

READY FOR RATIFICATION



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● MINORITY ISSUES

Vol. 2

Early compliance of non-States Parties with the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages

A Handbook with twenty proposed
instruments of ratification

Ewa Chylinski
Mahulena Hofmannová (eds.)

Volume 2:

Congruence between the
European Charter for Regional
or Minority Languages and the
Framework Convention for the
Protection of National Minorities

Congruence between national
legislation and the provisions
of the European Charter for
Regional or Minority Languages



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Preface

For a number of years, the European Centre for Minority Issues (ECMI) and the Council of Europe co-operated on the publication of a Handbook series on various minority issues. The topical areas were legal provisions for the protection and promotion of minority rights under the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (FCNM), power sharing arrangements and examples of good practice in minority governance.

The present Handbook concerns the other Council of Europe convention dealing with minorities: the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (ECRML). The ECRML represents the European legal frame of reference for the protection and promotion of languages used by persons belonging to traditional minorities.

Regrettably, the importance of the ECRML is not reflected by the number of ratifications. While the FCNM has 39 States Parties, the ECRML has so far been ratified by 25 member States of the Council of Europe and signed by a further eight member States. As the Secretary General of the Council of Europe stated in his Biennial report to the Parliamentary Assembly on the Application of the ECRML in 2010, "it remains disappointing that a considerable number of member states of the Council of Europe have not yet become parties to the Charter. This regret has been expressed in all previous Biennial Reports."

The ECRML lays down more detailed and technical obligations than the FCNM and employs a "menu" approach. It appears, however, that this strength – tailored action for each regional or minority language used in the country, according to different sociolinguistic situation of each language – contributes to the slow pace of ratification as the national authorities need to prepare specific ratification instruments. At the same time, many non-States Parties to the ECRML have already a long tradition in protecting and promoting their regional or minority languages on the basis of national legislation and the FCNM, and therefore may be ready for ratification of the ECRML.

During the past few years, the ECMI has been developing capacity to address issues related to the ECRML. Through its programme on "Language and Cultural Diversity" and recently through the research cluster "Culture & Diversity", the ECMI is now in a position to present a Handbook on the ECRML which it has drafted in co-operation with independent experts from different parts of Europe. This publication takes the legal and linguistic situation in non-States Parties into account, draws on the synergies between the ECRML and the FCNM, and responds to specific concerns that exist in some countries. As a final result, it demonstrates how a ratification instrument for some non-States Parties could look like, what in turn may assist national authorities in the future.

We hope that the Handbook will be received as a useful tool and help adding new momentum to the ECRML ratification process.



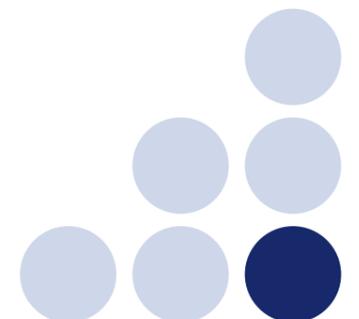
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Ready for Ratification.

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Volume 2:

Congruence between the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages and the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities

Congruence between national legislation and the provisions of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages



I. Congruence between the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages and the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities

Francesco Palermo

This part aims at checking the congruence between the provisions of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (ECRML) and the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (FCNM).

The congruence is measured by taking the ECRML as a starting point and comparing its normative contents with the respective provisions in the FCNM. The analysis is based both on the text of the provision and on the “jurisprudence” of the FCNM’s monitoring body, the Advisory Committee (ACFC) (interpretation). Three types of congruence are indicated: full, partial and limited congruence. Full congruence means a complete overlap of the normative provision, partial congruence indicates a partial, yet not insignificant overlap and limited congruence means that some degree of congruence can be identified, although with several caveats. Cases of partial and limited congruence overlap are explained in brackets or footnotes.

The source of the normative congruence is also indicated, being it the very text of the Convention or the interpretation given by the ACFC. When there is a textual congruence, it is intended that this is also covered by consistent jurisprudence from the ACFC, which is therefore not specified further; in such case, footnotes are occasionally added to further explain the normative principle. When congruence originates from the interpretation of the relevant provision by the ACFC (interpretative congruence), reference is made to the opinions where the interpretation was developed. The reference to the opinions is intended as reference to the comments under the respective article quoted in the main text. Since interpretation by the ACFC is normally consolidated, preference is given to the first opinion that developed the interpretative principle.

In the case of no congruence, nothing is indicated.

Provision of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages	Congruent provision of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
Article 7 – Objectives and principles	
1 In respect of regional or minority languages, within the territories in which such languages are used and according to the situation of each language, the Parties shall base their policies, legislation and practice on the following objectives and principles:	
a the recognition of the regional or minority languages as an expression of cultural wealth;	
b the respect 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;	Full congruence – Article 16 (text).
c the need for resolute action to promote regional or minority languages in order to safeguard them;	Partial congruence – Article 5.1 (text) (same scope but weaker language).
d the facilitation and/or encouragement of the use of regional or minority languages, in speech and writing, in public and private life;	Limited congruence – Article 10.1 and 10.2 (interpretation). ¹
e the maintenance and development of links, in the fields covered by this Charter, between groups using a regional or minority language and other groups in the State employing a language used in identical or similar form, as well as the establishment of cultural relations with other groups in the State using different languages;	Limited congruence – Article 17.2 (interpretation). ²
f the provision of appropriate forms and means for the teaching and study of regional or minority languages at all appropriate stages;	Partial congruence – Article 14.1 and 14.2 (study); Articles 14.2 and 12.2 (teach) ³ ; Article 12.3 (access to education at all levels) ⁴ (interpretation).
g the provision of facilities enabling non-speakers of a regional or minority language living in	Limited congruence – Articles 6.1 (interpretation) ⁵ and 12.1 (interpretation). ⁶

¹ Article 10 does not provide for encouragement but only for the right to use minority languages in private and public, orally and in writing (10.1) as well as for the conditions to make this right effective (10.2). However, the Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities welcomes each initiative taken by the authorities to encourage the use of minority languages (see Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities, First Opinion on Germany (ACFC/INF/OP/I(2002)008); First Opinion on Switzerland (ACFC/INF/OP/I(2003)007): “the Advisory Committee considers that in such a situation, the authorities concerned should be encouraged...”).

² The FCNM only refers to transfrontier contacts and does not explicitly mention links between groups speaking the same or similar language within the same State. This is, however, covered by the spirit of the FCNM and indirectly by Articles 17.2 (“The Parties undertake not to interfere with the right of persons belonging to national minorities to participate in the activities of non-governmental organisations, both at the national and international levels”) and 7 (freedom of association). In the Second Opinion on Cyprus (ACFC/OP/II(2007)004, to the extent it is applicable), the Advisory Committee welcomes “the efforts to facilitate the maintenance of links and regular contacts between Maronites living in the Government-controlled territory and those who remain in their traditional villages outside this area”. Under Article 7, the Advisory Committee considers it not compatible with the article the obstacles to the registration of NGOs (First Opinion on Azerbaijan (ACFC/INF/OP/I(2004)001)).

³ See First Opinion on Albania (ACFC/INF/OP/I(2003)004); First Opinion on Bulgaria (ACFC/OP/II(2006)001).

⁴ See First Opinion on Albania (ACFC/INF/OP/I(2003)004), Article 12 (“authorities could examine further the possibility of extending education for these other national minorities at University level”).

⁵ Nowhere in the FCNM is this mentioned. However, the Advisory Committee welcomes when learning of the minority language by the majority is encouraged: see First Opinion on Austria (ACFC/INF/OP/II(2002)009); First Opinion on Italy (ACFC/INF/OP/II(2002)007).

⁶ See, *inter alia*, First Opinion on Armenia (ACFC/INF/OP/II(2003)001); First Opinion on Austria (ACFC/INF/OP/II(2002)009); First Opinion on Georgia (ACFC/OP/II(2009)001).



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;	Partial congruence – Article 12.1 (interpretation). ⁷
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.	Full congruence – Article 4.1 (interpretation) (equality, although of persons) ⁸ and Article 4.3 (text) (adequate measures to promote equality – of persons – shall not be considered an act of discrimination).
3 The Parties undertake to promote, by appropriate measures, mutual understanding between all the linguistic groups of the country and in particular the inclusion of respect, understanding and tolerance in relation to regional or minority languages among the objectives of education and training provided within their countries and encouragement of the mass media to pursue the same objective.	Full congruence – Article 6.1 and 6.2 (text) (spirit of tolerance and intercultural dialogue and effective measures to promote mutual respect, understanding and co-operation, although referred to persons), Article 9.4 (text) (promotion of tolerance in the media).
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.	Full congruence – Article 15 (text): right to effective participation / Article 15 actually goes much further. ⁹
5 The Parties undertake to apply, mutatis mutandis, the principles listed in paragraphs 1 to 4 above to non-territorial languages. However, as far as these languages are concerned, the nature and scope of the measures to be taken to give effect to this Charter shall be determined in a flexible manner, bearing in mind the needs and wishes, and respecting the traditions and characteristics, of the groups which use the languages concerned.	
Article 8 – Education	
1 With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:	Full congruence re “without prejudice to the learning of the official language of the State” – Article 14.3 (text).
a i to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	
ii to make available a substantial	

⁷ See, *inter alia*, First Opinion on Finland (ACFC/INF/OP/I/(2001)002); First Opinion on Norway (ACFC/INF/OP/I/(2003)003); First Opinion on Moldova (ACFC/INF/OP/I/(2003)002).
⁸ See First Opinion on Estonia (ACFC/INF/OP/I/(2002)005).
⁹ For further explanation, see the Advisory Committee’s Commentary no. 2 on the Effective Participation of persons belonging to national minorities in cultural, social and economic life and in public affairs, adopted on 27 February 2008 (ACFC/31DOC(2008)001) (hereinafter Commentary on Participation).

part of pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	
iii to apply one of the measures provided for under i and ii above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient; or	Partial congruence – Article 14.2 (interpretation). ¹⁰
iv if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of pre-school education, to favour and/or encourage the application of the measures referred to under i to iii above;	
b 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 curriculum; or	
iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient;	Partial congruence – Article 14.2 (interpretation). ¹¹
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 curriculum; or	
iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;	Partial congruence – Article 14.2 (interpretation). ¹²
d i to make available technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	
ii to make available a substantial part of technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	
iii to provide, within technical and vocational education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or	
iv to apply one of the measures	Partial congruence – Article 14.2 (interpretation). ¹³

¹⁰ When available, the Advisory Committee welcomes pre-school education in minority languages (First Opinion on Bosnia and Herzegovina (ACFC/INF/OP/I/(2005)003); First Opinion on Croatia (ACFC/INF/OP/I/(2002)003); First Opinion on Moldova (ACFC/INF/OP/I/(2003)002); First Opinion on Montenegro (ACFC/OP/I/(2008)001), etc.). In some cases, however, the Advisory Committee affirms that pre-school education is necessary and when lacking, this should be addressed (First Opinion on Netherlands (ACFC/OP/I/(2009)002)).
¹¹ See First Opinion on Austria (ACFC/INF/OP/I/(2002)009) and (with respect to the lack of instruction of Romani languages in primary schools) First Opinion on Croatia (ACFC/INF/OP/I/(2002)003).
¹² See above. Closure of secondary schools offering teaching in minority languages is criticized (see First Opinion on Germany (ACFC/INF/OP/I/(2002)008)).
¹³ Reference to vocational training can be found in the opinions of the Advisory Committee only when States do provide for it, although it is not a direct obligation stemming from the FCNM. See Second Opinion on Romania (ACFC/INF/OP/I/(2005)007).



provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;	
e i to make available university and other higher education in regional or minority languages; or	
ii to provide facilities for the study of these languages as university and higher education subjects; or	
iii if, by reason of the role of the State in relation to higher education institutions, subparagraphs i and ii cannot be applied, to encourage and/or allow the provision of university or other forms of higher education in regional or minority languages or of facilities for the study of these languages as university or higher education subjects;	Limited congruence – Articles 12.1, 12.3, 13.1, 14.2 (interpretation). ¹⁴
f i to arrange for the provision of adult and continuing education courses which are taught mainly or wholly in the regional or minority languages; or	Full congruence – Article 14.2 (interpretation). ¹⁵
ii to offer such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education; or	Full congruence – Article 14.2 (interpretation). ¹⁶
iii if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of adult education, to favour and/or encourage the offering of such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education;	Full congruence – Article 14.2 (interpretation). ¹⁷
g to make arrangements to ensure the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the regional or minority language;	Full congruence – Article 12.1 (interpretation). ¹⁸
h to provide the basic and further training of the teachers required to implement those of paragraphs a to g accepted by the Party;	Full congruence – Article 12.2 (text).
i to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.	
2 With regard to education and in respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties	Partial congruence – Article 14.2 (interpretation). ¹⁹

¹⁴ The FCNM does not provide a right for tertiary education in minority languages. Article 12 contains limited reference to research on culture, language and religion of national minorities (12.1) and equal access to education at all levels for persons belonging to national minorities (12.3). Article 13 stipulates that the Parties shall recognize the right to set up and manage private educational and training establishments. The Advisory Committee welcomes the offering of tertiary education (see, *inter alia*, First Opinion on Norway (ACFC/INF/OP/I(2003)003); Second Opinion on Norway (ACFC/OP/II(2006)006); First Opinion on Romania (ACFC/INF/OP/I(2002)001); Second Opinion on Romania (ACFC/OP/II(2005)007)), but never explicitly recommends it to be done.

¹⁵ Adult and continuing education is interpreted by the Advisory Committee as part of the educational obligations undertaken by the States when ratifying the FCNM and thus recommends that attention is paid to it when it is lacking or insufficient. See Second Opinion on Azerbaijan (ACFC/OP/II(2007)007).

¹⁶ See Second Opinion on Azerbaijan (ACFC/OP/II(2007)007).

¹⁷ See Second Opinion on Azerbaijan (ACFC/OP/II(2007)007).

¹⁸ Arrangements to ensure teaching of history and culture of national minorities are considered to be part of the obligation under Article 12.1 (see, *inter alia*, First Opinion on Armenia (ACFC/INF/OP/I(2003)001); First Opinion on Bosnia and Herzegovina (ACFC/INF/OP/I(2005)003); First Opinion on Georgia (ACFC/OP/I(2009)001); First Opinion on Montenegro (ACFC/OP/I(2008)001)).

¹⁹ There is no textual obligation for the States to provide education in or about minority languages outside the territory where national minorities live traditionally or in substantial numbers. In some cases, however, this might be necessary when most persons belonging to certain minorities live outside of their traditional territory (such as the Sami, see Second Opinion on Finland (ACFC/OP/II(2006)003)) or when minorities are not territorially concentrated (such as Roma, see Third Opinion on Italy (ACFC/OP/III(2010)008); First Opinion on Netherlands (ACFC/OP/II(2009)002)).

undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all the appropriate stages of education.	
Article 9	
1 The Parties undertake, in respect of those judicial districts in which the number of residents using the regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below, according to the situation of each of these languages and on condition that the use of the facilities afforded by the present paragraph is not considered by the judge to hamper the proper administration of justice:	
a in criminal proceedings:	
i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or	
ii to guarantee the accused the right to use his/her regional or minority language; and/or	Full congruence – Article 10.3 (text).
iii to provide that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, shall not be considered inadmissible solely because they are formulated in a regional or minority language; and/or	Limited congruence – Article 10.3 (interpretation). ²⁰
iv to produce, on request, documents connected with legal proceedings in the relevant regional or minority language,	Limited congruence – Article 10.3 (Interpretation). ²¹
if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations involving no extra expense for the persons concerned;	Full congruence – Article 10.3 (text).
b in civil proceedings:	
i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or	
ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or	
iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,	
if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;	
c in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:	
i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or	
ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or	

²⁰ The FCNM is not very detailed on this matter. Its provisions on the use of language in judicial proceedings simply replicate the standard laid down by Article 6 of the European Convention on Human Rights. This includes the right to interpretation when a person (belonging to a national minority or a foreigner) does not have (sufficient) command of the State language or so requests. (Indirect) hints to the non-arbitrary inadmissibility of requests because of language can be indirectly found in a few opinions, such as the First Opinion on Georgia (ACFC/OP/II(2009)001).

²¹ See First Opinion on Georgia (ACFC/OP/II(2009)001).



iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages, if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;	
d to take steps to ensure that the application of sub-paragraphs i and iii of paragraphs b and c above and any necessary use of interpreters and translations does not involve extra expense for the persons concerned.	
2 The Parties undertake:	
a not to deny the validity of legal documents drawn up within the State solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language; or	
b not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language, and to provide that they can be invoked against interested third parties who are not users of these languages on condition that the contents of the document are made known to them by the person(s) who invoke(s) it; or	
c not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language.	
3 The Parties undertake to make available in the regional or minority languages the most important national statutory texts and those relating particularly to users of these languages, unless they are otherwise provided.	
Article 10	
1 Within the administrative districts of the State in which the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below and according to the situation of each language, the Parties undertake, as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a i to ensure that the administrative authorities use the regional or minority languages; or	
ii to ensure that such of their officers as are in contact with the public use the regional or minority languages in their relations with persons applying to them in these languages; or	Full congruence – Article 10.2 (text).
iii to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications and receive a reply in these languages; or	Full congruence – Article 10.2 (text).
iv to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications in these languages; or	Full congruence – Article 10.2 (text).
v to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may validly submit a document in these languages;	Full congruence – Article 10.2 (text).
b to make available widely used administrative texts and forms for the population in the regional or minority languages or in bilingual versions;	Partial congruence – Article 10.2 (interpretation). ²²
c to allow the administrative authorities to	Full congruence – Article 10.2 (interpretation). ²³

²² Including identity documents. See. *inter alia*, First Opinion on Montenegro (ACFC/OP/I(2008)001); First Opinion on “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” (ACFC/INF/OP/I(2005)001).

draft documents in a regional or minority language.	
2 In respect of the local and regional authorities on whose territory the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages is such as to justify the measures specified below, the Parties undertake to allow and/or encourage:	
a the use of regional or minority languages within the framework of the regional or local authority;	Partial congruence – Article 10.2 (text).
b the possibility for users of regional or minority languages to submit oral or written applications in these languages;	Full congruence – Article 10.2 (text).
c the publication by regional authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;	Full congruence – Article 10.2 (interpretation). ²⁴
d the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;	Full congruence – Article 10.2 (text). ²⁵
e the use by regional authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;	
f the use by local authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;	Limited congruence – Article 10.2 (interpretation). ²⁶
g the use or adoption, if necessary in conjunction with the name in the official language(s), of traditional and correct forms of place names in regional or minority languages.	Full congruence – Article 11.3 (text). ²⁷
3 With regard to public services provided by the administrative authorities or other persons acting on their behalf, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which regional or minority languages are used, in accordance with the situation of each language and as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a to ensure that the regional or minority languages are used in the provision of the service; or	Partial congruence – Article 15 (interpretation). ²⁸
b to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request and receive a reply in these languages; or	Partial congruence – Article 15 (interpretation). ²⁹
c to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request in these languages.	Partial congruence – Article 15 (interpretation). ³⁰
4 With a view to putting into effect those provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 accepted by them, the Parties undertake to take one or more of the following measures:	
a translation or interpretation as may be	

²³ Generally considered to be part of the “conditions which make it possible to use the minority language”. When not formally provided, a “flexible” and “pragmatic” approach is encouraged or welcomed (see First Opinion on Latvia (ACFC/OP/I(2008)002)).

²⁴ See First Opinion on Latvia (ACFC/OP/I(2008)002).

²⁵ See First Opinion on Latvia (ACFC/OP/I(2008)002).

²⁶ Normally welcomed and encouraged (see First Opinion on Italy (ACFC/INF/OP/I(2002)007)).

²⁷ The logic, however, is different, because Article 11.3 of the FCNM is that of display of topographic names also in the minority languages, namely as a rule alongside with the State language(s). See Third Opinion on Italy (ACFC/OP/III(2010)008).

²⁸ Service provision being an essential element of socio-economic participation, where necessary, this should include the use of minority languages. See Commentary on Participation for further specification (especially paragraph 40). Congruence is rated as “partial” because the commentary does not reach exactly the same degree of detail.

²⁹ See *ibidem*.

³⁰ See *ibidem*.



required;	
b recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required;	
c compliance as far as possible with requests from public service employees having a knowledge of a regional or minority language to be appointed in the territory in which that language is used.	Partial congruence – Article 15 (interpretation). ³¹
5 The Parties undertake to allow the use or adoption of family names in the regional or minority languages, at the request of those concerned.	Full congruence – Article 11.1 (text).
Article 11	
1 The Parties undertake, for the users of the regional or minority languages within the territories in which those languages are spoken, according to the situation of each language, to the extent that the public authorities, directly or indirectly, are competent, have power or play a role in this field, and respecting the principle of the independence and autonomy of the media:	
a to the extent that radio and television carry out a public service mission:	
i to ensure the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	
iii to make adequate provision so that broadcasters offer programmes in the regional or minority languages;	Full congruence – Article 9.4 (text).
b i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station in the regional or minority languages; or	Partial congruence – Article 9.4 (interpretation). ³²
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of radio programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	Full congruence – Article 9.4 (text).
c i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	Partial congruence – Article 9.4 (interpretation). ³³
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of television programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	Full congruence – Article 9.4 (text).
d to encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audiovisual works in the regional or minority languages;	Full congruence – Article 9.4 (text).
e i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages; or	Partial congruence – Article 9.3 and 9.4 (interpretation). ³⁴

³¹ See Commentary on Participation (especially paragraph 41).

³² No specific indication is given by the FCNM as to the amount of minority broadcast required. One radio station is, however, considered to be the minimum requirement. The Advisory Committee recommends that measures be adopted when not even one radio station is provided. See First Opinion on Albania (ACFC/INF/OP/I/(2003)004).

³³ See First Opinion on Albania (ACFC/INF/OP/I/(2003)004).

³⁴ The logic of the FCNM here is different, because it is limited to the prohibition of obstacles to the creation and use of printed media (Article 9.3). However, the establishment of minority newspapers when conditions permit is implicit in the obligation to take adequate measures to facilitate the access to media for persons belonging to national minorities (Article 9.4). See First Opinion on Finland (ACFC/INF/OP/I/(2001)002); First Opinion on Italy (ACFC/INF/OP/I/(2002)007).

ii to encourage and/or facilitate the publication of newspaper articles in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	Partial congruence – Article 9.4 (interpretation). ³⁵
f i to cover the additional costs of those media which use regional or minority languages, wherever the law provides for financial assistance in general for the media; or	Partial congruence – Article 9.4 (interpretation). ³⁶
ii to apply existing measures for financial assistance also to audiovisual productions in the regional or minority languages;	Partial congruence – Article 9.4 (interpretation). ³⁷
g to support the training of journalists and other staff for media using regional or minority languages.	Partial congruence – Article 9.4 (interpretation). ³⁸
2 The Parties undertake to guarantee freedom of direct reception of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language, and not to oppose the retransmission of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in such a language. They further undertake to ensure that no restrictions will be placed on the freedom of expression and free circulation of information in the written press in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language. The exercise of the above-mentioned freedoms, since it carries with it duties and responsibilities, may be subject to such formalities, conditions, restrictions or penalties as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputation or rights of others, for preventing disclosure of information received in confidence, or for maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary.	Full congruence – Articles 9.1, 9.2, 9.3 and 18 (text). ³⁹
3 The Parties undertake to ensure that the interests of the users of regional or minority languages are represented or taken into account within such bodies as may be established in accordance with the law with responsibility for guaranteeing the freedom and pluralism of the media.	Full congruence – Article 15 (text). ⁴⁰
Article 12	
1 With regard to cultural activities and facilities – especially libraries, video libraries, cultural centres,	

³⁵ See First Opinion on the Netherlands (ACFC/OP/I/(2009)002).

³⁶ In some cases the Advisory Committee noted the incongruence when domestic law provides financial support for media in minority languages but not for all and not in a proportional way, such as in the case of Roma in Italy (see First Opinion on Italy (ACFC/INF/OP/I/(2002)007)).

³⁷ See First Opinion on Bulgaria (ACFC/OP/I/(2006)001), First Opinion on Georgia (ACFC/OP/I/(2009)001).

³⁸ The FCNM's concern – as interpreted by the Advisory Committee – is about training and sensitisation of journalists and media professionals to the situation of national minorities and to avoid stereotypes against them (consolidated "jurisprudence"). Moreover, the representation of persons belonging to national minorities is strongly encouraged (consolidated "jurisprudence" related to Articles 9 and 15). No specific training is directly prescribed for journalists working in media using minority languages, although it is consolidated interpretation that they are included in the general training programmes provided by Article 9.

³⁹ The Advisory Committee considers, however, that unimpeded reception of broadcast from neighbouring countries, while always welcomed, does not obviate the necessity for ensuring programming on domestic issues concerning national minorities and programming in minority languages (see, *inter alia*, First Opinion on Albania (ACFC/INF/OP/I/(2003)004); First Opinion on Denmark (ACFC/INF/OP/I/(2001)005); First Opinion on Germany (ACFC/INF/OP/I/(2002)008)).

⁴⁰ See further Commentary on Participation, especially paragraphs 68 and 141.



museums, archives, academies, theatres and cinemas, as well as literary work and film production, vernacular forms of cultural expression, festivals and the culture industries, including, <i>inter alia</i> , the use of new technologies – the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used and to the extent that the public authorities are competent, have power or play a role in this field:	
a to encourage types of expression and initiative specific to regional or minority languages and foster the different means of access to works produced in these languages;	Full congruence – Article 5.1 (text).
b to foster the different means of access in other languages to works produced in regional or minority languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;	Partial congruence – Article 9.1 and 9.4 (interpretation). ⁴¹
c to foster access in regional or minority languages to works produced in other languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;	Partial congruence – Article 9.1 and 9.4 (interpretation). ⁴²
d to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities of various kinds make appropriate allowance for incorporating the knowledge and use of regional or minority languages and cultures in the undertakings which they initiate or for which they provide backing;	Partial congruence – Articles 5.1 and 9.1 (interpretation). ⁴³
e to promote measures to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities have at their disposal staff who have a full command of the regional or minority language concerned, as well as of the language(s) of the rest of the population;	Partial congruence – Article 5.1 (text), Article 15 (interpretation). ⁴⁴
f to encourage direct participation by representatives of the users of a given regional or minority language in providing facilities and planning cultural activities;	Full congruence – Article 15 (interpretation). ⁴⁵
g to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of a body or bodies responsible for collecting, keeping a copy of and presenting or publishing works produced in the regional or minority languages;	
h if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.	Limited congruence – Article 5.1 (interpretation). ⁴⁶
2 In respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage and/or provide appropriate	Limited congruence – Article 5.1 (interpretation). ⁴⁷

⁴¹ See First Opinion on Estonia (ACFC/INF/OP/I(2002)005).

⁴² See First Opinion on Finland (ACFC/INF/OP/I(2001)002).

⁴³ See First Opinion on Georgia (ACFC/OP/I(2009)001) (Article 5), First Opinion on Finland (ACFC/INF/OP/I(2001)002) (Article 9).

⁴⁴ See Commentary on Participation, paragraph 141.

⁴⁵ See Commentary on Participation, paragraphs 65-68.

⁴⁶ See First Opinion on Bulgaria (ACFC/OP/I(2006)001).

⁴⁷ See First Opinion on Finland (ACFC/INF/OP/I(2001)002); Second Opinion on Finland (ACFC/OP/III(2006)003) (Sami outside their homeland).

cultural activities and facilities in accordance with the preceding paragraph.	
3 The Parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect.	
Article 13	
1 With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, within the whole country:	
a to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of regional or minority languages in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations;	Limited congruence – Article 4.1 (interpretation). ⁴⁸
b to prohibit the insertion in internal regulations of companies and private documents of any clauses excluding or restricting the use of regional or minority languages, at least between users of the same language;	
c to oppose practices designed to discourage the use of regional or minority languages in connection with economic or social activities;	Limited congruence – Article 4.1 (interpretation). ⁴⁹
d to facilitate and/or encourage the use of regional or minority languages by means other than those specified in the above sub-paragraphs.	
2 With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, in so far as the public authorities are competent, within the territory in which the regional or minority languages are used, and as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a to include in their financial and banking regulations provisions which allow, by means of procedures compatible with commercial practice, the use of regional or minority languages in drawing up payment orders (cheques, drafts, etc.) or other financial documents, or, where appropriate, to ensure the implementation of such provisions;	
b in the economic and social sectors directly under their control (public sector), to organise activities to promote the use of regional or minority languages;	
c to ensure that social care facilities such as hospitals, retirement homes and hostels offer the possibility of receiving and treating in their own language persons using a regional or minority language who are in need of care on grounds of ill-health, old age or for other reasons;	Limited congruence – Articles 4.1 and 15 (interpretation). ⁵⁰
d to ensure by appropriate means that safety instructions are also drawn up in regional or minority languages;	
e to arrange for information provided by the competent public authorities concerning the rights	

⁴⁸ See First Opinion on Czech Republic (ACFC/INF/OP/I(2002)002); Third Opinion on Slovakia (ACFC/OP/III(2010)004). See also, in some respect, Commentary on Participation, paragraph 35.

⁴⁹ See Third Opinion on Slovakia (ACFC/OP/III(2010)004).

⁵⁰ See Commentary on Participation, paragraphs 63, 64.



of consumers to be made available in regional or minority languages.	
Article 14	
The Parties undertake:	
a to apply existing bilateral and multilateral agreements which bind them with the States in which the same language is used in identical or similar form, or if necessary to seek to conclude such agreements, in such a way as to foster contacts between the users of the same language in the States concerned in the fields of culture, education, information, vocational training and permanent education;	Full congruence – Articles 17.1 and 18.1 (text).
b for the benefit of regional or minority languages, to facilitate and/or promote co-operation across borders, in particular between regional or local authorities in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form.	Full congruence – Article 18.2 (text).



II. Congruence between national legislation and the provisions of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages

1. Albania

Provision of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages	Legal provisions, policies and practices complying with that Charter provision
Article 8 – Education	
1 With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:	
a i to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 20 of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania of 21 October 1998: “1. Persons who belong to national minorities exercise the human rights and freedoms in full equality before the law. 2. They have the right freely to express, without prohibition or compulsion, their ethnic, cultural, religious and linguistic belonging. They have the right to preserve and develop them, to study and to be taught in their mother tongue, and to join organisations and associations working for the protection of their interests and identity.”⁵¹ Article 10 of the Law on Pre-University Education System No. 7952 of 21 June 1995: “People belonging to national minorities shall be given opportunities to study and be taught in their native language and to learn their history and culture within the framework of the teaching plans and curricula. In order to enable an active and equal participation in the economic, social, political and cultural life of the Republic of Albania, the government is required to provide conditions in which school-age children from the national minorities are able to learn Albanian, history and culture. Teaching plans and curricula, as well as the ratios on the use of the native and the official languages during the teaching process, are determined by special acts implemented by the Ministry of Education and Science. The education of people from national minorities is delivered in school units and specific educational institutions which are established and operate in pursuance with procedures determined by the Council of Ministers.”⁵²
ii to make available a substantial part of pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 20 of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania of 21 October 1998: “1. Persons who belong to national minorities exercise the human rights and freedoms in full equality before the law. 2. They have the right freely to express, without

⁵¹ See Report submitted by Albania pursuant to Article 25, paragraph 1 of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (ACFC/SR(2001)005), p. 68

⁵² See Report submitted by Albania pursuant to Article 25, paragraph 1 of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (ACFC/SR(2001)005), p. 96

	<p>prohibition or compulsion, their ethnic, cultural, religious and linguistic belonging. They have the right to preserve and develop them, to study and to be taught in their mother tongue, and to join organisations and associations working for the protection of their interests and identity.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10 of the Law on Pre-University Education System No. 7952 of 21 June 1995: “People belonging to national minorities shall be given opportunities to study and be taught in their native language and to learn their history and culture within the framework of the teaching plans and curricula. In order to enable an active and equal participation in the economic, social, political and cultural life of the Republic of Albania, the government is required to provide conditions in which school-age children from the national minorities are able to learn Albanian, history and culture. Teaching plans and curricula, as well as the ratios on the use of the native and the official languages during the teaching process, are determined by special acts implemented by the Ministry of Education and Science. The education of people from national minorities is delivered in school units and specific educational institutions which are established and operate in pursuance with procedures determined by the Council of Ministers.”
iii to apply one of the measures provided for under i and ii above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient; or	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
iv if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of pre-school education, to favour and/or encourage the application of the measures referred to under i to iii above;	
b i to make available primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 20 of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania of 21 October 1998: “1. Persons who belong to national minorities exercise the human rights and freedoms in full equality before the law. 2. They have the right freely to express, without prohibition or compulsion, their ethnic, cultural, religious and linguistic belonging. They have the right to preserve and develop them, to study and to be taught in their mother tongue, and to join organisations and associations working for the protection of their interests and identity.” Article 10 of the Law on Pre-University Education System No. 7952 of 21 June 1995: “People belonging to national minorities shall be given opportunities to study and be taught in their native language and to learn their history and culture within the framework of the teaching plans and curricula. In order to enable an active and equal participation in the economic, social, political and cultural life of the Republic of Albania, the government is required to provide conditions in which school-age children from the national minorities are able to learn Albanian, history and culture. Teaching plans and curricula, as well as the ratios on the use of



	the native and the official languages during the teaching process, are determined by special acts implemented by the Ministry of Education and Science. The education of people from national minorities is delivered in school units and specific educational institutions which are established and operate in pursuance with procedures determined by the Council of Ministers. ⁵³
ii to make available a substantial part of primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 20 of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania of 21 October 1998: "1. Persons who belong to national minorities exercise the human rights and freedoms in full equality before the law. 2. They have the right freely to express, without prohibition or compulsion, their ethnic, cultural, religious and linguistic belonging. They <u>have the right to preserve and develop them, to study and to be taught in their mother tongue</u>, and to join organisations and associations working for the protection of their interests and identity." Article 10 of the Law on Pre-University Education System No. 7952 of 21 June 1995: "People belonging to national minorities shall be given opportunities to study and be taught in their <u>native language</u> and to learn their history and culture within the framework of the teaching plans and curricula. In order to enable an active and equal participation in the economic, social, political and cultural life of the Republic of Albania, the government is required to provide conditions in which school-age children from the national minorities are able to learn Albanian, history and culture. Teaching plans and curricula, as well as <u>the ratios on the use of the native and the official languages during the teaching process</u>, are determined by special acts implemented by the Ministry of Education and Science. The education of people from national minorities is delivered in school units and specific educational institutions which are established and operate in pursuance with procedures determined by the Council of Ministers."
iii to provide, within primary education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or	
iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient;	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
c i to make available secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 20 of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania of 21 October 1998: "1. Persons who belong to national minorities exercise the human rights and freedoms in full equality before the law. 2. They have the right freely to express, without prohibition or compulsion, their ethnic, cultural, religious and linguistic belonging. They <u>have the right to preserve and develop them, to study and to be taught in their mother tongue</u>, and to join organ-

⁵³ In Albania, basic education covers nine years, comprising two levels: the lower level (grades I-IV) and the middle level (grades V-IX). Secondary education lasts for three years; see <http://www.mash.gov.al/faqe.php?id1=3&lang=en>.

	isations and associations working for the protection of their interests and identity."
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10 of the Law on Pre-University Education System No. 7952 of 21 June 1995: "People belonging to national minorities shall be given opportunities to study and be taught in their <u>native language</u> and to learn their history and culture within the framework of the teaching plans and curricula. In order to enable an active and equal participation in the economic, social, political and cultural life of the Republic of Albania, the government is required to provide conditions in which school-age children from the national minorities are able to learn Albanian, history and culture. Teaching plans and curricula, as well as the ratios on the use of the native and the official languages during the teaching process, are determined by special acts implemented by the Ministry of Education and Science. The education of people from national minorities is delivered in school units and specific educational institutions which are established and operate in pursuance with procedures determined by the Council of Ministers."
ii to make available a substantial part of secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 20 of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania of 21 October 1998: "1. Persons who belong to national minorities exercise the human rights and freedoms in full equality before the law. 2. They have the right freely to express, without prohibition or compulsion, their ethnic, cultural, religious and linguistic belonging. They <u>have the right to preserve and develop them, to study and to be taught in their mother tongue</u>, and to join organisations and associations working for the protection of their interests and identity." Article 10 of the Law on Pre-University Education System No. 7952 of 21 June 1995: "People belonging to national minorities shall be given opportunities to study and be taught in their <u>native language</u> and to learn their history and culture within the framework of the teaching plans and curricula. In order to enable an active and equal participation in the economic, social, political and cultural life of the Republic of Albania, the government is required to provide conditions in which school-age children from the national minorities are able to learn Albanian, history and culture. Teaching plans and curricula, as well as <u>the ratios on the use of the native and the official languages during the teaching process</u>, are determined by special acts implemented by the Ministry of Education and Science. The education of people from national minorities is delivered in school units and specific educational institutions which are established and operate in pursuance with procedures determined by the Council of Ministers."
iii to provide, within secondary education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or	



<p>iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;</p>	<p>Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p>
<p>d i to make available technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 20 of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania of 21 October 1998: "1. Persons who belong to national minorities exercise the human rights and freedoms in full equality before the law. 2. They have the right freely to express, without prohibition or compulsion, their ethnic, cultural, religious and linguistic belonging. They have the right to preserve and develop them, to study and to be taught in their mother tongue, and to join organisations and associations working for the protection of their interests and identity." Article 10 of the Law on Pre-University Education System No. 7952 of 21 June 1995: "People belonging to national minorities shall be given opportunities to study and be taught in their native language and to learn their history and culture within the framework of the teaching plans and curricula. In order to enable an active and equal participation in the economic, social, political and cultural life of the Republic of Albania, the government is required to provide conditions in which school-age children from the national minorities are able to learn Albanian, history and culture. Teaching plans and curricula, as well as the ratios on the use of the native and the official languages during the teaching process, are determined by special acts implemented by the Ministry of Education and Science. The education of people from national minorities is delivered in school units and specific educational institutions which are established and operate in pursuance with procedures determined by the Council of Ministers."
<p>ii to make available a substantial part of technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 20 of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania of 21 October 1998: "1. Persons who belong to national minorities exercise the human rights and freedoms in full equality before the law. 2. They have the right freely to express, without prohibition or compulsion, their ethnic, cultural, religious and linguistic belonging. They have the right to preserve and develop them, to study and to be taught in their mother tongue, and to join organisations and associations working for the protection of their interests and identity." Article 10 of the Law on Pre-University Education System No. 7952 of 21 June 1995: "People belonging to national minorities shall be given opportunities to study and be taught in their native language and to learn their history and culture within the framework of the teaching plans and curricula. In order to enable an active and equal participation in the economic, social, political and cultural life of the Republic of Albania, the government is required to provide conditions in which school-age children from the national minorities are able to learn Albanian, history and

	<p>culture. Teaching plans and curricula, as well as the ratios on the use of the native and the official languages during the teaching process, are determined by special acts implemented by the Ministry of Education and Science. The education of people from national minorities is delivered in school units and specific educational institutions which are established and operate in pursuance with procedures determined by the Council of Ministers."</p>
<p>iii to provide, within technical and vocational education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or</p>	
<p>iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;</p>	<p>Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p>
<p>e i to make available university and other higher education in regional or minority languages; or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 20 of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania of 21 October 1998: "1. Persons who belong to national minorities exercise the human rights and freedoms in full equality before the law. 2. They have the right freely to express, without prohibition or compulsion, their ethnic, cultural, religious and linguistic belonging. They have the right to preserve and develop them, to study and to be taught in their mother tongue, and to join organisations and associations working for the protection of their interests and identity."
<p>ii to provide facilities for the study of these languages as university and higher education subjects; or</p>	
<p>iii if, by reason of the role of the State in relation to higher education institutions, subparagraphs i and ii cannot be applied, to encourage and/or allow the provision of university or other forms of higher education in regional or minority languages or of facilities for the study of these languages as university or higher education subjects;</p>	
<p>f i to arrange for the provision of adult and continuing education courses which are taught mainly or wholly in the regional or minority languages; or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 20 of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania of 21 October 1998: "1. Persons who belong to national minorities exercise the human rights and freedoms in full equality before the law. 2. They have the right freely to express, without prohibition or compulsion, their ethnic, cultural, religious and linguistic belonging. They have the right to preserve and develop them, to study and to be taught in their mother tongue, and to join organisations and associations working for the protection of their interests and identity."
<p>ii to offer such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education; or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 20 of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania of 21 October 1998: "1. Persons who belong to national minorities exercise the human rights and freedoms in full equality before the law. 2. They have the right freely to express, without prohibition or compulsion, their ethnic, cultural,



	religious and linguistic belonging. They have the right to preserve and develop them, to study and to be taught in their mother tongue, and to join organisations and associations working for the protection of their interests and identity.”
iii if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of adult education, to favour and/or encourage the offering of such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 20 of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania of 21 October 1998: “1. Persons who belong to national minorities exercise the human rights and freedoms in full equality before the law. 2. They have the right freely to express, without prohibition or compulsion, their ethnic, cultural, religious and linguistic belonging. They have the right to preserve and develop them, to study and to be taught in their mother tongue, and to join organisations and associations working for the protection of their interests and identity.”
g to make arrangements to ensure the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the regional or minority language;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 12.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 10 of the Law on Pre-University Education System No. 7952 of 21 June 1995: “People belonging to national minorities shall be given opportunities to study and be taught in their native language and to learn their history and culture within the framework of the teaching plans and curricula. (...)”
h to provide the basic and further training of the teachers required to implement those of paragraphs a to g accepted by the Party;	Article 12.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
i to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.	
2 With regard to education and in respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all the appropriate stages of education.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 20 of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania of 21 October 1998: “1. Persons who belong to national minorities exercise the human rights and freedoms in full equality before the law. 2. They have the right freely to express, without prohibition or compulsion, their ethnic, cultural, religious and linguistic belonging. They have the right to preserve and develop them, to study and to be taught in their mother tongue, and to join organisations and associations working for the protection of their interests and identity.”
Article 9	
1 The Parties undertake, in respect of those judicial districts in which the number of residents using the regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below, according to the situation of each of these languages and on condition that the use of the facilities afforded by the present paragraph is not considered by the judge to hamper the proper administration of justice:	

a in criminal proceedings:	
i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.3, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 28.1 of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania of 21 October 1998: “1. Everyone whose liberty has been taken away has the right to be notified immediately, in a language that he understands, of the reasons for this measure, as well as the accusation made against him. [...]”⁵⁴ Article 31 of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania of 21 October 1998: “In a criminal proceeding, everyone has the right: [...] to have the assistance of a translator without charge, when he does not speak or understand Albanian.” Article 8 of the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Albania⁵⁵, Law No. 7905 of 21 March 1995 (Use of Albanian): “1. Albanian shall be used in all stages of the proceedings. 2. Persons who do not speak Albanian shall use their own language and, through an interpreter, have the right to speak and to be informed of the evidence and documents (acts) and also about the process of the proceedings.” Article 98 of the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Albania, Law No. 7905 of 21 March 1995 (Language of acts): “1. Criminal procedural documents are produced in Albanian. 2. A person who does not speak Albanian is questioned in his native language and records are then kept in this language. Procedural documents provided with his application are translated into the same language. 3. Any breach of these rules invalidates the documents.” Article 123.1 of the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Albania (Assigning an interpreter): “A defendant who does not speak Albanian has the right to be assisted by an interpreter free of charge in order to understand the charge and to follow the actions he participates in. [...]”
ii to guarantee the accused the right to use his/her regional or minority language; and/or	
iii to provide that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, shall not be considered inadmissible solely because they are formulated in a regional or minority language; and/or	
iv to produce, on request, documents connected with legal proceedings in the relevant regional or minority language,	Article 98 of the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Albania , Law No. 7905 of 21 March 1995 (Language of acts): “1. Criminal procedural documents are made in Albanian. 2. A person who does not speak Albanian is questioned in his native

⁵⁴ See Report submitted by Albania pursuant to Article 25, paragraph 1 of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (ACFC/SR(2001)005), p. 69

⁵⁵ See <http://www.hidaa.gov.al/english/laws/penal%20procedure%20code.pdf>



	language and records are then kept in this language. Procedural documents provided with his application are translated into the same language. 3. Any breach of these rules invalidates the documents.”
if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations involving no extra expense for the persons concerned;	
b in civil proceedings:	
i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or	
ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 27 of the Code of Civil Procedure of the Republic of Albania, Law No. 8113 of 29 March 1996 (Use of Albanian in trial): “Albanian is used in all trial stages. <u>Persons who do not speak Albanian use their own language.</u> They are informed of the evidence and of all juridical procedure through an interpreter.”⁵⁶ Article 116 of the Code of Civil Procedure of the Republic of Albania, Law No. 8113 of 29 March 1996: “Procedural acts are drafted in Albanian. The court calls a translator when persons giving their testimony do not speak Albanian or for the translation of documents written in a foreign language. [...]”
iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,	
if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;	
c in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:	
i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or	
ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 18 of the Code of Administrative Procedures of the Republic of Albania, Law No. 8545 of 12 May 1999 (Principle of Internal and Judicial Review): “In order to protect the constitutional and legal rights of individuals, administrative activity will be subject to: a) an internal administrative review in accordance with the provisions of this Code concerning an administrative appeal; and b) a judicial review in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Civil Procedure.”⁵⁷ Article 27 of the Code of Civil Procedure of the Republic of Albania, Law No. 8113 of 29 March 1996 (Use of Albanian in trials): “Albanian is used in all trial stages. <u>Persons who do not speak Albanian use their own language.</u> They are informed of the evidence and of all juridical procedure through an interpreter.”
iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,	

⁵⁶ See Report submitted by Albania pursuant to Article 25, paragraph 1 of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (ACFC/SR(2001)005), p. 104

⁵⁷ See http://www.hidaa.gov.al/english/laws/l_8485.htm

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;	
d to take steps to ensure that the application of sub-paragraphs i and iii of paragraphs b and c above and any necessary use of interpreters and translations does not involve extra expense for the persons concerned.	
2 The Parties undertake:	
a not to deny the validity of legal documents drawn up within the State solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language; or	
b not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language, and to provide that they can be invoked against interested third parties who are not users of these languages on condition that the contents of the document are made known to them by the person(s) who invoke(s) it; or	
c not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language.	
3 The Parties undertake to make available in the regional or minority languages the most important national statutory texts and those relating particularly to users of these languages, unless they are otherwise provided.	
Article 10	
1 Within the administrative districts of the State in which the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below and according to the situation of each language, the Parties undertake, as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a i to ensure that the administrative authorities use the regional or minority languages; or	
ii to ensure that such of their officers as are in contact with the public use the regional or minority languages in their relations with persons applying to them in these languages; or	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
iii to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications and receive a reply in these languages; or	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
iv to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications in these languages; or	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
v to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may validly submit a document in these languages;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
b to make available widely used administrative texts and forms for the population in the regional or minority languages or in bilingual versions;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
c to allow the administrative authorities to draft documents in a regional or minority language.	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
2 In respect of the local and regional authorities on whose territory the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages is such as to justify the measures specified below, the	



Parties undertake to allow and/or encourage:	
a the use of regional or minority languages within the framework of the regional or local authority;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
b the possibility for users of regional or minority languages to submit oral or written applications in these languages;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
c the publication by regional authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
d the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
e the use by regional authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;	
f the use by local authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;	
g the use or adoption, if necessary in conjunction with the name in the official language(s), of traditional and correct forms of place-names in regional or minority languages.	Article 11.3, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
3 With regard to public services provided by the administrative authorities or other persons acting on their behalf, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which regional or minority languages are used, in accordance with the situation of each language and as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a to ensure that the regional or minority languages are used in the provision of the service; or	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
b to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request and receive a reply in these languages; or	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
c to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request in these languages.	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
4 With a view to putting into effect those provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 accepted by them, the Parties undertake to take one or more of the following measures:	
a translation or interpretation as may be required;	
b recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required;	
c compliance as far as possible with requests from public service employees having a knowledge of a regional or minority language to be appointed in the territory in which that language is used.	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
5 The Parties undertake to allow the use or adoption of family names in the regional or minority languages, at the request of those concerned.	Article 11.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
Article 11	
1 The Parties undertake, for the users of the regional or minority languages within the territories in which those languages are spoken, according to the situation of each language, to the extent that the	

public authorities, directly or indirectly, are competent, have power or play a role in this field, and respecting the principle of the independence and autonomy of the media:	
a to the extent that radio and television carry out a public service mission:	
i to ensure the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	
iii to make adequate provision so that broadcasters offer programmes in the regional or minority languages;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 37 of Law on Public and Private Radio-Television in the Republic of Albania No. 8410 of 30 September 1998: "The use of Albanian is mandatory for all programmes, except for musical works with lyrics in a foreign language, foreign language teaching programmes, the programmes intended specifically for national minorities, and programmes of local radio-television subjects licensed to broadcast in the language of minorities. [...]"⁵⁸
b i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station in the regional or minority languages; or	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of radio programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
c i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of television programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
d to encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audiovisual works in the regional or minority languages;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
e i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages; or	Articles 9.3 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the publication of newspaper articles in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
f i to cover the additional costs of those media which use regional or minority languages, wherever the law provides for financial assistance in general for the media; or	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
ii to apply existing measures for financial assistance also to audiovisual productions in the regional or minority languages;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
g to support the training of journalists and other staff for media using regional or minority languages.	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
2 The Parties undertake to guarantee freedom	Articles 9.1, 9.2, 9.3 and 18, Framework Convention

⁵⁸ See Report submitted by Albania pursuant to Article 25, paragraph 1 of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (ACFC/SR(2001)005), p. 94



of direct reception of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language, and not to oppose the retransmission of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in such a language. They further undertake to ensure that no restrictions will be placed on the freedom of expression and free circulation of information in the written press in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language. The exercise of the above-mentioned freedoms, since it carries with it duties and responsibilities, may be subject to such formalities, conditions, restrictions or penalties as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputation or rights of others, for preventing disclosure of information received in confidence, or for maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary.	for the Protection of National Minorities.
3 The Parties undertake to ensure that the interests of the users of regional or minority languages are represented or taken into account within such bodies as may be established in accordance with the law with responsibility for guaranteeing the freedom and pluralism of the media.	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
Article 12	
1 With regard to cultural activities and facilities – especially libraries, video libraries, cultural centres, museums, archives, academies, theatres and cinemas, as well as literary work and film production, vernacular forms of cultural expression, festivals and the culture industries, including, <i>inter alia</i> , the use of new technologies – the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used and to the extent that the public authorities are competent, have power or play a role in this field:	
a to encourage types of expression and initiative specific to regional or minority languages and foster the different means of access to works produced in these languages;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 5.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 20 of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania of 21 October 1998: “1. Persons who belong to national minorities exercise the human rights and freedoms in full equality before the law. 2. <u>They have the right freely to express, without prohibition or compulsion, their ethnic, cultural, religious and linguistic belonging. They have the right to preserve and develop them, to study and to be taught in their mother tongue, and to join organisations and associations working for the protection of their interests and identity.</u>”
b to foster the different means of access in other languages to works produced in regional or minority languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;	Articles 9.1 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
c to foster access in regional or minority languages to works produced in other languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-	Articles 9.1 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.

synchronisation and subtitling activities;	
d to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities of various kinds make appropriate allowance for incorporating the knowledge and use of regional or minority languages and cultures in the undertakings which they initiate or for which they provide backing;	Articles 5.1 and 9.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
e to promote measures to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities have at their disposal staff who have a full command of the regional or minority language concerned, as well as of the language(s) of the rest of the population;	Articles 5.1 and Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
f to encourage direct participation by representatives of the users of a given regional or minority language in providing facilities and planning cultural activities;	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
g to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of a body or bodies responsible for collecting, keeping a copy of and presenting or publishing works produced in the regional or minority languages;	
h if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.	
2 In respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage and/or provide appropriate cultural activities and facilities in accordance with the preceding paragraph.	
3 The Parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect.	
Article 13	
1 With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, within the whole country:	
a to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of regional or minority languages in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations;	Article 4.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
b to prohibit the insertion in internal regulations of companies and private documents of any clauses excluding or restricting the use of regional or minority languages, at least between users of the same language;	
c to oppose practices designed to discourage the use of regional or minority languages in connection with economic or social activities;	
d to facilitate and/or encourage the use of regional or minority languages by means other than those specified in the above sub-paragraphs.	



2 With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, in so far as the public authorities are competent, within the territory in which the regional or minority languages are used, and as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a to include in their financial and banking regulations provisions which allow, by means of procedures compatible with commercial practice, the use of regional or minority languages in drawing up payment orders (cheques, drafts, etc.) or other financial documents, or, where appropriate, to ensure the implementation of such provisions;	
b in the economic and social sectors directly under their control (public sector), to organise activities to promote the use of regional or minority languages;	
c to ensure that social care facilities such as hospitals, retirement homes and hostels offer the possibility of receiving and treating in their own language persons using a regional or minority language who are in need of care on grounds of ill-health, old age or for other reasons;	
d to ensure by appropriate means that safety instructions are also drawn up in regional or minority languages;	
e to arrange for information provided by the competent public authorities concerning the rights of consumers to be made available in regional or minority languages.	
Article 14	
The Parties undertake:	
a to apply existing bilateral and multilateral agreements which bind them with the States in which the same language is used in identical or similar form, or if necessary to seek to conclude such agreements, in such a way as to foster contacts between the users of the same language in the States concerned in the fields of culture, education, information, vocational training and permanent education;	Articles 17.1 and 18.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
b for the benefit of regional or minority languages, to facilitate and/or promote co-operation across borders, in particular between regional or local authorities in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form.	Article 18.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.

