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EUROPEAN CHARTER FOR REGIONAL OR MINORITY LANGUAGES

**Information Document
on the implementation of the
Recommendations for Immediate Action
based on the 7th monitoring cycle**

Submitted by Croatia

on 1 September 2025

RESPONSE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA TO RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION AS CONTAINED IN THE SEVENTH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE APPLICATION OF THE EUROPEAN CHARTER FOR REGIONAL OR MINORITY LANGUAGES BY THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

The Government of the Republic of Croatia fully recognises the importance of preserving the linguistic and cultural heritage of persons belonging to national minorities and remains committed to the fulfilment of undertakings derived from the ratification of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (hereinafter: European Charter), and the information on the implementation of recommendations for immediate action as contained in the Seventh Report of the Committee of Experts on the Application of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages by the Republic of Croatia is presented below.

1. Recommendations by the Committee of Experts on how to improve the protection and promotion of Boyash Romanian in Croatia

Recommendations for immediate action

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| a. | Extend Boyash Romanian education in pre-school and primary education (Model C) in the counties of Međimurje and Osijek-Baranja, also by ensuring a sufficient number of teachers and teaching materials. |
| b. | Introduce the broadcasting of a television programme and a radio programme in Boyash Romanian of a sufficient duration, regularity and frequency in the areas where Boyash Romanian is traditionally used. |
| c. | Develop and implement, in co-operation with representatives of the speakers, a strategy on the promotion of the use of Boyash Romanian. |

a. Extend Boyash Romanian education in pre-school and primary education (Model C) in the counties of Međimurje and Osijek-Baranja, also by ensuring a sufficient number of teachers and teaching materials.

In the Republic of Croatia, the importance of preserving the linguistic and cultural heritage of members of the Roma national minority has been fully recognised, including the preservation of Boyash Romanian, which is used as the mother tongue of a part of the Roma community.

Within the framework of the reorganisation of the Ministry of Science, Education and Youth, the Directorate for National Minorities was established, which operates in accordance with Articles 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81 and 82 of the Decree on Internal Organisation of the Ministry of Science, Education and Youth (*Narodne novine* No 72/24). A special Sector for Education in the Languages and Scripts of National Minorities performs professional and administrative tasks related to curricula, teaching materials, teacher training and staff recruitment, and within it there are two divisions: Division for Development and Monitoring of National Minority Education and Division for Coordination of Affairs and Support to the National Minority Education System.

A Sector for National Programmes, Action Plans and Projects has also been established, which includes the Analysis and Statistics Division and the Division for the Improvement of Roma National Minority Education. The establishment of the latter division has further strengthened the institutional framework for monitoring and developing Roma education, ensuring specialised support to this group within the education system.

Boyash Romanian, which is used by a part of the Roma community in Croatia, does not have a standardised written form and until recently was not included in the education system. With the adoption of the Curriculum for the Subject *Language and Culture of the Roma National Minority* in 2020, equal access was provided for the first time to education in the two languages used by members of the Roma national minority – Boyash Romanian and Romani (Romani Čhib) – under Model C. Croatia thus made a significant step forward in the recognition and inclusion of Roma linguistic and cultural identity in the education system.

Model C allows students to learn the language and culture of a national minority for two to five hours a week, within a regular education programme. Model C is currently implemented for the Roma minority in three primary schools in Međimurje – Kuršanec Primary School, Orehovica Primary School and Podturen Primary School – with about 70 students involved in the programme altogether. In the academic year 2020/2021, the subject *Language and Culture of the Roma National Minority* (Boyash Romanian and Romani (Romani Čhib) was approved for delivery in the Jagodnjak Plementary School in Osijek-Baranja County for the first time. The Ministry continuously issues approvals for the organisation of such classes subject to the interest of students, organisational capacity of schools and availability of teaching staff.

By checking the current state of affairs, we have identified challenges in:

- securing qualified staff to teach in Boyash Romanian,
- development and distribution of teaching materials adapted to a non-standardised language,
- fostering an interest in parents and students in being included in Model C.

In cooperation with Roma organisations, local authorities and international partners, we will continue to support the development of pilot projects, the professional training of teachers, the involvement of the community in the production of materials, and the potential refinement of the existing curriculum to make it more responsive to local language variants.

Furthermore, we have been financing textbooks and other educational materials for the purpose of education in the languages and scripts of national minorities, including the Roma, although there have been no initiatives from Roma representatives so far for the production of specific materials in Boyash Romanian.

Professional training and additional support for Roma pupils have been made possible under the measures envisaged by the National Education System Development Plan up to 2027 and the accompanying Action Plan up to 2024 (*Narodne novine* No 33/23), which also includes specific forms of funding. For example, didactic tools have been developed so far, and the Orehovica Primary School has been implementing a learning assistance programme, while the Kotoriba Primary School has been implementing a support programme for pre-school children. In addition, other applications for similar programmes are underway, with the aim of extending available support to further local communities.

Additionally, the implementation of the recommendations relies on the National Plan for Roma Inclusion 2021-2027 and the Operational Programmes of National Minorities 2024-2028, which provide funding for the development of language and cultural programmes. Furthermore, EU funds have been used to develop educational content and capacities for minority education.

We are open to further dialogue with the representatives of the Roma community, stakeholders in Međimurje and Osijek-Baranja counties, as well as with the bodies of the Council of Europe. In the forthcoming period, priority will be given to securing the conditions for extending education in the language and culture of the Roma community (Boyash Romanian) to additional institutions, including appropriate institutional support and quality of teaching.

b. Introduce the broadcasting of a television programme and a radio programme in Boyash Romanian of a sufficient duration, regularity and frequency in the areas where Boyash Romanian is traditionally used.

The Croatian Radiotelevision (hereinafter: HRT) produces TV programmes for national minorities and about national minorities, which are of a high professional quality and public value, and the duration and weekly rhythm of broadcasting are in accordance with the laws. Members of national minorities appearing in the programmes are always encouraged to speak in their native minority language, and the content is subtitled into Croatian to make the reach and impact of the broadcasts stronger.

The HRT produces and broadcasts in daily and/or weekly rhythm radio programmes in Italian, Hungarian and Slovak, produced by journalists who are speakers of the minority languages.

Prioritising the quality of the programme and high creative and editorial standards in a financially challenging time, the HRT produces programmes characterized by authenticity and constructive journalism, which are crucial media contributions to creating an inclusive society.

