |
| Radio Szczecin SA | | 73 | 53 | 67 | 75 | 73 |
| Radio Wrocław SA | | 25 | 23 | 23 | 24 | 22 |
| Radio Zachód SA | | 53 | 46 | 48 | 55 | 55 |

Source: KRRiT

Costs of radio programmes financed from licence fees and own resources of the companies concerned

| Radio station | Execution [in PLN thousands] | | | | Plan [in PLN thousands] | |
|-----------------------------------|--|-------|-------|-------|-------------------------|-----|
| | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | |
| Regional radio companies in total | | | | | | |
| | 3,956 | 2,023 | 2,900 | 2,895 | 2,781 | |
| Radio Białystok SA | | | | | | |
| | 785 | 748 | 808 | 854 | 840 | |
| Radio Gdańsk SA | | | | | | |
| | 1,048 | 545 | 784 | 750 | 750 | |
| Radio Katowice SA | | | | | | |
| | 17 | 17 | 89 | 85 | 84 | |
| Radio Koszalin SA | | | | | | |
| | 159 | 124 | 225 | 218 | 231 | |
| Radio Kraków SA | | | | | | |
| | 33 | 36 | 24 | 42 | 36 | |
| Radio Olsztyn SA | | | | | | |
| | 395 | 384 | 433 | 454 | 420 | |
| | in a regional programme | 88 | 83 | 87 | 101 | 100 |
| | a programme for the Ukrainian minority from the transmitter in Miłki | 307 | 301 | 346 | 353 | 320 |
| Radio Opole SA | | | | | | |
| | 1,215 | 241 | 271 | 239 | 140 | |
| Radio Rzeszów SA | | | | | | |
| | 153 | 107 | 128 | 99 | 130 | |
| Radio Szczecin SA | | | | | | |
| | 73 | 53 | 67 | 75 | 73 | |
| Radio Wrocław SA | | | | | | |
| | 25 | 23 | 23 | 24 | 22 | |
| Radio Zachód SA | | | | | | |
| | 53 | 46 | 48 | 55 | 55 | |

Source: KRRiT

MSWiA subsidies allocated to the production of minorities radio and television programmes

| Minority | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
|------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Belarusian | 160,000 | 160,000 | 160,000 | 160,000 | 165,000 |
| Kashubian regional language | 447,000 | 446,688 | 446,688 | 437,219 | 415,000 |
| Lemko | 350,000 | 329,000 | 421,790 | 290,000 | 299,000 |
| German | 160,000 | 170,080 | 180,080 | 180,000 | 165,000 |
| Armenian | | | 12,000 | | |
| Ukrainian | 26,600 | 26,600 | 27,250 | 26,050 | 26,100 |

| | | | | | |
|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Total | 1,143,600 | 1,132,368 | 1,247,808 | 1,009,550 | 1,070,100 |
|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|

MSWiA

Article 10 [Auxiliary language]

1. The Parties undertake to recognise that every person belonging to a national minority has the right to use freely and without interference his or her minority language, in private and in public, orally and in writing.

2. In areas inhabited by persons belonging to national minorities traditionally or in substantial numbers, if those persons so request and where such a request corresponds to a real need, the Parties shall endeavour to ensure, as far as possible, the conditions which would make it possible to use the minority language in relations between those persons and the administrative authorities.

3. The Parties undertake to guarantee the right of every person belonging to a national minority to be informed promptly, in a language which he or she understands, of the reasons for his or her arrest, and of the nature and cause of any accusation against him or her, and to defend himself or herself in this language, if necessary with the free assistance of an interpreter.

In the Polish legal system, the rights encompassed by Article 10 of the *Convention* are reflected in Articles 8 and 9 of the *Minorities Act* and Article 5 of the Act of 17 July 5 on the system of common courts (Journal of Laws of 2020, item 2072).

No changes regarding Paragraphs 1 and 3 of this Article have been recorded in relation to the previous report.

The table below shows up-to-date figures concerning the communes where an auxiliary language is used.

Municipalities where an auxiliary language is used

| Commune | County | Voivode-ship | Total popula-tion | Minority pop-ulation | Minority per-centage |
|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Belarusian | | | | | |
| Orla | bielski | Podlaskie | 3,222 | 2,497 | 77.5% |
| Czyże | hajnowski | | 2,388 | 2,274 | 95.2% |
| Hajnówka | | | 22,545 | 5,932 | 26.3% |
| Hajnówka | | | 4,173 | 2,886 | 69.2% |
| Narewka | | | 3,792 | 1,917 | 50.6% |
| Kashubian | | | | | |
| Parchowo | bytowski | Pomorskie | 3,417 | 768 | 22.5% |
| Sierakowice | kartuski | | 16,616 | 6,359 | 38.3% |
| Żukowo | | | 30,501 | 6,721 | 22.0% |
| Linia | wejherowski | | 5,940 | 1,969 | 33.1% |
| Luzino | | | 14,813 | 3,895 | 26.3% |
| Lithuanian | | | | | |
| Puńsk | sejneński | Podlaskie | 4,437 | 3,312 | 74.6% |
| German | | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|------------------|--------------|----------|--------|-------|-------|
| Bierawa | kędzierzyńsk | Opolskie | 8,035 | 2,010 | 25.0% |
| Reńska Wieś | o-kozielski | | 8,671 | 3,042 | 35.1% |
| Lasowice Wielkie | kluczborski | | 7,208 | 2,735 | 37.9% |
| Strzeleczyki | krapkowicki | | 7,968 | 3,418 | 42.9% |
| Walce | | | 5,991 | 1,970 | 32.9% |
| Dobrodzień | oleski | | 10,363 | 2,762 | 26.7% |
| Radłów | | | 4,630 | 1,295 | 28.0% |
| Zębowice | | | 3,487 | | 0.0% |
| Chrzastowice | opolski | | 6,651 | 1,705 | 25.6% |
| Dobrzeń Wielki | | | 14,247 | 2,885 | 20.2% |
| Komprachcice | | | 11,331 | 3,260 | 28.8% |
| Murów | | | 5,755 | 1,955 | 34.0% |
| Prószków | | | 9,979 | 3,046 | 30.5% |
| Tarnów Opolski | | | 9,993 | 2,447 | 24.5% |
| Turawa | | | 9,582 | 1,983 | 20.7% |
| Biała | prudnicki | | 11,688 | 5,103 | 43.7% |
| Głogówek | | | 14,163 | 3,680 | 26.0% |
| Izbicko | strzelecki | | 5,620 | 1,563 | 27.8% |
| Jemielnica | | | 7,606 | 1,822 | 24.0% |
| Kolonowskie | | | 6,222 | 2,703 | 43.4% |
| Leśnica | | 8,825 | 2,409 | 27.3% | |
| Ujazd | | 6,312 | 1,607 | 25.5% | |

Source: MSWiA

Article 11 [Surnames and local names]

1. The Parties undertake to recognise that every person belonging to a national minority has the right to use his or her surname (patronym) and first names in the minority language and the right to official recognition of them, according to modalities provided for in their legal system.

2. The Parties undertake to recognise that every person belonging to a national minority has the right to display in his or her minority language signs, inscriptions and other information of a private nature visible to the public.

3. In areas traditionally inhabited by substantial numbers of persons belonging to a national minority, the Parties shall endeavour, in the framework of their legal system, including, where appropriate, agreements with other States, and taking into account their specific conditions, to display traditional local names, street names and other topographical indications intended for the public also in the minority language when there is a sufficient demand for such indications.

In the Polish legal system, the rights encompassed by Article 11 of the *Convention* are reflected in Articles 7, 8 and 12 of the *Minorities Act*. The matter is also regulated under the following legislative acts:

- of 17 October 2008 on changing surnames (Journal of Laws of 2021, item 1988)

- of 29 August 2003 on official names of localities and physiographic objects (Journal of Laws of 2019, item 1443).

No changes regarding Paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article have been recorded in relation to the previous report.

Local names

As regards Paragraph 3, below is the current list of communes where traditional geographical names are provided in minority languages.