2. Azerbaijan

Provision of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages	Legal provisions, policies and practices complying with that Charter provision
Article 8 – Education	
1 With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:	
a i to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	Part II, Article 3, Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the State Language in the Republic of Azerbaijan of 22 December 1992: “Citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan shall be guaranteed the freedom to choose a language of teaching. Nationalities and ethnic groups compactly residing on the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan shall be granted the right to establish, by means of the state bodies of the Republic, pre-school institutions in the native language as well as general secondary schools or separate classes and groups in the native language at various educational institutions.”
ii to make available a substantial part of pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	Part II, Article 3, Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the State Language in the Republic of Azerbaijan of 22 December 1992: “Citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan shall be guaranteed the freedom to choose a language of teaching. Nationalities and ethnic groups compactly residing on the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan shall be granted the right to establish, by means of the state bodies of the Republic, pre-school institutions in the native language as well as general secondary schools or separate classes and groups in the native language at various educational institutions.”
iii to apply one of the measures provided for under i and ii above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part II, Article 3, Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the State Language in the Republic of Azerbaijan of 22 December 1992: “Citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan shall be guaranteed the freedom to choose a language of teaching. Nationalities and ethnic groups compactly residing on the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan shall be granted the right to establish, by means of the state bodies of the Republic, pre-school institutions in the native language as well as general secondary schools or separate classes and groups in the native language at various educational institutions.” Article 7 (Language of education), Law on Education of 19 June 2009 (Статья 7. Язык обучения)⁵⁹ <p>7.1. In educational institutions of the Republic of Azerbaijan the language of education is the state language – the Azerbaijani language (В образовательных учреждениях Азербайджанской Рес-</p>

⁵⁹ <http://en.trend.az/news/azerbaijan/1491350.html>, <http://www.edu.gov.az/view.php?lang=ru&menu=72&id=4297>



	<p>публики языком обучения является государственный язык – азербайджанский язык.)</p> <p>7.2. In special cases (based on international agreement, to which Azerbaijan is a party, or upon agreement with relevant organ of the executive power (b особых случаях (на основании международных договоров, участницей которых является Азербайджанская Республика, или согласования с соответствующим органом исполнительной власти), taking into consideration the wishes of the citizens and founders of the educational institutions, the education in the <u>general educational institutions</u>, the education can be conducted in the frame of general educational standards also in other languages with obligatory teaching of the Azerbaijani language, history, of Azerbaijan, Azerbaijani literature and geography (с учетом желания граждан и учредителей образовательных учреждений, обучение в общих образовательных учреждениях в рамках соответствующих государственных образовательных стандартов может вестись и на других языках с обязательным преподаванием азербайджанского языка, истории Азербайджана, азербайджанской литературы и географии Азербайджана).</p> <p>• Article 2.3 (State standard and programme of pre-school education), Cabinet of Ministers State Order 137 of 16 July 2010: “The main language at the pre-school educational establishments is Azeri. The training may be provided in other languages based on desire and wish of parents as well as state standard for the pre-school education.”⁶⁰</p>
iv if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of pre-school education, to favour and/or encourage the application of the measures referred to under I to iii above;	
b 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 curriculum; or	
iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient;	<p>Article 7 (language of education), Law on Education of 19 June 2009 (Статья 7. Язык обучения)</p> <p>7.1. In educational institutions of the Republic of Azerbaijan the language of education is the state language – the Azerbaijani language (В образовательных учреждениях Азербайджанской Республики языком обучения является государственный язык – азербайджанский язык.</p>

⁶⁰ <http://www.edu.gov.az/view.php?lang=en&menu=255&id=4371>

	<p>7.2. In special cases (based on international agreement, to which Azerbaijan is a party, or upon agreement with relevant organ of the executive power (b особых случаях (на основании международных договоров, участницей которых является Азербайджанская Республика, или согласования с соответствующим органом исполнительной власти), taking into consideration the wishes of the citizens and founders of the educational institutions, the education in the <u>general educational institutions</u>, the education can be conducted in the frame of general educational standards also in other languages with obligatory teaching of the Azerbaijani language, history, of Azerbaijan, Azerbaijani literature and geography (с учетом желания граждан и учредителей образовательных учреждений, обучение в общих образовательных учреждениях в рамках соответствующих государственных образовательных стандартов может вестись и на других языках с обязательным преподаванием азербайджанского языка, истории Азербайджана, азербайджанской литературы и географии Азербайджана).</p>
c i to make available secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	<p>Part II, Article 3, Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the State Language in the Republic of Azerbaijan of 22 December 1992: “Citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan shall be guaranteed the freedom to choose a language of teaching. Nationalities and ethnic groups compactly residing on the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan shall be granted the right to establish, by means of the state bodies of the Republic, pre-school institutions in the native language as well as general secondary schools or separate classes and groups in the native language at various educational institutions.”</p>
ii to make available a substantial part of secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	<p>Part II, Article 3, Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the State Language in the Republic of Azerbaijan of 22 December 1992: “Citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan shall be guaranteed the freedom to choose a language of teaching. Nationalities and ethnic groups compactly residing on the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan shall be granted the right to establish, by means of the state bodies of the Republic, pre-school institutions in the native language as well as general secondary schools or separate classes and groups in the native language at various educational institutions.”</p>
iii to provide, within secondary education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or	
iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;	<p>• Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities</p> <p>• Article 7 (language of education), Law on Education of 19 June 2009 (Статья 7. Язык обучения)</p> <p>7.1. In educational institutions of the Republic of Azerbaijan the language of education is the state</p>



	<p>language – the Azerbaijani language (В образовательных учреждениях Азербайджанской Республики языком обучения является государственный язык – азербайджанский язык.</p> <p>7.2. In special cases (based on international agreement, to which Azerbaijan is a party, or upon agreement with relevant organ of the executive power (в особых случаях (на основании международных договоров, участницей которых является Азербайджанская Республика, или согласования с соответствующим органом исполнительной власти), taking into consideration the wishes of the citizens and founders of the educational institutions, the education in the <u>general educational institutions</u>, the <u>education can be conducted</u> in the frame of general educational standards also in other languages with obligatory teaching of the Azerbaijani language, history, of Azerbaijan, Azerbaijani literature and geography (с учетом желаний граждан и учредителей образовательных учреждений, обучение в общих образовательных учреждениях в рамках соответствующих государственных образовательных стандартов может вестись и на других языках с обязательным преподаванием азербайджанского языка, истории Азербайджана, азербайджанской литературы и географии Азербайджана).</p>
d i to make available technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	
ii to make available a substantial part of technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	
iii to provide, within technical and vocational education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or	
iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities Article 7 (Language of education), Law on Education of 19 June 2009 (Статья 7. Язык обучения) <p>7.1. In educational institutions of the Republic of Azerbaijan the language of education is the state language – the Azerbaijani language (В образовательных учреждениях Азербайджанской Республики языком обучения является государственный язык – азербайджанский язык.</p> <p>7.2. In special cases (based on international agreement, to which Azerbaijan is a party, or upon agreement with relevant organ of the executive power (в особых случаях (на основании международных договоров, участницей которых является Азербайджанская Республика, или согласования с соответствующим органом исполнительной власти), taking into consideration the wishes of the citizens and founders of the educational institutions, the education in the</p>

	<p>general educational institutions, the education can be conducted in the frame of general educational standards also in other languages with obligatory teaching of the Azerbaijani language, history, of Azerbaijan, Azerbaijani literature and geography (с учетом желаний граждан и учредителей образовательных учреждений, обучение в общих образовательных учреждениях в рамках соответствующих государственных образовательных стандартов может вестись и на других языках с обязательным преподаванием азербайджанского языка, истории Азербайджана, азербайджанской литературы и географии Азербайджана).</p>
e i to make available university and other higher education in regional or minority languages; or	
ii to provide facilities for the study of these languages as university and higher education subjects; or	
iii if, by reason of the role of the State in relation to higher education institutions, subparagraphs i and ii cannot be applied, to encourage and/or allow the provision of university or other forms of higher education in regional or minority languages or of facilities for the study of these languages as university or higher education subjects;	
f i to arrange for the provision of adult and continuing education courses which are taught mainly or wholly in the regional or minority languages; or	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
ii to offer such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education; or	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
iii if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of adult education, to favour and/or encourage the offering of such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education;	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
g to make arrangements to ensure the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the regional or minority language;	Article 12.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
h to provide the basic and further training of the teachers required to implement those of paragraphs a to g accepted by the Party;	Article 12.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
i to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.	
2 With regard to education and in respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all the appropriate stages of education.	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
Article 9	
1 The Parties undertake, in respect of those judicial districts in which the number of residents using	



the regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below, according to the situation of each of these languages and on condition that the use of the facilities afforded by the present paragraph is not considered by the judge to hamper the proper administration of justice:	
a in criminal proceedings:	
i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or	Article 26.1 (The language used in criminal proceedings), Code of Criminal Procedure of 14 July 2000 ⁶¹ : “Criminal proceedings in the courts of the Azerbaijan Republic shall be conducted in the official language of the Azerbaijan Republic or in the language of the majority of the population in the relevant area.”
ii to guarantee the accused the right to use his/her regional or minority language; and/or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.3, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities Code of Criminal Procedure of 14 July 2000 <p>Article 26 - The language used in criminal proceedings</p> <p>2) In the event that the parties do not speak the language used in court, the judicial authority shall guarantee the following rights to them:</p> <p>2.1) their right to use their mother tongue</p> <p>2.2) the right to use the services of an interpreter free of charge during the investigation and court hearings, to be fully familiar with all documents relating to the case and criminal prosecution and to use their mother tongue in court.</p> <p>3) The rights of parties who do not speak the language used in criminal proceedings, as provided for under Article 26.2.2 of this Code, shall be secured at the expense of the budget of the Azerbaijan Republic.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 14 (Language of court proceedings), Courts and Judges Act 1997/2005: “Court proceedings shall be carried out in the language specified in Part X, Article 127 of the Constitution (Azeri). The persons who do not speak the language of the court proceedings shall not be restricted in his/her rights. In cases provided by the legislation of the Republic of Azerbaijan, each person shall have one’s right to avail oneself of translator/interpreter’s services guaranteed.”⁶²
iii to provide that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, shall not be considered inadmissible solely because they are formulated in a regional or minority language; and/or	Code of Criminal Procedure of 14 July 2000 Article 26 - The language used in criminal pro-

⁶¹ <http://www.legislationline.org/download/action/download/id/1659/file/dddecee81440fa5295fc11e6b2b1.htm/preview>

⁶² <http://www.commission-anticorruption.gov.az/upload/file/Courts%20and%20Judges%20ACT%201997.pdf>

	ceedings
	2) In the event that the parties do not speak the language used in court, the judicial authority shall guarantee the following rights to them:
	2.1) their right to use their mother tongue
	2.2) the right to use the services of an interpreter free of charge during the investigation and court hearings, to be fully familiar with all documents relating to the case and criminal prosecution and to use their mother tongue in court.
	3) The rights of parties who do not speak the language used in criminal proceedings, as provided for under Article 26.2.2 of this Code, shall be secured at the expense of the budget of the Azerbaijan Republic.
iv to produce, on request, documents connected with legal proceedings in the relevant regional or minority language,	Article 26.4 (The language used in criminal proceedings), Code of Criminal Procedure of 14 July 2000: “The judicial authority shall provide the relevant persons with the necessary documents in the language used during the trial.”
if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations involving no extra expense for the persons concerned;	
b in civil proceedings:	
i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or	Article 11.1 (Language of court proceedings), Code of Civil Procedure of 1 September 2000 ⁶³ : “Language of court proceedings in respect of civil cases and economic disputes shall be Azerbaijani - the official state language of the Azerbaijan Republic or the language of the majority of population of a particular region.”
ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 11.2 (Language of court proceedings), Code of Civil Procedure of 1 September 2000: “Persons not speaking the language of proceeding shall be explained about and provided with the right to get familiar with all case materials, give explanations, testimonies and opinions, appear before court, make motions, submit complaints in their native language, as well as to use free of charge interpreters services in order specified by this Code.” Article 14 (Language of court proceedings), Courts and Judges Act 1997/2005: “Court proceedings shall be carried out in the language specified in Part X, Article 127 of the Constitution (Azeri). The persons who do not speak the language of the court proceedings shall not be restricted in his/her rights. In cases provided by the legislation of the Republic of Azerbaijan, each person shall have one’s right to avail oneself of translator/interpreter’s services guaranteed.”
iii to allow documents and evidence	Code of Civil Procedure of 1 September 2000 ⁶⁴

⁶³ <http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/country,,,LEGISLATION,AZE,4562d8cf2,4417f5c84,0.html>

⁶⁴ <http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/country,,,LEGISLATION,AZE,4562d8cf2,4417f5c84,0.html>



to be produced in the regional or minority languages,	Article 11 - Language of court proceedings 2) Persons not speaking the language of proceeding shall be explained about and provided with the right to get familiar with all case materials, give explanations, testimonies and opinions, appear before court, make motions, submit complaints in their native language, as well as to use free of charge interpreters services in order specified by this Code. 3) Court documents shall be presented to persons participating in case in the language of the proceedings.
if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;	
c in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:	
i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or	Article 11.6, Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the State Language in the Republic of Azerbaijan of 30 September 2002: "Proceedings on administrative violations in the Republic of Azerbaijan are conducted in the state language. In cases and in line of the Administrative Violations Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the proceedings can be conducted in other languages (Производство по административным проступкам в Азербайджанской Республике ведется на государственном языке. В случаях и порядке, установленных Кодексом административных проступков Азербайджанской Республики, производство по административным проступкам может вестись на других языках)." ⁶⁵
ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or	Article 14 (Language of court proceedings), Courts and Judges Act 1997/2005: "Court proceedings shall be carried out in the language specified in Part X, Article 127 of the Constitution (Azeri). The persons who do not speak the language of the court proceedings shall not be restricted in his/her rights. In cases provided by the legislation of the Republic of Azerbaijan, each person shall have one's right to avail oneself of translator/interpreter's services guaranteed."
iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,	
if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;	
d to take steps to ensure that the application of sub-paragraphs i and iii of paragraphs b and c above and any necessary use of interpreters and translations does not involve extra expense for the persons concerned.	
2 The Parties undertake:	
a not to deny the validity of legal documents drawn up within the State solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language; or	
b not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in a regional	

⁶⁵ <http://www.medialaw.ru/exussrlaw/az/lang.htm>

or minority language, and to provide that they can be invoked against interested third parties who are not users of these languages on condition that the contents of the document are made known to them by the person(s) who invoke(s) it; or	
c not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language.	In accordance with the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on Notary of 26 November 1999, the drafting or translation of documents in a language other than Azeri may be asked. ⁶⁶
3 The Parties undertake to make available in the regional or minority languages the most important national statutory texts and those relating particularly to users of these languages, unless they are otherwise provided.	
Article 10	
1 Within the administrative districts of the State in which the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below and according to the situation of each language, the Parties undertake, as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a i to ensure that the administrative authorities use the regional or minority languages; or	
ii to ensure that such of their officers as are in contact with the public use the regional or minority languages in their relations with persons applying to them in these languages; or	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
iii to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications and receive a reply in these languages; or	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
iv to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications in these languages; or	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
v to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may validly submit a document in these languages;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
b to make available widely used administrative texts and forms for the population in the regional or minority languages or in bilingual versions;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
c to allow the administrative authorities to draft documents in a regional or minority language.	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
2 In respect of the local and regional authorities on whose territory the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages is such as to justify the measures specified below, the Parties undertake to allow and/or encourage:	
a the use of regional or minority languages within the framework of the regional or local authority;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
b the possibility for users of regional or minority languages to submit oral or written applications in these languages;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
c the publication by regional authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
d the publication by local authorities of	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the

⁶⁶ Second Report submitted by Azerbaijan pursuant to Article 25, paragraph 2 of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (ACFC/SR(2007)001), p. 2



their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;	Protection of National Minorities
e the use by regional authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;	
f the use by local authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;	
g the use or adoption, if necessary in conjunction with the name in the official language(s), of traditional and correct forms of place-names in regional or minority languages.	Article 11.3, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
3 With regard to public services provided by the administrative authorities or other persons acting on their behalf, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which regional or minority languages are used, in accordance with the situation of each language and as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a to ensure that the regional or minority languages are used in the provision of the service; or	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
b to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request and receive a reply in these languages; or	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
c to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request in these languages.	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
4 With a view to putting into effect those provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 accepted by them, the Parties undertake to take one or more of the following measures:	
a translation or interpretation as may be required;	
b recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required;	
c compliance as far as possible with requests from public service employees having a knowledge of a regional or minority language to be appointed in the territory in which that language is used.	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
5 The Parties undertake to allow the use or adoption of family names in the regional or minority languages, at the request of those concerned.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 11.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities Article 18, Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the State Language in the Republic of Azerbaijan of 30 September 2002: "Every citizen of the Republic of Azerbaijan shall have the right to have a family name in accordance with his national affiliation."⁶⁷
Article 11	
1 The Parties undertake, for the users of the regional or minority languages within the territories in which those languages are spoken, according to the situation of each language, to the extent that the public authorities, directly or indirectly, are competent, have power or play a role in this field, and respecting the principle of the independence and autonomy of	

the media:	
a to the extent that radio and television carry out a public service mission:	
i to ensure the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	
iii to make adequate provision so that broadcasters offer programmes in the regional or minority languages;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities Articles 12.3 and 13.2, Law on Public Television and Radio Broadcasting of 28 September 2004: Programmes in minority languages of national minorities living in the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan are included in the public broadcast (Avar, Georgian, Kurdish, Lezghin, Russian, Talysh and others).⁶⁸
b i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station in the regional or minority languages; or	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of radio programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities Part IV (Language in information and names), Article 15, Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the State Language in the Republic of Azerbaijan of 30 September 2002: "Besides the state language, other languages may be used in the mass media on the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Printed announcements, communications, advertisements and other visual information may be produced in the state language of the Republic and, where necessary, at the same time in the accepted international language."
c i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of television programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities Part IV (Language in information and names), Article 15, Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the State Language in the Republic of Azerbaijan of 30 September 2002: "Besides the state language, other languages may be used in the mass media on the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Printed announcements, communications, advertisements and other visual information may be produced in the state language of the Republic and, where necessary, at the same time in the accepted international language."
d to encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audiovisual works in the regional or minority languages;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
e i to encourage and/or facilitate the	Articles 9.3 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the

⁶⁷ <http://www.azerb.com/az-law-language.html>, http://files.preslib.az/projects/remz/pdf_en/atr_dil.pdf

⁶⁸ See Second Report submitted by Azerbaijan pursuant to Article 25, paragraph 2 of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (ACFC/SR(2007)001), p. 30



creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages; or	Protection of National Minorities
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the publication of newspaper articles in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
f i to cover the additional costs of those media which use regional or minority languages, wherever the law provides for financial assistance in general for the media; or	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
ii to apply existing measures for financial assistance also to audiovisual productions in the regional or minority languages;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
g to support the training of journalists and other staff for media using regional or minority languages.	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
2 The Parties undertake to guarantee freedom of direct reception of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language, and not to oppose the retransmission of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in such a language. They further undertake to ensure that no restrictions will be placed on the freedom of expression and free circulation of information in the written press in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language. The exercise of the above-mentioned freedoms, since it carries with it duties and responsibilities, may be subject to such formalities, conditions, restrictions or penalties as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputation or rights of others, for preventing disclosure of information received in confidence, or for maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Articles 9.1, 9.2, 9.3 and 18, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities Article 6, Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on Mass Media of February 2000: "No language limitations are applied to the mass media in the territory of the Azerbaijan Republic."⁶⁹
3 The Parties undertake to ensure that the interests of the users of regional or minority languages are represented or taken into account within such bodies as may be established in accordance with the law with responsibility for guaranteeing the freedom and pluralism of the media.	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
Article 12	
1 With regard to cultural activities and facilities – especially libraries, video libraries, cultural centres, museums, archives, academies, theatres and cinemas, as well as literary work and film production, vernacular forms of cultural expression, festivals and the culture industries, including <i>inter alia</i> the use of new technologies – the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used and to the extent that the public authorities are competent, have power or play a role in this field:	
a to encourage types of expression and initiative specific to regional or minority languages and foster the different means of access to works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 5.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities

⁶⁹ <http://www.culturalpolicies.net/web/azerbaijan.php?aid=519>, p. AZ-17

produced in these languages;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decree Nr 551 of 16 December 2004 of the President on state support to the Georgian Theatre and Decree Nr 54 of the Cabinet of Ministers 22 February 2005 on state support to the Russian Theatre⁷⁰
b to foster the different means of access in other languages to works produced in regional or minority languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;	Articles 9.1 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
c to foster access in regional or minority languages to works produced in other languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;	Articles 9.1 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
d to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities of various kinds make appropriate allowance for incorporating the knowledge and use of regional or minority languages and cultures in the undertakings which they initiate or for which they provide backing;	Articles 5.1 and 9.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
e to promote measures to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities have at their disposal staff who have a full command of the regional or minority language concerned, as well as of the language(s) of the rest of the population;	Articles 5.1 and Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
f to encourage direct participation by representatives of the users of a given regional or minority language in providing facilities and planning cultural activities;	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
g to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of a body or bodies responsible for collecting, keeping a copy of and presenting or publishing works produced in the regional or minority languages;	
h if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.	
2 In respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage and/or provide appropriate cultural activities and facilities in accordance with the preceding paragraph.	
3 The Parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect.	
Article 13	
1 With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, within the whole country:	
a to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable	Article 4.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities

⁷⁰ See Second Report submitted by Azerbaijan pursuant to Article 25, paragraph 2 of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (ACFC/SR(2007)001), p. 23



reasons the use of regional or minority languages in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations;	
b to prohibit the insertion in internal regulations of companies and private documents of any clauses excluding or restricting the use of regional or minority languages, at least between users of the same language;	
c to oppose practices designed to discourage the use of regional or minority languages in connection with economic or social activities;	
d to facilitate and/or encourage the use of regional or minority languages by means other than those specified in the above sub-paragraphs.	
2 With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, in so far as the public authorities are competent, within the territory in which the regional or minority languages are used, and as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a to include in their financial and banking regulations provisions which allow, by means of procedures compatible with commercial practice, the use of regional or minority languages in drawing up payment orders (cheques, drafts, etc.) or other financial documents, or, where appropriate, to ensure the implementation of such provisions;	
b in the economic and social sectors directly under their control (public sector), to organise activities to promote the use of regional or minority languages;	
c to ensure that social care facilities such as hospitals, retirement homes and hostels offer the possibility of receiving and treating in their own language persons using a regional or minority language who are in need of care on grounds of ill-health, old age or for other reasons;	
d to ensure by appropriate means that safety instructions are also drawn up in regional or minority languages;	
e to arrange for information provided by the competent public authorities concerning the rights of consumers to be made available in regional or minority languages.	
Article 14	
The Parties undertake:	
a to apply existing bilateral and multilateral agreements which bind them with the States in which the same language is used in identical or similar form, or if necessary to seek to conclude such agreements, in such a way as to foster contacts between the users of the same language in the States concerned in the fields of culture, education, information, vocational training and permanent education;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Articles 17.1 and 18.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities Paragraph 15, Joint Declaration on the basic principles of the relations between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Republic of Azerbaijan of 22 December 1995: "The maintenance of language, culture, national traditions and free practise of religion is allowed to Azerbaijani citizens of German origin in Azerbaijan and German citizens of Azerbaijani origin in Germany. The preservation of the cultural identity and human rights of these persons has an important function in developing

	friendly relations. Promotion measures by the other party in favour of these persons are allowed and facilitated."
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treaty on Cultural Co-operation between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Republic of Azerbaijan of 22 December 1995: "The development of cultural co-operation in all areas, intermediation of arts and literature of the other country, access to language, culture and history of the other country, language promotion, co-operation in science and sports, promotion of youth exchange, facilitation of the funding and activity of cultural institutions."
b for the benefit of regional or minority languages, to facilitate and/or promote co-operation across borders, in particular between regional or local authorities in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form.	Article 18.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities



3. Bulgaria

Provision of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages	Legal provisions, policies and practices complying with that Charter provision
Article 8 – Education	
1 With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:	
a i to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	
ii to make available a substantial part of pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 36.2, Constitution: “Citizens whose mother tongue is not Bulgarian shall have the right to study and use their native tongue along with Bulgarian.”⁷¹
iii to apply one of the measures provided for under i and ii above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities Article 36.2, Constitution: “Citizens whose mother tongue is not Bulgarian shall have the right to study and use their native tongue along with Bulgarian.”
iv if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of pre-school education, to favour and/or encourage the application of the measures referred to under i to iii above;	
b 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 curriculum; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 36.2, Constitution: “Citizens whose mother tongue is not Bulgarian shall have the right to study and use their native tongue along with Bulgarian.” Article 8.2, Law for the Public Education of 18 October 1991 (amended SG36/98): “The students for whom Bulgarian is not the mother tongue shall have the right to study their mother tongue at the municipal schools under protection and control on behalf of the state.”⁷² Article 15.2, Law for the Degree of Education, the General Education Minimum and the Education Plan of 27 July 1999: “(...) In the obligatory selectable education shall be included the studying of the mother tongue according to Article 8, paragraph 2 of the National Education Act.”⁷³
iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities

⁷¹ <http://old.bghelsinki.org/index.php?module=pages&lg=eng&page=constitution>

⁷² http://www.minedu.government.bg/opencms/export/sites/mon/en/top_menu/vc

⁷³ http://www.mineles.lv/NationalLegislation/Bulgaria/Bulgaria_EducMin_excerpts_English.htm

considered sufficient;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 36.2, Constitution: “Citizens whose mother tongue is not Bulgarian shall have the right to study and use their native tongue along with Bulgarian.” Article 8.2, Law for the Public Education of 18 October 1991 (amended SG36/98): “The students for whom Bulgarian is not the mother tongue shall have the right to study their mother tongue at the municipal schools under protection and control on behalf of the state.” Article 15.2, Law for the Degree of Education, the General Education Minimum and the Education Plan of 27 July 1999: “(...) In the obligatory selectable education shall be included the studying of the mother tongue according to Article 8, paragraph 2 of the National Education Act.”
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 curriculum; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 36.2, Constitution: “Citizens whose mother tongue is not Bulgarian shall have the right to study and use their native tongue along with Bulgarian.” Article 8.2, Law for the Public Education of 18 October 1991 (amended SG36/98): “The students for whom Bulgarian is not the mother tongue shall have the right to study their mother tongue at the municipal schools under protection and control on behalf of the state.” Article 15.2, Law for the Degree of Education, the General Education Minimum and the Education Plan of 27 July 1999: “(...) In the obligatory selectable education shall be included the studying of the mother tongue according to Article 8, paragraph 2 of the National Education Act.”
iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities Article 36.2, Constitution: “Citizens whose mother tongue is not Bulgarian shall have the right to study and use their native tongue along with Bulgarian.” Article 8.2, Law for the Public Education of 18 October 1991 (amended SG36/98): “The students for whom Bulgarian is not the mother tongue shall have the right to study their mother tongue at the municipal schools under protection and control on behalf of the state.” Article 15.2, Law for the Degree of Education, the General Education Minimum and the Education Plan of 27 July 1999: “(...) In the obligatory selectable education shall be included the studying of the mother tongue according to Article 8,



	paragraph 2 of the National Education Act.”
d i to make available technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	
ii to make available a substantial part of technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	
iii to provide, within technical and vocational education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 36.2, Constitution: “Citizens whose mother tongue is not Bulgarian shall have the right to study and use their native tongue along with Bulgarian.” Article 8.2, Law for the Pubic Education of 18 October 1991 (amended SG36/98): “The students for whom Bulgarian is not the mother tongue shall have the right to study their mother tongue at the municipal schools under protection and control on behalf of the state.” Article 15.2, Law for the Degree of Education, the General Education Minimum and the Education Plan of 27 July 1999: “(...) In the obligatory selectable education shall be included the studying of the mother tongue according to Article 8, paragraph 2 of the National Education Act.”
iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities Article 36.2, Constitution: “Citizens whose mother tongue is not Bulgarian shall have the right to study and use their native tongue along with Bulgarian.” Article 8.2, Law for the Pubic Education of 18 October 1991 (amended SG36/98): “The students for whom Bulgarian is not the mother tongue shall have the right to study their mother tongue at the municipal schools under protection and control on behalf of the state.” Article 15.2, Law for the Degree of Education, the General Education Minimum and the Education Plan of 27 July 1999: “(...) In the obligatory selectable education shall be included the studying of the mother tongue according to Article 8, paragraph 2 of the National Education Act.”
e i to make available university and other higher education in regional or minority languages; or	
ii to provide facilities for the study of these languages as university and higher education subjects; or	Article 36.2, Constitution : “Citizens whose mother tongue is not Bulgarian shall have the right to study and use their native tongue along with Bulgarian.”
iii if, by reason of the role of the State in relation to higher education institutions, subparagraphs i and ii cannot be applied, to encourage and/or allow the provision of university or other forms of higher education in regional or minority languages or of facilities for the study of these languages as university or higher education subjects;	
f i to arrange for the provision of adult and continuing education courses which are taught mainly or wholly in the regional or minority languages;	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities

or	
ii to offer such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities Article 36.2, Constitution: “Citizens whose mother tongue is not Bulgarian shall have the right to study and use their native tongue along with Bulgarian.”
iii if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of adult education, to favour and/or encourage the offering of such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education;	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
g to make arrangements to ensure the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the regional or minority language;	Article 12.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
h to provide the basic and further training of the teachers required to implement those of paragraphs a to g accepted by the Party;	Article 12.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
i to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.	
2 With regard to education and in respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all the appropriate stages of education.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities Article 36.2, Constitution: “Citizens whose mother tongue is not Bulgarian shall have the right to study and use their native tongue along with Bulgarian.” Article 8.2, Law for the Pubic Education of 18 October 1991 (amended SG36/98): “The students for whom Bulgarian is not the mother tongue shall have the right to study their mother tongue at the municipal schools under protection and control on behalf of the state.” Article 15.2, Law for the Degree of Education, the General Education Minimum and the Education Plan of 27 July 1999: “(...) In the obligatory selectable education shall be included the studying of the mother tongue according to Article 8, paragraph 2 of the National Education Act.”
Article 9	
1 The Parties undertake, in respect of those judicial districts in which the number of residents using the regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below, according to the situation of each of these languages and on condition that the use of the facilities afforded by the present paragraph is not considered by the judge to hamper the proper administration of justice:	
a in criminal proceedings:	
i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or	



ii to guarantee the accused the right to use his/her regional or minority language; and/or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.3, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities Article 21.2 (Language of criminal proceedings), Criminal Procedure Code: "Persons, who do not have a command of Bulgarian, can make use of their native language or another language."⁷⁴ Article 105.2, Law on the Judiciary of 22 July 1994 (version of 6 February 2007): "When a participant in the proceedings does not speak Bulgarian, the court appoints an interpreter. Expenses for the interpreter in the judicial proceedings of general character are covered by the court."⁷⁵
iii to provide that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, shall not be considered inadmissible solely because they are formulated in a regional or minority language; and/or	
iv to produce, on request, documents connected with legal proceedings in the relevant regional or minority language,	
if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations involving no extra expense for the persons concerned;	
b in civil proceedings:	
i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or	
ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 105.2, Law on the Judiciary of 22 July 1994 (version of 6 February 2007): "When a participant in the proceedings does not speak Bulgarian, the court appoints an interpreter. Expenses for the interpreter in the judicial proceedings of general character are covered by the court." Article 4.2 (Court Language), Civil Procedure Code (version of 5 August 2008): "Where persons participating in the case have no command of Bulgarian, the court shall appoint an oral interpreter with the assistance of whom such persons shall perform the court procedural steps and shall be provided with an explanation of the steps taken by the court."⁷⁶
iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,	
if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;	
c in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:	
i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or	
ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to	Article 105.2, Law on the Judiciary of 22 July 1994

⁷⁴ http://www.vks.bg/english/vksen_p0403.htm#Part_ONE

⁷⁵ http://www.mineires.lv/NationalLegislation/Bulgaria/Bulgaria_Judiciary_excerpts_English.htm

⁷⁶ http://www.vks.bg/english/vksen_p04_02.htm#Part_one__

appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or	(version of 6 February 2007): "When a participant in the proceedings does not speak Bulgarian, the court appoints an interpreter. Expenses for the interpreter in the judicial proceedings of general character are covered by the court."
iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,	
if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;	
d to take steps to ensure that the application of sub-paragraphs i and iii of paragraphs b and c above and any necessary use of interpreters and translations does not involve extra expense for the persons concerned.	
2 The Parties undertake:	
a not to deny the validity of legal documents drawn up within the State solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language; or	
b not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language, and to provide that they can be invoked against interested third parties who are not users of these languages on condition that the contents of the document are made known to them by the person(s) who invoke(s) it; or	
c not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language.	
3 The Parties undertake to make available in the regional or minority languages the most important national statutory texts and those relating particularly to users of these languages, unless they are otherwise provided.	
Article 10	
1 Within the administrative districts of the State in which the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below and according to the situation of each language, the Parties undertake, as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a i to ensure that the administrative authorities use the regional or minority languages; or	
ii to ensure that such of their officers as are in contact with the public use the regional or minority languages in their relations with persons applying to them in these languages; or	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
iii to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications and receive a reply in these languages; or	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
iv to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications in these languages; or	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
v to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may validly submit a document in these languages;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
b to make available widely used administrative texts and forms for the population in the	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities



regional or minority languages or in bilingual versions;	
c to allow the administrative authorities to draft documents in a regional or minority language.	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
2 In respect of the local and regional authorities on whose territory the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages is such as to justify the measures specified below, the Parties undertake to allow and/or encourage:	
a the use of regional or minority languages within the framework of the regional or local authority;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
b the possibility for users of regional or minority languages to submit oral or written applications in these languages;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
c the publication by regional authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
d the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
e the use by regional authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;	
f the use by local authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;	
g the use or adoption, if necessary in conjunction with the name in the official language(s), of traditional and correct forms of place-names in regional or minority languages.	Article 11.3, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
3 With regard to public services provided by the administrative authorities or other persons acting on their behalf, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which regional or minority languages are used, in accordance with the situation of each language and as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a to ensure that the regional or minority languages are used in the provision of the service; or	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
b to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request and receive a reply in these languages; or	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
c to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request in these languages.	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
4 With a view to putting into effect those provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 accepted by them, the Parties undertake to take one or more of the following measures:	
a translation or interpretation as may be required;	
b recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required;	
c compliance as far as possible with requests from public service employees having a knowledge of a regional or minority language to be appointed in the territory in which that language is used.	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
5 The Parties undertake to allow the use or adoption of family names in the regional or minority	Article 11.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities

languages, at the request of those concerned.	
Article 11	
1 The Parties undertake, for the users of the regional or minority languages within the territories in which those languages are spoken, according to the situation of each language, to the extent that the public authorities, directly or indirectly, are competent, have power or play a role in this field, and respecting the principle of the independence and autonomy of the media:	
a to the extent that radio and television carry out a public service mission:	
i to ensure the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	
iii to make adequate provision so that broadcasters offer programmes in the regional or minority languages;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities Article 12.2, Radio and Television Act of 13 November 1998: "The programmes of radio and television broadcasters may be transmitted in another language where 2) they are intended for Bulgarian nationals whose mother tongue is not Bulgarian."⁷⁷
b i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station in the regional or minority languages; or	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of radio programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
c i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of television programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
d to encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audiovisual works in the regional or minority languages;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
e i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages; or	Articles 9.3 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the publication of newspaper articles in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
f i to cover the additional costs of those media which use regional or minority languages, wherever the law provides for financial assistance in general for the media; or	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
ii to apply existing measures for financial assistance also to audiovisual productions in the regional or minority languages;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
g to support the training of journalists and other staff for media using regional or minority	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities

⁷⁷ <http://archive.bild.net/rtvacten.htm>



languages.	
2 The Parties undertake to guarantee freedom of direct reception of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language, and not to oppose the retransmission of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in such a language. They further undertake to ensure that no restrictions will be placed on the freedom of expression and free circulation of information in the written press in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language. The exercise of the above-mentioned freedoms, since it carries with it duties and responsibilities, may be subject to such formalities, conditions, restrictions or penalties as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputation or rights of others, for preventing disclosure of information received in confidence, or for maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary.	Articles 9.1, 9.2, 9.3 and 18, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
3 The Parties undertake to ensure that the interests of the users of regional or minority languages are represented or taken into account within such bodies as may be established in accordance with the law with responsibility for guaranteeing the freedom and pluralism of the media.	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
Article 12	
1 With regard to cultural activities and facilities – especially libraries, video libraries, cultural centres, museums, archives, academies, theatres and cinemas, as well as literary work and film production, vernacular forms of cultural expression, festivals and the culture industries, including <i>inter alia</i> the use of new technologies – the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used and to the extent that the public authorities are competent, have power or play a role in this field:	
a to encourage types of expression and initiative specific to regional or minority languages and foster the different means of access to works produced in these languages;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 5.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities Article 31.2 (6), Law for the Protection and Development of Culture of 1999 (amended SG, No 1/2000): “Resources for the Fund (Culture) are to be spent for programmes and projects for the protection of the freedom of cultural expression of the citizens, including ethnic, religious and linguistic communities.”⁷⁸
b to foster the different means of access in other languages to works produced in regional or minority languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;	Articles 9.1 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
c to foster access in regional or minority languages to works produced in other languages by	Articles 9.1 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities

⁷⁸ http://www.minelres.lv/NationalLegislation/Bulgaria/Bulgaria_Culture_excerpts_English.htm

aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;	
d to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities of various kinds make appropriate allowance for incorporating the knowledge and use of regional or minority languages and cultures in the undertakings which they initiate or for which they provide backing;	Articles 5.1 and 9.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
e to promote measures to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities have at their disposal staff who have a full command of the regional or minority language concerned, as well as of the language(s) of the rest of the population;	Articles 5.1 and Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
f to encourage direct participation by representatives of the users of a given regional or minority language in providing facilities and planning cultural activities;	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
g to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of a body or bodies responsible for collecting, keeping a copy of and presenting or publishing works produced in the regional or minority languages;	
h if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.	
2 In respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage and/or provide appropriate cultural activities and facilities in accordance with the preceding paragraph.	Article 31.2 (6), Law for the Protection and Development of Culture of 1999 (amended SG, No 1/2000): “Resources for the Fund (Culture) are to be spent for programmes and projects for the protection of the freedom of cultural expression of the citizens, including ethnic, religious and linguistic communities.” ⁷⁹
3 The Parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect.	
Article 13	
1 With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, within the whole country:	
a to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of regional or minority languages in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations;	Article 4.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
b to prohibit the insertion in internal regulations of companies and private documents of any clauses excluding or restricting the use of regional or minority languages, at least between users of the same language;	
c to oppose practices designed to discourage the use of regional or minority languages in connection with economic or social activities;	

⁷⁹ http://www.minelres.lv/NationalLegislation/Bulgaria/Bulgaria_Culture_excerpts_English.htm



d to facilitate and/or encourage the use of regional or minority languages by means other than those specified in the above sub-paragraphs.	
2 With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, in so far as the public authorities are competent, within the territory in which the regional or minority languages are used, and as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a to include in their financial and banking regulations provisions which allow, by means of procedures compatible with commercial practice, the use of regional or minority languages in drawing up payment orders (cheques, drafts, etc.) or other financial documents, or, where appropriate, to ensure the implementation of such provisions;	
b in the economic and social sectors directly under their control (public sector), to organise activities to promote the use of regional or minority languages;	
c to ensure that social care facilities such as hospitals, retirement homes and hostels offer the possibility of receiving and treating in their own language persons using a regional or minority language who are in need of care on grounds of ill-health, old age or for other reasons;	
d to ensure by appropriate means that safety instructions are also drawn up in regional or minority languages;	
e to arrange for information provided by the competent public authorities concerning the rights of consumers to be made available in regional or minority languages.	
Article 14	
The Parties undertake:	
a to apply existing bilateral and multilateral agreements which bind them with the States in which the same language is used in identical or similar form, or if necessary to seek to conclude such agreements, in such a way as to foster contacts between the users of the same language in the States concerned in the fields of culture, education, information, vocational training and permanent education;	Articles 17.1 and 18.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
b for the benefit of regional or minority languages, to facilitate and/or promote co-operation across borders, in particular between regional or local authorities in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form.	Article 18.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities

4. Estonia

Provision of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages	Legal provisions, policies and practices complying with that Charter provision
Article 8 – Education	
1 With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:	
a i to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 37.4, Constitution of the Republic of Estonia of 28 June 1992 (version of 25 February 2003): “All people shall have the right to instruction in Estonian. <u>Educational institutions established for ethnic minorities shall choose their own language of instruction.</u>” • Section 8, Law on Pre-School Child Institutions of 9 June 1993: “The teaching and learning in pre-school institutions takes place in Estonian, but may be replaced by another language if the local government council decides this should be so.” • Law on Cultural Autonomy for National Minorities of 26 October 1993 (version of 19 June 2002). <p>Article 2.2 National minority cultural autonomy may be established by persons belonging to the German, Russian, Swedish or Jewish minorities and persons belonging to national minorities with a membership of more than 3000.</p> <p>Article 5 (1) The principal objective of national minority cultural autonomy is: a. the <u>organisation of education in the mother tongue</u> and the monitoring of the use of resources provided for this purpose; (...) c. the <u>establishment and bestowment of funds, scholarships and awards for the promotion of national minority culture and education.</u></p> <p>Article 24 Institutions of cultural autonomy are: 1. <u>educational institutions providing intensive instruction in the ethnic language or ethnic culture (pre-school institutions and schools).</u> (...)</p> <p>Article 27 (1) National minority cultural autonomy and its activities are financed through: a. <u>allocations from the State budget</u> in accordance with the law and from specific contributions for that purpose.</p>



	<p>b. contributions specifically allocated from local government budgets to cultural autonomy educational, cultural and social care institutions.</p>
<p>ii to make available a substantial part of pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 37.4, Constitution of the Republic of Estonia of 28 June 1992 (version of 25 February 2003): "All people shall have the right to instruction in Estonian. <u>Educational institutions established for ethnic minorities shall choose their own language of instruction.</u>" • Section 8, Law on Pre-School Child Institutions of 9 June 1993: "The teaching and learning in pre-school institutions takes place in Estonian, but may be replaced by another language if the local government council decides this should be so." • Law on Cultural Autonomy for National Minorities of 26 October 1993 (version of 19 June 2002). <p>Article 2.2 National minority cultural autonomy may be established by persons belonging to the German, Russian, Swedish or Jewish minorities and persons belonging to national minorities with a membership of more than 3000.</p> <p>(1) The principal objective of national minority cultural autonomy is: a. the <u>organisation of education in the mother tongue</u> and the monitoring of the use of resources provided for this purpose; (...) c. the <u>establishment and bestowment of funds, scholarships and awards for the promotion of national minority culture and education.</u></p> <p>Article 24 Institutions of cultural autonomy are: 1. educational institutions providing intensive <u>instruction in the ethnic language</u> or ethnic culture (<u>pre-school institutions and schools</u>). (...)</p> <p>Article 27 (1) National minority cultural autonomy and its activities are financed through: a. <u>allocations from the State budget</u> in accordance with the law and from specific contributions for that purpose.</p> <p>b. contributions specifically allocated from local government budgets to cultural autonomy educational, cultural and social care institutions.</p>
<p>iii to apply one of the measures provided for under i and ii above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient; or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. • 37.4, Constitution of the Republic of Estonia of 28 June 1992 (version of 25 February 2003): "All people shall have the right to instruction in Estoni-

	<p>an. Educational institutions established for ethnic minorities shall choose their own language of instruction."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 8, Law on Pre-School Child Institutions of 9 June 1993: "The teaching and learning in pre-school institutions takes place in Estonian, but may be replaced by another language if the local government council decides this should be so." • Law on Cultural Autonomy for National Minorities of 26 October 1993 (version of 19 June 2002). <p>Article 2.2 National minority cultural autonomy may be established by persons belonging to the German, Russian, Swedish or Jewish minorities and persons belonging to national minorities with a membership of more than 3000.</p> <p>Article 5 (1) The principal objective of national minority cultural autonomy is: a. the <u>organisation of education in the mother tongue</u> and the monitoring of the use of resources provided for this purpose; c. the <u>establishment and bestowment of funds, scholarships and awards for the promotion of national minority culture and education.</u></p> <p>Article 24 Institutions of cultural autonomy are: 1. educational institutions providing intensive <u>instruction in the ethnic language</u> or ethnic culture (<u>pre-school institutions and schools</u>).</p> <p>Article 27 (1) National minority cultural autonomy and its activities are financed through: a. <u>allocations from the State budget</u> in accordance with the law and from specific contributions for that purpose. b. contributions specifically allocated from local government budgets to cultural autonomy educational, cultural and social care institutions.</p>
<p>iv if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of pre-school education, to favour and/or encourage the application of the measures referred to under i to iii above;</p>	
<p>b i to make available primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 37.4, Constitution of the Republic of Estonia of 28 June 1992 (version of 25 February 2003): "All people shall have the right to instruction in Estonian. <u>Educational institutions established for ethnic minorities shall choose their own language of instruction.</u>" • Article 9.1, Primary Schools and Upper Secondary Schools Act of 15 September 1993 (ver-



	<p>sion of 29 January 2003): “In primary schools, specific stages of primary schools and specific classes of primary schools, any language may be used as the language of instruction – in municipal schools, on the basis of a decision of the local government council, and in State schools, on the basis of a decision of the Minister of Education. The board of trustees of a school shall make a corresponding proposal to the local government council or the Minister of Education.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law on Cultural Autonomy for National Minorities of 26 October 1993 (version of 19 June 2002). <p>Article 2.2 National minority cultural autonomy may be established by persons belonging to the German, Russian, Swedish or Jewish minorities and persons belonging to national minorities with a membership of more than 3000.</p> <p>Article 5 (1) The principal objective of national minority cultural autonomy is: a. the organisation of education in the mother tongue and the monitoring of the use of resources provided for this purpose; c. the establishment and bestowment of funds, scholarships and awards for the promotion of national minority culture and education.</p> <p>Article 24 Institutions of cultural autonomy are: 1. educational institutions providing intensive instruction in the ethnic language or ethnic culture (pre-school institutions and schools).</p> <p>Article 27 (1) National minority cultural autonomy and its activities are financed through: a. allocations from the State budget in accordance with the law and from specific contributions for that purpose. b. contributions specifically allocated from local government budgets to cultural autonomy educational, cultural and social care institutions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 13 (Hobby education), Education Act of 23 March 1992 (version of 12 June 2003): “Hobby education is a system of knowledge, skills, experience, values and behavioural norms which, alongside general education and vocational education, creates additional prerequisites for the development of personality and assists a person in coping with his or her life and work.” • Hobby Schools Act of 20 January 2007 <p>Article 3. Definition of hobby school</p>
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	<p>A hobby school is an educational institution which operates in the area of youth work and provides opportunities for the acquisition of hobby education and versatile development of personality, including the practice of native language and culture, in different areas of hobby education.</p> <p>Article 10. Hobby curriculum (5) Upon the registration of the curricula of hobbies in the Estonian Education Information System or making changes thereto, a school operator shall determine one area out of the following areas into which each hobby curriculum shall belong: (...) 4) general culture, including schools of ethnic nationality; (...)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 266.2, National Curriculum Act: “The National Curriculum, in-school agreement on learning orientations and characteristics should form the starting point in the design of a school curriculum, taking into account the regional needs, the will of the parents and pupils, and human and material resources.” • Article 37.4, Constitution of the Republic of Estonia of 28 June 1992 (version of 25 February 2003): “All people shall have the right to instruction in Estonian. Educational institutions established for ethnic minorities shall choose their own language of instruction.” • Article 9.1, Primary Schools and Upper Secondary Schools Act of 15 September 1993 (version of 29 January 2003): “In primary schools, specific stages of primary schools and specific classes of primary schools, any language may be used as the language of instruction – in municipal schools, on the basis of a decision of the local government council, and in State schools, on the basis of a decision of the Minister of Education. The board of trustees of a school shall make a corresponding proposal to the local government council or the Minister of Education.” • Law on Cultural Autonomy for National Minorities of 26 October 1993 (version of 19 June 2002). <p>Article 2.2 National minority cultural autonomy may be established by persons belonging to the German, Russian, Swedish or Jewish minorities and persons belonging to national minorities with a membership of more than 3000.</p> <p>Article 5 (1) The principal objective of national minority cultural autonomy is: a. the organisation of education in the mother tongue and the monitoring of the use of resources</p>
<p>ii to make available a substantial part of primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or</p>	



<p>provided for this purpose; (...)</p> <p>c. the establishment and bestowment of funds, scholarships and awards for the promotion of national minority culture and education.</p> <p>Article 24 Institutions of cultural autonomy are: 1. educational institutions providing intensive instruction in the ethnic language or ethnic culture (pre-school institutions and schools). (...)</p> <p>Article 27 (1) National minority cultural autonomy and its activities are financed through: a. allocations from the State budget in accordance with the law and from specific contributions for that purpose. b. contributions specifically allocated from local government budgets to cultural autonomy educational, cultural and social care institutions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 13 (Hobby education), Education Act of 23 March 1992 (version of 12 June 2003): "Hobby education is a system of knowledge, skills, experience, values and behavioural norms which, alongside general education and vocational education, creates additional prerequisites for the development of personality and assists a person in coping with his or her life and work." Hobby Schools Act of 20 January 2007 <p>Article 3. Definition of hobby school A hobby school is an educational institution which operates in the area of youth work and provides opportunities for the acquisition of hobby education and versatile development of personality, including the practice of native language and culture, in different areas of hobby education.</p> <p>Article 10. Hobby curriculum (5) Upon the registration of the curricula of hobbies in the Estonian Education Information System or making changes thereto, a school operator shall determine one area out of the following areas into which each hobby curriculum shall belong:</p> <p>4) general culture, including schools of ethnic nationality;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 266.2, National Curriculum Act: "The National Curriculum, in-school agreement on learning orientations and characteristics should form the starting point in the design of a school curriculum, taking into account the regional needs, the will of the parents and pupils, and human and material resources." 	<p>iii to provide, within primary education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 9.3, Primary Schools and Upper Secondary Schools Act of 15 September 1993
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<p>minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or</p>	<p>(version of 29 January 2003): "Für Schüler, die sich die Grundbildung aneignen und deren Muttersprache nicht die Unterrichtssprache der Schule ist, schafft die Schule in Zusammenarbeit mit dem Staat und der lokalen Selbstverwaltung die Möglichkeit, die Muttersprache zu erlernen und die Volkskultur kennenzulernen, um die eigene nationale Identität zu bewahren. Bedingungen und Verfahren für die Schaffung der Möglichkeit des Erlernens der Muttersprache und des Kennenlernens der Volkskultur werden durch Verordnung der Regierung festgelegt."</p>
<p>iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient;</p>	<p>Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p>
<p>c i to make available secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 37.4, Constitution of the Republic of Estonia of 28 June 1992 (version of 25 February 2003): "All people shall have the right to instruction in Estonian. Educational institutions established for ethnic minorities shall choose their own language of instruction." Article 9.1¹, Primary Schools and Upper Secondary Schools Act of 15 September 1993 (version of 29 January 2003): "In the upper secondary school stage, the language of instruction shall be Estonian. In the upper secondary school stage of municipal schools and in specific classes of municipal schools, any language may be used as the language of instruction. Permission for instruction in another language shall be granted by the Government of the Republic on the basis of an application by a local government council. A corresponding proposal shall be made to the local government council by the board of trustees of an upper secondary school based on the development plan of the school." Law on Cultural Autonomy for National Minorities of 26 October 1993 (version of 19 June 2002). <p>Article 2.2 National minority cultural autonomy may be established by persons belonging to the German, Russian, Swedish or Jewish minorities and persons belonging to national minorities with a membership of more than 3000.</p> <p>Article 5 (1) The principal objective of national minority cultural autonomy is: a. the organisation of education in the mother tongue and the monitoring of the use of resources provided for this purpose; (...) c. the establishment and bestowment of funds, scholarships and awards for the promotion of national minority culture and education.</p>



	<p>Article 24 Institutions of cultural autonomy are: 1. educational institutions providing intensive <u>instruction in the ethnic language</u> or ethnic culture (pre-school institutions and schools). (...)</p> <p>Article 27 (1) National minority cultural autonomy and its activities are financed through: a. <u>allocations from the State budget</u> in accordance with the law and from specific contributions for that purpose. b. contributions specifically allocated from local government budgets to cultural autonomy <u>educational, cultural and social care institutions.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 13 (Hobby education), Education Act of 23 March 1992 (version of 12 June 2003): "Hobby education is a system of knowledge, skills, experience, values and behavioural norms which, <u>alongside general education and vocational education, creates additional prerequisites for the development of personality and assists a person in coping with his or her life and work.</u>" Hobby Schools Act of 20 January 2007 <p>Article 3. Definition of hobby school A hobby school is an educational institution which operates in the area of youth work and provides opportunities for the acquisition of hobby education and versatile development of personality, <u>including the practice of native language and culture,</u> in different areas of hobby education.</p> <p>Article 10. Hobby curriculum (5) Upon the registration of the curricula of hobbies in the Estonian Education Information System or making changes thereto, a school operator shall determine one area out of the following areas into which each hobby curriculum shall belong: 4) general culture, including schools of ethnic nationality;</p>
<p>ii to make available a substantial part of secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 37.4, Constitution of the Republic of Estonia of 28 June 1992 (version of 25 February 2003): "All people shall have the right to instruction in Estonian. <u>Educational institutions established for ethnic minorities shall choose their own language of instruction.</u>" Article 9.1, Primary Schools and Upper Secondary Schools Act of 15 September 1993 (version of 29 January 2003): "In the upper secondary school stage, the language of instruction shall be Estonian. <u>In the upper secondary school stage of municipal schools and in specific classes of municipal schools, any language may be used as the language of instruction.</u> Permission for instruction in another language shall be granted by the Gov-

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iii to provide, within secondary education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or	
iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
d i to make available technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 37.4, Constitution of the Republic of Estonia of 28 June 1992 (version of 25 February 2003): "All people shall have the right to instruction in Estonian. Educational institutions established for ethnic minorities shall choose their own language of instruction." Article 18, Law on Institutions of Vocational Education of 3 June 1998 (version of 23 October 2003): "The language of instruction in school is Estonian. The Minister of Education and Science shall decide about the use of other languages as a medium of instruction." Law on Cultural Autonomy for National Minorities of 26 October 1993 (version of 19 June 2002). <p>Article 2.2 National minority cultural autonomy may be established by persons belonging to the German, Russian, Swedish or Jewish minorities and persons belonging to national minorities with a membership of more than 3000.</p> <p>Article 5 (1) The principal objective of national minority cultural autonomy is: a. the organisation of education in the mother tongue and the monitoring of the use of resources provided for this purpose; (...) c. the establishment and bestowment of funds, scholarships and awards for the promotion of national minority culture and education.</p> <p>Article 24 Institutions of cultural autonomy are:</p>

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<p>iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;</p>	<p>Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p>
<p>e i to make available university and other higher education in regional or minority languages; or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 37.4, Constitution of the Republic of Estonia of 28 June 1992 (version of 25 February 2003): "All people shall have the right to instruction in Estonian. <u>Educational institutions established for ethnic minorities shall choose their own language of instruction.</u>" • Article 22.8, Universities Act of 12 January 1995 (version of 2002): "The language of instruction at universities is Estonian. The <u>use of other languages</u> shall be decided by the board of a university." • Law on Cultural Autonomy for National Minorities of 26 October 1993 (version of 19 June 2002). <p>Article 2.2 National minority cultural autonomy may be established by persons belonging to the German, Russian, Swedish or Jewish minorities and persons belonging to national minorities with a membership of more than 3000.</p> <p>Article 5 (1) The principal objective of national minority cultural autonomy is: a. the <u>organisation of education in the mother tongue</u> and the monitoring of the use of resources provided for this purpose; (...) c. the <u>establishment and bestowment of funds, scholarships and awards for the promotion of national minority culture and education.</u></p> <p>Article 24 Institutions of cultural autonomy are: 1. <u>educational institutions providing intensive instruction in the ethnic language or ethnic culture (pre-school institutions and schools).</u> (...)</p> <p>Article 27 (1) National minority cultural autonomy and its activities are financed through: a. <u>allocations from the State budget</u> in accordance</p>



	with the law and from specific contributions for that purpose.
	b. contributions specifically allocated from local government budgets to cultural autonomy <u>educational, cultural and social care institutions.</u>
ii to provide facilities for the study of these languages as university and higher education subjects; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 37.4, Constitution of the Republic of Estonia of 28 June 1992 (version of 25 February 2003): "All people shall have the right to instruction in Estonian. <u>Educational institutions established for ethnic minorities shall choose their own language of instruction.</u>" Article 22.8, Universities Act of 12 January 1995 (version of 2002): "The language of instruction at universities is Estonian. The <u>use of other languages</u> shall be decided by the board of a university." Law on Cultural Autonomy for National Minorities of 26 October 1993 (version of 19 June 2002). <p>Article 2.2 National minority cultural autonomy may be established by persons belonging to the German, Russian, Swedish or Jewish minorities and persons belonging to national minorities with a membership of more than 3000.</p> <p>Article 5 (1) The principal objective of national minority cultural autonomy is: a. the <u>organisation of education in the mother tongue</u> and the monitoring of the use of resources provided for this purpose;</p> <p>c. the <u>establishment and bestowment of funds, scholarships and awards for the promotion of national minority culture and education.</u></p> <p>Article 24 Institutions of cultural autonomy are: 1. <u>educational institutions providing intensive instruction in the ethnic language or ethnic culture (pre-school institutions and schools).</u></p> <p>Article 27 (1) National minority cultural autonomy and its activities are financed through: a. <u>allocations from the State budget</u> in accordance with the law and from specific contributions for that purpose. b. contributions specifically allocated from local government budgets to cultural autonomy <u>educational, cultural and social care institutions.</u></p>
iii if, by reason of the role of the State in relation to higher education institutions, subparagraphs i and ii cannot be applied, to encourage and/or allow the provision of university or other forms of higher education in regional or minority languages	

or of facilities for the study of these languages as university or higher education subjects;	
f i to arrange for the provision of adult and continuing education courses which are taught mainly or wholly in the regional or minority languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 37.4, Constitution of the Republic of Estonia of 28 June 1992 (version of 25 February 2003): "All people shall have the right to instruction in Estonian. <u>Educational institutions established for ethnic minorities shall choose their own language of instruction.</u>" Law on Cultural Autonomy for National Minorities of 26 October 1993 (version of 19 June 2002). <p>Article 2.2 National minority cultural autonomy may be established by persons belonging to the German, Russian, Swedish or Jewish minorities and persons belonging to national minorities with a membership of more than 3000.</p> <p>Article 5 (1) The principal objective of national minority cultural autonomy is: a. the <u>organisation of education in the mother tongue</u> and the monitoring of the use of resources provided for this purpose; (...)</p> <p>c. the <u>establishment and bestowment of funds, scholarships and awards for the promotion of national minority culture and education.</u></p> <p>Article 24 Institutions of cultural autonomy are: 1. <u>educational institutions providing intensive instruction in the ethnic language or ethnic culture (pre-school institutions and schools).</u> (...)</p> <p>Article 27 (1) National minority cultural autonomy and its activities are financed through: a. <u>allocations from the State budget</u> in accordance with the law and from specific contributions for that purpose. b. contributions specifically allocated from local government budgets to cultural autonomy <u>educational, cultural and social care institutions.</u></p>
ii to offer such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education; or	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
iii if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of adult education, to favour and/or encourage the offering of such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education;	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
g to make arrangements to ensure the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the regional or minority language;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 12.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.



	<p>• Law on Cultural Autonomy for National Minorities of 26 October 1993 (version of 19 June 2002).</p> <p>Article 2.2 National minority cultural autonomy may be established by persons belonging to the German, Russian, Swedish or Jewish minorities and persons belonging to national minorities with a membership of more than 3000.</p> <p>Article 5 (1) The principal objective of national minority cultural autonomy is:</p> <p>c. the <u>establishment and bestowment of funds, scholarships and awards for the promotion of national minority culture and education.</u></p> <p>Article 24 Institutions of cultural autonomy are: 1. educational institutions providing intensive instruction in the ethnic language or ethnic culture (pre-school institutions and schools). (...)</p> <p>Article 27 (1) National minority cultural autonomy and its activities are financed through: a. allocations from the State budget in accordance with the law and from specific contributions for that purpose. b. contributions specifically allocated from local government budgets to cultural autonomy educational, cultural and social care institutions.</p>
h to provide the basic and further training of the teachers required to implement those of paragraphs a to g accepted by the Party;	Article 12.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
i to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.	
2 With regard to education and in respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all the appropriate stages of education.	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
Article 9	
1 The Parties undertake, in respect of those judicial districts in which the number of residents using the regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below, according to the situation of each of these languages and on condition that the use of the facilities afforded by the present paragraph is not considered by the judge to hamper the proper administration of justice:	
a in criminal proceedings:	

i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or	
ii to guarantee the accused the right to use his/her regional or minority language; and/or	<p>• Article 10.3, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p> <p>• Article 52.3, Constitution of the Republic of Estonia of 28 June 1992 (version of 25 February 2003): "The use of foreign languages, including the languages of ethnic minorities, by State authorities and in court, and pre-trial proceedings shall be established by law."</p> <p>• Article 10.2 (Language of the Criminal Proceedings), Code of Criminal Procedure of 12 February 2003: "Einem Verfahrensbeteiligten und einer Partei des Gerichtsverfahrens, die Estnisch nicht beherrscht, wird die Hilfe eines Übersetzers gewährleistet."</p>
iii to provide that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, shall not be considered inadmissible solely because they are formulated in a regional or minority language; and/or	
iv to produce, on request, documents connected with legal proceedings in the relevant regional or minority language,	<p>• Article 52.3, Constitution of the Republic of Estonia of 28 June 1992 (version of 25 February 2003): "The use of foreign languages, including the languages of ethnic minorities, by State authorities and in court, and pre-trial proceedings shall be established by law."</p> <p>• Article 10 (Language of the Criminal Proceeding), Code of Criminal Procedure of 12 February 2003.</p> <p>4. Auf Antrag der Partei des Gerichtsverfahrens kann in das Verhandlungsprotokoll auch ein nicht-estnischer Text aufgenommen werden. In diesem Fall ist dem Protokoll eine Übersetzung des Textes ins Estnische beizufügen.</p> <p>5. Beherrscht der Angeklagte nicht die estnische Sprache, wird diesem der Text der Anklageschrift in einer Übersetzung in die Muttersprache oder eine andere Sprache, die dieser beherrscht, zugeleitet.</p>
if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations involving no extra expense for the persons concerned;	
b in civil proceedings:	
i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or	
ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or	<p>• Article 52.3, Constitution of the Republic of Estonia of 28 June 1992 (version of 25 February 2003): "The use of foreign languages, including the languages of ethnic minorities, by State authorities and in court, and pre-trial proceedings shall be</p>



	<p>established by law.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 7.2, Code of Civil Procedure of 22 April 1998 (version of 22 January 2003): “Ein Prozess-beteiligter oder ein Dritter, der die Sprache des Gerichtsverfahrens nicht beherrscht, hat das Recht, in seiner Muttersprache oder einer anderen Sprache, die er beherrscht, <u>Anträge zu stellen, Erklärungen und Stellungnahmen abzugeben, vor Gericht aufzutreten und Eingaben durch Vermittlung eines Übersetzers einzureichen.</u>“
iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages, if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;	
c in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:	
i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or	
ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or	
iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages, if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;	
d to take steps to ensure that the application of sub-paragraphs i and iii of paragraphs b and c above and any necessary use of interpreters and translations does not involve extra expense for the persons concerned.	
2 The Parties undertake:	
a not to deny the validity of legal documents drawn up within the State solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language; or	
b not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language, and to provide that they can be invoked against interested third parties who are not users of these languages on condition that the contents of the document are made known to them by the person(s) who invoke(s) it; or	
c not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language.	
3 The Parties undertake to make available in the regional or minority languages the most important national statutory texts and those relating particularly to users of these languages, unless they are otherwise provided.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 20.1, Law on the Government Gazette of 20 January 1999 (version of 18 December 2002): “Die Staatskanzlei organisiert die wahlweise <u>Übersetzung</u> der im Staatsanzeiger veröffentlichten <u>Rechtsakte in Fremdsprachen</u> sowie die <u>Veröffentlichung der übersetzten Texte.</u>“
Article 10	
1 Within the administrative districts of the State in which the number of residents who are users	

of regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below and according to the situation of each language, the Parties undertake, as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a i to ensure that the administrative authorities use the regional or minority languages; or	
ii to ensure that such of their officers as are in contact with the public use the regional or minority languages in their relations with persons applying to them in these languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Constitution of the Republic of Estonia of 28 June 1992 (version of 25 February 2003). <p>Article 51(2) In localities where at least half of the permanent residents belong to an ethnic minority, all people shall have the right to receive answers from State and local government authorities and their officials in the language of that ethnic minority.</p> <p>Article 52(3) The use of foreign languages, including the languages of ethnic minorities, by State authorities and in court, and pre-trial proceedings shall be established by law.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.1 (Right to use a minority language), Languages Act of 21 February 1995 (version of 16 October 2002): “In localities where at least half of the permanent residents belong to a national minority, everyone has the right to receive answers from State agencies operating in the territory of the corresponding local government as well as from the corresponding local government and officials thereof in the language of the national minority as well as in Estonian.”
iii to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications and receive a reply in these languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Constitution of the Republic of Estonia of 28 June 1992 (version of 25 February 2003). <p>Article 51(2) In localities where at least half of the permanent residents belong to an ethnic minority, all people shall have the right to receive answers from State and local government authorities and their officials in the language of that ethnic minority.</p> <p>Article 52(3) The use of foreign languages, including the languages of ethnic minorities, by State authorities and in court, and pre-trial proceedings shall be established by law.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.1 (Right to use a minority language), Languages Act of 21 February 1995 (version of 16 October 2002): “In localities where at least half of the permanent residents belong to a national minority, everyone has the right to receive answers from State agencies operating in the territory of the corresponding local government as well as from the corresponding local government and officials thereof in the language of the national minority as well as in Estonian.”