There are 22 national minorities in Croatia, and each of them has its own specificities and its own language and script, which, due to the decreasing number of native speakers, makes it difficult to produce and broadcast programmes in the language of each of the minorities, including Boyash Romanian.

In 2022, the HRT aired a total of 45,818 minutes of programme for national minorities, of which 30 episodes in Boyash Romanian, with a total duration of 150 minutes.

In 2023, the HRT aired a total of 30,628.40 minutes of programme for national minorities, including programmes for children in Boyash Romanian, with a total duration of 150 minutes.

In 2024, 32,571 minutes of programme for national minorities were aired, of which 30 programmes for children in Boyash Romanian, with a total duration of 150 minutes.

So far **in 2025**, 15,060 minutes of programme for national minorities have been broadcast by the HRT.

c. Develop and implement, in co-operation with representatives of the speakers, a strategy on the promotion of the use of Boyash Romanian.

Based on the 2021 Census, it was established that members of the Roma national minority made up over a third of the population of a local self-government unit for the first time, which opened

the possibility of introducing the language and script of the Roma national minority into official use. On 24 March 2023, the Government Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities organised an expert meeting entitled ‘Official Use of the Language and Script of the Roma National Minority’, to provide a professional foundation for reflection and decision-making of local stakeholders on the modalities of implementation of the law governing the use of minority languages and scripts in a local context, on the basis of relevant international documents (the European Charter, the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities), Croatian legislation and practice, and for the purpose of familiarisation with the specificities of the language spoken by the Roma national minority in the Municipality of Orehovica.

Regarding bilingualism in Orehovica, please note that it has not been achieved yet due to the fact that, following the May 2025 local elections, local stakeholders are yet to agree on the matter of introducing the Roma minority language into co-official use.

2. Recommendations by the Committee of Experts on how to improve the protection and promotion of Czech in Croatia

Recommendations for immediate action

- a. **Strengthen the use of Czech at the level of local branches of state authorities, regional and local authorities and extend its equal and official use to additional municipalities.**
- b. **Introduce the broadcasting of a television programme in Czech of a sufficient duration, regularity and frequency.**

a. Strengthen the use of Czech at the level of local branches of state authorities, regional and local authorities and extend its equal and official use to additional municipalities

Article 12 the Constitutional Act on the Rights of National Minorities (*Narodne novine* Nos 155/02, 47/10, 80/10 and 93/11; hereinafter: Constitutional Act) stipulates that equal co-official use of the language and script used by members of a national minority is guaranteed on the territory of a local self-government unit where members of the national minority constitute at least a third of the overall population of the unit, when when so mandated by international treaties which, in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Croatia (*Narodne novine* Nos 85/10 – consolidated text and 5/14 – Decision of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Croatia), constitute part of the legal order of the Republic of Croatia, or where provided for in the statute of a local or regional self-government unit or in the statute of a regional self-government unit in accordance with the special Act on the Use of the Languages and Scripts of National Minorities in the Republic of Croatia (*Narodne novine* Nos 51/00 and 56/00).

According to the 2021 Census, the population of the Municipality of Dežanovac comprises 22.80% of Czech minority population, 10.97% of Serbian minority population and 3.89% of Hungarian minority population.

Article 101(1) of the Statute of the Municipality of Dežanovac of 12 February 2018 (*Official Gazette of the Municipality of Dežanovac* Nos 1/18, 4/19 and 1/20) stipulated that members of the Czech national minority were guaranteed the right to the official use of the Czech language and script in accordance with the provisions of the Constitutional Act and the Act on the Use

of the Languages and Scripts of National Minorities in the Republic of Croatia. The aforementioned Statute prescribed the equal co-official use of Czech and Croatian languages and scripts for the settlements of Dežanovac, Golubinjak and Donji Sređani. The equal use was applicable to: bilingual Croatian and Czech signboards with names of the settlements, signboards of public institutions, community centres, schools and other institutions, signboards of executive and administrative bodies of the Municipality of Dežanovac, as well as the right for natural persons performing public activities and legal persons to print their names in both Croatian and Czech.

Pursuant to Article 109 of the 2021 Statute of the Municipality of Dežanovac, members of the Czech, Serbian and Hungarian national minorities were granted the right to co-official use of the Czech, Serbian and Hungarian languages and scripts in accordance with the provisions of the Constitutional Act and the Act on the Use of Languages and Scripts of National Minorities in the Republic of Croatia, without specifying the rights involved.

However, the aforementioned 2021 Statute reduced the right to bilingualism, since paragraph (2) of that Article merely provided for the right to allow the placement of name signs in Croatian and Czech in the settlements of Dežanovac, Donji Sređani and Golubinjak on buildings owned by Češka beseda Donji Sređani and Golubinjak, and for natural persons performing public activities and legal persons to print their names in Croatian and Czech..

Furthermore, the 2024 Statutory Decision on Second Amendments to the Statute of the Municipality of Dežanovac again extended the use Czech, as Article 109(2) was amended to provide for the equal use of Czech and Croatian languages and scripts for the settlements of Donji Sređani and Golubinjak.

Equal use is exercised in bilingual (Croatian and Czech) signboards with the names of settlements, public institutions, community centres, schools and other institutions, as well as the right for natural persons performing public activities and legal persons to print their names in Croatian and Czech.

Furthermore, the Town of Grubišno Polje, which has 861 members of the Czech national minority, or 16.04%, according to the 2021 Census, stipulates in its Statute of 31 March 2020, Article 79, that the Czech national minority is entitled to bilingual names of settlements (in Croatian and Czech) in a part of the Town of Grubišno Polje, specifically, the following settlements: Ivanovo Selo, Mali Zdenci, Veliki Zdenci, Donja Rašenica, Orlovac Zdenački, Rastovac, Treglava. Bilingual names in those settlements are applicable to: names of settlements, names and business premises of public authorities, community centres. In the settlement of Grubišno Polje, the Czech national minority is entitled to bilingual name signs of public authorities and their business premises, as well as the name signs of community centres and legal entities owned by the Town.

b. Introduce the broadcasting of a television programme in Czech of a sufficient duration, regularity and frequency.

See the HRT's comment under b. on page 3 of this Response.