Municipalities where locality names are provided in minority languages

| Language | Voivodeship | County | Commune |
|-------------|--------------|------------|-----------------|
| Belarusian | Podlaskie | bielski | Orla |
| Kashubian | Pomorskie | bytowski | Bytów |
| | | | Czarna Dąbrówka |
| | | | Parchowo |
| | | | Tuchomie |
| | | chojnicki | Brusy |
| | | kartuski | Chmielno |
| | | | Kartuzy |
| | | | Przodkowo |
| | | | Sierakowice |
| | | | Somonino |
| | | | Stężycza |
| | | | Sulęczyno |
| | | | Żukowo |
| | | kościerski | Dziemiany |
| | | | Karsin |
| | | | Kościerzyna |
| | | | Kościerzyna |
| | | | Lipnica |
| | | | Lipusz |
| | | łęborski | Cewice |
| pucki | Władysławowo | | |
| wejherowski | Linia | | |

| Language | Voivodeship | County | Commune |
|------------|-------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| | | | Luzino |
| | | | Reda |
| | | | Szemud |
| | | | Wejherowo |
| | | | Wejherowo |
| Lithuanian | Podlaskie | sejneński | Puńsk |
| Lemko | Małopolskie | gorlicki | Gorlice |
| | | | Uście Gorlickie |
| German | Opolskie | kędzierzyńsko-kozielski | Bierawa |
| | | | Cisek |
| | | | Pawłowiczki |
| | | | Polska Cerekiew |
| | | | Reńska Wieś |
| | | kluczborski | Lasowice Wielkie |
| | | krapakowicki | Gogolin |
| | | | Strzeleczy |
| | | | Walce |
| | | oleski | Dobrodzień |
| | | | Radłów |
| | | | Zębowice |
| | | opolski | Chrzastowice |
| | | | Dobrzeń Wielki |
| | | | Komprachcice |
| | | | Łubniany |
| | | | Murów |
| | | | Popielów |
| | | | Tarnów Opolski |
| | | | Prószków |
| | | | Turawa |
| | | prudnicki | Biała |
| | | | Głogówek |

| Language | Voivodeship | County | Commune |
|----------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| | | strzelecki | Izbicko |
| | | | Jemielnica |
| | | | Kolonowskie |
| | | | Leśnica |
| | | | Ujazd |
| | Śląskie | gliwicki | Sośnicowice |
| | | | Krzanowice |
| | | raciborski | Rudnik |

Source: MSWiA

The data shown below concerns both usage of traditional local names and an auxiliary language (the relevant information was provided in the section relating to Article 10.



Auxiliary language and traditional local names

MSWiA

Articles 12-14 [Education]

Article 12. 1. The Parties shall, where appropriate, take measures in the fields of education and research to foster knowledge of the culture, history, language and religion of their national minorities and of the majority.

2. In this context the Parties shall inter alia provide adequate opportunities for teacher training and access to textbooks, and facilitate contacts among students and teachers of different communities.

3. The Parties undertake to promote equal opportunities for access to education at all levels for persons belonging to national minorities.

Article 13. 1. Within the framework of their education systems, the Parties shall recognise that persons belonging to a national minority have the right to set up and to manage their own private educational and training establishments.

2. The exercise of this right shall not entail any financial obligation for the Parties.

Article 14. 1. The Parties undertake to recognise that every person belonging to a national minority has the right to learn his or her minority language.

2. In areas inhabited by persons belonging to national minorities traditionally or in substantial numbers, if there is sufficient demand, the Parties shall endeavour to ensure, as far as possible and within the framework of their education systems, that persons belonging to those minorities have adequate opportunities for being taught the minority language or for receiving instruction in this language.

In the Polish legal system, the rights encompassed by Articles 12-14 of the *Convention* are reflected in Articles 8 and 17 of the *Minorities Act*.

Reform of education

During the period covered by this *Report*, a reform of the education system was implemented (in 2017). The reform abolished 3-year lower secondary schools (*gimnazjum*), extended education at 6-year primary school to 8 years, extended education at hitherto 3-year general secondary schools and 4-year technical secondary schools by one year, and replaced 2-year vocational schools with 3-year vocational sectoral schools.

I-degree schools and two-year II-degree vocational schools.

New core curriculum

Consequently, effective on 1 September 2017, preschools and primary schools must apply the core curriculum laid down in the *Regulation of the Minister of National Education of 14 February 2017 on the core curriculum of preschool education and the core curriculum of general education for primary school, including students with moderate or severe intellectual disability, general education for first-degree sectoral vocational school, general education for special job-training school, and general education for post-secondary school*.¹

The school's responsibility as regards teaching of a national or ethnic minority language involves support of comprehensive and harmonious development of the students by strengthening their cultural, historic, ethnic or national identity.

Teaching of a national or ethnic minority language should be supported by teaching of the customs, habits and appropriate behaviours in the family, local and school environments. The role of a teacher is to make the students aware that such communities as the family, local environment and homeland represent a tremendous value in everyone's life, and everyone has some responsibilities towards those

¹ Journal of Laws of 2017, item 356, as amended

communities. Furthermore, it is an inherent element of school work to develop respect to one's own mother tongue.

Implementation of the core curriculum of the subject National or ethnic minority language put emphasis on developing the students' knowledge and skills in the following areas:

- Awareness of one's own national or ethnic heritage;
- Language education,
- Literary and cultural education,
- Production of statements,
- Comprehension of cultural texts.

In accordance with the core curriculum of the subject *Regional language – Kashubian*, education in Kashubian is aimed at developing the language, cultural and identity awareness of the students in partnership with their family as well as local and regional environment.

In particular, this objective is achieved by:

- 1) providing and expanding the knowledge of the language, literature, written texts, traditions, rituals, history, religion, architecture, music, painting, broadly understood arts (including folk art), and everyday life of Kashubians, including the local, geographical and natural specificities;
- 2) developing language skills for the purposes of interpersonal communication, access to the cultural heritage (written texts, literature, music etc.) and creative development of the students' own potential;
- 3) developing a positive attitude towards the Kashubian language and culture;
- 4) developing the attitude of involvement in the development of the geographical, natural, cultural and social environment of the Kashubia and Pomerania;
- 5) developing openness to other cultures of Pomerania, as well as the Polish and European culture.

Starting from school year 2019/2020, secondary schools apply the core curriculum laid down in the *Regulation of the Minister of National Education of 30 January 2018 on the core curriculum of general education for general secondary school, technical secondary school and II-degree vocational school*¹.

The core curriculum of a the subject *National or ethnic minority language* enables the youth from a national or ethnic minority to develop at multiple levels: national awareness and identity, cultural integration and language communication. It involves active participation of the students in the life of their local environment as well as the national or ethnic culture.

Emphasis is put on motivating the students to explore the national or ethnic literature and other cultural texts, including the regional culture, developing in the students the attitudes of curiosity, openness to the surrounding world and respect for the culture of one's won nation or ethnic group, as well as the Polish and European culture.

Kashubian education aims at forming and developing the language, cultural and identity awareness of young people in their relations with their region, State, Europe and the world. It is also aimed at developing in the students the curiosity of, openness to and respect for other cultures - the students develop competencies regarding the regional and ethnic awareness and identity, as well as the language and culture.

¹ Journal of Laws, item 467, as amended.

Furthermore, it stresses the importance of motivating the students to explore their regional literature and other cultural texts, gain knowledge of their region and develop language skills in their mother tongue, as well as to pursue broadly understood collaboration with their local and regional environment.

The legal grounds for pursuing educational activity aimed at promoting the use of the Kashubian regional language and as well as national and ethnic minority languages are laid down in Article 13 of the Act of 7 September 1991 on the system of education, which rules that the school and public establishments shall enable students to preserve the sense of national, ethnic, language and religious identity, and in particular to learn their own language, culture and history.

At the parents' request, teaching of a minority language and the regional language can be conducted:

- 1) in separate groups, classes or schools;
- 2) in groups, classes or schools - with additional teaching of the language and own history and culture;
- 3) in inter-school education establishments.

The minister competent for educational and pedagogical matters laid down, by means of a regulation¹, the conditions and manner for schools and establishments to pursue tasks enabling the maintenance of national, ethnic and language identity among students from national and ethnic minorities and the community using the regional language, specifically establishing the minimum number of students for whom respective forms of education shall be arranged.

Article 13(4)-(7) of the Act on the system of education provides that:

- the teaching and educational work of public schools shall ensure maintenance of regional culture and tradition;
- the Minister competent for educational and pedagogical matters shall take measures to ensure the possibility of training teachers and to ensure access to textbooks for state schools and establishments;
- the Minister competent for educational and pedagogical matters shall take measures to popularise the knowledge of history, culture, language and religious traditions of national and ethnic minorities and the community using the regional language.

According to Education Information System data as of 30 September 2020, a total of 83,285 students used the system of teaching a national or ethnic minority language; the greatest number learned German – 56,649, followed by Kashubian - 20,189, Ukrainian – 2,175, Belarusian - 2,739, Lithuanian – 599 and Hebrew - 356.

Detailed statistical information regarding the number of national minority students who learn their mother tongue at preschools and schools in Poland can be found on the website of the Open Data portal: <https://dane.gov.pl/pl> (data provider: the Ministry of Education and Science, dataset: *Teaching of minority and ethnic languages and the regional language*).

Curricula and textbooks

The objectives, content and detailed requirements regarding teaching of a minority language and the regional language set forth in the core curriculum represent a starting material for teachers to develop

¹ Journal of Laws of 2014, item 263 (codification), and Journal of Laws of 2018, item 1627

individual curricula and for publishers to prepare textbooks for learning a minority language and the Kashubian language.

