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EUROPEAN CHARTER FOR REGIONAL OR MINORITY LANGUAGES

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

SLOVENIA

Introduction

1.

The Slavic people settled on the territories of the present Slovenia and some neighbouring countries at the end of 6th century. The Slovene people are a particular national entity within the Slavic linguistic group. Ancestors of the present day Slovene people were integrated in other states through most of the history. On the basis of the first democratic elections in April 1990 and the plebiscite in December 1990, the Republic of Slovenia declared its independence on 25 June 1991, following the dissolution of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

Organisation of the State: Pursuant to the Slovene Constitution, adopted on 23 December 1991, Slovenia is a parliamentary democracy. The Constitution is the highest legal act, which was adopted and can be amended by the National Assembly in a special procedure (requiring a two-third majority). Other legal instruments are (in the hierarchical order): laws adopted by the National Assembly; ordinances for the implementation of acts, adopted by the Government; regulations, directives and orders adopted by ministries for the implementation of acts and government's ordinances; regulations of local self-governing authorities on matters within their competence.

The Republic of Slovenia is represented by the President of the Republic, who is also the commander-in-chief of the Slovene defence forces. President is elected in direct elections for a five-year term and may be elected for a maximum of two consecutive terms. The highest legislative body is the National Assembly (90 deputies), which adopts laws. The National Council (40 members) is the representative body for social, economic, professional and local interests and has an advisory role. The Government is the executive power and is responsible to the National Assembly.

Judiciary: Judges are independent in performing their function. They are bound by the Constitution and law. There are local and district courts; higher courts are appellate courts, while the Supreme Court is the highest court in the judicial system.

The first Slovene Human Rights Ombudsman was elected in September 1994. The Ombudsman regularly reports to the National Assembly about his work.

Local self-government: Inhabitants of Slovenia conduct local self-government in municipalities and other local communities. There are 193 municipalities in Slovenia; 11 of them have the status of an urban municipality.

National communities: The Italian community in the littoral region and the Hungarian community in the northeast part of the country are considered to be the autochthonous minorities; their rights are protected by the Constitution. Other ethnic groups: Croats, Serbs, Bosnians, Yugoslavs, Macedonians, Montenegrins and Albanians. There is also a Roma community in Slovenia; its status and special rights are regulated by sector-specific laws.

The official language is Slovene; Hungarian and Italian are also official languages in the respective ethnically mixed areas.

2. Upon depositing the instrument of ratification of the Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, the Republic of Slovenia informed the Secretary General of the Council of Europe that the Italian and Hungarian languages were regional or minority languages on the territory of the Republic of Slovenia. In addition, Slovenia informed the Secretary General that the provisions of Article 7, Paragraphs 1 to 4 would be applied *mutatis mutandis* to the Romany language. The settlement area of the Italian-speaking community comprises ethnically mixed areas (the settlements are defined in individual municipality statutes) in three littoral municipalities:

- **Koper/Capodistria (Article 7:** "Slovene and Italian are official languages in the ethnically mixed area of the municipality where the members of the autochthonous Italian national community reside, which comprises the settlements of Ankaran-Ancarano, Barizoni-Barisoni, Bertoki-Bertocchi, Bošamarin-Bossamarino, Cerej-Cerei, Hrvatini-Crevatini, Kampil-Campil, Kolomban-Colombano, Koper-Capodistria, Prade, Premančan-Premanzano, a part of the settlement of Spodnje Škofije (Valmarin), Šalara-Salara and Škocjan-San Canziano."¹)

¹ Statute of the Koper Municipality (*Uradne objave* No. 40/2000, 30/2001)

- **Izola/Isola (Article 4, paragraph 3:** "The Slovene and Italian languages have equal status in public and social life in the ethnically mixed area (bilingual area) which comprises the City of Izola/Isola and the settlements Dobrava pri Izoli, Jagodje, Livada and Polje pri Izoli."²⁾
- **Piran/Pirano (Article 3:** "The Italian language has equal status to the Slovene language in public life in the ethnically mixed area of the municipality where members of the Italian nationality reside, which comprises the settlements of Piran/Pirano, Portorož/Portorose, Lucija/Lucia, Strunjan/Strugnano, Seča/Sezza, Sečovlje/Sicciole, Parecag/Patezzago and Dragonja (bilingual area)³⁾"

The Hungarian-speaking community resides in five municipalities in Prekmurje, in the eastern part of Slovenia along the Hungarian border:

- **Hodoš/Hodos (Article 1:** The Municipality of Hodoš is a self-governing local community established by law on the territory of the ethnically mixed settlements, where the members of the Hungarian national community reside: Hodoš-Hodos, Krplivnik-Kapornak."⁴⁾
- **Šalovci (Article 2:** A part of the area of the municipality where the members of the Hungarian national community reside is ethnically mixed. The ethnically mixed area of the municipality comprises the settlement of Domanjševci-Domonkosfa."⁵⁾
- **Moravske Toplice (Article 1, Paragraph 2:** Members of the Hungarian national community reside in the settlements of Čikečka vas-Csekefa, Motvarjevci-Szentlászló, Pordašinci-Kisfalu, Prosenjakovci-Pártosfalva and Središče-Szerdahely."⁶⁾,
- **Dobrovnik/Dobronak (Article 2, Paragraph 2:** "A part of the area of the municipality where the members of the Hungarian national community reside is ethnically mixed. The ethnically mixed area comprises the settlements of Dobrovnik-Dobronak and Žitkovci-Zsitkóc."⁷⁾,
- **Lendava/Lendva (Article 1:** "The Municipality of Lendava is a self-governing local community, established by law on the territory of the following settlements: Banuta/Bánuta, Benica, Čentiba/Csente, Dolga vas/Hosszúfalu, Dolgovaške gorice/Hosszúfaluhegy, Dolina pri Lendavi/Völgyifalu, Dolnji Lakoš/Alsólakos, Gaberje/Gyertyános, Genterovci/Göntérháza, Gornji Lakoš/Felsőlakos, Hotiza, Kamovci/Kámaháza, Kapca/Kapca, Kot/Kót, Lendava/Lendva, Lendavske gorice/Lendvahegy, Mostje/Hidvég, Petišovci/Petesháza, Pince/Pince, Pince Marof/Pince major, Radmožanci/Radamos, Trimlini/Hármasmalom and Brezovec del. The ethnically mixed area of the municipality where members of the Hungarian national community also live comprises the above-named settlements, except for the settlements of Benica, Hotiza and part of Brezovec-del."⁸⁾.

3. In the 2002 census, 2,258 persons declared to be of Italian nationality, and 3,762 declared that Italian was their mother tongue; the latter are covered by the Convention, the implementation of which is the subject of the Second Report.

The Hungarian nationality was declared by 6,243 persons, and 7,713 persons declared Hungarian to be their mother tongue.

In comparison: In the 1991 census, 2,959 persons declared to be of the Italian nationality and 3,882 persons declared their mother tongue to be Italian; 8,000 persons declared to be of the Hungarian nationality, and 8,729 persons declared their mother tongue to be Hungarian.

The method of collecting data on nationality and mother tongue used in the 2002 census was different from the method used in 1991 census. According to the provisions of Article 10 of the Act Regulating the Census of Population, Households and Housings in the Republic of Slovenia (Ur. l. RS No. 66/2000, 26/2001), all people aged 14 and over had to declare their national/ethnic affiliation (including the data on mother tongue) and religion THEMSELVES. For children under 14 years, parents, adoptive parents or guardians could answer this question.

In comparison: In 1991 census, parents and other legal representatives (guardians, adoptive parents) provided answers on the national affiliation of children under 15 years of age. In the past censuses (for instance in the 1991 census), an adult member of the household could provide the answer on the ethnic affiliation of persons who were absent at the time of the interviewer's visit.

Data on the national/ethnic affiliation of household members who were at least 14 years of age on the census reference date (31 March 2002) but were absent at the time of the interviewer's visit or

² Statute of the Municipality of Izola (*Uradne objave*, No. 15/1999).

³ Statute of the Municipality of Piran (*Uradne objave*, No. 10/1999).

⁴ Statute of the Municipality of Hodoš (Ur. l. RS, No. 47/1999).

⁵ Statute of the Municipality of Šalovci (Ur. l. RS, No. 13/1999).

⁶ Statute of the Municipality of Moravske Toplice (Ur. l. RS, No. 11/1999).

⁷ Statute of the Municipality of Dobrovnik (Ur. l. RS, No. 34/1999).

⁸ Statute of the Municipality of Lendava (Ur. l. RS, No. 26/1999, 119/2000, 69/2002).

did not want to declare their ethnic/national affiliation, mother tongue and religion in the presence of other household members or the interviewer, were collected with the Statement on the Nationality/Ethnicity and Religion (P-3/NV questionnaire), which the interviewer left in the household together with an envelope. Every person could thus fill in the Statement on the Nationality/Ethnicity, Mother Tongue and Religion by him/herself and send it by mail to the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia. The sending of the Statement on the Nationality/Ethnicity, Mother Tongue and Religion was not obligatory. Data was taken only from those Statements on the Nationality/Ethnicity, Mother Tongue and Religion that were signed.

As already stated, the answers were gathered only directly from persons over 14 years of age (hence, the last census used the method by which persons over 14 year of age could answer the question on nationality/ethnicity and religion only by themselves, if they wished to answer it). Consequently, all persons that were absent from the household at the time of the interview or did not want to answer the question in the presence of other household members or the interviewer received a special questionnaire and an envelope with prepaid postage. Around 250,000 questionnaires were distributed, and around 75 per cent or approx. 188,000 were returned and processed. Many questionnaires were not returned to the Statistical Office, which automatically meant that the persons concerned were processed in all tables under the "unknown" category.

In contrast to 1991, the 2002 census did not include expatriates, persons with permanent residence in Slovenia but living abroad for more than three months.

When comparing data on nationality between 1991 and 2002, one has to be aware that in 1991, 42,355 persons were included under the categories "did not want to reply" and "unknown", while 174,913 fell within these categories in 2002. One of the possible explanations is that this category includes many persons from mixed marriages. A drastic increase is thus noticeable in the number of those not wanting to reply to the answer on national affiliation and mother tongue or those falling in the "unknown" category.⁹

The problem of, albeit only statistical, decrease in the number of members of the Italian and Hungarian national communities and thus also speakers of the two minority languages in the Republic of Slovenia, and of the reduced use of mother tongues by the two national minorities recorded in the last census was addressed by certain bodies: the Working Table on the Minority Issues, active within the Mixed Commission of the Republic of Slovenia and the Friuli-Venezia Giulia Autonomous Region for Joint Developmental Issues, and by the Commission for the Monitoring of the Implementation of the Agreement on Guaranteeing Special Rights of the Slovene Minority in the Republic of Hungary and to the Hungarian National Community in the Republic of Slovenia. This issue was also addressed by the Commission of the National Assembly for National Communities, the Government Commission for National Communities, the Office for Nationalities, and the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia.

The analysis conducted by the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia indicates that the potential causes of the statistical decrease in the number of members of the Italian and Hungarian national communities in the Republic of Slovenia are mostly of statistical, demographic and sociological character:

- decreased birth rate;
- ageing of the population;
- mixed marriages;
- new methodology (obligation that children over 14 years of age declare their nationality by themselves), and
- the fact that the present members of a household could not declare nationality of other members.

It can furthermore be concluded that the number of Italians and Hungarians (from the statistical point of view – declaration was not obligatory) decreased mostly because of the changes in declaring one's nationality, non-declaring and the generation change. The last census also laid greater emphasis on the possibility of non-declaring one's national affiliation or mother tongue (this was also not obligatory in the previous census, however this option was not so emphasised). Another new element in the methodology was the fact that the 2002 census for the first time did not include

⁹ SOURCE: Rapid Reports, No. 93/2003, Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia

expatriates (who have permanent residence in the ethnically mixed area of the Republic of Slovenia, but live, work or study in Italy or Hungary).

The analysis of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia, adopted on 29 July 2004, shows a noticeable trend of decreased importance of ethnic or linguistic identification in Slovenia, as is also the case in Europe at large. This is also confirmed by a drastic decrease recorded also among those declaring their ethnic affiliation as Slovenes, as their number decreased by 58,294 persons, which is so far the greatest, and totally unexpected and hardly understandable decrease. In the same period, a drastic decrease was also recorded in the number of members of the Slovene minority in Austria (Carinthia) and Slovenes in Croatia; the neighbouring Croatia also recorded a considerable decrease in the number of Italians (by 1667 persons) and Hungarians (by 5760 persons). The situation is almost identical with regard to the decrease in the number of members of the Slovene minority in Italy. All this, of course, is also reflected in the use of a specific minority language as a mother tongue.

Contrary to the raw statistical data on the number of members of the Italian and Hungarian national communities in the Republic of Slovenia and of persons speaking the two respective languages as their mother tongue, which were obtained from optional replies, the Government of the Republic of Slovenia established in the analysis, adopted on 29 July 2004, that the actual number of members of the Italian national community in the ethnically mixed areas has, in fact, even increased considerably (to 2970 persons). Together with members of the Italian national community who live outside the ethnically mixed area (418 persons), there are 3388 members of the Italian national community living in Slovenia, which is by 12.66 per cent more than recorded in the 1991 census (2959 persons).

It is similar with the Hungarian national community: There are 7297 members of the Hungarian national community living in the ethnically mixed area. Together with those members who live outside the ethnically mixed area (1031 persons), there are 8328 members of the Hungarian national community living in the entire territory of Slovenia, which is by 3.94 per cent more than in 1991 (8000 persons).

By analogy and on the basis of statistical data it can be established that the number of persons using or declaring the Italian or Hungarian language as their mother tongue is even somewhat higher than stated. The above is also confirmed by data from the voters register for the parliamentary elections in the Republic of Slovenia held on 3 October 2004. Data provided by the National Election Commission¹⁰ show 2,767 members of the Italian national community and 6,610 members of the Hungarian national community were registered in special electoral register of the national communities. This data, of course, refer only to persons of 18 years or more. If members of the Italian and Hungarian national communities or Italian or Hungarian native speakers who are younger than 18 are added to the above number of persons registered for parliamentary elections, a very optimistic picture is revealed for the Italian and Hungarian national communities and native speakers of the two respective languages. This proves that the special protection of the two minority languages has yielded significant positive results.

It can be concluded that the number of members of the respective national communities is higher, when their interests are directly involved (elections of councillors, deputy mayors, elections to the National Assembly, etc.) than in the matters of no specific interest to them. This is a result of certain sociological reasons, on which a special research should be conducted in an individual national community.

The two national communities in Slovenia have so far expressed no dissatisfaction or other well-founded reservations showing that any of them feels discriminated or that there are other reasons for them to be concerned over their participation in a census. There were no complaints about any pressure by the state.

The two national communities and other ethnic communities and groups in Slovenia enjoy a favourable general social climate, which is demonstrated by the increase in the number of persons declaring themselves Germans (40.3 per cent increase) and Austrians (30.4 per cent increase) or members of the Roma community (30.4 per cent increase); nevertheless, the latter are often stigmatised in many local areas. Tolerance and signs of the European model of co-existence, at least with regard to the autochthonous national communities, are also evident from other facts: in the

¹⁰ SOURCE: Publication of the National Election Commission No. 10-2/00-11/04 of 1 September 2004 (constituencies 9 and 10).

ethnically mixed area in Prekmurje, the majority population is voluntarily and without noticeable opposition educated in bilingual educational institutions; in the littoral area, two members of the Italian national community were elected at the last elections to the National Assembly, mostly by votes of the majority population.

It is the role and the task of the state to provide favourable living conditions for members of the national communities, thus making them feel free to express their national affiliation and enabling them to fully exercise their special rights defined in the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia. The state must therefore take care, with all measures possible, that all laws and other regulations are implemented in practice, thus providing a favourable atmosphere.

4. The Republic of Slovenia has not specially defined non-territorial languages.
5. The protection and development of regional and minority languages in Slovenia can be divided into several segments. The starting point of the protection of these languages has been defined by the Republic of Slovenia in Chapter III of the Basic Constitutional Charter on the Sovereignty and Independence of the Republic of Slovenia¹¹ to the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia, which stipulates: "The Italian and Hungarian national communities in the Republic of Slovenia and their members shall be guaranteed all the rights provided in the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia and international agreements." The status and special rights of the autochthonous Italian and Hungarian national communities in Slovenia are thus defined in Article 64 of the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia, the basic legal instrument of the state.

Article 64 of the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia stipulates:

- The autochthonous Italian and Hungarian national communities and their members shall be guaranteed the right to use their national symbols freely;
- In order to preserve their national identity, they shall have the right to establish organisations, to develop economic, cultural, scientific and research activities, as well as activities in the fields of media and publishing;
- In accordance with laws, these two national communities and their members have the right to education and schooling in their own languages, as well as the right to establish and develop such education and schooling (the geographic areas in which bilingual schools are compulsory shall be established by law);
- These national communities and their members shall be guaranteed the right to foster relations with their nations of origin and their respective countries (Slovenia shall provide material and moral support for the exercise of these rights);
- In the geographic areas where they live, the members of these communities shall establish their own self-governing communities (on the proposal of these self-governing national communities, the state may authorise them to perform certain functions under national jurisdiction, and shall provide funds for the performing of such functions);
- The two national communities shall be directly represented in representative bodies of local self-government and in the National Assembly (Article 80, paragraph 3 of the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia stipulates that one deputy of each national community shall always be elected to the National Assembly; contrary to other deputies, who are elected according to the principle of proportional representation, the representatives of the national communities are elected according to the majority principle);
- The position of the Italian and Hungarian national communities and the manner in which their rights are exercised in the geographic areas where they live, the obligations of the self-governing local communities for the exercise of these rights, and those rights which the members of these national communities exercise also outside these areas, shall all be regulated by law;
- The rights of the national communities are guaranteed regardless of the number of members of these communities;
- The Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia stipulates in Article 64, paragraph 5 that "laws, regulations and other general acts that concern the exercise of the constitutionally provided rights and the position of the national communities exclusively, may not be adopted without the consent of representatives of these national communities." On the basis of the provision of the Constitution, Article 15, paragraph 2 of the Self-governing Ethnic Communities Act (Ur. l. RS. no. 65/94) stipulates: "As to matters related to status of the members of national communities, state bodies are obliged to acquire prior opinion of the self-governing national communities".

¹¹ Cf. Ur. l. RS, No. 1-4/91-I, 25 July 1991.

Article 11 of the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia contains important provisions concerning the fulfilment of the rights of the Italian and Hungarian national communities: "The official language in Slovenia is Slovene. *In those municipalities where Italian or Hungarian national communities reside, Italian or Hungarian shall also be official languages.*" Furthermore, Articles 61 and 62 of the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia guarantee all citizens of the Republic of Slovenia the right to freely express affiliation with their nations or national communities, to foster and give expression to their cultures and to use their languages and scripts.

The organisation and the fundamental rights of the Italian and Hungarian national communities in the Republic of Slovenia are defined in the Self-governing Ethnic Communities Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 65/94), its Article 1 stipulating as follows: "For the implementation of special rights, guaranteed by the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia, for the promotion of their needs and interests, and for organised participation in public matters, members of the Italian and Hungarian national communities establish, in regions of their autochthonous settlement, self-governing ethnic communities"; this gives further operational basis for implementing the constitutional rights of the Italian and Hungarian national communities.

Members of the Italian and Hungarian national communities are also guaranteed certain rights that apply outside the ethnically mixed areas (e.g. entry into a special electoral register for the election of a deputy to the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia, the right to learn one's native language outside the ethnically mixed area under certain conditions).

Members of the Italian and Hungarian national communities are also represented in the Council of Radiotelevizija Slovenija, with one representative for each of the two communities. In addition, the Council of Radiotelevizija Slovenija also appoints programme councils for minority programmes in which two thirds of the members belong to the two national communities.

The Secretariat General of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia issued, on 3 March 2003, instruction no. 023-12/2001 concerning the engagement of the national communities in the decision-making procedures relating to the position of their members, which appeals to all state bodies (government, ministries, etc.) to consistently observe the relevant provisions of the rules of procedure and laws.

In chapter 11 of the Coalition Agreement, signed on 23 November 2004, the governing coalition undertakes to deal with issues of the Italian and Hungarian national communities by consistently implementing independence documents, the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia and international obligations binding on Slovenia (international agreements and ratified international instruments). It stresses that the present level of financing special rights of the national communities represents a starting point for their further development. The coalition undertakes to take measures against assimilation in all fields of vital importance for the existence and development of both national communities; it will also promote economic and infrastructural development of ethnically mixed areas, emphasising particularly the creation of new jobs and economic bases for the two national communities. Special attention is devoted to the strengthening of institutions, languages and cultures of the two national communities.

The coalition undertakes to create a favourable social atmosphere to implement policies relating to the Italian and Hungarian national communities. In accordance with the above, the Government of the Republic of Slovenia will, within six months, draw up a draft resolution on the Italian and Hungarian national communities. The resolution will then be coordinated with the Italian and Hungarian communities and submitted within the following three months to the National Assembly. The fulfilment of these commitments in individual areas and the most important measures associated with the policy pursued in connection with the Italian and Hungarian national communities will constitute an integral part of the annex to the Coalition Agreement signed by all coalition partners and the two deputies of the national communities, or a special agreement signed by the Prime Minister of Slovenia and the two deputies of the national communities three months after the Coalition Agreement takes effect at the latest.

In addition to the provisions of the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia and the Self-governing Ethnic Communities Act, the status of the national communities is defined in over 50 sector-specific laws, ordinances and statutes of municipalities in the ethnically mixed areas, other legal instruments, interstate treaties and agreements and international conventions ratified by the Republic of Slovenia.

The most important are: the Framework Convention of the Council of Europe for the Protection of National Minorities and the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages. The 1977 Treaty of Osimo is relevant to the Italian national community. It is a bilateral agreement between the former SFRY and the Italian Republic. Upon declaring independence in 1991, the Republic of Slovenia made a commitment to continue to adhere to these agreements. The Treaty of Osimo also includes the essential provisions of the Special Statute annexed to the London Memorandum of 1954. The Agreement on Guaranteeing Special Rights to the Slovene Minority Living in the Republic of Hungary and the Hungarian National Community in the Republic of Slovenia (ratified in 1993) is an important interstate agreement for both the Hungarian national community living in Slovenia and the Slovene minority living in Hungary.

Slovenia signed the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages on 3 July 1997 and ratified it on 19 July 2000. The Charter was published in the Official Gazette (Uradni list) on 4 August 2000. When depositing the instrument of ratification on 4 October 2000, Slovenia stated that the adopted provisions would start to apply to Slovenia as of 1 January 2001.

PART I

1. Acts and instructions relating to the implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages:
 - Self-governing Ethnic Communities Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 65/94),
 - Act ratifying the Agreement on Guaranteeing Special Rights to the Slovene Minority Living in the Republic of Hungary and the Hungarian National Community in the Republic of Slovenia (Ur. I. RS-MP, No. 6/93 (RS, No. 23/93)),
 - Public Media Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 35/01, ..., 16/04),
 - Radiotelevizija Slovenija Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 18/94, ..., 79/01),
 - Statute of the Radiotelevizija Slovenija Public Institute (Ur. I. RS, No. 66/95),
 - Gimnazije Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 12/96 and 59/01),
 - Matura Examination Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 15/03),
 - Organisation and Financing of Education Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 115/03 – officially consolidated text),
 - Elementary School Act (Ur. I. RS No. 12/96, 33/97, 59/01 and 71/04),
 - Vocational and Technical Education Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 12/96, 44/00 and 86/04),
 - Act Implementing Special Rights of Members of the Italian and Hungarian Ethnic Communities Regarding Education and Training (Ur. I. RS, No. 35/2001),
 - Preschool Institutions Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 12/96, 44/00 and 78/03),
 - University of Primorska Charter (Ur. I. RS, No. 13/03, 79/04),
 - Fund for Amateur Cultural Activities of the Republic of Slovenia Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 1/96, 22/00),
 - Exercising of the Public Interest in Culture Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 96/02),
 - The Cultural Heritage Protection Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 7/99, ..., 126/03),
 - Librarianship Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 87/01, 96/02),
 - Decree ratifying the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and the Government of the Italian Republic on Cooperation in Culture and Education (Ur. I. RS, No. 49/02),
 - State Prosecutor Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 63/94, ..., 14/03),
 - Courts Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 19/94, ..., 73/04),
 - Court Rules (Ur. I. RS, No. 17/95, ..., 75/04),
 - Criminal Procedure Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 63/94, ..., 96/04),
 - Criminal Code (Ur. I. RS, No. 63/94, ..., 95/04),
 - Public Administration Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 52/02, ..., 97/04),
 - Police Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 49/98, ..., 63/04),
 - Register of Deaths, Births and Marriages Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 37/03),
 - Notary Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 13/94, ..., 73/04),
 - Personal Name Act (Ur. I. SRS, No. 16/74, ..., 5/90, RS, no. 5/91, ..., 29/95),
 - Identity Card Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 75/97),
 - Passports of Citizens of the Republic of Slovenia Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 65/00),
 - General Administrative Procedure Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 80/99, ..., 73/04),
 - Decree on Keeping and Maintaining the Central Register of Population and on the Procedures of Data Flow from the Central Register of Population (Ur. I. RS, No. 70/00, 28/02),
 - Act regulating the Naming and Registration of Settlements, Streets and Buildings (Ur. I. SRS, No. 5/80, ..., 5/90, RS, No. 8/90, ..., 66/93),
 - Consumer Protection Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 20/98, ..., 98/04),
 - Institutes Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 12/91, ..., 36/00),
 - Act on Public Usage of Slovenian Language (Ur. I. RS, No. 86/04).
2. In compliance with the established model of the protection of national communities, it is particularly the state and local authorities that are responsible for the protection, promotion and development of minority languages. Special mention in this regard should be made of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government Office for Nationalities, and Self-governing National Communities, which are the political bodies of the national minorities. These are the addresses of the above institutions:

GOVERNMENT OFFICE FOR NATIONALITIES
Tržaška 21, 1508 Ljubljana, Slovenia
Phone: +386 1 478 89 50; Fax: +386 1 478 89 51
Director: Janez Obreza
E-mail: janez.obreza@gov.si

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (Division for International Organisations and Human Security)
Prešernova cesta 25, P.O. Box 481, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia
Phone: +386 1 478 20 00; Fax: +386 1 478 23 40, 386 1 478 2341
Minister: Dr Dimitrij Rupel
E-mail: info.mzz@gov.si

HUNGARIAN SELF-GOVERNING COMMUNITY IN POMURJE
Glavna ulica 124, 9220 Lendava, Slovenia
Phone: +386 2 575 14 49; Fax: +386 2 575 1419
President: Tomka György
E-mail: pmnss@siol.net

ITALIAN NATIONAL SELF-GOVERNING COMMUNITY IN THE LITTORAL
Župančičeva 39, 6000 Koper, Slovenia
Phone: +386 5 627 91 51; Fax: +386 5 627 40 91
President: Silvano Sau
E-mail: cna.costiera@siol.net

UNION OF ROMA OF SLOVENIA
Ulica arhitekta Novaka 13, 9000 Murska Sobota, Slovenia
Phone: +386 2 530 81 00; Fax: +386 2 530 81 04
President: Jože Horvat
E-mail: romaniunion@siol.net

MINISTRY OF CULTURE
Maistrova ulica 10, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia
Phone: +386 1 369 59 00; Fax: +386 1 369 59 01
Minister: Dr Vasko Simoniti
E-mail: gp.mk@gov.si

MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
Trg OF 13, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia
Phone: +386 1 478 46 00; Fax: +386 1 478 47 19
Minister: Dr Jure Zupan
E-mail: gp.mszs@gov.si

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SPORT
Kotnikova 38, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia
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3. The Periodic Report has been drawn up in collaboration with the Government Office for Nationalities, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Education and Sport and Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The report is adopted by the Government of Slovenia; consequently, all ministries, government offices and other relevant institutions are acquainted with it. The same applies to the opinion and recommendations of the Committee of Experts.

4. During the formulation of the first report and various additional explanations to the Report of the Republic of Slovenia on the Implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, the Slovene state authorities also apprised the Slovene general public (majority population and national communities) of the Charter and the rights and obligations deriving from it. In the period between the two reports, the Institute on Ethnic Issues translated some of the central instruments of the Council of Europe (European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities, Protocol No. 12 to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms) into the Slovene, Italian, Croatian, German and Romany languages. The collected and translated materials have been published in the publication "Slovenia and European Standards for the Protection of National Minorities". The publication is also available at the webpage of the Information and Documentation Centre of the Council of Europe at the National and University Library in Ljubljana: www.idcse.nuk.si; Institute for Ethic Studies in Ljubljana: www.inv.si; and the Austrian Institute for East and Southeast European Studies: www.ff.uni-lj.si/asrlo.

5. To what extent the recommendations of the Committee of Experts are taken into account can be seen in the Report by the Republic of Slovenia on the Implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages. Upon depositing the instrument of ratification of the Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, the Republic of Slovenia informed the Secretary General of the Council of Europe that the Italian and Hungarian languages were regional or minority languages on the territory of the Republic of Slovenia. In addition, Slovenia informed the Secretary General that the provisions of Article 7, Paragraphs 1 to 4 would be applied *mutatis mutandis* to the Romany language.

Recommendation 1: Status and situation of citizens of the former Yugoslav republics living in Slovenia: In Article 61, the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia guarantees to everybody "... the right to freely express affiliation with his nation or national community, to foster and give expression to his culture and to use his language and script"; the Constitution prohibits any kind of discrimination, thus guaranteeing to members of nations of the former common state equal rights as to other citizens of Slovenia. The Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia does not contain provisions relating directly to the special protection for members of the nations of the former Yugoslav state, Jews and Germans. The legal basis for the regulation of their situation has been provided by the concluded bilateral cultural agreements, such as the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and the Government of the Republic of Croatia on Cooperation in the Fields of Culture and Education (which provides the basis for the financing of three Croat associations in

Slovenia and for various other activities in the field of education), and the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina on Cooperation in the Fields of Culture, Education and Science. At the request of the Government Office for Nationalities, the Institute for Ethnic Studies has conducted a comprehensive research entitled "The situation and status of members of the former Yugoslav nations in the Republic of Slovenia"; this research will constitute a sound basis for further debate on this issue. The same holds true for the paper entitled Perception of the Slovene Integration Policy (December 2004), which is a result of a broad interdisciplinary research conducted by the Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Ljubljana, Institute for Ethnic Studies in Ljubljana and the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts (Institute for Slovenian Emigration Studies).

The supplementary lessons of the Serb language were initiated in Maribor in November 2003; it is also planned that Serb be included in the curriculum of the last trimester of the 9-year elementary schools as a compulsory optional subject.