3. Recommendations by the Committee of Experts on how to improve the protection and promotion of German in Croatia

Recommendations for immediate action

- a. **Extend the provision of German language education at pre-school and primary levels (Model C), including to additional municipalities, e.g. Đakovo, Sirač, Vukovar and Zagreb, as well as to the secondary level.**
- b. **Introduce the broadcasting of a television programme and a radio programme in German of a sufficient duration, regularity and frequency.**

a. Extend the provision of German language education at pre-school and primary levels (Model C), including to additional municipalities, e.g. Đakovo, Sirač, Vukovar and Zagreb, as well as to the secondary level.

The importance of preserving and transferring the linguistic and cultural heritage of the German national minority has been recognised in Croatia, and the right to education in the languages and scripts of national minorities has been continuously supported in accordance with the Constitutional Act, the Act on Education in the Languages and Scripts of National Minorities (*Narodne novine* Nos 51/00, 56/00) and international undertakings of the Republic of Croatia, including the provisions of the European Charter.

Under Model C, *German Language and Culture* classes are already taught in primary schools in accordance with a special programme, based on curricular documents that have been positively evaluated by the Education and Teacher Training Agency. The development of the Curriculum started in 2023, and its finalisation is expected in 2025. The Ministry of Science, Education and Youth as the competent authority regularly issues approvals to schools that express interest in organising classes under this model, subject to the school's personnel and organisational capacity and the expressed interest of parents and students.

We are open to extending the *German Language and Culture* classes under Model C to primary and secondary schools in additional units of local and regional self-government, including Đakovo, Sirač, Vukovar and the City of Zagreb, in accordance with the expressed interest of schools and members of the German national minority. In this context, the initiative of schools and representatives of the German minority is particularly important, as Model C classes are organised at the request of parents and students, in accordance with the Act on Education in the Languages and Scripts of National Minorities.

The Directorate for National Minorities of the Ministry of Science, Education and Youth, through the Sector for Education in the Languages and Scripts of National Minorities, coordinates and monitors the implementation of the programme, issues approvals for staff recruitment and encourages the development of new curricular documents, when necessary. It also supports the training and professional development of teaching staff and encourages the development and distribution of teaching materials, including digital contents.

With regard to pre-school education, it cooperates with local self-government units and the founders of kindergartens in order to create conditions for the delivery of minority language and culture programmes. In this context, proposals will be considered to extend the

implementation of German language programmes in kindergartens in the mentioned areas, within the current regulatory and curricular frameworks.

Possibilities for extending German language learning to the secondary level are also under consideration, taking into account the interest of students and the possibilities of schools to support the implementation of the programme in terms of organisational and staff capacity. The National Education System Development Plan up to 2027 and the accompanying Action Plan up to 2024 envisage further curricular reform activities, which include minority content.

We remain committed to further strengthening institutional mechanisms for education in national minority languages, including the German national minority, and are open to cooperating with all relevant stakeholders – minority representatives, schools, local authorities and international partners – to achieve the objectives of the European Charter.

b. Introduce the broadcasting of a television programme and a radio programme in German of a sufficient duration, regularity and frequency.

See the HRT's comment under b. on page 3 of this Response.

4. Recommendations by the Committee of Experts on how to improve the protection and promotion of Hungarian in Croatia

Recommendations for immediate action

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| a. | Strengthen the use of Hungarian at the level of local branches of state authorities, regional and local authorities and extend its equal and official use to additional municipalities. |
| b. | Extend the broadcasting of television programmes in Hungarian with a view to reach a sufficient duration, regularity and frequency. |

a. Strengthen the use of Hungarian at the level of local branches of state authorities, regional and local authorities and extend its equal and official use to additional municipalities.

Members of the Hungarian national minority have a share of more than one third in the Municipality of Kneževi Vinogradi (38.70%) and therefore have the right to equal use of Hungarian language and script in that municipality. Pursuant to the statute, the co-official use of the Hungarian language and script is prescribed for the following units (either the territory of the entire unit or individual settlements): Bjelovar-Bilogora County (share 0.62%), Town of Grubišno Polje (share 2.35%) and the municipalities of Ernestinovo (share 15.61%) and Tordinci (share 18.65%).

The town of Grubišno Polje, which has 126 (2.35%) members of the Hungarian national minority according to the 2021 census, stipulated in Article 80 of its Statute of 31 March 2020 that the Hungarian national minority in the settlement of Grbavac is entitled to bilingual signboards of the community centre and names of settlements in Croatian and Hungarian.

Subsequent amendments to the Statute of the Town of Grubišno Polje have not reduced the rights of persons belonging to national minorities.

b. Extend the broadcasting of television programmes in Hungarian with a view to reach a sufficient duration, regularity and frequency.

The Government of the Republic of Croatia, through the Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities, co-finance project activities of umbrella associations of national minorities within the framework of the Operational Programmes of National Minorities. Please note that a significant number of activities of the minority associations themselves correspond to other recommendations for immediate action as well, especially those referring to Hungarian and Serbian.

See the HRT's comment under b. on page 3 of this Response.

5. Recommendations by the Committee of Experts on how to improve the protection and promotion of Istro-Romanian in Croatia

Recommendations for immediate action

- a. **Introduce Istro-Romanian in pre-school and primary education (Model C) in the municipalities of Kršan and Matulji and provide for a sufficient number of teachers and teaching materials.**
- b. **Provide long-term sustainable funding to the activities and facilities promoting Istro-Romanian.**

a. Introduce Istro-Romanian in pre-school and primary education (Model C) in the municipalities of Kršan and Matulji and provide for a sufficient number of teachers and teaching materials.

Croatia fully recognises the importance of protecting and preserving Istro-Romanian, which is an extremely valuable form of intangible cultural heritage and identity of communities in Istria, especially in the municipalities of Kršan and Matulji.

So far, Istro-Romanian (also known as “Vlashki” and “Zheyanski”) has not been included in the formal education system of the Republic of Croatia as a teaching language under Model C. The language has historically been present in parts of Istria and the number of its speakers is in decline. Its integration into the education system requires special preparation, language documentation, development of curricula and teacher training.

We express our readiness, in cooperation with local communities, schools and representatives of the Istro-Romanian language community, to consider the possibility of launching a pilot programme under Model C. The establishment of such programmes relies primarily on the initiative of the local minority community, whereby the competent Ministry will provide all the necessary professional and institutional support. The initiation of the programme includes the collection of data on the number of interested students, the availability of speakers competent for working with children, as well as the development of basic teaching materials.