<p>iv to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications in these languages; or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Constitution of the Republic of Estonia of 28 June 1992 (version of 25 February 2003). <p>Article 51(2) In localities where at least half of the permanent residents belong to an ethnic minority, all people shall have the right to receive answers from State and local government authorities and their officials in the language of that ethnic minority.</p> <p>Article 52(3) The use of foreign languages, including the languages of ethnic minorities, by State authorities and in court, and pre-trial proceedings shall be established by law.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.1 (Right to use a minority language), Languages Act of 21 February 1995 (version of 16 October 2002): "In localities where at least half of the permanent residents belong to a national minority, everyone has the right to receive answers from State agencies operating in the territory of the corresponding local government as well as from the corresponding local government and officials thereof in the language of the national minority as well as in Estonian."
<p>v to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may validly submit a document in these languages;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Constitution of the Republic of Estonia of 28 June 1992 (version of 25 February 2003). <p>Article 51(2) In localities where at least half of the permanent residents belong to an ethnic minority, all people shall have the right to receive answers from State and local government authorities and their officials in the language of that ethnic minority.</p> <p>Article 52(3) The use of foreign languages, including the languages of ethnic minorities, by State authorities and in court, and pre-trial proceedings shall be established by law.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.1 (Right to use a minority language), Languages Act of 21 February 1995 (version of 16 October 2002): "In localities where at least half of the permanent residents belong to a national minority, everyone has the right to receive answers from State agencies operating in the territory of the corresponding local government as well as from the corresponding local government and officials thereof in the language of the national minority as well as in Estonian."
<p>b to make available widely used administrative texts and forms for the population in the regional or minority languages or in bilingual versions;</p>	<p>Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p>
<p>c to allow the administrative authorities to draft documents in a regional or minority language.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Constitution of the Republic of Estonia of 28 June 1992 (version of 25 February 2003). <p>Article 51(2) In localities where at least half of the permanent residents belong to an ethnic minority, all people shall have the right to receive answers from State and local government authorities and their officials in the language of that ethnic minority.</p> <p>Article 52(3) The use of foreign languages, including the languages of ethnic minorities, by State authorities and in court, and pre-trial proceedings shall be established by law.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.1 (Right to use a minority language), Languages Act of 21 February 1995 (version of 16 October 2002): "In localities where at least half of the permanent residents belong to a national minority, everyone has the right to receive answers from State agencies operating in the territory of the corresponding local government as well as from the corresponding local government and officials thereof in the language of the national minority as well as in Estonian."
<p>2 In respect of the local and regional authorities on whose territory the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages is such as to justify the measures specified below, the Parties undertake to allow and/or encourage:</p>	
<p>a the use of regional or minority languages within the framework of the regional or local authority;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 52.2, Constitution of the Republic of Estonia of 28 June 1992 (version of 25 February 2003): "In localities where the language of the majority of the population is other than Estonian, local government authorities may use the language of the majority of the permanent residents of that locality for internal communication, to the extent and in accordance with procedures established by law." Article 11 (Use of a minority language as a language of public administration), Languages Act of 21 February 1995 (version of 16 October 2002): "In localities where the majority of permanent residents are non-Estonian speakers, the language of the national minority constituting the majority of the permanent residents of the local government may be used alongside Estonian as the internal working language of the local government based on a proposal by the corresponding local government council and by a decision of the Government of the Republic."
<p>b the possibility for users of regional or minority languages to submit oral or written applications in these languages;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 51.2, Constitution of the Republic of Estonia of 28 June 1992 (version of 25 February 2003): "In localities where at least half of the permanent residents belong to an ethnic minority, all people shall have the right to receive answers from State and local government authorities and their



	officials in the language of that ethnic minority.”
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.1 (Right to use a minority language), Languages Act of 21 February 1995 (version of 16 October 2002): “In localities where at least half of the permanent residents belong to a national minority, everyone has the right to receive answers from State agencies operating in the territory of the corresponding local government as well as from the corresponding local government and officials thereof in the language of the national minority as well as in Estonian.”
c the publication by regional authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
d the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
e the use by regional authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;	
f the use by local authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;	
g the use or adoption, if necessary in conjunction with the name in the official language(s), of traditional and correct forms of place names in regional or minority languages.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 11.3, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 9.3 (Language of place names), Place Names Act of 5 November 2003: “Exceptions to the language of place names are permitted if they are justified by reasons connected with history or cultural history. To prevent corruption of indigenous place names and unjustified changes thereto, exceptions are made based on the language of the permanent settlers of the corresponding place as of 27 September 1939.”
3 With regard to public services provided by the administrative authorities or other persons acting on their behalf, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which regional or minority languages are used, in accordance with the situation of each language and as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a to ensure that the regional or minority languages are used in the provision of the service; or	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
b to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request and receive a reply in these languages; or	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
c to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request in these languages.	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
4 With a view to putting into effect those provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 accepted by them, the Parties undertake to take one or more of the following measures:	
a translation or interpretation as may be required;	
b recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required;	
c compliance as far as possible with	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection

requests from public service employees having a knowledge of a regional or minority language to be appointed in the territory in which that language is used.	of National Minorities.
5 The Parties undertake to allow the use or adoption of family names in the regional or minority languages, at the request of those concerned.	Article 11.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
Article 11	
1 The Parties undertake, for the users of the regional or minority languages within the territories in which those languages are spoken, according to the situation of each language, to the extent that the public authorities, directly or indirectly, are competent, have power or play a role in this field, and respecting the principle of the independence and autonomy of the media:	
a to the extent that radio and television carry out a public service mission:	
i to ensure the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	
iii to make adequate provision so that broadcasters offer programmes in the regional or minority languages;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 25 (Mission of Estonian Radio and Estonian Television), Public Broadcast Law of 19 May 1994 (version of 18 December 2002): “Die Aufgaben des Estnischen Radios und des Estnischen Fernsehens sind: (...) 4. die Befriedigung der Informationsbedürfnisse aller Volksgruppen, einschließlich der Minderheiten” Law on Cultural Autonomy for National Minorities of 26 October 1993 (version of 19 June 2002). Article 2.2 National minority cultural autonomy may be established by persons belonging to the German, Russian, Swedish or Jewish minorities and persons belonging to national minorities with a membership of more than 3000. Article 4 Members of a national minority have the right: (...) 7. to circulate and exchange information in their mother tongue. Article 27 (1) National minority cultural autonomy and its activities are financed through: a. allocations from the State budget in accordance with the law and from specific contributions for that purpose. b. contributions specifically allocated from local government budgets to cultural autonomy educa-



b i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station in the regional or minority languages; or	tional, cultural and social care institutions. Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of radio programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
c i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of television programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
d to encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audiovisual works in the regional or minority languages;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
e i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Articles 9.3 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Law on Cultural Autonomy for National Minorities of 26 October 1993 (version of 19 June 2002). <p>Article 2.2 National minority cultural autonomy may be established by persons belonging to the German, Russian, Swedish or Jewish minorities and persons belonging to national minorities with a membership of more than 3000.</p> <p>Article 4 Members of a national minority have the right: (...) 5. to publish printed matter in their national languages; 7. to circulate and exchange information in their mother tongue.</p> <p>Article 24 Institutions of cultural autonomy are: (...) 3. ethnic cultural enterprises and publishing houses. (...)</p> <p>Article 27 (1) National minority cultural autonomy and its activities are financed through: a. allocations from the State budget in accordance with the law and from specific contributions for that purpose. b. contributions specifically allocated from local government budgets to cultural autonomy educational, cultural and social care institutions.</p>
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the publication of newspaper articles in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Law on Cultural Autonomy for National Minorities of 26 October 1993 (version of 19 June 2002).

	<p>Article 2.2 National minority cultural autonomy may be established by persons belonging to the German, Russian, Swedish or Jewish minorities and persons belonging to national minorities with a membership of more than 3000.</p> <p>Article 4 Members of a national minority have the right: (...) 5. to publish printed matter in their national languages; (...) 7. to circulate and exchange information in their mother tongue.</p> <p>Article 24 Institutions of cultural autonomy are: (...) 3. ethnic cultural enterprises and publishing houses. (...)</p> <p>Article 27 (1) National minority cultural autonomy and its activities are financed through: a. allocations from the State budget in accordance with the law and from specific contributions for that purpose. b. contributions specifically allocated from local government budgets to cultural autonomy educational, cultural and social care institutions.</p>
f i to cover the additional costs of those media which use regional or minority languages, wherever the law provides for financial assistance in general for the media; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Law on Cultural Autonomy for National Minorities of 26 October 1993 (version of 19 June 2002). <p>Article 2.2 National minority cultural autonomy may be established by persons belonging to the German, Russian, Swedish or Jewish minorities and persons belonging to national minorities with a membership of more than 3000.</p> <p>Article 4 Members of a national minority have the right: (...) 7. to circulate and exchange information in their mother tongue.</p> <p>Article 27 (1) National minority cultural autonomy and its activities are financed through: a. allocations from the State budget in accordance with the law and from specific contributions for that purpose. b. contributions specifically allocated from local government budgets to cultural autonomy educational, cultural and social care institutions.</p>
ii to apply existing measures for financial assistance also to audiovisual productions in	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.



the regional or minority languages;	
g to support the training of journalists and other staff for media using regional or minority languages.	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
2 The Parties undertake to guarantee freedom of direct reception of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language, and not to oppose the retransmission of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in such a language. They further undertake to ensure that no restrictions will be placed on the freedom of expression and free circulation of information in the written press in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language. The exercise of the above-mentioned freedoms, since it carries with it duties and responsibilities, may be subject to such formalities, conditions, restrictions or penalties as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputation or rights of others, for preventing disclosure of information received in confidence, or for maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary.	Articles 9.1, 9.2, 9.3 and 18, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
3 The Parties undertake to ensure that the interests of the users of regional or minority languages are represented or taken into account within such bodies as may be established in accordance with the law with responsibility for guaranteeing the freedom and pluralism of the media.	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
Article 12	
1 With regard to cultural activities and facilities – especially libraries, video libraries, cultural centres, museums, archives, academies, theatres and cinemas, as well as literary work and film production, vernacular forms of cultural expression, festivals and the culture industries, including, <i>inter alia</i> , the use of new technologies – the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used and to the extent that the public authorities are competent, have power or play a role in this field:	
a to encourage types of expression and initiative specific to regional or minority languages and foster the different means of access to works produced in these languages;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 5.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Law on Cultural Autonomy for National Minorities of 26 October 1993 (version of 19 June 2002). <p>Article 2.2 National minority cultural autonomy may be established by persons belonging to the German, Russian, Swedish or Jewish minorities and persons belonging to national minorities with a membership of more than 3000.</p> <p>Article 4 Members of a national minority have the right: (...)</p>

	<p>5. to publish printed matter in their national languages; (...)</p> <p>7. to circulate and exchange information in their mother tongue.</p> <p>Article 5 (1) The principal objective of national minority cultural autonomy is:</p> <p>b. the formation of national minority cultural institutions, the organisation of their activities and the organisation of ethnic cultural events.</p> <p>c. the establishment and bestowment of funds, scholarships and awards for the promotion of national minority culture and education.</p> <p>Article 24 Institutions of cultural autonomy are: (...)</p> <p>2. ethnic cultural institutions.</p> <p>3. ethnic cultural enterprises and publishing houses. (...)</p> <p>Article 27 (1) National minority cultural autonomy and its activities are financed through:</p> <p>a. allocations from the State budget in accordance with the law and from specific contributions for that purpose.</p> <p>b. contributions specifically allocated from local government budgets to cultural autonomy educational, cultural and social care institutions.</p>
b to foster the different means of access in other languages to works produced in regional or minority languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;	Articles 9.1 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
c to foster access in regional or minority languages to works produced in other languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;	Articles 9.1 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
d to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities of various kinds make appropriate allowance for incorporating the knowledge and use of regional or minority languages and cultures in the undertakings which they initiate or for which they provide backing;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Articles 5.1 and 9.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Law on Cultural Autonomy for National Minorities of 26 October 1993 (version of 19 June 2002). <p>Article 2.2 National minority cultural autonomy may be established by persons belonging to the German, Russian, Swedish or Jewish minorities and persons belonging to national minorities with a membership of more than 3000.</p> <p>Article 5 (1) The principal objective of national minority cultural autonomy is: (...)</p> <p>b. the formation of national minority cultural institu-</p>



	<p>tions, the organisation of their activities and the organisation of ethnic cultural events.</p> <p>c. the establishment and bestowment of funds, scholarships and awards for the promotion of national minority culture and education.</p> <p>Article 24 Institutions of cultural autonomy are: (...) 2. ethnic cultural institutions. 3. ethnic cultural enterprises and publishing houses. (...)</p> <p>Article 27 (1) National minority cultural autonomy and its activities are financed through: a. allocations from the State budget in accordance with the law and from specific contributions for that purpose. b. contributions specifically allocated from local government budgets to cultural autonomy educational, cultural and social care institutions.</p> <p>• Law on Cultural Autonomy for National Minorities of 26 October 1993 (version of 19 June 2002).</p> <p>Article 2.2 National minority cultural autonomy may be established by persons belonging to the German, Russian, Swedish or Jewish minorities and persons belonging to national minorities with a membership of more than 3000.</p> <p>Article 5 (1) The principal objective of national minority cultural autonomy is: (...) b. the formation of national minority cultural institutions, the organisation of their activities and the organisation of ethnic cultural events. c. the establishment and bestowment of funds, scholarships and awards for the promotion of national minority culture and education.</p> <p>Article 24 Institutions of cultural autonomy are: (...) 2. ethnic cultural institutions. 3. ethnic cultural enterprises and publishing houses. (...)</p> <p>Article 27 (1) National minority cultural autonomy and its activities are financed through: a. allocations from the State budget in accordance with the law and from specific contributions for that purpose. b. contributions specifically allocated from local government budgets to cultural autonomy</p>
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	<p>e to promote measures to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities have at their disposal staff who have a full command of the regional or minority language concerned, as well as of the language(s) of the rest of the population;</p>	<p>educational, cultural and social care institutions.</p> <p>• Articles 5.1 and Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p> <p>• Law on Cultural Autonomy for National Minorities of 26 October 1993 (version of 19 June 2002).</p> <p>Article 2.2 National minority cultural autonomy may be established by persons belonging to the German, Russian, Swedish or Jewish minorities and persons belonging to national minorities with a membership of more than 3000.</p> <p>Article 5 (1) The principal objective of national minority cultural autonomy is: (...) b. the formation of national minority cultural institutions, the organisation of their activities and the organisation of ethnic cultural events. c. the establishment and bestowment of funds, scholarships and awards for the promotion of national minority culture and education.</p> <p>Article 24 Institutions of cultural autonomy are: (...) 2. ethnic cultural institutions. 3. ethnic cultural enterprises and publishing houses. (...)</p> <p>Article 27 (1) National minority cultural autonomy and its activities are financed through: a. allocations from the State budget in accordance with the law and from specific contributions for that purpose. b. contributions specifically allocated from local government budgets to cultural autonomy educational, cultural and social care institutions.</p>
	<p>f to encourage direct participation by representatives of the users of a given regional or minority language in providing facilities and planning cultural activities;</p>	<p>• Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p> <p>• Law on Cultural Autonomy for National Minorities of 26 October 1993 (version of 19 June 2002).</p> <p>Article 2.2 National minority cultural autonomy may be established by persons belonging to the German, Russian, Swedish or Jewish minorities and persons belonging to national minorities with a membership of more than 3000.</p> <p>Article 5 (1) The principal objective of national minority cultural autonomy is: (...) b. the formation of national minority cultural institu-</p>



	<p>tions, the organisation of their activities and the organisation of ethnic cultural events.</p> <p>c. the establishment and bestowment of funds, scholarships and awards for the promotion of national minority culture and education.</p> <p>Article 24 Institutions of cultural autonomy are: (...) 2. ethnic cultural institutions. 3. ethnic cultural enterprises and publishing houses. (...)</p> <p>Article 27 (1) National minority cultural autonomy and its activities are financed through: a. allocations from the State budget in accordance with the law and from specific contributions for that purpose. b. contributions specifically allocated from local government budgets to cultural autonomy educational, cultural and social care institutions.</p>
g to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of a body or bodies responsible for collecting, keeping a copy of and presenting or publishing works produced in the regional or minority languages;	<p>• Law on Cultural Autonomy for National Minorities of 26 October 1993 (version of 19 June 2002).</p> <p>Article 2.2 National minority cultural autonomy may be established by persons belonging to the German, Russian, Swedish or Jewish minorities and persons belonging to national minorities with a membership of more than 3000.</p> <p>Article 4 Members of a national minority have the right: (...) 5. to publish printed matter in their national languages.</p> <p>Article 5 (1) The principal objective of national minority cultural autonomy is: (...) b. the formation of national minority cultural institutions, the organisation of their activities and the organisation of ethnic cultural events. c. the establishment and bestowment of funds, scholarships and awards for the promotion of national minority culture and education.</p> <p>Article 24 Institutions of cultural autonomy are: 2. ethnic cultural institutions. 3. ethnic cultural enterprises and publishing houses. (...)</p> <p>Article 27 (1) National minority cultural autonomy and its activities are financed through: a. allocations from the State budget in accordance with the law and from specific contributions for that</p>

	purpose. b. contributions specifically allocated from local government budgets to cultural autonomy educational, cultural and social care institutions.
h if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.	
2 In respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage and/or provide appropriate cultural activities and facilities in accordance with the preceding paragraph.	
3 The Parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect.	
Article 13	
1 With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, within the whole country:	
a to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of regional or minority languages in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations;	Article 4.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
b to prohibit the insertion in internal regulations of companies and private documents of any clauses excluding or restricting the use of regional or minority languages, at least between users of the same language;	
c to oppose practices designed to discourage the use of regional or minority languages in connection with economic or social activities;	
d to facilitate and/or encourage the use of regional or minority languages by means other than those specified in the above sub-paragraphs.	
2 With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, in so far as the public authorities are competent, within the territory in which the regional or minority languages are used, and as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a to include in their financial and banking regulations provisions which allow, by means of procedures compatible with commercial practice, the use of regional or minority languages in drawing up payment orders (cheques, drafts, etc.) or other financial documents, or, where appropriate, to ensure the implementation of such provisions;	
b in the economic and social sectors directly under their control (public sector), to organise activities to promote the use of regional or minority languages;	
c to ensure that social care facilities such	Law on Cultural Autonomy for National Minori-



as hospitals, retirement homes and hostels offer the possibility of receiving and treating in their own language persons using a regional or minority language who are in need of care on grounds of ill-health, old age or for other reasons;	<p>ties of 26 October 1993 (version of 19 June 2002).</p> <p>Article 2.2 National minority cultural autonomy may be established by persons belonging to the German, Russian, Swedish or Jewish minorities and persons belonging to national minorities with a membership of more than 3000.</p> <p>Article 24 Institutions of cultural autonomy are: (...) 4. ethnic social care institutions.</p> <p>Article 27 (1) National minority cultural autonomy and its activities are financed through: a. allocations from the State budget in accordance with the law and from specific contributions for that purpose. b. contributions specifically allocated from local government budgets to cultural autonomy educational, cultural and social care institutions.</p>
d to ensure by appropriate means that safety instructions are also drawn up in regional or minority languages;	
e to arrange for information provided by the competent public authorities concerning the rights of consumers to be made available in regional or minority languages.	
Article 14	
The Parties undertake:	
a to apply existing bilateral and multilateral agreements which bind them with the States in which the same language is used in identical or similar form, or if necessary to seek to conclude such agreements, in such a way as to foster contacts between the users of the same language in the States concerned in the fields of culture, education, information, vocational training and permanent education;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Articles 17.1 and 18.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 13, German-Estonian Treaty on Cultural Co-operation of 29 April 1993: "The contracting parties allow the citizens who permanently settle on their territory and have German or Estonian origins the maintenance of language, culture, national traditions and free practice of religion. The other party is allowed to use and facilitate promotional measures in favour of these people."
b for the benefit of regional or minority languages, to facilitate and/or promote co-operation across borders, in particular between regional or local authorities in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form.	Article 18.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.

5. France

Provision of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages	Legal provisions, policies and practices complying with that Charter provision
Article 8 – Education	
1 With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:	
a i to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	
ii to make available a substantial part of pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	
iii to apply one of the measures provided for under i and ii above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient; or	Partially fulfilled for some regional languages: there are public pre-school classes in which a substantial part (50%) of the time is organised in a regional language, but not all the families that request this education get it, even if the number of requesting families can be considered as sufficient. On the basis of Article L 310-12 of the Education Code and the Ministry of Education's <i>arrête</i> of 12 May 2003, the school authority is responsible for deciding whether to create this curriculum .
iv if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of pre-school education, to favour and/or encourage the application of the measures referred to under i to iii above;	This does not concern France
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 curriculum; or	
iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient;	Partially fulfilled for some regional languages: there are public primary school classes in which the teaching of a regional language is a part of the curriculum (a few hours a week) or where a substantial part (50%) of the time is organised in a regional language, but not all the families that request this kind of education get it, even if the number of requesting families can be considered sufficient. On the basis of Article L 310-12 of the Education Code and the Ministry of Education's <i>arrête</i> of 12 May 2003, the school authority is responsible for deciding whether to create this curriculum .
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 curriculum; or	See below.
iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;	Not fulfilled or only exceptionally in some private schools. Regional languages are taught in some public schools to the same level as foreign languages, but there is no education in regional or minority languages.
d i to make available technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	
ii to make available a substantial part of technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	
iii to provide, within technical and vocational education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or	See below.
iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;	Not fulfilled. Regional languages are taught in a few public technical schools to the same level as foreign languages, but there is no education in regional or minority languages.
e i to make available university and other higher education in regional or minority languages; or	Not fulfilled. No higher education is available in regional or minority languages. There are legal restrictions preventing the development of such courses.
ii to provide facilities for the study of these languages as university and higher education subjects; or	Fulfilled for several regional and minority languages.
iii if, by reason of the role of the State in relation to higher education institutions, subparagraphs i and ii cannot be applied, to encourage and/or allow the provision of university or other forms of higher education in regional or minority languages or of facilities for the study of these languages as university or higher education subjects;	Does not concern France.
f i to arrange for the provision of adult and continuing education courses which are taught mainly or wholly in the regional or minority languages; or	Such courses do not exist.
ii to offer such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education; or	Such courses are offered by private associations but there is no public policy which provides for the organisation of courses in such languages.
iii if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of adult education, to favour and/or encourage the offering of such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education;	Does not concern France.
g to make arrangements to ensure the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the regional or minority language;	Only national history and culture are included within school programmes. However, optional courses about regional culture and history do exist and, although followed by only a small number of students, they are offered in some schools.
h to provide the basic and further training of the teachers required to implement those of paragraphs a to g accepted by the Party;	Not fulfilled or very partially fulfilled. There is no general legal framework in which to organise this training. Some training programmes are organised on the basis of local initiatives. The lack of basic and further training is a significant obstacle in the development of regional language teaching.
i to set up a supervisory body or bodies	

responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.	
2 With regard to education and in respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all the appropriate stages of education.	
Article 9	
1 The Parties undertake, in respect of those judicial districts in which the number of residents using the regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below, according to the situation of each of these languages and on condition that the use of the facilities afforded by the present paragraph is not considered by the judge to hamper the proper administration of justice:	
a in criminal proceedings:	
i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or	
ii to guarantee the accused the right to use his/her regional or minority language; and/or	Partially fulfilled in the sense that the accused must be unable to use the official language to have a right to get interpretation. This is guaranteed by the European Convention on Human Rights, by a European directive (2010/64) and foreseen in the French Code de procedure pénale (Article 63-1, 116, 145-3, 272, 407, 535).
iii to provide that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, shall not be considered inadmissible solely because they are formulated in a regional or minority language; and/or	Fulfilled only for the evidence and under several conditions.
iv to produce, on request, documents connected with legal proceedings in the relevant regional or minority language,	
if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations involving no extra expense for the persons concerned;	Only in the case of Article 9.1.a.ii
b in civil proceedings:	
i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or	
ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or	
iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages, if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;	Only accompanied with a French translation paid by the concerned party.
c in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:	
i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the	



proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or	
ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or	
iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages, if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;	Only accompanied with a French translation paid by the concerned party.
d to take steps to ensure that the application of sub-paragraphs i and iii of paragraphs b and c above and any necessary use of interpreters and translations does not involve extra expense for the persons concerned.	
2 The Parties undertake:	
a not to deny the validity of legal documents drawn up within the State solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language; or	Many legal documents must be drafted in French to be valid by law.
b not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language, and to provide that they can be invoked against interested third parties who are not users of these languages on condition that the contents of the document are made known to them by the person(s) who invoke(s) it; or	Partly satisfied: contracts and other legal documents drawn up in private can be written in regional or minority languages. However, private documents passed before a notary, such as testaments, must be written in French.
c not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language.	Idem
3 The Parties undertake to make available in the regional or minority languages the most important national statutory texts and those relating particularly to users of these languages, unless they are otherwise provided.	This commitment has been accepted by the French government by its declaration but it has not been fulfilled. No important national statutory text is available in a minority language.
Article 10	
1 Within the administrative districts of the State in which the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below and according to the situation of each language, the Parties undertake, as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a i to ensure that the administrative authorities use the regional or minority languages; or	
ii to ensure that such of their officers as are in contact with the public use the regional or minority languages in their relations with persons applying to them in these languages; or	
iii to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications and receive a reply in these languages; or	
iv to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications in these languages; or	
v to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may validly submit a document in these languages;	
b to make available widely used	

administrative texts and forms for the population in the regional or minority languages or in bilingual versions;	
c to allow the administrative authorities to draft documents in a regional or minority language.	Partly fulfilled: it is legally possible on the condition that documents drafted in a regional or minority language are accompanied by a French version. But the draft in the regional or minority language is considered as a translation of the French version. Moreover, there is no insistence to do so and in practice it does not happen.
2 In respect of the local and regional authorities on whose territory the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages is such as to justify the measures specified below, the Parties undertake to allow and/or encourage:	
a the use of regional or minority languages within the framework of the regional or local authority;	
b the possibility for users of regional or minority languages to submit oral or written applications in these languages;	
c the publication by regional authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;	Partly fulfilled: it is legally possible on the condition that documents drafted in a regional or minority language are accompanied by a French version. But the draft in the regional or minority language is considered as a translation of the French version. Moreover, there is no insistence to do so and in practice it does not happen.
d the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;	Partly fulfilled: it is legally possible on the condition that documents drafted in a regional or minority language are accompanied by a French version. But the draft in the regional or minority language is considered as a translation of the French version. Moreover, there is no insistence to do so and in practice it does not happen.
e the use by regional authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;	In theory local or regional authorities may organise interpretation of the debate in a regional language ad so allow the use of this language, which in practice does not happen.
f the use by local authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;	See above.
g the use or adoption, if necessary in conjunction with the name in the official language(s), of traditional and correct forms of place names in regional or minority languages.	Partly satisfied: the local authorities are competent for giving the names of streets and places; they can therefore display bilingual signs. But a recent court decision ruled against the legality of bilingual signs for the names of local authorities. Moreover, the use of place names in regional or minority languages is not considered to be encouraged".
3 With regard to public services provided by the administrative authorities or other persons acting on their behalf, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which regional or minority languages are used, in accordance with the situation of each language and as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a to ensure that the regional or minority languages are used in the provision of the service; or	
b to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request and receive a reply in these languages; or	
c to allow users of regional or minority	



languages to submit a request in these languages.	
4 With a view to putting into effect those provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 accepted by them, the Parties undertake to take one or more of the following measures:	
a translation or interpretation as may be required;	
b recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required;	
c compliance as far as possible with requests from public service employees having a knowledge of a regional or minority language to be appointed in the territory in which that language is used.	
5 The Parties undertake to allow the use or adoption of family names in the regional or minority languages, at the request of those concerned.	Party satisfied but only very slightly. A legal request to change a family name is possible, but the administration and the courts decide over the legitimacy of the request.
Article 11	
1 The Parties undertake, for the users of the regional or minority languages within the territories in which those languages are spoken, according to the situation of each language, to the extent that the public authorities, directly or indirectly, are competent, have power or play a role in this field, and respecting the principle of the independence and autonomy of the media:	
a to the extent that radio and television carry out a public service mission:	
i to ensure the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	
iii to make adequate provision so that broadcasters offer programmes in the regional or minority languages;	There are a few provisions in the legal texts concerning public television and radio, but they are not adequate, in the sense that they are very vague and not effective (Article 29, 42, 43-11, 48-1 Loi No. 86-1067 du 30 septembre 1986 relative à la liberté de communication).
b i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station in the regional or minority languages; or	
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of radio programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	Partly fulfilled. There are some radio programmes in regional languages but generally limited to a few minutes per day or on frequencies which are not easy to pick up.
c i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of television programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	Partly fulfilled. There are some television programmes in regional languages but generally limited to a few minutes per day.
d to encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audiovisual works in the regional or minority languages;	Only occasionally fulfilled.
e i to encourage and/or facilitate the	

creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages; or	
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the publication of newspaper articles in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	
f i to cover the additional costs of those media which use regional or minority languages, wherever the law provides for financial assistance in general for the media; or	
ii to apply existing measures for financial assistance also to audiovisual productions in the regional or minority languages;	
g to support the training of journalists and other staff for media using regional or minority languages.	
2 The Parties undertake to guarantee freedom of direct reception of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language, and not to oppose the retransmission of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in such a language. They further undertake to ensure that no restrictions will be placed on the freedom of expression and free circulation of information in the written press in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language. The exercise of the above-mentioned freedoms, since it carries with it duties and responsibilities, may be subject to such formalities, conditions, restrictions or penalties as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputation or rights of others, for preventing disclosure of information received in confidence, or for maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary.	Partly fulfilled, in so far as no legal provision hinders reception of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries. But in practice, for television, the framework of new technologies makes reception of programmes from neighbouring countries more difficult. Companies providing programmes by cable, the Internet or other digital means are not receptive to regional or minority language speakers who wish to pick up programmes in their language.
3 The Parties undertake to ensure that the interests of the users of regional or minority languages are represented or taken into account within such bodies as may be established in accordance with the law with responsibility for guaranteeing the freedom and pluralism of the media.	Representatives of regional languages have no direct representation within these bodies.
Article 12	
1 With regard to cultural activities and facilities – especially libraries, video libraries, cultural centres, museums, archives, academies, theatres and cinemas, as well as literary work and film production, vernacular forms of cultural expression, festivals and the culture industries, including, <i>inter alia</i> , the use of new technologies – the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used and to the extent that the public authorities are competent, have power or play a role in this field:	
a to encourage types of expression and initiative specific to regional or minority languages and foster the different means of access to works produced in these languages;	Very poorly fulfilled: a few encouraging actions happen from time to time at regional or local level.
b to foster the different means of access	Internal rules oblige the producers of public



in other languages to works produced in regional or minority languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;	television programmes to provide French subtitles with programmes being broadcast in regional languages.
c to foster access in regional or minority languages to works produced in other languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;	Partly fulfilled but only very slightly, in the sense that the translation of French texts into regional languages are sometimes encouraged.
d to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities of various kinds make appropriate allowance for incorporating the knowledge and use of regional or minority languages and cultures in the undertakings which they initiate or for which they provide backing;	
e to promote measures to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities have at their disposal staff who have a full command of the regional or minority language concerned, as well as of the language(s) of the rest of the population;	
f to encourage direct participation by representatives of the users of a given regional or minority language in providing facilities and planning cultural activities;	
g to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of a body or bodies responsible for collecting, keeping a copy of and presenting or publishing works produced in the regional or minority languages;	Partly fulfilled but only very slightly: a few encouraging actions happen from time to time at regional or local level with the aim of promoting the collecting of works in regional languages.
h if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.	
2 In respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage and/or provide appropriate cultural activities and facilities in accordance with the preceding paragraph.	
3 The Parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect.	
Article 13	
1 With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, within the whole country:	
a to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of regional or minority languages in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations;	Not fulfilled: the French language has a monopoly in these fields (Loi No. 94-665 du 4 août 1994 relative à l'emploi de la langue française).
b to prohibit the insertion in internal regulations of companies and private documents of any clauses excluding or restricting the use of regional or minority languages, at least between users of the	

same language;	
c to oppose practices designed to discourage the use of regional or minority languages in connection with economic or social activities;	
d to facilitate and/or encourage the use of regional or minority languages by means other than those specified in the above sub-paragraphs.	
2 With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, in so far as the public authorities are competent, within the territory in which the regional or minority languages are used, and as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a to include in their financial and banking regulations provisions which allow, by means of procedures compatible with commercial practice, the use of regional or minority languages in drawing up payment orders (cheques, drafts, etc.) or other financial documents, or, where appropriate, to ensure the implementation of such provisions;	
b in the economic and social sectors directly under their control (public sector), to organise activities to promote the use of regional or minority languages;	
c to ensure that social care facilities such as hospitals, retirement homes and hostels offer the possibility of receiving and treating in their own language persons using a regional or minority language who are in need of care on grounds of ill-health, old age or for other reasons;	There are no regulations in this sense, but in practice, language is taken into consideration when treating ill or elderly people who only speak a regional language.
d to ensure by appropriate means that safety instructions are also drawn up in regional or minority languages;	
e to arrange for information provided by the competent public authorities concerning the rights of consumers to be made available in regional or minority languages.	
Article 14	
The Parties undertake:	
a to apply existing bilateral and multilateral agreements which bind them with the States in which the same language is used in identical or similar form, or if necessary to seek to conclude such agreements, in such a way as to foster contacts between the users of the same language in the States concerned in the fields of culture, education, information, vocational training and permanent education;	Fulfilled.
b for the benefit of regional or minority languages, to facilitate and/or promote co-operation across borders, in particular between regional or local authorities in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form.	Fulfilled.



6. Georgia

Provision of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages	Legal provisions, policies and practices complying with that Charter provision
Article 8	
1 With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:	
a i to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	<p>Law on General Education of 8 April 2005 (#1330):⁸⁰ “Article 4.3 (Language of instruction): <u>The citizens of Georgia whose native language is not Georgian have the right to receive full general education in their vernacular language</u>⁸¹ according to the National Curriculum, as prescribed by law. In these general education institutions the <u>learning of the State language is obligatory</u>, and of both State languages in the <u>Abkhazian Autonomous Republic</u>.</p> <p>Article 7.1 (Accessibility of general education): The State shall guarantee <u>the right of a pupil to receive general education in the State or native language</u> as close as possible to his or her residence.</p> <p>Article 13.7 (Neutrality and non-discrimination): A school on the basis of equality shall provide the individual and collective right of members of minorities to use their native language, to preserve and express their cultural values.”</p>
ii to make available a substantial part of pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	
iii to apply one of the measures provided for under i and ii above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Law on General Education of 8 April 2005 (#1330): “Article 4.3 (Language of instruction): <u>The citizens of Georgia whose native language is not Georgian have the right to receive full general education in their vernacular language</u> according to the National Curriculum, as prescribed by law. In these general education institutions the <u>learning of the State language is obligatory</u>, and of both State languages in the <u>Abkhazian Autonomous Republic</u>. <p>Article 7.1 (Accessibility of general education): The State shall guarantee <u>the right of a pupil to receive general education in the State or native language</u> as close as possible to his or her residence.</p> <p>Article 13.7 (Neutrality and non-discrimination): A school on the basis of equality shall provide the individual and collective right of members of minorities to use their native language, to preserve and</p>

⁸⁰ Most translations in this chart were taken from <http://www.diversity.ge/eng/resources.php?coi=0|16|12>

⁸¹ Emphasis added (also in other provisions).

iv if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of pre-school education, to favour and/or encourage the application of the measures referred to under i to iii above;	express their cultural values.”
b i to make available primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law on General Education of 8 April 2005 (#1330): Article 4.3 (Language of instruction): <u>The citizens of Georgia whose native language is not Georgian have the right to receive full general education in their vernacular language</u> according to the National Curriculum, as prescribed by law. In these general education institutions the <u>learning of the State language is obligatory</u>, and of both State languages in the <u>Abkhazian Autonomous Republic</u>. Article 5.3 (National Curriculum): The National Curriculum shall encompass the following <u>subjects and subject groups</u>: a) the Georgian (in the Abkhazian Autonomous Republic: the <u>Abkhazian and the Georgian) language and literature</u>. Article 5.4: In general education institutions where the schooling is run according to Article 4.3 of this Law, the <u>subjects and subject groups</u> stipulated by Article 3 a) and b) shall be taught in Georgian, while, in the Abkhazian Autonomous Republic, <u>in Georgian or Abkhazian</u>. Article 7.1 (Accessibility of general education): The State shall guarantee <u>the right of a pupil to receive general education in the State or native language</u> as close as possible to his or her residence. Article 13.7 (Neutrality and non-discrimination): A school on the basis of equality shall provide the individual and collective right of members of minorities to use their native language, to preserve and express their cultural values.” Article 4.4 (Subjects to be taken without attending lectures), Provision on the Certification of Externally Acquired Education, Order # 155 (2007): “Individual classes and/or term(s) of general education <u>may be taught in Georgian, Russian, Armenian and Azerbaijani</u>. External students taking the Russian, Armenian or Azerbaijani language exams are also obligated to take the Georgian language and Literature exams under the relevant curriculum.”
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 curriculum; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law on General Education of 8 April 2005 (#1330): “Article 4.3 (Language of instruction): The citizens of Georgia whose native language is not Georgian have the right to receive full general education in their vernacular language according to the National Curriculum, as prescribed by law. In these general education institutions the <u>learning of the State language is obligatory</u>, and of both State



	<p>languages in the <u>Abkhazian</u> Autonomous Republic.</p> <p>Article 5.3 (National Curriculum): The National Curriculum shall encompass the following <u>subjects</u> and subject groups: a) the Georgian (in the Abkhazian Autonomous Republic: the <u>Abkhazian</u> and the Georgian) <u>language and literature</u>.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Law on General Education of 8 April 2005 (#1330): “Article 4.3 (Language of instruction): <u>The citizens of Georgia whose native language is not Georgian have the right to receive full general education in their vernacular language</u> according to the National Curriculum, as prescribed by law. In these general education institutions the <u>learning of the State language</u> is obligatory, and of both State languages in the <u>Abkhazian</u> Autonomous Republic. <p>Article 5.3 (National Curriculum): The National Curriculum shall encompass the following <u>subjects</u> and subject groups: a) the Georgian (in the Abkhazian Autonomous Republic: the <u>Abkhazian</u> and the Georgian) <u>language and literature</u>.</p> <p>Article 5.4: In general education institutions where the schooling is run according to Article 4.3 of this Law, the <u>subjects</u> and subject groups stipulated by Article 3 a) and b) shall be taught in Georgian, while, in the Abkhazian Autonomous Republic, <u>in Georgian or Abkhazian</u>.</p> <p>Article 7.1 (Accessibility of general education): The State shall guarantee <u>the right of a pupil to receive general education in the State or native language</u> as close as possible to his or her residence.</p> <p>Article 13.7 (Neutrality and non-discrimination): A school on the basis of equality shall provide the individual and collective right of members of minorities to use their native language, to preserve and express their cultural values.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 4.4 (Subjects to be taken without attending lectures), Provision on the Certification of Externally Acquired Education, Order # 155 (2007): “<u>Individual classes and/or term(s) of general education may be taken in Georgian, Russian, Armenian and Azerbaijani</u>. External students taking the Russian, Armenian or Azerbaijani language exams are also obligated to take the Georgian Language and Literature exams under the relative curriculum.”
iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient;	
c i to make available secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law on General Education of 8 April 2005 (#1330): “Article 4.3 (Language of instruction): <u>The citizens of Georgia whose native language is not Georgian have the right to receive full general education in their vernacular language</u> according to the National Curriculum, as prescribed by law. In these general

	<p>education institutions the <u>learning of the State language</u> is obligatory, and of both State languages in the <u>Abkhazian</u> Autonomous Republic.</p> <p>Article 5.3 (National Curriculum): The National Curriculum shall encompass the following <u>subjects</u> and subject groups: a) the Georgian (in the Abkhazian Autonomous Republic: the <u>Abkhazian</u> and the Georgian) <u>language and literature</u>.</p> <p>Article 5.4: In general education institutions where the schooling is run according to Article 4.3 of this Law, the <u>subjects</u> and subject groups stipulated by Article 3 a) and b) shall be taught in Georgian, while in the Abkhazian Autonomous Republic, <u>in Georgian or Abkhazian</u>.</p> <p>Article 7.1 (Accessibility of general education): The State shall guarantee <u>the right of a pupil to receive general education in the State or native language</u> as close as possible to his or her residence.</p> <p>Article 13.7 (Neutrality and non-discrimination): A school on the basis of equality shall provide the individual and collective right of members of minorities to use their native language, to preserve and express their cultural values.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 4.4 (Subjects to be taken without attending lectures), Provision on the Certification of Externally Acquired Education, Order # 155 (2007): “<u>Individual classes and/or term(s) of general education may be taken in Georgian, Russian, Armenian and Azerbaijani</u>. External students taking the Russian, Armenian or Azerbaijani language exams are also obligated to take the Georgian Language and Literature exams under the relative curriculum.”
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 curriculum; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law on General Education of 8 April 2005 (#1330): “Article 4.3 (Language of instruction): The citizens of Georgia whose native language is not Georgian have the right to receive full general education in their vernacular language according to the National Curriculum, as prescribed by law. In these general education institutions the <u>learning of the State language</u> is obligatory, and of both State languages in the <u>Abkhazian</u> Autonomous Republic. <p>Article 5.3 (National Curriculum): The National Curriculum shall encompass the following <u>subjects</u> and subject groups: a) the Georgian (in the Abkhazian Autonomous Republic: the <u>Abkhazian</u> and the Georgian) <u>language and literature</u>.”</p>
iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Law on General Education of 8 April 2005 (#1330):



	<p>Article 4.3 (Language of instruction): The citizens of Georgia whose native language is not Georgian have the right to receive full general education in their vernacular language according to the National Curriculum, as prescribed by law. In these general education institutions the learning of the State language is obligatory, and of both State languages in the <u>Abkhazian</u> Autonomous Republic.</p> <p>Article 5.3 (National Curriculum): The National Curriculum shall encompass the following subjects and subject groups: a) the Georgian (in the Abkhazian Autonomous Republic: the <u>Abkhazian</u> and the Georgian) language and literature.</p> <p>Article 5.4: In general education institutions where the schooling is run according to Article 4.3 of this Law, the subjects and subject groups stipulated by Article 3 a) and b) shall be taught in Georgian, while in the Abkhazian Autonomous Republic, in Georgian or <u>Abkhazian</u>.</p> <p>Article 7.1 (Accessibility of general education): The State shall guarantee the right of a pupil to receive general education in the State or native language as close as possible to his or her residence.</p> <p>Article 13.7 (Neutrality and non-discrimination): A school on the basis of equality shall provide the individual and collective right of members of minorities to use their native language, to preserve and express their cultural values.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 4.4 (Subjects to be taken without attending lectures), Provision on the Certification of Externally Acquired Education, Order # 155 (2007): “Individual classes and/or term(s) of general education may be taken in Georgian, Russian, Armenian and Azerbaijani. External students taking the Russian, Armenian or Azerbaijani language exams are also obligated to take the Georgian Language and Literature exams under the relative curriculum.”
<p>d i to make available technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law on General Education of 8 April 2005 (#1330): Article 4.3 (Language of instruction): The citizens of Georgia whose native language is not Georgian have the right to receive full general education in their vernacular language according to the National Curriculum, as prescribed by law. In these general education institutions the learning of the State language is obligatory, and of both State languages in the <u>Abkhazian</u> Autonomous Republic. <p>Article 5.3 (National Curriculum): The National Curriculum shall encompass the following subjects and subject groups: a) the Georgian (in the Abkhazian Autonomous Republic: the <u>Abkhazian</u> and the Georgian) language and literature.</p> <p>Article 5.4: In general education institutions where the schooling is run according to Article 4.3 of this</p>

	<p>Law, the subjects and subject groups stipulated by Article 3 a) and b) shall be taught in Georgian, while in the Abkhazian Autonomous Republic, in Georgian or <u>Abkhazian</u>.</p> <p>Article 7.1 (Accessibility of general education): The State shall guarantee the right of a pupil to receive general education in the State or native language as close as possible to his or her residence.</p> <p>Article 13.7 (Neutrality and non-discrimination): A school on the basis of equality shall provide the individual and collective right of members of minorities to use their native language, to preserve and express their cultural values.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 4.4 (Subjects to be taken without attending lectures), Provision on the Certification of Externally Acquired Education, Order # 155 (2007): “Individual classes and/or term(s) of general education may be taken in Georgian, Russian, Armenian and Azerbaijani. External students taking the Russian, Armenian or Azerbaijani language exams are also obligated to take the Georgian Language and Literature exams under the relative curriculum.”
<p>ii to make available a substantial part of technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or</p>	
<p>iii to provide, within technical and vocational education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law on General Education of 8 April 2005 (#1330): Article 4.3 (Language of instruction): The citizens of Georgia whose native language is not Georgian have the right to receive full general education in their vernacular language according to the National Curriculum, as prescribed by law. In these general education institutions the learning of the State language is obligatory, and of both State languages in the <u>Abkhazian</u> Autonomous Republic. <p>Article 5.3 (National Curriculum): The National Curriculum shall encompass the following subjects and subject groups: a) the Georgian (in the Abkhazian Autonomous Republic: the <u>Abkhazian</u> and the Georgian) language and literature.”</p>
<p>iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities Law on General Education of 8 April 2005 (#1330): Article 4.3 (Language of instruction): The citizens of Georgia whose native language is not Georgian have the right to receive full general education in their vernacular language according to the National Curriculum, as prescribed by law. In these general education institutions the learning of the State language is obligatory, and of both State languages in the <u>Abkhazian</u> Autonomous Republic. <p>Article 5.3 (National Curriculum): The National Curriculum shall encompass the following subjects and subject groups: a) the Georgian (in the Abkhazian</p>



	<p>Autonomous Republic: the <u>Abkhazian</u> and the Georgian) <u>language and literature</u>.</p> <p>Article 5.4: In general education institutions where the schooling is run according to Article 4.3 of this Law, the <u>subjects</u> and subject groups stipulated by Article 3 a) and b) shall be taught in Georgian, while in the Abkhazian Autonomous Republic, in Georgian or <u>Abkhazian</u>.</p> <p>Article 7.1 (Accessibility of general education): The State shall guarantee <u>the right of a pupil to receive general education in the State or native language as close as possible to his or her residence</u>.</p> <p>Article 13.7 (Neutrality and non-discrimination): A school on the basis of equality shall provide the individual and collective right of members of minorities to use their native language, to preserve and express their cultural values.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 4.4 (Subjects to be taken without attending lectures), Provision on the Certification of Externally Acquired Education, Order # 155 (2007): “Individual <u>classes</u> and/or term(s) of general education <u>may be taken in Georgian, Russian, Armenian and Azerbaijani</u>. External students taking the Russian, Armenian or Azerbaijani language exams are also obligated to take the Georgian Language and Literature exams under the relative curriculum.”
<p>e i to make available university and other higher education in regional or minority languages; or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 4 (Language of Higher Education), Law on Higher Education of 21 December 2004 (#688): “The language of instruction at a higher education institution is Georgian, while in Abkhazia, it is <u>also Abkhazian</u>. (Instruction in other languages, except for individual study courses, is permitted provided that this is envisaged by international agreement or is agreed with the Georgian Ministry of Education and Science.)” <p>Article 5 (Subjects in which the Unified National Examinations are held), Provision on Holding the Unified National Examinations, Order 127, 2005:</p> <p>11: For enrolling in a professional higher educational programme, the faculty may choose an <u>exam</u> in the following additional subjects (23.06.2008 #564): bb) <u>German</u>; ... bd) <u>Russian</u>...</p> <p>12.2: Subjects which are compulsory in order for a student to enrol in an academic higher educational programme are as follows: c) at the entrant's option, in one of the following languages: bb) <u>German</u>; bd) <u>Russian</u>.</p> <p>12.7: In order to continue studies at a higher education institution under the State-accredited programme (irrespective of the language of instruction), entrants shall be entitled to take an exam in general skills, mathematics, Georgian history, so-</p>

	<p>cial sciences, and natural sciences (physics, chemistry, biology) in Georgian or Russian. These options are indicated to them in their examination application.”</p>
<p>ii to provide facilities for the study of these languages as university and higher education subjects; or</p>	
<p>iii if, by reason of the role of the State in relation to higher education institutions, subparagraphs i and ii cannot be applied, to encourage and/or allow the provision of university or other forms of higher education in regional or minority languages or of facilities for the study of these languages as university or higher education subjects;</p>	
<p>f i to arrange for the provision of adult and continuing education courses which are taught mainly or wholly in the regional or minority languages; or</p>	<p>Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p>
<p>ii to offer such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education; or</p>	<p>Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p>
<p>iii if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of adult education, to favour and/or encourage the offering of such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education;</p>	<p>Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p>
<p>g to make arrangements to ensure the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the regional or minority language;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 12.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 5.12 (Preservation of Cultural Heritage), National Security Concept of Georgia: “Georgia is creating favourable conditions and guarantees the <u>preservation of the cultural heritage of national minorities residing in its territory</u>.”
<p>h to provide the basic and further training of the teachers required to implement those of paragraphs a to g accepted by the Party;</p>	<p>Article 12.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p>
<p>i to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.</p>	
<p>2 With regard to education and in respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all the appropriate stages of education.</p>	<p>Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p>
<p>Article 9</p>	
<p>1 The Parties undertake, in respect of those judicial districts in which the number of residents using the regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below, according to the situation of each of these languages and on condition that the use of the facilities afforded by the present paragraph is not considered by the judge to hamper the proper administration of justice:</p>	
<p>a in criminal proceedings:</p>	
<p>i to provide that the courts, at the</p>	<p>Article 17.1 (Language of Criminal Proceedings),</p>



request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or	<p>Criminal Code of Practice of Georgia of 20 February 1998 (#1251): “Criminal proceedings shall be conducted in Georgian and, in Abkhazia, also in Abkhazian.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.3, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 85.2, Constitution of Georgia: “Legal proceedings shall be conducted in the State language. An individual not having a command of the State language shall be provided with an interpreter. Article 10 (Language of proceedings), Law on Common Courts of 13 June 1997 (#767-II): “Proceedings shall be administered in the official State language. A person not having a command of the State language shall be provided with the assistance of an interpreter. Expenses relating to translation shall be paid from the State budget.” Article 17 (Language of Criminal Proceedings), Criminal Code of Practice of Georgia of 20 February 1998 (#1251): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Criminal proceedings shall be conducted in Georgian and, in Abkhazia, also in <u>Abkhazian</u>. A participant in a proceeding who does not speak or does not duly speak the language of the criminal proceeding may <u>make a statement, give evidence and explanation, raise motions and challenges, lodge an appeal, give a talk in court in the native or the other language</u> in which he is proficient. In such cases, as well as in getting acquainted with the case materials, a participant in a proceeding has the right to enjoy the services of an <u>interpreter</u>.(...) <p>4. A body in charge of a proceeding shall inform participants in a proceeding of their rights indicated in section 2-3 of this article.(...)</p> <p>Article 297 (Language of Interrogation) Prior to an interrogation, it should be established whether the interrogated person speaks the language of proceedings, or in which language he can and is willing to testify. (...)</p>
ii to guarantee the accused the right to use his/her regional or minority language; and/or	<p>Article 17 (Language of Criminal Proceedings), Criminal Code of Practice of Georgia of 20 February 1998 (#1251):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Criminal proceedings shall be conducted in Georgian and, in Abkhazia, also in <u>Abkhazian</u>. A participant in a proceeding who does not speak or does not duly speak the language of the criminal proceeding may <u>make a statement, give evidence and explanation, raise motions and challenges, lodge an appeal, talk in court in the native or the other language</u> in which he is proficient. In such cases as well as in getting acquainted with the case materials, a participant in a proceeding has the right to enjoy the services of an <u>interpreter</u>. <p>4. A body in charge of a proceeding shall inform participants in a proceeding of their rights indicated in section 2-3 of this article.(...)</p>
iii to provide that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, shall not be considered inadmissible solely because they are formulated in a regional or minority language; and/or	<p>Article 17 (Language of Criminal Proceedings), Criminal Code of Practice of Georgia of 20 February 1998 (#1251):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Criminal proceedings shall be conducted in Georgian and, in Abkhazia, also in <u>Abkhazian</u>. A participant in a proceeding who does not speak or does not duly speak the language of the criminal proceeding may <u>make a statement, give evidence and explanation, raise motions and challenges, lodge an appeal, talk in court in the native or the other language</u> in which he is proficient. In such cases as well as in getting acquainted with the case materials, a participant in a proceeding has the right to enjoy the services of an <u>interpreter</u>. <p>4. A body in charge of a proceeding shall inform</p>

	<p>participants in a proceeding of their rights indicated in section 2-3 of this article.</p> <p>Article 94 (Rights and Obligations of Witness): 4. <u>A witness has the right:</u> (...) if he is not proficient in the language of the criminal proceedings, <u>to testify in the native language and to make free use of the services of an interpreter.</u> (...)</p> <p>Article 297 (Language of Interrogation): Prior to an interrogation, it should be established whether the interrogated person speaks the language of the proceedings, or in which language he can and is willing to testify. (...)</p>
iv to produce, on request, documents connected with legal proceedings in the relevant regional or minority language,	<p>Article 17 (Language of Criminal Proceedings), Criminal Code of Practice of Georgia of 20 February 1998 (#1251):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Criminal proceedings shall be conducted in Georgian and, in Abkhazia, also in <u>Abkhazian</u>. (...) <u>Investigation and court documents</u>, which shall, in compliance with the provisions of law, be given to the accused or other participant in a proceeding, must be translated into his <u>native language</u> or in the language in which he is proficient. A body in charge of a proceeding shall inform participants in a proceeding of their rights indicated in section 2-3 of this article.
if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations involving no extra expense for the persons concerned;	
b in civil proceedings:	
i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or	
ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 85.2, Constitution of Georgia: “Legal proceedings shall be conducted in the State language. An individual not having a command of the State language shall be provided with an <u>interpreter</u>.” Article 10 (Language of proceedings), Law on Common Courts of 13 June 1997 (#767-II): “Proceedings shall be administered in the official State language. A person who does not speak the State language shall be provided with the assistance of an <u>interpreter</u>. Expenses relating to translation shall be paid from the State budget.” Article 9.4 (Publicity of Civil Proceeding and Language of Judicial Proceeding), Civil Code of Practice of Georgia of 14 November 1997 (#1106): “The judicial proceeding is conducted in the national language. A person who does not speak the national language will be assigned an interpreter.”
iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,	
if necessary by the use of interpreters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 85.2, Constitution of Georgia: “Legal



and translations;	<p>proceedings shall be conducted in the State language. An individual not having a command of the State language shall be provided with an <u>interpreter</u>.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10 (Language of proceedings), Law on Common Courts of 13 June 1997 (#767-II): “Proceedings shall be administered in the official State language. A person who does not speak the State language shall be provided with the assistance of an interpreter. Expenses relating to translation shall be paid from the State budget.” Article 9.4 (Publicity of Civil Proceedings and Language of Judicial Proceedings), Civil Code of Practice of Georgia of 14 November 1997 (#1106): “The judicial proceeding is conducted in the national language. A person who does not speak the national language will be assigned an interpreter.”
c in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:	
i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General Administrative Code of Georgia of 25 June 1999 (#2181) “Article 14 (The official language of administrative proceedings) The official language of administrative proceedings shall be Georgian. The additional official language of administrative proceedings in Abkhazia shall be <u>Abkhazian</u>.” Article 73 (The parties to an administrative proceeding) 3. An administrative proceeding shall be conducted in Georgian. An administrative proceeding within the territory of Abkhazia may be conducted in <u>Abkhazian</u> as well.”
ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 85.2, Constitution of Georgia: “Legal proceedings shall be conducted in the State language. An individual not having a command of the State language shall be provided with an <u>interpreter</u>.” Article 10 (Language of proceedings), Law on Common Courts of 13 June 1997 (#767-II): “Proceedings shall be administered in the official State language. A person who does not speak the State language shall be provided with the assistance of an interpreter. Expenses relating to translation shall be paid from the State budget.” Article 73.3, General Administrative Code of Georgia of 25 June 1999 (#2181) (The parties to an administrative proceeding): “An administrative proceeding shall be conducted in Georgian. An administrative proceeding within the territory of Abkhazia may be conducted in <u>Abkhazian</u> as well.”
iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,	
if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 85.2, Constitution of Georgia: “Legal proceedings shall be conducted in the State lan-

	<p>guage. An individual not having a command of the State language shall be provided with an <u>interpreter</u>.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10 (Language of proceedings), Law on Common Courts of 13 June 1997 (#767-II): “Proceedings shall be administered in the official State language. A person who does not speak the State language shall be provided with the assistance of an interpreter. Expenses relating to translation shall be paid from the State budget.”
d to take steps to ensure that the application of sub-paragraphs i and iii of paragraphs b and c above and any necessary use of interpreters and translations does not involve extra expense for the persons concerned.	
2 The Parties undertake:	
a not to deny the validity of legal documents drawn up within the State solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language; or	
b not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language, and to provide that they can be invoked against interested third parties who are not users of these languages on condition that the contents of the document are made known to them by the person(s) who invoke(s) it; or	
c not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language.	
3 The Parties undertake to make available in the regional or minority languages the most important national statutory texts and those relating particularly to users of these languages, unless they are otherwise provided.	
Article 10	
1 Within the administrative districts of the State in which the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below and according to the situation of each language, the Parties undertake, as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a i to ensure that the administrative authorities use the regional or minority languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 8, Constitution of Georgia: “The State language of Georgia shall be Georgian and, in Abkhazia, also <u>Abkhazian</u>.” Article 12 (Language of Public Service), Law on the Public Service of 31 October 1997 (#1022): “The public service in Georgia is delivered in Georgian and, in Abkhazia, in <u>Abkhazian</u> as well.”
ii to ensure that such of their officers as are in contact with the public use the regional or minority languages in their relations with persons applying to them in these languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 8, Constitution of Georgia: “The State language of Georgia shall be Georgian and, in Abkhazia, also <u>Abkhazian</u>.”