Matters relating to the development and approval of curricula and textbooks for the purpose of conducting school tasks involving teaching a minority language and own history and culture are regulated under general provisions on approving preschool education or teaching education for use at schools and on approving textbooks for use at schools.

In accordance with Article 22aa of the Act of 7 September 1991 on the system of educationⁱ, a teacher may decide to implement a curriculum with the use of a textbook, educational material which either replace or supplement a textbook, and practice materials, or without a textbook and the said materials. A textbook or an educational material for a specific class at a specific school is selected by a team of teachers who teach the classes concerned.

Textbooks are approved for use at school by the Minister competent for educational and pedagogical matters, whereas educational materials are not subject to that procedure. It is a teacher who decides what educational material is suitable for implementing the applicable curriculum.

In accordance with Article 22ao of the Act, a textbook must contain a structured presentation of teaching content covering the subject concerned at a given stage of education, as laid down in the general education curriculum.

Textbooks which publishers submit for approval for use at schools in the aforementioned administrative procedure are assessed by experts. To be approved, a textbook must receive three positive opinions: two regarding the content and didactic value, and one regarding the language used. Textbooks for minorities are developed by publishers associated with individual national and ethnic minority communities in Poland who are directly interested in publishing their textbooks for the minority to which they belong themselves.

Textbooks proposed by publishers for teaching a national, ethnic or regional language, own history and culture, and geography of the State with whose cultural area the national minority concerned identifies itself are prepared by authors who originate from the respective minorities, mainly by school or academic teachers.

Curricula for teaching own history and culture and geography of the State with whose cultural area the national minority concerned identifies itself which are prepared by teachers, as well as textbooks for those subjects which are prepared by publishers include a structured presentation of the educational content from the subject concerned which goes beyond the scope laid down in the core curriculum of general education, taking into account recommendations made by bilateral textbook commissions and other textbook commissions and teams acting on the basis of international agreements on cooperation in education or memoranda of understanding signed between UNESCO national committees.

In accordance with Article 68 of the Act of 27 October 2017 on the financing of educational tasksⁱⁱ, textbooks and auxiliary books for educating students to the extent necessary to preserve their sense of national, ethnic and language identity may be funded from that part of State which is administered by the minister competent for educational and pedagogical matters. Pursuant to Article 13(6) of the Act on the system of educationⁱⁱⁱ, the Minister competent for educational and pedagogical matters

ⁱ Journal of Laws of 2020, item 1327, as amended

ⁱⁱ Journal of Laws of 2020, item 2029, as amended

ⁱⁱⁱ the Act of 7 September 1991 on the system of education (Journal of Laws of 2020, item 1327, as amended)

shall take measures to ensure access to textbooks for schools and public establishments which enable their students to preserve their sense of national and ethnic identity.

State funding covers the textbooks which have been approved for use at school by the Minister competent for educational and pedagogical matters and have been entered in the list of textbooks for general education of national and ethnic minorities and the community using the regional language, as well as the so-called auxiliary textbooks (e.g. exercise books, subject dictionaries, methodical handbooks) which are not subject to the approval procedure. The list of textbooks covered by State funding is determined on a yearly basis, following the presentation of publishing plans by entities that hold economic copyrights to those textbooks, taking into account the demand signalled by schools for respective titles, which is established by competent education superintendents, and considering the financial capacity of the Ministry. To date, all textbooks prepared by publishers and approved for use at school, as well as auxiliary textbooks for minorities have received 100% funding.

Textbooks purchased by the MEiN are transferred free of charge to relevant school superintendent's offices and then on to school libraries or inter-school education establishments – according to orders placed by school principals. Such a system guarantees appropriate distribution of and access to free-of-charge textbooks for successive classes of students who belong to national and ethnic minorities and the community using the Kashubian regional language.

Since 2010, electronic versions of respective titles are placed, at the publishers' consent, on the Scholaris education portal and can be downloaded free of charge. This allows teachers, students and other parties concerned to use electronic textbooks in addition to traditional ones. At present, work is under way to transfer those resources to the Integrated Education Platform www.zpe.gov.pl.

Faced with the demand for textbooks for the Ukrainian national minority and concurrent lack of publication proposals, the Ministry of National Education (presently the Ministry of Education and Science) took measures to ensure access to Ukrainian language textbooks for secondary school students who declared affiliation to the Ukrainian national minority.

In July 2019, an agreement was signed between the Ministry of National Education and the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin for the development of an electronic version of a Ukrainian language textbook for general and technical secondary schools belonging to the Ukrainian national minority. All parts of the textbook will be complete by the end of 2022. In 2020, a draft of the first part of the textbook and exercise book for first-grade students as well as the multimedia content will be prepared. In 2021, the textbook for second-grade students of general and technical secondary schools, followed next year by the textbooks for third and fourth-grade students. All parts of the Ukrainian language textbook for general and technical secondary schools will be published on the Integrated Education Platform.

A list of amounts spent by the MEN (MEiN) in 2017-2021 on textbooks and auxiliary books designed to educate students to the extent necessary to preserve their sense of national, ethnic and language identity

| Year of publication | Minority | Number of individual titles of textbooks and auxiliary books for minorities funded by the MEiN | Total amount of State budget funding spent |
|---------------------|---------------------|---|--|
| 2017 | Lithuanian | 5 titles, publisher Aušra Sp. z o.o. ^I | PLN 339,457.00 |
| | German | 2 titles, publisher LektorKlett Sp. z o.o. ^{II} | PLN 129,808.00 |
| | Kashubian community | 2 titles, Kashubian-Pomeranian Association ^{III} | PLN 281,136.00 |
| 2018 | Lithuanian | 7 titles, publisher Aušra Sp. z o.o. ^{IV} | PLN 423,790.00 |
| | German | 3 titles, publisher LektorKlett Sp. z o.o. ^V | PLN 154,200.20 |
| | Armenian | 1 title, Foundation for the Culture and Heritage of Polish Armenians ^{VI} | PLN 380.00 |
| | Kashubian community | 2 titles, Kashubian-Pomeranian Association ^{VII} | PLN 258,258.00 |
| 2019 | Belarusian | 1 title, Prince Konstanty Ostrogski Foundation ^{VIII} 4 titles, Association for the Children and Youth Learning the Belarusian Language AB-BA ^{IX} | PLN 344,200.00 |
| | Lithuanian | 5 titles, publisher Aušra Sp. z o.o. ^X | PLN 448,000.00 |
| | German | 3 titles, publisher LektorKlett Sp. z o.o. (Financing of the purchase and delivery) | PLN 109,299.40 |
| | Slovak | 2 titles, Main Board of the Association of Slovaks in Poland (Financing of the preparation and publication) | PLN 8,196.00 |

^I Financing of the preparation and publication.

^{II} Financing of the purchase and delivery.

^{III} Financing of the preparation and publication

^{IV} Financing of the preparation and publication

^V Financing of the purchase and delivery

^{VI} Financing of the purchase and delivery

^{VII} Financing of the preparation and publication

^{VIII} Financing of the preparation and publication

^{IX} Financing of the preparation and publication

^X Financing of the preparation and publication

| Year of publication | Minority | Number of individual titles of textbooks and auxiliary books for minorities funded by the MEiN | Total amount of State budget funding spent |
|---------------------|---------------------|--|--|
| | Ukrainian | Targeted subsidy – an agreement with KUL for the publication of a Ukrainian language textbook for general and technical secondary schools in 2020 – 2022, | PLN 8,607.31 |
| | Kashubian community | 2 titles, Kashubian-Pomeranian Association, (Financing of the preparation and publication) | PLN 220,000.00 |
| 2020 | Lithuanian | 5 titles, publisher Aušra Sp. z o.o., (Financing of the preparation and publication) | PLN 469,000.00 |
| | German | 3 titles, publisher LektorKlett Sp. z o.o. (Financing of the purchase and delivery) | PLN 67,964.40 |
| | Ukrainian | 1 title, PROSVITA Foundation (Financing of the preparation and publication) Targeted subsidy – an agreement with KUL for the publication of a Ukrainian language textbook for general and technical secondary schools in 2020 – 2022, | 207,120.03 |
| | Kashubian community | 1 title, Kashubian-Pomeranian Association | PLN 101,000.00 |

Source: MEiN

Teachers

Teacher training falls within the remit of the Ministry of Education and Science.

The rules of organising methodical consultancy and teacher development courses are laid down in the Regulation of the Minister of National Education of 28 May 2019 on teacher training establishments (Journal of Laws, item 1045).

Teachers who conduct regional language or national/ethnic language classes can participate in various forms of professional development provided at teacher development establishments, higher education establishments and other entities whose statutory responsibilities include professional development of teachers funded (in whole or in part) from the resources allocated within the budget of the competent supervising body to that purpose. School superintendents in charge of organising a methodological consultancy network are obliged to take into account – as required – methodological consultancy services for teachers employed at schools with the language of instruction being the language of a national or ethnic minority or the regional language.