The Directorate for National Minorities at the Ministry of Science, Education and Youth, in particular the Sector for Education in the Languages and Scripts of National Minorities, is responsible for the recognition of languages and for initiating the process of curriculum development. As with other languages that were previously not part of the education system, the procedure includes:

- identification of the language basis (written standard, lexis, grammar);
- development of syllabuses;
- curriculum preparation and peer review;
- establishment of training modules for teachers.

In accordance with the current legislation, the launch of Model C classes is based on the interest of parents and the community, and the Ministry is also open to formal initiatives originating from the aforementioned municipalities, which would be compatible with the existing educational and financial frameworks.

We support the involvement of experts in the fields of Romance studies, linguistic revitalisation and cultural anthropology, as well as cooperation with associations and local initiatives that have already been engaged in the preservation of Istro-Romanian. It is possible to involve these actors in the development of language resources and textbooks, as well as in the training of future teachers.

We would like to reaffirm our openness to initiating dialogue and cooperation with relevant stakeholders for the purpose of initiating the process of introducing Istro-Romanian in the education system under Model C. In the coming period, priority will be given to securing institutional and staff capacity for the implementation of a pilot programme in the municipalities of Kršan and Matulji, with the support of domestic and international experts.

b. Provide long-term sustainable funding to the activities and facilities promoting Istro-Romanian.

Within the 2024 Public Call for Proposals for public needs in culture of the Republic of Croatia, Programme for the protection and conservation of intangible cultural property, funds amounting to 9,490 EUR have been allocated for three programmes to the following associations:

- *Spod Učke* Association, Kršan, Language playgroup Puljići/Ptičice (Istro-Romanian), 2.500,00 EUR,
- *Spod Učke* Association, Kršan, “(Un)hidden Istria” (Istro-Romanian), 3.990,00 EUR,
- *Vlaški puti* Interpretation Centre, Šušnjevića, “Let's preserve our language and tradition” (Istro-Romanian), 3.000,00 EUR.

6. Recommendations by the Committee of Experts on how to improve the protection and promotion of Italian in Croatia

Recommendations for immediate action

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| a. | Extend Italian language education to additional municipalities where Italian is used. |
| b. | Extend the broadcasting of television programmes in Italian with a view to reaching a sufficient duration, regularity and frequency. |

a. Extend Italian language education to additional municipalities where Italian is used.

Croatia fully supports the preservation and improvement of Italian language education, in accordance with the long-standing practice, the Constitutional Act, the Act on Education in the Languages and Scripts of National Minorities and the international undertakings of the Republic of Croatia, including the European Charter.

With regard to the recommendation to extend Italian language education to additional municipalities where the language is used, we would like to point out the following:

In the counties of Istria and Primorje-Gorski Kotar, Italian language education has been successfully delivered for a number of years, especially under Model A, where the entire education is provided in the language and script of the Italian national minority. Model C (minority language and culture classes) is also applied in some areas, e.g. Pakrac High School in Pakrac.

We support the extension of existing models of Italian language education to additional municipalities and towns where Italian is actually used, in line with the interests of parents and children, and the capacities of educational institutions. The introduction of such education is based on the initiative of the local community and schools, and includes prior establishment of organisational, spatial, staffing and pedagogical requirements.

In Istria County, in certain schools that provide education in Croatian, Italian language learning is provided for by town and municipal statutes, in accordance with the provisions of Article 9 of the Act on Education in the Languages and Scripts of National Minorities. The statutes stipulate namely that, in territories where the municipal or town statute establishes equal co-official use of the language and script of a national minority, students of schools with Croatian language education will be given possibilities to learn the language and script of the national minority.

Apart from the legal framework, an additional basis for ensuring Italian language education is the Treaty between the Republic of Croatia and the Italian Republic on the Rights of Minorities (*Narodne novine* No 15/97), which emphasises the preservation and further development of the acquired rights of the Italian minority in the field of education, culture and language.

The Directorate for National Minorities of the Ministry of Science, Education and Youth, through its Sector for Education in the Languages and Scripts of National Minorities, carries out professional and administrative tasks related to the recognition of programmes, the recruitment of teaching staff and the issuance of approvals. It also continuously cooperates with the Italian Union and other representative bodies of the Italian national minority on the development of curricula, textbooks and the provision of teaching staff.

Italian language education curricula were developed and aligned with the National Curriculum and received a positive opinion from the Education and Teacher Training Agency. Furthermore, the digitisation of teaching content and the recording of video lessons in Italian were financially supported in previous periods as well.

A successful expansion of Italian language education also depends on the willingness of local governments to provide technical and logistical requirements for such education. We encourage the initiatives of local and regional self-government units, to express, in cooperation with

minority councils and representatives, the needs for expanding the network of institutions providing Italian language education.

We remain open to any proposals and initiatives that would lead to strengthening the system of education in the language and script of the Italian national minority, and will continue, in cooperation with local communities and minority representatives, to improve the availability and quality of Italian language education in communities expressing a real need and interest.

b. Extend the broadcasting of television programmes in Italian with a view to reaching a sufficient duration, regularity and frequency.

See the HRT's comment under b. on page 3 of this Response.

7. Recommendations by the Committee of Experts on how to improve the protection and promotion of Ruthenian in Croatia

Recommendations for immediate action

- a. **Introduce Ruthenian in equal and official use in at least one municipality and use it in practice at the level of local and regional authorities.**
- b. **Make pre-school education available in Ruthenian and teach this language in secondary education.**
- c. **Introduce the broadcasting of a television programme and a radio programme in Ruthenian of a sufficient duration, regularity and frequency.**

a. Introduce Ruthenian in equal and official use in at least one municipality and use it in practice at the level of local and regional authorities.

Members of the Ruthenian national minority do not meet the legal requirement of one third of population for the introduction of bilingualism in any local and regional self-government unit. According to the 2021 Census, units with the highest share of the Ruthenian minority population are the municipalities of Bogdanovci (19.48%) and Tompojevci (16.40%). However, according to data available in the e-System for Monitoring the Implementation of the Constitutional Act for 2024, bilingualism has not been introduced in these units.

Please note that the Ministry of Justice, Public Administration and Digital Transformation collects data and continuously monitors the equal co-official use of the languages and scripts of national minorities in all units of local and regional self-government, stresses the importance of minority languages and also encourages units to introduce bilingualism through their statutes. Civil servants on central and local level are taught about this right in the workshop "Application of the Constitutional Act on the Rights of National Minorities", organised by the State School of Public Administration.

b. Make pre-school education available in Ruthenian and teach this language in secondary education.