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 12 (Language of Public Service), Law on the Public Service of 31 October 1997 (#1022): "The public service in Georgia is delivered in Georgian and, in Abkhazia, in <u>Abkhazian</u> as well."
iii to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications and receive a reply in these languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 8, Constitution of Georgia: "The State language of Georgia shall be Georgian and, in Abkhazia, also <u>Abkhazian</u>." Article 12 (Language of Public Service), Law on the Public Service of 31 October 1997 (#1022): "The public service in Georgia is delivered in Georgian and, in Abkhazia, in <u>Abkhazian</u> as well."
iv to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications in these languages; or	
v to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may validly submit a document in these languages;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 8, Constitution of Georgia: "The State language of Georgia shall be Georgian and, in Abkhazia, also <u>Abkhazian</u>." Article 12 (Language of Public Service), Law on the Public Service of 31 October 1997 (#1022): "The public service in Georgia is delivered in Georgian and, in Abkhazia, in <u>Abkhazian</u> as well."
b to make available widely used administrative texts and forms for the population in the regional or minority languages or in bilingual versions;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 8, Constitution of Georgia: "The State language of Georgia shall be Georgian and, in Abkhazia, also <u>Abkhazian</u>." Article 12 (Language of Public Service), Law on the Public Service of 31 October 1997 (#1022): "The public service in Georgia is delivered in Georgian and, in Abkhazia, in <u>Abkhazian</u> as well. " Article 51.1 (Ballot Paper and Special Envelope), Election Code of Georgia of 2 August 2001 (#1047): "A ballot paper shall be printed on the basis of the ordinance issued, and in accordance with the sample established by the CEC, in Georgian and, in Abkhazia, in <u>Abkhazian</u>, and, if necessary, in any other language understood by the local population."
c to allow the administrative authorities to draft documents in a regional or minority language.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 8, Constitution of Georgia: "The State language of Georgia shall be Georgian and, in Abkhazia, also <u>Abkhazian</u>." Article 12 (Language of Public Service), Law on the Public Service of 31 October 1997 (#1022): "The public service in Georgia is delivered in

	<p>Georgian and, in Abkhazia, in <u>Abkhazian</u> as well."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 51.1 (Ballot Paper and Special Envelope), Election Code of Georgia of 2 August 2001 (#1047): "A ballot paper shall be printed on the basis of the ordinance issued, and in accordance with the sample established by the CEC, in Georgian and, in Abkhazia, in <u>Abkhazian</u>, and, if necessary, in any other language understood by the local population."
2 In respect of the local and regional authorities on whose territory the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages is such as to justify the measures specified below, the Parties undertake to allow and/or encourage:	
a the use of regional or minority languages within the framework of the regional or local authority;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 8, Constitution of Georgia: "The State language of Georgia shall be Georgian and, in Abkhazia, also <u>Abkhazian</u>." Article 12 (Language of Public Service), Law on the Public Service of 31 October 1997 (#1022): "The public service in Georgia is delivered in Georgian and, in Abkhazia, in <u>Abkhazian</u> as well."
b the possibility for users of regional or minority languages to submit oral or written applications in these languages;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 8, Constitution of Georgia: "The State language of Georgia shall be Georgian and, in Abkhazia, also <u>Abkhazian</u>." Article 12 (Language of Public Service), Law on the Public Service of 31 October 1997 (#1022): "The public service in Georgia is delivered in Georgian and, in Abkhazia, in <u>Abkhazian</u> as well."
c the publication by regional authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 8, Constitution of Georgia: "The State language of Georgia shall be Georgian and, in Abkhazia, also <u>Abkhazian</u>." Article 12 (Language of Public Service), Law on the Public Service of 31 October 1997 (#1022): "The public service in Georgia is delivered in Georgian and, in Abkhazia, in <u>Abkhazian</u> as well. "
d the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 8, Constitution of Georgia: "The State language of Georgia shall be Georgian and, in Abkhazia, also <u>Abkhazian</u>." Article 12 (Language of Public Service), Law on the Public Service of 31 October 1997 (#1022): "The public service in Georgia is delivered in Georgian and, in Abkhazia, in <u>Abkhazian</u> as well. "
e the use by regional authorities of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 8, Constitution of Georgia: "The State



regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;	language of Georgia shall be Georgian and, in Abkhazia, also <u>Abkhazian</u> .” ● Article 12 (Language of Public Service), Law on the Public Service of 31 October 1997 (#1022): “The public service in Georgia is delivered in Georgian and, in Abkhazia, in Abkhazian as well. ”
f the use by local authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;	● Article 8, Constitution of Georgia : “The State language of Georgia shall be Georgian and, in Abkhazia, also <u>Abkhazian</u> .” ● Article 12 (Language of Public Service), Law on the Public Service of 31 October 1997 (#1022): “The public service in Georgia is delivered in Georgian and, in Abkhazia, in Abkhazian as well. ”
g the use or adoption, if necessary in conjunction with the name in the official language(s), of traditional and correct forms of place names in regional or minority languages.	● Article 11.3, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. ● Article 8, Constitution of Georgia : “The State language of Georgia shall be Georgian and, in Abkhazia, also <u>Abkhazian</u> .” ● Article 12 (Language of Public Service), Law on the Public Service of 31 October 1997 (#1022): “The public service in Georgia is delivered in Georgian and, in Abkhazia, in Abkhazian as well.”
3 With regard to public services provided by the administrative authorities or other persons acting on their behalf, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which regional or minority languages are used, in accordance with the situation of each language and as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a to ensure that the regional or minority languages are used in the provision of the service; or	● Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. ● Article 8, Constitution of Georgia : “The State language of Georgia shall be Georgian and, in Abkhazia, also <u>Abkhazian</u> .” ● Article 12 (Language of Public Service), Law on the Public Service of 31 October 1997 (#1022): “The public service in Georgia is delivered in Georgian and, in Abkhazia, in Abkhazian as well.”
b to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request and receive a reply in these languages; or	● Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. ● Article 8, Constitution of Georgia : “The State language of Georgia shall be Georgian and, in Abkhazia, also <u>Abkhazian</u> .” ● Article 12 (Language of Public Service), Law on the Public Service of 31 October 1997 (#1022): “The public service in Georgia is delivered in Georgian and, in Abkhazia, in Abkhazian as well.”
c to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request in these languages.	● Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. ● Article 8, Constitution of Georgia : “The State language of Georgia shall be Georgian and, in Ab-

	khazia, also <u>Abkhazian</u> .” ● Article 12 (Language of Public Service), Law on the Public Service of 31 October 1997 (#1022): “The public service in Georgia is delivered in Georgian and, in Abkhazia, in Abkhazian as well.”
4 With a view to putting into effect those provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 accepted by them, the Parties undertake to take one or more of the following measures:	
a translation or interpretation as may be required;	● Article 8, Constitution of Georgia : “The State language of Georgia shall be Georgian and, in Abkhazia, also <u>Abkhazian</u> .” ● Article 12 (Language of Public Service), Law on the Public Service of 31 October 1997 (#1022): “The public service in Georgia is delivered in Georgian and, in Abkhazia, in Abkhazian as well.”
b recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required;	● Article 8, Constitution of Georgia : “The State language of Georgia shall be Georgian and, in Abkhazia, also <u>Abkhazian</u> .” ● Article 12 (Language of Public Service), Law on the Public Service of 31 October 1997 (#1022): “The public service in Georgia is delivered in Georgian and, in Abkhazia, in Abkhazian as well.”
c compliance as far as possible with requests from public service employees having a knowledge of a regional or minority language to be appointed in the territory in which that language is used.	● Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. ● Article 8, Constitution of Georgia : “The State language of Georgia shall be Georgian and, in Abkhazia, also <u>Abkhazian</u> .” ● Article 12 (Language of Public Service), Law on the Public Service of 31 October 1997 (#1022): “The public service in Georgia is delivered in Georgian and, in Abkhazia, in Abkhazian as well.”
5 The Parties undertake to allow the use or adoption of family names in the regional or minority languages, at the request of those concerned.	Article 11.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
Article 11	
1 The Parties undertake, for the users of the regional or minority languages within the territories in which those languages are spoken, according to the situation of each language, to the extent that the public authorities, directly or indirectly, are competent, have power or play a role in this field, and respecting the principle of the independence and autonomy of the media:	
a to the extent that radio and television carry out a public service mission:	
i to ensure the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	
iii to make adequate provision so that	● Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the



broadcasters offer programmes in the regional or minority languages;	Protection of National Minorities. ● Law on Broadcasting of 23 December 2004 (#780): "Article 16.1 (Content Obligations) The Georgian Public Broadcaster shall: (...) h) reflect ethnic, cultural, linguistic, religious, age and gender diversity in programmes; (...) l) <u>broadcast a relevant proportion of programmes on minorities and prepared by minority groups, in their language.</u> ● Article 33.11 No less than 25% of the GPB [public radio and television service] programme budget shall be allocated to the airing of programmes connected with Abkhazia and the Tskhinvali region, and <u>programmes in minority languages.</u> "
b i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station in the regional or minority languages; or	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of radio programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
c i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of television programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
d to encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audiovisual works in the regional or minority languages;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
e i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages; or	Articles 9.3 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the publication of newspaper articles in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
f i to cover the additional costs of those media which use regional or minority languages, wherever the law provides for financial assistance in general for the media; or	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
ii to apply existing measures for financial assistance also to audiovisual productions in the regional or minority languages;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
g to support the training of journalists and other staff for media using regional or minority languages.	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
2 The Parties undertake to guarantee freedom of direct reception of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language, and not to oppose the retransmission of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in such a language. They further undertake to ensure that no restrictions will be placed on the freedom of expression and free circulation of information in the written press in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language. The exercise of the above-mentioned freedoms, since it carries with it duties and	Articles 9.1, 9.2, 9.3 and 18, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.

responsibilities, may be subject to such formalities, conditions, restrictions or penalties as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputation or rights of others, for preventing disclosure of information received in confidence, or for maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary.	
3 The Parties undertake to ensure that the interests of the users of regional or minority languages are represented or taken into account within such bodies as may be established in accordance with the law with responsibility for guaranteeing the freedom and pluralism of the media.	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Public Board on ethnic questions (advisory board for the public broadcasting service set up in 2006 and bringing together ten national minorities' organisations. ⁸²
Article 12	
1 With regard to cultural activities and facilities – especially libraries, video libraries, cultural centres, museums, archives, academies, theatres and cinemas, as well as literary work and film production, vernacular forms of cultural expression, festivals and the culture industries, including, <i>inter alia</i> , the use of new technologies – the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used and to the extent that the public authorities are competent, have power or play a role in this field:	
a to encourage types of expression and initiative specific to regional or minority languages and foster the different means of access to works produced in these languages;	● Article 5.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. ● Article 10 (Individual's right to traditional culture), Law on Culture of 12 June 1997 (#751): "Every person has the right to <u>protection of his or her traditional culture.</u> " ● Article 5.12 (Preservation of Cultural Heritage), National Security Concept of Georgia : "Georgia seeks to maintain and develop the nation's unique cultural heritage, which enriches the world's cultural heritage. In this respect, an active policy of preserving national cultural heritage, promoting modern and traditional Georgian arts, and protecting architectural and national values is a must. <u>Georgia is creating favourable conditions and guarantees for the preservation of the cultural heritage of national minorities residing on its territory.</u> "
b to foster the different means of access in other languages to works produced in regional or minority languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;	Articles 9.1 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
c to foster access in regional or minority languages to works produced in other languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;	Articles 9.1 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
d to ensure that the bodies responsible	Articles 5.1 and 9.1, Framework Convention for the

⁸² See Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities, Opinion on Georgia (ACFC/OP/I(2009)001), p. 29



for organising or supporting cultural activities of various kinds make appropriate allowance for incorporating the knowledge and use of regional or minority languages and cultures in the undertakings which they initiate or for which they provide backing;	Protection of National Minorities.
e to promote measures to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities have at their disposal staff who have a full command of the regional or minority language concerned, as well as of the language(s) of the rest of the population;	Articles 5.1 and Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
f to encourage direct participation by representatives of the users of a given regional or minority language in providing facilities and planning cultural activities;	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
g to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of a body or bodies responsible for collecting, keeping a copy of and presenting or publishing works produced in the regional or minority languages;	
h if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.	
2 In respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage and/or provide appropriate cultural activities and facilities in accordance with the preceding paragraph.	
3 The Parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect.	
Article 13	
1 With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, within the whole country:	
a to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of regional or minority languages in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations;	Article 4.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
b to prohibit the insertion in internal regulations of companies and private documents of any clauses excluding or restricting the use of regional or minority languages, at least between users of the same language;	
c to oppose practices designed to discourage the use of regional or minority languages in connection with economic or social activities;	
d to facilitate and/or encourage the use of regional or minority languages by means other than those specified in the above sub-paragraphs.	
2 With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, in so far as the public	

authorities are competent, within the territory in which the regional or minority languages are used, and as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a to include in their financial and banking regulations provisions which allow, by means of procedures compatible with commercial practice, the use of regional or minority languages in drawing up payment orders (cheques, drafts, etc.) or other financial documents, or, where appropriate, to ensure the implementation of such provisions;	
b in the economic and social sectors directly under their control (public sector), to organise activities to promote the use of regional or minority languages;	
c to ensure that social care facilities such as hospitals, retirement homes and hostels offer the possibility of receiving and treating in their own language persons using a regional or minority language who are in need of care on grounds of ill-health, old age or for other reasons;	
d to ensure by appropriate means that safety instructions are also drawn up in regional or minority languages;	
e to arrange for information provided by the competent public authorities concerning the rights of consumers to be made available in regional or minority languages.	
Article 14	
The Parties undertake:	
a to apply existing bilateral and multilateral agreements which bind them with the States in which the same language is used in identical or similar form, or if necessary to seek to conclude such agreements, in such a way as to foster contacts between the users of the same language in the States concerned in the fields of culture, education, information, vocational training and permanent education;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Articles 17.1 and 18.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 13, German-Georgian Treaty on Cultural Co-operation of 25 June 1993: "The maintenance of language, culture, national traditions and the free practice of religion is allowed to Georgian citizens of German origin in Georgia and German citizens of Georgian origin in Germany. The preservation of the cultural identity and human rights of these people has a considerable role to play in the development of friendly relations; promotional measures by the other party in favour of these people are allowed and facilitated."
b for the benefit of regional or minority languages, to facilitate and/or promote co-operation across borders, in particular between regional or local authorities in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form.	Article 18.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.



7. Latvia

Provision of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages	Legal provisions, policies and practices complying with that Charter provision
Article 8 – Education	
1 With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:	
a i to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	
ii to make available a substantial part of pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	<p>Education Law of 29 October 1998 (version of 5 February 2004).</p> <p>Article 9. Language of Acquisition of Education.</p> <p>(1) Education shall be acquired in the official language in State and local government education institutions.</p> <p>(2) Education may be acquired in another language:</p> <p>1) in private educational institutions;</p> <p>2) in State and local government educational institutions in which educational programmes for ethnic minorities are implemented. The Ministry of Education and Science shall in such educational programmes specify the subjects of study which are to be acquired in the official language; and</p> <p>3) in educational institutions specified in other laws.</p> <p>Transitional provisions</p> <p>9. Article 9.1 and 9.2.2 of the present law subsequently enter into force, namely:</p> <p>2) on 1 September 1999 – State and local government general educational institutions with another language for studies shall commence the implementation of educational programmes of ethnic minorities or a transition to studies in the official language.</p>
iii to apply one of the measures provided for under i and ii above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient; or	<p>• Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p> <p>• Education Law of 29 October 1998 (version of 5 February 2004).</p> <p>Article 9. Language of Acquisition of Education.</p>

	<p>(1) Education shall be acquired in the official language in State and local government education institutions.</p> <p>(2) Education may be acquired in another language:</p> <p>1) in private educational institutions;</p> <p>2) in State and local government educational institutions in which educational programmes for ethnic minorities are implemented. The Ministry of Education and Science shall in such educational programmes specify the subjects of study which are to be acquired in the official language; and</p> <p>3) in educational institutions specified in other laws.</p> <p>Transitional provisions.</p> <p>9. Article 9.1 and 9.2.2 of the present law subsequently enter into force, namely:</p> <p>2) on 1 September 1999 – State and local government general educational institutions with another language for studies shall commence the implementation of educational programmes of ethnic minorities or a transition to studies in the official language.</p>
iv if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of pre-school education, to favour and/or encourage the application of the measures referred to under i to iii above;	
b 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	<p>• Education Law of 29 October 1998 (version of 5 February 2004).</p> <p>Article 9. Language of Acquisition of Education.</p> <p>(1) Education shall be acquired in the official language in State and local government education institutions.</p> <p>(2) Education may be acquired in another language:</p> <p>1) in private educational institutions;</p> <p>2) in State and local government educational institutions in which educational programmes for ethnic minorities are implemented. The Ministry of Education and Science shall in such educational programmes specify the subjects of study which are to be acquired in the official language; and</p>



	<p>3) in educational institutions specified in other laws.</p> <p>Transitional provisions.</p> <p>9. Article 9.1 and 9.2.2 of the present law subsequently enter into force, namely:</p> <p>2) on 1 September 1999 – State and local government general educational institutions with another language for studies shall commence the implementation of <u>educational programmes of ethnic minorities</u> or a transition to studies in the official language.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 30.5 (Implementation of the Basic Education Programme), General Education Law of 10 June 1999: “The basic education programme may be combined with an <u>educational programme for ethnic minorities, including therein the native language of an ethnic minority, educational content related to the identity of ethnic minorities and the integration of ethnic minorities into Latvian society.</u>”
iii to provide, within primary education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or	<p>Article 30.5 (Implementation of the Basic Education Programme), General Education Law of 10 June 1999: “The basic education programme may be combined with an <u>educational programme for ethnic minorities, including therein the native language of an ethnic minority, educational content related to the identity of ethnic minorities and the integration of ethnic minorities into Latvian society.</u>”</p>
iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Education Law of 29 October 1998 (version of 5 February 2004). <p>Article 9. Language of Acquisition of Education.</p> <p>(1) Education shall be acquired in the official language in State and local government education institutions.</p> <p>(2) <u>Education may be acquired in another language:</u></p> <p>1) in private educational institutions;</p> <p>2) in State and local government educational institutions in which <u>educational programmes for ethnic minorities</u> are implemented. The Ministry of Education and Science shall in such educational programmes specify the subjects of study which are to be acquired in the official language; and</p> <p>3) in educational institutions specified in other laws.</p> <p>Transitional provisions.</p>

	<p>9. Article 9.1 and 9.2.2 of the present law subsequently enter into force, namely:</p> <p>2) on 1 September 1999 – State and local government general educational institutions with another language for studies shall commence the implementation of <u>educational programmes of ethnic minorities</u> or a transition to studies in the official language.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 30.5 (Implementation of the Basic Education Programme), General Education Law of 10 June 1999: “The basic education programme may be combined with an <u>educational programme for ethnic minorities, including therein the native language of an ethnic minority, educational content related to the identity of ethnic minorities and the integration of ethnic minorities into Latvian society.</u>”
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education Law of 29 October 1998 (version of 5 February 2004) <p>Article 9. Language of Acquisition of Education.</p> <p>(1) Education shall be acquired in the official language in State and local government education institutions.</p> <p>(2) <u>Education may be acquired in another language:</u></p> <p>1) in private educational institutions;</p> <p>2) in State and local government educational institutions in which <u>educational programmes for ethnic minorities</u> are implemented. The Ministry of Education and Science shall in such educational programmes specify the subjects of study which are to be acquired in the official language; and</p> <p>3) in educational institutions specified in other laws.</p> <p>Transitional provisions.</p> <p>9. Article 9.1 and 9.2.2 of the present law subsequently enter into force, namely:</p> <p>2) on 1 September 1999 – State and local government general educational institutions with another language for studies shall commence the implementation of <u>educational programmes of ethnic minorities</u> or a transition to studies in the official language.</p> <p>3) on 1 September 2004 – in State and local government general secondary educational</p>



	<p>institutions, which implement <u>minority education programmes</u>, commencing in the tenth grade, studies shall take place in the official language in conformity with the State general secondary education standard; in State and local government professional educational institutions commencing in the first academic year shall take place in the official language in conformity with the State professional standard or the State professional secondary education standard. The State general secondary education standard, the State professional standard and the State professional secondary education standard shall specify that the acquisition of the content of studies in the official language shall be guaranteed for <u>not less than three-fifths of the total teaching hour load</u> in the academic year, including foreign languages, and shall ensure that <u>the acquisition of identity and culture, associated with the minority language, is available through the content of studies.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 42.2 (Directions of General Secondary Education Programmes), General Education Law of 10 June 1999: "A general secondary education programme of the corresponding direction may be combined with the <u>educational programme for ethnic minorities, including therein the native language of the ethnic minority, the educational content related to the identity of ethnic minorities and the integration of ethnic minorities into Latvian society.</u>" • Annex 3.3.1 (Minderheitenbildungsprogramm), Regeln über die staatlichen Standards der allgemeinen Sekundarschulbildung of 5 December 2000 (version of 17 February 2004): „Ab 1. September 2004 werden beginnend mit Klasse 10 jedes Schuljahr mindestens fünf Fächer in Lettisch absolviert. Diese Fächer umfassen nicht lettische Sprache und Literatur. Die Aneignung von Lerninhalten in einer Minderheitensprache kann bis zum Umfang von zwei Fünfteln der Gesamtzahl der Stunden in einem Schuljahr vorgesehen werden.“
<p>iii to provide, within secondary education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 42.2 (Directions of General Secondary Education Programmes), General Education Law of 10 June 1999: "A general secondary education programme of the corresponding direction may be combined with the <u>educational programme for ethnic minorities, including therein the native language of the ethnic minority, the educational content related to the identity of ethnic minorities and the integration of ethnic minorities into Latvian society.</u>" • Annex 3.3.1 (Minderheitenbildungsprogramm), Regeln über die staatlichen Standards der allgemeinen Sekundarschulbildung of 5 December 2000 (version of 17 February 2004): „Ab 1. September 2004 werden beginnend mit Klasse 10 jedes Schuljahr mindestens fünf Fächer in Lettisch absolviert. Diese Fächer umfassen nicht lettische Sprache und Literatur. Die Aneignung von

	<p>Lerninhalten in einer Minderheitensprache kann bis zum Umfang von zwei Fünfteln der Gesamtzahl der Stunden in einem Schuljahr vorgesehen werden.“</p>
<p>iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. • Education Law of 29 October 1998 (version of 5 February 2004). <p>Article 9. Language of Acquisition of Education.</p> <p>(1) Education shall be acquired in the official language in State and local government education institutions.</p> <p>(2) <u>Education may be acquired in another language:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) in private educational institutions; 2) in State and local government educational institutions in which <u>educational programmes for ethnic minorities</u> are implemented. The Ministry of Education and Science shall in such educational programmes specify the subjects of study which are to be acquired in the official language; and 3) in educational institutions specified in other laws. <p>Transitional provisions.</p> <p>9. Article 9.1 and 9.2.2 of the present law subsequently enter into force, namely:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2) on 1 September 1999 – State and local government general educational institutions with another language for studies shall commence the implementation of <u>educational programmes of ethnic minorities</u> or a transition to studies in the official language. 3) on 1 September 2004 – in State and local government general secondary educational institutions, which implement <u>minority education programmes</u>, commencing in the tenth grade, studies shall take place in the official language in conformity with the State general secondary education standard; in State and local government professional educational institutions commencing in the first academic year shall take place in the official language in conformity with the State professional standard or the State professional secondary education standard. The State general secondary education standard, the State professional standard and the State professional secondary education standard shall specify that the acquisition of the content of studies in the official language shall be guaranteed for not less than



	<p>three-fifths of the total teaching hour load in the academic year, including foreign languages, and shall ensure that the acquisition of identity and culture associated studies content is available in the minority language.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 42.2 (Directions of General Secondary Education Programmes), General Education Law of 10 June 1999: "A general secondary education programme of the corresponding direction may be combined with the educational programme for ethnic minorities, including therein the native language of the ethnic minority, the educational content related to the identity of ethnic minorities and the integration of ethnic minorities into Latvian society." • Annex 3.3.1 (Minderheitenbildungsprogramm), Regeln über die staatlichen Standards der allgemeinen Sekundarschulbildung of 5 December 2000 (version of 17 February 2004): „Ab 1. September 2004 werden beginnend mit Klasse 10 jedes Schuljahr mindestens fünf Fächer in Lettisch absolviert. Diese Fächer umfassen nicht lettische Sprache und Literatur. Die Aneignung von Lerninhalten in einer Minderheitensprache kann bis zum Umfang von zwei Fünfteln der Gesamtzahl der Stunden in einem Schuljahr vorgesehen werden.“
d i to make available technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	
ii to make available a substantial part of technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	<p>Education Law of 29 October 1998 (version of 5 February 2004).</p> <p>Article 9. Language of Acquisition of Education.</p> <p>(1) Education shall be acquired in the official language in State and local government education institutions.</p> <p>(2) <u>Education may be acquired in another language:</u></p> <p>1) in private educational institutions;</p> <p>2) in State and local government educational institutions in which educational programmes for ethnic minorities are implemented. The Ministry of Education and Science shall in such educational programmes specify the subjects of study which are to be acquired in the official language; and</p> <p>3) in educational institutions specified in other laws.</p> <p>Transitional provisions.</p> <p>9. Article 9.1 and 9.2.2 of the present law subsequently enter into force, namely:</p>

	<p>2) on 1 September 1999 – State and local government general educational institutions with another language for studies shall commence the implementation of educational programmes of ethnic minorities or a transition to studies in the official language.</p>
iii to provide, within technical and vocational education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or	
iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. • Education Law of 29 October 1998 (version of 5 February 2004). <p>Article 9. Language of Acquisition of Education.</p> <p>(1) Education shall be acquired in the official language in State and local government education institutions.</p> <p>(2) <u>Education may be acquired in another language:</u></p> <p>1) in private educational institutions;</p> <p>2) in State and local government educational institutions in which educational programmes for ethnic minorities are implemented. The Ministry of Education and Science shall in such educational programmes specify the subjects of study which are to be acquired in the official language; and</p> <p>3) in educational institutions specified in other laws.</p> <p>Transitional provisions.</p> <p>9. Article 9.1 and 9.2.2 of the present law subsequently enter into force, namely:</p> <p>2) on 1 September 1999 – State and local government general educational institutions with another language for studies shall commence the implementation of educational programmes of ethnic minorities or a transition to studies in the official language.</p>
e i to make available university and other higher education in regional or minority languages; or	
ii to provide facilities for the study of these languages as university and higher education subjects; or	
iii if, by reason of the role of the State in relation to higher education institutions, subparagraphs i and ii cannot be applied, to encourage and/or allow the provision of university or other forms of higher education in regional or minority languages	



or of facilities for the study of these languages as university or higher education subjects;	
f i to arrange for the provision of adult and continuing education courses which are taught mainly or wholly in the regional or minority languages; or	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
ii to offer such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education; or	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
iii if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of adult education, to favour and/or encourage the offering of such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education;	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
g to make arrangements to ensure the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the regional or minority language;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 12.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Education Law of 29 October 1998 (version of 5 February 2004). <p>Article 41 (Minority education programmes).</p> <p>2) In die Bildungsprogramme werden die <u>Inhalte</u>, die für die Aneignung der jeweiligen <u>Kultur</u> und für die <u>Integration der Minderheiten</u> in die Gesellschaft erforderlich sind, aufgenommen.</p> <p>Transitional provisions.</p> <p>9. Article 9.1 and 9.2.2 of the present law subsequently enter into force, namely:</p> <p>3) on 1 September 2004 – in State and local government general secondary educational institutions, which implement <u>minority education programmes</u>, commencing in the tenth grade, studies shall take place in the official language in conformity with the State general secondary education standard; in State and local government professional educational institutions commencing in the first academic year shall take place in the official language in conformity with the State professional standard or the State professional secondary education standard. The State general secondary education standard, the State professional standard and the State professional secondary education standard shall specify that the acquisition of the content of studies in the official language shall be guaranteed for <u>not less than three-fifths of the total teaching hour load</u> in the academic year, including foreign languages, and shall ensure that the <u>acquisition of identity and culture associated studies content is available in the minority language</u>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 30.5 (Implementation of the Basic Education Programme), General Education Law of 10 June 1999: “The basic education programme may be combined with an <u>educational programme for ethnic minorities, including therein the native language of an ethnic minority, educational content</u>

	related to the identity of ethnic minorities and the integration of ethnic minorities into Latvian society.”
h to provide the basic and further training of the teachers required to implement those of paragraphs a to g accepted by the Party;	Article 12.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
i to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.	<p>Education Law of 29 October 1998 (version of 5 February 2004).</p> <p>Article 20. State Education Inspection.</p> <p>(1) Compliance with this Law, the General Education Law, Professional Education Law, Higher Education Law and other regulatory enactments related to education shall be controlled by the State Education Inspection.</p> <p>(2) The State Education Inspection is an institution under the supervision of the Ministry of Education and Science. Its functions shall be prescribed by the by-laws approved by the Cabinet.</p> <p>(3) The State Education Inspection shall:</p> <p>1) control compliance of the educational process with this Law, other laws and regulatory enactments regulating education;</p> <p>2) <u>analyse the activities of educational institutions, and draw up proposals for amendments of regulatory enactments and for improving the work of educational institutions;</u></p> <p>3) in cases when violation of laws or other regulatory enactments has been determined, make proposals to the employer to impose disciplinary sanctions for the head of an educational institution or the educator, or terminate the employment contract entered into with him or her;</p> <p>4) impose administrative sanctions in accordance with the procedures and in the cases prescribed by law; and</p> <p>5) in cases where the health or life of the educatees is in danger, as well as for other violations of the law, temporarily suspend the orders of officials and relieve them of their duties, until the founder of the educational institution has examined the relevant matter and taken a decision,.</p> <p>(4) The head of the State Education Inspection and his or her authorised inspection official have the right to:</p> <p>1) on the presentation of a service identification document, and without prior notification, visit the premises of any educational institution and other premises, which are associated with the course of</p>



	<p>the educational process;</p> <p>2) request written or oral explanations from any legal or natural person regarding issues within the competence of the Inspection;</p> <p>3) request and receive from legal persons and natural persons information necessary for the performance of service duties, and copies of documents regarding issues within the competence of the Inspection;</p> <p>4) perform inspections, inviting if necessary law enforcement employees or other specialists, to photograph, make audio recordings and video recordings within the competence of the Inspection;</p> <p>5) draw up reports following an inspection and order changes if, during the inspection, they discover any violations of the educational regulations; and</p> <p>6) draw up reports regarding administrative violations.</p>
<p>2 With regard to education and in respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all the appropriate stages of education.</p>	<p>Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p>
<p>Article 9</p> <p>1 The Parties undertake, in respect of those judicial districts in which the number of residents using the regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below, according to the situation of each of these languages and on condition that the use of the facilities afforded by the present paragraph is not considered by the judge to hamper the proper administration of justice:</p>	
<p>a in criminal proceedings:</p>	
<p>i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or</p>	
<p>ii to guarantee the accused the right to use his/her regional or minority language; and/or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.3, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 21.2, Gesetz über die rechtsprechende Gewalt of 15 December 1992 (version of 23 November 2001): "Einem Verfahrensbeteiligten, der die Sprache des Gerichtsverfahrens nicht beherrscht, gewährleistet das Gericht <u>das Recht, sich mit Hilfe eines Dolmetschers mit den Materialien des Falles vertraut zu machen und an der Tätigkeit des Gerichts teilzunehmen sowie das Recht, vor Gericht mit der Sprache aufzutreten, die diese Person beherrscht.</u>"
<p>iii to provide that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, shall not be</p>	

<p>considered inadmissible solely because they are formulated in a regional or minority language; and/or</p>	
<p>iv to produce, on request, documents connected with legal proceedings in the relevant regional or minority language,</p>	
<p>if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations involving no extra expense for the persons concerned;</p>	
<p>b in civil proceedings:</p>	
<p>i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or</p>	
<p>ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 21.2, Gesetz über die rechtsprechende Gewalt of 15 December 1992 (version of 23 November 2001): "Einem Verfahrensbeteiligten, der die Sprache des Gerichtsverfahrens nicht beherrscht, gewährleistet das Gericht <u>das Recht, sich mit Hilfe eines Dolmetschers mit den Materialien des Falles vertraut zu machen und an der Tätigkeit des Gerichts teilzunehmen sowie das Recht, vor Gericht mit der Sprache aufzutreten, die diese Person beherrscht.</u>" Article 13.4, Zivilprozessgesetz of 14 October 1998 (version of 17 June 2004): "Mit Ausnahme von juristischen Personen gewährt das Gericht den Verfahrensbeteiligten, die die Amtssprache nicht beherrschen, <u>das Recht, sich mit Hilfe eines Dolmetschers mit den Materialien der Sache vertraut zu machen und an dem Verfahren teilzunehmen.</u>"
<p>iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,</p>	
<p>if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;</p>	
<p>c in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:</p>	
<p>i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or</p>	
<p>ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 21.2, Gesetz über die rechtsprechende Gewalt of 15 December 1992 (version of 23 November 2001): "Einem Verfahrensbeteiligten, der die Sprache des Gerichtsverfahrens nicht beherrscht, gewährleistet das Gericht <u>das Recht, sich mit Hilfe eines Dolmetschers mit den Materialien des Falles vertraut zu machen und an der Tätigkeit des Gerichts teilzunehmen sowie das Recht, vor Gericht mit der Sprache aufzutreten, die diese Person beherrscht.</u>" Article 110.4 (Sprache gerichtlicher Verfahren), Gesetz über das Verwaltungsverfahren of 25 October 2001 (version of 19 January 2004): "Mit Ausnahme der Vertreter von juristischen Personen gewährt das Gericht den Beteiligten in einem Verwaltungsverfahren, die die Amtssprache nicht beherrschen, <u>das Recht, sich mit Hilfe eines Dolmetschers mit den Materialien der Sache vertraut zu machen und an den Prozesshandlungen teilzu-</u>



	nehmen.“
iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages, if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;	
d to take steps to ensure that the application of sub-paragraphs i and iii of paragraphs b and c above and any necessary use of interpreters and translations does not involve extra expense for the persons concerned.	
2 The Parties undertake:	
a not to deny the validity of legal documents drawn up within the State solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language; or	
b not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language, and to provide that they can be invoked against interested third parties who are not users of these languages on condition that the contents of the document are made known to them by the person(s) who invoke(s) it; or	
c not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language.	
3 The Parties undertake to make available in the regional or minority languages the most important national statutory texts and those relating particularly to users of these languages, unless they are otherwise provided.	
Article 10	
1 Within the administrative districts of the State in which the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below and according to the situation of each language, the Parties undertake, as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a i to ensure that the administrative authorities use the regional or minority languages; or	
ii to ensure that such of their officers as are in contact with the public use the regional or minority languages in their relations with persons applying to them in these languages; or	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
iii to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications and receive a reply in these languages; or	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
iv to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications in these languages; or	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
v to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may validly submit a document in these languages;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
b to make available widely used administrative texts and forms for the population in the regional or minority languages or in bilingual versions;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
c to allow the administrative authorities to draft documents in a regional or minority language.	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
2 In respect of the local and regional	

authorities on whose territory the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages is such as to justify the measures specified below, the Parties undertake to allow and/or encourage:	
a the use of regional or minority languages within the framework of the regional or local authority;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
b the possibility for users of regional or minority languages to submit oral or written applications in these languages;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
c the publication by regional authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
d the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
e the use by regional authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;	
f the use by local authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;	
g the use or adoption, if necessary in conjunction with the name in the official language(s), of traditional and correct forms of place names in regional or minority languages.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 11.3, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. • Article 18.4, State Language Law of 9 December 1999: “Auf dem Territorium der Livenküste werden Ortsbezeichnungen (...) auch in livischer Sprache gebildet und benutzt.”
3 With regard to public services provided by the administrative authorities or other persons acting on their behalf, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which regional or minority languages are used, in accordance with the situation of each language and as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a to ensure that the regional or minority languages are used in the provision of the service; or	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
b to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request and receive a reply in these languages; or	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
c to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request in these languages.	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
4 With a view to putting into effect those provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 accepted by them, the Parties undertake to take one or more of the following measures:	
a translation or interpretation as may be required;	
b recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required;	
c compliance as far as possible with requests from public service employees having a knowledge of a regional or minority language to be appointed in the territory in which that language is used.	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
5 The Parties undertake to allow the use or adoption of family names in the regional or minority languages, at the request of those concerned.	• Article 11.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 19.2, State Language Law of 9 December 1999: "Im Pass oder in der Geburtsurkunde ist ergänzend zum Vornamen und Familiennamen der Person, der entsprechend den geltenden Normen der lettischen Sprache abgeleitet wurde, die <u>historische Form des Familiennamens</u> dieser Person <u>oder die Originalform des Personennamens einer anderen Sprache</u> in einer Transliteration des lateinischen Alphabets anzugeben, wenn die Person oder die Eltern einer minderjährigen Person dies wünschen und anhand von Dokumenten belegen können."⁸³
Article 11	
1 The Parties undertake, for the users of the regional or minority languages within the territories in which those languages are spoken, according to the situation of each language, to the extent that the public authorities, directly or indirectly, are competent, have power or play a role in this field, and respecting the principle of the independence and autonomy of the media:	
a to the extent that radio and television carry out a public service mission:	
i to ensure the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	
iii to make adequate provision so that broadcasters offer programmes in the regional or minority languages;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 13.1, Gesetz über die freie Entwicklung nationaler und ethnischer Gruppen Lettlands und deren Recht auf Kulturautonomie of 19 March 1991 (version of 15 June 1994): "Nationale Gesellschaften sowie deren Vereinigungen und Verbände haben das Recht, <u>die staatlichen Massenmedien in Anspruch zu nehmen</u> sowie ihre eigenen zu schaffen." Article 62.3 (Latvian Radio and Latvian Television Programmes), Law on Radio and Television of 24 August 1995 (version of 15 May 2003): "Latvian Radio and Latvian Television programmes on the second distribution network shall be primarily in the State language. <u>Of the annual broadcasting time, 20% may be allocated to broadcasts in the languages of the national minorities, including, during such broadcast time, films and theatrical performances sub-titled in the State language.</u>"
b i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station in the regional or minority languages; or	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection

⁸³ See also paragraphs 8-9 of the Government Regulation On the Spelling of First Names and Surnames of 22 August 2000; paragraph 9 of the Government Regulation On the Latvian Citizens' Passports of 24 October 1995 (version of 21 October 1997).

broadcasting of radio programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	of National Minorities.
c i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of television programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
d to encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audiovisual works in the regional or minority languages;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
e i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Articles 9.3 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 13.2, Gesetz über die freie Entwicklung nationaler und ethnischer Gruppen Lettlands und deren Recht auf Kulturautonomie of 19 March 1991 (version of 15 June 1994): "Die Staatsorgane der Republik Lettland fördern die Herausgabe und Verbreitung nationaler Periodika und Literatur."
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the publication of newspaper articles in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 13.2, Gesetz über die freie Entwicklung nationaler und ethnischer Gruppen Lettlands und deren Recht auf Kulturautonomie of 19 March 1991 (version of 15 June 1994): "Die Staatsorgane der Republik Lettland fördern die Herausgabe und Verbreitung nationaler Periodika und Literatur."
f i to cover the additional costs of those media which use regional or minority languages, wherever the law provides for financial assistance in general for the media; or	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
ii to apply existing measures for financial assistance also to audiovisual productions in the regional or minority languages;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
g to support the training of journalists and other staff for media using regional or minority languages.	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
2 The Parties undertake to guarantee freedom of direct reception of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language, and not to oppose the retransmission of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in such a language. They further undertake to ensure that no restrictions will be placed on the freedom of expression and free circulation of information in the written press in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language. The exercise of the above-mentioned freedoms, since it carries with it duties and responsibilities, may be subject to such formalities, conditions, restrictions or penalties as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputation or rights of others, for preventing disclosure of information received in	Articles 9.1, 9.2, 9.3 and 18, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.



confidence, or for maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary.	
3 The Parties undertake to ensure that the interests of the users of regional or minority languages are represented or taken into account within such bodies as may be established in accordance with the law with responsibility for guaranteeing the freedom and pluralism of the media.	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
Article 12	
1 With regard to cultural activities and facilities – especially libraries, video libraries, cultural centres, museums, archives, academies, theatres and cinemas, as well as literary work and film production, vernacular forms of cultural expression, festivals and the culture industries, including, <i>inter alia</i> , the use of new technologies – the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used and to the extent that the public authorities are competent, have power or play a role in this field:	
a to encourage types of expression and initiative specific to regional or minority languages and foster the different means of access to works produced in these languages;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 5.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 114 (Minorities), Constitution of the Republic of Latvia of 15 February 1922 (version of 23 September 2004): “Persons belonging to ethnic minorities have the right to preserve and develop their language and their ethnic and cultural identity.” Article 13.2, Gesetz über die freie Entwicklung nationaler und ethnischer Gruppen Lettlands und deren Recht auf Kulturautonomie of 19 March 1991 (version of 15 June 1994): “Die Staatsorgane der Republik Lettland fördern die Herausgabe und Verbreitung nationaler Periodika und Literatur.”
b to foster the different means of access in other languages to works produced in regional or minority languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Articles 9.1 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 17.1, State Language Law of 9 December 1999: “Öffentlich zur Vorführung gelangende Kinofilme, Videofilme oder Fragmente von diesen sind (...) entweder in der Staatssprache zu vertonen oder zu übersprechen oder aber parallel zur originalen Tonbegleitung mit Untertiteln in der Staatssprache zu versehen.” Article 19.3 (Language of Programmes), Law on Radio and Television of 24 August 1995 (version of 15 May 2003): “Films not being broadcasted in Latvian shall be dubbed into the State language, or shown in the original version with Latvian sub-titles, while films intended for children shall be dubbed or voiced over in Latvian.”
c to foster access in regional or minority languages to works produced in other languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Articles 9.1 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 17.2, State Language Law of 9 December 1999: “In den in diesem Artikel genannten Fällen sind parallel auch <u>Untertitel</u> in einer Fremdsprache zulässig. (...)“

d to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities of various kinds make appropriate allowance for incorporating the knowledge and use of regional or minority languages and cultures in the undertakings which they initiate or for which they provide backing;	Articles 5.1 and 9.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
e to promote measures to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities have at their disposal staff who have a full command of the regional or minority language concerned, as well as of the language(s) of the rest of the population;	Articles 5.1 and Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
f to encourage direct participation by representatives of the users of a given regional or minority language in providing facilities and planning cultural activities;	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
g to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of a body or bodies responsible for collecting, keeping a copy of and presenting or publishing works produced in the regional or minority languages;	
h if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.	
2 In respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage and/or provide appropriate cultural activities and facilities in accordance with the preceding paragraph.	
3 The Parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect.	
Article 13	
1 With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, within the whole country:	
a to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of regional or minority languages in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations;	Article 4.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
b to prohibit the insertion in internal regulations of companies and private documents of any clauses excluding or restricting the use of regional or minority languages, at least between users of the same language;	
c to oppose practices designed to discourage the use of regional or minority languages in connection with economic or social activities;	
d to facilitate and/or encourage the use of regional or minority languages by means other than those specified in the above sub-paragraphs.	
2 With regard to economic and social	



activities, the Parties undertake, in so far as the public authorities are competent, within the territory in which the regional or minority languages are used, and as far as this is reasonably possible;	
a to include in their financial and banking regulations provisions which allow, by means of procedures compatible with commercial practice, the use of regional or minority languages in drawing up payment orders (cheques, drafts, etc.) or other financial documents, or, where appropriate, to ensure the implementation of such provisions;	
b in the economic and social sectors directly under their control (public sector), to organise activities to promote the use of regional or minority languages;	
c to ensure that social care facilities such as hospitals, retirement homes and hostels offer the possibility of receiving and treating in their own language persons using a regional or minority language who are in need of care on grounds of ill-health, old age or for other reasons;	
d to ensure by appropriate means that safety instructions are also drawn up in regional or minority languages;	
e to arrange for information provided by the competent public authorities concerning the rights of consumers to be made available in regional or minority languages.	
Article 14	
The Parties undertake:	
a to apply existing bilateral and multilateral agreements which bind them with the States in which the same language is used in identical or similar form, or if necessary to seek to conclude such agreements, in such a way as to foster contacts between the users of the same language in the States concerned in the fields of culture, education, information, vocational training and permanent education;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Articles 17.1 and 18.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Paragraph 14, Joint Declaration on the Basic Principles of the Relations between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Republic of Latvia of 20 April 1993: "The <u>maintenance of language, culture, national traditions and the free practice of religion is allowed to citizens of German origin in Latvia and citizens of Latvian origin in Germany.</u>" Article 13, German-Latvian Treaty on Cultural Co-operation of 20 April 1993: "The Preservation of the cultural identity and human rights of these people has a considerable role to play in the development of friendly relations; promotional measures by the other party in favour of these people are allowed and facilitated."
b for the benefit of regional or minority languages, to facilitate and/or promote co-operation across borders, in particular between regional or local authorities in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form.	Article 18.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.

8. Lithuania

Provision of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages	Legal provisions, policies and practices complying with that Charter provision
Article 8 – Education	
1 With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:	
a i to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	Article 10 (Language of Instruction), Law on Education of 25 June 1991 (version of 17 June 2003): "The language of instruction in Lithuanian schools in the Republic of Lithuania shall be Lithuanian. In the numerous close ethnic minority communities, the State will either provide or support pre-schools and schools, or general education classes, in the native language. The parent or guardian may choose the pre-school or school providing general education according to its language of instruction."
ii to make available a substantial part of pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	Article 10 (Language of Instruction), Law on Education of 25 June 1991 (version of 17 June 2003): "The language of instruction in Lithuanian schools in the Republic of Lithuania shall be Lithuanian. In the numerous close ethnic minority communities, the State will either provide or support pre-schools and schools, or general education classes, in the native language. The parent or guardian may choose the pre-school or school providing general education according to its language of instruction."
iii to apply one of the measures provided for under i and ii above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 10 (Language of Instruction), Law on Education of 25 June 1991 (version of 17 June 2003): "The language of instruction in Lithuanian schools in the Republic of Lithuania shall be Lithuanian. In the numerous close ethnic minority communities, the State will either provide or support pre-schools and schools, or general education classes, in the native language. The parent or guardian may choose the pre-school or school providing general education according to its language of instruction."
iv if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of pre-school education, to favour and/or encourage the application of the measures referred to under i to iii above;	
b i to make available primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	<p>Law on Education of 25 June 1991 (version of 17 June 2003)</p> <p>Article 10 - Language of Instruction.</p> <p>The language of instruction in Lithuanian schools in the Republic of Lithuania shall be Lithuanian. In the numerous close ethnic minority communities, the State will either provide or support pre-schools and</p>



	<p><u>schools, or general education classes, in the native language.</u> The parent or guardian may choose the pre-school or school providing general education according to its language of instruction.</p> <p>Article 30 - The Right to Study in the State Language and in the Mother tongue.</p> <p>2. <u>At those general education and non-formal education schools, the by-laws of which (respecting the requests of parents and learners) provide for teaching in a language of an ethnic minority and fostering of the ethnic minority's culture, the teaching process is conducted, or certain subjects are taught, in the language of the ethnic minority.</u> The subject of the Lithuanian State language is a constituent part of the curriculum at such schools. In such schools:</p> <p>1) <u>the primary and basic curricula are implemented in the language of the ethnic minority, while selected curriculum subjects may be taught in the Lithuanian State language, upon the parents' (foster parents', guardians') request.</u></p>
ii to make available a substantial part of primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	<p>Law on Education of 25 June 1991 (version of 17 June 2003).</p> <p>Article 10 - Language of Instruction.</p> <p>The language of instruction in Lithuanian schools in the Republic of Lithuania shall be Lithuanian. In the numerous close ethnic minority communities, <u>the State will either provide or support pre-schools and schools, or general education classes, in the native language.</u> The parent or guardian may choose the pre-school or school providing general education according to its language of instruction.</p> <p>Article 30 - The Right to Study in the State Language and in the Mother tongue.</p> <p>2. <u>At those general education and non-formal education schools, the by-laws of which (respecting the requests of parents and learners) provide for teaching in a language of an ethnic minority and fostering of the ethnic minority's culture, the teaching process is conducted, or certain subjects are taught, in the language of the ethnic minority.</u> The subject of the Lithuanian State language is a constituent part of the curriculum at such schools. In such schools:</p> <p>1) <u>the primary and basic curricula are implemented in the language of the ethnic minority, while selected curriculum subjects may be taught in the Lithuanian State language, upon the parents' (foster parents', guardians') request.</u></p>
iii to provide, within primary education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or	<p>Law on Education of 25 June 1991 (version of 17 June 2003).</p> <p>Article 30 - The Right to Study in the State Language and in the Mother tongue.</p>

	<p>2. <u>At those general education and non-formal education schools, the by-laws of which (respecting the requests of parents and learners) provide for teaching in a language of an ethnic minority and fostering of the ethnic minority's culture, the teaching process is conducted, or certain subjects are taught, in the language of the ethnic minority.</u> The subject of the Lithuanian State language is a constituent part of the curriculum at such schools. In such schools:</p> <p>3) State-run and municipal pre-schools and general education schools provide opportunities for <u>learners who belong to ethnic minorities to have supplementary study of their mother tongue;</u> this is subject to the existence of a real need and the availability of a specialist of that language and if the teaching process is organised in another language.</p> <p>(3) <u>A person who belongs to an ethnic minority may study his mother tongue at a school that implements non-formal education programmes or with another education provider.</u></p> <p>4. The children of those who have the right to permanently or provisionally reside in the Republic of Lithuania are granted the possibility of studying the Lithuanian State language, of receiving education in the Lithuanian State language and (when possible) of studying their mother tongue.</p>
iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Law on Education of 25 June 1991 (version of 17 June 2003). <p>Article 10 - Language of Instruction.</p> <p>The language of instruction in Lithuanian schools in the Republic of Lithuania shall be Lithuanian. In the numerous close ethnic minority communities, <u>the State will either provide or support pre-schools and schools, or general education classes, in the native language.</u> The parent or guardian may choose the pre-school or school providing general education according to its language of instruction.</p> <p>Article 30 - The Right to Study in the State Language and in the Mother tongue.</p> <p>2. <u>At those general education and non-formal education schools, the by-laws of which (respecting the requests of parents and learners) provide for teaching in a language of an ethnic minority and fostering of the ethnic minority's culture, the teaching process is conducted, or certain subjects are taught, in the language of the ethnic minority.</u> The subject of the Lithuanian State language is a constituent part of the curriculum at such schools. In such schools:</p>



	<p>1) the primary and basic curricula are implemented in the language of the ethnic minority, while selected curriculum subjects may be taught in the Lithuanian State language, upon the parents' (foster parents', guardians') request.</p> <p>3) State-run and municipal pre-schools and general education schools provide opportunities for learners who belong to ethnic minorities to have supplementary study of their mother tongue; this is subject to the existence of a real need and the availability of a specialist of that language and if the teaching process is organised in another language.</p> <p>(3) A person who belongs to an ethnic minority may study his mother tongue at a school that implements non-formal education programmes or with another education provider.</p> <p>4. The children of those who have the right to permanently or provisionally reside in the Republic of Lithuania are granted the possibility of studying the Lithuanian State language, of receiving education in the Lithuanian State language and (when possible) of studying their mother tongue.</p>
<p>c i to make available secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or</p>	<p>Law on Education of 25 June 1991 (version of 17 June 2003).</p> <p>Article 10 - Language of Instruction.</p> <p>The language of instruction in Lithuanian schools in the Republic of Lithuania shall be Lithuanian. In the numerous close ethnic minority communities, the State will either provide or support pre-schools and schools, or general education classes, in the native language. The parent or guardian may choose the pre-school or school of general education according to its language of instruction.</p> <p>Article 30 - The Right to Study in the State Language and in the Mother tongue.</p> <p>2. At those general education and non-formal education schools, the by-laws of which (respecting the requests of parents and learners) provide for teaching in a language of an ethnic minority and fostering of the ethnic minority's culture, the teaching process is conducted, or certain subjects are taught, in the language of the ethnic minority. The subject of the Lithuanian State language is a constituent part of the curriculum at such schools. In such schools:</p> <p>2) the secondary curriculum is implemented in the language of the ethnic minority. Curriculum subjects selected by the learners may be taught in the Lithuanian State language.</p>
<p>ii to make available a substantial part of secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or</p>	<p>Law on Education of 25 June 1991 (version of 17 June 2003).</p> <p>Article 10 - Language of Instruction.</p>

	<p>The language of instruction in Lithuanian schools in the Republic of Lithuania shall be Lithuanian. In the numerous close ethnic minority communities, the State will either provide or support pre-schools and schools, or general education classes, in the native language. The parent or guardian may choose the pre-school or school providing general education according to its language of instruction.</p> <p>Article 30 - The Right to Study in the State Language and in the Mother tongue.</p> <p>2. At those general education and non-formal education schools, the by-laws of which (respecting the requests of parents and learners) provide for teaching in a language of an ethnic minority and fostering of the ethnic minority's culture, the teaching process is conducted, or certain subjects are taught, in the language of the ethnic minority. The subject of the Lithuanian State language is a constituent part of the curriculum at such schools. In such schools:</p> <p>2) the secondary curriculum is implemented in the language of the ethnic minority. Curriculum subjects selected by the learners may be taught in the Lithuanian State language.</p>
<p>iii to provide, within secondary education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or</p>	<p>Law on Education of 25 June 1991 (version of 17 June 2003).</p> <p>Article 30 - The Right to Study in the State Language and in the Mother tongue.</p> <p>2. At those general education and non-formal education schools, the by-laws of which (respecting the requests of parents and learners) provide for teaching in a language of an ethnic minority and fostering of the ethnic minority's culture, the teaching process is conducted, or certain subjects are taught, in the language of the ethnic minority. The subject of the Lithuanian State language is a constituent part of the curriculum at such schools. In such schools:</p> <p>3) State-run and municipal pre-schools and general education schools provide opportunities for learners who belong to ethnic minorities to have supplementary study of their mother tongue; this is subject to the existence of a real need and the availability of a specialist of that language and if the teaching process is organised in another language.</p> <p>(3) A person who belongs to an ethnic minority may study his mother tongue at a school that implements non-formal education programmes or with another education provider.</p> <p>4. The children of those who have the right to permanently or provisionally reside in the Republic of Lithuania are granted the possibility of studying the Lithuanian State language, of receiving education</p>



	<p>in the Lithuanian State language and (when possible) of studying their mother tongue.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Law on Education of 25 June 1991 (version of 17 June 2003). <p>Article 10 - Language of Instruction.</p> <p>The language of instruction in Lithuanian schools in the Republic of Lithuania shall be Lithuanian. In the numerous close ethnic minority communities, <u>the State will either provide or support pre-schools and schools or general education classes in the native language.</u> The parent or guardian may choose the pre-school or school providing general education according to its language of instruction.</p> <p>Article 30 - The Right to Study in the State Language and in the Mother tongue.</p> <p>2. <u>At those general education and non-formal education schools, the by-laws of which (respecting the requests of parents and learners) provide for teaching in a language of an ethnic minority and fostering of the ethnic minority's culture, the teaching process is conducted, or certain subjects are taught, in the language of the ethnic minority.</u> The subject of the Lithuanian State language is a constituent part of the curriculum at such schools. In such schools:</p> <p>2) <u>the secondary curriculum is implemented in the language of the ethnic minority.</u> Curriculum subjects selected by the learners may be taught in the Lithuanian State language.</p> <p>3) <u>State-run and municipal pre-schools and general education schools provide opportunities for learners who belong to ethnic minorities to have supplementary study of their mother tongue;</u> this is subject to the existence of a real need and the availability of a specialist of that language and if the teaching process is organised in another language.</p> <p>(3) <u>A person who belongs to an ethnic minority may study his mother tongue at a school that implements non-formal education programmes or with another education provider.</u></p> <p>4. The children of those who have the right to permanently or provisionally reside in the Republic of Lithuania are granted the possibility of studying the Lithuanian State language, of receiving education in the Lithuanian State language and (when possible) of studying their mother tongue.</p>
iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;	
d i to make available technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	<p>Law on Education of 25 June 1991 (version of 17 June 2003).</p> <p>Article 10 - Language of Instruction.</p>

	<p>The language of instruction in Lithuanian schools in the Republic of Lithuania shall be Lithuanian. In the numerous close ethnic minority communities, <u>the State will either provide or support pre-schools and schools or general education classes in the native language.</u> The parent or guardian may choose the pre-school or school providing general education according to its language of instruction.</p> <p>Article 30 - The Right to Study in the State Language and in the Mother tongue.</p> <p>2. <u>At those general education and non-formal education schools, the by-laws of which (respecting the requests of parents and learners) provide for teaching in a language of an ethnic minority and fostering of the ethnic minority's culture, the teaching process is conducted, or certain subjects are taught, in the language of the ethnic minority.</u> The subject of the Lithuanian State language is a constituent part of the curriculum at such schools. (...)</p>
ii to make available a substantial part of technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	<p>Law on Education of 25 June 1991 (version of 17 June 2003).</p> <p>Article 10 - Language of Instruction.</p> <p>The language of instruction in Lithuanian schools in the Republic of Lithuania shall be Lithuanian. In the numerous close ethnic minority communities, <u>the State will either provide or support pre-schools and schools or general education classes in the native language.</u> The parent or guardian may choose the pre-school or school providing general education according to its language of instruction.</p> <p>Article 30 - The Right to Study in the State Language and in the Mother tongue.</p> <p>2. <u>At those general education and non-formal education schools, the by-laws of which (respecting the requests of parents and learners) provide for teaching in a language of an ethnic minority and fostering of the ethnic minority's culture, the teaching process is conducted, or certain subjects are taught, in the language of the ethnic minority.</u> The subject of the Lithuanian State language is a constituent part of the curriculum at such schools. (...)</p>
iii to provide, within technical and vocational education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or	<p>Law on Education of 25 June 1991 (version of 17 June 2003).</p> <p>Article 30 - The Right to Study in the State Language and in the Mother tongue.</p> <p>2. <u>At those general education and non-formal education schools, the by-laws of which (respecting the requests of parents and learners) provide for teaching in a language of an ethnic minority and fostering of the ethnic minority's culture, the teaching process is conducted, or certain subjects are taught, in the language of the ethnic minority.</u> The subject of the Lithuanian State</p>



	<p>language is a constituent part of the curriculum at such schools. In such schools:</p> <p>3) State-run and municipal pre-schools and <u>general education schools</u> provide opportunities for <u>learners who belong to ethnic minorities to have supplementary study of their mother tongue</u>; this is subject to the existence of a real need and the availability of a specialist of that language and if the teaching process is organised in another language.</p> <p>(3) <u>A person who belongs to an ethnic minority may study his mother tongue at a school that implements non-formal education programmes or with another education provider.</u></p> <p>4. The children of those who have the right to permanently or provisionally reside in the Republic of Lithuania are granted the possibility of studying the Lithuanian State language, of receiving education in the Lithuanian State language and (when possible) of studying their mother tongue.</p>
<p>iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Law on Education of 25 June 1991 (version of 17 June 2003). <p>Article 10 - Language of Instruction.</p> <p>The language of instruction in Lithuanian schools in the Republic of Lithuania shall be Lithuanian. In the numerous close ethnic minority communities, <u>the State will either provide or support pre-schools and schools or general education classes in the native language</u>. The parent or guardian may choose the pre-school or school providing general education according to its language of instruction.</p> <p>Article 30 - The Right to Study in the State Language and in the Mother tongue.</p> <p>2. <u>At those general education and non-formal education schools, the by-laws of which (respecting the requests of parents and learners) provide for teaching in a language of an ethnic minority and fostering of the ethnic minority's culture, the teaching process is conducted, or certain subjects are taught, in the language of the ethnic minority.</u> The subject of the Lithuanian State language is a constituent part of the curriculum at such schools. In such schools:</p> <p>3) State-run and municipal pre-schools and <u>general education schools</u> provide opportunities for <u>learners who belong to ethnic minorities to have supplementary study of their mother tongue</u>; this is subject to the existence of a real need and the availability of a specialist of that language and if the teaching process is organised in another language.</p>

	<p>(3) <u>A person who belongs to an ethnic minority may study his mother tongue at a school that implements non-formal education programmes or with another education provider.</u></p> <p>4. The children of those who have the right to permanently or provisionally reside in the Republic of Lithuania are granted the possibility of studying the Lithuanian State language, of receiving education in the Lithuanian State language and (when possible) of studying their mother tongue.</p>
<p>e i to make available university and other higher education in regional or minority languages; or</p>	<p>Law on Higher Education of 21 March 2000.</p> <p>Article 10 – Language of Instruction.</p> <p>The Language of Instruction at higher education institutions in the Republic of Lithuania shall be Lithuanian. <u>Other languages shall be allowed</u> as the language of instruction if:</p> <p>1) a study programme is related to another language;</p> <p>2) lectures are delivered and other academic studies are run by foreign higher education institution teachers and specialists of other foreign organisations;</p> <p>3) this is required by an international study exchange programme.</p>
<p>ii to provide facilities for the study of these languages as university and higher education subjects; or</p>	<p>Law on Higher Education of 21 March 2000.</p> <p>Article 10 – Language of Instruction.</p> <p>The Language of Instruction at higher education institutions in the Republic of Lithuania shall be Lithuanian. <u>Other languages shall be allowed</u> as the language of instruction if:</p> <p>1) a study programme is related to another language;</p> <p>2) lectures are delivered and other academic studies are run by foreign higher education institution teachers and specialists of other foreign organisations;</p> <p>3) this is required by an international study exchange programme.</p>
<p>iii if, by reason of the role of the State in relation to higher education institutions, subparagraphs i and ii cannot be applied, to encourage and/or allow the provision of university or other forms of higher education in regional or minority languages or of facilities for the study of these languages as university or higher education subjects;</p>	
<p>f i to arrange for the provision of adult and continuing education courses which are taught mainly or wholly in the regional or minority languages; or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 30 (The Right to Study in the State Language and in the Mother tongue), Law on Education of 25 June 1991 (version of 17 June



	2003): “(3) A person who belongs to an ethnic minority may study his mother tongue at a school that implements non-formal education programmes or with another education provider.”
ii to offer such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 30 (The Right to Study in the State Language and in the Mother tongue), Law on Education of 25 June 1991 (version of 17 June 2003): “(3) A person who belongs to an ethnic minority may study his mother tongue at a school that implements non-formal education programmes or with another education provider.”
iii if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of adult education, to favour and/or encourage the offering of such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education;	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
g to make arrangements to ensure the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the regional or minority language;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 12.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Law on the Principles of State Protection of Ethnic Culture of 21 September 1999 (version of 9 January 2006). <p>Article 4 - Tasks of State Protection of Ethnic Culture.</p> <p>8) to develop the uniqueness of ethnic language, ensure the survival of dialects and ethnic place names;</p> <p>Article 9 - Development of Ethnic Culture.</p> <p>1. The Ministry of Education and Science and institutions assigned to its area of administration, seeking to ensure the transfer of ethnic culture and nurturing thereof within the formal and informal education system shall:</p> <p>1) <u>integrate ethnic culture into all types and levels of educational institution training programmes;</u></p> <p>2) <u>create the conditions for the introduction of an ethnic culture course in general education schools;</u></p> <p>3) promote versatile ethnic culture activities within the area of supplementary education;</p> <p>4) develop the uniqueness of ethnic language in educational institutions, ensure the knowledge of ethnographic region uniqueness and local traditions;</p> <p>6) ensure the training of ethnic culture teachers and specialists and provide for the raising of the level of their qualifications to work as such;</p>

	7) support the publication of ethnic culture instruction manuals;
	8) integrate ethnic culture with training programmes into universities, colleges and vocational schools for specialists of various areas linked with ethnic culture development (cultural workers, teachers, architects, dress designers, textile workers, craftsmen, food industry workers, agricultural specialists, environmentalists, sportsmen etc.).
h to provide the basic and further training of the teachers required to implement those of paragraphs a to g accepted by the Party;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 12.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Law on National Minorities of 23 November 1989 (version of 29 January 1991). <p>Article 2.</p> <p>(2) Unter Berücksichtigung der Interessen der nationalen Minderheiten gewährleistet die Republik Litauen gemäß den gesetzlich festgelegten Grundlagen und Verfahren:</p> <p>das Recht auf Unterstützung des Staates zur Pflege der nationalen Kultur und Bildung;</p> <p>das Recht, mittels der Muttersprache unterrichtet zu werden, indem die Voraussetzungen dafür geschaffen werden, dass es Vorschuleinrichtungen, Unterrichtsstunden und allgemeinbildende Schulen sowie Gruppen, Fakultäten und Zweigstellen in den Hochschulen gibt, welche <u>Erzieher, Lehrer und andere Spezialisten ausbilden</u>, um die Bedürfnisse nationaler Minderheiten zu befriedigen;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law on the Principles of State Protection of Ethnic Culture of 21 September 1999 (version of 9 January 2006). <p>Article 9 - Development of Ethnic Culture.</p> <p>1. The Ministry of Education and Science and institutions assigned to its area of administration, seeking to ensure the transfer of ethnic culture and nurturing thereof within the formal and informal education system shall:</p> <p>6) ensure the training of ethnic culture teachers and specialists and provide for the raising of the level of their qualifications to work as such;</p>
i to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.	
2 With regard to education and in respect of territories other than those in which the regional or	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.



minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all the appropriate stages of education.	
Article 9	
1 The Parties undertake, in respect of those judicial districts in which the number of residents using the regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below, according to the situation of each of these languages and on condition that the use of the facilities afforded by the present paragraph is not considered by the judge to hamper the proper administration of justice:	
a in criminal proceedings:	
i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or	
ii to guarantee the accused the right to use his/her regional or minority language; and/or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 10.3, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. • Article 117.3, Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania of 25 October 1992 (version of 13 July 2004): "Personen, die die litauische Sprache nicht beherrschen, wird das Recht gewährleistet, an Ermittlungs- und gerichtlichen Handlungen durch einen Dolmetscher teilzunehmen." • Law on the State Language of 31 January 1995. <p>Article 8.</p> <p>1) Legal proceedings in the Republic of Lithuania shall be conducted in the State language.</p> <p>2) Participants in the legal proceedings who do not speak the State language shall be provided with the services of an <u>interpreter free of charge</u>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law on Courts of 31 May 1994 (version of 17 April 2003). <p>Article 8 - Language of Court Proceedings.</p> <p>1) Court proceedings in the Republic of Lithuania shall be held in the State language.</p> <p>2) The <u>right</u> of persons who do not speak the State language to <u>participate in the proceedings</u> shall be guaranteed through an <u>interpreter</u>.</p>
iii to provide that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, shall not be considered inadmissible solely because they are formulated in a regional or minority language; and/or	
iv to produce, on request, documents connected with legal proceedings in the relevant	

regional or minority language,	
if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations involving no extra expense for the persons concerned;	
b in civil proceedings:	
i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or	
ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 117.3, Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania of 25 October 1992 (version of 13 July 2004): "Personen, die die litauische Sprache nicht beherrschen, wird das Recht gewährleistet, an Ermittlungs- und gerichtlichen Handlungen durch einen Dolmetscher teilzunehmen." • Law on the State Language of 31 January 1995. <p>Article 8.</p> <p>1) Legal proceedings in the Republic of Lithuania shall be conducted in the State language.</p> <p>2) Participants in the legal proceedings who do not speak the State language shall be provided with the services of an <u>interpreter free of charge</u>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law on Courts of 31 May 1994 (version of 17 April 2003). <p>Article 8 - Language of Court Proceedings.</p> <p>1) Court proceedings in the Republic of Lithuania shall be held in the State language.</p> <p>2) The <u>right</u> of persons who do not speak the State language to <u>participate in the proceedings</u> shall be guaranteed through an <u>interpreter</u>.</p>
iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,	
if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;	
c in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:	
i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or	
ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 117.3, Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania of 25 October 1992 (version of 13 July 2004): "Personen, die die litauische Sprache nicht beherrschen, wird das Recht gewährleistet, an Ermittlungs- und gerichtlichen Handlungen durch einen Dolmetscher teilzunehmen." • Law on the State Language of 31 January 1995.