Higher education

The *Act of 20 July 2018 on higher education and science* came into force on 1 October 2018, bringing major systemic changes. However, they do not affect minorities in any direct way.

As regards dissemination of the knowledge about the culture, history, language and religion of national minorities, it must be noted that there are many opportunities in Poland to study minority languages and the regional language at philological faculties as well as language courses and post-graduate studies. Studies at a given faculty are available as first-, second- and third-cycle, both as full-time and part-time programmes.

Polish higher education establishments are guaranteed autonomy in terms of curricula, which allows them to form the study offer to suit the needs of both the establishment and its socio-economic environment. It is not possible to impose upon them the obligation to offer a particular field of study, neither is there a central list of fields of study. Therefore, decisions to create specific fields of study are made by autonomous higher education establishments, which gives them greater flexibility in shaping their educational offer, as they form curricula and decide what classes should be included in them at their discretion. Although elements of the knowledge about the culture, history and religion naturally fall within the scope of didactic activity as well as research activity relating to minority language education, a detailed manner of teaching and the thematic range are determined by decisions made by individual higher education establishments within their curriculum autonomy.

It is also worth adding that under the *National Programme for the Development of Humanities* established by the Minister competent for educational and pedagogical matters, eligible entities (including higher education establishments, research institutes and entities conducting scientific activities) may apply, in a competition procedure, for funding of their projects, e.g. development of specialist dictionaries.

The system of higher education and science involves education and research regarding national and ethnic minorities. The intensity of those actions largely depends on the level interest on the part of candidate students, the establishment concerned and actions taken by minority representatives and organisations.

Polish higher education establishments enjoy autonomy in all areas of their activity in accordance with the provisions laid down in the *Act on higher education and science*. The freedom of education, artistic activity, research and promulgation of research findings as well as autonomy of higher education establishments form the basis of the system of higher education and science. In this context, all actions and decisions regarding establishment of studies in a particular field, level and profile fall within the remit of higher education institutions and autonomous decisions of their authorities. Establishments educate in accordance with the principle of curriculum autonomy, which entitles them to form their didactic offering at their sole discretion, which means that they independently develop curricula, including the concept of education, learning effects and a description of the process that leads to those effects (including curriculum content and classes). Although the knowledge about the culture, history and religion falls within the scope of didactic activity as well as research activity relating to minority language and other education, a detailed manner of teaching and the thematic range are determined by decisions made by individual higher education establishments within their curriculum autonomy.

In the light of the law in force, it is not possible to impose upon them the obligation to offer a particular field of study, neither is there a central list of fields of study. Since education in a given field of study should correspond to the socio-economic needs, the needs of a higher education establishment's environment can translate into its didactic offering, which opens space for cooperation between establishments and minorities.

According to information obtained by the Ministry of Education and Science from public higher education establishments, some establishments include in their didactic activities classes in the knowledge

about the culture, history, language and religion of national and ethnic minorities in the form of lectures, exercises or laboratories. The curriculum content from this thematic field is provided at various faculties, mainly philological ones, where minority language teaching is enriched with general knowledge and even involves preparation for teaching the minority language concerned as the mother tongue.

The number of students of minority languages in academic year 2020/2021 was ca. 13,000. Many academic centres across Poland provide education in minority languages. Although students of German and Russian represented the largest group of students, education in minority languages is not limited only to the most popular languages, i.e. German and Russian. Many academic centres across Poland provide education in minority languages.

The expected learning effects at a number of faculties include minority issues (those faculties include *inter alia* cultural studies, pedagogy, intercultural pedagogy, national security, tourism and recreation, ethnology and cultural anthropology, sociology of minority and ethnic groups, as well as subjects in the world literature or dedicated to minorities – nations and national minorities in Central and Eastern Europe, and minorities in the modern world). Healthcare-related faculties also include such subjects as e.g. multicultural nursing and multiculturalism in women's care, which concern ethnic considerations in the provision of health care. Bachelor's, Master's and doctoral dissertations are written on the topic of national and ethnic minorities.

At certain higher education establishments the research and didactic activities regarding minorities are conducted by specialised units. Here are some examples:

- Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń - Centre for Kitab Studies – an interdisciplinary scientific and research unit dealing with the cultural heritage of Tatars of the former Grand Duchy of Lithuania, in particular their handwritten religious literature which belong to the so-called Slavonic *aljamiado*,
- University of Wrocław - the Tadeusz Taube Jewish Studies Department, which offers language studies (modern Hebrew, Yiddish, Biblical Hebrew, Ladino) as well as a block of history, literature and cultural study classes,
- University of Łódź – the Centre for Studies in Jewish Culture and the Centre for Jewish Research at the Institute of History.
- University of Gdańsk - conducts research at two research centres: the Pomeranian Centre for Cultural Research and the Centre for Studies in Bordeland Narratives.

University of Białystok runs three schools of law addresses to *inter alia* representatives of national minorities:

- Polish-Belarusian School of Law,
- Polish-Ukrainian School of Law,
- Polish-Russian School of Law.

In 2021, the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań opened recruitment to Belaruthenian studies and established the Department of Belaruthenian Studies.

It is worth noting that the University of Warsaw offers its students free-of-charge classes in 40 foreign languages, including national minority languages, within the framework of the education programme. Students (free-of-charge) and other interested persons from outside the University (paid) can take a certification exam and receive a language proficiency certificate.

Many higher education establishments conduct research into national and ethnic minorities, both cross-cutting and dedicated to specific minorities. Some examples are provided below:

- Opole University of Technology – studies in the analysis of the socio-economic and cultural situation of the German minority; the impact of the ethnic factor of the German minority on the socio-economic and regional development (a project coordinated by the House for Polish-German Cooperation and co-financed by the Foundation for the Development of Silesia and Local Initiatives),
- Białystok University of Technology – research in architecture,
- Koszalin University of Technology – studies in minorities - models of functioning of cultural and social journals published by national and ethnic minorities,
- University of Wrocław – studies in the language and cultural situation of the Lemko minority in Poland during the interwar period and after 1945, as well as field studies in the historic Lemko Region, Lower Silesia and Lebus Land,
- Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin – studies in Ukrainian dialects in Poland and the language and cultural borderland, studies in individual minorities, as well as studies in the media picture of national and ethnic minorities and ethnic policy,
- University of Szczecin – studies in social, political, cultural and religious activities of national and ethnic minorities and the regional language,
- Christian Theological Academy in Warsaw – a research project regarding the theological and musical analysis of the repertoire of the choirs performing at the 20th Anniversary of the International Orthodox Church Music Festival in Hajnówka;
- Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań – e.g. research in the field of language and cultural studies;
- John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin (KUL) – studies regarding the Jewish minority, Kashubian language studies, studies into various minority-related areas (e.g. national security, sociology).

The knowledge about minorities is introduced also as part of healthcare classes (the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń, the Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce). The Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce developed the TOM Mobile App (TOM as for *Transkulturowa Opieka Medyczna* - Transcultural Health Care), which is a source of knowledge about care of patients from specific cultures and religions (it includes nine religious groups, e.g. the Roma community).

Some higher education establishments offer regular publications dedicated to national minorities. There are a number of various publications on this subject (e.g. at the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, the Pomeranian University in Słupsk, the Jacob of Paradies University, the Opole University of Technology, the Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce, the University of Zielona Góra, the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń, the University of Białystok, the University of Bielsko Biala). One must also note publications dealing with the subject of minorities, such as the University of Gdańsk's *Mniejszości etniczne i ich pogranicza: szkice tożsamościowe*, the University of Wrocław's *Wschodnioznawstwo*, the University of Białystok's *Białorutenistyka Białostocka*, the Maria Curie-Skłodowska University's *Studia Białorutenistyczne*.

Higher education establishments financed their projects involving research into national minorities from various sources, including as part of:

- contests announced by the National Science Centre,
- the National Programme for the Development of Humanities established by the Minister competent for higher education and science, where eligible entities (including higher education establishments, research institutes and entities conducting scientific activities) received, in a competition procedure, funding for their projects regarding e.g. translations, dictionaries, encyclopaedias, lexicons and other elaborations; the *Doskonała Nauka* programme under which funds for support of scientific conferences were granted in 2020 to three projects thematically related to the Jewish community.