Croatia fully supports the preservation and development of the Ruthenian language and culture as part of its rich linguistic and cultural diversity. The right to education in the languages and scripts of national minorities is guaranteed by the Constitution of the Republic of Croatia, the

Constitutional Act and the Act on Education in the Languages and Scripts of National Minorities. In line with the commitments under the European Charter, measures to improve the educational opportunities of persons belonging to all national minorities, including the Ruthenian minority, have continuously been developed.

In relation to the recommendation to make pre-school education in Ruthenian available and teach Ruthenian language in secondary schools, we point out the following:

Local self-government units and the founders of kindergartens are encouraged to ensure, in accordance with the interest of parents and the community, the implementation of pre-school programmes in Ruthenian. The Ministry of Science, Education and Youth is ready to provide the necessary professional and administrative guidance for the introduction of such programmes, as well as support in the inclusion of additional linguistic and cultural content within existing kindergarten activities.

Ruthenian language education is currently organised under Model C in primary schools, and we are open to extending it to secondary schools, in accordance with the applicable legislative framework, student interest and staff capacity. The introduction of such programmes in secondary schools requires cooperation with school principals, local governments and representatives of the Ruthenian national minority.

In accordance with Activity 8.10.1 of the Operational Programmes of National Minorities 2021-2024, an initiative was received to establish the Ruthenian Language and Culture Department at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Zagreb. For this purpose, meetings have already been held with representatives of the Ruthenian national minority and the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. The Ministry of Science, Education and Youth has provided professional support, and will continue to carry out activities aimed at achieving this important goal. The establishment of such a department would be crucial for the training of teaching staff and the development of textbooks and professional resources needed to expand education in the Ruthenian language.

The Directorate for National Minorities of the Ministry of Science, Education and Youth, through its Sector for Education in the Languages and Scripts of National Minorities, is in charge of approving and coordinating all education programmes in the languages of national minorities, as well as supporting professional development of teaching staff, developing and approving curricula, and cooperation with local and international partners.

We would like to reaffirm our readiness for further cooperation with representatives of the Ruthenian national minority, local and regional self-government units and scientific and educational institutions, with the aim of ensuring the conditions for the extension of pre-school education and secondary education in Ruthenian, in accordance with the principles of accessibility, expertise and sustainability.

c. Introduce the broadcasting of a television programme and a radio programme in Ruthenian of a sufficient duration, regularity and frequency.

See the HRT's comment under b. on page 3 of this Response.

8. Recommendations by the Committee of Experts on how to improve the protection and promotion of Serbian in Croatia

Recommendations for immediate action

- a. **Promote awareness of the Serbian language and culture as an integral part of the cultural heritage of Croatia including in mainstream education and in the media.**
- b. **Take resolute steps to promote in the society as a whole respect, understanding and tolerance in relation to Serbian in Croatia.**
- c. **Strengthen the use of Serbian and its script at the level of local branches of state authorities, regional and local authorities and extend its equal and official use to additional municipalities.**

a. Promote awareness of the Serbian language and culture as an integral part of the cultural heritage of Croatia including in mainstream education and in the media.

Article 15 of the Constitution of the Republic of Croatia guarantees equality to members of all national minorities, as well as freedom of expression of their national affiliation, free use of their language and script, and cultural autonomy. Furthermore, Article 7 of the Constitutional Act stipulates the rights of persons belonging to national minorities, including the right to cultural autonomy through the nurturing, development and expression of their culture, and the preservation and protection of their cultural property and traditions. This right is protected in relation to all national minorities, including Serbs.

b. Take resolute steps to promote in the society as a whole respect, understanding and tolerance in relation to Serbian in Croatia.

The Government of the Republic of Croatia, through the Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities, co-finances project activities of umbrella associations of national minorities within the framework of the Operational Programmes of National Minorities. Please note that a significant number of activities of the minority associations themselves correspond to other recommendations for immediate action, especially those referring to Hungarian and Serbian.

See the HRT's comment under b. on page 3 of this Response.

c. Strengthen the use of Serbian and its script at the level of local branches of state authorities, regional and local authorities and extend its equal and official use to additional municipalities.

Following the results of the 2021 Census, members of the Serbian national minority are guaranteed, in accordance with Article 12(1) of the Constitutional Act, the right to equal co-official use of their language and script in the following municipalities: Biskupija, Borovo, Civljane, Donji Lapac, Dvor, Erdut, Ervenik, Gračac, Gvozd, Jagodnjak, Kistanje, Krnjak, Markušica, Negoslavci, Plaški, Šodolovci, Trpinja, Udbina, Vojnić and Vrhovine.

Furthermore, when the legally stipulated one-third threshold is not met in a unit, equal use of the language and script of a particular national minority may be provided for in the statute of the local or regional self-government unit.

Bjelovar-Bilogora County, the Town of Vrbovsko and the Municipality of Kneževi Vinogradi have reported that they had provided for the equal use of the Serbian language and script in their statutes, for the entire unit or for individual settlements.

We would like to reiterate that the Ministry of Justice, Public Administration and Digital Transformation collects data and continuously monitors the equal co-official use of the languages and scripts of national minorities in all units of local and regional self-government, stresses the importance of minority languages and also encourages units to introduce bilingualism through their statutes. Civil servants on central and local level are taught about this right in the workshop "Application of the Constitutional Act on the Rights of National Minorities", organised by the State School of Public Administration.

9. Recommendations by the Committee of Experts on how to improve the protection and promotion of Slovak in Croatia

Recommendations for immediate action

- a. **Use Slovak at the level of regional and local authorities and extend its equal and official use to additional municipalities.**
- b. **Introduce the broadcasting of a television programme in Slovak with a sufficient duration, regularity and frequency.**
- c. **Strengthen the use of Slovak in pre-school education.**

a. Use Slovak at the level of regional and local authorities and extend its equal and official use to additional municipalities.

According to the 2021 Census, units with the highest share of the Slovak minority population are the Municipality of Punitovci (33.16%), towns of Ilok (13.36%) and Našice (5.30%) and the Municipality of Lipovljani (2.32%).

In the Municipality of Punitovci, according to the 2021 Census, the share of members of the Slovak national minority had fallen below the one-third threshold required for the introduction of the equal use of languages and scripts of national minorities.