	<p>Article 8.</p> <p>1) Legal proceedings in the Republic of Lithuania shall be conducted in the State language.</p> <p>2) Participants in the legal proceedings who do not speak the State language shall be provided with the services of an <u>interpreter free of charge</u>.</p> <p>• Law on Courts of 31 May 1994 (version of 17 April 2003).</p> <p>Article 8 - Language of Court Proceedings.</p> <p>1) Court proceedings in the Republic of Lithuania shall be held in the State language.</p> <p>2) The <u>right</u> of persons who do not speak the State language to <u>participate in the proceedings</u> shall be guaranteed through an <u>interpreter</u>.</p>
iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages, if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;	
d to take steps to ensure that the application of sub-paragraphs i and iii of paragraphs b and c above and any necessary use of interpreters and translations does not involve extra expense for the persons concerned.	
2 The Parties undertake:	
a not to deny the validity of legal documents drawn up within the State solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language; or	
b not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language, and to provide that they can be invoked against interested third parties who are not users of these languages on condition that the contents of the document are made known to them by the person(s) who invoke(s) it; or	
c not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language.	
3 The Parties undertake to make available in the regional or minority languages the most important national statutory texts and those relating particularly to users of these languages, unless they are otherwise provided.	
Article 10	
1 Within the administrative districts of the State in which the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below and according to the situation of each language, the Parties undertake, as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a i to ensure that the administrative authorities use the regional or minority languages; or	<p>Article 4, Law on National Minorities of 23 November 1989 (version of 29 January 1991): "<u>In offices and organisations located in areas serving substantial numbers of a minority with a different</u></p>

	language, the language spoken by that minority shall be used in addition to Lithuanian."
ii to ensure that such of their officers as are in contact with the public use the regional or minority languages in their relations with persons applying to them in these languages; or	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
iii to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications and receive a reply in these languages; or	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
iv to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications in these languages; or	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
v to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may validly submit a document in these languages;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
b to make available widely used administrative texts and forms for the population in the regional or minority languages or in bilingual versions;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
c to allow the administrative authorities to draft documents in a regional or minority language.	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
2 In respect of the local and regional authorities on whose territory the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages is such as to justify the measures specified below, the Parties undertake to allow and/or encourage:	
a the use of regional or minority languages within the framework of the regional or local authority;	<p>• Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p> <p>• Article 4, Law on National Minorities of 23 November 1989 (version of 29 January 1991): "<u>In offices and organisations located in areas serving substantial numbers of a minority with a different language, the language spoken by that minority shall be used in addition to Lithuanian.</u>"</p>
b the possibility for users of regional or minority languages to submit oral or written applications in these languages;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
c the publication by regional authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
d the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
e the use by regional authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;	
f the use by local authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;	
g the use or adoption, if necessary in conjunction with the name in the official language(s), of traditional and correct forms of place names in regional or minority languages.	Article 11.3, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
3 With regard to public services provided by the administrative authorities or other persons acting on their behalf, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which regional or minority languages are used, in accordance with the situation of each	



language and as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a to ensure that the regional or minority languages are used in the provision of the service; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 4, Law on National Minorities of 23 November 1989 (version of 29 January 1991): “In <u>offices and organisations</u> located in areas serving substantial numbers of a minority with a different language, <u>the language spoken by that minority shall be used</u> in addition to Lithuanian.” Resolution No. 49 of 25 May 1995 of the Official Language Commission under the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania Concerning Provisional Regulations for Public Audible Information and Public Notices provides that languages traditionally used in international communication (English, German, French) may be used in addition to the official language, provided that the visual or audible information is related to the servicing of foreigners (in hotels, <u>post offices, banks, public catering establishments, etc.</u>), <u>international transport, tourism or international events.</u>⁸⁴
b to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request and receive a reply in these languages; or	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
c to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request in these languages.	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
4 With a view to putting into effect those provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 accepted by them, the Parties undertake to take one or more of the following measures:	
a translation or interpretation as may be required;	
b recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required;	
c compliance as far as possible with requests from public service employees having a knowledge of a regional or minority language to be appointed in the territory in which that language is used.	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
5 The Parties undertake to allow the use or adoption of family names in the regional or minority languages, at the request of those concerned.	Article 11.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
Article 11	
1 The Parties undertake, for the users of the regional or minority languages within the territories in which those languages are spoken, according to the situation of each language, to the extent that the public authorities, directly or indirectly, are competent, have power or play a role in this field, and respecting the principle of the independence and autonomy of the media:	
a to the extent that radio and television carry out a public service mission:	
i to ensure the creation of at least	

⁸⁴ See Report submitted by Lithuania pursuant to Article 25, paragraph 1 of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (ACFC/SR(2001)007), p. 62

one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	
iii to make adequate provision so that broadcasters offer programmes in the regional or minority languages;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Law on National Minorities of 23 November 1989 (version of 29 January 1991). <p>Article 2.</p> <p>(2) Unter Berücksichtigung der Interessen der nationalen Minderheiten gewährleistet die Republik Litauen gemäß den gesetzlich festgelegten Grundlagen und Verfahren:</p> <p>das Recht auf Presse und Information mittels der Muttersprache</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 5 (Language of Mass Media), Law on the Press and other Mass Media of 20 December 1990: “In the territory of the Republic of Lithuania, <u>mass media shall prepare and disseminate information</u> in Lithuanian and, as necessary, in <u>other languages</u> as well. Mass media must comply with the legislative acts regulating the use of the State language of the Republic of Lithuania. <u>Ethnic minorities shall be guaranteed the right to acquire, prepare, and disseminate information in their native language</u> according to the procedure established by law.” Law on the State Language of 31 January 1995. <p>Article 13.</p> <p>1) Audiovisual programmes, motion pictures publicly shown in Lithuania must be translated into the State language or shown with subtitles in Lithuanian.</p> <p>2) Paragraph 1 of this Article shall not be applied to teaching or special programmes and events, as well as events and <u>programmes</u> held for a certain occasion or <u>intended for ethnic communities</u>, and also to radio and television programmes or texts of musical works from foreign States which are broadcast in Lithuania.</p>
b i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station in the regional or minority languages; or	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of radio programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 34.2 (Language in which public information is produced and distributed), Law on the Provision of Information to the Public of 2 July



	<p>1996 (version of 27 April 2004): “ (...) Der Rundfunk- und Fernsehrat Litauens, der die Bedürfnisse der innerhalb der Reichweite der ausgestrahlten Programme lebenden Minderheiten berücksichtigt, kann in den Lizenzbedingungen festlegen, welcher Anteil der ausgestrahlten oder re-ausgestrahlten Programme oder Teilen derselben Programme oder Sendungen der nationalen Minderheiten umfassen muss.“</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 5 (Language of Mass Media), Law on the Press and other Mass Media of 20 December 1990: “In the territory of the Republic of Lithuania, mass media shall prepare and disseminate information in Lithuanian and, as necessary, in other languages as well. Mass media must comply with the legislative acts regulating the use of the State language of the Republic of Lithuania. Ethnic minorities shall be guaranteed the right to acquire, prepare, and disseminate information in their native language according to the procedure established by law.” • Law on National Minorities of 23 November 1989 (version of 29 January 1991). <p>Article 2.</p> <p>(2) Unter Berücksichtigung der Interessen der nationalen Minderheiten gewährleistet die Republik Litauen gemäß den gesetzlich festgelegten Grundlagen und Verfahren:</p> <p>das Recht auf Presse und Information mittels der Muttersprache</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law on the State Language of 31 January 1995. <p>Article 13.</p> <p>1) <u>Audiovisual programmes</u>, motion pictures publicly shown in Lithuania must be translated into the State language or shown with subtitles in Lithuanian.</p> <p>2) Paragraph 1 of this Article shall not be applied to teaching or special programmes and events, as well as events and <u>programmes</u> held for a certain occasion or <u>intended for ethnic communities</u>, and also to radio and television programmes or texts of musical works from foreign States which are broadcast in Lithuania.</p>
c i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of television programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. • Article 34.2 (Language in which public information is produced and distributed), Law on the

	<p>Provision of Information to the Public of 2 July 1996 (version of 27 April 2004): “ (...) Der Rundfunk- und Fernsehrat Litauens, der die Bedürfnisse der innerhalb der Reichweite der ausgestrahlten Programme lebenden Minderheiten berücksichtigt, kann in den Lizenzbedingungen festlegen, welcher Anteil der ausgestrahlten oder re-ausgestrahlten Programme oder Teilen derselben Programme oder Sendungen der nationalen Minderheiten umfassen muss.“</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 5 (Language of Mass Media), Law on the Press and other Mass Media of 20 December 1990: “In the territory of the Republic of Lithuania, mass media shall prepare and disseminate information in Lithuanian and, as necessary, in other languages as well. Mass media must comply with the legislative acts regulating the use of the State language of the Republic of Lithuania. Ethnic minorities shall be guaranteed the right to acquire, prepare, and disseminate information in their native language according to the procedure established by law.” • Law on National Minorities of 23 November 1989 (version of 29 January 1991). <p>Article 2.</p> <p>(2) Unter Berücksichtigung der Interessen der nationalen Minderheiten gewährleistet die Republik Litauen gemäß den gesetzlich festgelegten Grundlagen und Verfahren:</p> <p>das Recht auf Presse und Information mittels der Muttersprache</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law on the State Language of 31 January 1995. <p>Article 13.</p> <p>1) <u>Audiovisual programmes</u>, motion pictures publicly shown in Lithuania must be translated into the State language or shown with subtitles in Lithuanian.</p> <p>2) Paragraph 1 of this Article shall not be applied to teaching or special programmes and events, as well as events and <u>programmes</u> held for a certain occasion or <u>intended for ethnic communities</u>, and also to radio and television programmes or texts of musical works from foreign States which are broadcast in Lithuania.</p>
d to encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audiovisual works in the regional or minority languages;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. • Law on the State Language of 31 January 1995.



	<p>Article 13.</p> <p>1) <u>Audiovisual programmes</u>, motion pictures publicly shown in Lithuania must be translated into the State language or shown with subtitles in Lithuanian.</p> <p>2) Paragraph 1 of this Article shall not be applied to teaching and special programmes and events, as well as events and programmes held for a certain occasion or <u>intended for ethnic communities</u>, and also to radio and television programmes or texts of musical works of foreign States which are broadcast in Lithuania.</p> <p>• Article 5 (Language of Mass Media), Law on the Press and other Mass Media of 20 December 1990: "In the territory of the Republic of Lithuania, <u>mass media shall prepare and disseminate information</u> in Lithuanian and, as necessary, <u>in other languages</u> as well. Mass media must comply with the legislative acts regulating the use of the State language of the Republic of Lithuania. <u>Ethnic minorities shall be guaranteed the right to acquire, prepare, and disseminate information in their native language</u> according to the procedure established by law."</p>
e i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages; or	<p>• Articles 9.3 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p> <p>• Law on National Minorities of 23 November 1989 (version of 29 January 1991).</p> <p>Article 2.</p> <p>(2) Unter Berücksichtigung der Interessen der nationalen Minderheiten gewährleistet die Republik Litauen gemäß den gesetzlich festgelegten Grundlagen und Verfahren:</p> <p>das <u>Recht auf Presse</u> und Information mittels der Muttersprache</p> <p>• Article 5 (Language of Mass Media), Law on the Press and other Mass Media of 20 December 1990: "In the territory of the Republic of Lithuania, <u>mass media shall prepare and disseminate information</u> in Lithuanian and, as necessary, <u>in other languages</u> as well. Mass media must comply with the legislative acts regulating the use of the State language of the Republic of Lithuania. <u>Ethnic minorities shall be guaranteed the right to acquire, prepare, and disseminate information in their native language</u> according to the procedure established by law."</p>
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the publication of newspaper articles in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	<p>• Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p> <p>• Law on National Minorities of 23 November 1989 (version of 29 January 1991).</p> <p>Article 2.</p>

	<p>(2) Unter Berücksichtigung der Interessen der nationalen Minderheiten gewährleistet die Republik Litauen gemäß den gesetzlich festgelegten Grundlagen und Verfahren:</p> <p>das <u>Recht auf Presse</u> und Information mittels der Muttersprache</p> <p>• Article 5 (Language of Mass Media), Law on the Press and other Mass Media of 20 December 1990: "In the territory of the Republic of Lithuania, <u>mass media shall prepare and disseminate information</u> in Lithuanian and, as necessary, <u>in other languages</u> as well. Mass media must comply with the legislative acts regulating the use of the State language of the Republic of Lithuania. <u>Ethnic minorities shall be guaranteed the right to acquire, prepare, and disseminate information in their native language</u> according to the procedure established by law."</p>
f i to cover the additional costs of those media which use regional or minority languages, wherever the law provides for financial assistance in general for the media; or	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
ii to apply existing measures for financial assistance also to audiovisual productions in the regional or minority languages;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
g to support the training of journalists and other staff for media using regional or minority languages.	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
2 The Parties undertake to guarantee freedom of direct reception of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language, and not to oppose the retransmission of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in such a language. They further undertake to ensure that no restrictions will be placed on the freedom of expression and free circulation of information in the written press in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language. The exercise of the above-mentioned freedoms, since it carries with it duties and responsibilities, may be subject to such formalities, conditions, restrictions or penalties as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputation or rights of others, for preventing disclosure of information received in confidence, or for maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary.	<p>• Articles 9.1, 9.2, 9.3 and 18, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p> <p>• Law on the State Language of 31 January 1995.</p> <p>Article 13.</p> <p>1) <u>Audiovisual programmes</u>, motion pictures publicly shown in Lithuania must be translated into the State language or shown with subtitles in Lithuanian.</p> <p>2) Paragraph 1 of this Article shall not be applied to teaching or special programmes and events, as well as events and programmes held for a certain occasion or <u>intended for ethnic communities</u>, and also to <u>radio and television programmes or texts of musical works from foreign States which are broadcast in Lithuania</u>.</p>
3 The Parties undertake to ensure that the interests of the users of regional or minority languages are represented or taken into account within such bodies as may be established in accordance with the law with responsibility for guaranteeing the freedom and pluralism of the media.	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.



<p>Article 12</p> <p>1 With regard to cultural activities and facilities – especially libraries, video libraries, cultural centres, museums, archives, academies, theatres and cinemas, as well as literary work and film production, vernacular forms of cultural expression, festivals and the culture industries, including, <i>inter alia</i>, the use of new technologies – the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used and to the extent that the public authorities are competent, have power or play a role in this field:</p>	
<p>a to encourage types of expression and initiative specific to regional or minority languages and foster the different means of access to works produced in these languages;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 5.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania of 25 October 1992 (version of 13 July 2004). <p>Article 45.</p> <p>1) Ethnic communities of citizens shall independently manage the affairs of their <u>ethnic culture</u>, education, charity, and mutual assistance.</p> <p>2) <u>Ethnic communities shall be provided support by the State.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law on National Minorities of 23 November 1989 (version of 29 January 1991). <p>Article 2.</p> <p>(2) Unter Berücksichtigung der Interessen der nationalen Minderheiten gewährleistet die Republik Litauen gemäß den gesetzlich festgelegten Grundlagen und Verfahren:</p> <p><u>das Recht auf Unterstützung des Staates zur Pflege der nationalen Kultur und Bildung;</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law on the Principles of State Protection of Ethnic Culture of 21 September 1999 (version of 9 January 2006). <p>Article 4 - Tasks of State Protection of Ethnic Culture.</p> <p>8) to develop the uniqueness of ethnic language, ensure the survival of dialects and ethnic place names;</p> <p>Article 10 - Sources of Funding State Protection of Ethnic Culture.</p> <p>2) The Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Education and Science shall support the institutions of <u>ethnic culture</u> attributed to their area of administration and shall <u>fund ethnic culture programmes.</u></p> <p>3) <u>County governors and municipalities shall support ethnic culture institutions; fund the</u></p>

	<p>programmes dedicated to its regional collections; conservation and restoration; research of ethnic culture characteristics; and their popularisation.</p>
<p>b to foster the different means of access in other languages to works produced in regional or minority languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Articles 9.1 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 34.2 (Language in which public information is produced and distributed), Law on the Provision of Information to the Public of 2 July 1996 (version of 27 April 2004): “<u>Radio und Fernsehsendungen, die in einer anderen Sprache als Litauisch ausgestrahlt werden, müssen ins Litauische übersetzt oder mit litauischen Untertiteln versehen werden, ausgenommen Bildungsprogramme, Programme für spezielle Gelegenheiten, Spezial- und re-ausgestrahlte ausländische Radio- und Fernsehprogramme oder –sendungen sowie vom Sender produzierte Sendungen, die speziell für ethnische Minderheiten in Litauen geplant sind. (...)</u>“
<p>c to foster access in regional or minority languages to works produced in other languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;</p>	<p>Articles 9.1 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p>
<p>d to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities of various kinds make appropriate allowance for incorporating the knowledge and use of regional or minority languages and cultures in the undertakings which they initiate or for which they provide backing;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Articles 5.1 and 9.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Law on National Minorities of 23 November 1989 (version of 29 January 1991). <p>Article 3.</p> <p>Abhängig von den Bedürfnissen und Möglichkeiten bilden die Hoch- und die speziellen Mittelschulen Litauens gemäß Verträgen mit staatlichen und gesellschaftlichen Organisationen <u>Spezialisten aus</u>, um die nationalen kulturellen Belange zu befriedigen. Nötigenfalls können Staatsbürger der Republik zu Ausbildungszwecken in andere Staaten entsandt werden.</p>
<p>e to promote measures to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities have at their disposal staff who have a full command of the regional or minority language concerned, as well as of the language(s) of the rest of the population;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Articles 5.1 and Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Law on National Minorities of 23 November 1989 (version of 29 January 1991). <p>Article 3.</p> <p>Abhängig von den Bedürfnissen und Möglichkeiten bilden die Hoch- und die speziellen Mittelschulen Litauens gemäß Verträgen mit staatlichen und gesellschaftlichen Organisationen <u>Spezialisten aus</u>, um die nationalen kulturellen Belange zu befriedigen. Nötigenfalls können Staatsbürger der Republik zu Ausbildungszwecken in andere Staaten entsandt werden.</p>
<p>f to encourage direct participation by representatives of the users of a given regional or minority language in providing facilities and planning cultural activities;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Law on National Minorities of 23 November 1989 (version of 29 January 1991). <p>Article 7.</p>



	<p>Gesellschaftliche und Kulturorganisationen nationaler Minderheiten können mit eigenen Mitteln Kultur- und Bildungseinrichtungen gründen. <u>Der Staat unterstützt Organisationen und Einrichtungen, die dazu bestimmt sind, Kultur- und Bildungsbedürfnisse der Staatsbürger zu befriedigen.</u></p>
g to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of a body or bodies responsible for collecting, keeping a copy of and presenting or publishing works produced in the regional or minority languages;	<p>• Law on National Minorities of 23 November 1989 (version of 29 January 1991).</p> <p>Article 7.</p> <p>Gesellschaftliche und Kulturorganisationen nationaler Minderheiten können mit eigenen Mitteln Kultur- und Bildungseinrichtungen gründen. <u>Der Staat unterstützt Organisationen und Einrichtungen, die dazu bestimmt sind, Kultur- und Bildungsbedürfnisse der Staatsbürger zu befriedigen.</u></p> <p>• Law on the Principles of State Protection of Ethnic Culture of 21 September 1999 (version of 9 January 2006).</p> <p>Article 4 - Tasks of State Protection of Ethnic Culture.</p> <p>8) to develop the uniqueness of ethnic language, ensure the survival of dialects and ethnic place names;</p> <p>Article 10 - Sources of Funding State Protection of Ethnic Culture.</p> <p>2) The Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Education and Science shall support the institutions of ethnic culture attributed to their area of administration and shall fund ethnic culture programmes.</p> <p>3) County governors and municipalities shall support ethnic culture institutions; fund the programmes dedicated to its regional collections; conservation and restoration; research of ethnic culture characteristics; and their popularisation.</p>
h if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.	
2 In respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage and/or provide appropriate cultural activities and facilities in accordance with the preceding paragraph.	
3 The Parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect.	

Article 13	
1 With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, within the whole country:	
a to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of regional or minority languages in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations;	Article 4.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
b to prohibit the insertion in internal regulations of companies and private documents of any clauses excluding or restricting the use of regional or minority languages, at least between users of the same language;	
c to oppose practices designed to discourage the use of regional or minority languages in connection with economic or social activities;	
d to facilitate and/or encourage the use of regional or minority languages by means other than those specified in the above sub-paragraphs.	Resolution No. 49 of 25 May 1995 of the Official Language Commission under the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania Concerning Provisional Regulations for Public Audible Information and Public Notices provides that languages traditionally used in international communication (English, German, French) may be used in addition to the official language, provided that the visual or audible information is related to the servicing of foreigners (in hotels, post offices, banks, public catering establishments, etc.), international transport, tourism or international events. ⁸⁵
2 With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, in so far as the public authorities are competent, within the territory in which the regional or minority languages are used, and as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a to include in their financial and banking regulations provisions which allow, by means of procedures compatible with commercial practice, the use of regional or minority languages in drawing up payment orders (cheques, drafts, etc.) or other financial documents, or, where appropriate, to ensure the implementation of such provisions;	Resolution No. 49 of 25 May 1995 of the Official Language Commission under the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania Concerning Provisional Regulations for Public Audible Information and Public Notices provides that languages traditionally used in international communication (English, German, French) may be used in addition to the official language, provided that the visual or audible information is related to the servicing of foreigners (in hotels, post offices, banks, public catering establishments, etc.), international transport, tourism or international events. ⁸⁶
b in the economic and social sectors directly under their control (public sector), to organise activities to promote the use of regional or minority languages;	
c to ensure that social care facilities such as hospitals, retirement homes and hostels offer the possibility of receiving and treating in their own language persons using a regional or minority language who are in need of care on grounds of ill-	

⁸⁵ See *Ibidem*.

⁸⁶ See *Ibidem*.



health, old age or for other reasons;	
d to ensure by appropriate means that safety instructions are also drawn up in regional or minority languages;	
e to arrange for information provided by the competent public authorities concerning the rights of consumers to be made available in regional or minority languages.	
Article 14	
The Parties undertake:	
a to apply existing bilateral and multilateral agreements which bind them with the States in which the same language is used in identical or similar form, or if necessary to seek to conclude such agreements, in such a way as to foster contacts between the users of the same language in the States concerned in the fields of culture, education, information, vocational training and permanent education;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Articles 17.1 and 18.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Treaty on Friendly Relations and Good Neighbourly Co-operation of the Republic of Lithuania and Republic of Poland of 16 April 1994. <p>Article 13.</p> <p>1. The Contracting Parties commit themselves to the maintenance of international principles and standards for protecting the rights of national minorities, outlined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in International Agreements on Human Rights, in the appropriate documents of the Conference of Security and Co-operation in Europe, as well as in the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and its additional Protocols, which both Parties have accepted.</p> <p>2. Persons belonging to the Lithuanian national minority in the Republic of Poland, that is, persons having Polish citizenship, who are of Lithuanian descent or consider themselves as belonging to the Lithuanian nation, culture, and traditions and regard Lithuanian as their mother tongue, as well as persons having Lithuanian citizenship, who are of Polish descent or consider themselves as belonging to the Polish nation, culture, and traditions and regard Polish as their mother tongue, have the right, individually or together with other members of their group, to freely express, preserve, and promote their national, cultural, linguistic, and religious identity without any discrimination and with complete equality before the law.</p> <p>3. The Parties confirm that membership in a national minority is a matter of individual choice which cannot result in any negative consequences. No one can be forced to prove his nationality or to renounce it.</p> <p>Article 14.</p> <p>The Contracting Parties declare that the people named in Article 13 paragraph 2 also have the right:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to use freely their national minority language in

	<p>personal and public life;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - that information be available to them in that language, and that they be given the opportunity to spread and exchange it and have their own means of mass information; - to be taught in their national minority language and to study the national minority language; - in accordance with State statutes and other legal acts, to establish and support their own institutions, organisations, and societies, especially cultural, religious and educational, as well as schools at all levels which can seek independent financing and other subsidies in the country and abroad, as well as public assistance, and to participate in non-State international organisations; - to recognise and practice their religion, as well as to obtain, have, and use religious materials and carry out religious educational work in the national minority language; - to make and maintain unhindered contacts among themselves within the borders of its country, as well as contacts across borders with citizens of other States with whom they are united by a common national origin; - to use their names and surnames according to the sound of the national minority language. Specific norms on writing surnames will be established in a separate treaty; - to participate in public life directly or through freely elected representatives at the State or local government level, as well as to serve with equal rights in public service. <p>Article 15.</p> <p>1. The Contracting Parties in their own territory will protect the national, cultural, linguistic, and religious identity of the persons named in Article 13 paragraph 2 and will create conditions to expand it.</p> <p>2. The Parties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - will determine the use of the national minority language in its institutions, especially in those administrative-territorial units in which the national minority forms a large share of the population, - will guarantee that all means of public mass information are available to the national minorities, - will guarantee the necessary conditions to be taught in the national minority language and to study the national minority language in pre-school, primary, and secondary schools, - will undertake all necessary measures related to the protection of the national minority identity after appropriate consultation, including contact with the organisations and societies of groups named in Article 13 paragraph 2, - will take account of the history and culture of the groups named in Article 13 paragraph 2 when teaching history and culture in education institutions, - will not take any actions that can promote the
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	<p>assimilation of persons belonging to national minorities, against their will, and also, in accordance with international standards, will not take any actions that would cause changes in the nationality composition in the territories in which the national minorities live.</p> <p>Article 20</p> <p>1. The Contracting Parties reaffirm that they are prepared to create the opportunity that the language and culture of the other Party would be available to all interested people and will support appropriate State and private initiatives and institutions.</p> <p>2. The Parties will support efforts to make the literature of the other Party, in both the original language and in translations, more popular.</p> <p>3. The Parties support the expansion of opportunities to learn the language of the other Party in schools, secondary schools and other educational institutes. In addition, they will try to expand Lithuanian related and Polish related studies in the universities of the other Party.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paragraph 14, Joint Declaration on the Basic Principles of the Relations between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Republic of Lithuania of 21 July 1993: "The maintenance of language, culture, national traditions and free practice of religion is allowed to citizens of German origin in Lithuania and citizens of Lithuanian origin in Germany." • Article 13, German-Lithuanian Treaty on Cultural Co-operation of 21 July 1993: "The preservation of the cultural identity and human rights of these people has a considerable role to play in the development of friendly relations; promotional measures by the other party in favour of these people is allowed and facilitated."
<p>b for the benefit of regional or minority languages, to facilitate and/or promote co-operation across borders, in particular between regional or local authorities in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form.</p>	<p>Article 18.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p>

9. Moldova

Provision of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages	Legal provisions, policies and practices complying with that Charter provision
<p>Article 8 – Education</p>	
<p>1 With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:</p>	
<p>a i to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 35 of the Constitution of the Republic of Moldova of 29 July 1994 (Right to education): "[...] 2. The State shall ensure, according to the law, the right to choose the language of education and instruction of people⁸⁷. 3. The study of the State language shall be ensured in educational institutions at all levels. [...]" / (<i>Dreptul la învățătură</i>): „(...) (2) Statul asigură, în condițiile legii, dreptul de a alege limba de educare și instruire a persoanelor. (3) Studierea limbii de stat se asigură în instituțiile de învățământ de toate gradele. (...)” • Article 6.1 of the Law on the Rights of Persons belonging to National Minorities and the Legal Status of their Organisations No. 382 of 12 July 2001: "The State shall guarantee the fulfilment of the rights of persons belonging to national minorities to pre-school education, primary education, secondary education (general and vocational), higher and postgraduate education in Moldovan and Russian, shall create the conditions for fulfilling their right to education and instruction in the mother tongue (Ukrainian, Gagauz, Bulgarian, Hebrew, Yiddish, etc.)" / „Statul garantează realizarea drepturilor persoanelor aparținând minorităților naționale la educație preșcolară, la studii primare, medii (generale și profesionale), superioare și postuniversitare în limbile moldovenească și rusă, creează condiții pentru realizarea dreptului lor la educație și la instruire în limba maternă (ucraineană, găgăuză, bulgară, ivrit, idiș etc.).” • Article 8 of the Law on Education No. 547 of 21 July 1995 (The language of teaching): "1. The State shall ensure, according to the Constitution and to Articles 18, 19 and 20 of the Law on the Functioning of Languages in the Territory of the Republic of Moldova, the right to choose the language of education and instruction at all levels and stages of education. 2. The right of citizens to education and instruction in the mother tongue shall be ensured by creating the necessary number of educational institutions, classes, groups, as well as of the conditions for their running. 3. The studying of the State language of the Republic of Moldova shall be

⁸⁷ Emphasis added (also in other provisions).



	<p>compulsory in all educational institutions. [...] / (Limba de predare): „(1) Statul asigură, conform Constituției și articolelor 18, 19 și 20 din Legea cu privire la funcționarea limbilor pe teritoriul Republicii Moldova, dreptul de a alege limba de educare și instruire la toate nivelurile și treptele de învățământ. (2) Dreptul cetățenilor la educație și instruire în limba maternă se asigură prin crearea numărului necesar de instituții de învățământ, clase, grupe, precum și a condițiilor de funcționare a acestora. (3) Studiul limbii de stat a Republicii Moldova este obligatoriu în toate instituțiile de învățământ. (...)”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 18 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova]⁸⁸ No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “The [Republic of Moldova] shall guarantee the right to pre-school education, general secondary education, specialised secondary education, technical-vocational education and higher education in Moldovan and Russian and shall create the necessary conditions for fulfilling the right of citizens belonging to other nationalities⁸⁹, living in the republic, to education and instruction in the mother tongue (Gagauz, Ukrainian, Bulgarian, Hebrew, Yiddish, etc).” / „[Republica Moldova] garantează dreptul la educație preșcolară, la studii medii de cultură generală, medii de specialitate, tehnico-profesionale și superioare în limbile moldovenească și rusă și creează condițiile necesare pentru realizarea dreptului cetățenilor de alte naționalități, care locuiesc în republică, la educație și instruire în limba maternă (găgăuză, ucraineană, bulgară, ivrit, idiș, ș.a.)” Article 19 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “Pre-school institutions and general education schools shall be established according to the principle of monolingualism. [...]” / „Instituțiile preșcolare și școlile de cultură generală se creează pe principiul monolingvismului. (...)”
<p>ii to make available a substantial part of pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 19 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “[...] Bilingual pre-school institutions and general education schools shall be established in localities where the number of children and pupils does not permit the establishment of monolingual pre-school institutions and general education schools. [...]” / „(...) Instituții preșcolare și școli de cultură generală bilingve se creează în localitățile în care numărul de copii și de elevi nu permite să fie deschise instituții preșcolare și școli de cultură generală monolingve. (...)”

⁸⁸ The Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the Soviet Socialist Republic of Moldova No. 3465 of 1 September 1989, which is still in force.

⁸⁹ “Nationality” means “ethnicity”.

<p>iii to apply one of the measures provided for under i and ii above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient; or</p>	<p>Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p>
<p>iv if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of pre-school education, to favour and/or encourage the application of the measures referred to under i to iii above;</p>	
<p>b i to make available primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 35 of the Constitution of the Republic of Moldova of 29 July 1994 (Right to education): “[...] 2. The State shall ensure, according to the law, the right to choose the language of education and instruction of people. 3. The study of the State language shall be ensured in educational institutions at all levels. [...]” / (Dreptul la învățătură): „(...) (2) Statul asigură, în condițiile legii, dreptul de a alege limba de educare și instruire a persoanelor. (3) Studiul limbii de stat se asigură în instituțiile de învățământ de toate gradele. (...)” Article 6.1 of the Law on the Rights of Persons belonging to National Minorities and the Legal Status of their Organisations No. 382 of 12 July 2001: “The State shall guarantee the fulfilment of the rights of persons belonging to national minorities to pre-school education, primary education, secondary education (general and vocational), higher and postgraduate education in Moldovan and Russian, shall create the conditions for fulfilling their right to education and instruction in the mother tongue (Ukrainian, Gagauz, Bulgarian, Hebrew, Yiddish, etc.)” / „Statul garantează realizarea drepturilor persoanelor aparținând minorităților naționale la educație preșcolară, la studii primare, medii (generale și profesionale), superioare și postuniversitare în limbile moldovenească și rusă, creează condiții pentru realizarea dreptului lor la educație și la instruire în limba maternă (ucraineană, găgăuză, bulgară, ivrit, idiș etc.)” Article 8 of the Law on Education No. 547 of 21 July 1995 (The language of teaching): “1. The State shall ensure, according to the Constitution and to Articles 18, 19 and 20 of the Law on the Functioning of Languages in the Territory of the Republic of Moldova, the right to choose the language of education and instruction at all levels and stages of education. 2. The right of citizens to education and instruction in the mother tongue shall be ensured by creating the necessary number of educational institutions, classes, groups, as well as of the conditions for their running. 3. The studying of the State language of the Republic of Moldova shall be compulsory in all educational institutions. [...]” / (Limba de predare): „(1) Statul asigură, conform Constituției și articolelor 18, 19 și 20 din Legea cu privire la funcționarea limbilor pe teritoriul Republicii Moldova, dreptul de a alege limba de educare și instruire la toate nivelurile și treptele de învățământ. (2) Dreptul cetățenilor la educație și instruire în limba maternă se asigură prin crearea numărului necesar de instituții de învățământ,



	<p><i>clase, grupe, precum și a condițiilor de funcționare a acestora. (3) Studiul limbii de stat a Republicii Moldova este obligatoriu în toate instituțiile de învățământ. (...)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 18 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “The [Republic of Moldova] shall guarantee the right to pre-school education, general secondary education, specialised secondary education, technical-vocational education and higher education in Moldovan and Russian and shall create the necessary conditions for fulfilling the right of citizens belonging to other nationalities, living in the republic, to education and instruction in the mother tongue (Gagauz, Ukrainian, Bulgarian, Hebrew, Yiddish, etc.).” / „[Republica Moldova] garantează dreptul la educație preșcolară, la studii medii de cultură generală, medii de specialitate, tehnico-profesionale și superioare în limbile moldovenească și rusă și creează condițiile necesare pentru realizarea dreptului cetățenilor de alte naționalități, care locuiesc în republică, la educație și instruire în limba maternă (găgăuză, ucraineană, bulgară, ivrit, idiș, ș.a.)” Article 19 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “Pre-school institutions and general education schools shall be established according to the principle of monolingualism. [...]” / „Instituțiile preșcolare și școlile de cultură generală se creează pe principiul monolingvismului. (...)” Article 19 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “[...] Bilingual pre-school institutions and general education schools shall be established in localities where the number of children and pupils does not permit the establishment of monolingual pre-school institutions and general education schools. [...]” / „(...) Instituții preșcolare și școli de cultură generală bilingve se creează în localitățile în care numărul de copii și de elevi nu permite să fie deschise instituții preșcolare și școli de cultură generală monolingve. (...)” Article 21 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “The study of Moldovan as a subject – in classes and groups with instruction in Russian or another language (for pupils and students of Gagauz or Bulgarian nationality, to the extent necessary for communication) and of Russian – in classes and groups with instruction in Moldovan or in another language shall be ensured in educational institutions at all levels. After graduating from the educational institution, the pupils and students shall take the school-leaving examination in Moldovan or, respectively, in Russian, thus creating
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 curriculum; or	

	<p>the necessary conditions for extending the fields of communication in the whole territory of the republic.” / „În instituțiile de învățământ de toate gradele se asigură învățarea limbii moldovenești ca obiect de studiu - în clasele și grupele cu instruire în limba rusă sau într-o altă limbă de instruire (pentru elevii și studenții de naționalitate găgăuză sau bulgară - în volumul necesar pentru comunicare) și a limbii ruse - în clasele și grupele cu instruire în limba moldovenească sau într-o altă limbă. După absolvirea instituției de învățământ elevii și studenții dau examenul de absolvire la limba moldovenească sau, respectiv, la limba rusă, ceea ce creează condițiile necesare extinderii sferelor de comunicare pe întreg teritoriul republicii.”</p>
iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient;	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
c i to make available secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 35 of the Constitution of the Republic of Moldova of 29 July 1994 (Right to education): “[...] 2. The State shall ensure, according to the law, the right to choose the language of education and instruction of people. 3. The study of the State language shall be ensured in educational institutions at all levels. [...]” / (Dreptul la învățătură): „(...) (2) Statul asigură, în condițiile legii, dreptul de a alege limba de educare și instruire a persoanelor. (3) Studiarea limbii de stat se asigură în instituțiile de învățământ de toate gradele. (...)” Article 6.1 of the Law on the Rights of Persons belonging to National Minorities and the Legal Status of their Organisations No. 382 of 12 July 2001: “The State shall guarantee the fulfilment of the rights of persons belonging to national minorities to pre-school education, primary education, secondary education (general and vocational), higher and postgraduate education in Moldovan and Russian, shall create the conditions for fulfilling their right to education and instruction in the mother tongue (Ukrainian, Gagauz, Bulgarian, Hebrew, Yiddish, etc.).” / „Statul garantează realizarea drepturilor persoanelor aparținând minorităților naționale la educație preșcolară, la studii primare, medii (generale și profesionale), superioare și postuniversitare în limbile moldovenească și rusă, creează condiții pentru realizarea dreptului lor la educație și la instruire în limba maternă (ucraineană, găgăuză, bulgară, ivrit, idiș etc.).” Article 8 of the Law on Education No. 547 of 21 July 1995 (The language of teaching): “1. The State shall ensure, according to the Constitution and to Articles 18, 19 and 20 of the Law on the Functioning of Languages in the Territory of the Republic of Moldova, the right to choose the language of education and instruction at all levels and stages of education. 2. The right of citizens to education and instruction in the mother tongue shall be ensured by creating the necessary number of educational institutions, classes, groups, as well as of the



	<p>conditions for their running. 3. The studying of the State language of the Republic of Moldova shall be compulsory in all educational institutions. [...] / (Limba de predare): „(1) Statul asigură, conform Constituției și articolelor 18, 19 și 20 din Legea cu privire la funcționarea limbilor pe teritoriul Republicii Moldova, dreptul de a alege limba de educare și instruire la toate nivelurile și treptele de învățământ. (2) Dreptul cetățenilor la educație și instruire în limba maternă se asigură prin crearea numărului necesar de instituții de învățământ, clase, grupe, precum și a condițiilor de funcționare a acestora. (3) Studiul limbii de stat a Republicii Moldova este obligatoriu în toate instituțiile de învățământ. (...)”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 18 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “The [Republic of Moldova] shall guarantee the right to pre-school education, general secondary education, specialised secondary education, technical-vocational education and higher education in Moldovan and Russian and shall create the necessary conditions for fulfilling the right of citizens belonging to other nationalities, living in the republic, to education and instruction in the mother tongue (Gagauz, Ukrainian, Bulgarian, Hebrew, Yiddish, etc.)” / „[Republica Moldova] garantează dreptul la educație preșcolară, la studii medii de cultură generală, medii de specialitate, tehnico-profesionale și superioare în limbile moldovenească și rusă și creează condițiile necesare pentru realizarea dreptului cetățenilor de alte naționalități, care locuiesc în republică, la educație și instruire în limba maternă (găgăuză, ucraineană, bulgară, ivrit, idiș, ș.a.)” Article 19 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “Pre-school institutions and general education schools shall be established according to the principle of monolingualism. [...] / „Instituțiile preșcolare și școlile de cultură generală se creează pe principiul monolingvismului. (...)”
ii to make available a substantial part of secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	<p>Article 19 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “[...] Bilingual pre-school institutions and general education schools shall be established in localities where the number of children and pupils does not permit the establishment of monolingual pre-school institutions and general education schools. [...] / „(...) Instituții preșcolare și școli de cultură generală bilingve se creează în localitățile în care numărul de copii și de elevi nu permite să fie deschise instituții preșcolare și școli de cultură generală monolingve (...)”</p>
iii to provide, within secondary education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or	<p>Article 21 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the</p>

<p>minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or</p>	<p>[Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “The study of Moldovan as a subject – in classes and groups with instruction in Russian or another language (for pupils and students of Gagauz or Bulgarian nationality, to the extent necessary for communication) and of Russian – in classes and groups with instruction in Moldovan or in another language shall be ensured in educational institutions at all levels. After graduating from the educational institution, the pupils and students shall take the school-leaving examination in Moldovan or, respectively, in Russian, thus creating the necessary conditions for extending the fields of communication in the whole territory of the republic.” / „În instituțiile de învățământ de toate gradele se asigură învățarea limbii moldovenești ca obiect de studiu - în clasele și grupele cu instruire în limba rusă sau într-o altă limbă de instruire (pentru elevii și studenții de naționalitate găgăuză sau bulgară - în volumul necesar pentru comunicare) și a limbii ruse - în clasele și grupele cu instruire în limba moldovenească sau într-o altă limbă. După absolvirea instituției de învățământ elevii și studenții dau examenul de absolvire la limba moldovenească sau, respectiv, la limba rusă, ceea ce creează condițiile necesare extinderii sferelor de comunicare pe întreg teritoriul republicii.”</p>
iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;	<p>Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p>
d i to make available technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 35 of the Constitution of the Republic of Moldova of 29 July 1994 (Right to education): “[...] 2. The State shall ensure, according to the law, the right to choose the language of education and instruction of people. 3. The study of the State language shall be ensured in educational institutions at all levels. [...] / (Dreptul la învățatură): „(...) (2) Statul asigură, în condițiile legii, dreptul de a alege limba de educare și instruire a persoanelor. (3) Studiul limbii de stat se asigură în instituțiile de învățământ de toate gradele. (...)” Article 6.1 of the Law on the Rights of Persons belonging to National Minorities and the Legal Status of their Organisations No. 382 of 12 July 2001: “The State shall guarantee the fulfilment of the rights of persons belonging to national minorities to pre-school education, primary education, secondary education (general and vocational), higher and postgraduate education in Moldovan and Russian, shall create the conditions for fulfilling their right to education and instruction in the mother tongue (Ukrainian, Gagauz, Bulgarian, Hebrew, Yiddish, etc.)” / „Statul garantează realizarea drepturilor persoanelor aparținând minorităților naționale la educație preșcolară, la studii primare, medii (generale și profesionale), superioare și postuniversitare în limbile moldovenească și rusă, creează condiții pentru realizarea dreptului lor la educație și la instruire în limba maternă



	<p>(ucraineană, găgăuză, bulgară, ivrit, idiș etc.).”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 8 of the Law on Education No. 547 of 21 July 1995 (The language of teaching): “1. The State shall ensure, according to the Constitution and to the Articles 18, 19 and 20 of the Law on the Functioning of Languages in the Territory of the Republic of Moldova, the right to choose the language of education and instruction at all levels and stages of education. 2. The right of citizens to education and instruction in the mother tongue shall be ensured by creating the necessary number of educational institutions, classes, groups, as well as of the conditions for their running. 3. The studying of the State language of the Republic of Moldova shall be compulsory in all educational institutions. [...]” / (Limba de predare): „(1) Statul asigură, conform Constituției și articolelor 18, 19 și 20 din Legea cu privire la funcționarea limbilor pe teritoriul Republicii Moldova, dreptul de a alege limba de educare și instruire la toate nivelurile și treptele de învățământ. (2) Dreptul cetățenilor la educație și instruire în limba maternă se asigură prin crearea numărului necesar de instituții de învățământ, clase, grupe, precum și a condițiilor de funcționare a acestora. (3) Studiul limbii de stat a Republicii Moldova este obligatoriu în toate instituțiile de învățământ. (...)” Article 18 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “The [Republic of Moldova] shall guarantee the right to pre-school education, general secondary education, specialised secondary education, technical-vocational education and higher education in Moldovan and Russian and shall create the necessary conditions for fulfilling the right of citizens belonging to other nationalities, living in the republic, to education and instruction in the mother tongue (Gagauz, Ukrainian, Bulgarian, Hebrew, Yiddish, etc.).” / „[Republica Moldova] garantează dreptul la educație preșcolară, la studii medii de cultură generală, medii de specialitate, tehnico-profesionale și superioare în limbile moldovenească și rusă și creează condițiile necesare pentru realizarea dreptului cetățenilor de alte naționalități, care locuiesc în republică, la educație și instruire în limba maternă (găgăuză, ucraineană, bulgară, ivrit, idiș, ș.a.).” Article 20 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “In specialised secondary education institutions, in technical-vocational institutions and higher education institutions, instruction in the State language and in Russian shall be ensured, for the specialities necessary to the [Republic of Moldova].” / „În instituțiile de învățământ mediu de specialitate, în cele tehnico-profesionale și superioare se asigură instruirea în limba de stat și
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	<p>în limba rusă la specialitățile necesare [Republicii Moldova]. [...]”</p>
<p>ii to make available a substantial part of technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or</p>	<p>Article 20 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “[...] In order to meet the economic and cultural needs of the republic, groups and series shall be created, with instruction in the languages functioning in the territory of the [Republic of Moldova] (Gagauz, Ukrainian, Bulgarian, Hebrew, Yiddish, etc.). In the national groups with special purpose, speciality subjects shall be taught in the mother tongue of the pupils and students.” / „(...) Pentru satisfacerea necesităților de ordin economic și cultural ale republicii se creează grupe și serii cu instruirea în limbile ce funcționează pe teritoriul [Republicii Moldova] (găgăuză, ucraineană, bulgară, ivrit, idiș ș.a.). În grupele naționale cu destinație specială predarea disciplinelor de specialitate se efectuează în limba maternă a elevilor și studenților.”</p>
<p>iii to provide, within technical and vocational education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or</p>	<p>Article 21 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “The study of Moldovan as a subject – in classes and groups with instruction in Russian or another language (for pupils and students of Gagauz or Bulgarian nationality, to the extent necessary for communication) and of Russian – in classes and groups with instruction in Moldovan or in another language shall be ensured in educational institutions at all levels. After graduating from the educational institution, the pupils and students shall take the school-leaving examination in Moldovan or, respectively, in Russian, thus creating the necessary conditions for extending the fields of communication in the whole territory of the republic.” / „În instituțiile de învățământ de toate gradele se asigură învățarea limbii moldovenești ca obiect de studiu - în clasele și grupele cu instruire în limba rusă sau într-o altă limbă de instruire (pentru elevii și studenții de naționalitate găgăuză sau bulgară - în volumul necesar pentru comunicare) și a limbii ruse - în clasele și grupele cu instruire în limba moldovenească sau într-o altă limbă. După absolvirea instituției de învățământ elevii și studenții dau examenul de absolvire la limba moldovenească sau, respectiv, la limba rusă, ceea ce creează condițiile necesare extinderii sferelor de comunicare pe întreg teritoriul republicii.”</p>
<p>iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;</p>	<p>Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p>
<p>e i to make available university and other higher education in regional or minority languages; or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 35 of the Constitution of the Republic of Moldova of 29 July 1994 (Right to education): “[...] 2. The State shall ensure, according to the law, the right to choose the language of education and instruction of people. 3. The study of the State language shall be ensured in educational institutions at all levels. [...]” / (Dreptul la învățătură):



	<p>„(...) (2) Statul asigură, în condițiile legii, dreptul de a alege limba de educare și instruire a persoanelor. (3) Studierea limbii de stat se asigură în instituțiile de învățământ de toate gradele. (...)”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 6.1 of the Law on the Rights of Persons belonging to National Minorities and the Legal Status of their Organisations No. 382 of 12 July 2001: “The State shall guarantee the fulfilment of the rights of persons belonging to national minorities to pre-school education, primary education, secondary education (general and vocational), higher and postgraduate education in Moldovan and Russian, shall create the conditions for fulfilling their right to education and instruction in the mother tongue (Ukrainian, Gagauz, Bulgarian, Hebrew, Yiddish, etc.)” / „Statul garantează realizarea drepturilor persoanelor aparținând minorităților naționale la educație preșcolară, la studii primare, medii (generale și profesionale), superioare și postuniversitare în limbile moldovenească și rusă, creează condiții pentru realizarea dreptului lor la educație și la instruire în limba maternă (ucraineană, găgăuză, bulgară, ivrit, idiș etc.).” Article 8 of the Law on Education No. 547 of 21 July 1995 (The language of teaching): “1. The State shall ensure, according to the Constitution and to the articles 18,19 and 20 of the Law on the Functioning of Languages in the Territory of the Republic of Moldova, the right to choose the language of education and instruction at all levels and stages of education. 2. The right of citizens to education and instruction in the mother tongue shall be ensured by creating the necessary number of educational institutions, classes, groups, as well as of the conditions for their running. 3. The studying of the State language of the Republic of Moldova shall be compulsory in all educational institutions. [...]” / (Limba de predare): „(1) Statul asigură, conform Constituției și articolelor 18, 19 și 20 din Legea cu privire la funcționarea limbilor pe teritoriul Republicii Moldova, dreptul de a alege limba de educare și instruire la toate nivelurile și treptele de învățământ. (2) Dreptul cetățenilor la educație și instruire în limba maternă se asigură prin crearea numărului necesar de instituții de învățământ, clase, grupe, precum și a condițiilor de funcționare a acestora. (3) Studiul limbii de stat a Republicii Moldova este obligatoriu în toate instituțiile de învățământ. (...)” Article 18 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “The [Republic of Moldova] shall guarantee the right to pre-school education, general secondary education, specialised secondary education, technical-vocational education and higher education in Moldovan and Russian and shall create the necessary conditions for fulfilling the right of citizens belonging to other nationalities, living in the
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	<p>republic, to education and instruction in the mother tongue (Gagauz, Ukrainian, Bulgarian, Hebrew, Yiddish, etc.)” / „[Republica Moldova] garantează dreptul la educație preșcolară, la studii medii de cultură generală, medii de specialitate, tehnico-profesionale și superioare în limbile moldovenească și rusă și creează condițiile necesare pentru realizarea dreptului cetățenilor de alte naționalități, care locuiesc în republică, la educație și instruire în limba maternă (găgăuză, ucraineană, bulgară, ivrit, idiș, ș.a.)”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 20 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “In specialised secondary education institutions, in technical-vocational institutions and higher education institutions, instruction in the State language and in Russian shall be ensured, for the specialities necessary to the [Republic of Moldova]. In order to meet the economic and cultural needs of the republic, groups and series shall be created, with instruction in the languages functioning in the territory of the [Republic of Moldova] (Gagauz, Ukrainian, Bulgarian, Hebrew, Yiddish, etc.). In the national groups with special purpose, speciality subjects shall be taught in the mother tongue of the pupils and students.” / „În instituțiile de învățământ medii de specialitate, în cele tehnico-profesionale și superioare se asigură instruirea în limba de stat și în limba rusă la specialitățile necesare [Republicii Moldova]. Pentru satisfacerea necesităților de ordin economic și cultural ale republicii se creează grupe și serii cu instruirea în limbile ce funcționează pe teritoriul [Republicii Moldova] (găgăuză, ucraineană, bulgară, ivrit, idiș ș.a.). În grupele naționale cu destinație specială predarea disciplinelor de specialitate se efectuează în limba maternă a elevilor și studenților.”
<p>ii to provide facilities for the study of these languages as university and higher education subjects; or</p>	<p>Article 21 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “The study of Moldovan as a subject – in classes and groups with instruction in Russian or another language (for pupils and students of Gagauz or Bulgarian nationality, to the extent necessary for communication) and of Russian – in classes and groups with instruction in Moldovan or in another language shall be ensured in educational institutions at all levels. After graduating from the educational institution, the pupils and students shall take the school-leaving examination in Moldovan or, respectively, in Russian, thus creating the necessary conditions for extending the fields of communication in the whole territory of the republic.” / „În instituțiile de învățământ de toate gradele se asigură învățarea limbii moldovenești ca obiect de studiu - în clasele și grupele cu instruire în limba rusă sau într-o altă limbă de instruire (pentru elevii și studenții de naționalitate găgăuză sau bulgară - în volumul</p>



	<i>necesar pentru comunicare) și a limbii ruse - în clasele și grupele cu instruire în limba moldovenească sau într-o altă limbă. După absolvirea instituției de învățământ elevii și studenții dau examenul de absolvire la limba moldovenească sau, respectiv, la limba rusă, ceea ce creează condițiile necesare extinderii sferelor de comunicare pe întreg teritoriul republicii.”</i>
iii if, by reason of the role of the State in relation to higher education institutions, subparagraphs i and ii cannot be applied, to encourage and/or allow the provision of university or other forms of higher education in regional or minority languages or of facilities for the study of these languages as university or higher education subjects;	
f i to arrange for the provision of adult and continuing education courses which are taught mainly or wholly in the regional or minority languages; or	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
ii to offer such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education; or	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
iii if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of adult education, to favour and/or encourage the offering of such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education;	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
g to make arrangements to ensure the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the regional or minority language;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 12.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. The course "History, culture and traditions of the people (Russian/Ukrainian/Gagauz/Bulgarian)" is taught at primary and secondary levels, in educational institutions where pupils whose mother tongue is not the State language are studying.⁹⁰
h to provide the basic and further training of the teachers required to implement those of paragraphs a to g accepted by the Party;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 12.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 6.2 of the Law on the Rights of Persons belonging to National Minorities and the Legal Status of their Organisations No. 382 of 12 July 2001: "In order to ensure the educational process in the educational institutions where teaching takes place, entirely or partly, in the languages of the national minorities, the State shall contribute to the drawing up of curricula and teaching materials, to the training of teachers, co-operating in this field with other countries." / „Pentru asigurarea procesului de instruire în instituțiile de învățământ în care predarea se face, în întregime sau parțial, în limbile minorităților naționale, statul contribuie la elaborarea de programe și literatură didactico-metodică, la instruirea cadrelor didactice, colaborând în acest domeniu cu alte țări.”
i to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will	

⁹⁰ Third State Report submitted by the Republic of Moldova pursuant to Article 25, paragraph 1 of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (ACFC/SR/III(2009)001), p. 28

be made public.	
2 With regard to education and in respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all the appropriate stages of education.	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
Article 9	
1 The Parties undertake, in respect of those judicial districts in which the number of residents using the regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below, according to the situation of each of these languages and on condition that the use of the facilities afforded by the present paragraph is not considered by the judge to hamper the proper administration of justice:	
a in criminal proceedings:	
i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or	
ii to guarantee the accused the right to use his/her regional or minority language; and/or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.3, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 118 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Moldova of 29 July 1994 (Language of proceedings and the right to an interpreter): "1. Legal proceedings shall be conducted in Moldovan. 2. People who do not know or do not speak Moldovan have the right to familiarise themselves with all the documents and materials in the case file, to speak in court through an interpreter. 3. According to the law, the legal proceedings may also be conducted in a language acceptable to the majority of the participants in the trial." / (<i>Limba de procedură și dreptul la interpret</i>): „(1) Procedura judiciară se desfășoară în limba moldovenească. (2) Persoanele care nu posedă sau nu vorbesc limba moldovenească au dreptul de a lua cunoștință de toate actele și lucrările dosarului, de a vorbi în instanță prin interpret. (3) În condițiile legii, procedura judiciară se poate efectua și într-o limbă acceptabilă pentru majoritatea persoanelor care participă la proces.” Article 16 of the Criminal Procedure Code No. 122 of 14 March 2003 (Language of the criminal trial and the right to an interpreter): "1. The State language shall be used for conducting the criminal trial. 2. The person who does not know or does not speak the State language has the right to familiarise themselves with all the documents and materials of the case file, to speak before the criminal prosecution body and in court through an interpreter. 3. The criminal trial may also be conducted in the language accepted by the majority of the people taking part in the trial. In this case, the decisions shall also be obligatorily drawn up in the State language. [...]" / (<i>Limba în care se des-</i>



	<p>fășoară procesul penal și dreptul la interpret): „(1) În desfășurarea procesului penal se utilizează limba de stat. (2) Persoana care nu posedă sau nu vorbește limba de stat are dreptul să ia cunoștință de toate actele și materialele dosarului, să vorbească în fața organului de urmărire penală și în instanța de judecată prin interpret. (3) Procesul penal se poate, de asemenea, desfășura în limba acceptată de majoritatea persoanelor care participă la proces. În acest caz, hotărârile procesuale se întocmesc în mod obligatoriu și în limba de stat. (...)”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 9 of the Law on the Judicial Organisation No. 514 of 6 July 1995 (Language of proceedings and the right to an interpreter): “1. Legal proceedings shall be conducted in Moldovan. 2. People who do not know or do not speak Moldovan have the right to familiarise themselves with all the documents and materials of the case file, to speak in court through an interpreter. 3. In the cases and as provided by the procedural legislation, legal proceedings may also be conducted in another language, according to the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the Republic of Moldova. [...]”⁹¹ / (Limba de procedură și dreptul la interpret) : „(1) Procedura judiciară se desfășoară în limba moldovenească. (2) Persoanele care nu posedă sau nu vorbesc limba moldovenească au dreptul de a lua cunoștință de toate actele și lucrările dosarului, de a vorbi în instanță prin interpret. (3) În cazurile și în modul prevăzute de legislația procesuală, procedura judiciară se poate desfășura și în altă limbă, în condițiile Legii cu privire la funcționarea limbilor vorbite pe teritoriul Republicii Moldova. (...)” Article 15 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “Criminal proceedings, civil proceedings and those of administrative cases shall be conducted in the [Republic of Moldova] in the State language or in a language acceptable to the majority of the participants in the trial. Participants who do not speak the language of the legal proceedings shall be ensured the right to familiarise themselves with the documents of the case file, to take part in the criminal prosecution and judicial activities through a translator, as well as to speak and testify in the mother tongue. In accordance with the procedural legislation, the criminal and judicial prosecution documents shall be presented to the accused, to the defendant and to other participants translated into the language they speak.”⁹² / „Procedura penală, civilă și a cazurilor administrative se efectuează în [Republica Moldova] în limba de stat sau într-o limbă acceptabilă pentru majorarea persoa-
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⁹¹ Paragraph 3 as amended by Law No. 247 of 21 July 2006 on amending and supplementing certain legal acts.