Other paths of financing established by higher education establishments include:

- Jacob of Paradies University – a grant application for the implementation of a task under the programme for the integration of the Roma community in Poland for the year 2020;
- Mazovian Public University in Płock – a research grant regarding the development of a model for preparing teachers for education in inter- and multicultural conditions, under a "Cooperation Fund" project,
- University of Szczecin – cooperation between researchers within projects financed by the UM Szczecin and the Marshall Office of the Zachodniopomorskie Voivodeship and implemented by the Social and Cultural Association of Jews in Poland and the Union of Ukrainians in Poland,
- Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań - two research projects under bilateral cooperation programmes offered by the National Agency for Academic Exchange (exchange of academics with the Czech Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany) regarding the subject of Jews in Polish culture of the 20th and 21st centuries,
- University of Wrocław – a project on the German minority and the cultural heritage of German Jews in Silesia, financed by the German Minority Research Centre in Opole.

In 2019 – 2020, higher education establishments organised or co-organised cyclical or one-off conferences. Examples:

- Jan Grodek State University in Sanok – the cyclical international scientific conference "In the Borderland of Cultures and Nations" (2019, 2020),
- Jacob of Paradies University – conferences regarding national and ethnic minorities in the sphere of media of the western and northern lands (2019), and regarding Tatars and Karaims (2019),
- Prof. Edward Szczepanik State Higher Vocational School in Suwałki – a cyclical scientific conference on the search for common cultural roots (2019 – the 5th edition was dedicated to the Jewish community),
- State University of Applied Sciences in Nysa – international conferences organised by the "Multilingualism as an Opportunity" Consortium (which includes also universities from Switzerland, Germany, Belgium and Austria), with the participation of representatives of minorities;
- Pomeranian University in Słupsk – organisation of conferences and symposia, in particular ones regarding Kashubians,
- University of Białystok – annual scientific conferences, also with foreign universities,
- Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce – the cyclical conference "Jewish Community in Małopolska".

Also some scientific circles and student organisations at higher education establishments conduct activities relating to national and ethnic minorities. For instance, there is a Kashubian Academic Circle at the Pomeranian University in Słupsk, and Student Scientific Circle "Judaica" at the Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce. Furthermore, as part of activities of scientific circles at the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań there are regular thematic and author meetings, seminars and conferences dedicated to exploring and popularising minority cultures. Also, the University of Gdańsk hosts the Pomerania Student Club which cultivates Kashubian traditions.

An important role in popularising the knowledge about the culture, history, language and religion of national and ethnic minorities and about the regional language is played by cooperation of minority organisations with local governments and individual universities, which can exercise their autonomy to implement didactic and research projects related to national and ethnic minorities. According to information provided by individual universities, for example: the University of Szczecin has established long-standing cooperation with organisations of national and ethnic minorities from across the Zachodniopomorskie Voivodeship; there are regular students meetings at offices of those organisations

as well as continuous contact with their activities. Another example: the State University of Applied Sciences in Nysa cooperates with the Social-Cultural Association of Germans of the Opole Silesia, the House for Polish-German Cooperation in Opole, the Union of German Minority Youth in Opole, the Nysa and Głucholazy Branch Offices of the Social-Cultural Association of Germans of the Opole Silesia – regarding *inter alia* training for teachers and students, open lectures, contests for students.

Higher education establishments that conduct research and didactic activities relating to the subject of national and ethnic minorities take part in various initiatives. Here are some examples:

- Silesian University of Technology – the "Zakamarek" Gallery, which operates within the structure of the Library of the Silesian University of Technology, carried out thematic activities relating to dissemination of minority cultures, such as: the exhibition of sculptures by Henryk Fudali "For Armenians", an exhibition of paintings by Samvel Paremuzyan, the exhibition and seminar "Polish Armenians",
- University of Warsaw organised a cyclical event involving popularisation of minority languages and knowledge about languages, culture and religion of national and ethnic minorities – the Day of Mother Language in Wilamowice (23-24 February 2021) on the occasion of the International Mother Language Day. The events are attended by researchers of languages in danger of extinction and representatives of language minorities from Poland and around the world (including Lemko and Kashubians), and are aimed at celebrating the language richness and diversity,
- Pomeranian University in Słupsk provides substantive and organisational support to the Słupsk Centre for the Kashubia Culture – cyclical open meetings titled "Reading Kashubia",
- University of Białystok organises thematic scientific meetings and open lectures, and co-organises the annual Podlasie Festival of Science and Arts which involves elements relating to the culture of national and ethnic minorities living in that region,
- Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce organises the countrywide competition "Our neighbours – Jews",
- Lublin University of Technology is a partner of the "Ukraine in the Centre of Lublin" Festival. The 2019 Festival involved presentations about the culture, traditions and history of Crimean Tatars combined with cooking workshops,
- John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin (KUL) organises education meetings and competitions for school youth as part of the commemorations of the International Holocaust Victims Remembrance Day,
- Jacob of Paradies University provides lectures on national and ethnic minorities for students of the University of the Third Age in Gorzów Wielkopolski, Drezdenko and Dębno, as well as classes for preschools, primary schools and secondary schools on multiculturalism and existence of national and ethnic minorities in Poland – their traditions and culture,
- University of Gdańsk – a festival of the Jewish culture (a cyclical event) promoting the knowledge about the Jewish culture in Poland.

Education in the area of the regional language (Kashubian) is provided at first-cycle practical studies at the faculty of "Kashubian ethnophilology" established at the University of Gdańsk in 2012. In academic year 2019/2020, the faculty had 28 students in the winter semester and 13 students in the summer semester, whereas in academic year 2020/2021 it had 38 students in the winter semester and 17 students in the summer semester (the data from the POL-on System as of 30 August 2021).

The University of Gdańsk provides also post-graduate studies in "Teaching of the Kashubian Language".

Regulations regarding non-discrimination on grounds of belonging to minorities in the system of higher education and science

All Polish citizens, whether or not belonging to national or ethnic minorities, have a guaranteed equal access to education and are treated equally within the system of higher education and science. Conditions regarding enrolment for studies are established by the higher education establishments themselves, with the qualification criteria based solely on the objective assessment of knowledge or skills of the candidates, and the chances of admission are equal for all candidates. Furthermore, in accordance with Article 72(5) of the *Act of 20 July 2018 on higher education and science* (Journal of Laws of 2021, item 478, as amended), hereinafter "the HES Act", results of the admission procedure are public. This makes the recruitment process fully transparent, which can be of importance in preventing various types of discrimination.

The universal and equal access to higher education is ensured also through State-funded financial support for students. In accordance with the HES Act, students have the right to apply to their higher education establishment for non-repayable benefits in the form of social scholarships, a scholarship for the disabled, a support benefit and a rector's scholarship. The right to receive such benefits is available to every student.

It must be highlighted that all higher education establishments in Poland, both public and non-public, enjoy autonomy guaranteed under Article 70(5) of the Constitution of the Republic of Poland (Journal of Laws No. 78, item 483, as amended). That Constitutional rule is emphasised in the Act on higher education and science. Autonomy of higher education establishments is one of the fundamental principles of the system of higher education and science. However, the Minister competent for higher education and science, exercising the supervision over higher education establishments in terms of compliance with law, may in justified cases undertake explanatory and disciplinary actions.

This Constitutional and, subsequently, legislative division of remits is understood in the academic community as the rector's obligation to bear responsibility for his/her university, including his/her employees, students and post-graduate students, and to ensure compliance with law at the university. The primary task of higher education establishments include *inter alia* strengthening the rules of democracy and respect for human rights.

As regards ensuring equal access to education, it must be noted that under the *Act of 20 July 2018 on higher education and science* (Journal of Laws of 2021, item 478, as amended), hereinafter "the HES Act, conditions regarding enrolment for studies are established by the higher education establishments themselves, with the qualification criteria based solely on the objective assessment of knowledge or skills of the candidates, and the chances of admission are equal for all candidates. Furthermore, in accordance with Article 72(5) of the HES Act, results of the admission procedure are public. This makes the recruitment process fully transparent, which can be of importance in preventing various types of discrimination.

The rector bears responsibility for his/her university, including his/her employees, students and post-graduate students, and to ensure compliance with law at the university. The primary task of higher education establishments include *inter alia* strengthening the rules of democracy and respect for human rights.

In line with the remit arising from the HES Act, the Minister of Education and Science, within his/her supervisory authority, continuously monitors the situation at higher education establishments, also in terms of any signs of discrimination against students.

The universal and equal access to higher education is ensured also through State-funded financial support for students. In accordance with the HES Act, students have the right to apply to their higher education establishment for non-repayable benefits in the form of social scholarships, a scholarship for the disabled, a support benefit and a rector's scholarship. The right to receive such benefits is available to every student.