Recommendation 2: Interstate relations on this issue were improved by the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Austria and the Government of the Republic of Slovenia on Cooperation in the Fields of Culture, Education and Science signed in Ljubljana on 30 April 2001; Article 15 of the Agreement provides for "... projects for the benefit of wishes and needs of the members of the German-speaking ethnic group in Slovenia, important in terms of culture, education and science (e.g. projects in the fields of language learning and preservation of monuments, scholarships, etc.)."

Any solutions regulating the use of languages in Slovenia (see Article 11 of the Constitution) that would differ from the present one would require a new plebiscite on the issues that have been decided upon on the establishment of the independent Slovenia, and consequently the amendment of the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia.

Recommendation 3: The Republic of Slovenia endeavours consistently to implement the 1995 Government Programme of Measures to Assist Roma. The Ministry of Education and Sport grants additional teaching hours to schools attended by Roma children, thus enabling the schools to teach groups of pupils outside their classes and to offer them individual assistance in or outside their classes. The norm for setting up classes with at least three Roma pupils is lower than for usual classes. The Ministry allocates additional funds to Roma for the purchase of teaching material, for covering the expenses incurred by activities and excursions and for reimbursements for school meals. Schools provide textbooks for Roma children through textbook funds. The Ministry also provides scholarships for all Roma students engaged in teaching studies.

A research project is underway which develops education and training models for Roma that would boost the regular employment of Roma. A special working group active within the Ministry of Education and Sport is drafting a strategy for a rapid integration of Roma in education. Education of teachers about the Romany language and culture was organised in Murska Sobota and Dolenjska in 2002 and 2003. Attempts are being made to write a grammar and codify a vocabulary of the Romany language and compose a Romany-Slovene glossary. There is a bulletin – ROMANO THEM – THE WORLD OF ROMA published in the Romany language; the publishing activity of Roma is increasingly intensive. Other recommendations of the Committee of Experts are also being implemented as is evident from the report.

Recommendation 4: The use of the language of national minorities in administrative procedures is governed by the General Administrative Procedure Act in Chapter IV, Article 62 (language in a procedure). Public Administration Act (Ur. l. RS, no. 52/2002 ... 97/2004), Article 4, stipulates that the official language of administration is Slovene. In those municipalities where Italian or Hungarian autochthonous national communities reside, the official languages of the Administration shall also be Italian and Hungarian, respectively. In these areas, the Administration shall conduct business, procedures and issue legal and other acts in the language of the national community, should clients be members of Italian or Hungarian national community and should they use the Italian or Hungarian language.

Where in the initial stage the administrative body has conducted a procedure in Italian and Hungarian, respectively, any decision at second instance shall be issued in the same language. The State Employees Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 15/90 ... 38/1999), Article 4, Paragraph 2, stipulates that good command of the Slovene language is a prerequisite for the employment of senior civil servants, civil servants, and for those members of specialised and technical staff who have direct contact with

clients; in areas where the equality of the Italian or Hungarian languages is provided by law, the knowledge of the languages of these nationalities is also required. The knowledge of languages of national communities in the territories inhabited by national communities is allocated an additional financial bonus (Article 10)¹².

It will also be evident in the continuation of the report that national and regional legislation prohibits any discouraging of the use of regional and minority languages in economic activities as well. No dilemmas should arise concerning the implementation of the provisions regulating visible bilingualism in public and private commercial and social services.

Recommendation 5: Requirements for extending the protection of the Italian minority rights outside the defined ethnically mixed area: Territorial and political representation of the Italian minority in Slovenia is defined by the Constitution and laws; any change in the status and role of self-governing national communities would thus require the amendment of the Constitution.

Recommendation 6: All reports on the implementation of international instruments, adopted by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia, are public and consequently accessible to the interested public.

6 and 7. After having received the opinion and recommendations for the Committee of Experts, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs apprised with them all the relevant institutions that had drew up the First Periodic Report. In collaboration with these institutions, the Ministry then formulated the reply of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia to the opinion and recommendations of the Committee of Experts of the European Charter on Regional and Minority Languages. When the document is adopted by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia, it becomes public and accessible to all interested institutions.

¹² Ordinance on quotients for the basic remuneration of officials appointed by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and other employees in the Slovene government services, administrative bodies and administrative units (Ur. l. RS, No. 82/94).

PART II

1.1. Slovenia as a signatory to the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (hereinafter referred to as: "the Charter") implements the provisions of Article 7 of the Charter, pursuing certain objectives and principles in its legislative and day-to-day practice and in formulating its policies. These objectives and principles are enshrined in Article 7 of the Charter and are the following:

- a) the recognition of the regional or minority languages as an expression of cultural wealth;
- b) the respect of the geographical area of each regional or minority language in order to ensure that existing or new administrative divisions do not constitute an obstacle to the promotion of the regional or minority language in question;
- c) the need for resolute action to promote regional or minority languages in order to safeguard them;
- d) the facilitation and/or encouragement of the use of regional or minority languages, in speech and writing, in public and private life;
- e) the maintenance and development of links, in the fields covered by the Charter, between groups using a regional or minority language and other groups in the State employing a language used in identical or similar form, as well as the establishment of cultural relations with other groups in the State using different languages;
- f) the provision of appropriate forms and means for the teaching and study of regional or minority languages at all appropriate stages;
- g) the provision of facilities enabling non-speakers of a regional or minority language living in the area where it is used to learn it if they so desire;
- h) the promotion of study and research on regional or minority languages at universities or equivalent institutions;
- i) the promotion of appropriate types of transnational exchanges, in the fields covered by this Charter, for regional or minority languages used in identical or similar form in two or more States.

2. The Parties undertake to eliminate, if they have not yet done so, any unjustified distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference relating to the use of a regional or minority language and intended to discourage or endanger the maintenance or development of it. The adoption of special measures in favour of regional or minority languages aimed at promoting equality between the users of these languages and the rest of the population or which take due account of their specific conditions is not considered to be an act of discrimination against the users of more widely-used languages.

3. The Parties undertake to promote, by appropriate measures, mutual understanding between all the linguistic groups of the country and in particular the inclusion of respect, understanding and tolerance in relation to regional or minority languages and encouragement of the mass media to pursue the same objective.

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

In addition to the above-mentioned constitutional provisions and legal instruments directly regulating the status of national communities (Hungarian and Italian) in Slovenia and, by recognising their respective minority languages that enrich their own culture, mention must be made of a particularity in the Slovene model of the protection of national minorities: the protection of national communities indirectly also refers to members of the majority nation. E.g., members of the majority nation are obliged to have bilingual documents since the principle of learning the language and culture of minorities applies in public schools, which means "tolerating" bilingual toponomastics. It depends on each individual member of the national community when and how he/she will exercise "the accorded" special rights. In the field of protecting minority rights, it should be mentioned that cultural and spiritual heritage of an ethnically mixed area is a property shared by all its inhabitants regardless of their national affiliation and/or social status they had in different historic periods. At this point it has to be stressed that the rights exercised by members of national communities outside ethnically mixed areas have been defined as well. The Slovene state included among these rights the right of members of national communities to be entered in a special electoral register of national communities for the election of a national community deputy to the National Assembly also in cases where they do not live in an ethnically mixed area, and the right to learn the mother tongue of the respective national minority outside an ethnically mixed area. It has to be underlined that Slovene minority legislation is

above an average standard since the principle of cultural pluralism applies in legislation in force, according to which members of the majority nation are also acquainted with the language and culture of national minorities. The applicable education scheme in Slovenia ensures that not only minority members but also the rest of population in ethnically mixed areas in Slovenia uses minority languages.

1.2 In implementing objectives and principles in compliance with Article 2, paragraph 1, some latest amendments to regulations have to be presented.

2001 saw the adoption of the revised Act Guaranteeing Special Rights of Members of the Italian and Hungarian National Communities in the Field of Education (Ur. I. RS, No. 35/2001) which regulates comprehensively all the specialities of education for the needs of both national communities, based on all legal acts governing the area of education, beginning with the umbrella Organisation and Financing of Education Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 55/2003). The Librarianship Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 87/2001) and a number of relevant executive regulations, also deserve mentioning; its Article 25 governs general libraries in ethnically mixed areas. A special working group was established at the Ministry of Culture to draft proposals on the implementation of the mentioned Article. Two members of this working group were also representatives of the umbrella organisations of both national communities.

2002 saw the adoption of the Exercising of the Public Interest in Culture Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 96/2002) which defines the public interest in culture, the authorities that are competent and responsible for it, as well as the mechanisms for its implementation. This Act governs primarily the Italian and Hungarian national communities, apart from other minority communities in the Republic of Slovenia. Article 59 of the Act stipulates that the programmes of the Italian and Hungarian national communities are provided on the basis of a direct call for applications. In addition, Article 31 of the Act stipulates that the financing of public institutions, which the Italian and Hungarian national communities may establish in order to meet their needs in the field of culture, shall be provided for the Italian and Hungarian national communities by the state within the framework of the funds allocated to the Italian and Hungarian national communities. Article 59 stipulates that programmes of the Italian and Hungarian national communities shall be provided through a direct call for applications. Article 65 of the Act states, *inter alia*, under state competencies also the cultural integration of minority communities and immigrants provided their cultural programmes or projects are beyond local significance.

In 2003 the Central Population Register Act was adopted which substituted the previous Births, Marriages and Deaths Act and stipulates in its Article 23: "In the areas, as defined by law, populated by autochthonous Italian or Hungarian national communities, extracts and certificates from the Central Register of Population shall be issued in Slovene and in the language of the national community."¹³ Article 5 (subjects of the common part of the general *matura* examination) of the amended Matura Examination Act stipulates that in the areas populated by the Italian national community, in schools with Italian as the language of instruction, the subject of the common part of the general matura examination is the Italian language instead of Slovene, while in the areas populated by the Hungarian national community, a candidate may choose between the Slovene and the Hungarian languages; its Article 7 (subjects of the common part of the vocational final examination) stipulates: "In the areas populated by the Italian national community, in schools with Italian as the language of instruction, the subject of the common part of the general *matura* examination is the Italian language instead of the Slovene, while in the areas populated by the Hungarian national community, a candidate may choose between the Slovene and the Hungarian languages." In June 2003, the Organisation and Financing of Education Act was also amended. Its Article 3 stipulates: "Education in pre-school institutions and schools shall be provided in the Slovene language." "In areas populated by Slovenes and members of the Italian national community, and defined as ethnically mixed areas, bilingual pre-school institutions and schools shall be established in compliance with this Act and a special act, in which education process is conducted in the Italian language (pre-school institutions and schools using the language of the national community).

"In areas populated by Slovenes and members of the Hungarian national community, and defined as ethnically mixed areas, bilingual pre-school institutions and schools shall be established in compliance with this Act and a special act, in which education process is conducted in the Slovene and Hungarian languages (bilingual pre-school institutions and schools)."

The Secretary General of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia issued instruction No. 023-12/2001 of 3 March 2003 relating to the integration of national communities into the decision-making process concerning the status of their members – Article 15, paragraph 2 of the Law on Self-Governing National Communities (Ur. I. RS, No. 65/1994) – with regard to the observation made by Mr Roberto Batelli,

¹³ The Central Population Register Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 37/2003).

representative of the Italian national community in the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia, and the leadership of the Italian national community on the inconsistent application of Article 15, paragraph 2 of the Law on Self-Governing National Communities. In the instruction, Secretary General called upon all national authorities (the Government, ministries and other bodies) to comply consistently with all procedural and statutory provisions.

The Coastal Italian Self-Governing National Community established on 28 January 2004 that the situation had improved following the instruction of the Government Secretary-General.¹⁴

In January and March 2004 the Commission of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for National Communities met and adopted the following decision: "The Office of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for Nationalities should, in future, when drawing up the budget (financial plans) of individual ministerial bodies that finance both national communities, regularly convene meetings of representatives of these bodies and of the Italian and Hungarian national communities for the purpose of preliminary harmonisation".

In January 2003, the Decree on the Establishment of the University of Primorska (Universita della Primorska) was issued. The University of Primorska is based in Koper and located in an ethnically mixed area of autochthonous settlement of the Italian national community, where bilingualism is provided by law; the Italian national community did however not agree with the name chosen.

In July 2004, The Decree Amending the Decree on the Establishment of the University of Primorska (Ur. l. RS, No. 79/2004) was adopted. In compliance with Article 2 of the Decree, the name of the University of Primorska in Italian shall be changed on request of the Italian national community from "Universita della Primorska" to "Universita del Litorale". The Italian names of the following members of the University of Primorska have also been changed: Turistica - Portorož College of Travel Administration "Istituto Superiore per il Turismo di Portorose" was renamed to "Istituto universitario di studi turistici di Portorose"; Izola University College of Health Care "Istituto superiore di sanita di Isola" was renamed to "Istituto universitario de sanita Isola". A new member "University of Primorska Student Homes" in Italian "Case dello studente" shall be added after a member of the University of Primorska "Primorska Institute of Natural and Technical Sciences".

In May 2004, the Act Amending the Consumer Protection Act was passed. Article 2 of the Act stipulates: "Companies must do business with consumers in the Slovene language, and in the areas of autochthonous settlement of the Italian or Hungarian national communities, they must also do business in the language of the respective national community. They must use the complete name of their respective firm and seat in any written communication relating to business. When marking products, companies must provide relevant information to the consumer in the Slovene language that relate to the characteristics, sales conditions and intended use of the product. In doing so they may use generally comprehensible symbols and pictures"; Article 5 of the Act stipulates: "Advertisements must be in the Slovene language, and in the areas of autochthonous settlement of the Italian or Hungarian national communities, they must also be in the language of the respective national community. Individual words or short word combinations in a foreign language, which most consumers can understand due to their general use, may be utilised if they are part of an overall image."¹⁵ Thereby the use of the notion of bilingualism has been extended to the private sector.

In August 2004 the Act on Public Usage of Slovenian Language was published.¹⁶ It stipulates in its Article 1, paragraph 1 that the Slovene language is the language of oral and written communication in all spheres of public life in the Republic of Slovenia, except when, in addition to Slovene, Italian and Hungarian are official languages in accordance with the Constitution of Slovenia. Article 3 stipulates that in the territory of municipalities where the Italian or the Hungarian national community lives, the public usage of Italian or Hungarian as official languages shall be guaranteed in the manner as regulated by this Act for the public usage of Slovene.

On the basis of the Agreement on Guaranteeing Special Rights of the Slovene Minority Living in the Republic of Hungary and the Hungarian National Community in the Republic of Slovenia, signed by the two states in 1992, the Mixed Slovene-Hungarian Commission meets annually to assess the implementation of the Agreement and addresses its recommendations to the Government. The last meeting of the Mixed Slovene-Hungarian Commission was held on 27 and 28 May 2003 in Moravske Toplice.

In compliance with Article 7, paragraph 5 of the Charter, the Republic of Slovenia will also apply, *mutatis mutandis*, the provisions under Article 7 (objectives and principles on which the policies, legislation and

¹⁴ SOURCE: Letter from the Coastal Italian Self-Governing National Community, No. 13/2004 of 25 January 2004.

¹⁵ The Act Amending the Consumer Protection Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 51/2004).

¹⁶ The Act on Public Usage of Slovenian Language (Ur. l. RS, No. 86/2004).

practice relating to regional or minority languages in the territories in which these languages are used, and taking into account the status of each language) in respect of the Romany language (see the statement of the Republic of Slovenia upon the ratification of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages).

The Government of the Republic of Slovenia devotes undivided attention to the resolution of Roma issues. The Administration of the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia held working talks with representatives of the Union of Roma of Slovenia on 4 February 2003; one of the topics discussed was the law on the protection of Roma in Slovenia. On this occasion the Administration adopted a decision to invite, within its competences, representatives of the Union of Roma of Slovenia as the highest Roma body in Slovenia and as such a counterpart of the state authorities, to present their positions during the consideration of individual legislative areas that also relate to the Roma community. The National Assembly Committee on Domestic Policy has already informed the leadership of the Association that their representatives will be invited to the Committee's sessions when issues are considered that directly affect the Roma community in the Republic of Slovenia. As already stated, the President of the National Assembly has recommended to the chairs of some other commissions and committees of the National Assembly to do the same.

In its recommendation expressed in letter No. 023.12/2001 of 3 March 2003, the Secretariat General of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia took a similar stance with regard to the involvement of national communities in deciding on matters affecting the situation of their members (Article 15, paragraph 2 of the Ethnic Communities Act, Ur. l. RS, No. 65/94), instructing state executive authorities (government, ministries, other state bodies) to obtain opinions of the highest representative body of the Roma community, i.e. the Union of Roma of Slovenia, before they take any decisions on executive regulations and other acts applying *mutatis mutandis* to the Roma community in Slovenia. The Government of the Republic of Slovenia adopted a decision on 6 January 2005 that in addition to Article 65 of the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia and the 9 sector-specific laws dealing with Roma issues, the Republic of Slovenia will draft a special basic law on the Roma community. By its decision No. 018-11/2004-1 of 6 January 2005, the Government of the Republic of Slovenia tasked the Office for Nationalities to start drafting a special law on the Roma community.

Mention should also be made of attempts to write a grammar book and codify the vocabulary of the Romany language. There are several Romany dialects in Slovenia, according to the settlement of the Roma population. Much has been done in these endeavours by Mr Rajko Šajnovič in Dolenjska and Mr Jožko Horvat-Muc in Prekmurje, who have made the first drafts of the Romany language in a written form (An integral project entitled "The Standardization of the Romany Languages and Including the Romany Culture in Education" is being conducted by the University of Ljubljana, Department for Comparative and General Linguistics).

The Romany language is also used in the Roma bulletin ROMANO THEM – THE WORLD OF ROMA, which is issued by the Union of Roma of Slovenia and features articles in the Slovene and Romany languages. Attention is increasingly being paid to providing information to Roma and about Roma. Members of the Roma community are thus provided with information in the Romany language. Furthermore, information published in newspapers and various radio and television broadcasts contributes to the awareness raising and education of members of the Roma community while also informing the majority population about the situation and difficulties of Roma and their special and unique features.

Two radio stations, the Murski val Murska Sobota and the Studio D from Novo mesto, have been broadcasting a one-hour programme for Roma per week for eight consecutive years. The programme is in the Slovene and Romany languages, and provides information about the work and life of Roma, reports on their cultural, sports and other events, and features Romany music and original contributions by various Roma authors. The programme has been well received by Roma as well as other audience. Radio and TV programmes are financed by the Office for Nationalities from the budget of the Republic of Slovenia.

In 2002, the TV AS studio from Murska Sobota began to produce Roma TV programmes on the work, life and problems of the Roma community in Slovenia. The studio produces one episode per two months, which is then broadcast by cable TV in the areas populated by a larger number of Roma (Prekmurje, Dolenjska and Maribor). A possibility is being considered of placing these radio and television programmes under the public institution Radiotelevizija Slovenija, as is also the case with the Italian and Hungarian national communities.

The publishing activities of the Roma have also been enriched in the recent years. The Union of Roma of Slovenia issued the following publications in the period from 1993 to 2002:

LUNIN PRSTAN (MOON'S RING) – a collection of poems and plays by Jože Livijena and Jožek Horvat;

POT – DROM (PATH) – a collection of poems by Rajko Šajnovič;
KRVAVA VODA (BLOODY WATER) – collection of plays depicting the life of Roma, by Jožek Horvat;
ROMSKI ZBORNIK (I and II) – ROMANO KEDIPE (ROMA ANTHOLOGY (I and II)) – contributions by authors from international Roma camps;
VIOLINA – HEGEDUVA (VIOLIN) – collection of plays by Jožek Horvat;
ROMSKI JEZIK – ROMANI ČHIB (ROMANY LANGUAGE) – a brief review of various Romany language groups, by Jožek Horvat;
ZBIRKA ROMSKIH BESED – ROMANE ALAVA (COLLECTION OF ROMANY WORDS) – a glossary of Romany words for everyday use; contributions by various authors.
FIRST BILINGUAL PICTURE BOOK FOR CHILDREN – authors Saša Kerkoš and Tina Brinovar.

The Roma association Romani Union from Murska Sobota published, in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture, a collection of poems entitled POPOSKRE 3IJA – Popo's Poems. Roma author Rajko Šajnovič will publish a collection of Roma fairy tales in 2005, with the financial assistance of the Office for Nationalities.

The Union of Roma of Slovenia established a documentation centre in 2003; the centre is engaged in information activities, library services and radio production. The Union of Roma of Slovenia acquired funds from foreign donors (Sörös Fund) for the purchase of radio and studio equipment, while the Office for Nationalities provided funds for the purchase of business premises in Murska Sobota (premises next to the premises of the Union of Roma of Slovenia at Ulica arhitekta Novaka 13 in Murska Sobota). The Romic Radio is currently involved in production and provides seven radio stations in Slovenia with broadcasting material. The call for applications issued by the Telecommunications and Broadcasting Agency on 4 June 2004 offered an opportunity to the Romic Radio to acquire its own radio frequency; it only needs support by the local community.

It has been endeavoured to include the Roma media activities in the system of the public Radiotelevizija Slovenia, as this would ensure regular financing of Romany activities.

In addition to the above activities, the Roma community of the Republic of Slovenia also preserves its language and tradition through Roma associations (currently there are 23 officially registered associations). Roma associations are active in 18 municipalities. They are organised in accordance with the provisions of the Associations Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 60/95); their umbrella organisation is the Union of Roma of Slovenia, which also acts as the representative of Roma when dealing with state authorities. The Union of Roma is increasingly active in directing and coordinating activities of the Roma associations; it also organises Roma camps and other cultural events every year.

In accordance with the provisions of the Statute of the Union of Roma of Slovenia, the Forum of Roma Councillors was set up at the session of the presidency of the Union of Roma of Slovenia on 21 November 2002; the session was also attended by the majority of elected Roma councillors. The Forum of Roma Councillors is a working body of the Union of Roma of Slovenia, linking Roma councillors and municipalities in which Roma have their councillors.

Roma and education

Acts and executive regulations governing the rights of Roma in education:

- Organisation and Financing of Education and Training Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 115/03 - official consolidated text),
- Pre-School Institutions Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 12/96, 44/00 and 78/03),
- Elementary School Act (Ur. I. RS No. 12/96, 33/97, 59/01 and 71/04).

The Council of Experts adopted the Instructions for Carrying out the Programme of the 9-year Elementary School for Roma Pupils in 2000, and the Supplement to the Curriculum of Preschool Institutions for Work with Roma Children in 2002.

Forty pre-school institutions in Slovenia are attended by preschool Roma children, mostly in Dolenjska, Posavje, Bela Krajina, Štajerska and Prekmurje. They are included in Slovene pre-school institutions in three different ways: Most of them are integrated in ordinary groups, and the minority in special Roma groups consisting of Roma children only, and in Roma pre-school institutions.

Data on Roma in preschool institutions classes attended only by Roma children (homogenous classes) in the 2003/04 school year:

Preschool institution with the Elementary School Črenšovci	Preschool institution of Lendava	Preschool institution B. Peče, Maribor	Preschool institution Novo mesto	Preschool institution Murska Sobota	Preschool institution Ribnica
No. of children	No. of children	No. of children	No. of children	No. of children	No. of children
12	14	5	27	23	10

In the 2003/04 school-year, 1,469 Roma children were enrolled in elementary schools.

In 2004 the Ministry mostly co-financed education of adult Roma in Kočevje, Murska Sobota and Črnomelj. Contents: functional and computer literacy, revival of Romany customs and occupations, household skills, etc.

In December 2002, the Ministry set up a special working group tasked with drawing up a strategy for ensuring the participation of Roma in education. The working group consists of experts in the areas of pre-school to adult education and representatives of the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, the Union of Roma of Slovenia and the National Education Institute. The Working Group drew up a strategic document entitled "Strategy for Education of Roma in the Republic of Slovenia", which was adopted by the competent specialist councils in May/June 2004.

The document provides the basis for further measures in the education of Roma, while also containing an analysis of the situation to date and the Ministry's measures, a review of key unresolved issues and proposals for their settlement (e.g. integration of Roma children in pre-school institutions, abolishing prejudices, permanent professional teacher training, etc.). The document also covers education of Roma from pre-school to adult education.

The Union of Roma of Slovenia was involved in the formulation of this strategic document, and will also be engaged in its implementation.

The following are the most important solutions provided for in the document:

- Early inclusion in the education system: inclusion of Roma children in pre-school institutions at least two years prior to their enrolment in the elementary school, i.e. when they are four years of age at the latest. The main purpose of this inclusion in pre-school institutions is for Roma children to learn the language (Slovene and Romany) and to get socialised in an educational institution that disseminates experience and patterns facilitating child's entry and integration into the elementary school;
- Roma assistant: lack of knowledge of the Slovene language and unsuccessful integration of children may be overcome or alleviated by a Roma assistant who will help children overcome the emotional and linguistic barriers and represent a bridge between the pre-school institution and school on the one hand and the Roma community on the other.
- adapting programmes in terms of substance: introduction of the Romany language lessons in the elementary school as an optional subject, learning of the Slovene language, identification of objectives (e.g. multiculturalism) or standards of knowledge in curricula, to be achieved through the contents taken from the Romany culture, history and identity;
- in-service training and additional education programmes for professionals;
- specific forms of organisation and material conditions: to at least preserve the currently applicative norms; to continue providing financial support and assistance of the Ministry of Education and Sport;
- no segregation and homogenous departments; use forms of individualisation, internal and flexible differentiation, levelled classes;
- different forms of learning assistance;
- confidence-building in school and removing prejudices (a special school scheme defining the activities of communicating and cooperating with parents of Roma children and a scheme for identifying and continued removal of stereotypes and prejudices that occur among the majority population in relation to Roma pupils);
- Roma pupils as an ethnic group are not pupils with special needs (pupils' poor results in school deriving from the lack of knowledge of the language or specific features of the Romany culture cannot provide a basis for directing children into programmes with a lower educational standard);

- adult education: the starting point for identifying the objectives of educating adult Roma are the basic goals set out in the National Programme of Adult Education in the Republic of Slovenia until 2010 (to improve the general education level of adult population, whereby a 4-year secondary school is the basic educational standard, to increase employability of adult population and their participation in lifelong learning). Special attention will be devoted to the education of adult Roma to improve their educational level and develop labour force, to the establishment of consultancy centres or networks in areas in which Roma live, as well as to the institute of a Roma coordinator, special norms and standards for programmes involving adult Roma, to ensure funds for potential participation in programmes and learning assistance free of charge.

The Ministry of Education and Sport of the Republic of Slovenia will work together with other relevant ministries in settling the issues which surpass the problem of education but nevertheless impact on education. The Ministry will also establish links with other institutions (National Education Institute of the Republic of Slovenia, Centre of the Republic of Slovenia for Vocational Education and Training, Slovenian Institute for Adult Education, Institute of Public Health, Health Protection Institute of the Republic of Slovenia, Employment Office of the Republic of Slovenia, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia, Chamber of Craft of Slovenia, etc.). The Ministry will continue to provide its support to research and development projects promoting measures in compliance with this strategy.

It has to be underlined that certain objectives are long-term objectives, therefore the document provides for the drafting of action plans covering individual areas.

In order to facilitate the planning of new measures, the Ministry co-finances some target research programmes:

Within target research programmes, the Ministry has since 2002 also co-financed the project entitled the "Development of Models for the Education and Training of Roma Aimed at Increasing Regular Employment" carried out by the Institute for Ethnic Studies (duration 2002-2004).

The Ministry has since 2003 also co-financed the research and development project entitled "Ensuring Equal Opportunities in Education for Roma Children and Their Families" carried out by the Educational Research Institute (duration 2003-2005). The project focuses on the integration of Roma children into schools, increase in school efficiency, adequate training of experts and work with parents. The project is also aimed at reducing intolerance towards Roma. On the basis of the evaluation upon the conclusion of the project, an attempt will be made to transfer the solutions to schools that have not been involved in the project.

Since 2004 the Ministry has been co-financing a development and research project entitled "Standardization of the Romany language in Slovenia and including the Romany culture in education" that is being carried out by the Faculty of Education of Ljubljana (duration: 2003-2006).

2 FURTHER MEASURES ENVISAGED TO IMPLEMENT ARTICLE 7 OF THE CHARTER

MEASURES RELATING PRIMARILY TO THE HUNGARIAN NATIONAL COMMUNITY

1. To preserve the economic activity in the region aimed at removing economic backwardness and promoting employment; the ethnically mixed area in the municipalities of Lendava, Dobrovnik, Moravske Toplice, Šalovci and Hodoš, and/or the whole area along the Hungarian-Slovene border are part of this region.
2. To prevent further decrease in jobs available in ethnically mixed areas also by providing state resources (Nafta Lendava, Mura etc.).
2. To offer adequate tax incentives and grants to agriculture which is stagnating.
3. To preserve certain state institutions aimed at maintaining the current standard of access to administrative services in view of new organisation principles of administration at the local level.
4. At the proposal of the umbrella organisation of the Hungarian self-governing national community, a discussion on the measures and activities (under 1 to 4) is held once a year within the Commission of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for National Communities; the Commission then reports to the Government of the Republic of Slovenia with the purpose of adopting adequate additional measures.

MEASURES RELATING PRIMARILY TO THE ITALIAN NATIONAL COMMUNITY

1. Adequate co-financing of information and cultural activities, from amateur to professional ones. The latter is being provisionally carried out within common institutions (co-financed by Slovenia in absence of an adequate agreement with Croatia) that perform activities for the Italian national community living in Slovenia and Croatia (EDIT, Rijeka issuing a daily *La Voce del Popolo* and other editions; DRAMA, Rijeka; Institute for Historic Research, Rovinj; Adriatic Information Agency (A.I.A), Koper; Italian Union, Rijeka).
2. To preserve the current scope of broadcasting the Italian radio and TV programmes within RTV Slovenija, Regional RTV Centre Koper - Capodistria as well as to preserve its own production of these programmes by providing relevant financial support of the national television and state in compliance with Article 14 of the Radiotelevizija Slovenija Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 18/94, ..., 79/2001).¹⁷.
3. To develop programmes in the Italian language and programmes in the Slovene language for cross-border television¹⁸.
4. To strengthen the TV signal for the whole territory of the historic settlement of the Italian national community under the jurisdiction of the Republic of Slovenia.¹⁹
5. A discussion on the measures and activities (under 1 to 4) shall be held at least once a year within the Commission of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for National Communities, at the proposal of the umbrella organisation of the Italian self-governing national community; the Commission then reports to the Government of the Republic of Slovenia with the purpose of adopting adequate additional measures.