⁹² Paragraphs 2 and 3 as amended by Law No. 206 of 29 May 2003 on amending and supplementing certain legal acts.

	<p>nelor participante la proces. Participanților la proces, care nu cunosc limba de efectuare a procedurii judiciare, li se asigură dreptul de a lua cunoștință de materialele de dosar, de a participa la acțiunile de urmărire penală și judiciară prin intermediul translatorului, precum și dreptul de a lua cuvântul și de a face depoziții în limba maternă. În conformitate cu modul stabilit prin legislația procedurală, documentele de urmărire penală și judiciară se înmânează acuzatului, inculpatului și altor participanți la proces în traducere în limba pe care o posedă.”</p>
<p>iii to provide that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, shall not be considered inadmissible solely because they are formulated in a regional or minority language; and/or</p>	<p>Article 90.12 of the Criminal Procedure Code No. 122 of 14 March 2003 (The witness): “The witness has the right: [...] 8. to make statements in the mother tongue or in another language he or she speaks; [...]” / (Martorul): „Martorul are dreptul: (...) (8) să facă declarații în limba maternă sau în altă limbă pe care o posedă; (...)”</p>
<p>iv to produce, on request, documents connected with legal proceedings in the relevant regional or minority language,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 118.2 of the Constitution of the Republic of Moldova of 29 July 1994 (Language of proceedings and the right to an interpreter): “People who do not know or do not speak Moldovan have the right to familiarise themselves with the documents and materials of the case file, to speak in court through an interpreter.” / (Limba de procedură și dreptul la interpret): „Persoanele care nu posedă sau nu vorbesc limba moldovenească au dreptul de a lua cunoștință de toate actele și lucrările dosarului, de a vorbi în instanță prin interpret.” Article 16 of the Criminal Procedure Code No. 122 of 14 March 2003 (Language of the criminal trial and the right to an interpreter): “[...] 2. A person who does not know or does not speak the State language has the right to familiarise themselves with all the documents and materials of the case file, to speak before the criminal prosecution body and in court through an interpreter. [...] 4. The procedural documents of the criminal prosecution body and of the court shall be presented to the suspect, to the accused, to the defendant translated into his or her mother tongue or in the language he or she speaks, as provided by the present Code.” / (Limba în care se desfășoară procesul penal și dreptul la interpret): „(...) (2) Persoana care nu posedă sau nu vorbește limba de stat are dreptul să ia cunoștință de toate actele și materialele dosarului, să vorbească în fața organului de urmărire penală și în instanța de judecată prin interpret. (...) (4) Actele procedurale ale organului de urmărire penală și cele ale instanței de judecată se înmânează bănuțului, învinuțului, inculpatului, fiind traduse în limba lui maternă sau în limba pe care acesta o cunoaște, în modul stabilit de prezentul cod.” Article 399. 3 of the Criminal Procedure Code No. 122 of 14 March 2003: “If the decision or the operative part was drawn up in a language the defendant does not speak, a written translation in



	<p>his or her mother tongue or in another language he or she speaks shall be handed to him/her." / „Dacă sentința sau dispozitivul a fost întocmit într-o limbă pe care inculpatul nu o cunoaște, lui i se înmânează traducerea în scris a sentinței în limba lui maternă sau într-o altă limbă pe care el o cunoaște.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 9.2 of the Law on the Judicial Organisation No. 514 of 6 July 1995 (Language of proceedings and the right to an interpreter): “People who do not know or do not speak Moldovan have the right to familiarise themselves with all the documents and materials of the case file, to speak in court through an interpreter.” / (Limba de procedură și dreptul la interpret): „Persoanele care nu posedă sau nu vorbesc limba moldovenească au dreptul de a lua cunoștință de toate actele și lucrările dosarului, de a vorbi în instanță prin interpret.” Article 15 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “[...] Participants who do not speak the language of the legal proceedings shall be ensured the right to familiarise themselves with the documents of the case file, to take part in the criminal prosecution and judicial activities through a translator, as well as to speak and testify in the mother tongue. In accordance with the procedural legislation, the criminal and judicial prosecution documents shall be presented to the accused, to the defendant and to other participants translated into the language they speak.”⁹³ / „(...) Participanților la proces, care nu cunosc limba de efectuare a procedurii judiciare, li se asigură dreptul de a lua cunoștință de materialele de dosar, de a participa la acțiunile de urmărire penală și judiciare prin intermediul translatorului, precum și dreptul de a lua cuvântul și de a face depoziții în limba maternă. În conformitate cu modul stabilit prin legislația procedurală, documentele de urmărire penală și judiciară se înmânează acuzatului, inculpatului și altor participanți la proces în traducere în limba pe care o posedă.”
if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations involving no extra expense for the persons concerned;	
b in civil proceedings:	
i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or	
ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 118 of the Constitution of the Republic of Moldova of 29 July 1994 (Language of proceedings and the right to an interpreter): “1. Legal proceedings shall be conducted in Moldovan. 2. People who do not know or do not speak Moldovan have the right to familiarise themselves with all the

⁹³ As amended by Law No. 206 of 29 May 2003 on amending and supplementing certain legal acts.

	<p>documents and materials of the case file, to speak in court through an interpreter. 3. According to the law, the legal proceedings may also be conducted in a language acceptable to the majority of the participants in the trial.” / (Limba de procedură și dreptul la interpret): „(1) Procedura judiciară se desfășoară în limba moldovenească. (2) Persoanele care nu posedă sau nu vorbesc limba moldovenească au dreptul de a lua cunoștință de toate actele și lucrările dosarului, de a vorbi în instanță prin interpret. (3) În condițiile legii, procedura judiciară se poate efectua și într-o limbă acceptabilă pentru majoritatea persoanelor care participă la proces.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 24 of the Civil Procedure Code No. 225 of 30 May 2003 (Language of the proceedings and the right to an interpreter): “1. The trial of civil cases in courts shall be conducted in Moldovan. 2. Those interested in solving the case who do not know or do not speak Moldovan have the right to familiarise themselves with the documents, the materials of the case file and to speak in the trial through an interpreter. 3. By an interim decision of the court, the trial may also be conducted in a language acceptable to the majority of the participants in the trial. 4. In cases where the trial is conducted in another language, the court shall also obligatorily issue the decision in Moldovan. 5. The procedural acts handed to those interested in solving the case shall be translated, at their request, into the language of the trial or into the language they used for the trial.” / (Limba de procedură și dreptul la interpret): „(1) Judecarea pricinilor civile în instanțele judecătorești se desfășoară în limba moldovenească. (2) Persoanele interesate în soluționarea pricinii care nu posedă sau nu vorbesc limba moldovenească sînt în drept să ia cunoștință de actele, de lucrările dosarului și să vorbească în judecată prin interpret. (3) Prin încheiere a instanței, procesul se poate desfășura și într-o limbă acceptabilă pentru majoritatea participanților la proces. (4) În cazul în care procesul se desfășoară în o altă limbă, instanța emite hotărîrea în mod obligatoriu și în limba moldovenească. (5) Actele procedurale care se înmînează persoanelor interesate în soluționarea pricinii se traduc, la solicitarea lor, în limba procesului ori în limba la care aceștia au recurs în proces.” Article 9 of the Law on the Judicial Organisation No. 514 of 6 July 1995 (Language of proceedings and the right to an interpreter): “1. Legal proceedings shall be conducted in Moldovan. 2. People who do not know or do not speak Moldovan have the right to familiarise themselves with all the documents and materials of the case file, to speak in court through an interpreter. 3. In the cases and as provided by the procedural legislation, legal proceedings may also be conducted in another language, according to the Law on the Functioning
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	<p>of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the Republic of Moldova. [...]”⁹⁴ / <i>(Limba de procedură și dreptul la interpret): „(1) Procedura judiciară se desfășoară în limba moldovenească. (2) Persoanele care nu posedă sau nu vorbesc limba moldovenească au dreptul de a lua cunoștință de toate actele și lucrările dosarului, de a vorbi în instanță prin interpret. (3) În cazurile și în modul prevăzute de legislația procesuală, procedura judiciară se poate desfășura și în altă limbă, în condițiile Legii cu privire la funcționarea limbilor vorbite pe teritoriul Republicii Moldova. (...)”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 15 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “Criminal proceedings, civil proceedings and those of administrative cases shall be conducted in the [Republic of Moldova] in the State language or in a language acceptable to the majority of the participants in the trial. <u>Participants who do not speak the language of the legal proceedings shall be ensured the right to familiarise themselves with the documents of the case file, to take part in the criminal prosecution and judicial activities through a translator, as well as to speak and testify in the mother tongue. [...]”</u>⁹⁵ / „Procedura penală, civilă și a cazurilor administrative se efectuează în [Republica Moldova] în limba de stat sau într-o limbă acceptabilă pentru majorarea persoanelor participante la proces. Participanților la proces, care nu cunosc limba de efectuare a procedurii judiciare, li se asigură dreptul de a lua cunoștință de materialele de dosar, de a participa la acțiunile de urmărire penală și judiciare prin intermediul translatorului, precum și dreptul de a lua cuvântul și de a face depoziii în limba maternă. (...)”
iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 154.1 of the Civil Procedure Code No. 225 of 30 May 2003 (Rights and obligations of the expert): “The expert is entitled to [...] submit the report and to give explanations in his or her mother tongue or in a language he or she speaks, to use for free the services of the interpreter [...]” / <i>(Drepturile și obligațiile expertului): „Expertul este în drept (...) să depună raportul și să dea explicații în limba maternă ori în limba pe care o cunoaște, să se folosească gratuit de serviciile traducătorului.”</i>
if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;	
c in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:	
i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or	
ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 118 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Moldova of 29 July 1994 (Language of pro-

⁹⁴ Paragraph 3 as amended by Law No. 247 of 21 July 2006 on amending and supplementing certain legal acts.

⁹⁵ Paragraph 2 as amended by Law No. 206 of 29 May 2003 on amending and supplementing certain legal acts.

use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or	<p>ceedings and the right to an interpreter): “1. Legal proceedings shall be conducted in Moldovan. 2. People who do not know or do not speak Moldovan have the right to familiarise themselves with all the documents and materials of the case file, to speak in court through an interpreter. 3. According to the law, the legal proceedings may also be conducted in a language acceptable to the majority of the participants in the trial.” / <i>(Limba de procedură și dreptul la interpret): „(1) Procedura judiciară se desfășoară în limba moldovenească. (2) Persoanele care nu posedă sau nu vorbesc limba moldovenească au dreptul de a lua cunoștință de toate actele și lucrările dosarului, de a vorbi în instanță prin interpret. (3) În condițiile legii, procedura judiciară se poate efectua și într-o limbă acceptabilă pentru majoritatea persoanelor care participă la proces.”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 278 of the Civil Procedure Code No. 225 of 30 May 2003 (Examination of cases): “Administrative cases shall be examined by the respective courts according to the general provisions of the present Code, with the exceptions and completions provided by the legislation on administrative disputes.” / <i>(Examinarea acțiunilor): „Acțiunile în contenciosul administrativ se examinează de instanțele judecătorești respective conform normelor generale ale prezentului cod, cu excepțiile și completările stabilite de legislația contenciosului administrative.”</i> Article 9 of the Law on the Judicial Organisation No. 514 of 6 July 1995 (Language of proceedings and the right to an interpreter) “1. Legal proceedings shall be conducted in Moldovan. 2. People who do not know or do not speak Moldovan have the right to familiarise themselves with the documents and materials of the case file, to speak in court through an interpreter. 3. In the cases and as provided by the procedural legislation, legal proceedings may also be conducted in another language, according to the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the Republic of Moldova. [...]”⁹⁶ / <i>(Limba de procedură și dreptul la interpret): „(1) Procedura judiciară se desfășoară în limba moldovenească. (2) Persoanele care nu posedă sau nu vorbesc limba moldovenească au dreptul de a lua cunoștință de toate actele și lucrările dosarului, de a vorbi în instanță prin interpret. (3) În cazurile și în modul prevăzute de legislația procesuală, procedura judiciară se poate desfășura și în altă limbă, în condițiile Legii cu privire la funcționarea limbilor vorbite pe teritoriul Republicii Moldova. (...)”</i> Article 15 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September
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⁹⁶ Paragraph 3 as amended by Law No. 247 of 21 July 2006 on amending and supplementing certain legal acts.



	1989: "Criminal proceedings, civil proceedings and those of administrative cases shall be conducted in the [Republic of Moldova] in the State language or in a language acceptable to the majority of the participants in the trial. <u>Participants who do not speak the language of the legal proceedings shall be ensured the right to familiarise themselves with the documents of the case file, to take part in the criminal prosecution and judicial activities through a translator, as well as to speak and testify in the mother tongue. [...]</u> ⁹⁷ / „Procedura penală, civilă și a cazurilor administrative se efectuează în [Republica Moldova] în limba de stat sau într-o limbă acceptabilă pentru majorarea persoanelor participante la proces. Participanților la proces, care nu cunosc limba de efectuare a procedurii judiciare, li se asigură dreptul de a lua cunoștință de materialele de dosar, de a participa la acțiunile de urmărire penală și judiciare prin intermediul translatorului, precum și dreptul de a lua cuvîntul și de a face depoziii în limba maternă. (...)"
iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages, if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;	
d to take steps to ensure that the application of sub-paragraphs i and iii of paragraphs b and c above and any necessary use of interpreters and translations does not involve extra expense for the persons concerned.	Article 154.1 of the Civil Procedure Code No. 225 of 30 May 2003 (Rights and obligations of the expert): "The expert is entitled to [...] submit the report and to give explanations in his or her mother tongue or in a language he or she speaks, <u>to use for free the services of the interpreter [...]</u> " / (Drepturile și obligațiile expertului): „Expertul este în drept (...) să depună raportul și să dea explicații în limba maternă ori în limba pe care o cunoaște, să se folosească gratuit de serviciile traducătorului (...)."
2 The Parties undertake:	
a not to deny the validity of legal documents drawn up within the State solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language; or	
b not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language, and to provide that they can be invoked against interested third parties who are not users of these languages on condition that the contents of the document are made known to them by the person(s) who invoke(s) it; or	
c not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language.	
3 The Parties undertake to make available in the regional or minority languages the most important national statutory texts and those relating particularly to users of these languages, unless they are otherwise provided.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 8.1 of the Law on the Rights of Persons belonging to National Minorities and the Legal Status of their Organisations No. 382 of 12 July 2001: "The State shall ensure the publication of the legal acts, official communications and other information of national relevance in Moldovan and Russian." / „Statul asigură publicarea actelor norma-

⁹⁷ Paragraph 2 as amended by Law No. 206 of 29 May 2003 on amending and supplementing certain legal acts.

	<p>tive, comunicărilor oficiale și altor informații de importanță națională în limbile moldovenească și rusă."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 1.1 of the Law on the publication and entry into force of official acts No. 173 of 6 July 1994: "The laws, promulgated by the President of the Republic of Moldova, the decisions of the Parliament, the decrees of the President of the Republic of Moldova, the decisions and orders of the Government, the acts of the Constitutional Court and of the Court of Accounts, the legal acts of the central specialised authorities of the public administration, of the National Bank of Moldova and of the National Commission of the Financial Market shall be published in the Official Journal of the Republic of Moldova, issued by the National Press Agency Moldpress, <u>in the State language with translation in Russian and in other languages according to the legislation. [...]</u>" / „Legile, promulgate de Președintele Republicii Moldova, hotărârile Parlamentului, decretele Președintelui Republicii Moldova, hotărârile și dispozițiile Guvernului, actele Curții Constituționale și ale Curții de Conturi, actele normative ale organelor centrale de specialitate ale administrației publice, ale Băncii Naționale a Moldovei și ale Comisiei Naționale a Pieței Financiare se publică în Monitorul Oficial al Republicii Moldova, editat de Agenția Națională de Presă "Moldpres", în limba de stat cu traducere în limba rusă și în alte limbi conform legislației. (...)"
Article 10	
1 Within the administrative districts of the State in which the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below and according to the situation of each language, the Parties undertake, as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a i to ensure that the administrative authorities use the regional or minority languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 3 of Law on the Special Status of Gagauzia (Gagauz Yeri) No. 344 of 23 December 1994: "1. <u>The official languages of Gagauzia shall be Moldovan, Gagauz and Russian.</u> In the territory of Gagauzia, the functioning of other languages, along with the official languages, shall be guaranteed. 2. Correspondence with the public administrative authorities of the Republic of Moldova, and with enterprises and institutions outside the territory of Gagauzia, shall be carried out in Moldovan and Russian." / „(1) <u>Limbile oficiale ale Găgăuziei sunt limbile moldovenească, găgăuză și rusă. Pe teritoriul Găgăuziei este garantată funcționarea, alături de limbile oficiale, și a altor limbi.</u> (2) <u>Corespondența cu autoritățile administrației publice ale Republicii Moldova, cu întreprinderile, organizațiile și instituțiile situate în afara teritoriului Găgăuziei se face în limba moldovenească și rusă.</u>" Article 6 of the Law on the Fundamental Pro-



	<p>visions of the Special Legal Status of the Localities on the Left Bank of the Dniester (Transnistria) No. 173 of 22 July 2005: “[...] 2. The official languages in Transnistria shall be Moldovan, using the Latin script, <u>Ukrainian and Russian</u>. The Republic of Moldova shall guarantee the functioning of other languages as well in the territory of Transnistria. 3. In Transnistria, the secretariat works, and correspondence with the public authorities of the Republic of Moldova, with enterprises, organisations and institutions outside Transnistria, shall be in Moldovan, using the Latin script, and in Russian.” / „(...) (2) <i>Limbile oficiale în Transnistria sînt limba moldovenească, în baza grafiei latine, limbile ucraineană și rusă. Republica Moldova garantează funcționarea și altor limbi pe teritoriul Transnistriei.</i> (3) <i>În Transnistria, lucrările de secretariat și corespondența cu autoritățile publice ale Republicii Moldova, cu întreprinderile, cu organizațiile și cu instituțiile situate în afara Transnistriei se țin în limba moldovenească, în baza grafiei latine, și în limba rusă.</i>”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 9 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “The working language in the bodies of the State authority, of the State administration and of public organisations⁹⁸ shall be the State language, which shall be gradually brought in. At the same time, translation into Russian shall be ensured. The language in which the secretariat works in the bodies of the State authority, of the State administration and of public organisations shall be the State language, which shall be gradually brought in. If necessary, documents shall be translated into Russian. In localities with a Gagauz population, the working language and the language in which the secretariat works in the bodies of the State authority, of the State administration and of public organisations shall be the State language, Gagauz or Russian. The language of activities and in which the secretariat works in the bodies of the State authority, of the State administration and of public organisations in localities where Ukrainian, Russian, Bulgarian or another nationality constitutes the majority of the population, shall be the State language, the mother tongue or another acceptable language.” / „<i>Limba de lucru în organele puterii de stat, administrației de stat și organizațiilor obștești este limba de stat, care se introduce pe etape. Tot odată se asigură traducerea în limba rusă. Limba lucrărilor de secretariat în organele puterii de stat, administrației de stat și organizațiilor obștești este limba de stat. În caz de necesitate documentele se traduc în limba rusă. În localitățile cu populație de naționalitate găgăuză limba de lucru și limba lucrărilor de secretariat în organele puterii de stat, administrației de stat și organizațiilor obștești este</i>
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⁹⁸ “Public” refers, in this context, to non-governmental organisations.

	<p><i>limba de stat, limba găgăuză sau cea rusă. Limba manifestărilor și lucrărilor de secretariat în organele puterii de stat, administrației de stat și organizațiilor obștești în localitățile, în care majoritatea o constituie populația de naționalitate ucraineană, rusă, bulgară sau de altă naționalitate este limba de stat, cea maternă sau o altă limbă acceptabilă.”</i></p>
<p>ii to ensure that such of their officers as are in contact with the public use the regional or minority languages in their relations with persons applying to them in these languages; or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 3.1 of Law on the Special Status of Gagauzia (Gagauz Yeri) No. 344 of 23 December 1994: “The official languages of Gagauzia shall be Moldovan, Gagauz and Russian. In the territory of Gagauzia, the functioning of other languages, along with the official languages, shall be guaranteed.” / „<i>Limbile oficiale ale Găgăuziei sunt limbile moldovenească, găgăuză și rusă. Pe teritoriul Găgăuziei este garantată funcționarea, alături de limbile oficiale, și a altor limbi.</i>” Article 6.2 of the Law on the Fundamental Provisions of the Special Legal Status of the Localities on the Left Bank of the Dniester (Transnistria) No. 173 of 22 July 2005: “The official languages in Transnistria shall be Moldovan, using the Latin script, <u>Ukrainian and Russian</u>. The Republic of Moldova shall guarantee the functioning of other languages as well in the territory of Transnistria.” / „<i>Limbile oficiale în Transnistria sînt limba moldovenească, în baza grafiei latine, limbile ucraineană și rusă. Republica Moldova garantează funcționarea și altor limbi pe teritoriul Transnistriei.</i>”
<p>iii to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications and receive a reply in these languages; or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 3.1 of Law on the Special Status of Gagauzia (Gagauz Yeri) No. 344 of 23 December 1994: “The official languages of Gagauzia shall be Moldovan, Gagauz and Russian. In the territory of Gagauzia, the functioning of other languages, along with the official languages, shall be guaranteed.” / „<i>Limbile oficiale ale Găgăuziei sunt limbile moldovenească, găgăuză și rusă. Pe teritoriul Găgăuziei este garantată funcționarea, alături de limbile oficiale, și a altor limbi.</i>” Article 6.2 of the Law on the Fundamental Provisions of the Special Legal Status of the Localities on the Left Bank of the Dniester (Transnistria) No. 173 of 22 July 2005: “The official languages in Transnistria shall be Moldovan, using the Latin script, <u>Ukrainian and Russian</u>. The Republic of Moldova shall guarantee the functioning of other languages as well in the territory of Transnistria.” / „<i>Limbile oficiale în Transnistria sînt limba moldovenească, în baza grafiei latine, limbile ucraineană și rusă. Republica Moldova garantează funcționarea și altor limbi pe teritoriul Transnistriei.</i>”



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 12 of the Law on the Rights of Persons belonging to National Minorities and the Legal Status of their Organisations No. 382 of 12 July 2001: "1. Persons belonging to national minorities have the right to address public institutions orally or in writing in Moldovan or Russian and to receive a reply in the language in which they formulated their request. 2. In localities which were granted special autonomy status, one of the official languages established by the respective laws may be used as the language of communication in relations with the public authorities. 3. In areas where persons belonging to a national minority constitute a considerable part of the population, the language of the respective minority may also be used as the language of communication with the public authorities." / „(1) Persoanele aparținând minorităților naționale au dreptul de a se adresa în instituțiile publice oral și în scris, în limba moldovenească sau rusă, și de a primi răspuns în limba în care au formulat adresarea. (2) În localitățile cărora le-a fost acordat statut special de autonomie, drept limbă de comunicare în relațiile cu autoritățile publice poate servi una din limbile oficiale stabilite de legile respective. (3) În teritoriile în care persoanele aparținând unei minorități naționale constituie o parte considerabilă din populație, drept limbă de comunicare cu autoritățile publice poate servi și limba acestei minorități.” Article 6 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: "In relations with the bodies of the State authority, of the State administration and of public organisations, as well as with the enterprises, institutions and organisations in the territory of the [Republic of Moldova], the language of oral or written communication – Moldovan or Russian – shall be chosen by the citizen. In localities with a Gagauz population, the right of the citizen to use also Gagauz in the above-mentioned relations shall be guaranteed. In localities where Ukrainian, Russian, Bulgarian or another nationality constitutes the majority of the population, the mother tongue or another acceptable language shall be used for communication." / „În relațiile cu organele puterii de stat, administrației de stat și organizațiilor obștești, precum și cu întreprinderile, instituțiile și organizațiile situate pe teritoriul [Republicii Moldova] limba de comunicare orală sau scrisă - moldovenească sau rusă - o alege cetățeanul. În localitățile cu populație de naționalitate găgăuză se garantează dreptul cetățeanului de a folosi și limba găgăuză în relațiile menționate. În localitățile în care majoritatea o constituie populația de naționalitate ucraineană, rusă, bulgară sau de altă naționalitate se folosește pentru comunicare limba maternă sau o altă limbă acceptabilă.” Article 11 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the
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	<p>[Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: "In the case of written communication of the bodies of the State authority, of the State administration and of public organisations to the citizen, Moldovan or Russian shall be used, in localities with a Gagauz population, Moldovan, Gagauz or Russian shall be used. When issuing documents, Moldovan or Russian, or Moldovan and Russian shall be used, according to the free choice of the citizen, and in localities with a Gagauz population Moldovan, Gagauz or Russian or Moldovan, Gagauz and Russian shall be used. [...]" / „În caz de adresare în scris a organelor puterii de stat, administrației de stat și organizațiilor obștești către cetățean se folosește limba moldovenească sau rusă, în localitățile cu populație de naționalitate găgăuză - moldovenească, găgăuză sau rusă. La eliberarea documentelor se folosesc la libera alegere a cetățeanului limba moldovenească ori rusă sau limbile moldovenească și rusă, iar în localitățile cu populație de naționalitate găgăuză - limba moldovenească, găgăuză ori rusă sau limbile moldovenească, găgăuză și rusă. (...)"</p>
<p>iv to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications in these languages; or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 3.1 of Law on the Special Status of Gagauzia (Gagauz Yeri) No. 344 of 23 December 1994: "The official languages of Gagauzia shall be Moldovan, Gagauz and Russian. In the territory of Gagauzia the functioning of other languages, along with the official languages, shall be guaranteed." / „Limbile oficiale ale Găgăuziei sunt limbile moldovenească, găgăuză și rusă. Pe teritoriul Găgăuziei este garantată funcționarea, alături de limbile oficiale, și a altor limbi.” Article 6.2 of the Law on the Fundamental Provisions of the Special Legal Status of the Localities on the Left Bank of the Dniester (Transnistria) No. 173 of 22 July 2005: "The official languages in Transnistria shall be Moldovan, using the Latin script, Ukrainian and Russian. The Republic of Moldova shall guarantee the functioning of other languages as well in the territory of Transnistria." / „Limbile oficiale în Transnistria sînt limba moldovenească, în baza grafiei latine, limbile ucraineană și rusă. Republica Moldova garantează funcționarea și altor limbi pe teritoriul Transnistriei.” Article 12 of the Law on the Rights of Persons belonging to National Minorities and the Legal Status of their Organisations No. 382 of 12 July 2001: "1. Persons belonging to national minorities have the right to address public institutions orally or in writing in Moldovan or Russian and to receive a reply in the language in which they formulated their request. 2. In localities which were granted special autonomy status, one of the official languages established by the respective laws may be used as the language of communication in relations with the



	<p>public authorities. 3. In areas where persons belonging to a national minority constitute a considerable part of the population, the language of the respective minority may also be used as the language of communication with the public authorities." / „(1) Persoanele aparținând minorităților naționale au dreptul de a se adresa în instituțiile publice oral și în scris, în limba moldovenească sau rusă, și de a primi răspuns în limba în care au formulat adresarea. (2) În localitățile cărora le-a fost acordat statut special de autonomie, drept limbă de comunicare în relațiile cu autoritățile publice poate servi una din limbile oficiale stabilite de legile respective. (3) În teritoriile în care persoanele aparținând unei minorități naționale constituie o parte considerabilă din populație, drept limbă de comunicare cu autoritățile publice poate servi și limba acestei minorități.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 11 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “[...] The bodies of the State authority, of the State administration, of public organisations, enterprises, institutions and organisations shall receive and examine documents from the citizens in Moldovan or Russian, and in localities with a Gagauz population in Moldovan, Gagauz or Russian. For documents in other languages, translation into Moldovan or Russian shall be enclosed.” / „(...) Organele puterii de stat, administrației de stat, organizațiilor obștești, întreprinderile, instituțiile și organizațiile primesc și examinează documentele prezentate de către cetățeni în limba moldovenească sau în cea rusă, iar în localitățile cu populație de naționalitate găgăuză - limba moldovenească, găgăuză sau rusă. La documentele prezentate în alte limbi trebuie anexată traducerea în limba moldovenească sau rusă.”
<p>v to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may validly submit a document in these languages;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 3.1 of Law on the Special Status of Gagauzia (Gagauz Yeri) No. 344 of 23 December 1994: “The official languages of Gagauzia shall be Moldovan, Gagauz and Russian. In the territory of Gagauzia, the functioning of other languages, along with the official languages, shall be guaranteed.” / „Limbile oficiale ale Găgăuziei sunt limbile moldovenească, găgăuză și rusă. Pe teritoriul Găgăuziei este garantată funcționarea, alături de limbile oficiale, și a altor limbi.” Article 6.2 of the Law on the Fundamental Provisions of the Special Legal Status of the Localities on the Left Bank of the Dniester (Transnistria) No. 173 of 22 July 2005: “The official languages in Transnistria shall be Moldovan, using the Latin script, Ukrainian and Russian. The Republic of Moldova shall guarantee the functioning of other languages as well in the territory of Transnistria.” / „Limbile oficiale în Transnistria sînt

	<p>limba moldovenească, în baza grafiei latine, limbile ucraineană și rusă. Republica Moldova garantează funcționarea și altor limbi pe teritoriul Transnistriei.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 12 of the Law on the Rights of Persons belonging to National Minorities and the Legal Status of their Organisations No. 382 of 12 July 2001: “1. Persons belonging to national minorities have the right to address public institutions orally or in writing in Moldovan or Russian and to receive a reply in the language in which they formulated their request. 2. In localities which were granted special autonomy status, one of the official languages established by the respective laws may be used as the language of communication in relations with the public authorities. 3. In areas where persons belonging to a national minority constitute a considerable part of the population, the language of the respective minority may also be used as the language of communication with the public authorities.” / „(1) Persoanele aparținând minorităților naționale au dreptul de a se adresa în instituțiile publice oral și în scris, în limba moldovenească sau rusă, și de a primi răspuns în limba în care au formulat adresarea. (2) În localitățile cărora le-a fost acordat statut special de autonomie, drept limbă de comunicare în relațiile cu autoritățile publice poate servi una din limbile oficiale stabilite de legile respective. (3) În teritoriile în care persoanele aparținând unei minorități naționale constituie o parte considerabilă din populație, drept limbă de comunicare cu autoritățile publice poate servi și limba acestei minorități.” Article 11 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “[...] The bodies of the State authority, of the State administration, of public organisations, enterprises, institutions and organisations shall receive and examine documents from the citizens in Moldovan or Russian, and in localities with a Gagauz population, in Moldovan, Gagauz or Russian. For documents in other languages, translation into Moldovan or Russian shall be enclosed.” / „(...) Organele puterii de stat, administrației de stat, organizațiilor obștești, întreprinderile, instituțiile și organizațiile primesc și examinează documentele prezentate de către cetățeni în limba moldovenească sau în cea rusă, iar în localitățile cu populație de naționalitate găgăuză - limba moldovenească, găgăuză sau rusă. La documentele prezentate în alte limbi trebuie anexată traducerea în limba moldovenească sau rusă.”
<p>b to make available widely used administrative texts and forms for the population in the regional or minority languages or in bilingual versions;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 3.1 of Law on the Special Status of Gagauzia (Gagauz Yeri) No. 344 of 23 December 1994: “The official languages of Gagauzia shall be Moldovan, Gagauz and Russian. In the territory of



	<p>Gagauzia, the functioning of other languages, along with the official languages, shall be guaranteed." / „Limbile oficiale ale Găgăuziei sunt limbile moldovenească, găgăuză și rusă. Pe teritoriul Găgăuziei este garantată funcționarea, alături de limbile oficiale, și a altor limbi.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 6.2 of the Law on the Fundamental Provisions of the Special Legal Status of the Localities on the Left Bank of the Dniester (Transnistria) No. 173 of 22 July 2005: “The official languages in Transnistria shall be Moldovan, using the Latin script, <u>Ukrainian and Russian</u>. The Republic of Moldova shall guarantee the functioning of other languages as well in the territory of Transnistria.” / „Limbile oficiale în Transnistria sînt limba moldovenească, în baza grafiei latine, limbile ucraineană și rusă. Republica Moldova garantează funcționarea și altor limbi pe teritoriul Transnistriei.” Article 27 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “Official forms [...] shall be drafted in the State language and <u>in Russian</u>, and in the respective localities – in the State language, in Gagauz and in Russian.” / „Blanchetele oficiale (...) se execută în limba de stat și în limba rusă, iar în localitățile respective - în limba de stat, în găgăuză și rusă.”
<p>c to allow the administrative authorities to draft documents in a regional or minority language.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 3 of Law on the Special Status of Gagauzia (Gagauz Yeri) No. 344 of 23 December 1994: “1. The official languages of Gagauzia shall be Moldovan, Gagauz and Russian. In the territory of Gagauzia, the functioning of other languages, along with the official languages, shall be guaranteed. 2. Correspondence with the public administrative authorities of the Republic of Moldova, with enterprises and institutions outside the territory of Gagauzia shall be carried out in Moldovan and <u>Russian</u>.” / „(1) Limbile oficiale ale Găgăuziei sunt limbile moldovenească, găgăuză și rusă. Pe teritoriul Găgăuziei este garantată funcționarea, alături de limbile oficiale, și a altor limbi. (2) Corespondența cu autoritățile administrației publice ale Republicii Moldova, cu întreprinderile, organizațiile și instituțiile situate în afara teritoriului Găgăuziei se face în limba moldovenească și rusă.” Article 6 of the Law on the Fundamental Provisions of the Special Legal Status of the Localities on the Left Bank of the Dniester (Transnistria) No. 173 of 22 July 2005: “[...] 2. The official languages in Transnistria shall be Moldovan, using the Latin script, <u>Ukrainian and Russian</u>. The Republic of Moldova shall guarantee the functioning of other languages as well in the territory of Trans-

	<p>nistria. 3. In Transnistria, the secretariat works, and correspondence with the public authorities of the Republic of Moldova, with enterprises, organisations and institutions outside Transnistria, shall be in Moldovan, using the Latin script, and <u>in Russian</u>.” / „(...) (2) Limbile oficiale în Transnistria sînt limba moldovenească, în baza grafiei latine, limbile ucraineană și rusă. Republica Moldova garantează funcționarea și altor limbi pe teritoriul Transnistriei. (3) În Transnistria, lucrările de secretariat și corespondența cu autoritățile publice ale Republicii Moldova, cu întreprinderile, cu organizațiile și cu instituțiile situate în afara Transnistriei se țin în limba moldovenească, în baza grafiei latine, și în limba rusă.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 9 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “The working language in the bodies of the State authority, of the State administration and of public organisations shall be the State language, which shall be gradually brought in. <u>At the same time, translation into Russian shall be ensured</u>. The language in which the secretariat works in the bodies of the State authority, of the State administration and of public organisations shall be the State language, which shall be gradually brought in. <u>If necessary, the documents shall be translated into Russian</u>. In localities with a <u>Gagauz population</u>, the working language and the language in which the secretariat works in the bodies of the State authority, of the State administration and of public organisations shall be the State language, Gagauz or Russian. <u>The language of activities and in which the secretariat works in the bodies of the State authority, of the State administration and of public organisations in localities where Ukrainian, Russian, Bulgarian or another nationality constitutes the majority of the population, shall be the State language, the mother tongue or another acceptable language.</u>” / „Limba de lucru în organele puterii de stat, administrației de stat și organizațiilor obștești este limba de stat, care se introduce pe etape. Tot odată se asigură traducerea în limba rusă. Limba lucrărilor de secretariat în organele puterii de stat, administrației de stat și organizațiilor obștești este limba de stat. În caz de necesitate documentele se traduc în limba rusă. În localitățile cu populație de naționalitate găgăuză limba de lucru și limba lucrărilor de secretariat în organele puterii de stat, administrației de stat și organizațiilor obștești este limba de stat, limba găgăuză sau cea rusă. Limba manifestărilor și lucrărilor de secretariat în organele puterii de stat, administrației de stat și organizațiilor obștești în localitățile, în care majoritatea o constituie populația de naționalitate ucraineană, rusă, bulgară sau de altă naționalitate este limba de stat, cea maternă sau o altă limbă acceptabilă.” Article 10 of the Law on the Functioning of the
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	<p>Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: "The acts of the State authority bodies, of the State administration and of public organisations shall be drawn up and adopted in the State language, followed by translation into Russian. In localities with a Gagauz population - in the State language or Gagauz or Russian, followed by translation. The acts of the local bodies of the State authority, the State administration and public organisations in the areas where Ukrainian, Russian, Bulgarian or another nationality constitutes the majority of the population may be adopted in the mother tongue or another acceptable language, followed by translation into the State language." / „Actele organelor puterii de stat, administrației de stat și organizațiilor obștești se întocmesc și se adoptă în limba de stat, urmînd să fie traduse în limba rusă. În localitățile cu populație de naționalitate găgăuză - în limba de stat ori în limba găgăuză sau în cea rusă, urmînd să fie traduse. Actele organelor locale ale puterii de stat, administrației de stat și organizațiilor obștești situate pe teritoriile, unde majoritatea o constituie populația de naționalitate ucraineană, rusă, bulgară sau de altă naționalitate, pot fi adoptate în limba maternă sau într-o altă limbă acceptabilă, urmînd să fie traduse în limba de stat.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 5.4⁹⁹ of the Law on Civil Status Documents No. 100 of 26 April 2001: "The drawing up of civil status documents, as well as the registration of mentions shall be carried out in Moldovan. Civil status certificates shall be drawn up in Moldovan, and, at the request of the petitioner - in another language, according to Law No. 3465 of 1 September 1989 on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the Republic of Moldova." / „Întocmirea actelor de stare civilă, precum și înscrierea mențiunilor, se efectuează în limba moldovenească. Certificatele de stare civilă se îndeplinesc în limba moldovenească, iar la cererea solicitantului - într-o altă limbă, în conformitate cu Legea nr. 3465-XI din 1 septembrie 1989 cu privire la funcționarea limbilor vorbite pe teritoriul Republicii Moldova.”
<p>2 In respect of the local and regional authorities on whose territory the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages is such as to justify the measures specified below, the Parties undertake to allow and/or encourage:</p>	
<p>a the use of regional or minority languages within the framework of the regional or local authority;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 3 of Law on the Special Status of Gagauzia (Gagauz Yeri) No. 344 of 23 December 1994: "1. The official languages of Gagauzia shall be Moldovan, Gagauz and Russian. In the territory of Gagauzia, the functioning of other languages,

⁹⁹ Article 5.4 as amended by Law No. 178 of 17 April 2003 on amending and supplementing Law on Civil Status Documents No. 100 of 26 April 2001.

	<p>along with the official languages, shall be guaranteed. 2. Correspondence with the public administrative authorities of the Republic of Moldova, and with enterprises and institutions outside the territory of Gagauzia, shall be carried out in Moldovan and Russian." / „(1) <i>Limbile oficiale ale Găgăuziei sunt limbile moldovenească, găgăuză și rusă. Pe teritoriul Găgăuziei este garantată funcționarea, alături de limbile oficiale, și a altor limbi.</i> (2) <i>Corespondența cu autoritățile administrației publice ale Republicii Moldova, cu întreprinderile, organizațiile și instituțiile situate în afara teritoriului Găgăuziei se face în limba moldovenească și rusă.</i>"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 6 of the Law on the Fundamental Provisions of the Special Legal Status of the Localities on the Left Bank of the Dniester (Transnistria) No. 173 of 22 July 2005: "[...] 2. The official languages in Transnistria shall be Moldovan, using the Latin script, Ukrainian and Russian. The Republic of Moldova shall guarantee the functioning of other languages as well in the territory of Transnistria. 3. In Transnistria, the secretariat works, and correspondence with the public authorities of the Republic of Moldova, with enterprises, organisations and institutions outside Transnistria, shall be in Moldovan, using the Latin script, and in Russian." / „(...) (2) <i>Limbile oficiale în Transnistria sînt limba moldovenească, în baza grafiei latine, limbile ucraineană și rusă. Republica Moldova garantează funcționarea și altor limbi pe teritoriul Transnistriei.</i> (3) <i>În Transnistria, lucrările de secretariat și corespondența cu autoritățile publice ale Republicii Moldova, cu întreprinderile, cu organizațiile și cu instituțiile situate în afara Transnistriei se țin în limba moldovenească, în baza grafiei latine, și în limba rusă.</i>" Article 2 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: "In localities where the Gagauz population constitutes the majority, the official language in various fields shall be the State language, Gagauz or Russian." / „În localitățile în care majoritatea o constituie populația de naționalitate găgăuză limba oficială în diferite sfere ale vieții este limba de stat, limba găgăuză sau cea rusă.”
<p>b the possibility for users of regional or minority languages to submit oral or written applications in these languages;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 3.1 of Law on the Special Status of Gagauzia (Gagauz Yeri) No. 344 of 23 December 1994: "The official languages of Gagauzia shall be Moldovan, Gagauz and Russian. In the territory of Gagauzia, the functioning of other languages, along with the official languages, shall be guaranteed." / „<i>Limbile oficiale ale Găgăuziei sînt limbile moldovenească, găgăuză și rusă. Pe teritoriul</i>



	<p><i>Găgăuziei este garantată funcționarea, alături de limbile oficiale, și a altor limbi.</i>"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 6.2 of the Law on the Fundamental Provisions of the Special Legal Status of the Localities on the Left Bank of the Dniester (Transnistria) No. 173 of 22 July 2005: "The official languages in Transnistria shall be Moldovan, using the Latin script, Ukrainian and Russian. The Republic of Moldova shall guarantee the functioning of other languages as well in the territory of Transnistria." / „Limbile oficiale în Transnistria sînt limba moldovenească, în baza grafiei latine, limbile ucraineană și rusă. Republica Moldova garantează funcționarea și altor limbi pe teritoriul Transnistriei.” Article 12 of the Law on the Rights of Persons belonging to National Minorities and the Legal Status of their Organisations No. 382 of 12 July 2001: "1. Persons belonging to national minorities have the right to address public institutions orally or in writing in Moldovan or Russian and to receive a reply in the language in which they formulated their request. 2. In localities which were granted special autonomy status, one of the official languages established by the respective laws may be used as the language of communication in relations with the public authorities. 3. In areas where persons belonging to a national minority constitute a considerable part of the population, the language of the respective minority may also be used as the language of communication with the public authorities." / „(1) Persoanele aparținînd minorităților naționale au dreptul de a se adresa în instituțiile publice oral și în scris, în limba moldovenească sau rusă, și de a primi răspuns în limba în care au formulat adresarea. (2) În localitățile cărora le-a fost acordat statut special de autonomie, drept limbă de comunicare în relațiile cu autoritățile publice poate servi una din limbile oficiale stabilite de legile respective. (3) În teritoriile în care persoanele aparținînd unei minorități naționale constituie o parte considerabilă din populație, drept limbă de comunicare cu autoritățile publice poate servi și limba acestei minorități.”
<p>c the publication by regional authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 3.1 of Law on the Special Status of Gagauzia (Gagauz Yeri) No. 344 of 23 December 1994: "The official languages of Gagauzia shall be Moldovan, Gagauz and Russian. In the territory of Gagauzia, the functioning of other languages, along with the official languages, shall be guaranteed." / „Limbile oficiale ale Găgăuziei sînt limbile moldovenească, găgăuză și rusă. Pe teritoriul Găgăuziei este garantată funcționarea, alături de limbile oficiale, și a altor limbi.” Article 6.2 of the Law on the Fundamental Provisions of the Special Legal Status of the

	<p>Localities on the Left Bank of the Dniester (Transnistria) No. 173 of 22 July 2005: "The official languages in Transnistria shall be Moldovan, using the Latin script, Ukrainian and Russian. The Republic of Moldova shall guarantee the functioning of other languages as well in the territory of Transnistria." / „Limbile oficiale în Transnistria sînt limba moldovenească, în baza grafiei latine, limbile ucraineană și rusă. Republica Moldova garantează funcționarea și altor limbi pe teritoriul Transnistriei.”</p>
<p>d the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 3.1 of Law on the Special Status of Gagauzia (Gagauz Yeri) No. 344 of 23 December 1994: "The official languages of Gagauzia shall be Moldovan, Gagauz and Russian. In the territory of Gagauzia, the functioning of other languages, along with the official languages, shall be guaranteed." / „Limbile oficiale ale Găgăuziei sînt limbile moldovenească, găgăuză și rusă. Pe teritoriul Găgăuziei este garantată funcționarea, alături de limbile oficiale, și a altor limbi.” Article 6.2 of the Law on the Fundamental Provisions of the Special Legal Status of the Localities on the Left Bank of the Dniester (Transnistria) No. 173 of 22 July 2005: "The official languages in Transnistria shall be Moldovan, using the Latin script, Ukrainian and Russian. The Republic of Moldova shall guarantee the functioning of other languages as well in the territory of Transnistria." / „Limbile oficiale în Transnistria sînt limba moldovenească, în baza grafiei latine, limbile ucraineană și rusă. Republica Moldova garantează funcționarea și altor limbi pe teritoriul Transnistriei.” Article 8 of the Law on the Rights of Persons belonging to National Minorities and the Legal Status of their Organisations No. 382 of 12 July 2001: "[...] 2. In localities which were granted special autonomy status according to Article 111 of the Constitution of the Republic of Moldova, the legal acts of local relevance, official communications and other information shall also be published in the official language established by the respective laws. 3. In the areas where persons belonging to a national minority constitute a considerable part of the population, the acts of the local public administrative authorities shall be published in the language of the respective minority if necessary, and at the same time in Moldovan and Russian." / "(...) (2) În localitățile cărora, în conformitate cu art. 111 din Constituția Republicii Moldova, le-a fost acordat statut special de autonomie, actele normative de importanță locală, comunicările oficiale și alte informații se publică și în alte limbi oficiale stabilite de legile respective. (3) Pe teritoriile în care persoanele aparținînd unei minorități naționale consti-



	<p>tuie o parte considerabilă din populație, actele autorităților administrației publice locale se publică în limba acestei minorități dacă este necesar și, totodată, în limbile moldovenească și rusă.”</p>
<p>e the use by regional authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 3.1 of Law on the Special Status of Gagauzia (Gagauz Yeri) No. 344 of 23 December 1994: “The official languages of Gagauzia shall be Moldovan, Gagauz and Russian. In the territory of Gagauzia, the functioning of other languages, along with the official languages, shall be guaranteed.” / „Limbile oficiale ale Găgăuziei sînt limbile moldovenească, găgăuză și rusă. Pe teritoriul Găgăuziei este garantată funcționarea, alături de limbile oficiale, și a altor limbi.” Article 6.2 of the Law on the Fundamental Provisions of the Special Legal Status of the Localities on the Left Bank of the Dniester (Transnistria) No. 173 of 22 July 2005: “The official languages in Transnistria shall be Moldovan, using the Latin script, Ukrainian and Russian. The Republic of Moldova shall guarantee the functioning of other languages as well in the territory of Transnistria.” / „Limbile oficiale în Transnistria sînt limba moldovenească, în baza grafiei latine, limbile ucraineană și rusă. Republica Moldova garantează funcționarea și altor limbi pe teritoriul Transnistriei.”
<p>f the use by local authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 3.1 of Law on the Special Status of Gagauzia (Gagauz Yeri) No. 344 of 23 December 1994: “The official languages of Gagauzia shall be Moldovan, Gagauz and Russian. In the territory of Gagauzia, the functioning of other languages, along with the official languages, shall be guaranteed.” / „Limbile oficiale ale Găgăuziei sînt limbile moldovenească, găgăuză și rusă. Pe teritoriul Găgăuziei este garantată funcționarea, alături de limbile oficiale, și a altor limbi.” Article 6.2 of the Law on the Fundamental Provisions of the Special Legal Status of the Localities on the Left Bank of the Dniester (Transnistria) No. 173 of 22 July 2005: “The official languages in Transnistria shall be Moldovan, using the Latin script, Ukrainian and Russian. The Republic of Moldova shall guarantee the functioning of other languages as well in the territory of Transnistria.” / „Limbile oficiale în Transnistria sînt limba moldovenească, în baza grafiei latine, limbile ucraineană și rusă. Republica Moldova garantează funcționarea și altor limbi pe teritoriul Transnistriei.”
<p>g the use or adoption, if necessary in conjunction with the name in the official language(s), of traditional and correct forms of place names in regional or minority languages.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 11.3, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 10¹⁰⁰ of the Law on the Rights of Persons belonging to National Minorities and the

¹⁰⁰ Article 10 as amended by Law No. 343 of 22 December 2005 on amending the Law on the Rights of Persons belonging to National Minorities and the Legal Status of their Organisations No. 382 of 12 July 2001.

	<p>Legal Status of their Organisations No. 382 of 12 July 2001: “Names of localities, streets and lanes shall be indicated in Moldovan, but, as the case may require, pursuant to the decision of the local public administrative authorities, also in another language, according to the legislation in force. Names of public institutions and buildings shall be indicated in Moldovan and Russian. In localities which were granted special autonomy status, the above-mentioned names shall also be indicated in other official languages, designated by the respective laws.” / „Denumirile localităților, străzilor și stradelor se indică în limba moldovenească, dar, după caz, la decizia autorităților administrației publice locale, și în altă limbă, în conformitate cu legislația în vigoare. Denumirile instituțiilor și localurilor publice se indică în limbile moldovenească și rusă. În localitățile cărora le-a fost acordat statut special de autonomie, denumirile nominalizate se indică și în alte limbi oficiale, stabilite prin legile respective.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 24 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “Localities and other geographical sites in the territory of the [Republic of Moldova] have only one official name, in its original Moldovan or, respectively, Gagauz form (without translation or adaptation), taking into account the historical traditions of the respective locality. The correct spelling of the names of localities and other geographical sites shall be established by special guides. Names of squares, streets, lanes, town districts shall be formed in the State language without translation (in localities with a population of Gagauz nationality, in Gagauz), and, in villages where the majority of the population is Ukrainian, Russian or Bulgarian, in an acceptable language.” / „Localitățile și alte obiective geografice de pe teritoriul [Republicii Moldova] au o singură denumire oficială sub forma ei moldovenească sau, respectiv, găgăuză originală (fără traducere sau adaptare), ținîndu-se cont de tradițiile istorice din localitatea respectivă. Scrierea corectă a denumirilor de localități și de alte obiective geografice se stabilește în îndrumare speciale. Denumirile de piețe, străzi, stradele, raioane orășenești se formează în limba de stat fără traducere (în localitățile cu populație de naționalitate găgăuză - în limba găgăuză), iar în localitățile sătești, în care majoritatea populației este de naționalitate ucraineană, rusă sau bulgară - într-o limbă acceptabilă.” Article 25 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “Names of ministries, State committees and departments, enterprises, institutions and organisations and of their structural subdivisions shall be formed in the State language and shall be translated into Russian (in localities with a
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	<p>population of Gagauz nationality – in Gagauz). Names in quotation marks shall not be translated, but copied by transliteration.” / „Denumirile ministerelor, comitetelor de stat și departamentelor, întreprinderilor, instituțiilor și organizațiilor și ale subdiviziunilor lor structurale se formează în limba de stat și se traduc în limba rusă (în localitățile cu populație de naționalitate găgăuză - în limba găgăuză). Denumirile luate între ghilimele nu se traduc, ci se reproduc prin transliterație.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 28 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “Signs with the names of the bodies of the State authority, of State administration bodies and of public organisations, of enterprises, institutions and organisations, signs of squares, streets, lanes, localities and other geographical sites shall be made in the State language and in Russian (in the respective localities – in the State language, Gagauz and Russian) and are set out on the left (above) in the State language and on the right (below) in Russian and in the respective localities - on the left (above) in Gagauz, in the centre (below) in the State language, on the right (lower) in Russian.” / „Firmele cu denumirile organelor puterii de stat, administrației de stat și organizațiilor obștești, ale întreprinderilor instituțiilor și organizațiilor, indicatoarele de piețe, străzi, stradele, localități și de alte obiective geograice se execută în limba de stat și în limba rusă (în localitățile respective - în limba de stat, în găgăuză și rusă) și sînt dispuse în stînga (deasupra) în limba de stat și în dreapta (dedesubt) în limba rusă, iar în localitățile respective - în stînga (deasupra) în limba găgăuză, în centru (dedesubt) în limba de stat; în dreapta (mai jos) în limba rusă.”
<p>3 With regard to public services provided by the administrative authorities or other persons acting on their behalf, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which regional or minority languages are used, in accordance with the situation of each language and as far as this is reasonably possible:</p>	
<p>a to ensure that the regional or minority languages are used in the provision of the service; or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 3.1 of Law on the Special Status of Gagauzia (Gagauz Yeri) No. 344 of 23 December 1994: “The official languages of Gagauzia shall be Moldovan, Gagauz and Russian. In the territory of Gagauzia, the functioning of other languages, along with the official languages, shall be guaranteed.” / „Limbile oficiale ale Găgăuziei sînt limbile moldovenească, găgăuză și rusă. Pe teritoriul Găgăuziei este garantată funcționarea, alături de limbile oficiale, și a altor limbi.” Article 6.2 of the Law on the Fundamental Provisions of the Special Legal Status of the Localities on the Left Bank of the Dniester (Transnistria) No. 173 of 22 July 2005: “The

	<p>official languages in Transnistria shall be Moldovan, using the Latin script, Ukrainian and Russian. The Republic of Moldova shall guarantee the functioning of other languages as well in the territory of Transnistria.” / „Limbile oficiale în Transnistria sînt limba moldovenească, în baza grafiei latine, limbile ucraineană și rusă. Republica Moldova garantează funcționarea și altor limbi pe teritoriul Transnistriei.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 11 of the Law on the Rights of Persons belonging to National Minorities and the Legal Status of their Organisations No. 382 of 12 July 2001: “1. Public information directly referring to health care, public order and the security of citizens, as well as visual information in the institutions belonging to the Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Justice, Prosecutor’s Office, in medical institutions in municipalities and towns, in the means of transport, in bus terminals, railway stations, ports, airports, and on highways shall be drawn up in Moldovan, but, as the case may require, upon a decision of the local public administrative authorities also in another language, according to the legislation in force¹⁰¹. 2. In localities which were granted special autonomy status, the information referred to in paragraph 1 may also be drawn up in other official languages. 3. In the areas where persons belonging to a national minority constitute a considerable part of the population, the information referred to in paragraph 1 shall be published, as the case may require, also in the language of the respective minority.” / „(1) Informația cu caracter public care se referă nemijlocit la ocrotirea sănătății, la asigurarea ordinii publice și a securității cetățenilor, precum și informația vizuală în instituțiile Ministerului Afacerilor Interne, Ministerului Justiției, Procuraturii, în instituțiile medicale din municipii și orașe, în mijloacele de transport, în gările auto, feroviare și fluviale, în aeroporturi, pe autostrăzi se perfectează în limba moldovenească, dar, după caz, la decizia autorităților administrației publice locale, și în altă limbă, în conformitate cu legislația în vigoare. (2) În localitățile cărora le-a fost acordat statut special de autonomie, informația prevăzută la alin. (1) se poate perfecta și în alte limbi oficiale stabilite de legile respective. (3) În teritoriile în care persoanele aparținînd unei minorități naționale constituie o parte considerabilă din populație, informația prevăzută la alin. (1) se publică, după caz, și în limba acelei minorități.”
<p>b to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request and receive a reply in these languages; or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 3.1 of Law on the Special Status of Gagauzia (Gagauz Yeri) No. 344 of 23 December 1994: “The official languages of Gagauzia shall be Moldovan, Gagauz and Russian. In the territory of

¹⁰¹ Paragraph 1 as amended by Law No. 343 of 22 December 2005 on amending the Law on the Rights of Persons belonging to National Minorities and the Legal Status of their Organisations No. 382 of 12 July 2001.