Education of students of Roma descent

The actions taken to date by the Government of the Republic of Poland in the area of promoting the education among the Roma resulted in numerous systemic changes in the approach to education. Apart from the actions undertaken for years under government programmes, and the introduction of increased educational subsidy for measures implemented at schools, also special schools, for Roma pupils, yet another aspect that deserves attention is the legislative change in the Regulation of the Minister of the National Education of 7 September 2017 on decisions and opinions issued by adjudicating panels active at public psycho-pedagogical units¹. The said Regulation provides that a Roma education assistant may participate – in an advisory capacity - in meetings of adjudicating panels. Additionally, where a decision or opinion is issued regarding children and students from national and ethnic minorities and the community using the regional language, as well as children and students who either do not speak Polish at all or speak Polish at a level which is insufficient to use education, their language and cultural difference must be taken into consideration. Diagnostic tools must be used which are adapted to the language capacities of such children and students, including non-verbal and culture-fair tests, and in the case of surveys and interviews with children and students of Roma descent it is advisable to use the aid of, respectively, a Roma education assistant or a person speaking the language of the country of origin of such children and students.

Actions undertaken by the Polish State for integration of the Roma community in the field of education are noteworthy, especially in the light of work and commitment of the assistants of Roma education, teachers, employees of the psychological and pedagogical counselling centres, as well as the Roma community leaders, but most of all – the mothers of Roma children, who, often contrary to the traditional family model, are involved in their children's education.

For several years now, the Ministry of Education and Science (formerly the Ministry of National Education) has been cooperating with the Ministry of the Interior and Administration in the implementation of the education module of multi-year government programmes addressed to Roma; to date this has applied to the *Programme for integration of the Roma community in Poland for the years 2014-2020*. On 21 December 2020, the Council of Ministers adopted another multi-year *Programme for Roma Social and Citizen Integration in Poland for the Years 2021-2030*^{II}. Targeted subsidies are allocated through the competent Voivodes either directly by the Minister of the Interior and Administration or the Minister of Education and Science to entities which implement the respective tasks (i.e. communes, counties, associations and foundations) under applicable agreements or arrangements^{III}.

Financing from Part 30 of the State budget (education and upbringing) is most often granted to such tasks as: purchase of textbooks and school starter kits, sport clothes, didactic and materials and office

^I Journal of Laws of 2017, item 1743

^{II} Resolution No. 190/2020 of the Council of Ministers of 21 December 2020 on establishing the multi-year "Programme for Roma Social and Citizen Integration in Poland for the Years 2021-2030".

^{III} <https://www.gov.pl/web/mniejszosci-narodowe-i-etniczne/rada-ministrow-uchwalila-nowy-program-integracji-spolecznej-i-obywatelskiej-romow-w-polsce-na-lata-2021-2030>

supplies, payment of accident insurance premiums and field trips. It covers also educational incentive scholarships. The *Programme* financed also Roma poetry contests, arts/photography contests, tailoring and carpentry workshops, theatre groups, a Roma after-school club and reading room. It also provided funding for the completion of the construction of the Romani martyrdom monument in Kędzierzyn-Koźle. Subsidies under the *Programme* covered also Roma education assistants who improved their professional qualifications, took up studies or gained additional skills to be used in working with Roma students .

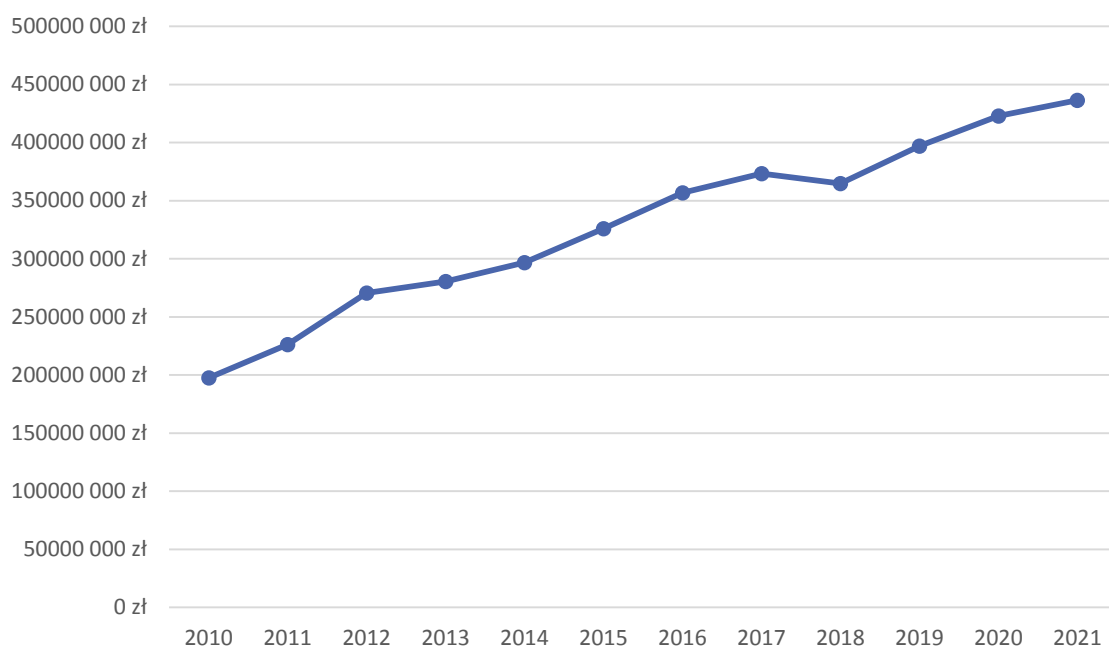
Education expenditures

In the algorithm for the allocation of the educational part of the general subsidy for local government units for the year 2021, with regard to students from national or ethnic minorities and the community using the regional language, the following weights were fixed for students who belong to a given national or ethnic minority or a community using the regional language, and for the Roma students for whom a school carries out additional educational tasks: P_{24} , P_{25} , P_{26} , P_{27} . Assigning the first three weights depends on the number of students belonging to a given national or ethnic minority and the community using the regional language, and Roma students in primary and lower secondary school. Furthermore, weight P_{27} is assigned to students of classes and schools with education in a national or ethnic minority language or in the regional language, and for students of classes and schools where educational activities are conducted in two languages: Polish and a minority language or the regional language as the second language of education.

The educational part of the general subsidy for the year 2021 the aforementioned weights were applied to calculate additional funds for respective local government units (taking into account the correcting factor D_i) totalling PLN 436,253,000 which represented a 3.2% increase compared to 2020 (with the total amount of the subsidy higher by 3.9%). Those funds were calculated for 75,779 students in the following weights: P_{24} – 24,427 students, P_{25} – 16,263 students, P_{26} – 35,089 students, and P_{27} – 2,252 students (the students in weight P_{27} for bilingual classes are included in weights P_{24} - P_{26}) covered by teaching of minority languages and students using the Kashubian regional language. As in the previous years, schools which undertake additional educational tasks addressed to students of Roma descent received a larger education subsidy in 2021.

In accordance with the Regulation on the manner of distribution of the education part of the general subsidy in 2021¹, no changes were made in the rules of financing students belonging to national and ethnic minorities in 2021.

¹ Regulation of the Minister of Education and Science of 18 December 2020 on distribution of the education part of the general subsidy for local government units in 2021 (Journal of Laws, item 2384).



The amount (in PLN) of the annual education subsidy for students from national and ethnic minorities and the community using the regional language in 2010-2021

MEiN

The figures below are provided on a per-minority basis.

| Minority | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | Total |
|--------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| Belarusian | 11,733,478 | 10,936,404 | 11,297,574 | 10,904,943 | 12,199,306 | 57,071,705 |
| Czech | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Karaim | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Lithuanian | 2,838,615 | 3,116,137 | 3,378,861 | 3,468,113 | 3,471,223 | 16,272,949 |
| Lemko | 2,312,019 | 1,974,210 | 2,154,749 | 2,190,007 | 2,286,711 | 10,917,696 |
| German | 174,228,727 | 185,308,616 | 210,373,689 | 223,569,551 | 236,771,772 | 1,030,252,355 |
| Armenian | 514,081 | 459,904 | 478,366 | 383,493 | 299,801 | 2,135,645 |
| Roma | 17,109,762 | 15,150,171 | 14,895,865 | 13,355,093 | 13,785,296 | 74,296,187 |
| Russian | 441,839 | 421,051 | 324,445 | 405,781 | 367,409 | 1,960,525 |
| Slovak | 2,041,977 | 1,620,203 | 1,415,104 | 1,400,482 | 1,517,824 | 7,995,590 |
| Tatar | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Ukrainian | 18,123,721 | 17,437,281 | 17,508,694 | 19,728,479 | 14,512,113 | 87,310,288 |
| Jewish | 1,699,060 | 1,880,297 | 1,303,449 | 1,106,583 | 1,431,792 | 7,421,181 |
| Kashubian language | 142,173,941 | 126,436,541 | 133,858,875 | 146,388,606 | 149,610,154 | 698,468,117 |
| Total | 373,217,220 | 364,740,815 | 396,989,671 | 422,901,131 | 436,253,401 | 1,994,102,238 |