MEASURES RELATING TO BOTH NATIONAL COMMUNITIES

1. The consistent implementation of statutory and executive regulations (while taking into account the findings and assessment of practical implementation, including amendments to same); consistent implementation of constitutional provisions and international conventions that are an integral part of the legal order of the Republic of Slovenia and relate to both autochthonous national communities, the Italian and Hungarian, which enjoy constitutional protection, by state and local self-government authorities as well as other institutions and organisations that are obliged to respect these regulations in compliance with legislation in force.
2. The consistent implementation of bilingualism in all areas in compliance with the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia and positive legislation.
3. The consistent implementation of Article 15, paragraph 2 of the Self-Governing Ethnic Communities Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 65/1994) and detailed instruction by Secretary General of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia (No. 023-12/2001 of 3 March 2003) relating to drafting statutory, executive and other instruments.
4. To promote the economic basis for both national communities by injection of equity capital into the Public Fund of the Republic of Slovenia for Regional Development and Preservation of the Settlement of Slovene Rural Areas, in which both national communities have been represented on the relevant committee by two members each, and/or by seeking other solutions that prove to be more appropriate for both national communities.
5. In all areas falling within the competence of the state, the European model of co-existence must be followed.
5. In order to encourage the best possible co-existence between the two national communities on the one hand and the majority population on the other and to ensure that both national communities are

¹⁷ SOURCE: Joint document of the working table on minority issues of the Mixed Commission between the Republic of Slovenia and the Autonomous Region Friuli - Venezia Giulia, Passariano near Udine, 1 December 2003.

¹⁸ SOURCE: Joint document of the working table on minority issues of the Mixed Commission between the Republic of Slovenia and the Autonomous Region Friuli - Venezia Giulia, Passariano near Udine, 1 December 2003.

¹⁹ SOURCE: Joint document of the working table on minority issues of the Mixed Commission between the Republic of Slovenia and the Autonomous Region Friuli - Venezia Giulia, Passariano near Udine, 1 December 2003.

– more than ever – a constitutive element of the Republic of Slovenia, it is expected that they elaborate a strategy for their own preservation and, in exercising their rights, take advantage of all possibilities provided by law

**CONCLUSIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA OF 7 OCTOBER 2004
RELATING TO THE ROMA COMMUNITY IN SLOVENIA**

1. The Government of the Republic of Slovenia has taken note of the Report on the Status of Roma in the Republic of Slovenia (2004) with the two annexes.
 1. Review of the co-financing of the Roma community in the RS in the period from 2002 – 2005 and
 2. Review of the situation of Roma settlements in the Republic of Slovenia.

The Government of the Republic of Slovenia has noted that despite progress achieved, Roma remain a sensitive and vulnerable population group whose status is in individual cases – sometimes even with regard to the implementation of regulations – still unequal to that of other citizens; therefore endeavours must be made to improve their status and develop better cooperation between state authorities, local government authorities and members of the Roma community.

2. The Government promotes the creation of conditions enabling Roma to respect, to a greater extent than to date, the values of the majority population (relation to private property, to the environment, etc.) and the majority population to accept the different character and cultural diversity of Roma.
3. In the light of the Report on the Status of Roma in the Republic of Slovenia (2004) with the two annexes, the Government of the Republic of Slovenia considers that the following documents are still relevant:
 - Programme of measures of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for assisting Roma (1995);
 - Conclusions of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia of July 1999; and
 - other regulations relating to the autochthonous Roma community in the Republic of Slovenia.

In that respect, the Government of the Republic of Slovenia directs the ministries responsible for security and control (inspection services) that deal with issues of personal safety and the safety of property within their competencies, to devote special attention to such issues regardless of ethnic, religious or any other circumstance.

4. The Government of the Republic of Slovenia has noted in relation to the Programme of measures of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for assisting Roma (1995) that in certain fields (housing conditions, employment, economic situation of Roma etc.), its implementation is too slow, that problems have still not been resolved although certain projects (e.g. in the field of employment) have been carried out. It has therefore tasked the ministries and government services to consistently include the settlement of the Roma issue in their programmes, to draft action plans for their implementation as well as other programmes and measures, including financial ones, as assistance to municipalities of autochthonous settlement of the Roma community.
5. When allocating funds from the state budget, housing conditions, education and employment of Roma deserve special attention and assistance. The ministries and government services are tasked to ensure this.

It is the responsibility of representatives of the Government in the management of the Housing Fund of the Republic of Slovenia, Public Fund for Regional Development and Preservation of the Settlement of Slovene Rural Areas and of other institutions and organisations whose activity relates to members of the autochthonous Roma community in the Republic of Slovenia to propose to the management board of these funds and organisations, in compliance with paragraph 1 of this item, to act accordingly.

6. The Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Slovenia undertakes to implement the decision of the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia of 30 May 2002, according to which the competent ministries or government services have to be provided with additional funds to be earmarked for municipalities with autochthonous Roma population in order to resolve Roma issues.

The competent ministries or government services in cooperation with the Government Office for Nationalities draft a proposal for allocating additional funds under paragraph 1 of this item, in compliance with the provisions of Article 26 of the Financing of Municipalities Act, as is regulated for the two autochthonous national communities. The relevant detailed criteria should also be defined.

7. The Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of the Environment, Spatial Planning and Energy and the Housing Fund of the Republic of Slovenia shall, in cooperation with local communities, draft a relevant proposal for financing the acquisition of land and infrastructure for Roma settlements in municipalities of traditional (autochthonous) settlement of Roma and for the legalisation or removal of the existing settlements.

The funds required for the purposes under paragraph 1 of this item shall be earmarked by taking into account the Review of the status of Roma settlements in the Republic of Slovenia (Attachment II to the Report on the Status of Roma in the Republic of Slovenia, July 2004) and the assessment of the situation in the field by a competent organisation (institution) within the Ministry of the Environment, Spatial Planning and Energy which evaluates the necessary works. The evaluation comprises:

- purchasing land on which the existing illegal Roma settlements have been built and the necessary infrastructure facilities;
- necessary infrastructure facilities in legal Roma settlements;
- expenses relating to the required and permissible change in the land use category; and
- other expenses (project documentation, etc.) required for ensuring life worthy of men to members of the Roma ethnic community.

In view of the programmes for arranging Roma settlements, including the financial evaluation, municipalities draw up proposals for the expert assistance of the state and utilisation of budgetary funds for this purpose.

8. The Ministry of Education, Science and Sport has been tasked to ensure the legal basis required for providing funds from the state budget to cover higher costs for those preschool institution classes that comprise Roma children.

The Ministry of Education, Science and Sport should start implementing the "Strategy for Education of Roma in the Republic of Slovenia", which was adopted by the competent specialist councils in 2004. The Ministry shall draw up the action plan for its implementation by the end of 2004 at the latest.

The Ministry of Education, Science and Sport must, together with relevant education providers and in compliance with regulations, provide for regular attendance of elementary school classes by Roma children. In doing so, it shall cooperate with the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs or departments of social security and other competent bodies.

The competent bodies are obliged to examine the possibility of additionally stimulating Roma education through an appropriate scholarship policy for Roma children, taking into account their special status.

9. The Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs is obliged, within its competences, to provide for the departments of social security to implement executive regulations and laws by:
 - consistently concluding contracts with beneficiaries of pecuniary social assistance on constructive resolving of their social status issues;
 - by consistently using the possibility to cancel or reduce pecuniary social assistance in case of failure to respect the contract on constructive resolving of social status issues;
 - providing pecuniary social assistance in its functional form in cases when it has been established that it was not used in compliance with its purpose.

In taking measures under paragraph 1, the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs cooperates with the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport.

10. The Government of the Republic of Slovenia assesses that beneficiaries of European Funds (cohesion and structural funds), funds from the EQUAL initiative (employment) and INTERREG funds (to promote cross-border, international and interregional cooperation, and above all a balanced development of border areas) do not fully utilise these possibilities in relation to the autochthonous Roma community.

PART III

1. Pursuant to Article 2 of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, the Republic of Slovenia undertakes to apply, within its territory, the provisions of the Charter to the Italian and Hungarian languages.

2. In accordance with Article 2, paragraph 2 of the Charter, the Republic of Slovenia applies the following paragraphs and sub-paragraphs from Part III of the Charter:

From Article 8:

paragraph 1 a (i ,ii), b (i, ii, iii), c (i, ii, iii), d (i, ii, iii), e (iii), f (iii), g, h, i;
paragraph 2.

From Article 9:

paragraph 1 a, b, c, d;
paragraph 2 a, b, c.

From Article 10:

paragraph 1;
paragraph 2;
paragraph 3;
paragraph 4;
paragraph 5.

From Article 11:

paragraph 1 a (i), e (i);
paragraph 2;
paragraph 3.

From Article 12:

paragraph 1 a, d, e, f;
paragraph 2;
paragraph 3.

From Article 13:

paragraph 1;
paragraph 2.

From Article 14:

paragraph a, b.

In accordance with Article 7, paragraph 5, the Republic of Slovenia will apply *mutatis mutandis* Article 7, paragraphs 1 to 4, to the Romany language as well.²⁰

Clarification:

The European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages envisages that each Party shall, upon ratification, determine the language within its territory, to which it undertakes to apply the provisions of Part II of the Charter. At the same time, the Party undertakes to apply a minimum of thirty-five paragraphs chosen from among the provisions of Part III of the Charter, which stipulate the specific commitment of the Party in individual areas.

In accordance with the constitutional order of the Republic of Slovenia, the provisions of the Charter on the territory of the Republic of Slovenia may be applied only to the Italian and Hungarian languages, which enjoy an equal status of official languages in the ethnically mixed areas in Slovenia. The constitution, the laws, the municipality statutes in the ethnically mixed areas as well as positive results from the past years' practice demonstrate that the Republic of Slovenia has so far already provided a high level of protection of the languages of the Italian and Hungarian national communities, and it will be able to implement the provisions of the Charter it ratified without assuming any additional obligations.

²⁰ Act ratifying the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (Ur. I. RS-MP, No. 17/2000), Article 4.

In accordance therewith, paragraphs and sub-paragraphs have been selected from Part III of the Charter, for which it is possible to document that they are already established in Slovenia's legislation and other regulations, and in the daily life in the ethnically mixed areas (the latter are determined by the municipality statutes, pursuant to Article 5 of the Establishment of Municipalities and Municipal Boundaries Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 60/94).

Article 8 - EDUCATION

Slovenia undertook to respect the provisions requiring the Parties:

"a (1) to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or (ii) to make available a substantial part of pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages²¹.

As regards primary education, Slovenia has selected the provisions requiring the Parties:

"b (i) to make available primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or (ii) to make available a substantial part of primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or (iii) to provide, within primary education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum²².

Moreover, the Parties should provide adequate secondary education covered by item (c) of the European Charter. Under this item, Slovenia undertook to respect the provisions requiring the Parties:

"c (i) to make available secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or (ii) to make available a substantial part of secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or (iii) to provide, within secondary education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum²³.

Commitments in the field of technical and vocational education are covered by Article 8, item (d) of the Charter. Slovenia undertook to implement three provisions requiring the Parties "(i) to make available technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or (ii) to make available a substantial part of technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or (iii) to provide, within technical and vocational education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum²⁴.

University education is covered by Article 8, item (e). Slovenia selected the provision of item (iii) stipulating that if, by reason of the role of the State in relation to higher education institutions, sub-paragraphs i and ii cannot be applied, to encourage and/or allow the provision of university or other forms of higher education in regional or minority languages or of facilities for the study of these languages as university or higher education subjects²⁵.

The Charter also covers adult and continuing education. Slovenia selected provision (f), item iii, requiring the Parties "if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of adult education, to favour and/or encourage the offering of such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education"²⁶.

As regards Article 8, paragraph 1, Slovenia also undertook to implement item (g), requiring the Parties "to make arrangements to ensure the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the regional or minority language"²⁷; item (h) covering the commitments of the Parties "to provide the basic and further training of the teachers required to implement those of paragraphs a to g accepted by the Party"²⁸; finally, item (i) should also be mentioned, requiring the Parties "to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public"²⁹.

²¹ European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, Article 8, paragraph 1, a (i, ii).

²² European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, Article 8, paragraph 1, b (i, ii, iii).

²³ European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, Article 8, paragraph 1, c (i, ii, iii).

²⁴ European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, Article 8, paragraph 1, d (i, ii, iii).

²⁵ European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, Article 8, paragraph 1, e (iii).

²⁶ European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, Article 8, paragraph 1, f (iii).

²⁷ European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, Article 8, paragraph 1, (g).

²⁸ European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, Article 8, paragraph 1, (h).

²⁹ European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, Article 8, paragraph 1, (i).

Under Article 8 of the European Charter, Slovenia also undertook to implement paragraph 2 offering the possibility to provide teaching also in territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used. The Parties undertook, in such cases, "to allow, encourage or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all the appropriate stages of education, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it"³⁰.

Introduction to Article 8 - Education:

Laws and executive regulations governing the rights of members of the Italian and Hungarian national communities regarding education and training are as follows:

- Organisation and Financing of Education Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 115/03 - official consolidated text),
- Pre-School Institutions Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 12/96, 44/00 and 78/03),
- Elementary School Act (Ur. I. RS No. 12/96, 33/97, 59/01 and 71/04),
- Gimnazije Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 12/96 and 59/01),
- Vocational and Technical Education Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 12/96, 44/00 and 86/04),
- Act Implementing Special Rights of Members of the Italian and Hungarian Ethnic Communities Regarding Education and Training (Ur. I. RS, No. 35/2001),

Rules on norms, standards and elements for the systemisation of posts serving as a basis for organising and financing of the 9-year elementary school programme from the state budget in bilingual elementary schools and schools with Italian as the language of instruction in ethnically mixed areas (Ur. I. RS No. 82/03)

- Rules on norms and standards in the bilingual secondary school (Ur. I. RS No. 85/03),
- Rules on norms and standards in the secondary schools with Italian as the language of instruction (Ur. I. RS No. 85/03).

The following rules are in the last stage before being published:

- Rules on the education of teachers in the 9-year bilingual elementary school and the 9-year elementary school with Italian as the language of instruction;
- Rules on the language of instruction examination in ethnically mixed areas.

As a result of different historical and other influences, Slovenia developed two different models of education for members of Italian and Hungarian national communities.

After World War II, initially, there was a similar system of separate schools in Prekmurje. In view of the fact that members of the Hungarian national community did not enrol their children in schools with Hungarian as the language of instruction in sufficient numbers, the state agreed with the Hungarian self-governing community to introduce bilingual linguistic model of education as the most sensible option. (Article 3, paragraph 3: "In areas populated by Slovenes and members of Hungarian national community and defined as ethnically mixed areas, bilingual pre-school institutions and schools will be established, using Slovene and Hungarian languages for education and training (bilingual pre-school institutions and schools)").³¹ This also comprised all children of Slovenian nationality and in fact expanded the knowledge of the Hungarian language to the entire population of the bilingual area.

In the Littoral, education with Italian as the language of instruction developed as a result of the existing situation upon the signing of the London Memorandum in 1954, when schools with Italian as the language of instruction existed de facto and de jure in this area (Article 3, paragraph 2: "In areas populated by Slovenes and members of the Italian national community and defined as ethnically mixed areas, pre-school institutions and schools shall be established in compliance with this Act and a special act, in which education process is conducted in the Italian language (pre-school institutions and schools using the language of the national community)").³² The Osimo Treaty signed between Yugoslavia and Italy summarised and consolidated all assumed international obligations between the two countries by that time. As a successor state to Yugoslavia, Slovenia also succeeded to the Osimo Treaty and thus to all that was agreed upon by that time in the field of education of minorities and related to the Italian minority in Slovenia.

Education for members of national communities is in compliance with the Act Implementing Special Rights of Members of the Italian and Hungarian Ethnic Communities Regarding Education and Training (Article 2 (inclusion in the system): "Education for the members of the Italian and Hungarian national communities is an integral part of the system of education in the Republic of Slovenia and is carried out on the basis of regulations governing pre-school education, elementary schooling, lower and secondary vocational education, vocational and professional training and general secondary education, unless otherwise

³⁰ European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, Article 8, paragraph 2.

³¹ Organisation and Financing of Education Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 115/03 – official consolidated text)

³² Organisation and Financing of Education Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 115/03 – official consolidated text)

stipulated by this act.") an integral part of Slovenia's unified educational system³³. This means that the state is bound to take care of maintaining and developing educational institutions and of their financing, together with the active participation of national communities or their organisations.³⁴ An important provision of the Organisation and Financing of Education Act should be mentioned, which states that a "self-governing national community is a cofounder of public pre-school institutions or schools which are being established with the aim of educating in the language of a national community or bilingually."³⁵ Provisions on the participation of the members of national communities (self-governing national communities) in establishing and managing schools in the language of the national community can also be found in the Act Implementing Special Rights of Members of the Italian and Hungarian Ethnic Communities Regarding Education and Training, Article 12 and Article 13.³⁶

Legislation relating to education regulates mutual understanding between all language groups in the country in the following documents:

- Elementary School Act
 - one of the basic general goals of elementary education (Article 2 of the Act) is "to foster literacy and the competency to understand, communicate and express oneself in the Slovene language and, in the areas defined as ethnically mixed, also in the Italian and Hungarian language, respectively", "to acquire knowledge about other cultures and learn foreign languages" and "to educate for mutual tolerance and respect for being different, willingness to cooperate, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and consequently also to develop the ability to live in a democratic society", which is an important contribution to the respect, understanding and tolerance for regional or minority languages;
 - Article 6 of the Elementary School Act covering the language of instruction in elementary schools stipulates that in elementary schools in areas populated by Slovenes and members of the Italian national community and defined as ethnically mixed areas, "pupils in schools providing instruction in Slovene shall also learn Italian, and pupils in schools providing instruction in Italian shall also learn Slovene".
 - Article 7 defines the protection of special rights of minorities, which is regulated by law.
- Organisation and Financing of Education Act:
 - one of the objectives of Slovenia's system of education and training is also "developing linguistic capabilities and skills as well as raising the awareness of the situation of the Slovene language as the language of Slovenia; in areas defined as ethnically mixed areas, in addition to the Slovene language also preserving and developing the Italian and Hungarian languages",

Within the syllabus of the curriculum for the 9-year elementary school stipulating annual and weekly number of lessons for individual subjects or subject areas and the minimum number of lessons required for the implementation of a syllabus, mutual understanding between all language groups in the country is fostered particularly through the content of the following subjects, where these topics are explicitly represented:

- Slovene (1st-9th grade of the 9-year elementary school),
- Geography (6th-9th grade of the 9-year elementary school),
- History (6th-9th grade of the 9-year elementary school),
- Social Sciences (5th-9th grade of the 9-year elementary school),
- Civic Education and Ethics (7th and 8th grades of the 9-year elementary school),
- optional subject Civic Culture (9th grade of the 9-year elementary school).

Pupils belonging to the majority part of Slovene population are taught mutual understanding among all language groups in the country, e.g. during Slovene language lessons, which also includes the respect for other languages and the command and use of individual forms of colloquial language (dialects/colloquial language of regions) among the general objectives for the first three-year period. The second three-year period introduces them to the special situation of the Italian and Hungarian languages in the part of Slovene Istria and Prekmurje. Respect, understanding and tolerance for regional or minority languages are

³³ Act Implementing Special Rights of Members of the Italian and Hungarian Ethnic Communities Regarding Education and Training (Ur. l. RS, No. 35/2001).

³⁴ Self-Governing Ethnic Communities Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 65/94), Article 4, item 3

³⁵ Organisation and Financing of Education Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 115/03 – official consolidated text)

³⁶ Act Implementing Special Rights of Members of the Italian and Hungarian Ethnic Communities Regarding Education and Training (Ur. l. RS, No. 35/2001).

encompassed in other subjects in the social sciences and humanities areas of elementary education both at the level of content and general objectives.

Article 9 of the Act Implementing Special Rights of Members of the Italian and Hungarian Ethnic Communities Regarding Education and Training (Ur. l. RS, No. 35/2001) stipulates the following:

"For the students and apprentices who have finished elementary school in the language of a national community or bilingual elementary school and who enrol in vocational schools, secondary technical schools or grammar schools outside the ethnically mixed area, such schools must themselves or together with other schools, provide courses in the language of the national community as an optional subject. Courses in the language of the national community shall be provided if at least five students or apprentices wish to attend it, and shall be tuition free. A group of students or apprentices may also consist of students or apprentices studying in different educational programmes in different schools in the same town." Optional courses in the language of a national community outside the bilingual area shall be organised provided there is sufficient interest. In the school year 2003/2004, optional courses in the Hungarian language were attended by 23 students in Murska Sobota, Rakičan and Radenci. There is currently no interest in optional courses in the Italian language. In May 2004, the Council of Experts of the Republic of Slovenia for General Education adopted the syllabus for optional courses in the Hungarian language.

For the educational area of the secondary general, vocational and technical education, 21 validated educational programmes for the implementation in the language of the national community or for bilingual implementation in the ethnically mixed area were adopted, 9 of which are validated educational programmes for the implementation in the Italian language and 12 are intended for bilingual implementation. In the field of:

- short-term vocational education, there are no such validated educational programmes;
- secondary vocational education, 11 validated educational programmes have been adopted, 4 of which are to be implemented in Italian as the language of instruction and 7 are intended for bilingual education;
- secondary vocational education, 3 validated educational programmes have been adopted, 1 of which is to be implemented in Italian as the language of instruction and 2 are intended for bilingual education;
- technical-vocational education, 2 validated educational programmes have been adopted, 1 of which is to be implemented in Italian as the language of instruction and 1 is intended for bilingual education;
- education according to educational programme of vocational courses, 1 validated educational programme has been adopted for the implementation in Italian as the language of instruction;
- secondary general education, 2 validated educational programmes have been adopted, 1 of which is to be implemented in Italian as the language of instruction and 1 is intended for bilingual education;
- education according to the educational programme of matura course, 2 validated educational programmes have been adopted, 1 of which is to be implemented in Italian as the language of instruction and 1 is intended for bilingual education.

Five executive regulations were adopted, governing the conditions for education of professionals implementing these educational programmes, stipulating particular education for professionals in 11 validated educational programmes to be implemented in the language of the national community or are intended for bilingual implementation in ethnically mixed areas. Rules are under preparation, which will stipulate education for professionals in the remaining 10 validated educational programmes to be implemented in the language of the national community or are intended for bilingual implementation in the ethnically mixed area, as this is a series of educational programmes representing a model for joint implementation of educational programmes in ethnically mixed areas.

There is a Department for the Italian Language and Culture at the Faculty of Education in Koper and a Chair for the Italian Language and Literature at the Faculty of Arts in Ljubljana.

There is a Chair for the Hungarian Language and Literature at the Faculty of Education in Maribor, which also carries out a training programme for teachers at bilingual schools; there is a lectorate of the Hungarian language at the Faculty of Arts in Ljubljana.

In compliance with bilateral agreements, visiting teachers come to Slovenia (teaching subjects such as history, geography, art etc.); there are exchanges of students, camps are organised and certain books, reference books and teaching aids from home countries are being used.

In 2003, the Council of Experts of the Republic of Slovenia for General Education adopted an adapted syllabus for elementary school for adults in ethnically mixed areas. The syllabus is adapted to bilingual

elementary school, elementary school with Italian as the language of instruction and elementary school with Slovene as the language of instruction, where also Slovenes must learn Italian.

Every year, the Ministry of Education and Sport publishes a notice inviting applications for co-financing adult education. Within this scope, applications for "Study Activities", "Education for active citizenship" and "Minority training" have been invited as well. As regards the subjects and requirements of participants, these activities may be held in the Slovene language and in the language of a national community.

More frequent topics relating to the subject dealt with are as follows:

- Languages and computer science training;
- Culture, history and ethnology;
- Preserving cultural heritage;
- Healthy life;
- Housekeeping and handicrafts;
- Democracy, human rights and human relations;
- Challenges of joining the EU.

Study activities are held in the form of meetings. As education providers, they may apply with different education institutions (people's university, libraries, associations etc.). They are headed by a mentor, whereas the content, place and time are agreed upon by the participants. Education for active citizenship is held in the form of shorter lectures or a cycle of lectures. It is mostly organised by people's universities.

The training of minorities is intended for the Italian, Hungarian and Romany communities. Slovenia also offers language courses: training programme for the Hungarian language for adults is provided in Ljubljana, Lendava and Murska Sobota. Italian for adults is provided in 16 places all over Slovenia.

Slovenia has established a system of permanent in-service training of professionals employed in education. This year, the new Rules on further education and training of professionals in the field of education was adopted (Ur. l. RS No. 64/04). A catalogue of programmes is published every year, in which teachers and other professionals select a programme according to their own requirements and wishes. As soon as a requirement for certain training is established in the field, advisers of the National Education Institute draw up a proposal. The proposal is then adopted by the Programme Council and the programme is placed in the catalogue. The Ministry co-finances programmes in the field of education of national communities.

Slovenia provides an advisory function within the units of the National Education Institute. The National Education Institute, providing development and advisory work for the needs of pre-school institutions and schools with Italian as the language of instruction and bilingual pre-school institutions and schools also provides professionals recruited from members of national communities.

On the basis of bilateral agreements, both neighbouring countries appoint an adviser for Italian and Hungarian, respectively. The adviser works within the National Education Institute, which provides adequate premises and professional assistance. He is charged with the following:

- Cooperation with expert institutions of both countries;
- Advisory and expert assistance to teachers with the emphasis on teaching and using the mother tongue of pupils and secondary school students in developing their national culture;
- Organisation of seminars and other expert education activities for teachers; Cooperation in planning, organisation and attracting lecturers for seminars within the framework of the National Education Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for the areas of pre-school, elementary school and secondary school education;
- Informing teachers of seminars held in their countries of origin and coordinating these seminars between the institutes with Italian as the language of instruction and bilingual institutes;
- Cooperation and organisation of in-class observation for professionals working at institutes with Italian as the language of instruction and bilingual institutes in their countries of origin;
- Acquainting teachers with new textbooks, teaching aids and literature in their countries of origin and providing them with suitable material;
- Cooperation and organisation of connections between schools and the exchange of pupils and students on both sides of the border;
- Cooperation in organising and guiding expert excursions and other activities intended for secondary school students and pupils of institutes with Italian as the language of instruction or bilingual institutes.

The advisor must also draw up the annual report.

In compliance with bilateral agreements, members of national communities also have the possibility to study at secondary schools and universities in their countries of origin, where also expert training of teachers is provided.

The highest body in the field of education and training, which also lays down educational programmes for members of the Italian and Hungarian national communities as well as providing expert assistance in adopting decisions and drafting regulations, is the Council of Experts of the Republic of Slovenia for General Education.

Article 7 of the Act Implementing Special Rights of Members of the Italian and Hungarian Ethnic Communities Regarding Education and Training (Ur. l. RS, No. 35/2001) stipulates:

"Prior to the adoption or determination of programmes under Article 5 of this Act, the competent expert council must acquire the opinion of the competent body of the Italian or Hungarian self-governing national community in the Republic of Slovenia.

The competent expert council cannot adopt or determine an educational programme without the agreement of the council members, representatives of the Italian or Hungarian self-governing community."

The education committee for national communities has been established within the Council of Experts of the Republic of Slovenia for General Education and is composed of three members. Two members are also representatives of both national communities and at the same time members of the Council of Experts. The committee deals with issues relating to the field of education in the ethnically mixed areas populated by members of the Italian and Hungarian national communities. At the same time, the committee also draws up opinions for the Council of Experts regarding the adoption of syllabuses, curricula, adaptation of programmes etc. in these areas.

In 2002, the Council of Experts of the Republic of Slovenia for General Education adopted the Annex to pre-school institution curriculum in ethnically mixed areas in compliance with the above procedures. The National Education Institute of the Republic of Slovenia is charged with expert monitoring of its implementation.

Article 24 of the same Act stipulates:

"The minister responsible for education must acquire the agreement of the competent body of the Italian or Hungarian self-governing national community in the Republic of Slovenia concerning norms and standards which form the basis for the financing of public pre-school institutions and schools with Italian as the language of instruction and bilingual pre-school institutions and schools."

Prior to the adoption of rules on norms and standards serving as a basis for organising and financing schools from the state budget in bilingual elementary schools and schools with Italian as the language of instruction in ethnically mixed areas, both self-governing national communities gave their agreement in compliance with the Act.

The National Inspectorate for Education and Sport is responsible for control over the implementation of laws, other regulations and acts in all educational institutions in the Republic of Slovenia. As regards the financing of national communities in the field of education and training, the Ministry of Education and Sport every year submits reports and explanations concerning content to the Office of the Republic of Slovenia for Nationalities. Therefore, we are of the opinion that establishing a special supervisory body would not be economical, as representatives of national communities cooperate both in decision-making and in implementing tasks relating to their status in the field of education and training.

Article 8 - EDUCATION - HUNGARIANS

In the bilingual area of the municipalities of Hodoš, Šalovci, Moravske Toplice, Dobrovnik and Lendava, where the Hungarian national community lives, education in pre-school institutions is carried out (Article 5, paragraph 3: "In areas populated by Slovenes and members of Hungarian national community, and defined as ethnically mixed areas, education is carried out in compliance with a special act bilingually, in Slovene and Hungarian languages.")³⁷ in elementary schools (Article 6, paragraph 2: "The language of instruction in elementary schools using the language of a national community is Hungarian, and in bilingual elementary schools Slovene and Hungarian.")³⁸ education and training are carried out bilingually, in Slovene and Hungarian languages. These pre-school institutions and schools are attended by children or pupils of Slovene and Hungarian nationalities. Such a method of work enables the pupils to learn a second language

³⁷ Pre-school Institutions Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 12/96, 44/00 and 78/03).

³⁸ Elementary School Act (Ur. l. RS No. 12/96, 33/97, 59/01 and 71/04).

in addition to their mother tongue and become familiar with the culture of the other nation. Educational activities are carried out in both languages. When learning the mother tongue and the second language, pupils are divided into groups, which enables them to learn their mother tongue at an advanced level. According to data for the 2003/2004 school year³⁹, a total of 249 children attended bilingual pre-school institutions in the ethnically mixed area of Pomurje.

PRE-SCHOOL INSTITUTION	TOTAL NUMBER OF GROUPS	TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN
Bilingual elementary school Prosenjakovci - Hodoš Domanjševci	2	17
Pre-school institutions in the municipality of Moravske Toplice	1	14
Pre-school institution Lendava I	7	105
Lendava II	2	27
Gaberje	2	27
Petišovci	1	8
Dolga vas	1	12
Genterovci	1	12
Bilingual elementary school Dobrovnik	2	27
TOTAL	19	249

997 pupils attended bilingual elementary schools with affiliated schools (Bilingual Elementary School Lendava I, Bilingual Elementary School Lendava II with adapted programme, Bilingual Elementary School Vljaj Lajoš, Genterovci, Bilingual Elementary School Dobrovnik and Bilingual Elementary School Prosenjakovci).