However, Article 6 of the Statutory Decision on Amendments to the Statute of the Municipality of Punitovci of 11 March 2021 stipulates, *inter alia*, that all public signs in the territory of the Municipality of Punitovci (names of settlements, etc.) are to be printed in Croatian, and additionally in Slovak in the settlements where such interest and need is demonstrated.

Individual legal acts are to be issued in Croatian and additionally, upon request, in Slovak where there is a legitimate interest.

It is also stipulated that a need and interest in using, printing and publishing bilingually in Croatian and Slovak are established for the settlements of Josipovac Punitovački and Jurjevac Punitovački.

Members of the Slovak national minority are guaranteed the right to use their language and script in public, the right to preserve their national and cultural identity, the right to found autonomous, cultural and other associations, the right to freely organise information and publishing activities, the right to education in their own language and script, and the right to display their national insignia.

Furthermore, on 21 July 2023, the Town of Našice adopted the Statutory Decision on Amendments to the Statute of the Town of Našice, adding a new Article 62a after Article 62, thus ensuring the right of members of the Slovak national minority to the official use of the Slovak language and script in accordance with the provisions of the Constitutional Act and the Act on the Use of the Languages and Scripts of National Minorities in the Republic of Croatia. The equal use of Slovak and Croatian languages and scripts is prescribed for the village of Jelisavac.

The equal use applies to: bilingual (Croatian and Slovak) names of settlements, street names, names of public institutions, community centres, schools and other institutions, and natural persons performing public activities and legal persons may print their names bilingually in Croatian and Slovak.

b. Introduce the broadcasting of a television programme in Slovak with a sufficient duration, regularity and frequency.

See the HRT's comment under b. on page 3 of this Response.

c. Strengthen the use of Slovak in pre-school education.

Croatia continuously supports the preservation and strengthening of the linguistic and cultural identity of the Slovak national minority in Croatia. In line with the current legislative framework and international commitments, measures aimed at preserving Slovak through the education system are actively implemented at all levels, including pre-school education.

In primary education, the Slovak language and culture are already taught under Model C, with a developed curriculum that has been evaluated positively by the Education and Teacher Training Agency. In some areas, Slovak is also used as a teaching language under Model A. This represents a solid foundation for a vertical upgrade of educational activities to the pre-school level.

The use of Slovak in pre-school institutions currently depends on the initiative of the local community, the founders of kindergartens and the interests of parents. Currently, the programme is implemented only on the territory of Našice, in the branch kindergarten in Jelisavac. Local self-government units are encouraged, in cooperation with the councils and associations of the Slovak national minority, to develop and implement pre-school programmes in which Slovak will be used through communication, play and cultural activities, in accordance with applicable pedagogical standards.

The Directorate for National Minorities at the Ministry of Science, Education and Youth, through the competent Sector, is ready to provide support in planning teacher training, developing materials in Slovak for pre-school children, and in connecting with cultural and educational institutions in Croatia and Slovakia that can contribute to the development of resources. Practices from primary education can also be applied to pre-school age, with the adjustment of content and methodology.

In environments with a Slovak language tradition (e.g. Ilok, Jelisavac, Josipovac Punitovački), there are already cultural and educational capacities that can also be used to strengthen pre-school education. We support the initiatives of local actors and are open to proposals for support to such projects, in terms of finance, staffing and programme.

In this regard, the development of minority education, including the pre-school segment, is part of the National Education System Development Plan up to 2027 and the accompanying Action Plan up to 2024, as well as the Operational Programmes of National Minorities 2024-2028, which enables the long-term planning of the necessary resources and measures.

We are ready to cooperate with representatives of the Slovak national minority, local self-government units, kindergartens and experts, to develop and support the introduction and extension of the use of Slovak in pre-school education, subject to the provision of quality staff, teaching materials and appropriate organisational conditions.

10. Recommendations by the Committee of Experts on how to improve the protection and promotion of Slovenian in Croatia

Recommendations for immediate action

- a. **Make pre-school education available in Slovenian.**
- b. **Introduce the broadcasting of a television programme and a radio programme in Slovenian with a sufficient duration, regularity and frequency.**

a. Make pre-school education available in Slovenian.

Croatia recognizes the importance of preserving the Slovenian language and culture as part of the identity of the Slovenian national minority. As in the case of other national minorities, the right of members of the Slovenian community to education in their own language and script is guaranteed by the Constitutional Act, the Act on Education in the Languages and Scripts of National Minorities and the undertakings under the European Charter.

Pre-school programmes in the languages and scripts of national minorities can be organised on the basis of the applicable legislation, with the approval of the Ministry of Science, Education and Youth and the kindergarten founder, and in accordance with the expressed interest of parents and members of the community. The organisation model of a programme is based on flexibility and the principle of linguistic inclusion, with the possibility of organising special groups, bilingual programmes or integrated content in a minority language.

Local self-government units are encouraged to cooperate with kindergartens and Slovenian councils/associations in the local community in order to determine the interest for the introduction of Slovenian into pre-school programmes, and we are ready to provide the necessary professional and administrative support for the start of such initiatives.

There is already primary education in the Slovenian language and culture under Model C, e.g. in Klana Primary School (Primorje-Gorski Kotar County), as well as secondary education, in Rijeka (*Prva sušačka hrvatska gimnazija*). This shows that there is an educational infrastructure and potential to expand to earlier levels, including pre-school education, which would ensure vertical connectivity and continuity of Slovenian language education.

The competent ministry, in cooperation with associations of the Slovenian national minority, the Education and Teacher Training Agency and publishers, supports the development of teaching materials and teacher training for the implementation of programmes in the languages

of national minorities. A similar approach will be taken in the development of pre-school content in Slovenian, including the potential development of manuals and teacher training.

Opportunities for the development of pre-school education in minority languages, including Slovenian, are also envisaged in the framework of the National Education System Development up to 2027 and the accompanying Action Plan up to 2024, as well as the Operational Programmes of National Minorities 2024-2028, which enables longer-term planning and ensuring the financial sustainability of the programme.

We are open to continuing the dialogue with representatives of the Slovenian national minority and with local communities and the founders of pre-school institutions in order to secure the preconditions for the introduction of Slovenian into pre-school education, in accordance with the principles of linguistic diversity, equal access and community interest.

b. Introduce the broadcasting of a television programme and a radio programme in Slovenian with a sufficient duration, regularity and frequency.