	<p>Gagauzia, the functioning of other languages, along with the official languages, shall be guaranteed." / „Limbile oficiale ale Găgăuziei sînt limbile moldovenească, găgăuză și rusă. Pe teritoriul Găgăuziei este garantată funcționarea, alături de limbile oficiale, și a altor limbi.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 6.2 of the Law on the Fundamental Provisions of the Special Legal Status of the Localities on the Left Bank of the Dniester (Transnistria) No. 173 of 22 July 2005: “The official languages in Transnistria shall be Moldovan, using the Latin script, <u>Ukrainian and Russian</u>. The Republic of Moldova shall guarantee the functioning of other languages as well in the territory of Transnistria.” / „Limbile oficiale în Transnistria sînt limba moldovenească, în baza grafiei latine, limbile ucraineană și rusă. Republica Moldova garantează funcționarea și altor limbi pe teritoriul Transnistriei.” Article 6 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “In relations with the bodies of the State authority, of the State administration and of public organisations, as well as with enterprises, institutions and organisations in the territory of the [Republic of Moldova], the language of oral or written communication – Moldovan or Russian – shall be chosen by the citizen. In localities with a Gagauz population, the right of the citizen to also use Gagauz in the above-mentioned relations shall be guaranteed. In localities where Ukrainian, Russian, Bulgarian or another nationality constitutes the majority of the population, the mother tongue or another acceptable language shall be used for communication.” / „În relațiile cu organele puterii de stat, administrației de stat și organizațiilor obștești, precum și cu întreprinderile, instituțiile și organizațiile situate pe teritoriul [Republicii Moldova] limba de comunicare orală sau scrisă - moldovenească sau rusă - o alege cetățeanul. În localitățile cu populație de naționalitate găgăuză se garantează dreptul cetățeanului de a folosi și limba găgăuză în relațiile menționate. În localitățile în care majoritatea o constituie populația de naționalitate ucraineană, rusă, bulgară sau de altă naționalitate se folosește pentru comunicare limba maternă sau o altă limbă acceptabilă.”
<p>c to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request in these languages.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 3.1 of Law on the Special Status of Gagauzia (Gagauz Yeri) No. 344 of 23 December 1994: “The official languages of Gagauzia shall be Moldovan, Gagauz and Russian. In the territory of Gagauzia, the functioning of other languages, along with the official languages, shall be guaranteed.” / „Limbile oficiale ale Găgăuziei sînt limbile

	<p>moldovenească, găgăuză și rusă. Pe teritoriul Găgăuziei este garantată funcționarea, alături de limbile oficiale, și a altor limbi.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 6.2 of the Law on the Fundamental Provisions of the Special Legal Status of the Localities on the Left Bank of the Dniester (Transnistria) No. 173 of 22 July 2005: “The official languages in Transnistria shall be Moldovan, using the Latin script, <u>Ukrainian and Russian</u>. The Republic of Moldova shall guarantee the functioning of other languages as well in the territory of Transnistria.” / „Limbile oficiale în Transnistria sînt limba moldovenească, în baza grafiei latine, limbile ucraineană și rusă. Republica Moldova garantează funcționarea și altor limbi pe teritoriul Transnistriei.” Article 11 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “[...] The bodies of the State authority, of the State administration, of public organisations, enterprises, institutions and organisations shall receive and examine documents from the citizens in Moldovan or Russian, and in localities with a Gagauz population in Moldovan, Gagauz or Russian. For documents in other languages, translation into Moldovan or Russian shall be enclosed.” / „(...) Organele puterii de stat, administrației de stat, organizațiilor obștești, întreprinderile, instituțiile și organizațiile primesc și examinează documentele prezentate de către cetățeni în limba moldovenească sau în cea rusă, iar în localitățile cu populație de naționalitate găgăuză - limba moldovenească, găgăuză sau rusă. La documentele prezentate în alte limbi trebuie anexată traducerea în limba moldovenească sau rusă.” Article 27 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “[...] The forms used in the social field (telecommunications institutions, savings banks, enterprises providing services to population, etc.) shall be printed in the State language and in Russian (in the respective localities in the State language, Gagauz and Russian) and, at the citizen’s wish, shall be filled in using one of the languages on the form.” / „(...) Blanchetele (formularele) folosite în sfera socială (în instituțiile de telecomunicații, la casele de economii, la întreprinderile de deservire socială a populației ș.a.) se imprimă în limba de stat și în limba rusă (în localitățile respective - în limba de stat, în găgăuză și rusă) și, la dorința cetățeanului, se completează în una dintre limbile de pe blanchetă (formular).”
<p>4 With a view to putting into effect those provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 accepted by them, the Parties undertake to take one or more of the following measures:</p>	



<p>a translation or interpretation as may be required;</p>	
<p>b recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 7 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: "For management employees, employees in the bodies of the State authority, of the State administration and public organisations, as well as for employees in enterprises, institutions and organisations which, by reason of their duty, come into contact with the citizens (health care, public education, culture, media, transport, telecommunications, trade, services to population, municipal and housing administration, law enforcement authorities, emergency and rescue services, etc.), irrespective of their nationality, in order to ensure the right of the citizen to choose the language, conditions shall be established regarding knowledge of Moldovan, Russian, and in localities with a Gagauz population, also Gagauz, at a level necessary for fulfilling the work, professional and official duties. [...]" / „Pentru lucrătorii de conducere, lucrătorii organelor puterii de stat, administrației de stat și organizațiilor obștești, precum și pentru lucrătorii de la întreprinderi, instituții și organizații, care în virtutea obligațiilor de serviciu vin în contact cu cetățenii (ocrotirea sănătății, învățământul public, cultura, mijloacele de informare în masă, transporturile, telecomunicațiile, comerțul, sfera deservirii sociale, gospodăria comunală și de locuințe, organele de ocrotire a normelor de drept, serviciul de salvare și de lichidare a avariilor ș.a.), indiferent de apartenența națională, în scopul de a asigura dreptul cetățeanului la alegerea limbii se stabilesc cerințe în ceea ce privește cunoașterea limbilor moldovenească, rusă, iar în localitățile cu populație de naționalitate găgăuză - și a limbii găgăuze la nivelul comunicării necesar pentru îndeplinirea obligațiilor de muncă, de serviciu și oficiale. (...)"
<p>c compliance as far as possible with requests from public service employees having a knowledge of a regional or minority language to be appointed in the territory in which that language is used.</p>	<p>Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p>
<p>5 The Parties undertake to allow the use or adoption of family names in the regional or minority languages, at the request of those concerned.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 11.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 16 of the Law on the Rights of Persons belonging to National Minorities and the Legal Status of their Organisations No. 382 of 12 July 2001: "1. Persons belonging to national minorities have the right to use their name, first name and patronymic (if this is used in their mother tongue), including in official documents, in the form accepted in their mother tongue. 2. If in the mother tongue of the person belonging to the national minority another alphabet but the Latin one is used, the name, first name and patronymic shall be transliterated into Moldovan, according to its rules of transliteration of foreign names. 3. For registering civil status documents and drawing up identity documents, taking into account the will of

	<p>the person, concerning the right provided for in paragraph (1) shall be compulsory." / „(1) Persoanele aparținând minorităților naționale au dreptul să-și utilizeze numele, prenumele și patronimicul (dacă acesta se folosește în limba lor maternă), inclusiv în acte oficiale, în forma acceptată în limba lor maternă. (2) Dacă în limba maternă a persoanei aparținând unei minorități naționale se folosește un alt alfabet decât cel latin, numele, prenumele și patronimicul ei se transliterează în limba moldovenească în conformitate cu normele ei de transliterare a numelor străine. (3) La înregistrarea actelor de stare civilă și la perfectarea actelor de identitate este obligatoriu să se țină cont de voința persoanei referitor la utilizarea dreptului stabilit la alin. (1)."</p>
<p>Article 11</p>	
<p>1 The Parties undertake, for the users of the regional or minority languages within the territories in which those languages are spoken, according to the situation of each language, to the extent that the public authorities, directly or indirectly, are competent, have power or play a role in this field, and respecting the principle of the independence and autonomy of the media:</p>	
<p>a to the extent that radio and television carry out a public service mission:</p>	
<p>i to ensure the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or</p>	
<p>ii to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or</p>	
<p>iii to make adequate provision so that broadcasters offer programmes in the regional or minority languages;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 13 of the Law on the Rights of Persons belonging to National Minorities and the Legal Status of their Organisations No. 382 of 12 July 2001: "1. Persons belonging to national minorities and their organisations have the right, according to the law, to establish media, to publish literature in the languages of national minorities. 2. The State shall ensure the production of programmes in the languages of national minorities at the State radio and television." / „(1) Persoanele aparținând minorităților naționale și organizațiile lor au dreptul, în condițiile legii, de a fonda mijloace de informare în masă, de a edita literatură în limbile minorităților naționale. (2) Statul asigură organizarea emisiunilor în limbile minorităților naționale la radioul și televiziunea de stat." Article 54 of the Audiovisual Code No. 260 of 27 July 2006 (The field of activity of the national public broadcaster): The company has the following field of activity: a) producing radio and television programmes in the State language of the Republic of Moldova, as well as in the languages of the national minorities or in other international lan-



	guages, with informative, cultural, educational and entertainment purposes, taking into consideration the provisions of the present Code; [...] / „Compania are ca obiect de activitate: a) realizarea emisiunilor de radio și de televiziune în limba de stat a Republicii Moldova, precum și în limbile minorităților naționale sau în alte limbi de circulație internațională, cu scop informativ, cultural, educativ și de divertisment, ținându-se cont de prevederile prezentului cod; (...)”
b i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station in the regional or minority languages; or	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of radio programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 29.4 of the Audiovisual Code No. 260 of 27 July 2006 (Conditions for retransmission of programme services): “In localities where representatives of a nationality or ethnicity constitute more than 20%, service distributors, which hold the retransmission licence, shall also ensure the retransmission of programme services in the language of the respective minority.” / „În localitățile în care reprezentanții unei naționalități sau etnii reprezintă o pondere mai mare de 20%, distribuitorii de servicii, titularii ai autorizației de retransmisie, vor asigura și retransmisia serviciilor de programe în limba minorității respective.”
c i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of television programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 29.4 of the Audiovisual Code No. 260 of 27 July 2006 (Conditions for retransmission of programme services): “In localities where representatives of a nationality or ethnicity constitute more than 20%, service distributors, which hold the retransmission licence, shall also ensure the retransmission of programme services in the language of the respective minority.” / „În localitățile în care reprezentanții unei naționalități sau etnii reprezintă o pondere mai mare de 20%, distribuitorii de servicii, titularii ai autorizației de retransmisie, vor asigura și retransmisia serviciilor de programe în limba minorității respective.”
d to encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audiovisual works in the regional or minority languages;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
e i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages; or	Articles 9.3 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the publication of newspaper articles in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
f i to cover the additional costs of those media which use regional or minority languages, wherever the law provides for financial assistance in general for the media; or	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.

ii to apply existing measures for financial assistance also to audiovisual productions in the regional or minority languages;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
g to support the training of journalists and other staff for media using regional or minority languages.	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
2 The Parties undertake to guarantee freedom of direct reception of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language, and not to oppose the retransmission of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in such a language. They further undertake to ensure that no restrictions will be placed on the freedom of expression and free circulation of information in the written press in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language. The exercise of the above-mentioned freedoms, since it carries with it duties and responsibilities, may be subject to such formalities, conditions, restrictions or penalties as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputation or rights of others, for preventing disclosure of information received in confidence, or for maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Articles 9.1, 9.2, 9.3 and 18, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 9.1 of the Audiovisual Code No. 260 of 27 July 2006 (Free reception of programme service): “The present Code shall acknowledge and guarantee the right of every person to freely receive programme services offered to the public by broadcasters under the jurisdiction of the Republic of Moldova, of the EU member States and of the States Parties to the European Convention on Transfrontier Television, according to the technical and commercial conditions established by the broadcasters and service distributors. [...]” / „Prezentul cod recunoaște și garantează dreptul oricărei persoane de a recepționa liber serviciile de programe oferite publicului de către radiodifuzorii aflați sub jurisdicția Republicii Moldova și a statelor membre ale Uniunii Europene și ale Convenției europene cu privire la televiziunea transfrontalieră, în conformitate cu condițiile tehnice și comerciale stabilite de radiodifuzori și distribuitorii de servicii. (...)” Article 30 of the Audiovisual Code No. 260 of 27 July 2006 (Free retransmission): “1. The retransmission of any programme service legally broadcast by broadcasters under the jurisdiction of the Republic of Moldova or under the jurisdiction of a State with which the Republic of Moldova has concluded an international agreement on free retransmission, shall be free according to the law and shall not require a previous licence. 2. The retransmission in the territory of the Republic of Moldova of programme services broadcast by broadcasters under the jurisdiction of EU member States or of the States Parties to the European Convention on Transfrontier Television and received in the territory of these States shall not require previous authorisation. 3. The Audiovisual Co-ordinating Council may temporarily limit the right to the free retransmission of a certain programme service from the EU member States or the States Parties to the European Convention on Transfrontier Television, if this does not correspond to the provisions of the convention.” / „(1) Retransmisia oricărui serviciu de programe difuzat legal de către radiodifuzorii aflați sub jurisdicția Republicii Moldova ori sub jurisdicția unui stat cu care Republica Moldova a încheiat acord internațional de liberă retransmisie în domeniul audiovizualului este liberă în condițiile legii și nu necesită licență prealabilă. (2) Retransmisia pe teritoriul Republicii Moldova a serviciilor de programe difuzate de către radiodifuzorii aflați sub jurisdicția statelor membre ale Uniunii Europene ori



	<p><i>sub jurisdicția statelor care sînt parte la Convenția europeană cu privire la televiziunea transfrontalieră și recepționate pe teritoriul acestor state nu necesită autorizare prealabilă. (3) Consiliul Coordonator al Audiovizualului poate restrînge temporar dreptul de liberă retransmisie a unui anumit serviciu de programe provenind din statele membre ale Uniunii Europene sau din statele care sînt parte la Convenția europeană cu privire la televiziunea transfrontalieră în cazul în care acest serviciu de programe nu corespunde prevederilor convenției.”</i></p>
<p>3 The Parties undertake to ensure that the interests of the users of regional or minority languages are represented or taken into account within such bodies as may be established in accordance with the law with responsibility for guaranteeing the freedom and pluralism of the media.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 41.1 of the of the Audiovisual Code No. 260 of 27 July 2006 (The obligations of the Audiovisual Co-ordinating Council): “In his capacity as a guarantor of the protection of the public interest in the field of audiovisual communication based on democratic principles and of the programme consumers’ rights, the Audiovisual Co-ordinating Council is bound to: [...] e) <u>the protection [...] of the linguistic and cultural-national heritage, including the culture and languages of national minorities; [...].</u>” / „În calitate sa de garant al apărării interesului public în domeniul comunicării audiovizuale pe principii democratice și a drepturilor consumatorului de programe, Consiliul Coordonator al Audiovizualului este obligat să asigure: (...) e) <u>protejarea (...) patrimoniului lingvistic și cultural-național, inclusiv a culturii și limbilor minorităților naționale; (...).</u>”
<p>Article 12</p>	
<p>1 With regard to cultural activities and facilities – especially libraries, video libraries, cultural centres, museums, archives, academies, theatres and cinemas, as well as literary work and film production, vernacular forms of cultural expression, festivals and the culture industries, including, <i>inter alia</i>, the use of new technologies – the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used and to the extent that the public authorities are competent, have power or play a role in this field:</p>	
<p>a to encourage types of expression and initiative specific to regional or minority languages and foster the different means of access to works produced in these languages;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 5.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 10.2 of the Constitution of the Republic of Moldova of 29 July 1994 (Unity of the people and the right to identity): “The State shall acknowledge and guarantee the right of all citizens to maintain, develop and express their ethnic, cultural, linguistic and religious identity.” / „Statul recunoaște și garantează dreptul tuturor cetățenilor la păstrarea, la dezvoltarea și la exprimarea identității lor etnice, culturale, lingvistice și religioase.” Article 5 of the Law on the Rights of Persons belonging to National Minorities and the Legal

	<p>Status of their Organisations No. 382 of 12 July 2001: “1. The State undertakes to contribute to creating the necessary conditions to maintain, develop and express the ethnic, cultural, linguistic and religious identity of persons belonging to national minorities. 2. The State shall ensure the conducting of scientific research in the fields of history, language and culture of the national minority. 3. Historical and cultural monuments of national minorities shall be protected by the State.” / „(1) Statul se obligă să contribuie la crearea condițiilor necesare păstrării, dezvoltării și exprimării identității etnice, culturale, lingvistice și religioase a persoanelor aparținînd minorităților naționale. (2) Statul asigură efectuarea de cercetări științifice în domeniul istoriei, limbii și culturii minorităților naționale. (3) Monumentele de istorie și cultură ale minorităților naționale sînt ocrotite de stat.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 20 of the Law on the Rights of Persons belonging to National Minorities and the Legal Status of their Organisations No. 382 of 12 July 2001: “1. The organisations of persons belonging to national minorities shall benefit from the support of the State in carrying out programmes in the fields of culture, science, education [...] historical research [...]. 2. Some of the programmes set out in paragraph 1, of particular interest, selected through a competition, may be financially supported by the State. [...]” / „(1) Organizațiile persoanelor aparținînd minorităților naționale beneficiază de susținerea statului la realizarea programelor în domeniul culturii, științei, învățămîntului (...) cercetărilor istorice (...). (2) Unele din programele, stabilite la alin. (1), de interes deosebit, selectate prin concurs, pot fi susținute financiar de către stat. (...)” Article 4 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “The [Republic of Moldova] shall guarantee the use of Ukrainian, Russian, Bulgarian, Hebrew, Yiddish, Romani, of languages of other ethnic groups living in the republic, in order to meet their national-cultural needs.” / „[Republica Moldova] garantează folosirea limbilor ucraineană, rusă, bulgară, ivrit, idiș, țigănească, a limbilor altor grupuri etnice, care locuiesc pe teritoriul republicii, pentru satisfacerea necesităților lor național-culturale.” Article 22 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “The [Republic of Moldova] shall create the necessary conditions for the development of Moldovan and Gagauz science and national culture, as well as for the scientific and cultural activities in other languages functioning in the republic. [...]” / „[Republica Moldova] crează
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	<p>condițiile necesare pentru dezvoltarea științei și culturii naționale moldovenești și găgăuze, precum și pentru activitatea științifică și culturală în alte limbi ce funcționează în republică. (...)”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 13 of the Law on Culture No. 413 of 27 May 1999 (The right to cultural identity): “Every person has the right to protection by the State of his or her cultural identity.” / <i>(Dreptul la identitate culturală): „Orice persoană are dreptul la protecție din partea statului a identității sale culturale.”</i>
b to foster the different means of access in other languages to works produced in regional or minority languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;	Articles 9.1 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
c to foster access in regional or minority languages to works produced in other languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;	Articles 9.1 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
d to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities of various kinds make appropriate allowance for incorporating the knowledge and use of regional or minority languages and cultures in the undertakings which they initiate or for which they provide backing;	Articles 5.1 and 9.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
e to promote measures to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities have at their disposal staff who have a full command of the regional or minority language concerned, as well as of the language(s) of the rest of the population;	Articles 5.1 and Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
f to encourage direct participation by representatives of the users of a given regional or minority language in providing facilities and planning cultural activities;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 22 of the Law on the Rights of Persons belonging to National Minorities and the Legal Status of their Organisations No. 382 of 12 July 2001: “When preparing and promoting the policy in the field of culture and education of national minorities, the Government, the ministries, the departments, the local public administrative authorities shall consult the organisations of the persons belonging to the national minorities whose interests are affected by those decisions.” / <i>„La elaborarea și promovarea politicii în domeniul culturii și învățământului minorităților naționale, Guvernul, ministerele, departamentele, autoritățile administrației publice locale vor consulta organizațiile persoanelor aparținând minorităților naționale ale căror interese sînt atinse în deciziile respective.”</i>
g to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of a body or bodies responsible for collecting, keeping a copy of and presenting or publishing works produced in the regional or minority languages;	
h if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 5.2 of the Law on the Rights of Persons belonging to National Minorities and the Legal Status of their Organisations No. 382 of 12 July 2001: “The State shall ensure the conducting of scientific research in the fields of history, language and culture of the national minority.” / <i>„(2) Statul asigură efectuarea de cercetări științifice în dome-</i>

	niul istoriei, limbii și culturii minorităților naționale.”
2 In respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage and/or provide appropriate cultural activities and facilities in accordance with the preceding paragraph.	
3 The Parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect.	
Article 13	
1 With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, within the whole country:	
a to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of regional or minority languages in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations;	Article 4.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
b to prohibit the insertion in internal regulations of companies and private documents of any clauses excluding or restricting the use of regional or minority languages, at least between users of the same language;	
c to oppose practices designed to discourage the use of regional or minority languages in connection with economic or social activities;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 6 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “In relations with the bodies of [...] public organisations, as well as with the enterprises, institutions and organisations in the territory of the [Republic of Moldova], the language of oral or written communication – Moldovan or Russian – shall be chosen by the citizen. [...]” / <i>„În relațiile cu organele (...) organizațiilor obștești, precum și cu întreprinderile, instituțiile și organizațiile situate pe teritoriul [Republicii Moldova] limba de comunicare orală sau scrisă - moldovenească sau rusă - o alege cetățeanul. (...)”</i> Article 11 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “[...] The bodies of [...] public organisations, enterprises, institutions and organisations shall receive and examine documents from the citizens in Moldovan or Russian. [...]” / <i>„(...) Organele (...) organizațiilor obștești, întreprinderile, instituțiile și organizațiile primesc și examinează documentele prezentate de către cetățeni în limba moldovenească sau în cea rusă. (...)”</i> Art. 27 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “[...] The forms used in the social field (telecommunications institutions, savings banks, enterprises providing services to population, etc.) shall be



	<p>printed in the State language and in Russian [...] and, at the citizen's wish, shall be filled in using one of the languages on the form." / „(...) <i>Blanchetele (formularele) folosite în sfera socială (în instituțiile de telecomunicații, la casele de economii, la întreprinderile de deservire socială a populației ș.a.) se imprimă în limba de stat și în limba rusă (...) și, la dorința cetățeanului, se completează în una dintre limbile de pe blanchetă (formular).</i>”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 29 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “The texts of the posters, public announcements, advertising texts and other texts of visual information shall be written in the State language and, if necessary, shall be translated into Russian [...]. Names of goods and food products, labels of merchandise, trade marks, instructions relating to goods manufactured in the republic, as well as any other visual information presented to the population in the republic shall be drawn up in the State language and in Russian. [...]” / „<i>Textele afișelor, anunțurilor publice, textele de publicitate și alte texte de informare vizuală se scriu în limba de stat și, în caz de necesitate, se traduc în limba rusă (...). Denumirile mărfurilor și ale produselor alimentare, etichetele mărfurilor, mărcile comerciale, instrucțiunile referitoare la mărfurile fabricate în republică, precum și orice alte informații vizuale prezentate populației din republică se întocmesc în limba de stat și în limba rusă. (...)</i>” Article 20 of Law on the Protection of Consumers No. 105 of 13 March 2003 (The obligations of economic agents concerning information for consumers): “[...] 2. The import and selling on the market of products, the provision of services, lacking complete, truthful and correct information in Moldovan or Moldovan and <u>Russian</u> shall be prohibited.¹⁰² [...] 6. All information, including verbal information, concerning products, services offered to consumers, accompanying documentation, as well as concluded contracts shall be presented in Moldovan or in Moldovan and one of the international languages. [...]” / (<i>Obligațiile agenților economici privind informarea consumatorilor</i>): „(...) (2) <i>Se interzice importul și plasarea pe piață a produselor, prestarea serviciilor în lipsa informației complete, veridice și corecte în limba moldovenească sau în limbile moldovenească și rusă. (...) (6) Toate informațiile, inclusiv cele verbale, referitoare la produsele, serviciile oferite consumatorilor, documentația de însoțire, precum și contractele încheiate, trebuie să fie prezentate în limba moldovenească sau în limba moldovenească și în una din limbile de</i>
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¹⁰² Paragraph 2 as amended by Law No. 526 of 18 December 2003 on amending Law No. 105-XV of 13 March 2003 on the Protection of Consumers.

<p>d to facilitate and/or encourage the use of regional or minority languages by means other than those specified in the above sub-paragraphs.</p> <p>2 With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, in so far as the public authorities are competent, within the territory in which the regional or minority languages are used, and as far as this is reasonably possible:</p> <p>a to include in their financial and banking regulations provisions which allow, by means of</p>	<p><i>circulație internațională.</i>”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 7 of the Law on the Rights of Persons belonging to National Minorities and the Legal Status of their Organisations No. 382 of 12 July 2001: “Persons belonging to national minorities have the right to freely use the mother tongue, orally and in writing, to have access to information in this language, to disseminate it and to exchange information.” / „<i>Persoanele aparținând minorităților naționale au dreptul la libera folosire a limbii materne, atât în scris, cât și oral, să aibă acces la informații în această limbă, să o difuzeze și să facă schimb de informații.</i>” Article 8 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “At congresses, sessions, plenary meetings, conferences, assemblies, rallies and other manifestations taking place in the [Republic of Moldova], participants have no restriction in choosing the language.” / „<i>La congresele, sesiunile, plenarele, conferințele, adunările, mitingurile și la alte manifestări ce se desfășoară în [Republica Moldova] participanții nu sînt limitați în alegerea limbii.</i>” Article 20 of Law on the Protection of Consumers No. 105 of 13 March 2003 (The obligations of economic agents concerning information for consumers): “[...] 2. The import and selling on the market of products, the provision of services, lacking complete, truthful and correct information in Moldovan or Moldovan and <u>Russian</u> shall be prohibited.¹⁰³ [...] 6. All information, including verbal information, concerning products, services offered to consumers, accompanying documentation, as well as concluded contracts shall be presented in Moldovan or in Moldovan and one of the international languages. [...]” / (<i>Obligațiile agenților economici privind informarea consumatorilor</i>): „(...) (2) <i>Se interzice importul și plasarea pe piață a produselor, prestarea serviciilor în lipsa informației complete, veridice și corecte în limba moldovenească sau în limbile moldovenească și rusă. (...) (6) Toate informațiile, inclusiv cele verbale, referitoare la produsele, serviciile oferite consumatorilor, documentația de însoțire, precum și contractele încheiate, trebuie să fie prezentate în limba moldovenească sau în limba moldovenească și în una din limbile de circulație internațională.</i>” <p>Article 27 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of [Republic</p>
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¹⁰³ Paragraph 2 as amended by Law No. 526 of 18 December 2003 on amending Law No. 105-XV of 13 March 2003 on the Protection of Consumers.



<p>procedures compatible with commercial practice, the use of regional or minority languages in drawing up payment orders (cheques, drafts, etc.) or other financial documents, or, where appropriate, to ensure the implementation of such provisions;</p>	<p>of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “[...] The forms used in the social field (telecommunications institutions, savings banks, enterprises providing services to population, etc.) shall be printed in the State language and in Russian (in the respective localities in State language, Gagauz and Russian) and, at the citizen’s wish, shall be filled in using one of the languages on the form.” / „(...) <i>Blanchetele (formularele) folosite în sfera socială (în instituțiile de telecomunicații, la casele de economii, la întreprinderile de deservire socială a populației ș.a.) se imprimă în limba de stat și în limba rusă (în localitățile respective - în limba de stat, în găgăuză și rusă) și, la dorința cetățeanului, se completează în una dintre limbile de pe blanchetă (formular).</i>”</p>
<p>b in the economic and social sectors directly under their control (public sector), to organise activities to promote the use of regional or minority languages;</p>	<p>Article 11 of the Law on the Rights of Persons belonging to National Minorities and the Legal Status of their Organisations No. 382 of 12 July 2001: “1. Public information directly referring to health care, public order and the security of citizens, as well as visual information in the institutions belonging to the Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Justice, Prosecutor’s Office, in medical institutions in municipalities and towns, in the means of transport, in bus terminals, railway stations, ports, airports, on highways shall be drawn up in Moldovan, but, as the case may require, upon a decision of the local public administrative authorities also in another language, according to the legislation in force¹⁰⁴. 2. In localities which were granted special autonomy status, the information referred to in paragraph 1 may also be drawn up in other official languages. 3. In the areas where persons belonging to a national minority constitute a considerable part of the population, the information referred to in paragraph 1 shall also be published, as the case may require, in the language of the respective minority.” / „(1) <i>Informația cu caracter public care se referă nemijlocit la ocrotirea sănătății, la asigurarea ordinii publice și a securității cetățenilor, precum și informația vizuală în instituțiile Ministerului Afacerilor Interne, Ministerului Justiției, Procuraturii, în instituțiile medicale din municipii și orașe, în mijloacele de transport, în garile auto, feroviare și fluviale, în aeroporturi, pe autostrăzi se perfectează în limba moldovenească, dar, după caz, la decizia autorităților administrației publice locale, și în altă limbă, în conformitate cu legislația în vigoare. (2) În localitățile cărora le-a fost acordat statut special de autonomie, informația prevăzută la alin. (1) se poate perfecta și în alte limbi oficiale stabilite de legile respective. (3) În teritoriile în care persoanele aparținând unei minorități naționale constituie o parte considerabilă din populație, informația prevăzută la alin. (1) se publică, după caz, și în limba acestei minorități.</i>”</p>
<p>c to ensure that social care facilities such as hospitals, retirement homes and hostels offer the</p>	<p>• Article 7 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the</p>

¹⁰⁴ Paragraph 1 as amended by Law No. 343 of 22 December 2005 on amending the Law on the Rights of Persons belonging to National Minorities and the Legal Status of their Organisations No. 382 of 12 July 2001.

<p>possibility of receiving and treating in their own language persons using a regional or minority language who are in need of care on grounds of ill-health, old age or for other reasons;</p>	<p>[Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “For management employees, employees in the bodies of the State authority, of the State administration and public organisations, as well as for employees in enterprises, institutions and organisations which, by reason of their duty, come into contact with the citizens (health care, public education, culture, media, transport, telecommunications, trade, services to population, municipal and housing administration, law enforcement authorities, emergency and rescue services, etc.), irrespective of their nationality, in order to ensure the right of the citizen to choose the language, conditions shall be established regarding knowledge of Moldovan, Russian, and in localities with a Gagauz population, also Gagauz, at a level necessary for fulfilling the work, professional and official duties. [...]” / „<i>Pentru lucrătorii de conducere, lucrătorii organelor puterii de stat, administrației de stat și organizațiilor obștești, precum și pentru lucrătorii de la întreprinderi, instituții și organizații, care în virtutea obligațiilor de serviciu vin în contact cu cetățenii (ocrotirea sănătății, învățământul public, cultura, mijloacele de informare în masă, transporturile, telecomunicațiile, comerțul, sfera deservirii sociale, gospodăria comunală și de locuințe, organele de ocrotire a normelor de drept, serviciul de salvare și de lichidare a avariilor ș.a.), indiferent de apartenența națională, în scopul de a asigura dreptul cetățeanului la alegerea limbii se stabilesc cerințe în ceea ce privește cunoașterea limbilor moldovenească, rusă, iar în localitățile cu populație de naționalitate găgăuză - și a limbii găgăuze la nivelul comunicării necesar pentru îndeplinirea obligațiilor de muncă, de serviciu și oficiale. (...)</i>”</p>
<p>d to ensure by appropriate means that safety instructions are also drawn up in regional or minority languages;</p>	<p>• Article 11 of the Law on the Rights of Persons belonging to National Minorities and the Legal Status of their Organisations No. 382 of 12 July 2001: “1. Public information directly referring to health care, public order and the security of citizens, as well as visual information in the institutions belonging to the Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Justice, Prosecutor’s Office, in medical institutions in municipalities and towns, in the means of transport, in bus terminals, railway stations, ports, airports, on highways shall be drawn up in Moldovan, but, as the case may require, upon a decision of the local public administrative authorities also in another language, according to the legislation in force¹⁰⁵. 2. In localities which were granted special autonomy status, the information referred to in paragraph 1 may also be drawn up in other official languages. 3. In the areas where persons belonging to a national minority constitute a considerable part of the population, the information referred to in paragraph 1 shall also be published, as the case may require, in the language of the respective minority.” / „(1) <i>Informația cu caracter public care se</i></p>

¹⁰⁵ Paragraph 1 as amended by Law No. 343 of 22 December 2005 on amending the Law on the Rights of Persons belonging to National Minorities and the Legal Status of their Organisations No. 382 of 12 July 2001.



	<p>referă nemijlocit la ocrotirea sănătății, la asigurarea ordinii publice și a securității cetățenilor, precum și informația vizuală în instituțiile Ministerului Afacerilor Interne, Ministerului Justiției, Procuraturii, în instituțiile medicale din municipii și orașe, în mijloacele de transport, în garile auto, feroviare și fluviale, în aeroporturi, pe autostrăzi se perfectează în limba moldovenească, dar, după caz, la decizia autorităților administrației publice locale, și în altă limbă, în conformitate cu legislația în vigoare. (2) În localitățile cărora le-a fost acordat statut special de autonomie, informația prevăzută la alin. (1) se poate perfecta și în alte limbi oficiale stabilite de legile respective. (3) În teritoriile în care persoanele aparținând unei minorități naționale constituie o parte considerabilă din populație, informația prevăzută la alin. (1) se publică, după caz, și în limba acestei minorități.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 29 of the Law on the Functioning of the Languages Spoken in the Territory of the [Republic of Moldova] No. 3465 of 1 September 1989: “The texts of posters, public announcements, advertising texts and other texts providing visual information shall be written in the State language and, if necessary, shall be translated into Russian, and in the respective localities - in the State language, as well as in Gagauz and Russian. Names of goods and food products, labels of merchandise, trade marks, instructions relating to goods manufactured in the republic, as well as any other visual information shall be drawn up in the State language and in Russian. [...] In rural localities, in which the majority of the population is Ukrainian, Russian or Bulgarian, visual information may also be presented in the respective languages.” / „Textele afișelor, anunțurilor publice, textele de publicitate și alte texte de informare vizuală se scriu în limba de stat și, în caz de necesitate, se traduc în limba rusă, iar în localitățile respective - în limba de stat, precum și în limba găgăuză sau în cea rusă. Denumirile mărfurilor și ale produselor alimentare, etichetele mărfurilor, mărcile comerciale, instrucțiunile referitoare la mărfurile fabricate în republică, precum și orice alte informații vizuale prezentate populației din republică se întocmesc în limba de stat și în limba rusă. (...) În localitățile sătești, în care majoritatea o constituie populația de naționalitate ucraineană, rusă sau bulgară, informațiile vizuale pot fi prezentate și în limbile respective.” Article 20 of Law on the Protection of Consumers No. 105 of 13 March 2003 (The obligations of economic agents concerning information for consumers): “[...] 2. The import and selling on the market of products, the provision of services, lacking complete, truthful and correct information in
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	<p>Moldovan or Moldovan and Russian shall be prohibited.¹⁰⁶ [...] 6. All information, including verbal information, concerning products, services offered to consumers, accompanying documentation, as well as concluded contracts shall be presented in Moldovan or in Moldovan and one of the international languages. [...]” / (Obligațiile agenților economici privind informarea consumatorilor): „(...) (2) Se interzice importul și plasarea pe piață a produselor, prestarea serviciilor în lipsa informației complete, veridice și corecte în limba moldovenească sau în limbile moldovenească și rusă. (...) (6) Toate informațiile, inclusiv cele verbale, referitoare la produsele, serviciile oferite consumatorilor, documentația de însoțire, precum și contractele încheiate, trebuie să fie prezentate în limba moldovenească sau în limba moldovenească și în una din limbile de circulație internațională.”</p>
<p>e to arrange for information provided by the competent public authorities concerning the rights of consumers to be made available in regional or minority languages.</p>	
<p>Article 14</p>	
<p>The Parties undertake:</p>	
<p>a to apply existing bilateral and multilateral agreements which bind them with the States in which the same language is used in identical or similar form, or if necessary to seek to conclude such agreements, in such a way as to foster contacts between the users of the same language in the States concerned in the fields of culture, education, information, vocational training and permanent education;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Articles 17.1 and 18.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 6 of the Law on the Rights of Persons belonging to National Minorities and the Legal Status of their Organisations No. 382 of 12 July 2001: “[...] 2. In order to ensure the educational process in institutions where teaching takes place entirely or partly in the languages of the national minorities, the State shall contribute to the drawing up of programmes and teaching materials, to the training of teachers, co-operating in this field with other countries. 3. Persons belonging to national minorities have the right to attend higher education and postgraduate studies in their historical homeland and in other countries, based on international treaties and agreements. [...]” / „(2) Pentru asigurarea procesului de instruire în instituțiile de învățământ în care predarea se face, în întregime sau parțial, în limbile minorităților naționale, statul contribuie la elaborarea de programe și literatură didactico-metodică, la instruirea cadrelor didactice, colaborând în acest domeniu cu alte țări. (3) Persoanele aparținând minorităților naționale au dreptul să obțină studii superioare și postuniversitare în patria lor istorică și în alte țări în baza tratatelor și acordurilor internaționale. (...)”
<p>b for the benefit of regional or minority languages, to facilitate and/or promote co-operation across borders, in particular between regional or local authorities in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 18.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 17 of the Law on the Rights of Persons belonging to National Minorities and the Legal Status of their Organisations No. 382 of 12 July

¹⁰⁶ Paragraph 2 as amended by Law No. 526 of 18 December 2003 on amending Law No. 105-XV of 13 March 2003 on the Protection of Consumers.



	<p>2001: "The State shall contribute to the facilitation of [...] contacts of persons belonging to national minorities with their historical homeland." / „Statul contribuie la facilitatea contactelor (...) ale persoanelor aparținând minorităților naționale cu patria lor istorică.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 21 of the Law on the Rights of Persons belonging to National Minorities and the Legal Status of their Organisations No. 382 of 12 July 2001: "The organisations working on behalf of persons belonging to national minorities have the right to co-operate with institutions and departments in other countries, which have in their competence matters of interest for the respective organisations, from the point of view of achieving their statutory purposes." / „Organizațiile persoanelor aparținând minorităților naționale au dreptul să colaboreze cu instituții și departamente din alte țări, de a căror competență țin problemele ce prezintă interes pentru organizațiile în cauză sub aspectul realizării scopurilor lor statutare.”
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10. Portugal

Provision of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages	Legal provisions, policies and practices complying with that Charter provision
Article 8 – Education	
1 With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:	
a i to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	
ii to make available a substantial part of pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	Article 3 of Law No. 7/99 on the Official Recognition of Linguistic Rights of the Mirandese Community of 29 January 1999: "The State recognises the children's right to learn Mirandese, in the terms of its regulation."
iii to apply one of the measures provided for under i and ii above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 3 of Law No. 7/99 on the Official Recognition of Linguistic Rights of the Mirandese Community of 29 January 1999: "The State recognises the children's right to learn Mirandese, in the terms of its regulation."
iv if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of pre-school education, to favour and/or encourage the application of the measures referred to under i to iii above;	
b 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 curriculum; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 3 of Law No. 7/99 on the Official Recognition of Linguistic Rights of the Mirandese Community of 29 January 1999: "The State recognises the children's right to learn Mirandese, in the terms of its regulation." Paragraph 1 of the Normative Document No. 35/99: "Students attending primary and secondary education in schools of the Council of Miranda do Douro have the faculty to learn Mirandese, as a source of curriculum enrichment."
iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient;	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 3 of Law No. 7/99 on the Official Recognition of Linguistic Rights of the Miran-



minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or	dese Community of 29 January 1999: "The State recognises the children's right to learn Mirandese, in the terms of its regulation." ● Paragraph 1 of the Normative Document No. 35/99 : "Students attending primary and secondary education in schools of the Council of Miranda do Douro have the faculty to learn Mirandese, as a source of curriculum enrichment."
iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
d i to make available technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	
ii to make available a substantial part of technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	
iii to provide, within technical and vocational education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or	
iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
e i to make available university and other higher education in regional or minority languages; or	
ii to provide facilities for the study of these languages as university and higher education subjects; or	
iii if, by reason of the role of the State in relation to higher education institutions, subparagraphs i and ii cannot be applied, to encourage and/or allow the provision of university or other forms of higher education in regional or minority languages or of facilities for the study of these languages as university or higher education subjects;	
f i to arrange for the provision of adult and continuing education courses which are taught mainly or wholly in the regional or minority languages; or	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
ii to offer such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education; or	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
iii if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of adult education, to favour and/or encourage the offering of such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education;	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
g to make arrangements to ensure the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the regional or minority language;	Article 12.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
h to provide the basic and further training of the teachers required to implement those of paragraphs a to g accepted by the Party;	● Article 12.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. ● Article 5 of Law No. 7/99 on the Official Recognition of Linguistic Rights of the Mirandese Community of 29 January 1999: "The State recognises the right to scientific and educational

	support concerning the formation of Mirandese language and culture teaching staff, in the terms of its regulation."
i to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.	
2 With regard to education and in respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all the appropriate stages of education.	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
Article 9	
1 The Parties undertake, in respect of those judicial districts in which the number of residents using the regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below, according to the situation of each of these languages and on condition that the use of the facilities afforded by the present paragraph is not considered by the judge to hamper the proper administration of justice:	
a in criminal proceedings:	
i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or	
ii to guarantee the accused the right to use his/her regional or minority language; and/or	Article 10.3, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
iii to provide that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, shall not be considered inadmissible solely because they are formulated in a regional or minority language; and/or	
iv to produce, on request, documents connected with legal proceedings in the relevant regional or minority language,	
if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations involving no extra expense for the persons concerned;	
b in civil proceedings:	
i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or	
ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or	
iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,	
if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;	
c in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:	
i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages;	



and/or	
ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or	
iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages, if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;	
d to take steps to ensure that the application of sub-paragraphs i and iii of paragraphs b and c above and any necessary use of interpreters and translations does not involve extra expense for the persons concerned.	
2 The Parties undertake:	
a not to deny the validity of legal documents drawn up within the State solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language; or	
b not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language, and to provide that they can be invoked against interested third parties who are not users of these languages on condition that the contents of the document are made known to them by the person(s) who invoke(s) it; or	
c not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language.	
3 The Parties undertake to make available in the regional or minority languages the most important national statutory texts and those relating particularly to users of these languages, unless they are otherwise provided.	
Article 10	
1 Within the administrative districts of the State in which the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below and according to the situation of each language, the Parties undertake, as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a i to ensure that the administrative authorities use the regional or minority languages; or	
ii to ensure that such of their officers as are in contact with the public use the regional or minority languages in their relations with persons applying to them in these languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 4 of Law No. 7/99 on the Official Recognition of Linguistic Rights of the Mirandese Community of 29 January 1999: "The public institutions placed in the Council of Miranda do Douro will be able to issue their documents along with a version in Mirandese."
iii to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications and receive a reply in these languages; or	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
iv to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications in these languages; or	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.

v to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may validly submit a document in these languages;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
b to make available widely used administrative texts and forms for the population in the regional or minority languages or in bilingual versions;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 4 of Law No. 7/99 on the Official Recognition of Linguistic Rights of the Mirandese Community of 29 January 1999: "The public institutions placed in the Council of Miranda do Douro will be able to issue their documents along with a version in Mirandese."
c to allow the administrative authorities to draft documents in a regional or minority language.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 4 of Law No. 7/99 on the Official Recognition of Linguistic Rights of the Mirandese Community of 29 January 1999: "The public institutions placed in the Council of Miranda do Douro will be able to issue their documents along with a version in Mirandese."
2 In respect of the local and regional authorities on whose territory the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages is such as to justify the measures specified below, the Parties undertake to allow and/or encourage:	
a the use of regional or minority languages within the framework of the regional or local authority;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
b the possibility for users of regional or minority languages to submit oral or written applications in these languages;	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
c the publication by regional authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 4 of Law No. 7/99 on the Official Recognition of Linguistic Rights of the Mirandese Community of 29 January 1999: "The public institutions placed in the Council of Miranda do Douro will be able to issue their documents along with a version in Mirandese."
d the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 4 of Law No. 7/99 on the Official Recognition of Linguistic Rights of the Mirandese Community of 29 January 1999: "The public institutions placed in the Council of Miranda do Douro will be able to issue their documents along with a version in Mirandese."
e the use by regional authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;	
f the use by local authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;	
g the use or adoption, if necessary in conjunction with the name in the official language(s), of traditional and correct forms of place names in regional or minority languages.	Article 11.3, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.



3 With regard to public services provided by the administrative authorities or other persons acting on their behalf, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which regional or minority languages are used, in accordance with the situation of each language and as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a to ensure that the regional or minority languages are used in the provision of the service; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 4 of Law No. 7/99 on the Official Recognition of Linguistic Rights of the Mirandese Community of 29 January 1999: "The public institutions placed in the Council of Miranda do Douro will be able to issue their documents along with a version in Mirandese."
b to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request and receive a reply in these languages; or	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
c to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request in these languages.	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
4 With a view to putting into effect those provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 accepted by them, the Parties undertake to take one or more of the following measures:	
a translation or interpretation as may be required;	
b recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required;	
c compliance as far as possible with requests from public service employees having a knowledge of a regional or minority language to be appointed in the territory in which that language is used.	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
5 The Parties undertake to allow the use or adoption of family names in the regional or minority languages, at the request of those concerned.	Article 11.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
Article 11	
1 The Parties undertake, for the users of the regional or minority languages within the territories in which those languages are spoken, according to the situation of each language, to the extent that the public authorities, directly or indirectly, are competent, have power or play a role in this field, and respecting the principle of the independence and autonomy of the media:	
a to the extent that radio and television carry out a public service mission:	
i to ensure the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	
iii to make adequate provision so that broadcasters offer programmes in the regional or minority languages;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
b i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station in the regional or	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.

minority languages; or	
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of radio programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
c i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of television programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
d to encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audiovisual works in the regional or minority languages;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
e i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages; or	Articles 9.3 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the publication of newspaper articles in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
f i to cover the additional costs of those media which use regional or minority languages, wherever the law provides for financial assistance in general for the media; or	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
ii to apply existing measures for financial assistance also to audiovisual productions in the regional or minority languages;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
g to support the training of journalists and other staff for media using regional or minority languages.	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
2 The Parties undertake to guarantee freedom of direct reception of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language, and not to oppose the retransmission of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in such a language. They further undertake to ensure that no restrictions will be placed on the freedom of expression and free circulation of information in the written press in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language. The exercise of the above-mentioned freedoms, since it carries with it duties and responsibilities, may be subject to such formalities, conditions, restrictions or penalties as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputation or rights of others, for preventing disclosure of information received in confidence, or for maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary.	Articles 9.1, 9.2, 9.3 and 18, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
3 The Parties undertake to ensure that the interests of the users of regional or minority languages are represented or taken into account within such bodies as may be established in accordance with the law with responsibility for guaranteeing the freedom and pluralism of the media.	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
Article 12	
1 With regard to cultural activities and facilities	



– especially libraries, video libraries, cultural centres, museums, archives, academies, theatres and cinemas, as well as literary work and film production, vernacular forms of cultural expression, festivals and the culture industries, including, <i>inter alia</i> , the use of new technologies – the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used and to the extent that the public authorities are competent, have power or play a role in this field:	
a to encourage types of expression and initiative specific to regional or minority languages and foster the different means of access to works produced in these languages;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 5.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 2 of Law No. 7/99 on the Official Recognition of Linguistic Rights of the Mirandese Community of 29 January 1999: “The Portuguese State recognises the right to develop and promote the Mirandese language as cultural patrimony, an instrument of communication and support of the identity of Terra da Miranda.”
b to foster the different means of access in other languages to works produced in regional or minority languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;	Articles 9.1 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
c to foster access in regional or minority languages to works produced in other languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;	Articles 9.1 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
d to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities of various kinds make appropriate allowance for incorporating the knowledge and use of regional or minority languages and cultures in the undertakings which they initiate or for which they provide backing;	Articles 5.1 and 9.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
e to promote measures to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities have at their disposal staff who have a full command of the regional or minority language concerned, as well as of the language(s) of the rest of the population;	Articles 5.1 and Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
f to encourage direct participation by representatives of the users of a given regional or minority language in providing facilities and planning cultural activities;	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
g to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of a body or bodies responsible for collecting, keeping a copy of and presenting or publishing works produced in the regional or minority languages;	
h if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.	
2 In respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage and/or provide appropriate cultural activities and facilities in accordance with the preceding paragraph.	
3 The Parties undertake to make appropriate	

provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect.	
Article 13	
1 With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, within the whole country:	
a to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of regional or minority languages in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations;	Article 4.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
b to prohibit the insertion in internal regulations of companies and private documents of any clauses excluding or restricting the use of regional or minority languages, at least between users of the same language;	
c to oppose practices designed to discourage the use of regional or minority languages in connection with economic or social activities;	
d to facilitate and/or encourage the use of regional or minority languages by means other than those specified in the above sub-paragraphs.	
2 With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, in so far as the public authorities are competent, within the territory in which the regional or minority languages are used, and as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a to include in their financial and banking regulations provisions which allow, by means of procedures compatible with commercial practice, the use of regional or minority languages in drawing up payment orders (cheques, drafts, etc.) or other financial documents, or, where appropriate, to ensure the implementation of such provisions;	
b in the economic and social sectors directly under their control (public sector), to organise activities to promote the use of regional or minority languages;	
c to ensure that social care facilities such as hospitals, retirement homes and hostels offer the possibility of receiving and treating in their own language persons using a regional or minority language who are in need of care on grounds of ill-health, old age or for other reasons;	
d to ensure by appropriate means that safety instructions are also drawn up in regional or minority languages;	
e to arrange for information provided by the competent public authorities concerning the rights of consumers to be made available in regional or minority languages.	
Article 14	
The Parties undertake:	
a to apply existing bilateral and multilateral agreements which bind them with the States in which the same language is used in identical	Articles 17.1 and 18.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.



or similar form, or if necessary to seek to conclude such agreements, in such a way as to foster contacts between the users of the same language in the States concerned in the fields of culture, education, information, vocational training and permanent education;	
b for the benefit of regional or minority languages, to facilitate and/or promote co-operation across borders, in particular between regional or local authorities in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form.	Article 18.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.

11. Russian Federation

Provision of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages	Legal provisions, policies and practices complying with that Charter provision
Article 8 – Education	
1 With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:	
a i to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Law No. 74-FZ of 17 June 1996 "On National-Cultural autonomy": Article 12. Guarantee by the federal executive authorities and the executive authorities of constituent entities of the Russian Federation of the right to receive basic general education in one's national/native language and to choose the language of child nurturing and tuition. The federal executive authorities and the executive authorities of constituent entities of the Russian Federation shall, in accordance with Russian Federation legislation and the legislation of Russian Federation constituent entities on languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation, on education and the present Federal law: ensure, where necessary, that groups are set up within State and municipal pre-school establishments, with tuition in the ethnic/native language. • Law of 26 April 1990 "On the free national development of citizens of the USSR living outside the borders of their national-administrative entities, or having no such entities in the territory of the USSR" Article 5.1: Under the authority of the Union and the autonomous republics are: ... the teaching of children of all nationalities in their mother tongue. • General provisions (Articles 5 and 6 of the RF Law "On education", Article 9 of the RF Law "On languages", Articles 4, 10, 11 and 12 of the RF Law "On national-cultural autonomy").
ii to make available a substantial part of pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Law No. 74-FZ of 17 June 1996 "On National-Cultural Autonomy": Article 12. Guarantee by the federal executive authorities and the executive authorities of constituent entities of the Russian Federation of the right to receive basic general education in one's national/native language and to choose the language of child nurturing and tuition. The federal executive authorities and the executive authorities of constituent entities of the Russian Federation shall, in accordance with Russian Federation legislation and the legislation of Russian Federation constituent entities on languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation, on education and



	<p>the present Federal law: ensure, where necessary, that groups are set up within State and municipal pre-school establishments, with tuition in the ethnic/native language.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law of 26 April 1990 “On the free national development of citizens of the USSR living outside the borders of their national-administrative entities, or having no such entities in the territory of the USSR” <p>Article 5.1: Under the authority of the Union and the autonomous republics are: ... the teaching of children of all nationalities in their mother tongue.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General provisions (Articles 5 and 6 of the RF Law "On education", Article 9 of the RF Law "On languages", Articles 4, 10, 11 and 12 of the RF Law "On national-cultural autonomy").
<p>iii to apply one of the measures provided for under i and ii above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient; or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. • Federal Law No. 74-FZ of 17 June 1996 "On National-Cultural Autonomy": <p>Article 11. Guarantee by national-cultural autonomies of the right to receive basic general education in one's national/native language and to choose the language of child nurturing and tuition.</p> <p>For the purpose of guaranteeing the right to receive basic general education in one's national/native language and to choose the language of child nurturing and tuition, national-cultural autonomies may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - set up non-State/public-initiative pre-school establishments or groups in such establishments with child nurturing in the ethnic/native language; <p>Article 12. Guarantee by the federal executive authorities and the executive authorities of constituent entities of the Russian Federation of the right to receive basic general education in one's national/native language and to choose the language of child nurturing and tuition.</p> <p>The federal executive authorities and the executive authorities of constituent entities of the Russian Federation shall, in accordance with Russian Federation legislation and the legislation of Russian Federation constituent entities on languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation, on education and the present Federal law: ensure, where necessary, that groups are set up within State and municipal pre-school establishments, with tuition in the ethnic/native language.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law of 26 April 1990 “On the free national development of citizens of the USSR living outside the borders of their national-administrative entities, or having no such entities in the territory of the USSR”

	<p>Article 5.1: Under the authority of the Union and the autonomous republics are: ... the teaching of children of all nationalities in their mother tongue.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General provisions (Articles 5 and 6 of the RF Law "On education", Article 9 of the RF Law "On languages", Articles 4, 10, 11 and 12 of the RF Law "On national-cultural autonomy").
<p>iv if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of pre-school education, to favour and/or encourage the application of the measures referred to under i to iii above;</p>	<p>Federal Law No. 74-FZ of 17 June 1996 "On National-Cultural Autonomy":</p> <p>Article 11. Guarantee by national-cultural autonomies of the right to receive basic general education in one's national/native language and to choose the language of child nurturing and tuition.</p> <p>For the purpose of guaranteeing the right to receive basic general education in one's national/native language and to choose the language of child nurturing and tuition, national-cultural autonomies may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - set up non-State/public-initiative pre-school establishments or groups in such establishments with child nurturing in the ethnic/native language; found other non-State/public-initiative educational establishments with tuition in the ethnic/native language.
<p>b i to make available primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Law No. 74-FZ of 17 June 1996 "On National-Cultural Autonomy": <p>Article 11. Guarantee by national-cultural autonomies of the right to receive basic general education in one's national/native language and to choose the language of child nurturing and tuition.</p> <p>For the purpose of guaranteeing the right to receive basic general education in one's national/native language and to choose the language of child nurturing and tuition, national-cultural autonomies may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... create non-State/public-initiative educational establishments (... primary ... educational establishments) with tuition in the ethnic/native language. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law of 26 April 1990 “On the free national development of citizens of the USSR living outside the borders of their national-administrative entities, or having no such entities in the territory of the USSR” <p>Article 5.1: Under the authority of the Union and the autonomous republics are: ... the teaching of children of all nationalities in their mother tongue.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General provisions (Articles 5 and 6 of the RF Law "On education", Article 9 of the RF Law "On languages", Articles 4, 10, 11 and 12 of the RF Law "On national-cultural autonomy").
<p>ii to make available a substantial part of primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Law No. 74-FZ of 17 June 1996 "On National-Cultural Autonomy": <p>Article 11. Guarantee by national-cultural autonomies of the right to receive basic general education</p>



	<p>in one's national/native language and to choose the language of child nurturing and tuition.</p> <p>For the purpose of guaranteeing the right to receive basic general education in one's national/native language and to choose the language of child nurturing and tuition, national-cultural autonomies may:</p> <p>... create non-State/public-initiative educational establishments (... primary ... educational establishments) with tuition in the ethnic/native language.</p> <p>• Law of 26 April 1990 "On the free national development of citizens of the USSR living outside the borders of their national-administrative entities, or having no such entities in the territory of the USSR"</p> <p>Article 5.1: Under the authority of the Union and the autonomous republics are: ... the teaching of children of all nationalities in their mother tongue.</p> <p>• General provisions (Articles 5 and 6 of the RF Law "On education", Article 9 of the RF Law "On languages", Articles 4, 10, 11 and 12 of the RF Law "On national-cultural autonomy")</p>
iii to provide, within primary education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or	<p>General provisions (Articles 5 and 6 of the RF Law "On education", Article 9 of the RF Law "On languages", Articles 4, 10, 11 and 12 of the RF Law "On national-cultural autonomy").</p> <p>• Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p> <p>• General provisions (Articles 5 and 6 of the RF Law "On education", Article 9 of the RF Law "On languages", Articles 4, 10, 11 and 12 of the RF Law "On national-cultural autonomy").</p>
iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient;	<p>• Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p> <p>• General provisions (Articles 5 and 6 of the RF Law "On education", Article 9 of the RF Law "On languages", Articles 4, 10, 11 and 12 of the RF Law "On national-cultural autonomy").</p>
c i to make available secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	<p>• Federal Law No. 74-FZ of 17 June 1996 "On National-Cultural Autonomy":</p> <p>Article 11. Guarantee by national-cultural autonomies of the right to receive basic general education in one's national/native language and to choose the language of child nurturing and tuition.</p> <p>For the purpose of guaranteeing the right to receive basic general education in one's national/native language and to choose the language of child nurturing and tuition, national-cultural autonomies may: establish other non-State/public-initiative educational establishments (providing general education; providing ... secondary ... education) with tuition in the ethnic/native language.</p> <p>• Law of 26 April 1990 "On the free national development of citizens of the USSR living outside the borders of their national-administrative entities, or having no such entities in the territory of the USSR"</p>

	<p>Article 5.1: Under the authority of the Union and the autonomous republics are: ... the teaching of children of all nationalities in their mother tongue.</p> <p>• General provisions (Articles 5 and 6 of the RF Law "On education", Article 9 of the RF Law "On languages", Articles 4, 10, 11 and 12 of the RF Law "On national-cultural autonomy").</p>
ii to make available a substantial part of secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	<p>• Federal Law No. 74-FZ of 17 June 1996 "On National-Cultural Autonomy":</p> <p>Article 11. Guarantee by national-cultural autonomies of the right to receive basic general education in one's national/native language and to choose the language of child nurturing and tuition.</p> <p>For the purpose of guaranteeing the right to receive basic general education in one's national/native language and to choose the language of child nurturing and tuition, national-cultural autonomies may: establish other non-State/public-initiative educational establishments (providing general education...) with tuition in the ethnic/native language.</p> <p>• Law of 26 April 1990 "On the free national development of citizens of the USSR living outside the borders of their national-administrative entities, or having no such entities in the territory of the USSR"</p> <p>Article 5.1: Under the authority of the Union and the autonomous republics are: ... the teaching of children of all nationalities in their mother tongue.</p> <p>• General provisions (Articles 5 and 6 of the RF Law "On education", Article 9 of the RF Law "On languages", Articles 4, 10, 11 and 12 of the RF Law "On National-Cultural Autonomy").</p>
iii to provide, within secondary education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or	<p>General provisions (Articles 5 and 6 of the RF Law "On education", Article 9 of the RF Law "On languages", Articles 4, 10, 11 and 12 of the RF Law "On national-cultural autonomy") general provisions (Articles 5 and 6 of the RF Law "On education", Article 9 of the RF Law "On languages", Articles 4, 10, 11, 12 of the RF Law "On National-Cultural Autonomy").</p>
iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;	<p>• Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p> <p>• General provisions (Articles 5 and 6 of the RF Law "On education", Article 9 of the RF Law "On languages", Articles 4, 10, 11 and 12 of the RF Law "On National-Cultural Autonomy").</p>
d i to make available technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	<p>• Federal Law No. 74-FZ of 17 June 1996 "On National-Cultural Autonomy":</p> <p>Article 11. Guarantee by national-cultural autonomies of the right to receive basic general education in one's national/native language and to choose the language of child nurturing and tuition.</p>