Elementary School	Number of classes	Number of pupils	Average number of pupils per class
Bilingual Elementary School Lendava I (total)			
Main school	40	697	17.42
- Affiliated elementary school in Gaberje	34	617	
- Affiliated elementary school in Petišovci	3	42	
- Affiliated elementary school in Čentiba	1	8	
	2	30	
Bilingual Elementary School Lendava II (total) (elementary school with adapted programme)	6	34	5.66
Bilingual Elementary School Genterovci	9	95	10.55
Bilingual Elementary School Dobrovnik	8	78	9.75
Bilingual Elementary School Prosenjakovci (total)			
- Main school	10	93	9.30
- affiliated elementary school in Domanjševci	8	80	
- affiliated elementary school in Hodoš	1	5	
	1	8	
TOTAL	73	997	13.65

Source: Ministry of Education and Sport

After completing elementary school, pupils may continue their education at the bilingual secondary school in Lendava, which is the only bilingual secondary school in the ethnically mixed area in Prekmurje. Pupils who attend bilingual schools and wish to continue to learn the Hungarian language are offered the possibility of studying their mother tongue outside the bilingual area. In the school year 2003/2004, the Lendava bilingual secondary school comprised 19 classes attended by 280 students. The school has four grammar school classes, four classes qualifying for the profession of a technician in the field of economics, two classes

³⁹ Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, letter No. 601-13/2004 and 601-14/2004 of 2 July 2004 regarding numerical data for the 2003/2004 school or academic year.

qualifying for the profession of a mechanical engineering technician and two classes qualifying for the profession of a shop assistant etc. (see table below).

Educational programme, vocational field of study	Number of classes	Number of students
COOK	1	4
WAITER	1	2
SHOP-ASSISTANT	2	26
technician in the field of economics /d/	4	83
technician in the field of economics - PTI DV	1	14
SHOP-ASSISTANT	1	7
mechanical engineering technician /d/	2	6
MOTOR MECHANIC	1	1
FITTER OF MECHANICAL INSTALLATIONS	1	6
mechanical engineering technician /DV/	1	3
GIMNAZIJA /d/	4	128
TOTAL	19	280

The continuation of education of members of Hungarian national community in their mother tongue is difficult in Slovenia, since the demographic situation does not facilitate organising university study in the Hungarian language. The Hungarian language and culture may be studied at the University of Maribor (Chair of the Hungarian language) and at the University of Ljubljana (lectorate). Teachers in bilingual kindergartens and bilingual elementary schools may also be educated at the University of Maribor. To fulfil other wishes relating to studies, "assistance" must be sought from the universities in Hungary. Better possibilities for education are guaranteed in the Agreement on Guaranteeing Special Rights of the Slovenian Minority Living in the Republic of Hungary and the Hungarian National Community in the Republic of Slovenia (Ur. I. RS-MP, No. 6/93), which provides for this possibility in Article 2: "The Parties shall promote with particular attention the learning of and studying in their mother tongue in pre-school, elementary, secondary and higher education institutions and foster the knowledge of the culture, history and the present-day reality of the mother nations and minorities. To this end, they shall endeavour to exchange experience in the field of minority education, particularly bilingual, and the alternative use of their respective textbooks. In addition, they shall promote the exchange of teachers and students, sending textbooks, teaching aids and teaching equipment, organisation of seminars and training, granting of state and foundation scholarships for full, partial and post-graduate education, especially education for teachers and theologians. In addition, they shall encourage the study and learning of the language, culture and history of national minorities and their mother nations by individuals belonging to the majority nation."⁴⁰

The possibilities for study are also provided for in the Agreement on Cooperation in the Fields of Culture, Education and Science between the Republic of Slovenia and the Republic of Hungary concluded by the two countries in 1992⁴¹. This Agreement also served as a basis for drafting the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and the Government of the Republic of Hungary on Mutual Recognition of Certificates and Diplomas signed by the two countries in 1999. Slovenia ratified the Agreement on 10 May 2000 and it was published in the Official Gazette No. 44/2000. Cooperation with educational institutions of the "mother nation" is also provided for in the Act Implementing Special Rights of Members of the Italian and Hungarian Ethnic Communities Regarding Education and Training. Article 4 of the Act (cooperation with the institutions of the mother nation) reads: "To implement the objectives laid down in this Act and in compliance with interstate agreements, public pre-school institutions and schools with the language of instruction of the national community and bilingual pre-school institutions and schools (hereinafter: pre-school institutions and schools) cooperate with relevant institutions of the mother nation in the neighbouring countries."

⁴⁰ Agreement on Guaranteeing Special Rights of the Slovenian Minority Living in the Republic of Hungary and the Hungarian National Community in the Republic of Slovenia (Ur. I. RS-MP, No. 6/93)

⁴¹ Agreement on Cooperation in the Fields of Culture, Education and Science between the Republic of Slovenia and the Republic of Hungary (Ur. I. RS-MP, No. 6/93).

Mention should also be made of the fact that the Slovene and Hungarian languages are permanently present in the education process. The material on Hungarian history, culture and geography has been added to the relevant Slovene curriculum. Most textbooks are bilingual. The management of administrative affairs in bilingual schools, as well as relations with the public and the students' parents, are bilingual. Moreover, the documents issued by bilingual educational institutions are bilingual.

Further training of teachers working in bilingual educational institutions is guaranteed by and carried out in compliance with the Agreement on Cooperation in the Fields of Culture, Education and Science between the Republic of Slovenia and the Republic of Hungary (Article 2, paragraph 3: "The Signatories shall promote the exchange of teachers and students, sending textbooks, teaching aids and teaching equipment, organising courses and professional training, mutual granting of state and foundation scholarships for mainstream and post-graduate education, especially education for teachers and theologians.")⁴².

With regard to adult and continuing education, Slovenia has chosen the provisions of the Charter stating that the Parties undertake "to favour and/or encourage the offering of such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of adult education." The Republic of Slovenia implements these provisions in practice by enabling people to live and coexist in ethnically and linguistically mixed areas, continuously providing information about the situation of the Italian and Hungarian national communities in the neighbouring countries, and by establishing links and cooperation with members and institutions of these communities.

In compliance with the constitutional provision on the implementation of special rights of national minorities also outside the ethnically mixed area, optional Hungarian language courses are organised. A Hungarian language course is organised if at least five students have applied for the course. This solution is in compliance with the provision of Article 8, paragraph 2 of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages. According to Article 9 of the Act Implementing Special Rights of Members of the Italian and Hungarian Ethnic Communities Regarding Education and Training, learning the language of the national community outside the ethnically mixed area (courses in the language of a national community outside the ethnically mixed area) is intended for: "For the students and apprentices who have finished elementary school in the language of a national community or a bilingual elementary school and who enrol in vocational schools, secondary technical schools or grammar schools outside the ethnically mixed area, such schools must themselves or together with other schools, provide courses in the language of the national community as an optional subject. Courses in the language of the national community shall be provided if at least five students or apprentices wish to attend them, and shall be tuition free. A group of students or apprentices may also consist of students or apprentices studying in different educational programmes in different schools in the same town."

Article 8 - EDUCATION - ITALIANS

A single language school system has been formed for members of the Italian national community. Nevertheless, it must be highlighted that schools with Italian as the language of instruction are not closed-type institutions which would admit only members of the Italian national community. Despite the fact that these schools are in principle intended for education of children of the Italian national community, they may also be attended by non-Italian children. This possibility is an important factor of development for these schools, which will have difficulties in filling the education capacities in the existing schools due to the demographic decline of the Italian national community. It must also be stressed that an increase in the number of pupils in Italian schools has been recorded, whose mother tongue is not Italian, being aware of the importance of the command of several languages in public and economic life. An important provision in the Slovene model of regulation of this issue must be stressed once again, stating that the learning of the language of the national community is compulsory in educational institutions in the ethnically mixed area with Slovene as the language of instruction. (Article 111, paragraph 2: "In all Slovene schools in the ethnically mixed area of the municipality, the Italian language shall be a compulsory subject in all classes.")⁴³ Such an education model provides the members of the majority nation and the members of national communities with

⁴² Agreement on Cooperation in the Fields of Culture, Education and Science between the Republic of Slovenia and the Republic of Hungary (Ur. l. RS-MP, No. 6/93).

⁴³ Statute of the Koper Municipality (*Uradne objave*, No. 40/2000, 30/2001).

acceptable knowledge of the language of the other ethnic group, and is supported, as demonstrated by research, by majority of the population of the ethnically mixed area.⁴⁴

In the ethnically mixed areas of the coastal municipalities, a total of 264 children attended three pre-school institutions using Italian as the language of instruction (Delfino Blu in Koper, Dante Alighieri in Izola, and La Coccinella in Portorož) in the 2003/2004⁴⁵ school year.

PRE-SCHOOL INSTITUTION	TOTAL NUMBER OF GROUPS	TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN
IZOLA	4	64
KOPER Semedela Hrvatini Bertoki	7	110
PIRAN Lucija Strunjan Sečovlje	6	90
TOTAL	17	264

Schools with Italian as the language of instruction are in the municipalities of Izola, Koper and Piran. These municipalities are traditionally populated with members of the Italian national community. In each municipality, there is one main elementary school; in smaller settlements there are affiliated schools. A total of 389 pupils attended elementary schools with Italian as the language of instruction in the 2003/2004⁴⁶ school year (elementary schools Dante Alighieri, Izola; Pier Paolo Vergerio il Vecchio, Koper, with affiliated schools in Semedela, Bertoki and Hrvatini; and Vincenzo de Castro, Piran, with affiliated schools in Lucija, Sečovlje and Strunjan).

Elementary School	Number of classes	Number of pupils	Average number of pupils per class
Dante Alighieri Elementary School, Izola	9	94	10.44
Pier Paolo Vergerio il Vecchio Elementary School Koper (total)	18	178	9.88
- Main school	10	124	
- affiliated school in Semedela	3	18	
- affiliated school in Bertoki	2	14	
- affiliated school in Hrvatini	3	22	
Vincenzo de Castro Elementary School, Piran (total)	14	117	8.35
- Main school	4	29	
- affiliated school in Lucija	5	51	
- affiliated school in Sečovlje	5	37	
TOTAL	41	389	9.48

Source: Ministry of Education and Sport

In the Slovene Istria, there are three secondary schools with Italian as the language of instruction: two grammar schools and one secondary technical school. A total of 291 students attended three secondary schools with Italian as the language of instruction in the 2003/2004 school year (Antonio Sema High School, Piran; Gian Rinaldo Carli High School, Koper; Pietro Coppo Secondary Technical School – Economics, Izola).

⁴⁴ See e.g. the results of the research project Inter-Ethnic Relations and National Identity in the Slovene Istria (Koper/Capodistria, Piran/Pirano, Izola/Isola): comparative analysis of elements of national identity of the population of the juncture areas of the border regions of Slovenia, Austria, Italy and Hungary, Ljubljana, INV, 1996.

⁴⁵ E-mail of the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport of 2 July 2004 regarding numerical data for the 2003/2004 school or academic year.

⁴⁶ E-mail of the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport of 2 July 2004 regarding numerical data for the 2003/2004 school or academic year.

Pietro Coppo Secondary School, Izola

Educational programme, vocational field of study	Number of classes	Number of students and apprentices
COOK, model /is/	0	1
WAITER, model /is/	0	1
SHOP-ASSISTANT /is/	2	11
BUSINESS SECRETARY /is/	2	21
BUSINESS TECHNICIAN (+2) /is/	1	9
ECONOMIC TECHNICIAN /is/	7	67
ADMINISTRATOR /is/	1	5
ECONOMIC TECHNICIAN PTI /is/	1	16
METALWORKER /is/	0	1
VEHICLE AND ROLLING STOCK MECHANIC /is/	2	8
MOTOR MECHANIC /is/	1	4
TOTAL	17	144

Gian Rinaldo Carli High School, Koper

Educational programme, vocational field of study	Number of classes	Number of students
GIMNAZIJA /is/	4	60
TOTAL	4	60

Antonio Sema High School, Piran

Educational programme, vocational field of study	Number of classes	Number of students
GIMNAZIJA /is/	4	87
TOTAL	4	87

When continuing their education at the university level, students belonging to the Italian national community face similar problems as their Hungarian peers. The Italian language and literature may be studied at the Faculty of Arts of the University of Ljubljana and at the recently established University of Primorska, with the seat in Koper. (Article 3: "The University has the following members: faculties: University of Primorska, Faculty of Humanities Koper; abbreviation: UP FHK; in Italian: Facolta di Studi Umanistici di Capodistria, seat: Koper, Glagoljaška 8; University of Primorska, Faculty of Management Koper; abbreviation: UP FMK; in Italian: Facolta di Management di Capodistria, seat: Koper, Cankarjeva 5; University of Primorska, Pedagogical Faculty Koper; abbreviation: UP PFK; in Italian: Facolta di Studi Educativi di Capodistria, seat: Koper, Cankarjeva 5.

Professional colleges: University of Primorska, Turistica - College of Tourism Portorož; abbreviation: UP Turistica, in Italian: Istituto universitario di studi turistici di Portorose, seat: Portorož, Obala 29; University of Primorska, College of Health Care Izola; abbreviation: UP CHC; in Italian: Istituto universitario di sanita Isola, seat: Izola, Polje 42.

Other institutions: University of Primorska, Science and Research Centre Koper, abbreviation: UP SRC; in Italian: Centro di Ricerche Scientifiche di Capodistria, seat: Koper, Garibaldijeva 1; University of Primorska, Primorska Institute for Natural Sciences and Technical Sciences Koper; abbreviation: UP PINT; in Italian: Istituto della Primorska di Scienze Naturali e Tecniche di Capodistria, seat: Koper, C. Marežganskega upora 2; University of Primorska, student residence halls; abbreviation: UP SRH; in Italian: Case dello studente, seat: Muzejski trg 2.)⁴⁷ which is now also to include the Department for the Italian Language and Literature, formerly a department within the Faculty of Education of the University of Ljubljana.

⁴⁷ Ordinance on Establishing the University of Primorska (Ur. I. RS, No. 79/2004).

Teachers in pre-school institutions and elementary schools with Italian as the language of instruction (first cycle of elementary school) may be educated at the same institution. Members of the Italian national community may also study at the universities in Croatia (Rijeka, Pula) or in Italy, which is in immediate proximity of the border. Should members of the Italian national community wish to use Italian as the language of education in other, non-linguistic areas, they have to enrol at a university in Italy. The Agreement on Mutual Recognition of Degrees⁴⁸ concluded between Slovenia and Italy in 1995 provides a legal framework implemented in both countries and simplifying the education of members of the Italian national community at universities in Italy, and, likewise, the education in Slovenia of members of the Slovene national minority in Italy.

The education for members of the Italian national community has been further operationalised by the Act Implementing Special Rights of Members of the Italian and Hungarian Ethnic Communities Regarding Education and Training. Article 2 of the Act (inclusion in the system) reads: "Education for members of the Italian and Hungarian national communities is an integral part of the system of education in the Republic of Slovenia and is carried out on the basis of regulations governing pre-school education, elementary schooling, lower and secondary vocational education, secondary technical and general secondary education unless otherwise stipulated by this act."

Mention should also be made of the fact that learning both the language of the majority nation and of the Italian national community is permanently present in the education process. The material on Italian history, culture and geography has been added to the relevant Slovene curriculum. The management of administrative affairs in schools, as well as relations with the public and the students' parents, are bilingual. Documents issued by some other school institutions are also bilingual. In compliance with the constitutional provision on the implementation of special rights of national communities also outside the ethnically mixed area, members of the Italian national community have the possibility to learn the Italian language. An Italian language course is organised if at least five students have applied for it. This provision is in compliance with the provision of Article 8 of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages. Article 9 of the Act Implementing Special Rights of Members of the Italian and Hungarian Ethnic Communities Regarding Education and Training covers learning the language of the national community outside the ethnically mixed area: "(Courses in the language of a national community outside the ethnically mixed area) To students and apprentices who have finished elementary school in the language of the national community or a bilingual elementary school and enrol in vocational schools, secondary technical schools or grammar schools outside the ethnically mixed area, these schools must, individually or together with others, provide courses in the language of the ethnic community as an optional subject. Courses in the language of the national community shall be provided if at least five students or apprentices wish to attend them, and shall be tuition free. A group of students or apprentices may also consist of students or apprentices studying in different educational programmes in different schools in the same town."

With regard to adult and continuing education, Slovenia has chosen the provisions of the Charter stating that the Parties undertake "to favour and/or encourage the offering of such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of adult education"⁴⁹. The Republic of Slovenia implements these provisions in practice by enabling people to live and coexist in ethnically and linguistically mixed areas, continuously providing information about the situation of the Italian and Hungarian national communities in the neighbouring countries, and by establishing links and cooperation with members and institutions of these communities.

Article 9 - JUDICIARY - HUNGARIANS

Slovenia has undertaken to apply the following paragraphs and/or sub-paragraphs:

Paragraph 1 a, b, c, d

Paragraph 2 a, b, c.

According to data provided by the Lendava Local Court (ethnically mixed area), 765 court decisions were issued in Hungarian in the period 1991–1998, of which 651 hearings were in Hungarian. From 1999 to 2002, 308 decisions were issued in Hungarian and 294 hearings were held with assistance of an interpreter for Hungarian. At the Lendava Local Court, two judges, members of the Hungarian national community, were employed until 1991, and from 1991 to 1999 one judge, member of the Hungarian national community, was

⁴⁸ Memorandum of Understanding on the Mutual Recognition of Slovenian and Italian Degrees and Professional Titles (Ur. I. RS-MP, No. 4/1996).

⁴⁹ European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, Article 8, paragraph 1, f (iii).

employed at this court. After 1999 none of the judges employed at this court is a member of the Hungarian national community; procedures are carried out with assistance of an interpreter. None of the judges at this court has taken a special exam in the Hungarian language as a condition for conducting procedures.

The use of the languages of the national communities in the operation of judicial institutions in Slovenia is clearly evident from the Courts Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 19/94 ... 73/2004), which in Article 5 stipulates that "in the areas in which the autochthonous Italian and Hungarian national communities live, the business of the court shall also be conducted in the Italian or Hungarian language if a party who lives on that territory uses the Italian or Hungarian language. If a court of higher instance adjudicates on legal remedies in the Italian or Hungarian language, the decision shall be issued in translation in the Italian or Hungarian language".

Provisions on the use of the language may also be found in: the Civil Procedure Act (Article 104: "The parties and other persons involved in the proceedings shall file actions, appeals and other applications in the Slovene language or in the languages of national communities officially used by the court")⁵⁰; the Act Amending the Notary Act (Article 13: "In the areas in which the Italian and Hungarian languages are spoken officially, the notary shall draw up notarial deeds, in cases when a party uses the Italian or Hungarian language, in both official languages")⁵¹; the State Prosecutor's Office Act (Article 6: "A State Prosecutor's Office shall conduct its work in the Slovene language. In the areas in which the autochthonous Italian or Hungarian national communities live, state prosecutor's offices shall also conduct their work in the Italian and Hungarian languages respectively, if proceedings before a court or before another state body are conducted in the respective language, or if a party living in such area uses that language in dealings with the state prosecutor's office.")⁵²; and the Criminal Procedure Act (Article 4: "(1) Any person deprived of freedom shall be advised immediately, in his mother tongue or in a language he understands, of the reasons for his loss of freedom. A person deprived of freedom shall immediately be instructed that he is not bound to make any statements, that he is entitled to the legal assistance of a lawyer of his own choice and that the competent body is bound to inform upon his request his immediate family of his being deprived of freedom." Article 6: "(1) If in accordance with the Constitution the language of the Italian or the Hungarian community is also used as the official language of the court, criminal proceedings may be conducted in the languages of these communities in the manner defined by law." Article 7: "(2) In those areas in which members of the Italian or Hungarian national community reside, members of these national communities shall be allowed to file applications in the Italian or Hungarian language if these languages are used as official languages of the court." Article 9: "(2) Those courts in which the Italian or Hungarian language is in official use shall also serve summons in the Italian or Hungarian language; court decisions and other writs shall be served in the Italian or Hungarian language only where the procedure is conducted in both official languages. Parties to proceedings may waive having court decisions and other writs served on them in the Hungarian or Italian language. The waiver should be recorded in the minutes."

"(3) A person who has been deprived of freedom shall be served the writs referred to in the first paragraph of this Article in the language which he uses in the proceedings, unless he has waived the right to translation consistent with the second paragraph of the preceding Article of the present Act." Article 92: "(5) The costs of translation into the Slovenian, Italian or Hungarian language, arising in connection with the exercising under the Constitution and the present Code of the right of members of the Italian and Hungarian national communities to use their own language, shall not be charged against those who under the provisions of the present Act are obliged to refund the costs of criminal proceedings.")⁵³ Finally, there are the provisions on conducting the business of courts in the ethnically mixed areas. This is laid down in the Court Rules (Article 30: "In bilingual areas, all inscriptions are also in the Italian or Hungarian language"; Article 60: "In the areas in which the autochthonous Italian and Hungarian national communities reside and in which the Constitution and law stipulate the equal use of the Italian or Hungarian language, the courts shall ensure the equality of the Italian or Hungarian language in the proceedings, in compliance with law, if a party to the proceedings, living in this area, uses the Italian or Hungarian language."; Article 61: "If there is only one party to the proceedings or if both parties to the proceedings use the same language, the proceedings shall be conducted in that language.

If there are two parties to the proceedings, with one using the Slovene language and the other the Italian or Hungarian language, the proceedings are conducted in the Slovene and in the Italian or Hungarian language (hereinafter: bilingual proceedings).

The court shall act in the same manner if the application which instituted the proceedings is drawn up in the Slovene language and the party before the beginning of the proceedings states that it uses the Italian or Hungarian language. As soon as it is established by the court on the basis of the application with which the

⁵⁰ Civil Procedure Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 26/99).

⁵¹ Act Amending the Notary Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 73/2004).

⁵² State Prosecutor's Office Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 63/94 ... 14/2003).

⁵³ Criminal Procedure Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 63/94 ... 96/2004).

party institutes the proceedings, or on the basis of a statement by the party, that the proceedings must be conducted in the Italian or Hungarian language or that bilingual proceedings are required, this shall be recorded in the appropriate record and on the cover of the record.

In case the provisions of the law or court rules stipulate that the proceedings must be conducted in the Italian or Hungarian language and the parties state that the proceedings should be conducted in the Slovene language, the proceedings shall be conducted in the Slovene language. Such a statement by a party must be established by means of the minutes"; Article 62: If the proceedings are conducted only in the Italian or Hungarian language, or if bilingual proceedings are conducted, the court communicates, during the proceedings, with parties to and others involved in the proceedings, in their mother tongue. In case an individual party to the proceedings does not understand the language in which the proceedings are conducted, he must be guaranteed interpreting of everything that he or others say as well as of the documents and other written evidence."; Article 63: "If the proceedings are conducted in the Italian or Hungarian language, the minutes shall be taken down in this language.

If there is a party to the proceedings who does not speak the Italian or Hungarian language, his testimony or statement shall be recorded in the official language in which the proceedings are conducted."; Article 64: "The minutes in the event of bilingual court procedures shall be taken down in the language used by the parties to the proceedings and other involved persons. Each testimony, statement, etc. must be interpreted consecutively and recorded in the Slovene and Italian or Hungarian languages respectively."; Article 65: "Court decisions in the proceedings which are conducted in the Italian or Hungarian language and court decisions in bilingual proceedings shall always be issued in the Slovene language and Italian and Hungarian languages respectively. Decisions in both languages are originals and shall be served on the parties in both languages."; Article 66: If in the proceedings conducted in the Italian or Hungarian language or in a bilingual proceeding, an ordinary or extraordinary remedy was filed, the court of first instance shall, prior to the submission of records, provide the Slovene translation of the remedy and of the entire record. Higher courts and the Supreme Court of the Republic of Slovenia shall, when deciding on ordinary or extraordinary remedies, in which the proceedings were conducted by the court of first instance also in the Italian or Hungarian language, issue their decision in translation into the Italian or Hungarian language."; Article 67: The costs incurred by the proceedings conducted in the Italian or Hungarian language, i.e. by bilingual proceedings, shall be covered by the funds allocated for the work of the court and shall not be borne by the parties."; Article 68: "The ministry responsible for justice shall organise the training of judges and court staff for conducting bilingual proceedings. Bilingual proceedings may be conducted only by a judge or a professional, who has successfully passed a special exam in Italian or Hungarian before a board of examiners at the ministry responsible for justice, or if the candidate holds a university degree in the Italian or Hungarian language or if he is registered in the list of permanent court interpreters for one of either languages.

At courts which have no judges with good command of the Italian or Hungarian language, bilingual proceedings shall be conducted with the assistance of a court interpreter. The provisions hereof shall also apply to court staff participating in bilingual proceedings."; Article 69: "The bonus for the qualifications of the judge and of court staff for conducting bilingual proceedings shall be determined by the Court Rules."; Article 101 (Form and furnishing of court writs): "Court shall consider the form and legibility of court writs; the text of court writs must be written in an understandable manner in the Slovene language.

The law and the Court Rules determine when court writs have to be also written in the Italian or Hungarian language."⁵⁴ in Chapter 5 ("Conducting of business of a court in the areas in which the autochthonous Italian and Hungarian national communities reside"). New Court Rules have been under preparation and the possibility will be considered to lay down bilingual forms summoning parties in these areas to appear before the court. In compliance with the existing provisions, the courts in the ethnically mixed areas must guarantee equality of the Italian and Hungarian languages if a party living in this area uses the Italian or Hungarian language. The proceedings before courts may be conducted monolingually if there is only one party involved or if both parties to the proceedings use the same language (the proceedings may be conducted only in the Italian or Hungarian or Slovene language); in case the proceedings involves parties one of which uses the Slovene language and the other the Italian or Hungarian language, the proceedings shall be conducted in the Slovene and Hungarian or Italian languages (bilingual proceedings). During the proceedings, the court communicates with parties in their mother tongue. The same principle shall apply when taking down minutes: if the proceedings are conducted in the Italian or Hungarian language, the minutes shall be taken down in this language. The minutes in bilingual proceedings shall be drawn up in the language used by the parties to and others involved in the proceedings. Each statement or testimony must be interpreted consecutively and taken down in the Slovene and Italian or Hungarian languages.

Regardless of whether the proceedings were monolingual or bilingual, court decisions shall always be issued in the Slovene and Italian or Hungarian languages. Last but not least, higher courts and the Supreme Court

⁵⁴ Courts Rules (Ur. l. RS, No. 17/96 ... 75/2004).

of the Republic of Slovenia, when deciding on ordinary or extraordinary remedies, in which the court of first instance conducted the proceedings also in the Italian or Hungarian language, must have their decisions translated into the Italian or Hungarian language. All costs arising from bilingual dealings are charged to the account of the means allocated for the work of the courts and cannot be charged to the parties. Bilingual proceedings may be conducted only by a judge or professional who has passed a special exam in Italian or Hungarian. The provisions shall also apply to the court staff participating in bilingual proceedings. Qualification for conducting bilingual proceedings shall be awarded with a special bonus.

Provisions of the use of language may also be found in some municipal statutes (Article 69: "The official languages in the ethnically mixed area of the municipality shall be Slovene and Hungarian. Both languages shall have equal status. Citizens of Hungarian nationality shall be guaranteed the use of their mother tongue in the public and social life."

Article 70: "The municipal bodies and all public agencies in the ethnically mixed area of the municipality shall operate in the Slovene and Hungarian languages. In their work they must respect the official names and surnames of members of the Hungarian national community. The municipal bodies, national bodies, public enterprises and institutions in the ethnically mixed area shall use bilingual signs, seals, stamps, printed matters and other forms, in accordance with the law".⁵⁵

Article 9 - JUDICIARY - ITALIANS

Slovenia has undertaken to apply the following paragraphs and/or sub-paragraphs:

Paragraph 1 a, b, c, d

Paragraph 2 a, b, c.

According to data provided by the local court of the ethnically mixed area in Koper, 20 proceedings were conducted in the Italian language until November 2002, and final decisions have already been issued for all of them. No judges that would be members of the Italian national community are employed at the above court. 4 judges have completed a course in the Italian language. No other employee of the court has taken a special exam in the Italian language.

In judiciary, the use of the language of national communities is regulated by the Courts Act (Ur. I. RS, no. 19/94 ... 73/2004) (Article 5). Provisions on the use of the language of national minorities may also be found in the Civil Procedure Act (Article 104)⁵⁶, the Act Amending the Notary Act (Article 13)⁵⁷, the State Prosecutor's Office Act (Article 6)⁵⁸ and the Criminal Procedure Act (Articles 4(1), 6 (1), 7(2), 9(2), 9(3), 92(5))⁵⁹.

Finally, there are the provisions on conducting the business of courts in the ethnically mixed areas. In Slovenia, this conducting of the business is determined by the Court Rules (Articles 30, 60-69, 101)⁶⁰ in Chapter 5 ("Conducting of business of a court in the areas in which the autochthonous Italian and Hungarian national communities reside"). New Court Rules have been under preparation and the possibility will be considered to lay down bilingual forms summoning parties in these areas to appear before the court. In accordance with the existing provisions, the courts in ethnically mixed areas must guarantee equality of the Italian and Hungarian languages if clients living in this area use the Italian and Hungarian languages respectively. The proceedings before courts may be conducted monolingually if there is only one party involved or if both parties to the proceedings use the same language (the proceedings may be conducted only in the Italian or Hungarian or Slovene language); in case the proceedings involve parties one of which uses the Slovene language and the other the Italian or Hungarian language, the proceedings shall be conducted in the Slovene and Hungarian or Italian languages (bilingual proceedings). During the proceedings, the court communicates with parties in their mother tongue. The same principle shall apply when taking down minutes: if the proceedings are conducted in the Italian or Hungarian language, the minutes shall be taken down in this language. The minutes in bilingual proceedings shall be drawn up in the language used by the parties to and others involved in the proceedings. Each allegation, testimony or statement must be interpreted consecutively and taken down in the Slovene and Italian or Hungarian languages.

⁵⁵ Statute of the Municipality of Lendava (Ur. I. RS, No. 26/1999).

⁵⁶ Civil Procedure Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 26/99).

⁵⁷ Act Amending the Notary Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 73/2004).

⁵⁸ State Prosecutor's Office Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 63/94 ... 14/2003).

⁵⁹ Criminal Procedure Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 63/94 ... 96/2004).

⁶⁰ Courts Rules (Ur. I. RS, No. 17/96 ... 75/2004).