MEiN

Number of students of national and ethnic minorities and the community using the regional language learning a minority language in 2014-2021

| School year | 2016 / 2017 | 2017 / 2018 | 2018 / 2019 | 2019 / 2020 | 2020 / 2021 |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Belarusian lang. | 2,862 | 2,828 | 2,926 | 2,794 | 2,739 |
| Czech | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Karaim lang. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Lithuanian lang. | 600 | 593 | 609 | 588 | 599 |
| Lemko lang. | 290 | 297 | 306 | 313 | 303 |
| German lang. | 52,914 | 57,522 | 60,169 | 59,153 | 56,649 |
| Armenian lang. | 75 | 76 | 76 | 58 | 42 |
| Roma lang. | 2 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Russian lang. | 68 | 61 | 45 | 135 | 45 |
| Slovak lang. | 258 | 229 | 197 | 188 | 188 |
| Tatar lang. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Ukrainian lang. | 3,108 | 2,956 | 2,867 | 2,943 | 2,175 |
| Hebrew lang. | 435 | 393 | 464 | 361 | 356 |
| Kashubian lang. | 20,690 | 19,828 | 20,396 | 20,707 | 20,189 |
| TOTAL | 81,302 | 84,788 | 88,055 | 87,240 | 83,285 |

MEiN

Preschool education according to Education Information System data¹

| Language | Number of establishments | 2016/2017 | 2017/2018 | 2018/2019 | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 |
|--------------|--------------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Belarusian | 4 | 152 | 160 | 276 | 201 | 249 |
| Czech | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Karaim | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Lithuanian | 3 | 131 | 132 | 121 | 115 | 118 |
| Lemko | 7 | 17 | 35 | 28 | 37 | 36 |
| German | 181 | 8,186 | 8,751 | 7,218 | 7,338 | 6,987 |
| Armenian | 1 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Roma | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Russian | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 91 | 0 |
| Slovak | 2 | 13 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Tatar | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Ukrainian | 37 | 375 | 354 | 176 | 317 | 225 |
| Hebrew | 3 | 58 | 59 | 54 | 47 | 0 |
| Yiddish | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Kashubian | 22 | 950 | 498 | 344 | 581 | 319 |
| TOTAL | 262 | 9,887 | 10,001 | 8,217 | 8,727 | 7,934 |

MEiN

¹ As of 30 September of each year.

Number of primary school students belonging to national or ethnic minorities and the community using the regional language

| Language | Number of establishments | 2016/2017 | 2017/2018 | 2018/2019 | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Belarusian | 24 | 1,580 | 1,772 | 2,126 | 2,003 | 1,917 |
| Czech | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Karaim | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Lithuanian | 7 | 276 | 316 | 419 | 384 | 369 |
| Lemko | 21 | 219 | 225 | 264 | 259 | 256 |
| German | 335 | 38,658 | 44,804 | 52,243 | 51,605 | 49,443 |
| Armenian | 3 | 70 | 76 | 76 | 58 | 42 |
| Roma | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Russian | | 56 | 60 | 45 | 44 | 45 |
| Slovak | 6 | 186 | 172 | 197 | 188 | 188 |
| Tatar | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Ukrainian | 74 | 1,750 | 1,909 | 2,393 | 2,192 | 1,793 |
| Hebrew | 3 | 312 | 291 | 383 | 301 | 313 |
| Yiddish | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Kashubian | 227 | 15,597 | 16,225 | 18,689 | 18,983 | 18,700 |
| TOTAL | 701 | 58,706 | 65,850 | 76,835 | 76,017 | 73,061 |

MEiN

Number of secondary school students belonging to national and ethnic minorities and the community using the regional language

| Language | Number of establishments | 2016/2017 | 2017/2018 | 2018/2019 | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Belarusian | 21 | 1,130 | 896 | 524 | 590 | 573 |
| Czech | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Karaim | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Lithuanian | 7 | 193 | 145 | 69 | 89 | 112 |
| Lemko | 9 | 54 | 37 | 14 | 16 | 8 |
| German | 97 | 5,881 | 3,848 | 616 | 83 | 130 |
| Armenian | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Roma lang. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Russian | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Slovak | 2 | 59 | 45 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Tatar | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Ukrainian | 53 | 965 | 685 | 284 | 426 | 151 |
| Hebrew | | 65 | 43 | 27 | 13 | 43 |
| Yiddish | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Kashubian | 103 | 3,380 | 2,358 | 654 | 464 | 461 |
| TOTAL | 286 | 11,727 | 8,057 | 2,188 | 1,681 | 1,478 |

MEiN

*Number of students belonging to national and ethnic minorities and the community using the regional language
– secondary schools providing vocational education*

| Language | Number of establishments | 2016/2017 | 2017/2018 | 2018/2019 | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 |
|------------|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Belarusian | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Czech | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Karaim | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Lithuanian | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Lemko | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 |
| German | 5 | 189 | 119 | 92 | 127 | 89 |
| Armenian | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Roma | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Russian | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Slovak | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Tatar | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Ukrainian | 4 | 18 | 8 | 14 | 8 | 6 |
| Hebrew | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Yiddish | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Kashubian | 13 | 763 | 747 | 709 | 679 | 709 |
| TOTAL | 23 | 970 | 874 | 815 | 815 | 807 |

Source: MEiN

Article 15 [participation in public life]

The Parties shall create the conditions necessary for the effective participation of persons belonging to national minorities in cultural, social and economic life and in public affairs, in particular those affecting them.

In the Polish legal system, the rights encompassed by Articles 12-14 of the *Convention* are reflected in Articles 8 and 17 of the *Minorities Act* as well as in the following acts:

- *the Act of 7 April 1989 on the law of association* (Journal of Laws of 2020, item 2261),
- *the Act of 27 June 1997 on political parties* (Journal of Laws of 2022, item 372),
- *the Act of 5 January 2011 on the Electoral Code* (Journal of Laws of 2022, item 1277).

Minority organisations

All minorities are represented by their non-governmental organisations. Areas in which those organisations are active include mainly the broadly understood education, promotion of knowledge about the history and cultural heritage of minorities in Poland, promotion of their own culture, media, science, sport initiatives, investments and repairs, publishing, assistance and humanitarian aid and other.

Joint Commission of the Government and National and Ethnic Minorities

Minorities are represented before the authorities of the Republic of Poland through their representatives in the Joint Commission.

The Commission's tasks include *inter alia* issuing opinions on distribution of subsidies for actions aimed at protecting, preserving and developing the cultural identity of minorities. It must be highlighted that the subsidies are allocated with the participation of experts appointed by the minority side of the Joint Commission.

Support for the Joint Commission is provided by the Department for Religious Denominations and National and Ethnic Minorities of the Ministry of the Interior and Administration. In the reporting period, the Joint Commission held 20 meetings.

The Joint Commission's website:

- <https://www.gov.pl/web/mniejszosci-narodowe-i-etniczne/komisja-wspolna>

National and Ethnic Minorities Committee of the Sejm

Matters regarding minorities are raised by the National and Ethnic Minorities Committee, a standing committee of the *Sejm* of the Republic of Poland. Its meetings are often attended by representatives of minorities. In the reporting period, the Committee held 115 meetings.

The Committee's website:

- <https://www.sejm.gov.pl/Sejm9.nsf/agent.xsp?symbol=KOMISJAST&NrKadencji=9&KodKom=MNE>

Regional and local policy

The Polish government is represented in respective regions by Voivodes, who are nominated by the Prime Minister. Their responsibilities include also minority-related tasks. Every Voivode has appointed a plenipotentiary for national and ethnic minorities.

A list of those plenipotentiaries can be found at:

- <https://www.gov.pl/web/mniejszosci-narodowe-i-etniczne/osoby-odpowiedzialne-za-sprawy-mniejszosci-narodowych-i-etnicznych-w-wojewodztwahtml>

Annual activity reports submitted by the Voivode Plenipotentiaries are publicly available at:

- <https://www.gov.pl/web/mniejszosci-narodowe-i-etniczne/sprawozdania-pelnomocnikow-wojewodow-ds-mniejszosci-narodowych-i-etnicznych>

Participation in public authority bodies

The following elections were held in the reporting period:

- 2018 – local government elections,
- 2019 – European Parliament elections,
- 2019 – elections to the Polish *Sejm* and Senate,
- 2020 – presidential elections.

In 2019, elections to the *Sejm* and Senate were held in which minority candidates took part.

Under the electoral legislation in force^I, minorities may form their own electoral committees which are exempt from the requirement to exceed the electoral threshold (5% or 8%) which applies to all other committees. During the 8th (2015-2019) and 9th (2019-2023) terms of the *Sejm*, a seat in Parliament on behalf of the German Minority Electoral Committee has been held by Ryszard Galla.

In the elections to the *Sejm* in 2019, the German Minority Electoral Committee won 32,094 votes, i.e. 0.17%, which translated into 1 seat (0.22%).