See the HRT's comment under b. on page 3 of this Response.

11. Recommendations by the Committee of Experts on how to improve the protection and promotion of Ukrainian in Croatia

Recommendations for immediate action

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| a. | Introduce Ukrainian in equal and official use in at least one municipality and use it in practice at the level of local branches of national authorities, local and regional authorities. |
| b. | Make pre-school education available in Ukrainian and teach this language in secondary education. |
| c. | Introduce the broadcasting of a television programme and a radio programme in Ukrainian with a sufficient duration, regularity and frequency. |

a. Introduce Ukrainian in equal and official use in at least one municipality and use it in practice at the level of local branches of national authorities, local and regional authorities.

Members of the Ukrainian national minority do not meet the prescribed one-third threshold in any local or regional self-government unit. According to the 2021 Census, the highest percentage of members of the Ukrainian national minority live in the municipalities of Bogdanovci (7.77%) and Lipovljani (3.42%).

According to the data submitted for 2024 by local and regional self-government units via the e-System for Monitoring the Implementation of the Constitutional Act, no unit has introduced Ukrainian into equal co-official use by statute.

b. Make pre-school education available in Ukrainian and teach this language in secondary education.

Croatia fully supports the preservation of the Ukrainian language, identity and cultural heritage of the members of the Ukrainian national minority. In accordance with the Constitutional Act, the Act on Education in the Languages and Scripts of National Minorities, and the undertakings of the Republic of Croatia derived from the ratification of the European Charter, Croatia is actively working to ensure and improve the education of members of the Ukrainian community.

Ukrainian Language and Culture is already included in the primary education system in Croatia under Model C, and the Ministry of Science, Education and Youth continuously issues approvals to schools that meet the legally prescribed conditions. Ukrainian language education is currently delivered in primary schools in the counties of Osijek-Baranja and Vukovar-Srijem. There is a guaranteed right to minority language education at pre-school and secondary level, too, once the organisational, personnel and pedagogical requirements are met.

Under Activity 8.10.2 of the Operational Programmes of National Minorities 2021-2024 and Activity 7.12 of the Operational Programmes of National Minorities 2024-2028:

- the establishment of class sections for Ukrainian Language and Culture under Model C is supported;
- possibilities of employing an adviser for minority language education or enabling a coordinating function for a teacher with a salary allowance are considered;
- experts in Ukrainian language, script and culture are included in the panels for textbooks and teaching materials are included.

These activities have already been started and continue to be implemented in cooperation with representatives of the Ukrainian community and educational institutions.

Local self-government units are encouraged, in cooperation with kindergartens, associations and councils of national minorities, to plan and initiate the introduction of pre-school programmes in Ukrainian, especially in those areas where primary education and a developed community already exist. We are ready to provide professional and administrative support, as well as to involve Ukrainian associations and partners in content development and teacher training.

The introduction of the Ukrainian language in secondary schools requires an analysis of students' interest and school capacities, but we are open to proposals and initiatives from schools in cooperation with the Ukrainian community. Such initiatives will be considered in accordance with the rules on education models and the availability of qualified teachers.

Opportunities for extending Ukrainian language education are also envisaged through the National Education System Development Plan up to 2027 and the accompanying Action Plan up to 2024, as well as the Operational Programmes of National Minorities 2024-2028. We are also monitoring the context of strengthening of cooperation with Ukraine in the field of culture and education.

We would like to reaffirm our readiness for further institutional support in extending the availability of pre-school and secondary education in Ukrainian, in accordance with applicable legislation, available capacities and expressed interest of the relevant community, with the involvement of all relevant actors.

c. Introduce the broadcasting of a television programme and a radio programme in Ukrainian with a sufficient duration, regularity and frequency.

See the HRT comment under b. on page 3 of this Response.

In addition, we submit a report in relation to the recommendations of the Committee of Experts to the Republic of Croatia to prioritise:

I. take resolute steps to promote awareness and tolerance vis-à-vis the minority languages and the cultures they represent as an integral part of the cultural heritage of Croatia, both in the general curriculum at all stages of education and in the media, as well as by increasing their visibility in the public space;

The Government of the Republic of Croatia, through the Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities, co-finances the project activities of umbrella associations of national minorities within the framework of the Operational Programmes of National Minorities, and a significant part of the activities directly contributes to increasing the visibility of the languages and cultures of national minorities and promoting awareness and tolerance for minority languages and cultures as an integral part of the Croatian cultural heritage.

Continuous increases in allocated funds are a clear sign of the commitment of the Government of the Republic of Croatia to improving the position of members of national minorities, as well as the position of minority languages. For example, umbrella minority associations received a total of 47,999,999.52 EUR in 2023, and 65,000,000.00 EUR in 2025, which is an increase by 35.42%.

It is also worth noting that funding priorities are determined by members of national minorities themselves.

Relevant activities include, for example:

- Construction of cultural centres and community centres: Albanians (Split, Osijek, Zagreb, Karlovac, Sisak, Novigrad, Krk), Bosniaks (Vojnić, Zagreb), Czechs (Tkon), Roma (Zagreb, Barban), Slovaks (Orebić, Jelisavac, Miljevci, Rijeka), Serbs (more than 20 locations);
- Construction of Ethno-houses and similar facilities: Czechs (Grubišno Polje), Hungarians (Batina, Beli Manastir, Kotlina, Kopačevo, Laslovo, Lug, Suza, Vardarac), Slovaks (Soljani), Serbs (Beli Manastir);
- Restoration of religious buildings with rituals in minority languages (Hungarians, Serbs);
- Museums, galleries, etc. (Czechs – VR Multimedia Exhibition of Photographs and Documents of the Czech Union, Italians – MUZEUS – House of Migration and Exodus, Serbs – preparations for the opening of the Museum of Serbs, project “Collection of Ethnographic Material about Serbs”, Koze-Golubić Museum);
- Public commemoration of significant dates and people who have contributed to Croatian language and culture (e.g. Albanians – Milan pl. Šufflay; Kali Sara. Biographies of prominent Roma; Joint Council of Municipalities – 204th anniversary of the birth of Josif Runjanin);
- Public gatherings, conferences, etc. on the topic of co-existence (Bosniaks – Una-Sava: Bridges of Culture, Identity and Community), Serbs – 30 years of the Erdut Agreement (JCM), research project ‘Nineties: Serbian-Croatian Relations in War and Peace’ (SNC);
- Public gatherings and events dedicated to minority languages (World Roma Day, World Day of Romani Language, Festival of the Istrian-Venetian Dialect, Festival of the Istriot Dialect);
- Traditional public events (culture and tourism): harvest festivities (Czechs, Hungarians, Serbs), Roma Culture Days, Majpan (Slovaks), Midsummer Evening (Serbia);