Regardless of whether the proceedings were monolingual or bilingual, court decisions shall always be issued in the Slovene and Italian or Hungarian languages. Last but not least, higher courts and the Supreme Court of the Republic of Slovenia, when deciding on ordinary or extraordinary remedies, in which the court of first instance also conducted the proceedings in the Italian or Hungarian language, must have their decisions translated into the Italian or Hungarian language. All costs arising from bilingual dealings are charged to the account of the means allocated for the work of the courts and cannot be charged to the parties. Bilingual proceedings may be conducted only by a judge or professional who has passed a special exam in Italian or Hungarian. The provisions shall also apply to the court staff participating in bilingual proceedings. Qualification for conducting bilingual proceedings shall be awarded with a special bonus. Provisions of the use of language may also be found in some municipal statutes (Article 112: "In the ethnically mixed area of the municipality, criminal and other proceedings shall be conducted bilingually in compliance with the law. Proceedings involving several parties of both ethnicities shall be conducted in the Slovene or Italian language or bilingually. State bodies, administrative and other municipal bodies, courts and other public power holders issuing legal and other acts in certain procedures laid down by law are obliged to issue these acts to members of the Italian national community in both languages and to other citizens, provided they so request. In cases under the foregoing paragraph, both texts shall be considered as originals.")⁶¹

Article 10 - ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITIES AND PUBLIC SERVICES - HUNGARIANS

The use of the languages of the national communities in work of administrative authorities and public services is defined in Article 10 of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages. Slovenia has undertaken to apply Paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, i.e. the entire Article 10. Slovenia has chosen the following structure to fulfil the adopted obligations.

a. Bilingual signposts

The first (visible) indicator of the implementation of the right to the free use of language are the stipulations concerning visible bilingualism in toponymy, sign posts, announcements, notices, warnings etc. In the ethnically mixed area, the provisions on bilingualism are implemented without any numerical limitations. Provisions on bilingualism may be found both in national legislation (Article 9: "In the entry to each settlement and street, signs posts with the name of a settlement or street must be set up.

In areas where members of the Slovene nation and members of the Italian or Hungarian nationality reside, names of settlements and streets are in Slovene and the language of the respective nationality")⁶² as well as in municipal provisions such as in the Statute of the Municipality of Lendava (Ur. I. RS, no. 26/99), Article 71: " In the ethnically mixed area, sign posts designating settlements, streets, announcements, notices and warnings as well as other public signs shall be bilingual. In the ethnically mixed area, all municipal and state authorities, enterprises, economic organisations, private businesses, public institutions, associations and other organisations and communities must have bilingual sign posts. The bilingual signs must guarantee the equal appearance of both languages."; the Statute of the Municipality of Moravske Toplice (Ur. I. RS, no. 11/1999), Article 89: "In the ethnically mixed area, sign posts designating settlements, streets, announcements, notices and warnings as well as other public signs shall be bilingual. In this area, all municipal and state authorities, enterprises, economic organisations, private businesses, public institutions, associations and other organisations and communities must have bilingual sign posts. The bilingual signs must guarantee the equal appearance of both languages."; the Statute of the Municipality of Šalovci (Ur. I. RS, no. 13/1999), Article 60: (Special rights of members of the Hungarian national community) "In the ethnically mixed area, sign posts designating settlements, streets, announcements, notices and warnings as well as other public signs shall be bilingual. In the ethnically mixed area, all municipal and state authorities, enterprises, economic organisations, private businesses, public institutions, associations and other organisations and communities must have bilingual sign posts. The bilingual signs must guarantee the equal appearance of both languages."; the Statute of the Municipality of Hodoš (Ur. I. RS, no. 47/1999), Article 62: "In the area of the municipality, sign posts designating settlements, streets, announcements and warnings as well as other public signs shall be bilingual. In the area of the municipality, all municipal and state authorities, enterprises, economic organisations, private businesses, public institutions, associations and other organisations and communities must have bilingual sign posts. The bilingual signs must guarantee the equal appearance of both languages."; the Statute of the Municipality of Dobrovnik (Ur. I. RS, no. 34/1999), Article 88: "In the ethnically mixed area, sign posts designating settlements, streets, announcements, notices and warnings as well as other public signs shall be bilingual. In the ethnically mixed area, all municipal and state authorities, enterprises, economic organisations, private businesses, public institutions, associations and

⁶¹ Statute of the Municipality of Koper (Ur. I. RS, No. 40/2000).

⁶² Act regulating the Naming and Registration of Settlements, Streets and Buildings (Ur. I. RS, No. 8/1990 ... 66/93).

other organisations and communities must have bilingual sign posts. Bilingual signs must guarantee the equal appearance of both languages."

It is particularly interesting and important that members of national communities participate actively in the process of determining bilingual names of settlements and streets (Article 8: The Municipal Assembly shall decide on the naming, renaming, merging, dividing and abolition of settlements and streets, and on the definition of the area of settlements. In the area populated by Slovene people and members of the Hungarian and/or Italian national community, Self-management Interest Communities for Education and Culture of the relevant national community shall participate in the decision-making process from the foregoing paragraph.)⁶³.

b. The use of the language of national communities in state administration and elected bodies

The use of the language of national communities in administrative procedures is governed by the General Administrative Procedure Act, whose Chapter IV, Article 62 (language in a procedure) stipulates:

"1. Administrative procedure shall be conducted in the Slovene language. In this language, applications shall be filed, decisions shall be issued, decrees, minutes, official notes and other written documents shall be drawn up, and all procedural acts shall be conducted in this language.

2. In the area of the municipalities, where administrative authorities conduct business in the Slovene language and also in the Italian or Hungarian language as official language (hereinafter: language of the national community), administrative procedure shall be conducted in both the Slovene language and the language of the national community if a party files a request in this language, on the basis of which the procedure is initiated or at the request of a party at any time during the procedure.

3. If the procedure involves parties who did not demand that the procedure be conducted in the language of the national community and in a manner as described in the foregoing paragraph, the procedure shall be conducted in the Slovene language and in the language of the national community.

4. When an authority in the area of municipalities – in which, apart from the Slovene language also the language of a national community is used as official language – adopts a decision without previous hearing of the party, the decision shall be issued in the Slovene language and in the language of the national community, and oral decision shall be given in the language understood by the party.

5. In procedures conducted before authorities outside the area in which the Italian and Hungarian languages are also used as official languages, members of the Italian and Hungarian national communities have the right to use their own language."⁶⁴

Furthermore, the use of language refers to the right of the members of minorities to use their own language, in oral or written form, in conducting business with administrative authorities, the judiciary or other public institutions and to receive relevant replies in the language of the community. The language of a national community acquires true value when it acquires the status of official language. Such a solution is recognised in the Slovene Constitution (Article 11: "The official language in Slovenia is Slovene. In those municipalities where Italian or Hungarian national communities reside, Italian or Hungarian shall also be official languages.")⁶⁵ in which the use of language is not numerically limited. Rare are the cases when exercising a series of special minority rights (or some of them) is not numerically limited, as stipulated by the Slovene legal order (Article 64 of the Slovene Constitution). In addition to fulfilling the obligation to protect national characteristics of the national communities another important issue concerning the right to use the languages of the national communities is the use of personal names and surnames in their original form, i.e. their mother tongue (Article 3: "The personal name of a member of the Italian or Hungarian nationality shall be recorded in the Italian or Hungarian script and form, unless otherwise decided by a member of this nationality.")⁶⁶

The Public Administration Act (Ur. I. RS, no. 52/2002 ...97/2004), Article 4, stipulates that the official language of administration is Slovene. In those municipalities where Italian or Hungarian autochthonous national communities reside, the official languages of the Administration shall also be Italian and Hungarian, respectively. In these areas, the Administration shall conduct business, proceedings and issue legal and other acts in the language of the national community, should clients be members of the Italian or Hungarian national community and should they make use of the Italian or Hungarian language.

⁶³ Act regulating the Naming and Registration of Settlements, Streets and Buildings (Ur. I. RS, No. 8/1990 ... 66/93).

⁶⁴ General Administrative Procedure Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 80/1999 ... 73/2004).

⁶⁵ Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia (Ur. I. RS, No. 33/91 ... 69/2004).

⁶⁶ Personal Name Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 2/1987 ... 29/1995).

Where the administrative body at first instance has conducted a procedure in Italian and Hungarian, respectively, any decision at second instance shall be issued in the same language. The State Employees Act (Ur. I. RS, no. 15/90 ... no. 38/1999), Article 4, Paragraph 2, stipulates that good command of the Slovene language is a prerequisite for the employment of senior civil servants, civil servants, and for those members of specialised staff and technical assistants who have direct contact with clients; in areas where the equality of the Italian or Hungarian language is provided by law, the knowledge of the languages of these nationalities is also required. The knowledge of languages of national communities is allocated an additional financial bonus (Article 10: "In the area of local communities in which the Italian and Hungarian national communities reside, the basic salary shall be increased for those positions for which the Act on internal organisation and systemisation prescribes knowledge of the language of the national community:

- a 6% increase for active knowledge of the language of the national community
- a 3% increase for passive knowledge of the language of the national community"⁶⁷.

The right of deputies of national communities to the use of their language in the National Assembly and of Councillors, representatives of national communities in municipal councils, might be considered as a special right to use the language of minorities in administration. In compliance with the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly (Article 4, Paragraph 2), the deputies of the national communities have the right to "speak and to table motions, petitions, questions and other submissions in the Italian or Hungarian language. Their speeches and applications shall be translated into the Slovene language"⁶⁸. In the ethnically mixed municipalities, provisions on the use of the Italian and Hungarian languages respectively in conducting business of municipal councils are also laid down in the statutes and/or municipal council rules of procedure (Article 3: "The Municipal Council and its bodies conduct their businesses in the Slovene and Hungarian languages. Members of the Council and members of the Hungarian national community appointed to working bodies have the right to "speak and to table motions, questions and other submissions in the Hungarian language."⁶⁹

c. Bilingual documents

The use of language by the national communities is also guaranteed in some other main acts: in the Register of Civil Status Act (Article 23, Paragraph 5: "In the areas, as defined by law, populated by autochthonous Italian or Hungarian national community, copies and certificates from the Register of Civil Status shall be issued in Slovene and in the language of the national community."⁷⁰), the Personal Identity Card Act (Article 6: The forms for personal identity cards shall be printed in Slovene and English, and also in Italian or Hungarian in the areas determined by statute in which members of the Italian or Hungarian national community live together autochthonously with Slovenes."⁷¹ and the Passports of Citizens of the Republic of Slovenia Act (Article 13: "Passport and visa forms shall be printed in Slovene, English and French, and also in Italian or Hungarian in the areas determined by statute in which members of the autochthonous Italian or Hungarian national community live together with Slovenes."⁷² Bilingual documents are compulsory for the population on an ethnically mixed territory regardless of their national affiliation. In addition to the identity card (the form is trilingual: Slovene/Italian-Hungarian/English) and passports (the passport is quadrilingual: Slovene/Italian – Hungarian/English/French), driving licences and certificates of registration, health insurance cards and weapons certificates are also bilingual. The concern of the state for bilingual documents can be seen in the case of health insurance cards: when printing the health insurance cards for Slovene citizens a mistake occurred and cards were only printed in one language. Following speedy and efficient action of the state (financial contribution in the amount of SIT 100 million), the mistake was soon remedied and cards were reprinted for the members of the Hungarian national community.

The provision contained in the National Census Act for 2001 also falls within the scope of bilingual operations in state bodies. This provision stipulates that "in municipalities in which members of the Italian or Hungarian national community live, a certain number of members of the regional census commissions, local instructors and those conducting the census shall be chosen among members of the self-governing national communities at the proposal of the relevant national community with the knowledge of Italian or Hungarian language. For conducting census in municipalities in which members of the Italian or Hungarian national community live, an adequate number of census questionnaires shall be available in the Italian or Hungarian language."⁷³

⁶⁷ Ordinance on quotients for the basic remuneration of officials appointed by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and other employees in the Slovene government services, administrative bodies and administrative units (Ur. I. RS, No. 82/94)

⁶⁸ Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly (Ur. I. RS, No. 35/2002), Article 4, paragraph 2.

⁶⁹ Rules of Procedure of the Municipal Council of Lendava (Ur. I. RS, No. 52/1999).

⁷⁰ Register of Civil Status Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 37/2003).

⁷¹ Identity Card Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 75/97).

⁷² Travel Documents of Citizens of the Republic of Slovenia Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 65/2000).

⁷³ Article 21 of the 2001 Census, Households and Apartments in the Republic of Slovenia Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 66/2000).

d. Bilingual procedures in local government administration

The use of national community languages at the municipal level may be dealt with from different angles. It may be dealt with: as an issue of bilingual inscriptions; from the aspect of bilingual business in municipal administration in nationally mixed municipalities; as a right of elected representatives of national communities to use their own language in municipal councils, commissions and committees; and finally as a right of members of the national communities to use their mother tongue in local community bodies. The provisions on the use of national community language in such areas may be found in the municipal statutes and/or rules of procedure of municipal councils and in the relevant municipal decrees. As an example, provisions from the Statute of the Municipality of Šalovci are stated where special rights of the members of the Hungarian national community are stipulated: Article 58 stipulates that "The municipality protects national character, guarantees equality and implements special rights of the Hungarian national community and their members and ensures the development of the national community in all areas. The official languages in the ethnically mixed area of the municipality shall be Slovene and Hungarian. Both languages shall have equal status. Members of the Hungarian national community shall be guaranteed the use of their mother tongue in the public and social life." Article 59: "The municipal bodies and all public agencies in the ethnically mixed area of the municipality shall operate in the Slovene and Hungarian languages. In their work they must respect the official personal data and their use. The municipal bodies, national bodies, public enterprises and institutions in the ethnically mixed area shall use bilingual signs, seals, stamps, printed matter and other forms, in accordance with the law". Marriages in the ethnically mixed areas are contracted in the Slovene or Hungarian language at the request of those contracting the marriage." Article 61 stipulates that gatherings of people, public manifestations, association and all other events in the ethnically mixed area shall be held in the Slovene and Hungarian languages. For economical reasons, they can decide that certain events or manifestations will be held only in one language"

Bilingual operation is associated with additional financial means provided by state budget (Article 26, Paragraph 7: "Regardless of previous paragraphs, municipalities in the ethnically mixed area obtain funds from the state budget to finance bilingualism and implement constitutional rights of the Hungarian and Italian national communities.")⁷⁴.

Article 10 - ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITIES AND PUBLIC SERVICES - ITALIANS

The use of the languages of the national communities in work of administrative authorities and public services is defined in Article 10 of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages. Slovenia has undertaken to apply Paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, i.e. the entire Article 10. Slovenia has chosen the following structure to fulfil the adopted obligations.

a. Bilingual signposts

The first (visible) indicator of the implementation of the right to the free use of language are the stipulations concerning visible bilingualism in toponymy, signposts, announcements, notices, warnings etc. In the ethnically mixed area, the provisions on bilingualism are implemented without any numerical limitations. Provisions on visible bilingualism may be found in both national legislation (Article 9)⁷⁵ as well as municipal provisions such as the Statute of the Municipality of Koper, Decree on the Public Implementation of Bilingualism in the Ethnically Mixed Area (Uradne objave, no. 22/1998, Article 6, Paragraph 4: "All inscriptions on signposts, signboards, additional traffic signs, destination boards, official designations of streets, stations and stops of public passenger transport (bus, taxi, rail, maritime) and in means of urban public transport shall be bilingual except names of settlements and other geographic terms, which are not in the ethnically mixed area."); the Municipality of Izola: Decree on the Implementation of Bilingualism in the Ethnically Mixed Area in the Municipality of Izola (Uradne objave, no. 3/2001, Article 6, Paragraph 4: "All inscriptions on signposts, signboards, additional traffic signs, destination boards, official designations of streets, stations and stops of public passenger transport (bus, taxi, rail, maritime) and in urban public transport vehicles shall be bilingual except names of settlements and other geographic terms, which are not in the ethnically mixed area.")

⁷⁴ Financing of Municipalities Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 80/1994 ... 40/2003).

⁷⁵ Act regulating the Naming and Registration of Settlements, Streets and Buildings (Ur. I. RS, No. 8/1990 ... 66/93).

It is particularly interesting and important that members of national communities participate actively in the process of determining bilingual names of settlements and streets in the Republic of Slovenia (Article 8)⁷⁶. The Municipality of Izola conducted an opinion poll on the implementation of visible bilingualism on its territory and determined that it is implemented almost entirely with smaller inconsistencies.

b. The use of the language of national minorities in state administration and elected bodies

The use of the language of national minorities in administrative procedures is governed by Chapter IV, Article 62 of the General Administrative Procedure Act (language in a procedure)⁷⁷. Furthermore, the use of language refers to the right of the members of minorities to use their own language, in oral or written form, in conducting business with administrative authorities, the judiciary or other public institutions and to receive relevant replies in the language of the minority. The language of a national minority acquires true value when it acquires the status of official language. Such a solution is recognised in the Slovene Constitution (Article 11)⁷⁸ in which the use of language is not numerically limited. Rare are the cases when exercising a series of special minority rights (or some of them) is not numerically limited, as stipulated by the Slovene legal order (Article 64 of the Slovene Constitution). In addition to fulfilling the obligation to protect national characteristics of the national communities another important issue concerning the right to use the languages of the national communities is the use of personal names and surnames in their original form, i.e. their mother tongue (Article 3)⁷⁹.

The Public Administration Act (Ur. l. RS, no. 52/2002 ... 97/2004), Article 4, stipulates that the official language of administration is Slovene. In those municipalities where Italian or Hungarian autochthonous national communities reside, the official languages of the Administration shall also be Italian and Hungarian, respectively. In these areas, the Administration shall conduct business, proceedings and issue legal and other acts in the language of the national community, should clients be members of the Italian or Hungarian national community and should they make use of the Italian or Hungarian language.

Where the administrative body at first instance has conducted a procedure in Italian and Hungarian, respectively, any decision at second instance shall be issued in the same language. The State Employees Act (Ur. l. RS, no. 15/90 ... 38/1999), Article 4, Paragraph 2, stipulates that good command of the Slovene language is a prerequisite for the employment of senior civil servants, civil servants, and for those members of specialised and technical staff who have direct contact with clients; in areas where the equality of the Italian or Hungarian languages is provided by law, the knowledge of the languages of these nationalities is also required. The knowledge of languages of national communities in the territories inhabited by national communities is allocated an additional financial bonus (Article 10)⁸⁰.

The right of deputies of national communities to the use of their language in the National Assembly and of councillors, representatives of national communities in municipal councils, might be considered as a special right to use the language of minorities in administration. In compliance with the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly (Article 4, Paragraph 2), the deputies of the national communities have the right to "speak and to table motions, petitions, questions and other submissions in the Italian or Hungarian language. Their speeches and applications shall be translated into the Slovene language"⁸¹. In the ethnically mixed municipalities, provisions on the use of the Italian and Hungarian language respectively in conducting business of municipal councils are also laid down in the statutes and/or municipal council rules of procedure (Article 4: "The Municipal Council shall conduct business in the Slovene language, and bilingually - in the Slovene and Italian languages - according to the provisions of the Statute. Members of the Council, members of the Italian national community, have the right to speak and to table motions, petitions, questions and other submissions in the Italian language.")⁸²

c. Bilingual documents

The use of language by the national communities is also guaranteed in some other main acts: the Central Population Register Act (Article 23, Paragraph 5)⁸³, Identity Card Act (Article 6)⁸⁴, and Travel Documents of

⁷⁶ Act regulating the Naming and Registration of Settlements, Streets and Buildings (Ur. l. RS, No. 8/1990 ... 66/93).

⁷⁷ General Administrative Procedure Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 80/1999 ... 73/2004).

⁷⁸ Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia (Ur. l. RS, No. 33/91 ... 69/2004).

⁷⁹ Personal Name Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 2/1987 ... 29/1995).

⁸⁰ Ordinance on quotients for the basic remuneration of officials appointed by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and other employees in the Slovene government services, administrative bodies and administrative units (Ur. l. RS, No. 82/94).

⁸¹ Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly (Ur. l. RS, No. 35/2002), Article 4, Paragraph 2.

⁸² Rules of Procedure of the Council of the Municipality of Koper (Uradne objave, No. 16/1995 ... 30/2001).

⁸³ Register of Civil Status Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 37/2003).

Citizens of the Republic of Slovenia Act (Article 13)⁸⁵. Bilingual documents are compulsory for the population on an ethnically mixed territory regardless of their national origin. In addition to the identity card (the form is trilingual: Slovene/Italian-Hungarian/English) and passports (the passport is quadrilingual: Slovene/Italian – Hungarian/English/French) and passes for crossing the border in the border areas with Italy and Hungary, driving licences and certificates of registration, health insurance cards and weapons certificates are also bilingual. The concern of the state for bilingual documents can be seen in the case of health insurance cards: when printing the health insurance cards for Slovene citizens a mistake occurred and cards were only printed in one language. Following speedy and efficient action of the state (financial contribution in the amount of SIT 100 million), the mistake was soon remedied and cards were reprinted for the members of the Italian national community.

The provision contained in the National Census Act for 2001 could also fall within the scope of bilingual operations in state bodies. This provision stipulates that "in municipalities in which members of the Italian or Hungarian national community reside, a certain number of members of the regional census commissions, local instructors and those conducting the census shall be chosen among members of the self-governing national communities at the proposal of the relevant national community with the knowledge of Italian or Hungarian language. For conducting census in municipalities in which members of the Italian or Hungarian national community reside, an adequate number of census questionnaires shall be available in the Italian or Hungarian language."⁸⁶

d. Bilingual procedures in local government administration

The use of national community languages at the municipal level may be dealt with from different angles. It may be dealt with: as an issue of bilingual inscriptions; from the aspect of bilingual business in municipal administration in nationally mixed municipalities; as a right of elected representatives of national minorities to use their own language in municipal councils, commissions and committees; and finally as a right of members of the national minorities to use their mother tongue in local community bodies. The provisions on the use of national community language in such areas may be found in the municipal statutes and/or rules of procedure of municipal councils and in the relevant municipal decrees. As an example, provisions from the Statute of the Municipality of Koper are stated where special rights of the members of the Italian national community are stipulated: Article 107 stipulates: "Members of the Italian national community have the right to use the Italian language in the Municipal Council and other municipal bodies and public life in general when exercising self-governing, public and other functions and powers and when exercising lawful rights and legal benefits." Article 108: "State authorities, municipal administration authorities and other municipal and local self-governing community authorities, public enterprises and institutions as well as other legal and natural persons performing their activities in the ethnically mixed area, must: reply bilingually to the application filed by a member in the Italian language and conduct business in the same manner, as well as take into account and make use of the original forms of surnames and names of members of the Italian national community, and use bilingual forms in conducting their business in the ethnically mixed area." Article 115 stipulates that "celebrations, gatherings and other public manifestations in the ethnically mixed area intended for all members of the municipality shall be held in both languages. Presenting and other public notices in the ethnically mixed area must be in both languages."

Bilingual operation is associated with additional financial means provided by state budget (Article 26, Paragraph 7)⁸⁷.

Article 11: MEDIA

Slovenia has committed itself to apply the following provisions under Article 11: Paragraph 1 a (i), e (i) and Paragraphs 2 and 3.

Currently, the Ministry of Culture (Department for Cultural Rights of Minorities and Development of Cultural Diversity) is responsible only for the media of those minority groups that are not recognised under the Constitution, while the media of constitutionally recognised communities are dealt with by the Government Office for Nationalities. In accordance with Article 61 of the Constitution and the Exercising of the Public

⁸⁴ Identity Card Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 75/97).

⁸⁵ Passports of Citizens of the Republic of Slovenia Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 65/2000).

⁸⁶ Article 21 of the 2001 Census, Households and Apartments in the Republic of Slovenia Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 66/2000).

⁸⁷ Financing of Municipalities Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 80/1994 ... 40/2003).

Interest in Culture Act (furtheron: EPICA), the Ministry of Culture is also responsible for the programme set up in 1992 intended for informing other minority ethnic groups and immigrants to Slovenia through bulletins and newspapers. The table in Annex 2 (projects associated with the language within the special minority programme of the Ministry of Culture for 2002, 2003, and 2004) shows specific projects financed by the Ministry of Culture in 2002-2004. These include newspapers and bulletins of the associations of ethnic communities in their languages.

HUNGARIANS

To discuss the right to provide information for members of the national communities means to address at least three problem clusters: firstly, possibilities of national communities to provide and disseminate information about themselves and about the environment in which they live in their own language; secondly, the presence of issues relating to the national communities in the media using the language of the majority nation; and lastly, the issue regarding the possibilities of free reception of information in the language of a national community from the country inhabited by the majority of the nation to which the national community "belongs", and, consequently, the possibilities of transmitting information created by the national community into that country.

For the implementation of the above framework, legal provisions alone are usually not sufficient. They only represent the framework to be complemented by professionalism and the ability of information providers to place information in the media environment of their own national community and of the majority nation. Certainly, a relevant legal basis is essential for the development of the media environment. In the Mass Media Act (Ur. l. RS, no. 35/2001 ... 16/2004), the Republic of Slovenia has undertaken to support the mass media in the dissemination of programming important to "the exercise of the right of citizens of the Republic of Slovenia, Slovenes around the world, members of the Slovene communities in Austria, Hungary and Italy, the Hungarian and Italian national communities in Slovenia, and the Romany community living in Slovenia to have access to public information and to be informed."⁸⁸

The Act further stipulates that programming must be disseminated in Slovene; "if programming is intended for the Hungarian or Italian national communities, publishers may disseminate the programming in the language of the national community."⁸⁹ A similar provision applies to the publishing of advertising material, which must be disseminated in Slovene. The mass media "of the Hungarian and Italian national communities may publish advertisements in the language of the national community"⁹⁰. Article 8 stipulates that the dissemination of programming that encourages national, racial, religious, sexual or any other inequality, or violence and war, or incites national, racial, religious, sexual or any other hatred and intolerance is prohibited. Article 19 states that a responsible editor is the person who possesses a certificate of active knowledge of Hungarian or Italian in the event that the mass medium is intended for the Hungarian or Italian national community. In the Mass Media Act, provisions relating to the Italian and Hungarian national communities may also be found under the title "Slovenian audio-visual works", where it is stated that "under the present act Slovenian audio-visual works are works produced originally in Slovene or works intended for the Hungarian and Italian national communities in the language thereof, and works of Slovenian cultural origin from other areas of the arts."⁹¹ The public service of producing and disseminating national radio and television programmes "in the public and cultural interest of the Republic of Slovenia, including radio and television programmes of the Italian and Hungarian national communities and other programmes in accordance with a separate act, shall be carried out by the public institution Radiotelevizija Slovenija (RTV Slovenija)."⁹² According to Article 78, a publisher may acquire the status of a local radio or television programme if it also fulfils the following extra condition: it has programming from the lives and work of Slovenes in neighbouring countries, members of the Hungarian and Italian ethnic communities, and Roma, if it is receivable in areas where such communities live. In accordance with Article 108, administrative and inspection supervision of the implementation of the act shall be conducted by the ministry responsible for culture.

It may be relevant to mention international legal obligations of the Republic of Slovenia deriving from bilateral agreements. For the Hungarian national community, provisions relating to mass media may be found in a special agreement on the protection of national minorities between the Republic of Hungary and the

⁸⁸ Mass Media Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 35/2001 ... 16/2004), Article 4, Paragraph 1.

⁸⁹ Mass Media Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 35/2001 ... 16/2004), Article 5, Paragraph 4.

⁹⁰ Mass Media Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 35/2001 ... 16/2004), Article 51, Paragraph 2.

⁹¹ Mass Media Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 35/2001 ... 16/2004), Article 68, Paragraph 1.

⁹² Mass Media Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 35/2001 ... 16/2004), Article 76, Paragraph 1.

Republic of Slovenia (Article 5: "The signatories recognise the right of the minorities to information in their own language in the press, on radio and on television. To this end they shall guarantee to the minorities their own information activities and their development. They shall support the free flow of information in the languages of the minorities and cooperation between the minority mass media and those of the majority nations. The signatories shall ensure the reception of local radio and TV programmes, as well as radio and TV broadcasts of the nation of origin, and for regular and appropriate time slots for radio broadcasts in the mother tongue.")⁹³.

The area of radio and television activities performed as a public service is governed by the Radiotelevizija Slovenija Act. According to this Act, the public service is defined as creating, producing and broadcasting of "one radio and television programme for the Italian national community and one radio and television programme for the Hungarian national community (hereinafter national community programme."⁹⁴ "By shaping this programme, the RTV Slovenija guarantees "the fulfilment of constitutional rights of the Italian and Hungarian national communities with regard to public radio and television communication, establishing ties between the national community and the nation of origin and incorporation of cultural and other achievements of the Italian and Hungarian nations into the national community channels"⁹⁵. This activity is guaranteed by RTV Slovenija "through its units based in Maribor, Koper and Lendava and through the local channels of Murski Val based in Murska Sobota (...)."⁹⁶ The national community programme must be received on at least 90% of the territory inhabited by the Italian and Hungarian national communities. The production of RTV Slovenija, co-production and commissioned production of informative, cultural, educational and entertaining programming must comprise "at least two hours daily for a national community radio programme and at least 30 minutes for a national community television programme."⁹⁷ If a national community programme or a part of the national community programme are to be created by another RTV organisation or producer, this may be done only by the consent of the programme board of the national community programme."⁹⁸

A part of the funds for the creation, production, broadcasting, transmission and dissemination of national community programmes is provided in the state budget. Members of the national communities (the Italian and Hungarian) are also represented on the Board of RTV Slovenija, each by one representative. The Board of RTV Slovenija is responsible for appointing and dismissing directors of national community programmes and one third of members of programme boards of national community programmes. Programme boards for national community programmes are central bodies that actively participate in implementing the obligations of RTV Slovenija in the field of providing information for national communities. The composition and competencies of this body are laid down in Article 22 of the RTV Slovenija Act. The Board of RTV Slovenija shall appoint programme boards for national community programmes (hereinafter: Programme Board). The self-governing national communities in Slovenia shall appoint two thirds of the members of the Channel Board for a period of four years and with the possibility of re-appointment.

The Programme Board shall give its consent to the appointment of a responsible editor for the national community programme and to the extent and programme concept of the programme.