Other minorities did not decide to form their electoral committees, but their representatives won seats in Parliament as part of country-wide electoral committees.

MP Eugeniusz Czykwin is a parliamentarian who declares affinity to the Belarusian minority^{II}.

In the local government elections in 2018 (the 2018-2023 term), members of the German minority won 5 seats in the Regional Assembly of the Opolskie Voivodeship. In the elections to commune councils, 207 members of the German minority were elected to commune (or city) councils in the Opolskie Voivodeship, 13 were elected Voits or Mayors, and 5 candidates supported by the Social-Cultural Association of Germans of the Opole Silesia were elected Voits and Mayors^{III}.

The community using the Kashubian language have their representation in the Regional Assembly of the Pomorskie Voivodeship as well as Voits, Mayors, City Presidents, County Councillors, Commune Councillors and City Councillors in the Pomorskie Voivodeship^{IV}.

In the local government elections in 2018, Witold Liszkowski, a representative of the Lithuanian minority, was re-elected the Mayor of the City of Puńsk. The Lithuanian minority has its representation in the City Councils of Puńsk and Sejny, Commune Council of Sejny and the Sejnieński County^V.

The Ukrainian minority has its representatives in the Regional Assembly and Board of the Warmińsko-Mazurskie Voivodeship. The function of the Voivodeship Marshal is held by Miron Sycz (formerly an MP)^{VI}. No current data is available regarding participation of Ukrainians in bodies of other local government units.

In 2018, Belarusians (the Podlasie Minority Forum) won 5 seats in the Białystok City Council, and Sławomir Nazaruk, a Belarusian minority activist, was elected to the Regional Assembly of the Podlaskie Voivodeship^{VII}.

It must be noted that Polish authorities do not acquire data on national affinity of persons in public administration bodies, and the above information comes from generally available sources, e.g. studies and public statements made by politicians.

^I the Act of 5 January 2011 on the Electoral Code (Journal of Laws of 2020, item 1319, as amended).

^{II} B. Machul-Telus, L. M. Nijakowski, *Mniejszości narodowe, etniczne i językowe III Rzeczypospolitej. Informator 2020*, Wydawnictwo Sejmowe, Warszawa 2020, p. 215.

^{III} *Ibidem*, p. 211.

^{IV} *Ibidem*, p. 213.

^V *Ibidem*, p. 213.

^{VI} *Ibidem*, p. 214.

^{VII} *Ibidem*, p. 215.

Integration of the Roma community

In the reporting period, Poland implemented the *Programme for Roma Social Integration in Poland for the Years 2014-2020*, which represented another State strategy for the Roma community since 2001. On 20 December 2020, the Council of Ministers adopted Resolution no. 190/2020 on the implementation of the next government strategy for Roma titled the *Programme for Roma Social and Citizen Integration in Poland for the Years 2021-2030*.

Referring to the mainstream politics, it must be noted that the public policies implemented over that period have affected the economic situation of not only the general public but also minorities, importantly the Roma community in Poland. The following programmes must be mentioned:

- the government demographic programme *Rodzina 500+*^I,
- the government programme *Dobry start*^{II},
- the government programme *Mama 4+*^{III}.

The government demographic programme *Rodzina 500+* (in operation since 2016) provides a monthly benefit of PLN 500 (ca. € 110) per each child. Roma, due to their large family model, have become the relatively biggest beneficiaries of the programme among all minorities. The Government programme *Dobry start* (in operation since 2018) provides a benefit of PLN 300 (ca. € 65) once a year per each child up to the age of 20 (or 24 in the case of persons with certified disability). The government programme *Mama 4+* (since 2019) gives mothers (and in some cases fathers as well) who gave birth to and raised at least four children the right to receive the so-called supplementary parental benefit (in the amount equal to the lowest pension or a top-up to the lowest pension where a benefit below the lowest pension is received). The programme has significantly changed the situation of Roma women in particular, as they often have no chance to become eligible for pension benefits due to the phenomenon of early marriages.

The indicators from the reporting period are presented below^{IV}:

- the number of Roma students covered by support in the form of the so-called school starter kit in 2016-2020 amounted to 4,867;
- the number of students of Roma descent for whom schools carried out additional education tasks in 2016-2020 amounted to 10,284;
- the number of Roma children who benefited from preschool education support in 2016-2021 amounted to 891;
- the number of beneficiaries of the scholarship system for primary/secondary/higher school students of Roma descent in 2016-2021 amounted to 983, including – which is important for the *Programme's* objectives – 387 persons at the secondary education level,

^I) the Act of 11 February 2016 on the State aid in raising children (Journal of Laws of 2019, item 2407).

^{II}) Regulation of the Council of Ministers of 30 May 2018 on the detailed conditions of the implementation of the government programme "Dobry start" (Journal of Laws, item 1061, as amended).

^{III}) the Act of 31 January 2019 on the parental supplementary benefit (Journal of Laws, item 303).

^{IV} Since there was a change in the indicators in the new *Programme for Social and Citizen Integration of Roma in Poland for the Years 2021-2031*, the data available as of 2021 was included in the above information. If any data from 2021 is not available (due to the aforementioned change in the indicators or a change in the data acquisition methodology), data for the period of 2016-2020 is provided, which is highlighted in the text.

- the number of children and youth participating in musical classes in 2016-2020 amounted to 7,037;
- the number of Roma whose dwellings were renovated in 2016-2021 amounted to 3,344;
- the number of Roma employed as part of the tasks of the *Programme* in 2016-2020 (e.g. as cultural club personnel etc.) amounted to 526; the number of subsidised work places amounted to 412;
- the number of Roma using vocation-oriented education in 2016-2021 (e.g. vocational courses, training etc.) amounted to 960;
- the number of Roma education assistants employed has been at a stable level for years – ca. 90 people of Roma descent employed,
- health-oriented actions (e.g. examinations, vaccinations etc.) in 2016-2021 covered 6,318 people of Roma descent¹.

A total of 2,035 tasks were implemented in the reporting period by local government units (ca. 55% of all tasks) and non-governmental organisations: 45% of all tasks, including Roma organisations – ca. 30 % of all tasks (of which education-related tasks accounted for over 50%).

In 2020, the MSWiA commissioned an independent evaluation of the *2014-2020 Programme*. The evaluation report is publicly available at:

- <https://www.gov.pl/web/mniejszosci-narodowe-i-etniczne/ewaluacja-programu-integracji-spolecznosci-romskiej-w-polsce-na-lata-2014-2020> ¹¹.

Article 16 [Nationality proportions]

The Parties shall refrain from measures which alter the proportions of the population in areas inhabited by persons belonging to national minorities and are aimed at restricting the rights and freedoms flowing from the principles enshrined in the present framework Convention.

In the Polish legal system, the rights encompassed by Article 16 of the *Convention* are reflected in Article 5 of the *Minorities Act*. No changes in applicable provisions of law took place during the reporting period.

Article 17 [International contacts]

1. The Parties undertake not to interfere with the right of persons belonging to national minorities to establish and maintain free and peaceful contacts across frontiers with persons lawfully staying in other States, in particular those with whom they share an ethnic, cultural, linguistic or religious identity, or a common cultural heritage.

¹ MSWiA data for 2016-2021 from annual reports on the implementation of the *Programme for Roma Social Integration in Poland for the Years 2014-2020* and the *Programme for Roma Social and Citizen Integration in Poland for the Years 2021-2030*.

¹¹ An abstract in English can be found on pp. 6-12 of the aforementioned Report.

2. The Parties undertake not to interfere with the right of persons belonging to national minorities to participate in the activities of non-governmental organisations, both at the national and international levels.

No changes regarding this Article have been recorded in relation to the previous report.

Article 18 [International cooperation]

1. The Parties shall endeavour to conclude, where necessary, bilateral and multilateral agreements with other States, in particular neighbouring States, in order to ensure the protection of persons belonging to the national minorities concerned.

2. Where relevant, the Parties shall take measures to encourage transfrontier co-operation.

No changes regarding this Article have been recorded in relation to the previous report, which included a list of international agreements signed with the neighbouring States to protect minority rights.

In the reporting period, the Archive of the Institute of National Remembrance together with the Genocide and Resistance Research Centre of Lithuania and the Lithuanian Archive of Special Records in Vilnius embarked on editing the sources for the 2nd volume of the Polish-Lithuanian publication series dedicated to post-war operations of the Soviet MGB's Operating Group in Poland targeted against Polish and Lithuanian underground and the Lithuanian minority living in Poland.

Article 19 [Necessary limitations]

The Parties undertake to respect and implement the principles enshrined in the present framework Convention making, where necessary, only those limitations, restrictions or derogations which are provided for in international legal instruments, in particular the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, in so far as they are relevant to the rights and freedoms flowing from the said principles.

During the period covered by this *Report*, no changes in limitations of the rights under the *Convention* took place.