- Media (Albanian – Dielli Radio and monthly; Bosniak Media Centre, Hungarians – Media Centre (publishing, radio, TV), Roma – Kali Sara Radio, Italians (TV Nova, Radio Rijeka, Radio Pula), Serbs (VIDA TV, Radio Dunav, Radio Borovo, Radio Banska Kosa);
- Book publishing in minority languages, translations into Croatian and participation in book fairs;
- Supporting pupils and schools with minority language education;
- Educational cooperation with countries of origin – language camps, field courses, summer schools (Bosniaks, Czechs, Hungarians, Slovaks, Italians, Serbs);
- Seminars for educational workers (Czechs, Hungarians, Slovaks, Serbs, Italians), etc.

Please note that a significant number of activities of minority associations correspond to other recommendations for immediate action, especially those referring to Hungarian and Serbian.

With regard to the recommendation of the Committee of Experts to the Republic of Croatia to:

II. take the necessary measures to introduce minority languages in equal and official use, irrespective of the threshold and ensure that each minority language covered by Part III is in equal and official use in at least one local self-government unit;

The Government of the Republic of Croatia will, in accordance with the Government of the Republic of Croatia Programme 2024-2028, continue to promote a culture of tolerance, consistently implement the rule of law policy and the rights of national minorities guaranteed by the Constitution, the Constitutional Act on the Rights of National Minorities and other laws. The Government will also continue to consistently protect and advance the human and minority rights guaranteed by the concluded international and interstate treaties, agreements and conventions as well as the Treaty on the Accession of the Republic of Croatia to the European Union.

On 13 June 2024, the Government of the Republic of Croatia adopted a Decision on the Development of Operational Programmes of National Minorities 2024-2028, which establish the mechanisms ensuring the protection of the rights of national minorities and support the functioning of their bodies, in accordance with the Constitutional Act and other special regulations.

The Operational Programmes of National Minorities 2024-2028 consist of: an operational programme containing activities relating to all national minorities listed in the Historical Foundations of the Constitution of the Republic of Croatia, and 8 specific operational programmes containing activities relating to individual national minorities, taking account of their specificities and the need to improve the current level of their protection.

Specific operational programmes have been developed for: the Bosniak national minority; Albanian, Montenegrin, Macedonian and Slovenian national minorities; Czech and Slovak national minorities; the Hungarian national minority; the Roma national minority; Austrian, Bulgarian, German, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Turkish, Ukrainian, Vlach and Jewish national minorities; the Serbian national minority, and for the Italian national minority.

The OPs comprise a total of 209 activities, of which 56 are contained in the OP covering all national minorities, and a total of 153 activities in the specific OPs.

The OP which covers all national minorities foresees activities relating to the equal use of the languages and scripts of persons belonging to national minorities.

In regard to the above, we would like to highlight that, in accordance with Article 12(2) of the Constitutional Act, equal co-official use of the language and script used by members of a national minority will also be exercised when so provided by the statute of a local or regional self-government unit, in accordance with the Act on the Use of Languages and Scripts of National Minorities in the Republic of Croatia.

Thus, even if the legal requirement of a one-third share in the population of a local regional self-government unit is not met, it is possible to prescribe the equal use of the language and script of a particular national minority in that self-government unit by the statute of the unit.

This situation has been reported through the e-System for Monitoring the Implementation of the Constitutional Act in 2024 by the following units (either for the territory of the entire unit or for individual settlements): Istria County (Italian), Bjelovar-Bilogora County (Albanian, Czech, Hungarian and Serbian); towns: Poreč-Parenzo, Pula-Pola, Buje-Buie, Novigrad-Cittanova, Rovinj-Rovigno, Umag-Umag, Vodnjan-Dignano (Italian), Vrbovsko (Serbian), Daruvar (Czech), Grubišno Polje (Czech and Hungarian), Našice (Slovak), and municipalities: Bale-Valle, Brtonigla-Verteneglio, Funtana-Fontane, Fažana-Fasana, Kaštelir-Labinci-Castelliere-S.Domenica, Motovun-Montona, Raša, Tar Vabriga-Torre Abrega, Vižinada-Visinada, Vrsar-Orsera (Italian), Bilje, Ernestinovo and Tordini (Hungarian), Kneževi Vinogradi (Serbian), Dežanovac (Czech) and Punitovci (Slovak).

With regard to the recommendation of the Committee of Experts to the Republic of Croatia to:

III. ensure the use of minority languages in practice at the level of the local branches of state authorities, and of county and local authorities;

The regulation of minority languages by the statutes of local and regional self-government units and their implementation in practice is monitored within the framework of the report on the implementation of the Constitutional Act. According to data for 2024, the statutes most frequently regulate rights to: bilingual/multilingual signboards of representative, executive and administrative bodies of municipalities, towns/cities and counties, as well as legal persons vested with public powers, in equal font size; bilingual/multilingual texts of seals and stamps in equal font size, and the right for legal and natural persons performing public activities to print their names bilingually/multilingually. These are also the rights most frequently exercised in practice in the units concerned.

With regard to the right to use a national minority language and script in procedures before the administrative bodies of local and regional self-government units in 2024, it is most frequently exercised in the Istria County and towns of the Istria County (Rovinj-Rovigno, Buje-Buie and Umag-Umag), and in the Municipality of Negoslavci.

With regard to the recommendation of the Committee of Experts to the Republic of Croatia to:

IV. extend the use of minority languages in education in order to ensure continuity from pre-school to secondary education for each language;

The Education and Teacher Training Agency organises professional development courses for educational workers who teach in Czech, Hungarian, Italian and Serbian, including at pre-school level. Professional development is also organised in the countries of origin. It also employs senior advisers for minority language education. Such advisers exist for Czech, Hungarian, Serbian and Italian.

With regard to the recommendation of the Committee of Experts to the Republic of Croatia to:

V. provide for each minority language public radio and television programmes with a sufficient duration, regularity and frequency.

See the HRT's comment under b. on page 3 of this Response.