The Programme Board shall discuss the implementation of the programme concept, comments and suggestions of the viewers and listeners, give its initiatives to the Board of RTV Slovenija with regard to the solving of certain issues connected to the national community programme and perform other duties defined in the Statute. RTV Slovenija shall make public the views of the Programme Board connected to issues concerning the national community programme."⁹⁹

Detailed provisions on the work of national community programme boards may be found in the Statute of RTV Slovenija, which is provided for in Article 26 of the RTV Slovenija Act. The radio and television stations in the Hungarian language (similarly as applies to programmes in the Italian language) operate within the national radio and television network (Article 9: "RTV Slovenija includes the following units: (...) Regional RTV Centre Maribor with two studios for the Hungarian programme in Lendava - Magyar Nemzetiségi Műsorok Lendvai Szerkesztőség."; Article 20: The Regional RTV Centre in Maribor creates, produces and broadcasts the regional TV and radio programmes, the TV and radio programme for the Hungarian national community, the TV and radio programme for the Slovene minority in Austria and Hungary, and it produces broadcasts for national radio and TV programmes and broadcasts in foreign languages."; Article 21: The

⁹³ Agreement on Guaranteeing Special Rights of the Slovenian Minority Living in the Republic of Hungary and the Hungarian National Community in the Republic of Slovenia (Ur. l. RS, No. 6/1993)

⁹⁴ Radiotelevizija Slovenija Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 18/1994 ... 79/2001), Article 3, Paragraph 1.

⁹⁵ Radiotelevizija Slovenija Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 18/1994 ... 79/2001), Article 3, Paragraph 2.

⁹⁶ Radiotelevizija Slovenija Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 18/1994 ... 79/2001), Article 3, Paragraph 3.

⁹⁷ Radiotelevizija Slovenija Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 18/1994 ... 79/2001), Article 6, Paragraph 1.

⁹⁸ Radiotelevizija Slovenija Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 18/1994 ... 79/2001), Article 6, Paragraph 5.

⁹⁹ Radiotelevizija Slovenija Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 18/1994 ... 79/2001).

radio and TV programmes referred to in the preceding article are produced by the editorial board of the regional radio and TV programme and the editors of the Hungarian radio and TV programmes in the Hungarian language.")¹⁰⁰. It may be relevant to describe the place, status and the extent of autonomy of the national community programmes within this indisputably important media institution.

Two programmes headed by two directors operate within the RTV Slovenija to cover national community programmes (Article 40: "The programme directors are senior officers of RTV Slovenija for the areas of radio and TV programmes. RTV Slovenija shall have programme directors for the following programme areas: for the TV programme of RTV Slovenija; for the radio programmes of RTV Slovenija; for the TV and radio programmes for the Italian national community; for the TV and radio programmes for the Hungarian national community.")¹⁰¹. The proposal for the appointment of a director of national community programmes is made by a programme board of the national community programme, which also gives consent to the appointment of responsible editors of national community programmes¹⁰². One of the special requirements for the position of editor-in-chief is that the candidate must have good command of the Italian and Hungarian languages for the position of editor-in-chief of the Italian and Hungarian programmes, respectively¹⁰³. Important institutions within the national radio and television are also the programme boards of national community programmes: 1. Programme board for radio and television programmes for the Hungarian national community; 2. Programme board for radio and television programmes for the Italian national community. The two boards have a wide range of activities with competencies similar to those of the elected representatives of national communities in the legislative (Article 53: "The programme boards deal with the implementation of programme concepts; authorise the scope and programme concept of the national community programme; deal with comments and suggestions of viewers and listeners where those relate to the national community programmes; offer initiatives to the Board of RTV Slovenija for discussing issues relating to the national community programmes; deal with initiatives, opinions and proposals of journalists and editors relating to the production and broadcasting of national community programmes; propose the appointment and dismissal of the director responsible for the national community programmes; give their consent to the appointment and dismissal of the editor responsible for the national community programme; deal with other national community programme issues.")¹⁰⁴.

The assurance that the programme boards will represent the legitimate interests of national communities is laid down in Article 54 of the Statute of the Public Institution RTV Slovenija.

The first step towards informing the members of the Hungarian national community in their mother tongue was made in 1956 when a supplement in the Hungarian language entitled "Népújság" was added to the local newspaper Pomurski vestnik. Since 1958 Népújság has been published as an independent weekly. It is printed in some 2000 copies, and there are about 1600 subscribers. Every year the editorial board also prepares an almanac entitled Naptár. In 1986 the first edition of a special literary and cultural supplement to the weekly Népújság was published entitled "Muratáj", which in 1988 became an independent literary magazine under the same name. The publisher of all these publications is the "Institute for Information Services of the Hungarian National Community", which was founded in 1993.

The library activity of the Hungarian national community is carried out within the Regional and Study Library in Murska Sobota. There is also a special bookshop for books in the Hungarian language in Lendava. Certain municipalities autochthonously settled by the Hungarian national community (the Goričko Hungarians: Moravske Toplice, Šalovci, Hodoš) are also visited by a mobile library on a regular basis.

The Lendava Library is another independent public institute based in the ethnically mixed area. It has been established by the Lendava and Dobrovnik Municipalities together with the Hungarian Self-governing Community of the Lendava Municipality and the Self-governing Community of the Dobrovnik Municipality (Ordinance on the Establishment of the Public Institute Lendava Library – Könyvtár Lendva, Ur. I. RS, no. 8/2004). The library performs its activities for other municipalities on the basis of signed contracts. The Library is based in the ethnically mixed area and provides library activities also for members of the Hungarian national community. It falls in the 3rd group of libraries and covers the municipalities of Lendava, Dobrovnik, Črenšovci, Kobilje, Odranci, Turnišče and Velika Polana. The Lendava Library has 12 affiliated

¹⁰⁰ Statute of the Public Institution Radiotelevizija Slovenija (Ur. I. RS, No. 66/95).

¹⁰¹ Statute of the Public Institution Radiotelevizija Slovenija (Ur. I. RS, No. 66/95).

¹⁰² Statute of the Public Institution Radiotelevizija Slovenija (Ur. I. RS, No. 66/95), Articles 41 and 47.

¹⁰³ Statute of the Public Institution Radiotelevizija Slovenija (Ur. I. RS, No. 66/95), Article 48.

A similar provision may also be found in Article 19, Paragraph 1 of the Mass Media Act (Ur. I. RS, 35/2001 ...16/2004) stating that "a editor-in-chief may be any person who (...) possesses a certificate of active knowledge of Hungarian or Italian in the event that the mass medium involves the Hungarian or Italian national community."

¹⁰⁴ Statute of the Public Institution Radiotelevizija Slovenija (Ur. I. RS, No. 66/95).

local libraries in this area, 7 in monolingual and 5 in bilingual areas. The Library also provides the expertise and organisation of the library activity intended for the Hungarian national community. The Library purchases, processes, stores, conserves and provides books and other material in the Hungarian language as well. The Library also collects the material on homeland studies.

Radio and television programmes for the Hungarian national community are produced within the public Radiotelevizija Slovenija, at the Regional Radio and Television Centre Maribor – Hungarian Programmes Studio Lendava. There are 13 hours and 15 minutes of radio programmes daily, including on Saturday and Sunday, while the television programmes comprise the TV series MOSTOVI-HIDAK (Bridges) that are broadcast by the national television (Channel I) and by the regional TV channel Maribor. 30-minute episodes of the MOSTOVI-HIDAK series are broadcast by the national television four times per week (with an additional rerun of each episode) through most of the year, and three times per week (plus reruns) in the summertime. The 30-minute episodes are also shown four times per week by the Regional Channel Maribor through most of the year, and three times per week in the summertime.

To ensure the operation of this institution falling within the system of RTV Slovenija, a certain number of the staff have permanent employment and a certain number of them are working on contract (a special fee is collected by the national TV for this purpose). A total of 25 staff members are employed in the Hungarian Programmes Lendava Studio in the radio and television programmes on a full time basis. In addition to those employed full time, there are 12 employed working on a permanent part time basis and 90 working occasionally in the radio and television programmes. A total of 127 persons are employed. The programmes of national communities have been additionally co-financed by the state (Government Office for Nationalities) in view of the provision of Article 14 of the Radiotelevizija Slovenija Act (Article 14: "(...) The following shall be financed by means from the state budget: a part of the national community programmes; a part of the RTV Slovenija programmes intended for the Slovene national minorities in the neighbouring countries, for emigrants and Slovenes living abroad and for the foreign public; a part of the cost of the construction, maintenance and operation of the transmission and broadcasting network of the RTV Slovenija channels and local channels; and individual projects of cultural, scientific and general educational significance proposed by the relevant ministries.")¹⁰⁵. A new radio and television studio of the Hungarian national community was constructed in Lendava (opened on 18 September 2004), which was financed by the Radiotelevizija Slovenija and the Government Office for Nationalities. The investment, which was concluded in 2004, amounted to approx. SIT 530,000,000.

ITALIANS

Slovenia has committed itself to apply the following provisions under Article 11: Paragraph 1 a (i), e (i) and Paragraphs 2 and 3.

To discuss the right to provide information for members of the national communities means to address at least three problem clusters: firstly, possibilities of national communities to provide and disseminate information about themselves and about the environment in which they live in their own language; secondly, the presence of issues relating to the national communities in the media using the language of the majority nation; and lastly, the issue regarding the possibilities of free reception of information in the language of a national community from the country inhabited by the majority of the nation to which the national community "belongs", and, consequently, the possibilities of transmitting information created by the national community into that country.

For the implementation of the above framework, legal provisions alone are usually not sufficient. They only represent the framework to be complemented by professionalism and the ability of information providers to place information in the media environment of their own national community and of the majority nation. Certainly, a relevant legal basis is essential for the development of the media environment. In the Mass Media Act (Ur. l. RS, no. 35/2001 ... 16/2004), the Republic of Slovenia has undertaken to support the mass media in the dissemination of programming important to "the exercise of the right of citizens of the Republic of Slovenia, Slovenes around the world, members of the Slovene minorities in Austria, Hungary and Italy, the Hungarian and Italian national communities in Slovenia, and the Romany community living in Slovenia to have access to public information and to be informed."¹⁰⁶

¹⁰⁵ Radiotelevizija Slovenija Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 18/1994 ... 79/2001).

¹⁰⁶ Mass Media Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 35/2001 ... 16/2004), Article 4, Paragraph 1.

The Act further stipulates that programming must be disseminated in Slovene; "if programming is intended for the Hungarian or Italian national community, publishers may disseminate the programming in the language of the national community."¹⁰⁷ A similar provision applies to the publishing of advertising material, which must be disseminated in Slovene. The mass media "of the Hungarian and Italian national communities may publish advertisements in the language of the national community"¹⁰⁸. In the Mass Media Act, provisions relating to the Italian and Hungarian national communities may also be found under the title "Slovenian audio-visual works", where it is stated that "under the present act Slovene audio-visual works are works produced originally in Slovene or works intended for the Hungarian and Italian national communities in the language thereof, and works of Slovene cultural origin in other areas of the arts."¹⁰⁹ The public service of producing and disseminating national radio and television programmes "in the public and cultural interest of the Republic of Slovenia, including radio and television programmes of the Italian and Hungarian national communities and other programmes in accordance with a separate act, shall be carried out by the public institution Radiotelevizija Slovenija (RTV Slovenija)."¹¹⁰

It may be relevant to mention international legal obligations of the Republic of Slovenia deriving from bilateral agreements. Provisions relating to mass media and national communities may be found in the Special Statute annexed to the Memorandum of Understanding from 1954¹¹¹ (Item 4: "(...) the ethnic groups (the Italian group in Yugoslavia and the Yugoslav in Italy) shall have the right to their own press in their own mother tongue.").

The area of radio and television activities performed as a public service is governed by the Radiotelevizija Slovenija Act. According to this Act, the public service is defined as creating, producing and broadcasting of "one radio and television programmes for the Italian national community and one radio and television programmes for the Hungarian national community (hereinafter national community programmes."¹¹² By shaping this programme, the RTV Slovenija guarantees "the fulfilment of constitutional rights of the Italian and Hungarian national communities with regard to public radio and television communication, establishing ties between the national community and the nation of origin and incorporation of cultural and other achievements of the Italian and Hungarian nations into the national community programmes"¹¹³. This activity is guaranteed by RTV Slovenija "through its units based in Maribor, Koper and Lendava and through the local channels of Murski Val based in Murska Sobota (...)."¹¹⁴ The national community programme must be received on at least 90% of the territory inhabited by the Italian and Hungarian national communities. The production of RTV Slovenija, co-production and commissioned production of informative, cultural, educational and entertaining programmes must comprise "at least two hours daily for a national community radio programme and at least 30 minutes for a national community television programme."¹¹⁵ If a national community programme or part of the national community programme is to be created by another RTV organisation or producer, this may be done only by the consent of the programme board of the national community programme.¹¹⁶

A part of the funds for the creation, production, broadcasting, transmission and dissemination of national community programmes is provided in the state budget. Members of the national communities (the Italian and Hungarian) are also represented in the Board of RTV Slovenija, each by one representative. The Board of RTV Slovenija is responsible for appointing and dismissing directors of national community programmes and one third of members of programme boards of national community programmes. The programme boards for national community programmes are central bodies that actively participate in implementing the obligations of RTV Slovenija in the field of providing information for national communities. The composition and competencies of this body are laid down in Article 22 of the RTV Slovenija Act¹¹⁷.

Detailed provisions on the work of national community programme boards may be found in the Statute of RTV Slovenija, which is also provided for in Article 26 of the RTV Slovenija Act. The radio and television stations in the Italian language (similarly as applies to programmes in the Hungarian language) operate within the national radio and television networks (Article 9: "RTV Slovenija includes the following units: (...) the Regional RTV Centre Koper-Capodistria/Centro Regionale RTV Koper-Capodistria,"); Article 18: "The TV

¹⁰⁷ Mass Media Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 35/2001 ... 16/2004), Article 5, Paragraph 4.

¹⁰⁸ Mass Media Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 35/2001 ... 16/2004), Article 51, Paragraph 2.

¹⁰⁹ Mass Media Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 35/2001 ... 16/2004), Article 68, Paragraph 1.

¹¹⁰ Mass Media Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 35/2001 ... 16/2004), Article 76, Paragraph 1.

¹¹¹ Special Statute of the Memorandum of Understanding.

¹¹² Radiotelevizija Slovenija Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 18/1994 ... 79/2001), Article 3, Paragraph 1.

¹¹³ Radiotelevizija Slovenija Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 18/1994 ... 79/2001), Article 3, Paragraph 2.

¹¹⁴ Radiotelevizija Slovenija Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 18/1994 ... 79/2001), Article 3, Paragraph 3.

¹¹⁵ Radiotelevizija Slovenija Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 18/1994 ... 79/2001), Article 6, Paragraph 1.

¹¹⁶ Radiotelevizija Slovenija Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 18/1994 ... 79/2001), Article 6, Paragraph 5.

¹¹⁷ Radiotelevizija Slovenija Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 18/1994 ... 79/2001).

channel Koper-Capodistria and the Radio channel Koper-Capodistria are joining to form the Regional RTV Centre Koper-Capodistria which shall create, produce and broadcast the RTV programme in Slovene, the RTV programme for the Italian national community, the RTV programme for the Slovene minority in Italy and produce broadcasts for the national RTV programmes."; Article 19: The radio and TV programmes referred to in the preceding article are produced by the editorial boards of the regional radio and TV programmes and the editorial boards of the radio and TV programmes in the Italian language.")¹¹⁸. It may be relevant to describe the place, status and the extent of autonomy of the national community programmes within this indisputably important media institution.

Two programmes headed by two directors operate within the RTV Slovenija to cover national community programmes (Article 40)¹¹⁹. The proposal for the appointment of a director of national community programmes is made by a programme board of the national community programme, which also gives consent to the appointment of editors-in-chief of national community programmes¹²⁰. One of the special requirements for the position of editor-in-chief of national community programmes is that the candidate must have good command of the Italian and Hungarian languages for the position of editor-in-chief of the Italian and Hungarian programmes, respectively¹²¹. Important institutions within the national radio and television are also the programme boards of national community programmes: 1. Programme board for radio and television programmes for the Hungarian national community; 2. Programme board for radio and television programmes for the Italian national community. The two boards have a wide range of activities with competencies similar to those of the elected representatives of national communities in the legislative (Article 53)¹²².

A radio station broadcasting in the Italian language was established in 1949. In 1971 a TV station was established. The TV station provides information for the Italian population in Slovenia and Croatia. Daily radio and television programmes are produced within the public RTV Slovenija, at the Regional Radio and Television Centre Koper-Capodistria. There is 18 hours of radio programme daily which amounts to 126 hours weekly, while television programmes are broadcast for 9 hours on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, and for 7.5 hours on Mondays and Thursdays. To ensure the operation of this institution falling within the system of RTV Slovenija, a certain number of the employed are working full time and a certain number part time, both on a permanent basis (a special fee is collected by the national TV for this purpose). 59 employed in the radio programme and 93 in the television programme of the Regional Radio and Television Centre Koper-Capodistria are working on a full time basis. In addition to those employed full time there are 20 employed working on a permanent part time basis in the radio programme and 30 in the television programme. The total number of employed is 202. The programmes of national communities have been additionally co-financed by the state (Office for Nationalities) in view of the provision of Article 14 of the Radiotelevizija Slovenija Act (Article 14: "The following shall be financed by means from the state budget: a part of the national community programmes; a part of the programmes of RTV Slovenija intended for the Slovene minorities in the neighbouring countries, for emigrants and Slovenes living abroad and for the foreign public; a part of the cost of the construction, maintenance and operation of the transmission and broadcasting network of the RTV Slovenija channels and local channels; and special projects of cultural, scientific and general educational significance proposed by the relevant ministries.")¹²³.

In addition to electronic media, the Italian ethnic community also has at its disposal printed mass media. The EDIT publishing house in Rijeka with the A.I.A. agency in Koper/Capodistria (the former is co-financed and the latter fully financed by Slovenia), is engaged in newspaper publishing and publishes the daily *La Voce del Popolo*. Cultural and information publications are also published in the ethnically mixed area: *La Città*, *Il Mandracchio*, *Lasa pur dir*, *Il Trillo* and other occasional editions. In addition to these, there is a range of publications issued occasionally (or in cooperation with other local printed media) by cultural associations in the ethnically mixed area. The Republic of Slovenia supports the publishing of printed media with suitable financial funds. Due to the importance of Italian institutions, according to 1993 agreement, the Republic of Slovenia co-finances Italian institutions in the Republic of Croatia (the EDIT publishing house - Rijeka, the Italian Drama - Rijeka, the Italian Union, and the Center for historical research in Rovinj).

¹¹⁸ Statute of the Public Institution Radiotelevizija Slovenija (Ur. l. RS, No. 66/95).

¹¹⁹ Statute of the Public Institution Radiotelevizija Slovenija (Ur. l. RS, No. 66/95).

¹²⁰ Statute of the Public Institution Radiotelevizija Slovenija (Ur. l. RS, No. 66/95), Articles 41 and 47.

¹²¹ Statute of the Public Institution Radiotelevizija Slovenija (Ur. l. RS, No. 66/95), Article 48.

A similar provision may also be found in Article 19, Paragraph 1 of the Mass Media Act (Ur. l. RS, 35/2001...16/2004) stating that "an editor-in-chief may be any person who (...) possesses a certificate of active knowledge of Hungarian or Italian in the event that the mass medium involves the Hungarian or Italian national community."

¹²² Statute of the Public Institution Radiotelevizija Slovenija (Ur. l. RS, No. 66/95).

¹²³ Radiotelevizija Slovenija Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 18/1994 ... 79/2001).

Article 12: CULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES

Cultural activities are defined in Article 12 of the European Charter. Slovenia has committed itself to apply provisions under Paragraph 1 (a), (d), (e) and (f), and Paragraphs 2 and 3.

Slovenia has included cultural heritage and contemporary cultural creations of the two national communities in the cultural heritage of the Slovene state and protects them in a similar way as the cultural production of the majority nation, as is evident from the Act Implementing the Public Interest in Culture¹²⁴. In the Cultural Heritage Protection Act (Article 6, paragraph 6: "Ethnological monuments shall be areas, buildings, groups of buildings, objects of everyday use and artefacts which bear witness to the life and work of Slovenes, members of the Italian and Hungarian national communities and other peoples on the territory of Slovenia.")¹²⁵, Slovenia has committed itself, in accordance with its basic orientation, to protecting all ethnological monuments on its territory regardless of their ethnic origin. Provisions concerning the cultural areas of national communities can also be found in the Fund for Amateur Cultural Activities of the Republic of Slovenia Act (Article 5, paragraph 2: "Based on an agreement with a local community or a self-governing community of the autochthonous Italian and Hungarian national communities in Slovenia, the Fund may perform tasks under the foregoing Paragraph also for the aforesaid communities.")¹²⁶, Librarianship Act (Article 25 (General libraries in ethnically mixed areas): »General libraries in ethnically mixed areas shall also provide services for members of the Italian and Hungarian national communities and the Roma community. The libraries shall offer members of these national communities the opportunity to communicate in their languages. General libraries from the previous paragraph shall formulate the programme of activities in agreement with the representatives of the national communities." Article 33, paragraph 2 (National library): "The national library shall perform, in addition to the activities referred to in Article 2 of this Act, the following tasks: - collect, process, store and mediate the basic national collection of all library material in the Slovene language, about Slovenia and Slovenes, Slovene authors, Slovene publishers, members of the Italian and Hungarian national communities, the Roma community and other minority communities in Slovenia, and basic foreign literature."¹²⁷; and the Institutes Act (Article 3, paragraph 4: "Self-governing national communities shall have the right to co-found or found public institutions which perform activities important for the realisation of the rights of the national community.")¹²⁸.

A Section for Cultural Rights of Minorities and Development of Cultural Diversity has been set up within the Ministry of Culture, which is responsible for cultural activities of the national communities (hereinafter the Section). In cooperation with experts in the area of minorities, the Section is in charge of drafting professional guidelines for decision-making on cultural policy relating to minorities in Slovenia, cooperating with international organisations, establishing direct contacts with the representatives of the national communities, counselling and assisting them in exercising their rights, and funding their cultural activities on the basis of criteria that are co-formulated by the representatives of the national communities. In 2004, the organisation unit dealing with the drafting of professional guidelines for decision-making on cultural policy relating to minorities was reinforced by two experts, namely a Hungarian speaking lawyer and one person in charge of vulnerable groups. The staff of the Section can communicate in the following languages: Italian, Hungarian, Croat, Serb, German and English. The Section systematically analyses the received publications and materials, and draws up opinions and proposals.

In protecting cultural rights of ethnic minorities and developing cultural diversity the Ministry of Culture directly applies the following national legislation. Articles 61, 64 and 65 of the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia are used with regard to different minority ethnic communities, the Italian and Hungarian national communities and the Roma community, respectively. The general law regulating this area is the Exercising of the Public Interest in Culture Act (2002, hereinafter ZUJIK). Article 6 of the ZUJIK stipulates that cultural events in the areas defined as ethnically mixed must be announced (posters, official invitations etc.) in the Italian or Hungarian language. Article 8 states, among others, that the public interest in culture is exercised also by ensuring conditions for cultural diversity. A very important provision in ensuring conditions for cultural

¹²⁴ Act Implementing the Public Interest in Culture (Ur. I. RS, No. 96/2002).

¹²⁵ Cultural Heritage Protection Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 7/1999 ... 126/2003).

¹²⁶ Fund for Amateur Cultural Activities of the Republic of Slovenia Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 1/1996 ... 22/2000).

¹²⁷ Librarianship Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 87/2001).

¹²⁸ Institutes Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 12/1991 ... 36/2000).

development and the professionalisation of cultural work is Article 31, stipulating that the financing of public institutes, which the Italian and Hungarian national communities may establish in order to meet their needs in the field of culture, is provided for the Italian and Hungarian national communities by the state within the framework of the funds allocated to the Italian and Hungarian national communities. The Institute for Culture of the Hungarian Community, which carries out numerous projects for the preservation of the Hungarian language, celebrated its 10th anniversary and is regularly financed from the funds of the Ministry of Culture. In 2004 the Institute was reinforced with new staff and opened a literary bookshop. The Section has already offered technical assistance (above all in preparing relevant legal bases) for the establishment of an institute for the Italian national community, such need having already been expressed; however, this idea has not yet been realised. Article 59 of the ZUJIK contains the provision stipulating that the provisions which apply to providing public cultural programmes shall *mutatis mutandis* apply to providing the programmes of the Italian and Hungarian national communities, where the contract under Article 93 of this Act shall be concluded without a public invitation for applications, on the basis of a direct invitation. In this way the legal personality of the principal national communities' organisations, as defined in the Self-governing Ethnic Communities Act (1994), has been consistently implemented. Article 65 of the ZUJIK defines the competences of the State as regards the funding of programmes and projects, including those aimed at autochthonous Italian and Hungarian national communities and the Roma community, as well the cultural integration of other minority groups and immigrants if their cultural programmes/projects go beyond local importance.

The following articles of the ZUJIK are also important for the creation of appropriate conditions to enable the implementation of diverse cultural projects in the Republic of Slovenia: Article 74 stipulates that the ministry responsible for culture or the competent body of the local community shall offer the use or management of public cultural infrastructure to other legal persons and individuals providing public cultural programmes or cultural projects on the basis of a public call for applications by means of the contract under Article 93 of the ZUJIK. Article 75 states that public cultural infrastructure shall be ceded gratuitously to providers of cultural activities on the condition that they take over the obligation of regular running maintenance. According to Article 79 the State or local community may even provide funds to a provider, covering the costs of ensuring suitable premises for his/her activity. The Exercising of the Public Interest in Culture Act thus establishes the normative conditions for a broader care of national and local authorities for the integration of minority programmes; the Section has already begun preparing the expert groundwork for the harmonisation with municipalities. The project of the harmonisation of national and local minority policies was launched already in 1999, but could not be implemented due to the lack of appropriate legal bases. This has now been ensured by the enforcement of the ZUJIK. On 28 March 2003 a public consultation was organised with the aim of presenting the Act; special invitations were sent to the deputies of the national communities in the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia, both central organisations of the national communities, the Union of Roma of Slovenia and some others.

In the summer of 2004 an analysis was performed within the Section on the implementation of the ZUJIK; immediately afterwards, some novelties were introduced, mainly connected with the replacement of the calls for application with the Roma and other minority communities. The novelties were presented at special meetings with the Union of Roma on 4 November 2004 in Murska Sobota, and with the representatives of societies and associations of different other minority communities in the Republic of Slovenia on 25 October 2004. Within the framework of the National Programme for Culture (hereinafter NPC), as announced in Article 10 of the ZUJIK and adopted by the National Assembly in 2004, special attention is paid to the integration of minority communities into the society of existence. The respect for and development of linguistic diversity and the openness of the cultural policy to diversity are among general priorities of the cultural policy 2004-2007. Priority support will be given to diverse ethnic contents, minority cultures and the programmes/projects of vulnerable groups. The specific objectives state the following requirements: the programmes of public institutes should include minority topics, priority support should be reserved for authentic contributions to cultural diversity, and conditions should be created for cultural creativity of minority members as well as accessibility to cultural goods, taking into account the articulated cultural needs. Special circumstances will be taken into account as regards the cultural activities of minority communities and priority support will be given to those minority community programmes/projects that are concurrently supported by the Ministry of Culture and the local communities. Among the NPC objectives is also ensuring accessibility to integral information on cultural activities of a minority community. Article 3 of the Act on the Public Usage of the Slovenian Language (2004) stipulates that in the territories where the Italian or the Hungarian national community lives, the public usage of Italian or Hungarian as official languages is guaranteed in the manner as regulated by the Act for the public usage of Slovenian and in accordance with the provisions of individual sector-specific acts. Article 1 of the Act specifies that Slovene is the official language of the Republic of Slovenia. It is the language of oral and written communication in all spheres of public life in the Republic of Slovenia, except when Italian and Hungarian are official languages in accordance with the Constitution of the

Republic of Slovenia, and when the provisions of international treaties that are binding for the Republic of Slovenia specifically allow also the usage of other languages.

Article 25 of the Librarianship Act stipulates that general libraries in ethnically mixed areas also provide services for members of the Italian and Hungarian national communities and the Roma community. The libraries shall offer members of these national communities the opportunity to communicate in their languages. General libraries formulate the programme of activities in agreement with the representatives of the national communities. Articles 16 and 33 are also important for the creation of broader conditions to enable cultural diversity. Article 16 stipulates that public libraries carrying out library activities for the population in their locality also provide services for groups of the population with special needs, while Article 33 describes in detail the functioning of the national library, i.e. the central state library. The latter collects, processes, stores and mediates also the library material of the members of the Italian and Hungarian national communities, the Roma community and other minority groups as well as basic foreign literature. In this context it may be relevant to add that within the information and documentation centre for the area of the protection of cultural heritage (INDOK) at Metelkova 4 in Ljubljana – where there is also the seat of the Section for Cultural Rights of Minorities and Development of Cultural Diversity – in September 2004 a special space was dedicated to the works that were written in various minority languages and financed by the Ministry of Culture.

In the Cultural Heritage Protection Act (1999) the notion of cultural heritage also includes cultural diversity. The protection of the results of human creativity and various other activities is in public interest. As defined in Article 6, ethnological monuments are areas, buildings, groups of items, items for everyday use and designed products which testify to the way of life and work of Slovenes, of members of the Italian and Hungarian minorities, and of other peoples located in the territory of Slovenia. The Decree amending spatial components of the long- and medium-term social plan of the Republic of Slovenia (1999) explicitly stipulates that the cultural diversity of space in the Republic of Slovenia must be preserved. Sixty-one cultural heritage areas (i.e. areas of complex protection of cultural heritage) have been defined with the aim of sustainable preservation of cultural diversity. The Strategy of spatial development of Slovenia (2004) is focused on cultural diversity and keeping the awareness of Slovenia from cultural and symbolic points of view.

In general, it appears that the establishment of conditions for cultural diversity is efficiently incorporated into the normative level. As far as organisational measures of the Ministry of Culture are concerned the following needs to be pointed out.

To create proper conditions for the protection of minority cultural rights and the development of cultural diversity, enriching co-existence, the Ministry of Culture set up two programmes: (1) a specialised programme for the protection of minority rights, taking into account special conditions in which members of these communities live and following the respect for a kind of “prior rights” of minority and vulnerable groups, and (2) an integration programme with the aim to guarantee the principle of equal opportunities for all, regardless of their ethnic identity. The Ministry has set up a special model (doctrine) for the protection of cultural rights of special social groups comprising normative, organisational and financial instruments with which to develop both the measures of special protection and the measures of minority culture integration. Based on the principle of supporting cultural diversity, the Ministry with its services and funds is open to a large variety of providers of cultural programmes and projects; nevertheless, in this the Ministry is bound by the Constitution and the applicable legislation. However, in accordance with the General Administrative Procedure Act only the applications officially sent to the Ministry of Culture can be taken into consideration. To date, for example, the Ministry of Culture has not received any applications from the Serbs in Bela Krajina, mentioned in the expert commission report; on the other hand, the Ministry has received several applications from German speaking groups, such as *Društvo Kočevarjev Staroselcev* (Association of Kočevje German settlers), Dolenjske Toplice; *Slovensko kočevarsko društvo »Peter Kozler«* (Slovene Association of Kočevje Germans), Ljubljana; the International Association *Freedomsbridge*, Maribor; the International Association *Freedomsbridge Apaško polje*, Apače. The cultural association of German speaking women *Mostovi*, Maribor.

Following was a consideration of the mentioned applications in accordance with the publicly available principles and criteria (Annex 1: Principles, objectives, criteria and special measures applying to the (co)financing of cultural programmes and projects with the budgetary funds earmarked for cultural activities of the Italian and Hungarian national communities, the Roma community, and other minority ethnic groups and immigrants in the Republic of Slovenia in 2005); the tables in Annex 2 (Projects associated with the language in the special minority programme of the Ministry of Culture 2002, 2003 and 2004), Annex 3 (The promotion of cultural diversity in the programme of the Ministry of Culture outside the Republic of Slovenia for 2002, 2003, 2004) and Annex 4 (Monitoring the integration programme in 2002, 2003 and 2004)

demonstrate which projects were later financed by the Ministry of Culture and the Public Fund of the Republic of Slovenia for Amateur Cultural Activities within the framework of special and integration programmes.

In addition to the financing of diverse cultural programmes, for several years the Ministry of Culture has been carrying into effect the orientation of the Expert committee on encouraging the dialogue between various cultural groups. On 25 October 2004, the Ministry organised a meeting of representatives of very diverse minority groups, namely those that are not explicitly mentioned in the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia and to which Article 61 of the Constitution applies, and which had, by then, submitted their applications to the Ministry of Culture; in general, the Ministry supports cooperation between various minority groups. The Ministry also encourages the interest of experts in the research of minority languages. In the last years the Ministry thus supported research projects in the field of the Romany language and was informed that a systematic research of the Romany language has begun at the Faculty of Pedagogy in Ljubljana. Furthermore, the Ministry of Culture collaborates with the Administration Academy in Ljubljana; a representative of the Academy has prepared a course pack on minority cultural rights in 2005 that, as a lecturer at the Academy, she is to use in local communities with ethnically mixed population. Their aim is to allow better understanding of the significance of integration and, consequently, higher awareness of the majority population as regards cultural rights of the members of minority groups. In January 2004 an international workshop was organised for UNESCO (its target group being NGO representatives mainly from South Eastern Europe). Workshop participants exchanged their experience on the ways of protecting cultural rights in the broadest sense of the word, including minority languages.

The Section also provides special services intended for the raising of cultural creativity and promotion of minority artists, above all those from the Roma community. Annex 4 (Monitoring the integration programme in 2002, 2003 and 2004) shows that translations from national minority languages into Slovene are funded in this way. The Anthology of the Hungarian short story is especially interesting in this context. Another area in which efforts relating to the development of language culture are visible is librarianship (Annex 4). This includes purchases and handling of library material for the Italian and Hungarian national communities, as well as ensuring communication in the languages of national communities, the development of reading culture and expert cooperation with the nation of origin. In this field the integration programme is specifically based on the provisions of Article 25 of the Librarianship Act.

The Section ensures direct participation of the applicants for minority programmes and projects in the shaping of the specialised programme, in accordance with the principle of subjectivity of a national community. Furthermore, counselling is organised for relevant minority representatives with the aim to acquaint them in detail with laws and executive regulations as well as the objectives, principles and criteria of the minority cultural policy, so that after having planned cultural activities they can avoid formal dismissals of their proposals. Each year a problem report on the fulfilment of programme is prepared, in which the involved representatives of the communities are invited to present proposals for the improvement of the minority cultural policy. On several occasions members of constitutionally recognised minority communities have expressed appreciation to the Section for consistently implementing Article 15 of the Self-governing Ethnic Communities Act, stipulating that state bodies are obliged to acquire the opinion of such communities regarding matters related to them, as well as for analogous treatment of the Roma community, as a result of the instruction of the Government's Secretary-General. A survey, carried out by the Institute for Ethnic Studies and titled *The Response of Other Minority Communities to the Measures of the Ministry of Culture* (2003), which was commissioned by the Ministry of Culture with the aim to explore the perception of its measures by those to whom they are addressed, states (p. 17) that the Ministry of Culture is an honourable exception among state authorities and institutions as regards their interest in minority communities issues. For several years the Section has been striving for the regulation of Roma representation in a separate fundamental legal act for Roma, in accordance with Article 65 of the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia. The said law should harmonise the interaction of the State, the local communities and Roma themselves with a view to improve Roma situation in Slovenia.

By now the funds for the support to cultural diversity in the above mentioned manner were relatively modest; however, the Ministry of Culture has been striving to achieve an increase in the allocated amount. On 8 April 2004 the Minister of Culture addressed a letter to the Prime Minister in which she justified the need for additional funds for minority cultural programmes. Already beforehand the Minister accepted the initiative of the Coordinating body of associations and cultural societies of the constitutive nations and national communities of the former SFRY in Slovenia; a special meeting was organised on 3 January 2004. The Minister also chaired the Commission for national communities in its capacity as the co-ordinating body of the Government for issues relating to national communities. The Head of Section at the Ministry of Culture responsible for minority communities is also a member of the said Commission as well as of the

governmental Commission for the Roma community. It is thus evident that the Ministry of Culture has been actively involved also at the governmental level. The Ministry provided various services for minority communities with which to improve the conditions for minority cultural activities, e.g. expert counselling on the preparation of applications, different services for minority artists, arranging a scholarship for a Roma musician, legal counselling concerning the fulfilment of cultural rights as part of the human rights, mediating in favour of minority communities, giving recommendations and discussing with the representatives of public institutions on the integration of minority programmes, and appealing to the media inspector for action. Special mention should be made as to the cooperation of the Ministry with scientific and research organisations and eminent experts in minority matters in setting up the foundations for decision-making (e.g. Institute for Ethnic Studies, Faculty of Arts, the Scientific Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts). The Ministry is aware that minority issues are a very sensitive field and that all proposals for cultural policy measures should be drafted on well-founded theoretical and empirical bases. On 25 November 2004 an expert discussion was held at the Ministry concerning the survey titled *The Perception of Slovene Integration Policy* carried out by the Institute for Ethnic Studies; important issues were discussed and best possible solutions for the Ministry's measures researched. The Ministry established cooperation also with various non-governmental organisations (e.g. Amnesty International, the Peace Institute etc.). The fundamental goal is to ensure that conceptual bases and cultural policy in this domain be as well-thought-out and as responsive to the expressed cultural needs of members of the minority groups as possible; at the same time they should secure on the one hand the preservation of cultural and linguistic characteristics and on the other hand effective social integration that will provide for full realisation of cultural rights, full social responsibility of the holders of such rights, and equal opportunities for participation in cultural life regardless of the ethnic identity of individuals.

HUNGARIANS

With the aim to promote Hungarian culture the Hungarian self-governing national community in Pomurje established the Institute of Culture of the Hungarian community. The Institute coordinates and directs the activities of more than 30 Hungarian community cultural associations. These associations are active in numerous fields of cultural production, from folklore performances to original creative achievements. The cultural production of the Hungarian national community is often presented also in Hungary.

Annex 3 shows that in the framework of cultural policy minority cultures and languages are appropriately represented in international cooperation. It has to be added that minority communities have been invited to express their proposals for interstate agreements as well as for the financing of cultural relations with their nations of origin and international cooperation. In 2004 the initiative titled *The month of the Hungarian culture in Slovenia* was realised, which included various productions such as "The week of the Hungarian film" in Ljubljana and Lendava, "Rustic Opera" at the international theatre festival EX PONTO, a concert by the string quartet *Bartok* and the *Muzsikás* ensemble in the Slovenian Philharmonic in Ljubljana and the new cultural centre in Lendava.

Library services should also be counted among cultural activities. Library material in the Hungarian language is being collected and stored in libraries in Murska Sobota and Lendava. Within the Regional and Study Library in Murska Sobota there is a special department for Hungarian studies. The Hungarian language collection contains around 30,000 items, representing more than 13% of the entire material. The Lendava Library (Konyvtar Lendva) is also very important. The library is an autonomous institution operating in the ethnically mixed area. It was founded by Lendava municipality and co-founded by the Hungarian self-governing national community of Lendava Municipality. The library's collection contains around 96,000 items, 40% of which are in the Hungarian language. Apart from the main library in Lendava in the ethnically mixed area there are 5 local libraries: Dolina, Dobrovnik, Gaberje, Genterovci and Petišovci. Within the Institute for Culture of the Hungarian Community there is the *Bánffy Cultural Centre* with two employees; the Centre exclusively sells Hungarian literature and periodicals, operates a cyber-café equipped with modern multimedia appliances and provides space for various meetings and small performances. In 2004 the Ministry of Culture approved funds for the Centre in the total amount of SIT 4,100,000. The opening of the Lendava Cultural Centre in September 2004 offered Hungarian literary and other artists additional space for their activities. The construction of the Lendava Cultural Centre was concluded in September 2004. Total cost of the construction was SIT 1,418,003,298.

ITALIANS

Cultural activities are defined in Article 12 of the European Charter. Slovenia has committed itself to apply provisions under Paragraph 1 (a), (d), (e) and (f), and Paragraphs 2 and 3.

The Italian national community is presently in the process of setting up an institute for culture of the Italian national community. Analogous to the Institute for Culture of the Hungarian National Community the Italian

institute is to coordinate and direct the activities of the Italian cultural associations. The restored Manzioli palace in Izola will also be of great significance for the creativity of the Italian national community. In this project Slovenia has provided financial support for the restoration of the palace and co-financed the furnishing of its library. Besides the already mentioned cultural entities of the Italian national community two institutions based in Croatia also deserve mentioning: the Historic Research Centre in Rovinj and the Italian Theatre in Rijeka. Slovenia contributes a proportionate share of funds for the operation of both institutions.

Library services in the Slovene parts of Istria are also among important cultural activities; these libraries are in charge of purchasing library material in the Italian language. The Central Library Srečko Vilhar in Koper (Biblioteca centrale Srečko Vilhar Capodistria) is the main library. The library has a dedicated Italian department. The library's Italian department is in charge of all basic activity for libraries in the Slovene parts of Istria as well as the institutions and schools of the Italian national community in the littoral region. Library material in the Italian language is also available in Municipal Library Piran (Biblioteca Civica di Pirano) and in Library Izola (Biblioteca Civica di Isola).

Annex 3 shows that in the framework of cultural policy minority cultures and languages are appropriately represented in international cooperation. The fact that Slovenia is an open multicultural society is also demonstrated by the events such as "The Artists of two minorities – Artisti di due minoranze" in spring and summer 2004. Fourteen artists, of which seven representatives of the Italian community in Slovenia and Croatia, and seven representatives of the Slovene national community in Italy, were involved in the project and presented their works in an itinerant collective exhibition. The exhibition was presented in Gorica, Špeter, Koper and Piran. In the same sense another project is of significance, namely the 2nd Meeting of three countries in Bertoki in November 2004, assembling cultural groups of the Italian communities from Slovenia, Croatia and Italy.

Article 13 – ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL LIFE – HUNGARIANS

This area of minority language use is defined in Article 13 of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages. Slovenia has undertaken to apply both paragraphs of Article 13.

The above presentation clearly shows that national and regional legislation prohibits any discouraging of the use of regional and minority languages in economic activities in ethnically mixed areas. No dilemmas should arise concerning the implementation of the provisions regulating visible bilingualism in public and private commercial and social services. However, despite the adopted legal provisions it can be stated that the widest gap is visible in the use of ethnic minority languages in the economic area. In this respect the representatives of the minorities have already complained to the responsible state authorities. Within the framework of the "Analysis on the state and exercising of special rights of the Italian and Hungarian national communities in the Republic of Slovenia with regard to the implementation of laws, executive and other regulations, and the definition of possible measures for their maintenance, support and further development" (2004) the Government office for nationalities attracted attention to these issues and proposed some solutions to the exercising of bilingualism also in the economic domain. An important step towards the exercising of linguistic rights of the members of the Italian and Hungarian national communities in Slovenia has been made by the adoption of the Act Amending the Consumer Protection Act (Article 2): "Companies must do business with consumers in the Slovene language, and in the areas of autochthonous settlement of the Italian or Hungarian national communities, they must also do business in the language of the respective national community. They must use the complete name of their respective firm and seat in any written communication relating to business. When marking products, companies must provide relevant information to the consumer in the Slovene language that relate to the characteristics, sales conditions and intended use of the product. In doing that they may also use generally comprehensible symbols and pictures."; (Article 5): "Advertisements must be in the Slovene language, and in the areas of autochthonous settlement of the Italian or Hungarian national communities, they must also be in the language of the respective national community. Individual words or short word combinations in a foreign language, which most consumers can understand due to their general use, may be utilised if they are part of an overall corporate image."¹²⁹

¹²⁹ The Act Amending the Consumer Protection Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 51/2004).

Article 13 – ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL LIFE – ITALIANS

This area of minority language use is defined in Article 13 of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages. Slovenia has undertaken to apply both paragraphs of Article 13.

The above presentation clearly shows that national and regional legislation prohibits any discouraging of the use of regional and minority languages in economic activities in ethnically mixed areas. No dilemmas should arise concerning the implementation of the provisions regulating visible bilingualism in public and private commercial and social services. However, despite the adopted legal provisions it can be stated that the widest gap is visible in the use of ethnic minority languages in the economic area. In this respect the representatives of the minorities have already complained to the responsible state authorities. Within the framework of the “Analysis on the state and exercising of special rights of the Italian and Hungarian national communities in the Republic of Slovenia with regard to the implementation of laws, executive and other regulations, and the definition of possible measures for their maintenance, support and further development” (2004) the Government office for nationalities attracted attention to these issues and proposed some solutions to the exercising of bilingualism also in the economic domain. An important step towards the exercising of linguistic rights of the members of the Italian and Hungarian national communities in Slovenia has been made by the adoption of the Act Amending the Consumer Protection Act (Articles 2 and 5)¹³⁰.

Article 14: CROSS-BORDER EXCHANGE – HUNGARIANS

This area is defined in Article 14 of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages. Slovenia has undertaken to apply paragraphs (a) and (b) of Article 14.

Slovenia committed itself in its Constitution (Article 64, paragraph 1: “The autochthonous Italian and Hungarian national communities and their members shall be guaranteed the right to use their national symbols freely and, in order to preserve their national identity, the right to establish organisations and develop economic, cultural, scientific and research activities, as well as activities in the field of public media and publishing. In accordance with laws, these two national communities and their members have the right to education and schooling in their own languages, as well as the right to establish and develop such education and schooling. The geographic areas in which bilingual schools are compulsory shall be established by law. These national communities and their members shall be guaranteed the right to foster relations with their nations of origin and their respective countries. The state shall provide material and moral support for the exercise of these rights.”)¹³¹ that it will guarantee not only moral but also material support to the right of the members of national communities to foster and develop free relations, especially with their nations of origin and their respective countries. This is further specified in sector-specific laws. The Self-governing Ethnic Communities Act stipulates that the means for the maintaining of free relations of the national communities on different levels shall be provided from the means of self-governing local communities (municipalities), from the budget of the Republic of Slovenia and other sources (Article 18, paragraph 2: “Means for the activities of organizations and public institutions, fulfilling the needs of ethnic communities, and for the financing of activities arising from article 16, are provided from the means of self-governing local communities, from the budget of the Republic of Slovenia and other sources, pursuant to the law.”)¹³². A provision that may be connected with the principle of “maintaining free relations” is also contained in the Act Implementing Special Rights of Members of the Italian and Hungarian Ethnic Communities Regarding Education and Training (Article 4 – Cooperation with institutions of the nation of origin: “To implement the objectives laid down in this Act and in compliance with interstate agreements, public pre-school institutions and schools with the language of instruction of the national community and bilingual pre-school institutions and schools (hereinafter: kindergartens and schools) cooperate with relevant institutions of the nations of origin in the neighbouring countries.”)¹³³.

The regular flow of publications and books from Italy and Hungary, which are used in educational institutions, deserves to be mentioned with regard to cross-border cooperation. Cross-border cooperation is further regulated by several significant interstate agreements, namely the Bilateral Agreement on Guaranteeing Special Rights of the Slovenian Minority Living in the Republic of Hungary and the Hungarian National

¹³⁰ The Act Amending the Consumer Protection Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 51/2004).

¹³¹ Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia (Ur. l. RS, No. 33/1991 ... 69/2004).

¹³² Self-governing Ethnic Communities Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 65/94).

¹³³ Act Implementing Special Rights of Members of the Italian and Hungarian National Communities Regarding Education and Training (Ur. l. RS, No. 35/2001).

Community in the Republic of Slovenia (1993), the Agreement on Cooperation in the fields of Culture, Education and Science between the Republic of Slovenia and the Republic of Hungary (1993), and the Agreement on Friendship and Cooperation between the Republic of Slovenia and the Republic of Hungary (1993).

Article 14: CROSS-BORDER EXCHANGE – ITALIANS

This area is defined in Article 14 of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages. Slovenia has undertaken to apply paragraphs (a) and (b) of Article 14.

Slovenia committed itself in its Constitution (Article 64, paragraph 1)¹³⁴ that it will guarantee not only moral but also material support to the right of the members of national communities to foster and develop free relations, especially with their nations of origin and their respective countries. This is further specified in sector-specific laws. The Self-Governing Ethnic Communities Act stipulates that the means for the maintaining of free relations of the national communities on different levels shall be provided from the means of self-governing local communities (municipalities), from the budget of the Republic of Slovenia and other sources (Article 18, paragraph 2)¹³⁵. A provision that may be connected with the principle of “maintaining free relations” is also contained in the Act Implementing Special Rights of Members of the Italian and Hungarian National Communities regarding Education and Training (Article 4)¹³⁶. The regular flow of publications and books from Italy and Hungary, which are used in educational institutions, deserves to be mentioned with regard to cross-border cooperation.

As part of cross-border cooperation on 21 May 1999 *RTV Slovenija* and *RAI Trieste* signed an agreement on a cross-border television project (entitled *Lynx NT 2000*). The essence of the signed agreement is an experimental cross-border programme that would supplement the existing programmes. As a consequence *TV Koper* would additionally transmit the *RAI Trieste* news review in the Slovene and Italian languages; furthermore, the *RAI 3 bis* channel (covering the Trieste and Gorizia region) would transmit both news reviews of the *Koper Regional Centre*, in the Slovene and Italian languages. During a preliminary phase and as an enhancement to the supplemented programmes, combined one-hour evening programmes (with cultural, information, educational and other contents) would be broadcast without affecting the autonomy of the programmes intended for the minorities and without reducing neither the volume nor the content of the existing and future broadcasts, ensured by RAI and RTV Slovenia to ethnic minorities.

The experimental phase of the cross-border television broadcasting began on 11 October 1999. According to the draft programme scheme, forming a part of the Agreement, there is a daily exchange of evening TV news between the Koper-Capodistria Regional RTV Centre and the regional RAI headquarters for the Friuli-Venezia Giulia Autonomous Province. Since April 2001, the Koper-Capodistria Regional RTV Centre and the regional RAI headquarters for the Friuli-Venezia Giulia Autonomous Province broadcast a monthly 30-minute bilingual “*Lynx Magazine*”. Four hundred hours of yearly programme are thus exchanged. To date *RTV Slovenija* has been financing the project exclusively from its proper funds.

Cross-border television will connect the neighbouring regions of the Friuli-Venezia Giulia and Slovenia and the ethnic minorities on both sides of the border. This project of larger European dimension offers new opportunities for qualified personnel and consolidates dialogue, coexistence and mutual comprehension of minorities and majorities.

Cross-border cooperation between the Republic of Slovenia and the Italian Republic is further regulated by some interstate agreements, i.e. the Act Notifying Succession to the Agreements Concluded between the Former Yugoslavia and the Italian Republic, among which the Osimo Treaty, the Act Ratifying the Memorandum of Understanding on Mutual Recognition of Slovenian and Italian Degrees and Professional

¹³⁴ Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia (Ur. I. RS, No. 33/1991 ... 69/2004).

¹³⁵ Self-governing Ethnic Communities Act (Ur. I. RS, No. 65/94).

¹³⁶ Act Implementing Special Rights of Members of the Italian and Hungarian National Communities Regarding Education and Training (Ur. I. RS, No. 35/2001).

Titles¹³⁷, and the Decree Ratifying the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and the Government of the Italian Republic on Cooperation in Culture and Education¹³⁸.

¹³⁷ Memorandum of Understanding on Mutual Recognition of Slovenian and Italian Degrees and Professional Titles (Ur. l. RS, No. 17/1996).

¹³⁸ Decree ratifying the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and the Government of the Italian Republic on Cooperation in Culture and Education (Ur. l. RS, No. 49/2002).

Annex 1

Principles, objectives, criteria and special measures applying to the (co-)financing of cultural programmes and projects with the budgetary funds earmarked for cultural activities of the Italian and Hungarian national communities, Roma community and other minority ethnic groups and immigrants in the Republic of Slovenia in 2005 (Principles 2005)

I Target groups of the programme of the Ministry of Culture include:

- A. Italian and Hungarian national communities,
- B. Roma community,
- C. Other minority ethnic groups and immigrants.

II Principles of the minority cultural policy

The below principles will be observed in all procedures of the programme consideration by the Ministry of Culture.

A General principles

- 1. Principle of legality (consistent observance of the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia and laws);
- 2. Principle of equity (equal treatment of similar issues and different treatment of different issues);
- 3. Principle of equal opportunities for all programmes (publication of objectives, principles and criteria);
- 4. Principle of feedback (obtaining the opinions of those proposing individual programmes through all stages of the formulation of the programmes of the Ministry of Culture);
- 5. Principle of compliance with objectives defined under Item III.

B Special principles

- 1. Principle of subjectivity (minority communities propose their own programmes);
- 2. Principle of applying special measures (special measures that take into account special situation of individual minority communities);
- 3. Principle of integration (possibility of applying under other programmes of the Ministry of Culture in compliance with the criteria of these programmes).

III Objectives of cultural policy

These objectives derive from the awareness of the multiculturalism of the Slovene society, the existence of various cultures on the territory of the Republic of Slovenia, which result in the wealth of diversity and in the creative intertwining of cultural patterns.

- 1. To encourage, with special measures, cultural activity and particularly cultural creativity of both national communities (Italian and Hungarian), the Roma community and other minority groups and immigrants, and the integration of their cultural expression into the common cultural area of the Republic of Slovenia, taking into account special circumstances characteristic of these communities, their traditions, values and particularities of their cultural needs;
- 2. To promote mutual respect, cooperation and co-existence of various ethnic groups, equal dialogue and research of minority cultures and inter-ethnic relations in culture;
- 3. To create opportunities for members of minority ethnic groups to be educated as experts in culture and cultural animators;
- 4. To create opportunities for awareness-raising among minority ethnic groups and the majority population about the importance of equality and tolerance;
- 5. To promote cultural activity in the languages of minority ethnic groups;
- 6. To improve the knowledge of Slovene population about special cultural features of minority ethnic groups and promote cultural organisation of the national and Roma communities also outside the area of their autochthonous settlement;
- 7. To promote learning about cultures and understanding among cultures;
- 8. To develop cooperation between the Ministry of Culture, local communities and other organisations in financing programmes of communities, and cooperate with local communities in providing space for cultural activity of members of minority ethnic groups;
- 9. To promote integration activities;
- 10. To promote good practice cases in minority areas.

IV Criteria applying to privileged treatment

1. Contribution to the preservation of special cultural identity;
2. Contribution to cultural diversity;
3. Cultural activity by children*;
4. Cultural activity intended for children;
5. Creativity;
6. Public presentation of the project;
7. Originality;
8. Expected great acclaim;
9. Cooperation between various minority groups;
10. Involvement of experts and artists and cooperation with public organisations in the sphere of culture;
11. Providing of realistic information about the cultural life, work and reflections of members of minority groups;
12. Cultural activity intended for refugees.

V Special measures for individual target groups

A. ITALIAN AND HUNGARIAN NATIONAL COMMUNITIES

A direct call for applications is issued for the Italian and Hungarian national communities for (co-)financing their programmes.

1. Proposers of programmes

Pursuant to the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia and the Self-governing Ethnic Communities Act (Ur. l. RS, no. 65/1994), the uniform programmes of the Italian and Hungarian national communities are the Italian National Self-governing Community in the Littoral for the Italian national community and the Hungarian Self-governing Community in Pomurje for the Hungarian national community in the Republic of Slovenia; these two communities take an equal part in deciding on programmes of all interested members of their respective national communities.

The selection of specific programmes or the national communities is in the competence of the central organisations of the national communities. Pursuant to Article 64 of the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia and the Self-governing Ethnic Communities Act, the national communities are entities of public law, deciding by themselves with which activities they can satisfy their cultural needs and exercise their special cultural rights, whereby they take into account the above defined principles, objectives and special measures for the (co-)financing of programmes of cultural activity of the Italian and Hungarian national communities in the Republic of Slovenia in 2005.

2. Areas of activity

Cultural institutions founded by the two central organisations of the national communities

Pursuant to Article 31 of the Exercising of the Public Interest in Culture Act (Ur. l. RS, no. 96/2002), the work programme of an institution is considered part of the programme of the national community. The Ministry of Culture will compare the programme with the programmes of other public cultural institutions; the submitted documentation must include:

- financial plan 2005
- work programme 2005.

Library services

Library services for the national communities are provided pursuant to Article 25 of the Librarianship Act (Ur. l. RS, No. 87/2001) and the Rules on Conditions for Providing Library Services as a Public Service (Ur. l. RS, no. 73/2003). Exceptionally, an application for (co-) financing under the special programme of the Ministry of Culture may refer to only parts of programmes that were not included in the general library programmes,

* According to Article 1 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (adopted by the UN General Assembly with resolution No. 44/25 of 20 November 1989), a child means any human being below the age of eighteen years unless under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier.

provided that the application is justified and the parts of the programmes are very important for the preservation of a special cultural identity.

Programme items: Association libraries of the Italian national community and the development of book-lending points of the Hungarian national community until their adequate integration into the library system remain an integral part of the specialised programme of the Ministry of Culture, which can be subject of applications filed by the central organisations of national communities.

Publishing activities

The Ministry of Culture will grant support in particular to:

- magazines and newspapers in the mother tongue, dealing with literary articles, essays and reviews and articles on literature, arts and culture in the original or in translation;
- Youth magazines and newspapers in the mother tongue contributing to cultural education of children and adolescents;
- Original literary essays and reviews in the mother tongue;
- Bilingual translated literary and popular science works (for adults and for adolescents);
- Works dealing with humanities and social sciences (particularly those concerning the language, arts and culture of the nation of origin or the national community) in original or in translation;
- Dictionaries important for the preservation of a distinct cultural identity.

Activities of cultural groups

The Ministry of Culture will grant support in particular to:

- Regular activities;
- Performances;
- Training of mentors.

Contacts with the nation of origin

The Ministry of Culture will grant support in particular to:

- Guest performances by the Italian Drama from Rijeka, which are the subject of application by the Italian National Self-governing Community in the Littoral;
- High quality guest performances from Italy and Hungary;
- Performances of the best groups of the Italian and Hungarian national communities in Italy, Croatia and Hungary;
- Cultural exchanges.

Activities aimed at language preservation

In granting support, the Ministry of Culture will give priority to professionally devised and conducted activities aimed at language preservation (e.g. linguistic research) and at the development of language culture and creativity (literary contests etc.).

International cooperation

The Ministry of Culture will grant support to international cooperation of all minority communities.

Cultural cooperation between various minority ethnic communities

In granting support, the Ministry of Culture will give priority to the forms of cultural cooperation involving a wide range of contents and performers from various minority ethnic communities.

Presentation of cultural activities and issues of the minority ethnic groups in Slovenia

In granting support, the Ministry of Culture will give priority to broad (in several towns) and effective presentations aimed at presenting the culture of minority groups to a great portion of Slovene population.

Events

In granting support, the Ministry of Culture will give priority to those high quality events that will comply with the objectives of the cultural policy concerning minorities.

Lectures, seminars and the like

In granting support, the Ministry of Culture will give priority to cultural themes presented by professional lecturers.

Miscellaneous

The items that cannot be included in the existing chapters will be included in this chapter.

B. ROMA COMMUNITY

A call for applications is issued for the Roma community for the selection of cultural projects relating to the Roma community to be financed by the Republic of Slovenia in 2005 with budget funds earmarked for culture.

The expert agency of the Ministry of Culture will provide assistance in drawing up applications complying with requirements of the Ministry of Culture.

1. Proposers of projects

The Union of Roma of Slovenia is the proposer of projects of associations that are its members. Other Roma associations in the Republic of Slovenia can also be proposers, provided that they have been creating, transmitting and protecting cultural values for at least three years. Associations prove that they meet the above condition by submitting a copy of the official document showing the date of their entry in the register of associations and a copy of an official document indicating the cultural domain of their activity. Applications by other Roma associations are accompanied by an opinion of the Union of Roma.

2. Areas of activity

Space costs

The Ministry of Culture will (co-)finance the covering of space costs on the basis of a special statement of reasons, which should also include the explanation on the possibilities of the use of public cultural infrastructure in accordance with Articles 74 and 75 of the Exercising of the Public Interest in Culture Act.

Library services

Projects intended for members of the Roma community will be, as a rule, carried out by general libraries in areas inhabited by Roma.

Exceptionally, the Ministry of Culture will also grant support to individual library projects for the Roma community, with which either the Union of Roma of Slovenia or Roma associations will apply to the special programme of the Ministry of Culture; these applications must be accompanied by a special statement of reasons.

Publishing activities

The Ministry of Culture will grant support in particular to:

- magazines and newspapers in the mother tongue, dealing with literary articles, essays and reviews and articles on literature, arts and culture in the original or in translation;
- Youth magazines and newspapers in the mother tongue contributing to cultural education of children and adolescents;
- Original literary essays and reviews in the mother tongue;
- Bilingual translated literary and popular science works (for adults and for adolescents);
- Works dealing with humanities and social sciences (particularly those concerning the language, arts and culture of the nation of origin or the national community) in the original or in translation;
- Dictionaries important for the preservation of a distinct cultural identity.

Activities of cultural groups

The Ministry of Culture will grant support in particular to:

- Regular activities;
- Performances;
- Training of mentors.

Cultural animation

The Ministry of Culture will grant support to activities of cultural animators on the basis of a submitted annual programme of work with Roma associations and cultural groups.

Activities aimed at language preservation

In granting support, the Ministry of Culture will give priority to professionally devised and conducted activities aimed at language preservation (e.g. linguistic research) and at the development of language culture and creativity (literary contests, etc.).

International cooperation

In granting support, the Ministry of Culture will grant support to international cooperation of Roma that contributes to the preservation of their cultural identity. An invitation by the international organiser must be submitted and the participation must be justified.

Cultural cooperation between various minority ethnic groups

In granting support, the Ministry of Culture will give priority to the forms of cultural cooperation involving a great variety of contents.

Presentation of cultural activities and issues of the minority ethnic groups in Slovenia

In granting support, the Ministry of Culture will give priority to broad (in several towns) and effective presentations aimed at presenting the culture of minority groups to a great portion of Slovene population.

Events

In granting support, the Ministry of Culture will give priority to those high quality events that will comply with the objectives of the cultural policy concerning minorities.

Lectures, seminars and the like

In granting support, the Ministry of Culture will give priority to cultural themes presented by professional lecturers.

Miscellaneous

The items that cannot be included in the existing chapters will be included in this chapter.

C. OTHER MINORITY ETHNIC GROUPS AND IMMIGRANTS IN THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA

A call for applications is issued for other minority ethnic groups and immigrants for the selection of cultural projects relating to other minority ethnic groups and immigrants to be financed by the Republic of Slovenia in 2005 with budget funds earmarked for culture.

The expert agency of the Ministry of Culture will provide assistance in drawing up applications complying with requirements of the Ministry of Culture.

1. Proposers of projects

Proposers of projects of other minority ethnic groups and immigrants can be legal entities that have been creating, transmitting and protecting cultural values for at least three years. Associations prove that they meet the above condition by submitting a copy of the official document showing the date of their entry in the register of associations and a copy of an official document indicating the cultural domain of their activity.

2. Areas of activity

Space costs

The Ministry of Culture will (co-)finance the covering of space costs on the basis of a special statement of reasons, which should also include the explanation on the possibilities of the use of public cultural infrastructure in accordance with Articles 74 and 75 of the Exercising of the Public Interest in Culture Act.

Publishing activities

The Ministry of Culture will grant support in particular to:

- magazines and newspapers in the mother tongue, dealing with literary articles, essays and reviews and articles on literature, arts and culture in the original in translation;
- Youth magazines and newspapers in the mother tongue contributing to cultural education of children and adolescents;
- Original literary essays and reviews in the mother tongue;
- Bilingual translated literary and popular science works (for adults and for adolescents);
- Works dealing with humanities and social sciences (particularly those concerning the language, arts and culture of the nation of origin or the minority group);
- Dictionaries important for the preservation of a distinct cultural identity.

Activities aimed at language preservation

In granting support, the Ministry of Culture will give priority to professionally devised and conducted activities aimed at language preservation (e.g. linguistic research) and at the development of language culture and creativity (literary contests, etc.).

International cooperation

The Ministry of Culture will grant support to international cooperation of other minority ethnic groups and immigrants. An invitation by the international organiser must be submitted and the participation must be justified.

Cultural cooperation between various minority ethnic groups

In granting support, the Ministry of Culture will give priority to the forms of cultural cooperation involving a wide range of contents and performers from various minority ethnic groups.

Presentation of cultural activities and issues of the minority ethnic groups in Slovenia

In granting support, the Ministry of Culture will give priority to broad (in several towns) and effective presentations aimed at presenting the culture of minority groups to a great portion of Slovene population.

Lectures, seminars and the like

In granting support, the Ministry of Culture will give priority to cultural themes presented by professional lecturers.

Miscellaneous

The items that cannot be included in the existing chapters will be included in this chapter.

Activities of cultural groups

The sponsoring agency for activities of other minority ethnic groups and immigrants is the Republic of Slovenia Public Fund for Cultural Activities; these activities include: regular activities of cultural groups, contacts with the nation of origin, presentation of cultural activities and events. Proposers thus apply with their projects to the Republic of Slovenia Public Fund for Cultural Activities, which then informs the Ministry of Culture about the chosen projects.

The Ministry of Culture will exceptionally (co-)finance only those projects, for which will be proven to be of special significance for the country as a whole or in which at least one well established expert or artist will participate.

VI. Evaluation criteria for programmes of proposers and measures of the Ministry of Culture

Evaluation criteria for programmes of proposers and measures of the Ministry of Culture include:

1. Successfulness (compliance with the defined objectives);
2. Efficiency (ratio between the input and effect);
3. Relevance (according to the expressed cultural needs).

Annex 2**PROJECTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE LANGUAGE IN THE SPECIAL MINORITY PROGRAMME OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (MC) FOR 2002, 2003 AND 2004****PROGRAMME 2002*****CULTURAL ACTIVITY BY NATIONAL COMMUNITIES***

PROPOSER	TYPES OF ACTIVITIES	GRANTED (MC)
Coastal Italian Self-Governing National Community Koper (Programme of the Italian national community 2002)	Publishing activities	6,248,000
	Activities aimed at language preservation	600,000
	Conferences and courses	535,000
Hungarian Self-Governing National Community Lendava (Programme of the Hungarian national community 2002)	Publishing activities	10,612,130
	Activities aimed at language preservation	6, 300,000
	Conferences and courses	1,036,538

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES OF THE ROMA COMMUNITY

PROPOSER	TYPES OF ACTIVITIES	GRANTED (MC)
Union of Roma of Slovenia	Publishing activities	2,150,000
	Activities aimed at language preservation	1,000,000
	A new chapter (research and maintenance of the Romany culture and of young Roma creators' heritage)	500,000

CULTURAL ACTIVITY OF DIVERSE MINORITY ETHNIC GROUPS AND SETTLERS

PROPOSER	TYPES OF ACTIVITIES, PROJECT TITLE	GRANTED (MC)
Bosnian Cultural Union of Slovenia	Presentations: Continuation of the cycle <i>Islamic Culture</i> ; round table accompanying the promotion of Mustafa Spahić's book <i>The History of Islam</i>	837,000
	Conferences: <i>Bosnian dialogues – the culture of cohabitation</i> ; a symposium and debates on specific topics	173,500
	Presentations: Round table accompanying the presentation of Mitja Velikonja's book <i>Bosnian Religious Mosaic: Religions and national mythology in Bosnia and Herzegovina</i>	517,000
	Presentation of the book <i>Bosnian culture of behaviour</i> and a practical presentation led by Mevlid Serdarević	537,000
	Publishing activities: publication of the book by Alenka Auersperger <i>Potni kronogrami</i>	950,000
	Publishing activities: publication of the Union's bulletin <i>Bošnjak</i> (6 issues a year)	1,000,000
	Association of the Bosnian-Herzegovinian and Slovene friendship – Ljiljan	Conferences: Bosnian language and literature and a competition for young literary creators
Publishing activities: A publication on 10 th anniversary of the association		252,300

	Publishing activities: A novel by Valerija Skrinjar Tvrz: <i>Bosnia and Soča</i>	539,866
Association Serbian Community, Ljubljana	Publishing activities: Cultural review <i>Beseda</i> ; a book of stories by Marko Jovanović <i>The Venetian Mirror</i> ; a book by Olivera Bačović Dolinšek <i>Polishing the Diamond – Learning how to Love No. 2</i> ; a book of psycho-photo graphics by Branko Bačović <i>Trans-formation</i> ; and a book of poems by Miloš Đonović <i>Poetry 2</i>)	2,425,000
Macedonian Folklore Association Vardarka, Maribor	Presentations: organising literary evenings and collaborating with Slovene literary sections	100,000
Croatian Cultural Association in Maribor	Conferences and seminars: Diverse conferences on culture and history, literary evenings presenting Croatian writers and poets	545,000
	Publishing activities: Publication of the internal bulletin <i>Glasilo</i> (4 issues in the Croatian and Slovene languages)	600,000
	Miscellaneous: Web presentation of the association	200,000
Croatian Cultural Association, Novo Mesto	Publishing activities: Internal bulletin in the Croatian and Slovene languages: <i>Vjesnik HKZ</i> , 2002, No. 1	50,000
	Conferences: Conference cycle »On Wednesday until eighteen«: No. 73 - Dr B Dimnik/Dr Z Tomac: Friendship associations – bridges between Slovenia and Croatia; No. 74- Boris Maruna: <i>Matica Hrvatska</i> ; No. 75- Dr Aleksandar Durman: <i>Vučedolski Orion, the oldest European calendar</i> ; No. 76 - Dr Emil Lučev: Roma in European space, history, perspectives; No. 77- Mirjana Domini: Minorities in Slovenia, perspectives in the 21 st century	120,000
	Miscellaneous: Literary evenings with Milica Steković	15,000
Cultural Association of Albanians Migjeni	Publishing activities: publication of one issue of the internal bulletin <i>Alternativa</i> (at the occasion of the Albanian cultural day)	200,000
	Events: a cultural event and a literary evening with the author and member of the Academy Prof Ismail Kadar	20,000
Slovene Association of Kočevje Germans “Peter Kozler”	Events: Cultural programme of songs and recitations in the Gottsche dialect	300,000
	Publishing activities: a publication of Gottsche poems	400,000
Union of Macedonian Cultural Associations in Slovenia	Events: bilingual musical, theatrical and artistic events	650,000

PROGRAMME 2003

CULTURAL ACTIVITY BY NATIONAL COMMUNITIES

PROPOSER	TYPES OF ACTIVITIES	GRANTED (MC)
Coastal Italian Self-Governing National Community Koper (Programme of the Italian national community 2003)	Publishing activities	4,773,000
	Activities aimed at language preservation	662,000
	Conferences and courses	515,000
Hungarian Self-Governing National Community Lendava (Programme of the Hungarian national community 2003)	Publishing activities	10,612,130
	Activities aimed at language preservation	6,200,000
	Conferences and seminars	1,000,000

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES OF THE ROMA COMMUNITY

PROPOSER	TYPES OF ACTIVITIES, PROJECT TITLE	GRANTED (MC)
Union of Roma of Slovenia	Activities aimed at language preservation Romani čhib/Romany language	700,000
	Publishing activities: Bulletin <i>Romano them</i> /the Roma world	1,000,000
	Activities of cultural groups: <i>Muca Copatarica</i> , theatre performance for children organised by the Roma Association <i>Zelena vejš</i> Serdica	102,000
	Miscellaneous: a literary evening organised by the Roma Association <i>Zelena vejš</i> Serdica	98,000
	Presentations: evenings of Roma poetry organised by the RA <i>Romano gav</i> Novo Mesto	200,000
	Publishing activities: the publication of a poetry collection by Jelenka Kovačič <i>Childhood in a shadow</i>	600,000
	Publishing activities: the publication of Roma poetry by Horvat Romeo Pop and the publication of the book by Jožek Horvat Muc <i>Stories for Children</i>	350,000
	Miscellaneous: the publication of the CD <i>Mama so kerava</i> (Srečko Brezar)	300,000
	Events: The 4 th evening of Roma poetry and dance organised by the RA <i>Romano vozo</i> Velenje	80,000
Cultural promotion <i>Franc-Franc</i> , d.o.o.	Miscellaneous: the publication of the CD <i>Halgato band – Komi de ravnica bejla</i>	900,000

CULTURAL ACTIVITY OF DIVERSE MINORITY ETHNIC GROUPS AND SETTLERS

PROPOSER	PROJECT TITLE	GRANTED (MC)
Bosnian Cultural Union of Slovenia	Conferences and seminars: The orthography of the Bosnian language – summer school	400,000
	Miscellaneous: Bosnian portal in the Slovene and Bosnian languages	400,000
	Publishing activities: <i>Bošnjak</i> bulletin	1,200,000
	Conferences: The culture of cohabitation	300,000
	Presentations: the presentation of the book <i>Religion, nation and homeland</i>	200,000

	Conferences: the conferences entitled <i>Cultural aspects of national relations</i>	200,000
	Conferences: Conferences <i>Literary evening</i>	200,000
Association Serbian Community, Ljubljana (an association operating in public interest)	Publishing activities: Cultural bulletin <i>Beseda</i>	600,000
	chamber theatre performance <i>Andela</i>	800,000
Croatian Cultural Association	Conferences: Prof H Pranjić: A G Matoš – 130 th anniversary	24,000
	Conferences: Prof Vladimir Horvat: Faust Vrančić, inventor and lexicographer	24,000
	Conferences: several authors: <i>Italians in Slovenia and Croatia</i>	30,000
	Publishing activities: internal bulletin <i>Hrvatski vjesnik</i>	80,000
Cultural Association Brdo Kranj	Conferences and seminars: A Course on Serbian culture	200,000
Slovene Association of Kočevje Germans "Peter Kozler"	Publishing activities: a survey on dialects and the publication of the first volume of a dictionary	220,000
	Miscellaneous: preparation of a CD of Gottsche songs	100,000
	Conferences and seminars: a seminar on the dialects of Gottsche Germans	200,000
Serbian Cultural Association in Maribor	Publishing activities: the publication of the bulletin <i>Kontakt</i>	400,000
Serbian Cultural and Humanitarian Association Desanka Maksimović, Celje	Publishing activities: a monthly bulletin <i>Naša reč</i>	900,000
Union of Macedonian Cultural Associations in Slovenia	Presentations: bilingual musical, theatrical and artistic events	650,000
Union of Serbian Associations of Slovenia	Publishing activities: the publication of the bulletin <i>Srpske novice</i>	627,091
	Presentations: visits and performances of literary authors from Serbia	1,000,000

PROGRAMME FOR 2004

CULTURAL ACTIVITY BY NATIONAL COMMUNITIES

PROPOSER	TYPES OF ACTIVITIES	GRANTED (MC)
Coastal Italian Self-Governing National Community Koper (Programme of the Italian national community 2002)	Publishing activities	6,003,000
	Activities aimed at language preservation	715,000
	Conferences and courses	635,000
Hungarian Self-Governing National Community Lendava (Programme of the Hungarian national community 2002)	Publishing activities	11,335,070
	Activities aimed at language preservation	8,300,000
	Conferences and seminars	1,717,000

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES OF THE ROMA COMMUNITY

PROPOSER	TYPES OF ACTIVITIES, PROJECT TITLE	GRANTED
Union of Roma of Slovenia	Publishing activities: Bulletin <i>Romano them</i> (the Roma world)	1,050,000
	Publishing activities: the publication of the cultural bulletin <i>Romano glausoi</i> (Voice of Roma), RA Čaplja Vanča vas-Borejci	300,000
	Theatrical activities: Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, RA Zeleno vejš Serdica	140,000
	Miscellaneous: a literary evening organised by the Roma Association Zeleno vejš Serdica	80,000
	Miscellaneous: a round table of the RA Dobrovnik: Preserving the cultural heritage of Roma	300,000
	Miscellaneous: an evening of Roma poetry, RA <i>Somnakuni Čerhenja Cankova</i>	150,000
	Activities aimed at language preservation: literary competition for Roma songs and tales, RA Rom Črnomelj	200,000
	The activities of other cultural groups: Let's create a theatre performance, RA Jagori Črnomelj	160,000
	Activities aimed at language preservation: a workshop on Romany words, RA Romano vozo, Velenje	150,000
	Miscellaneous: a study on popular tradition of Roma and the publication of a bulletin by RA Vešoro	220,000
Cultural promotion <i>Franc-Franc, d.o.o.</i>	Publishing activities: preparation and publication of the book by Janko Kleibencetl: <i>Roma salutation</i>	400,000
Roma Association <i>Amala</i>	Publishing activities: Roma poetry accompanied by a Slovene translation and music notes	750,000
<i>Goga</i> publishing house	Publishing activities: Roma tales (initiation costs)	350,000

CULTURAL ACTIVITY OF DIVERSE MINORITY ETHNIC GROUPS AND SETTLERS

PROPOSER	PROJECT TITLE	GRANTED
Association Serbian Community, Ljubljana	Publishing activities: Cultural bulletin <i>Beseda</i>	800,000
	Activities of cultural groups: theatre performance <i>The Successor</i>	1,500,000
Bosnian Cultural Union of Slovenia	Conferences on the Bosnian language: Let's learn Bosnian	450,000
	Publishing activities: <i>Bošnjak</i> bulletin	1,300,000
	Miscellaneous: Bosnian Internet Portal (BIP)	700,000
Serbian Cultural Association in Maribor	Publishing activities: the publication of the bulletin <i>Kontakt</i>	1,500,000
Union of Serbian Associations in Slovenia	Miscellaneous: literary meetings with renowned authors from Republika Srpska and Montenegro	500,000
	Activities of cultural groups: a comic theatre from Prijedor	400,000
Association of the Bosnian-Herzegovinian and Slovene friendship - <i>Ljiljan</i>	Publishing activities: the publication of a bilingual edition of Srečko Kosovel's collection <i>I carry a sunflower on my shoulder</i>	500,000
	Publishing activities: literary bulletin <i>Lilium</i>	250,000

The cultural Association of German speaking women <i>Mostovi</i>	Activities aimed at language preservation: German language course for children (workshops); German language course for adult members of the association	350,000
	Publishing activities: the publication of a bilingual yearbook <i>Ties between people</i> (Zwischenmenschliche Bindungen)	600,000
Cultural Association Mihajlo Pupin	Publishing activities: <i>Mostovi</i> , bulletin of the Serb population in the Republic of Slovenia	350,000
Sandžak Cultural Association in Slovenia	Publishing activities: the publication of the bulletin <i>Glas Sandžaka</i>	500,000
Croatian Cultural Association in Maribor	Publishing activities: <i>Glasilo</i> bulletin	450,000
	Conferences: 5 conferences by different authors: Spring customs of the Croatian folklore; The rights and status of Croats in Slovenia)	150,000
Union of Macedonian Cultural Associations	Events: bilingual musical, theatrical and artistic events (several events by the MCA Ljubljana)	600,000
African Centre Association	Presentations: African cultures in Slovenia	400,000
Slovene Association of Kočevje Germans "Peter Kozler"	Presentations: a presentation of publishing activities of the Association	250,000

PROJECTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE LANGUAGE, FUNDED BY THE PUBLIC FUND OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA FOR CULTURAL ACTIVITIES (PFCA)

Only for diverse activities of ethnic minority groups (PFCA does not provide funding for the two national communities and the Roma community) for 2002, 2003 and 2004

2002

PROPOSER	TYPES OF ACTIVITIES, PROJECT TITLE	GRANTED
Bosnian Cultural Union of Slovenia	Literature: Writers for peace	100,000
Bosnian Cultural Union of Slovenia	Conference: Bosnian <i>psevдах</i>	100,000
Association Serbian Community	Literature: an evening of poetry by Serb origin poets living in Slovenia	50,000
Association Serbian Community	Literature: an evening of poetry by Đura Jakšić	50,000
Association Serbian Community	Theatre: a comedy <i>Paradox</i>	150,000
Cultural Association Brdo Kranj	Literature: Serb and Slovene poetry	50,000

2003

PROPOSER	TYPES OF ACTIVITIES, PROJECT TITLE	GRANTED
Bosnian Cultural Union of Slovenia	Literature: a poetry evening	150,000
Croatian Cultural Association in Maribor	Literature: internal bulletin	50,000
Croatian Cultural Association in Maribor	Conferences: 5 conferences	50,000
Association Serbian Community	Literature: a meeting of Serb poets	50,000
Association Serbian Community	Theatre performance <i>Paradox</i>	100,000
Macedonian Cultural Association Macedonia, Ljubljana	Literature: Macedonian drama texts	50,000
Cultural Association of Albanians <i>Migjeni</i>	Literature: the <i>Alternativa</i> bulletin	100,000

2004

PROPOSER	TYPES OF ACTIVITIES, PROJECT TITLE	GRANTED
Bosnian Cultural Union of Slovenia	Conferences: <i>There was once ...</i>	100,000
Bosnian Cultural Union of Slovenia	Conferences: <i>Cultural aspects of national relations</i>	100,000
Association of the Bosnian-Herzegovinian and Slovene friendship - <i>Ljiljan</i>	Literature: the student bulletin <i>Student</i>	100,000
Association Serbian Community	Theatre theatre performance <i>Paradox</i>	80,000
Association Serbian Community	Theatre theatre performance <i>Andžela</i>	100,000
Cultural Association <i>Petőfi Sándor</i> Dobrovnik	Theatre: theatre performance <i>Ilonka's Nostalgia</i>	120,000
Bosnian Cultural and Sports Association Jesenice <i>Biser</i>	Conferences: a seminar on folklore heritage of the Bosnians	70,000
Bosnian Cultural and Sports Association Jesenice <i>Biser</i>	Literature: an evening of poetry: <i>With poetry through life</i>	50,000
Bosnian Cultural and Sports Association Jesenice <i>Biser</i>	Literature: a poetry evening	50,000
Macedonian Cultural Association <i>Macedonia</i> , Ljubljana	Miscellaneous: setting up of an internet page	100,000

Annex 3**PROMOTION OF CULTURAL DIVERSITY, THE PROGRAMME OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE OUTSIDE THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA IN 2002, 2003 AND 2004****CONSTITUTIONALLY RECOGNISED COMMUNITIES**

1/ NATIONAL COMMUNITIES

2002

PROPOSER	TYPES OF ACTIVITIES	GRANTED (MC)
Coastal Italian Self-Governing National Community Koper (Programme of the Italian national community 2002)	Contacts with the country of origin (visits of high quality cultural groups in Italy and Croatia, visits of high quality cultural groups from the country of origin)	16,207,600
Hungarian Self-Governing National Community Lendava (Programme of the Hungarian national community 2002)	Contacts with the nation of origin (cooperation with Hungarians in Slovakia, Vojvodina, Ukraine and Burgenland mainly in amateur activities, literary contacts, expert exchange and conferences, and participation in different events and cultural institutions in the Republic of Hungary)	7,200,000

2003

PROPOSER	TYPES OF ACTIVITIES	GRANTED (MC)
Coastal Italian Self-Governing National Community Koper (Programme of the Italian national community 2003)	Contacts with the nation of origin (visits of high quality cultural groups in Italy and Croatia, visits of high quality cultural groups from the country of origin)	13,150,000
Hungarian Self-Governing National Community Lendava (Programme of the Hungarian national community 2003)	Contacts with the nation of origin (participation in exhibitions and fairs on cultural and ethnographic values of Hungarians; participation in cultural events in the Republic of Hungary, and cooperation with cultural institutions in Budapest)	7,337,000

2004

PROPOSER	TYPES OF ACTIVITIES	GRANTED (MC)
Coastal Italian Self-Governing National Community Koper (Programme of the Italian national community 2004)	Contacts with the nation of origin (visits of high quality cultural groups in Italy and Croatia and visits of high quality cultural groups from Italy and Croatia, preserving national identity, promoting joint projects and high quality contacts with the nations of origin)	14,377,175
Hungarian Self-Governing National Community Lendava (Programme of the Hungarian national community 2004)	Contacts with the nation of origin (participation in exhibitions and fairs on cultural and ethnographic values of Hungarians; participation in cultural events in the Republic of Hungary, and cooperation with cultural institutions in Budapest)	7,800,000

2/ ROMA COMMUNITY

2002

PROPOSER	TYPES OF ACTIVITIES	GRANTED (MC)
Union of Roma of Slovenia	International cooperation of Roma: visit of the Roma Association <i>Amala</i> in Sweden	730,000

2003

PROPOSER	TYPES OF ACTIVITIES	GRANTED (MC)
Union of Roma of Slovenia	International cooperation of Roma: visit of the Roma Association <i>Amala</i> in Sweden	200,000

2004

PROPOSER	TYPES OF ACTIVITIES	GRANTED (MC)
Roma Association <i>Amala</i>	International cooperation of Roma: visit of the Roma Association <i>Amala</i> in Czechia	500,000

**PROMOTION OF CULTURAL DIVERSITY, THE PROGRAMME OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE
OUTSIDE THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA IN 2002, 2003 AND 2004**

OTHER MINORITY ETHNIC GROUPS AND IMMIGRANTS

2002

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2003

PROPOSER	TYPES OF ACTIVITIES	GRANTED (MC)
Union of Macedonian Cultural Associations in Slovenia	International cooperation: participation at the European folklore festival in Germany	400,000

2004

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**PROMOTION OF CULTURAL DIVERSITY
PROJECTS FUNDED BY THE PUBLIC FUND OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA FOR CULTURAL
ACTIVITIES (PFCA)**

Only for diverse activities of ethnic minority groups (PFCA does not provide funding for the two national communities and the Roma community):

2002, 2003 AND 2004

2002

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2003

PROPOSER	TYPES OF ACTIVITIES, PROJECT TITLE	GRANTED
Serbian Cultural Association in Maribor	Ethnic folklore events: a visit in Banjaluka	50,000
Union of Macedonian Cultural Associations in Slovenia	Ethnic folklore events: the <i>Golak</i> meeting in Macedonia	100,000
Association of the Bosnian-Herzegovinian and Slovene friendship - <i>Ljiljan</i>	Ethnic folklore events: a visit in Bosnia and Herzegovina	150,000
Association Serbian Community	Ethnic folklore events: a visit of a folklore group in Bosnia and Herzegovina	50,000
Serbian Cultural and Humanitarian Association <i>Desanka Maksimović</i>	Ethnic folklore events: a visit in Serbia	100,000

2004

PROPOSER	TYPES OF ACTIVITIES, PROJECT TITLE	GRANTED
Association of the Bosnian-Herzegovinian and Slovene friendship – <i>Ljiljan</i>	Ethnic folklore events: a visit in Bosnia and Herzegovina	100,000
The B-H Moslem Club in Slovenia	Folk songs of Bosnians in B-H	80,000
Bosnian Cultural and Sports Association Jesenice <i>Biser</i>	International folklore festival <i>Otoka 2004</i>	80,000
Serbian Cultural Association in Maribor	an excursion to Serbia and Montenegro	100,000
Arabian Club in Slovenia	The organisation of qualifications and the publication of a student bulletin	200,000

Annex 4

Integration programme monitoring

No.	Year	Area	Minority community	Minority programme project, investment	Requested amount (in SIT)	Allocated amount (in SIT)	Index	Realisation (in SIT)	Index
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8 (7:6)	9	10 (9:7)
I	2002								
		Music	Roma	Concert: World Roma Day in Cankarjev Dom, Ljubljana				785.000	
II	2003								
		Music	Roma	Concert: World Roma Day in Cankarjev Dom, Ljubljana				500.000	
		Publishing							
			Hungarians	<i>Študentska založba</i> , publisher (Kertesz, <i>Faithless</i> (translation into Slovene))				1.400.000	
			Hungarians	Anthology of Hungarian short prose (translation into Slovene)				3.252.327	
			Hungarians	<i>Jelenkov</i> publisher (Gabor Csordas, translation into Slovene)				500.000	
				TOTAL				5.152.327	
		Libraries							
				Purchase of books and a special programme for the needs of the national community				15.927.456	
III	2004								
		Music	Roma	World Roma Day in Cankarjev Dom, Ljubljana				759.400	
			Roma	<i>Brizani</i> (release of a concert CD + a Roma suite)				300.000	
				TOTAL				1.059.400	
		Theatre	Italians	Theatre society <i>Skysma</i> , Seča 63, Portorož (performance <i>Pogon</i>)				900.000	
		Libraries							
				Purchase of books and a special programme for the needs of the national community	39.770.599				
			Italians						
				Purchase of additional library material and information sources	5.856.264				
				Processing and mediating of library material and information sources	4.608.349				
				Enabling communication in the language of the national community	1.142.012				
				Teaching information technology literacy	1.798.592				
				Training of staff working with members of the national community	840.000				
				Reading culture and library training for members of the national community	1.516.994				
				Technical cooperation with the nation of origin	812.804				
				Other activities	3.232.010				
				TOTAL	19.807.025				
			Hungarians						
				Purchase of additional library material and information sources	3.396.972				
				Processing and mediating of library material and information sources	6.925.296				
				Enabling communication in the language of the national community	2.386.000				
				Teaching information technology literacy	1.486.465				
				Training of staff working with members of the national community	1.071.080				
				Reading culture and library training for members of the national community	1.530.958				
				Technical cooperation with the nation of origin	1.216.864				
				Other activities	1.949.940				
				TOTAL	19.963.575				

Note:

Includes data filed to the Section for cultural rights of minorities and development of cultural diversity

Annex 5

CULTURAL ACTIVITY OF DIVERSE MINORITY GROUPS IN THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA – BY MUNICIPALITIES

(a list of those that have in any manner filed a request to the Ministry of Culture)

▪ **Ljubljana**

African Centre Association, Ljubljana
Cultural Association of Albanians *Migjeni*, Ljubljana
Arabian Club in Slovenia, Ljubljana
Bosnian Cultural Union of Slovenia, Ljubljana
Association of the Bosnian-Herzegovinian and Slovene friendship – *Ljiljan*, Ljubljana
Union of Macedonian Cultural Associations in Slovenia, Ljubljana
Croatian Cultural House in Slovenia, Ljubljana
Jewish Community of Slovenia, Ljubljana
Slovene Association of Kočevje Germans “Peter Kozler”, Ljubljana
Union of Macedonian Cultural Associations in Slovenia, Ljubljana
Macedonian Cultural Association Macedonia, Ljubljana
Association Serbian Community, Ljubljana
Cultural Association Serbian Cultural Community, Ljubljana
Union of Serbian Associations of Slovenia, Ljubljana
Cultural Association *Mihajlo Pupin*, Ljubljana
Cultural and Art Association *Mladost*, Ljubljana
Hungarian Cultural Association *Petőfi Sándor*, Ljubljana

▪ **Medvode:**

Sandžak Cultural Association in Slovenia, Medvode

▪ **Kranj:**

Association of Countrymen *Plava i Gusinja Izvor*, Kranj
Montenegrin Cultural, Educational and Sports Association *Morača*, Kranj
Macedonian Cultural Association *SS Cyril and Method*, Kranj
Cultural Association Brdo, Kranj
Serbian Cultural and Educational Association *Saint Sava*, Kranj

▪ **Jesenice:**

Macedonian Cultural Association *Ilinden*, Jesenice
Moslem Cultural Association *Biser*, Jesenice

▪ **Škofja Loka:**

Croatian Club *Komušina*, Škofja Loka

▪ **Radovljica:**

Cultural, Educational and Sports Association *Vuk Karadžić*, Radovljica

▪ **Maribor:**

Croatian Cultural Association in Maribor
Macedonian Folklore Association *Vardarka*, Maribor
Macedonian Cultural Association *Biljana*, Maribor
International Association *Most svobode – Freiheitsbrücke - Freedombridge*, Maribor
Cultural Association of German speaking women *Mostovi*, Maribor
Serbian Cultural Association in Maribor

▪ **Celje:**

Union of Serbian Cultural Associations in Slovenia, Celje
Serbian Humanitarian Association Desanka Maksimović, Celje

▪ **Novo mesto:**

Croatian Cultural Association, Novo Mesto

▪ **Dolenjske Toplice:**

Association of Kočevje German settlers, Dolenjske Toplice

▪ **Apaško polje:**

International Association *Most svobode – Freiheitsbrücke - Freedombridge*, Apaško polje, Apače