	For the purpose of guaranteeing the right to receive basic general education in one's national/native language and to choose the language of child nurturing and tuition, national-cultural autonomies may: establish other non-State/public-initiative educational establishments (...secondary and higher vocational education) with tuition in the ethnic/native language.
ii to make available a substantial part of technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	General provisions (Articles 5 and 6 of the RF Law "On education", Article 9 of the RF Law "On languages", Article 4 of the RF Law "On National-Cultural Autonomy").
iii to provide, within technical and vocational education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or	General provisions (Articles 5 and 6 of the RF Law "On education", Article 9 of the RF Law "On languages", Article 4 of the RF Law "On National-Cultural Autonomy").
iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
e i to make available university and other higher education in regional or minority languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Federal Law No. 74-FZ of 17 June 1996 "On National-Cultural Autonomy": <p>Article 11. Guarantee by national-cultural autonomies of the right to receive basic general education in one's national/native language and to choose the language of child nurturing and tuition.</p> <p>For the purpose of guaranteeing the right to receive basic general education in one's national/native language and to choose the language of child nurturing and tuition, national-cultural autonomies may: establish other non-State/public-initiative educational establishments (...higher vocational education) with tuition in the ethnic/native language.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General provisions (Articles 5 and 6 of the RF Law "On education", Article 9 of the RF Law "On languages", Article 4 of the RF Law "On National-Cultural Autonomy").
ii to provide facilities for the study of these languages as university and higher education subjects; or	
iii if, by reason of the role of the State in relation to higher education institutions, subparagraphs i and ii cannot be applied, to encourage and/or allow the provision of university or other forms of higher education in regional or minority languages or of facilities for the study of these languages as university or higher education subjects;	General provisions (Articles 5 and 6 of the RF Law "On education", Article 9 of the RF Law "On languages", Article 4 of the RF Law "On National-Cultural Autonomy").
f i to arrange for the provision of adult and continuing education courses which are taught mainly or wholly in the regional or minority languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. General provisions (Articles 5 and 6 of the RF Law "On education", Article 9 of the RF Law "On languages", Article 4 of the RF Law "On National-Cultural Autonomy").
ii to offer such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protec-

	tion of National Minorities.
iii if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of adult education, to favour and/or encourage the offering of such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General provisions (Articles 5 and 6 of the RF Law "On education", Article 9 of the RF Law "On languages", Article 4 of the RF Law "On National-Cultural Autonomy"). Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Federal Law No. 74-FZ of 17 June 1996 "On National-Cultural Autonomy": <p>Article 11. Guarantee by national-cultural autonomies of the right to receive basic general education in one's national/native language and to choose the language of child nurturing and tuition.</p> <p>For the purpose of guaranteeing the right to receive basic general education in one's national/native language and to choose the language of child nurturing and tuition, national-cultural autonomies may: ... participate in the devising of education programmes by competent educational institutions and publishing of textbooks, methodological aids and other pedagogical literature necessary to guarantee the right to receive education in one's ethnic/native language. (in the version of the Federal law of 1 December 2007, No. 309-FZ).</p>
g to make arrangements to ensure the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the regional or minority language;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 12.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Federal Law No. 74-FZ of 17 June 1996 "On National-Cultural Autonomy": <p>Article 11. Guarantee by national-cultural autonomies of the right to receive basic general education in one's national/native language and to choose the language of child nurturing and tuition.</p> <p>For the purpose of guaranteeing the right to receive basic general education in one's national/native language and to choose the language of child nurturing and tuition, national-cultural autonomies may: submit proposals to federal executive authorities, executive authorities of Russian Federation constituent entities and local authorities of municipal and urban districts on the setting up of: (in the version of the Federal law of 22 August 2004 No. 122-FZ) ... State and municipal educational establishments with tuition in Russian and in-depth study of the ethnic/native language and ethnic history and culture.</p>
h to provide the basic and further training of the teachers required to implement those of paragraphs a to g accepted by the Party;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 12.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Russian Federation Law No. 1807-1 of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of



	<p>the Russian Federation":</p> <p>Article 7. programmes for the preservation, development and study of the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ).</p> <p>Programmes for the preservation, study and development of the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation shall provide for arrangements to ensure the functioning of ... other languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation, ... train specialists in this sphere, improve the education system with a view to developing the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation and other measures.</p> <p>• Federal Law No. 74-FZ of 17 June 1996 "On National-Cultural Autonomy":</p> <p>Article 11. Guarantee by national-cultural autonomies of the right to receive basic general education in one's national/native language and to choose the language of child nurturing and tuition.</p> <p>For the purpose of guaranteeing the right to receive basic general education in one's national/native language and to choose the language of child nurturing and tuition, national-cultural autonomies may:</p> <p>...</p> <p>organise the training and retraining of teaching and other staff for non-State/public-initiative educational establishments;</p> <p>conclude agreements with non-governmental organisations outside the frontiers of the Russian Federation on the creation of conditions for the exercise of the right to receive education in one's ethnic/native language, notably agreements on the training of teaching staff and the provision of academic/methodological, textbook and artistic literature and audiovisual material for teaching in the ethnic/native language.</p>
<p>i to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.</p>	<p>Russian Federation Law "On education":</p> <p>Article 37. Authorities exercising administrative functions in the sphere of education. (in the version of the Federal law of 29 December 2006 No. 258-FZ).</p> <p>1. State administration in the sphere of education shall be exercised within the limits of their competence by federal State authorities and authorities of Russian federation constituent entities. The federal State authorities exercising State administration in the sphere of education shall include the federal executive authorities exercising functions in the devising of State policy, legal and statutory regulation, control and supervision, administration of State property and provision of State services in the sphere of education, as well as federal executive</p>

	<p>authorities whose remit includes educational establishments.</p> <p>2. In municipal and urban districts administration in the sphere of education shall be exercised by the corresponding local authorities.</p> <p>3. In the event of an infringement of Russian Federation legislation by an educational establishment in the sphere of education and/or the charter of the educational establishment, the authorities exercising State administration in the sphere of education shall, within the limits of their competence, issue an order demanding a rectification of that infringement.</p>
<p>2 With regard to education and in respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all the appropriate stages of education.</p>	<p>• Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p> <p>• Law of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation"</p> <p>Article 9.5: The State supports the citizens of the Russian Federation living outside the borders of their national-State or national-territorial entity or not having such an entity, as well as the members of small-in-numbers peoples and ethnic groups in the organisation of different forms of education and teaching in the mother tongue irrespective of their number and in accordance with their needs.</p>
<p>Article 9</p> <p>1 The Parties undertake, in respect of those judicial districts in which the number of residents using the regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below, according to the situation of each of these languages and on condition that the use of the facilities afforded by the present paragraph is not considered by the judge to hamper the proper administration of justice:</p>	
<p>a in criminal proceedings:</p> <p>i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or</p>	<p>• Code of Criminal Procedure of the Russian Federation No. 174-FZ of 18 December 2001</p> <p>Article 18. Language of criminal proceedings.</p> <p>1. Criminal proceedings shall be conducted in Russian and also the State languages of the republics making up the Russian Federation. In the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation and military courts, criminal case proceedings shall be conducted in Russian. (in the version of the Federal law of 29 May 2002 No. 58-FZ). (see text in previous wording)</p> <p>2. Participants in criminal proceedings with no or an insufficient ability to speak the language in which the proceedings are being conducted must have explained and guaranteed to them their right to make statements, give explanations and evidence, lodge applications, bring complaints, familiarise themselves with the criminal case material and address the court in their native language or another language spoken by them and also avail themselves of the assistance of a translator free of charge in ac-</p>



	<p>cordance with the procedure established by the present Code.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.3, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Code of Criminal Procedure of the Russian Federation No. 174-FZ of 18 December 2001 <p>Article 18. Language of criminal proceedings.</p> <p>1. Criminal proceedings shall be conducted in Russian and also the State languages of the republics making up the Russian Federation. In the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation and military courts, criminal case proceedings shall be conducted in Russian. (in the version of the Federal law of 29 May 2002 No. 58-FZ.) (see text in previous wording)</p> <p>2. Participants in criminal proceedings with no or an insufficient ability to speak the language in which the proceedings are being conducted must have explained and guaranteed to them their right to make statements, give explanations and evidence, lodge applications, bring complaints, familiarise themselves with the criminal case material and address the court in their native language or another language spoken by them and also avail themselves of the assistance of a translator free of charge in accordance with the procedure established by the present Code.</p> <p>Article 47. Accused persons 4. Accused persons shall be entitled to: 6) give evidence and explanations in their native language or another language spoken by them;</p> <p>Article 51. Mandatory participation of a defence counsel</p> <p>1. The participation of a defence counsel in criminal proceedings shall be mandatory if:</p> <p>4) a suspect or accused person does not speak the language in which the criminal case proceedings are being conducted;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General provisions (Articles 4 and 18 RF Law "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation", Article 10 Federal Constitutional Law "On the judicial system of the Russian Federation", Articles 5 and 13 RSFSR Law "On the judicial system of the RSFSR").
<p>ii to guarantee the accused the right to use his/her regional or minority language; and/or</p>	
<p>iii to provide that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, shall not be considered inadmissible solely because they are formulated in a regional or minority language; and/or</p>	<p>Code of Criminal Procedure of the Russian Federation No. 174-FZ of 18 December 2001</p> <p>Article 18. Language of criminal proceedings 3. If, in accordance with the present Code, investigative and judicial documents are subject to mandatory transmission to the person accused or suspected of the crime or other participants in the criminal proceedings, those documents shall be translated into</p>

	<p>the native language of the corresponding participant in the criminal proceedings or into a language spoken by them.</p> <p>Article 56. Witnesses 4. Witnesses shall be entitled to: 2) give evidence in their native language or another language spoken by them; general provisions (Articles 4 and 18 RF Law "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation", Article 10 Federal Constitutional Law "On the judicial system of the Russian Federation", Articles 5 and 13 RSFSR Law "On the judicial system of the RSFSR").</p>
<p>iv to produce, on request, documents connected with legal proceedings in the relevant regional or minority language,</p>	<p>Code of Criminal Procedure of the Russian Federation No. 174-FZ of 18 December 2001</p> <p>Article 18. Language of criminal proceedings 3. If, in accordance with the present Code, investigative and judicial documents are subject to mandatory transmission to the person accused or suspected of the crime or other participants in the criminal proceedings, those documents shall be translated into the native language of the corresponding participant in the criminal proceedings or into a language spoken by them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General provisions (Articles 4 and 18 RF Law "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation", Article 10 Federal Constitutional Law "On the judicial system of the Russian Federation", Articles 5 and 13 RSFSR Law "On the judicial system of the RSFSR").
<p>if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations involving no extra expense for the persons concerned;</p>	
<p>b in civil proceedings:</p>	
<p>i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or</p>	<p>Code of Civil Procedure of the Russian Federation No. 138-FZ of 14 November 2002</p> <p>Article 9. Language of civil proceedings</p> <p>2. Participants in a case procedure who do not speak the language in which civil judicial proceedings are being conducted must have explained and guaranteed to them their right to give explanations, conclusions, address the court, lodge applications and bring complaints in their native language or another language of communication freely chosen by them and also avail themselves of the services of a translator.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General provisions (Articles 4 and 18 RF Law "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation", Article 10 Federal Constitutional Law "On the judicial system of the Russian Federation", Articles 5 and 13 RSFSR Law "On the judicial system of the RSFSR", art. 6 RF CCP).
<p>ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or</p>	<p>Article 9. Language of civil proceedings 2. Participants in a case procedure who do not speak the language in which civil judicial proceedings are being conducted must have explained and guaranteed to them their right to give explanations,</p>



	<p>conclusions, address the court, lodge applications and bring complaints in their native language or another language of communication freely chosen by them and also avail themselves of the services of a translator. general provisions (Articles 4 and 18 RF Law "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation", Article 10 Federal Constitutional Law "On the judicial system of the Russian Federation", Articles 5 and 13 RSFSR Law "On the judicial system of the RSFSR", Article 6 RF CCP).</p>
<p>iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 9. Language of civil proceedings <p>2. Participants in a case procedure who do not speak the language in which civil judicial proceedings are being conducted must have explained and guaranteed to them their right to give explanations, conclusions, address the court, lodge applications and bring complaints in their native language or another language of communication freely chosen by them and also avail themselves of the services of a translator.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General provisions (Articles 4 and 18 RF Law "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation", Article 10 Federal Constitutional Law "On the judicial system of the Russian Federation", Articles 5 and 13 RSFSR Law "On the judicial system of the RSFSR", art. 6 RF CCP).
<p>if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;</p>	
<p>c in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:</p>	
<p>i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Code of Administrative Infringements of the Russian Federation No. 195-FZ of 30 December 2001 <p>Article 24.2. Language of proceedings in cases concerning administrative infringements</p> <p>2. People participating in proceedings in cases concerning administrative infringements who are unable to speak the language in which the case proceedings are being conducted shall be guaranteed the right to speak and give explanations, lodge applications and challenges and bring complaints in their native language or another language of communication freely chosen by them and also avail themselves of the services of a translator.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General provisions (Articles 4 and 18 RF Law "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation", Article 10 Federal Constitutional Law "On the judicial system of the Russian Federation", Articles 5 and 13 RSFSR Law "On the judicial system of the RSFSR", Article 1.4 CAI RF).
<p>ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Code of Administrative Infringements of the Russian Federation No. 195-FZ of 30 December 2001 <p>Article 24.2. Language of proceedings in cases concerning administrative infringements</p>

	<p>2. People participating in proceedings in cases concerning administrative infringements who are unable to speak the language in which the case proceedings are being conducted shall be guaranteed the right to speak and give explanations, lodge applications and challenges and bring complaints in their native language or another language of communication freely chosen by them and also avail themselves of the services of a translator.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General provisions (Articles 4 and 18 RF Law "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation", Article 10 Federal Constitutional Law "On the judicial system of the Russian Federation", Articles 5 and 13 RSFSR Law "On the judicial system of the RSFSR", Article 1.4 CAI RF).
<p>iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Code of Administrative Infringements of the Russian Federation No. 195-FZ of 30 December 2001 <p>Article 24.2. Language of proceedings in cases concerning administrative infringements</p> <p>2. People participating in proceedings in cases concerning administrative infringements who are unable to speak the language in which the case proceedings are being conducted shall be guaranteed the right to speak and give explanations, lodge applications and challenges and bring complaints in their native language or another language of communication freely chosen by them and also avail themselves of the services of a translator.</p> <p>Article 25.6. Witnesses</p> <p>3. Witnesses shall be entitled to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> give evidence in their native language or another language spoken by them; avail themselves of the services of a translator free of charge. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General provisions (Articles 4 and 18 RF Law "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation", Article 10 Federal Constitutional Law "On the judicial system of the Russian Federation", Articles 5 and 13 RSFSR Law "On the judicial system of the RSFSR", Article 1.4 CAI RF)
<p>if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;</p>	
<p>d to take steps to ensure that the application of sub-paragraphs i and iii of paragraphs b and c above and any necessary use of interpreters and translations does not involve extra expense for the persons concerned.</p>	<p>General provisions (Articles 4 and 18 RF Law "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation", Article 10 Federal Constitutional Law "On the judicial system of the Russian Federation", Articles 5 and 13 RSFSR Law "On the judicial system of the RSFSR", Article 1.4 CAI RF)</p>
<p>2 The Parties undertake:</p>	
<p>a not to deny the validity of legal documents drawn up within the State solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language; or</p>	<p>General provisions (Articles 4 and 18 RF Law "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation", Article 10 Fed. Const. Law "On the judicial system of the Russian Federation", Articles 5 and 13 RSFSR Law "On the judicial system of the RSFSR", Article 6 RF CCP, art. 1.4 CAI RF).</p>



b not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language, and to provide that they can be invoked against interested third parties who are not users of these languages on condition that the contents of the document are made known to them by the person(s) who invoke(s) it; or	General provisions (Articles 4 and 18 RF Law "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation", Article 10 Federal Constitutional Law "On the judicial system of the Russian Federation", Articles 5 and 13 RSFSR Law "On the judicial system of the RSFSR", Article 6 RF CCP, art. 1.4 CAI RF).
c not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language.	General provisions (Articles 4 and 18 RF Law "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation", Article 10 Federal Constitutional Law "On the judicial system of the Russian Federation", Articles 5 and 13 RSFSR Law "On the judicial system of the RSFSR", Article 6 RF CCP, Article 1.4 CAI RF).
3 The Parties undertake to make available in the regional or minority languages the most important national statutory texts and those relating particularly to users of these languages, unless they are otherwise provided.	Law of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation" Article 12.2: In the Republics, constitutional laws of the Federation, federal laws, acts of chambers of the Federal Assembly, decrees and orders of the President of the Russian Federation, directives and orders of the government of the Russian Federation can also be published in their official languages along with the official publication.
Article 10	
1 Within the administrative districts of the State in which the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below and according to the situation of each language, the Parties undertake, as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a i to ensure that the administrative authorities use the regional or minority languages; or	Russian Federation Law No. 1807-1 of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation" Article 15. Use of languages in the work of State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions 1. In the activity of state authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions of the Russian Federation, the State language of the Russian Federation, the State languages of republics and other languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation shall be used. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.) 2. Russian Federation citizens unable to speak the State language of the Russian Federation and the State language of the republic concerned shall be entitled to speak at meetings, work sessions and gatherings in State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions in the language which they are able to speak. Translation shall be provided where necessary. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.) 3. Russian Federation citizens unable to speak the language in which a meeting, work session or gathering is conducted in a State authority, organisation, enterprise or institution shall be provided with a

	translation where necessary in a language acceptable to them or in the State language of the Russian Federation. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)
ii to ensure that such of their officers as are in contact with the public use the regional or minority languages in their relations with persons applying to them in these languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities Russian Federation Law No. 1807-1 of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation" <p>Article 15. Use of languages in the work of State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions 1. In the activity of State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions of the Russian Federation, the State language of the Russian Federation, the State languages of republics and other languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation shall be used. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.) 2. Russian Federation citizens unable to speak the State language of the Russian Federation and the State language of the republic concerned shall be entitled to speak at meetings, work sessions and gatherings in State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions in the language which they are able to speak. Translation shall be provided where necessary. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.) 3. Russian Federation citizens unable to speak the language in which a meeting, work session or gathering is conducted in a State authority, organisation, enterprise or institution shall be provided with a translation where necessary in a language acceptable to them or in the State language of the Russian Federation. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p>
iii to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications and receive a reply in these languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities Russian Federation Law No. 1807-1 of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation" <p>Article 15. Use of languages in the work of State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions 4. Russian Federation citizens shall be entitled to submit proposals, applications or complaints to State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions of the Russian Federation in the State language of the Russian Federation, their native language or any other language of the peoples of the Russian Federation spoken by them. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.) (see text in previous wording)</p>



	<p>5. Replies to proposals, applications or complaints from Russian Federation citizens to State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions of the Russian Federation shall be given in the language used in the proposals, applications or complaints. In cases where it is not possible to reply in the language used in the proposal, application or complaint, the State language of the Russian Federation shall be used. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.) (see text in previous wording)</p>
iv to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications in these languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities Russian Federation Law No. 1807-1 of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation" <p>Article 15. Use of languages in the work of State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions</p> <p>4. Russian Federation citizens shall be entitled to submit proposals, applications or complaints to State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions of the Russian Federation in the State language of the Russian Federation, their native language or any other language of the peoples of the Russian Federation spoken by them. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.) (see text in previous wording)</p> <p>5. Replies to proposals, applications or complaints from Russian Federation citizens to State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions of the Russian Federation shall be given in the language used in the proposals, applications or complaints. In cases where it is not possible to reply in the language used in the proposal, application or complaint, the State language of the Russian Federation shall be used. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.) (see text in previous wording)</p>
v to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may validly submit a document in these languages;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities Russian Federation Law No. 1807-1 of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation" <p>Article 15. Use of languages in the work of State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions</p> <p>4. Russian Federation citizens shall be entitled to submit proposals, applications or complaints to State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions of the Russian Federation in the State language of the Russian Federation, their native language or any other language of the peoples of the Russian Federation spoken by them. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No.</p>

b to make available widely used administrative texts and forms for the population in the regional or minority languages or in bilingual versions;	<p>126-FZ.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Russian Federation Law No. 1807-1 of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation" <p>Article 16. Use of languages in official administrative procedures</p> <p>2. the text of documents (letterheads/forms, seals, stamps) and signs bearing the names of State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions shall be in the State language of the Russian Federation, the State languages of republics and other languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation, as determined by the legislation of the republics. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p>
c to allow the administrative authorities to draft documents in a regional or minority language.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities Russian Federation Law No. 1807-1 of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation" <p>Article 16. Use of languages in official administrative procedures</p> <p>2. the text of documents (letterheads/forms, seals, stamps) and signs bearing the names of State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions shall be in the State language of the Russian Federation, the State languages of republics and other languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation, as determined by the legislation of the republics. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p>
2 In respect of the local and regional authorities on whose territory the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages is such as to justify the measures specified below, the Parties undertake to allow and/or encourage:	
a the use of regional or minority languages within the framework of the regional or local authority;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Russian Federation Law No. 1807-1 of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation" <p>Article 15. Use of languages in the work of State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions</p> <p>1. In the activity of State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions of the Russian Federation the State language of the Russian Federation, the State languages of republics and other languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation shall be used. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p> <p>2. Russian Federation citizens unable to speak the</p>



	<p>State language of the Russian Federation and the State language of the republic concerned shall be entitled to Speak at meetings, work sessions and gatherings in State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions in the language which they are able to speak. Translation shall be provided where necessary. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p> <p>3. Russian Federation citizens unable to speak the language in which a meeting, work session or gathering is conducted in a State authority, organisation, enterprise or institution shall be provided with a translation where necessary in a language acceptable to them or in the State language of the Russian Federation. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Russian Federation Law No. 1807-1 of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation" <p>Article 3.4: In areas of compact settlement of a population not having a national-State or national-territorial entity of its own, or living outside its borders, the language of the population of the area concerned can be used in official communication alongside Russian and the official languages of the Republic.</p>
<p>b the possibility for users of regional or minority languages to submit oral or written applications in these languages;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. ● Russian Federation Law No. 1807-1 of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation" <p>Article 15. Use of languages in the work of State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions</p> <p>4. Russian Federation citizens shall be entitled to submit proposals, applications or complaints to State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions of the Russian Federation in the State language of the Russian Federation, their native language or any other language of the peoples of the Russian Federation spoken by them. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Russian Federation Law No. 1807-1 of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation" <p>Article 3.4: In areas of compact settlement of a population not having a national-State or national-territorial entity of its own, or living outside its borders, the language of the population of the area concerned can be used in official communication alongside Russian and the official languages of the Republic.</p>
<p>c the publication by regional authorities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the

<p>of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;</p>	<p>Protection of National Minorities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Russian Federation Law No. 1807-1 of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation" <p>Article 3.4: In areas of compact settlement of a population not having a national-State or national-territorial entity of its own, or living outside its borders, the language of the population of the area concerned can be used in official communication alongside Russian and the official languages of the Republic.</p>
<p>d the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. ● Russian Federation Law No. 1807-1 of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation" <p>Article 3.4: In areas of compact settlement of a population not having a national-State or national-territorial entity of its own, or living outside its borders, the language of the population of the area concerned can be used in official communication alongside Russian and the official languages of the Republic.</p>
<p>e the use by regional authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Russian Federation Law No. 1807-1 of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation" <p>Article 15. Use of languages in the work of State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions</p> <p>1. In the activity of State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions of the Russian Federation the State language of the Russian Federation, the State languages of republics and other languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation shall be used. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p> <p>2. Russian Federation citizens unable to speak the State language of the Russian Federation and the State language of the republic concerned shall be entitled to speak at meetings, work sessions and gatherings in State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions in the language which they are able to speak. Translation shall be provided where necessary. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p> <p>3. Russian Federation citizens unable to speak the language in which a meeting, work session or gathering is conducted in a State authority, organisation, enterprise or institution shall be provided with a translation where necessary in a language acceptable to them or in the State language of the Russian Federation. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Russian Federation Law No. 1807-1 of 25 Oc-



	<p>tober 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation"</p> <p>Article 3.4: In areas of compact settlement of a population not having a national-State or national-territorial entity of its own, or living outside its borders, the language of the population of the area concerned can be used in official communication alongside Russian and the official languages of the Republic.</p>
f the use by local authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;	<p>Russian Federation Law No. 1807-1 of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation"</p> <p>Article 3.4: In areas of compact settlement of a population not having a national-State or national-territorial entity of its own, or living outside its borders, the language of the population of the area concerned can be used in official communication alongside Russian and the official languages of the Republic.</p>
g the use or adoption, if necessary in conjunction with the name in the official language(s), of traditional and correct forms of place names in regional or minority languages.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 11.3, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Federal Law No. 152-FZ of 18 December 1997 "On place names" <p>Article 8. Standardisation and use of place names Standardisation of place names in other languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation shall follow the rules and traditions governing the use of place names in the languages concerned. Standardised place names in Russian and other languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation shall be published in dictionaries and reference guides to place names.</p> <p>3. Place names on road signs and other types of sign on Russian Federation territory shall be written in Russian. Where necessary, place names shall also be written in other languages of peoples of the Russian Federation, taking due account of the interests of the local community, and there may also be a parallel roman alphabet version.</p> <p>Article 10. Registration and listing of place names. State cataloguing of place names</p> <p>3. ...State authorities of Russian Federation constituent entities may carry out registration, listing, preparation and publication of catalogues, dictionaries and reference guides of place names in languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation, taking due account of the interests of the local community.</p>
3 With regard to public services provided by the administrative authorities or other persons acting on their behalf, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which regional or minority languages are used, in accordance with the situation of each language and as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a to ensure that the regional or minority languages are used in the provision of the service;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.

or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Russian Federation Law No. 1807-1 of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation" <p>Article 15. Use of languages in the work of State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions</p> <p>1. In the activity of State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions of the Russian Federation the State language of the Russian Federation, the State languages of republics and other languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation shall be used. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p> <p>2. Russian Federation citizens unable to speak the State language of the Russian Federation and the State language of the republic concerned shall be entitled to speak at meetings, work sessions and gatherings in State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions in the language which they are able to speak. Translation shall be provided where necessary. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p> <p>3. Russian Federation citizens unable to speak the language in which a meeting, work session or gathering is conducted in a State authority, organisation, enterprise or institution shall be provided with a translation where necessary in a language acceptable to them or in the State language of the Russian Federation. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p>
b to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request and receive a reply in these languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Russian Federation Law No. 1807-1 of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation" <p>Article 15. Use of languages in the work of State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions</p> <p>4. Russian Federation citizens shall be entitled to submit proposals, applications or complaints to State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions of the Russian Federation in the State language of the Russian Federation, their native language or any other language of the peoples of the Russian Federation spoken by them. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.) (see text in previous wording)</p> <p>5. Replies to proposals, applications or complaints from Russian Federation citizens to State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions of the Russian Federation shall be given in the language used in the proposals, applications or complaints. In cases where it is not possible to reply in the language used in the proposal, application or complaint,</p>



	the State language of the Russian Federation shall be used. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.) (see text in previous wording)
c to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request in these languages.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Russian Federation Law No. 1807-1 of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation" <p>Article 15. Use of languages in the work of State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions</p> <p>4. Russian Federation citizens shall be entitled to submit proposals, applications or complaints to State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions of the Russian Federation in the State language of the Russian Federation, their native language or any other language of the peoples of the Russian Federation spoken by them.</p>
4 With a view to putting into effect those provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 accepted by them, the Parties undertake to take one or more of the following measures:	
a translation or interpretation as may be required;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Russian Federation Law No. 1807-1 of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation" <p>Article 15. Use of languages in the work of State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions</p> <p>2. Russian Federation citizens unable to speak the State language of the Russian Federation and the State language of the republic concerned shall be entitled to speak at meetings, work sessions and gatherings in State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions in the language which they are able to speak. Translation shall be provided where necessary. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p> <p>3. Russian Federation citizens unable to speak the language in which a meeting, work session or gathering is conducted in a State authority, organisation, enterprise or institution shall be provided with a translation where necessary in a language acceptable to them or in the State language of the Russian Federation. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p>
b recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required;	
c compliance as far as possible with requests from public service employees having a knowledge of a regional or minority language to be appointed in the territory in which that language is used.	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
5 The Parties undertake to allow the use or adoption of family names in the regional or minority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 11.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.

languages, at the request of those concerned.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Russian Federation Law No. 1807-1 of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation" <p>Article 16. Use of languages in official administrative procedures</p> <p>4. Documents attesting to the identity of a Russian Federation citizen, excerpts from civil status records, work records and also documents concerning education, military service records and other documents shall be drawn up taking due account of ethnic naming traditions in the State language of the Russian Federation, and in the territory of a republic having instituted its own State language such documents may be drawn up in the State language of the republic alongside the State language of the Russian Federation. (sub-paragraph 4 in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p>
Article 11	
1 The Parties undertake, for the users of the regional or minority languages within the territories in which those languages are spoken, according to the situation of each language, to the extent that the public authorities, directly or indirectly, are competent, have power or play a role in this field, and respecting the principle of the independence and autonomy of the media:	
a to the extent that radio and television carry out a public service mission:	
i to ensure the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal Law No. 82-FZ of 30 April 1999 "On guarantees for the rights of indigenous minorities" <p>Article 10. Rights of persons belonging to indigenous minorities to preserve and develop their specific culture</p> <p>For the purpose of preserving and developing their specific culture and in accordance with Russian Federation legislation, persons belonging to indigenous minorities and associations of indigenous minorities may:</p> <p>...</p> <p>4) receive and disseminate information in their native language and create media.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation" <p>Article 7.1: The programmes on the maintenance, learning and development of the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation shall provide ... for the creation of the conditions for the distribution of information and materials by mass media in the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law of 26 April 1990 "On the free national development of citizens of the USSR living outside



	<p>the borders of their national-administrative entities, or having no such entities in the territory of the USSR”</p> <p>Article 10: The Councils of People's Deputies of the national rayons, national settlements and village councils and other Councils of People's Deputies guarantee ... information in the native language.</p>
<p>ii to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or</p>	<p>• Federal Law No. 82-FZ of 30 April 1999 "On guarantees for the rights of indigenous minorities"</p> <p>Article 10. Rights of persons belonging to indigenous minorities to preserve and develop their specific culture</p> <p>For the purpose of preserving and developing their specific culture and in accordance with Russian Federation legislation, persons belonging to indigenous minorities and associations of indigenous minorities may:</p> <p>...</p> <p>4) receive and disseminate information in their native language and create media.</p> <p>• Law of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation"</p> <p>Article 7.1: The programmes on the maintenance, learning and development of the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation shall provide ... for the creation of the conditions for the distribution of information and materials by mass media in the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation.</p> <p>• Law of 26 April 1990 "On the free national development of citizens of the USSR living outside the borders of their national-administrative entities, or having no such entities in the territory of the USSR"</p> <p>Article 10: The Councils of People's Deputies of the national rayons, national settlements and village councils and other Councils of People's Deputies guarantee ... information in the native language.</p>
<p>iii to make adequate provision so that broadcasters offer programmes in the regional or minority languages;</p>	<p>• Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p> <p>• Russian Federation Law No. 1807-1 of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation"</p> <p>Article 7. Programmes for the preservation, study and development of languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p> <p>1. The Government of the Russian Federation shall devise federal targeted programmes for the preservation, study and development of languages of the</p>

	<p>peoples of the Russian Federation and take measures to implement such programmes authorities of Russian Federation constituent entities may devise corresponding regional targeted programmes.</p> <p>Programmes for the preservation, study and development of languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation shall provide for arrangements to ensure the functioning of ... State languages of republics and other languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation, ... create conditions for the dissemination via the media of announcements and material in languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation, ... with a view to developing the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation and other measures.</p> <p>Article 20. Language of the media 2. In the media of constituent entities of the Russian Federation, Russian, the State languages of the republics and other languages of peoples residing on their territories shall be used. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p> <p>• Law of 26 April 1990 "On the free national development of citizens of the USSR living outside the borders of their national-administrative entities, or having no such entities in the territory of the USSR"</p> <p>Article 10: The Councils of People's Deputies of the national rayons, national settlements and village councils and other Councils of People's Deputies guarantee ... information in the native language.</p> <p>• Law No. 74-FZ of 17 June 1996 "On National-Cultural Autonomy"</p> <p>Article 9.2: The federal organs of the executive power and the organs of the executive power of the subjects of the Russian Federation promote the national-cultural autonomies in: the provision of television and radio programmes as well as the creation of mass media in both Russian and the national or native languages.</p>
<p>b i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station in the regional or minority languages; or</p>	<p>• Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p> <p>• Federal Law No. 82-FZ of 30 April 1999 "On guarantees for the rights of indigenous minorities"</p> <p>Article 10. Rights of persons belonging to indigenous minorities to preserve and develop their specific culture</p> <p>For the purpose of preserving and developing their specific culture and in accordance with Russian Federation legislation, persons belonging to indigenous minorities and associations of indigenous mi-</p>



	<p>norities may: ... 4) receive and disseminate information in their native language and create media.</p> <p>• Law of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation"</p> <p>Article 7.1: The programmes on the maintenance, learning and development of the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation shall provide ... for the creation of the conditions for the distribution of information and materials by mass media in the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation.</p> <p>• Law of 26 April 1990 "On the free national development of citizens of the USSR living outside the borders of their national-administrative entities, or having no such entities in the territory of the USSR"</p> <p>Article 10: The Councils of People's Deputies of the national rayons, national settlements and village councils and other Councils of People's Deputies guarantee ... information in the native language.</p>
<p>ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of radio programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;</p>	<p>• Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p> <p>• Federal Law No. 82-FZ of 30 April 1999 "On guarantees for the rights of indigenous minorities"</p> <p>Article 10. Rights of persons belonging to indigenous minorities to preserve and develop their specific culture</p> <p>For the purpose of preserving and developing their specific culture and in accordance with Russian Federation legislation, persons belonging to indigenous minorities and associations of indigenous minorities may: ... 4) receive and disseminate information in their native language and create media.</p> <p>Article 20. Language of the media 2. In the media of constituent entities of the Russian Federation, Russian, the State languages of the republics and other languages of peoples residing on their territories shall be used. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p> <p>• Law of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation"</p> <p>Article 7.1: The programmes on the maintenance, learning and development of the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation shall provide ... for the creation of the conditions for the distribution of information and materials by mass media in the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation.</p>

	<p>• Law of 26 April 1990 "On the free national development of citizens of the USSR living outside the borders of their national-administrative entities, or having no such entities in the territory of the USSR"</p> <p>Article 10: The Councils of People's Deputies of the national rayons, national settlements and village councils and other Councils of People's Deputies guarantee ... information in the native language.</p>
<p>c i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or</p>	<p>• Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p> <p>• Law of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation"</p> <p>Article 7.1: The programmes on the maintenance, learning and development of the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation shall provide ... for the creation of the conditions for the distribution of information and materials by mass media in the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation.</p> <p>• Law of 26 April 1990 "On the free national development of citizens of the USSR living outside the borders of their national-administrative entities, or having no such entities in the territory of the USSR"</p> <p>Article 10: The Councils of People's Deputies of the national rayons, national settlements and village councils and other Councils of People's Deputies guarantee ... information in the native language.</p>
<p>ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of television programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;</p>	<p>• Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p> <p>• Federal Law No. 82-FZ of 30 April 1999 "On guarantees for the rights of indigenous minorities"</p> <p>Article 10. Rights of persons belonging to indigenous minorities to preserve and develop their specific culture</p> <p>For the purpose of preserving and developing their specific culture and in accordance with Russian Federation legislation, persons belonging to indigenous minorities and associations of indigenous minorities may: ... 4) receive and disseminate information in their native language and create media.</p> <p>Article 20. Language of the media 2. In the media of constituent entities of the Russian Federation, Russian, the State languages of the republics and other languages of peoples residing on their territories shall be used. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation" <p>Article 7.1: The programmes on the maintenance, learning and development of the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation shall provide ... for the creation of the conditions for the distribution of information and materials by mass media in the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law of 26 April 1990 "On the free national development of citizens of the USSR living outside the borders of their national-administrative entities, or having no such entities in the territory of the USSR" <p>Article 10: The Councils of People's Deputies of the national rayons, national settlements and village councils and other Councils of People's Deputies guarantee ... information in the native language.</p>
<p>d to encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audiovisual works in the regional or minority languages;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. • Federal Law No. 82-FZ of 30 April 1999 "On guarantees for the rights of indigenous minorities" <p>Article 10. Rights of persons belonging to indigenous minorities to preserve and develop their specific culture</p> <p>For the purpose of preserving and developing their specific culture and in accordance with Russian Federation legislation, persons belonging to indigenous minorities and associations of indigenous minorities may:</p> <p>...</p> <p>4) receive and disseminate information in their native language and create media.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Russian Federation Law No. 1807-1 of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation" <p>Article 20. Language of the media</p> <p>2. In the media of constituent entities of the Russian Federation, Russian, the State languages of the republics and other languages of peoples residing on their territories shall be used. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p>
<p>e i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages; or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Articles 9.3 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. • Federal Law No. 82-FZ of 30 April 1999 "On guarantees for the rights of indigenous minorities" <p>Article 10. Rights of persons belonging to indigenous minorities to preserve and develop their specific cul-</p>

	<p>ture</p> <p>For the purpose of preserving and developing their specific culture and in accordance with Russian Federation legislation, persons belonging to indigenous minorities and associations of indigenous minorities may:</p> <p>...</p> <p>4) receive and disseminate information in their native language and create media.</p> <p>Article 20. Language of the media</p> <p>1. The publication of Russia-wide newspapers and magazines and broadcasting of Russia-wide television and radio shall be in Russian as the State language of the Russian Federation. Russia-wide newspapers and magazines may also be published in other languages at the discretion of their founders. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation" <p>Article 7.1: The programmes on the maintenance, learning and development of the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation shall provide ... for the creation of the conditions for the distribution of information and materials by mass media in the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law of 26 April 1990 "On the free national development of citizens of the USSR living outside the borders of their national-administrative entities, or having no such entities in the territory of the USSR" <p>Article 10: The Councils of People's Deputies of the national rayons, national settlements and village councils and other Councils of People's Deputies guarantee ... information in the native language.</p>
<p>ii to encourage and/or facilitate the publication of newspaper articles in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. • Federal Law No. 82-FZ of 30 April 1999 "On guarantees for the rights of indigenous minorities" <p>Article 10. Rights of persons belonging to indigenous minorities to preserve and develop their specific culture</p> <p>For the purpose of preserving and developing their specific culture and in accordance with Russian Federation legislation, persons belonging to indigenous minorities and associations of indigenous minorities may:</p> <p>...</p> <p>4) receive and disseminate information in their native language and create media.</p>



	<p>Article 20. Language of the media 2. In the media of constituent entities of the Russian Federation, Russian, the State languages of the republics and other languages of peoples residing on their territories shall be used. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation" <p>Article 7.1: The programmes on the maintenance, learning and development of the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation shall provide ... for the creation of the conditions for the distribution of information and materials by mass media in the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law of 26 April 1990 "On the free national development of citizens of the USSR living outside the borders of their national-administrative entities, or having no such entities in the territory of the USSR" <p>Article 10: The Councils of People's Deputies of the national rayons, national settlements and village councils and other Councils of People's Deputies guarantee ... information in the native language.</p>
<p>f i to cover the additional costs of those media which use regional or minority languages, wherever the law provides for financial assistance in general for the media; or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities • Russian Federation Law No. 1807-1 of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation" <p>Article 7. Programmes for the preservation, study and development of languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p> <p>1. The Government of the Russian Federation shall devise federal targeted programmes for the preservation, study and development of languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation and take measures to implement such programmes authorities of Russian Federation constituent entities may devise corresponding regional targeted programmes. Programmes for the preservation, study and development of languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation shall provide for arrangements to ensure the functioning of ... State languages of republics and other languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation, ... create conditions for the dissemination via the media of announcements and material in languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation, ... with a view to developing the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation and other measures.</p> <p>2. There shall be provision for the funding of federal</p>

	<p>targeted programmes or corresponding regional targeted programmes for the preservation, study and development of languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation in the federal law on the federal budget for the corresponding year.</p>
<p>ii to apply existing measures for financial assistance also to audiovisual productions in the regional or minority languages;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. • Law No. 74-FZ of 17 June 1996 "On National-Cultural Autonomy" <p>Article 15: (3) The federal programmes on the financial and organisational promotion of the mass media provide for support of the mass media of the national-cultural autonomies. (4) The programmes of the subjects of the Russian Federation and the local programmes on the financial and organisational support of the mass media can provide support of the mass media of the national-cultural autonomies.</p>
<p>g to support the training of journalists and other staff for media using regional or minority languages.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. • Law of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation" <p>Article 7.1: The programmes on the maintenance, learning and development of the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation shall provide ... for the creation of the conditions for the distribution of information and materials by mass media in the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation.</p>
<p>2 The Parties undertake to guarantee freedom of direct reception of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language, and not to oppose the retransmission of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in such a language. They further undertake to ensure that no restrictions will be placed on the freedom of expression and free circulation of information in the written press in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language. The exercise of the above-mentioned freedoms, since it carries with it duties and responsibilities, may be subject to such formalities, conditions, restrictions or penalties as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputation or rights of others, for preventing disclosure of information received in confidence, or for maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Articles 9.1, 9.2, 9.3 and 18, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. • Law of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation" <p>Article 7.1: The programmes on the maintenance, learning and development of the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation shall provide ... for the creation of the conditions for the distribution of information and materials by mass media in the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law of 26 April 1990 "On the free national development of citizens of the USSR living outside the borders of their national-administrative entities, or having no such entities in the territory of the USSR" <p>Article 10: The Councils of People's Deputies of the national rayons, national settlements and village councils and other Councils of People's Deputies guarantee ... information in the native language.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law No. 74-FZ of 17 June 1996 "On National-Cultural Autonomy" <p>Article 4.1: The right to receive and distribute information in the national or native language.</p>
<p>3 The Parties undertake to ensure that the</p>	<p>Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection</p>



<p>interests of the users of regional or minority languages are represented or taken into account within such bodies as may be established in accordance with the law with responsibility for guaranteeing the freedom and pluralism of the media.</p>	<p>of National Minorities.</p>
<p>Article 12</p>	
<p>1 With regard to cultural activities and facilities – especially libraries, video libraries, cultural centres, museums, archives, academies, theatres and cinemas, as well as literary work and film production, vernacular forms of cultural expression, festivals and the culture industries, including, <i>inter alia</i>, the use of new technologies – the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used and to the extent that the public authorities are competent, have power or play a role in this field:</p>	
<p>a to encourage types of expression and initiative specific to regional or minority languages and foster the different means of access to works produced in these languages;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 5.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. • Federal Law No. 82-FZ of 30 April 1999 "On guarantees for the rights of indigenous minorities" <p>Article 10. Rights of persons belonging to indigenous minorities to preserve and develop their specific culture</p> <p>For the purpose of preserving and developing their specific culture and in accordance with Russian Federation legislation, persons belonging to indigenous minorities and associations of indigenous minorities may:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2) create public associations, cultural centres and national-cultural autonomies of indigenous minorities, indigenous minority development foundations and indigenous minority support funds; 3) set up, in accordance with Russian Federation legislation and their own material and financial means, study groups of members of indigenous minorities for the purpose of teaching them traditional economic activities and trades of indigenous minorities; 5) observe their own traditions and practise religious rites that do not contravene federal laws or the laws of Russian Federation constituent entities and keep and preserve places of worship; 6) establish and develop links with representatives of indigenous minorities residing in the territory of other Russian Federation constituent entities and also outside the frontiers of the Russian Federation. <p>Article 12. Communities of indigenous peoples and other associations of indigenous peoples</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Persons belonging to indigenous minorities shall, on a voluntary basis, be entitled to create communities of indigenous minorities and other associations of indigenous minorities in accordance with their own ethnic, historical and cultural traditions for the pur-

	<p>pose of socio-economic and cultural development of indigenous minorities and the protection of their native living environment, traditional ways of life, economic activity and trades.</p> <p>2. The characteristics of the organisation and activity of communities of indigenous peoples and other associations of indigenous peoples shall be regulated by federal laws and the laws of constituent entities of the Russian Federation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Law No. 78-FZ of 29 December 1994 "On library services" <p>Article 18. Ethnic libraries of the Russian Federation</p> <p>2. In the republics, autonomous districts and autonomous <i>oblasti</i> [provinces] of the Russian Federation the corresponding authorities may set up ethnic libraries.</p> <p>These ethnic libraries shall be operated in accordance with the present Federal Law, the federal laws or other legal and regulatory acts of the Russian Federation and the laws and other legal and regulatory acts of Russian Federation constituent entities adopted in connection with it.</p> <p>Article 7. Rights of library users</p> <p>5. State and municipal library users shall be entitled to services and access to documents in Russian, as the State language of the Russian Federation and, in the republics of the Russian Federation, also in the State language of the republic concerned.</p> <p>Article 8. Rights of special groups of library users</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. National minorities shall have access to documents in their native language through the State library system. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fundamental principles of Russian Federation legislation on culture No. 3612-1 of 9 October 1992 <p>Article 8. Inalienable right of everyone to cultural activity</p> <p>Cultural activity in the Russian Federation is the inalienable right of every citizen irrespective of ethnic and social origin, language, sex, political, religious or other convictions, place of residence, material status, education, profession or any other circumstance.</p> <p>Article 21. Right to National-Cultural Autonomy</p> <p>The Russian Federation guarantees the right of all ethnic communities residing in concentrations outside their own ethnic State entities or not possessing their own State to national-cultural autonomy.</p> <p>National-cultural autonomy means the right of the aforementioned ethnic communities to the free exercise of their cultural identity by setting up ethnic cultural centres, ethnic societies and fraternities on the</p>
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	<p>basis of the will of the population or at the initiative of individual citizens. Ethnic cultural centres, ethnic societies and fraternities may: devise and submit proposals to the corresponding authorities and administrative directorates for the preservation and development of ethnic culture; run festivals, exhibitions and other similar events; promote the organisation of local ethnography, the preservation of ethnic historical and cultural monuments and the creation of ethnographic and other museums; create ethnic clubs, art workshops and collectives, and organise libraries, circles and workshops for the study of ethnic language and Russia-wide, regional and other associations. (in the version of the Federal law of 22 August 2004 No. 122-FZ.) Ethnic cultural centres, ethnic societies and fraternities and also Russia-wide and other territorial associations of such bodies enjoy the rights of legal persons and register themselves according to their status. The exercise by individual ethnic communities of the right to national-cultural autonomy must not be to the detriment of other ethnic communities.</p> <p>Article 22. State protection for the cultures of minority ethnic communities</p> <p>The Russian Federation guarantees protection/patronage for the preservation and restoration of the ethno-cultural identity of minority ethnic communities of the Russian Federation via exceptional protection and incentive measures provided for in federal State socio-economic, ecological, ethnic and cultural development programmes.</p> <p>Article 23. Ethno-cultural organisations of nationals outside the frontiers of the Russian Federation</p> <p>The Russian Federation shall provide moral, organisational and material support (for ethnic cultural centres, ethnic societies, fraternities, associations, study and other organisations of nationals outside the frontiers of the Russian Federation and also take steps to conclude inter-State agreements in this field.</p> <p>Article 24. Ethno-cultural organisations of other States in the Russian Federation</p> <p>The Russian Federation shall define the conditions, on the basis of inter-State agreements, for support from foreign countries for ethnic cultural centres, ethnic societies, fraternities, associations, study and other organisations of a cultural orientation of nationals residing in the Russian Federation, and to guarantee legal protection for those bodies.</p>
<p>b to foster the different means of access in other languages to works produced in regional or minority languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and</p>	<p>Articles 9.1 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p>

<p>subtitling activities; c to foster access in regional or minority languages to works produced in other languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Articles 9.1 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. RF Law "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation" <p>Article 20. Language of the media</p> <p>3. The State language of the Russian Federation, State languages of the republics and other languages shall be used for the translation and dubbing of cinematographic and video productions, taking due account of the interests of the local community. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p>
<p>d to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities of various kinds make appropriate allowance for incorporating the knowledge and use of regional or minority languages and cultures in the undertakings which they initiate or for which they provide backing;</p>	<p>Articles 5.1 and 9.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p>
<p>e to promote measures to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities have at their disposal staff who have a full command of the regional or minority language concerned, as well as of the language(s) of the rest of the population;</p>	<p>Articles 5.1 and Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p>
<p>f to encourage direct participation by representatives of the users of a given regional or minority language in providing facilities and planning cultural activities;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Fundamental principles of Russian Federation legislation on culture No. 3612-1 of 9 October 1992 <p>Article 21. Right to National-Cultural Autonomy Ethnic cultural centres, ethnic societies and fraternities may: run festivals, exhibitions and other similar events.</p>
<p>g to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of a body or bodies responsible for collecting, keeping a copy of and presenting or publishing works produced in the regional or minority languages;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal Law No. 78-FZ of 29 December 1994 "On library services" <p>Article 18. Ethnic libraries of the Russian Federation 2. In the republics, autonomous districts and autonomous <i>oblasti</i> [provinces] of the Russian Federation the corresponding authorities may set up ethnic libraries. These ethnic libraries shall be operated in accordance with the present Federal Law, the federal laws or other legal and regulatory acts of the Russian Federation, and the laws and other legal and regulatory acts of Russian Federation constituent entities adopted in connection with it.</p>
<p>h if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Russian Federation Law No. 1807-1 of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation" <p>Article 7. Programmes for the preservation, study and development of languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p>



	<p>1. The Government of the Russian Federation shall devise federal targeted programmes for the preservation, study and development of languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation and take measures to implement such programmes authorities of Russian Federation constituent entities may devise corresponding regional targeted programmes. Programmes for the preservation, study and development of languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation shall provide for arrangements to ... fund academic research in the area of the preservation, study and development of languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation....</p> <p>2. There shall be provision for the funding of federal targeted programmes or corresponding regional targeted programmes for the preservation, study and development of languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation in the federal law on the federal budget for the corresponding year.</p>
<p>2 In respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage and/or provide appropriate cultural activities and facilities in accordance with the preceding paragraph.</p>	<p>Fundamental principles of Russian Federation legislation on culture No. 3612-1 of 9 October 1992</p> <p>Article 21. Right to National-Cultural Autonomy Ethnic cultural centres, ethnic societies and fraternities may: run festivals, exhibitions and other similar events.</p>
<p>3 The Parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect.</p>	<p>• Federal Law No. 99-FZ of 24 May 1999 "On Russian Federation State policy in respect of nationals abroad"</p> <p>Article 15. Support for nationals in the sphere of fundamental human and civil rights and freedoms</p> <p>1. Nationals are entitled to count on the support of the Russian Federation to: guarantee their fundamental freedoms and cultural and other rights enshrined in international covenants on human rights;</p> <p>Article 17. Support for nationals in the sphere of culture, language and education</p> <p>1. The State authorities of the Russian Federation and the authorities of the Russian Federation's constituent entities shall support nationals in the preservation and development of their cultural heritage and language, which are inalienable parts of their identity, and in equal access for them to education at all levels and in their native language and, to that end, take appropriate action in accordance with the international treaties of the Russian Federation and Russian Federation legislation, taking due account of the legislation of foreign States.</p> <p>2. The State authorities of the Russian Federation and the authorities of the Russian Federation's constituent entities shall engage in multilateral cooperation with national-cultural autonomies of nationals in foreign States where those bodies exist.</p> <p>3. For their cultural, academic and information needs, nationals may use Russian centres of sci-</p>

	<p>ence and culture in foreign States.</p> <p>4. In order to assist nationals in the preservation and development of their cultural heritage, the State authorities of the Russian Federation and the authorities of the Russian Federation's constituent entities shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - provide assistance to cultural centres, cultural-religious organisations, libraries, archives, museums, theatres, music and dance groups, art workshops and other professional and amateur creative collectives of nationals; - facilitate the study of the cultural heritage of nationals; - promote all types of cultural exchange between the Russian Federation and its nationals. <p>5. The State authorities of the Russian Federation and the authorities of the Russian Federation's constituent entities shall help nationals preserve their knowledge of the native languages of the Russian Federation's ethnic groups and facilitate conditions for their study and use for tuition and the receiving of information in those languages in accordance with the international treaties of the Russian Federation and Russian Federation legislation, taking due account of the legislation of foreign States.</p> <p>6. The State authorities of the Russian Federation and the authorities of the Russian Federation's constituent entities shall facilitate, in accordance with Russian Federation legislation, access for people previously holding USSR citizenship, on an equal footing with Russian Federation citizens, to secondary and higher vocational education and further training, including postgraduate and doctorate studies, in educational establishments and academic/research establishments in the Russian Federation.</p> <p>In the event of a quota being set for acceptance of foreign citizens for tuition and further training funded by the federal budget, the interests of nationals shall be taken into account following the mandatory procedure.</p> <p>The Russian Federation shall facilitate access for nationals to general education in the native languages of ethnic groups of the Russian Federation, including the study of Russian history and Russian cultural heritage.</p> <p>For that purpose, measures shall be implemented to train teachers, to devise textbooks, programmes and methodological aids with specialist input from nationals, taking due account of the characteristics of the organisation of the education process in the States previously members of the USSR, to supply nationals with those textbooks, programmes and methodological aids, and to provide assistance in the creation and official recognition of educational establishments, the opening of branches of Russian higher educational establishments with tuition in native languages and the recognition of qualifications issued by those educational establishments.</p> <p>7. In order to form an educational area catering for the rights and interests of nationals, the Russian Federation is working in conjunction with former so-</p>
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	<p>viet States to devise an agreed policy in the sphere of education; it is concluding international treaties on the recognition by the Russian Federation of higher vocational training qualifications gained by nationals educated in the participating countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania and the Republic of Estonia.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fundamental principles of Russian Federation legislation on culture No. 3612-1 of 9 October 1992 <p>Article 23. Ethno-cultural organisations of nationals outside the frontiers of the Russian Federation</p> <p>The Russian Federation shall provide moral, organisational and material support for ethnic cultural centres, ethnic societies, fraternities, associations, study and other organisations of nationals outside the frontiers of the Russian Federation and also take steps to conclude inter-State agreements in this field.</p> <p>Article 58. Cultural co-operation with nationals outside the country's frontiers</p> <p>The Russian Federation shall promote the development of Russian culture abroad, maintaining links with nationals abroad and their descendants, organising cultural centres, co-operating with fraternities and running joint cultural events. The State is to create conditions for the return of émigré nationals involved in culture to the homeland.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Law No. 82-FZ of 30 April 1999 "On guarantees for the rights of indigenous minorities" <p>Article 10. Rights of persons belonging to indigenous minorities to preserve and develop their specific culture</p> <p>For the purpose of preserving and developing their specific culture and in accordance with Russian Federation legislation, persons belonging to indigenous minorities and associations of indigenous minorities may:</p> <p>6) establish and develop links with representatives of indigenous minorities residing ... outside the frontiers of the Russian Federation.</p>
Article 13	
1 With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, within the whole country:	
a to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of regional or minority languages in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 4.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. • RF Law "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation"

of products or installations;	<p>Preamble</p> <p>In the Russian Federation the creation of obstacles, restrictions and privileges in language use contrary to constitutionally established principles of ethnic policies and other infringements of the legislation of the Russian Federation on the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation shall not be permitted.</p> <p>(preamble in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p> <p>Article 21. Languages used in the spheres of industry, communications, transport and energy</p> <p>1. In the spheres of industry, communications, transport and energy, throughout the territory of the Russian Federation, Russian, as the State language of the Russian Federation, as well as other languages in accordance with the international and inter-republic treaties of the Russian Federation, shall be used.</p> <p>(in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p> <p>2. In the spheres of industry, communications, transport and energy at local level, other languages may be used alongside the State language of the Russian Federation and the State languages of republics, taking account of the interests of the local community.</p> <p>(in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p> <p>Article 22. Languages used in the sphere of services and commercial activity</p> <p>1. The use of languages in these spheres shall be determined by the legislation of the Russian Federation and the Federation's constituent entities. Any refusal of services to citizens on the pretext of not knowing the language is not permitted and shall incur liability in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation and the republics of the Russian Federation.</p> <p>(in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p>
b to prohibit the insertion in internal regulations of companies and private documents of any clauses excluding or restricting the use of regional or minority languages, at least between users of the same language;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RF Law "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation" <p>Preamble</p> <p>In the Russian Federation the creation of obstacles, restrictions and privileges in language use contrary to constitutionally established principles of ethnic policies and other infringements of the legislation of the Russian Federation on the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation shall not be permitted.</p> <p>(preamble in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p> <p>Article 21. Languages used in the spheres of industry, communications, transport and energy</p>



	<p>1. In the spheres of industry, communications, transport and energy, throughout the territory of the Russian Federation, Russian, as the State language of the Russian Federation, as well as other languages in accordance with the international and inter-republic treaties of the Russian Federation, shall be used. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p> <p>2. In the spheres of industry, communications, transport and energy at local level, other languages may be used alongside the State language of the Russian Federation and the State languages of republics, taking due account of the interests of the local community. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p> <p>Article 22. Languages used in the sphere of services and commercial activity</p> <p>1. The use of languages in these spheres shall be determined by the legislation of the Russian Federation and the Federation's constituent entities. Any refusal of services to citizens on the pretext of not knowing the language is not permitted and shall incur liability in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation and the republics of the Russian Federation. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p> <p>• Russian Federation Law No. 1807-1 of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation"</p> <p>Article 15. Use of languages in the work of State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions</p> <p>1. In the activity of State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions of the Russian Federation the State language of the Russian Federation, the State languages of republics and other languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation shall be used. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p> <p>2. Russian Federation citizens unable to speak the State language of the Russian Federation and the State language of the republic concerned shall be entitled to speak at meetings, work sessions and gatherings in State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions in the language which they are able to speak. Translation shall be provided where necessary. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p> <p>3. Russian Federation citizens unable to speak the language in which a meeting, work session or gathering is conducted in a State authority, organisation, enterprise or institution shall be provided with a translation where necessary in a language accepta-</p>
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	<p>ble to them or in the State language of the Russian Federation. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p> <p>4. Russian Federation citizens shall be entitled to submit proposals, applications or complaints to State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions of the Russian Federation in the State language of the Russian Federation, their native language or any other language of the peoples of the Russian Federation spoken by them. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p> <p>5. Replies to proposals, applications or complaints from Russian Federation citizens to State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions of the Russian Federation shall be given in the language used in the proposals, applications or complaints. In cases where it is not possible to reply in the language used in the proposal, application or complaint, the State language of the Russian Federation shall be used. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p> <p>6. Regulations on language qualification requirements of the Russian Federation and republics may provide for restrictions and standards governing the use of languages in the sphere of professional communication. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ..)</p> <p>Article 16. Use of languages in official administrative procedures</p> <p>1. In the territory of the Russian Federation, official administrative procedures in State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions shall be conducted in Russian, as the State language of the Russian Federation. Official administrative procedures in the republics shall also be conducted in the State languages of the republics concerned. Procedure governing the use of languages in official administrative procedures shall be determined by the legislation of the Russian Federation and the republics. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p> <p>2. The text of documents (letterheads/forms, seals, stamps) and signs bearing the names of State authorities, organisations, enterprises and institutions shall be in the State language of the Russian Federation, the State languages of republics and other languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation, as determined by the legislation of the republics. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p> <p>3. Where necessary official administrative procedures in constituent entities of the Russian Federation may be conducted in languages of peoples of the Russian Federation in localities densely populated by them alongside the official language of the</p>
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	<p>Russian Federation and the State languages of the republic. The procedure governing the use of languages of peoples of the Russian Federation in official administrative procedures in those localities shall be determined by the legislation of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation. (paragraph 3 in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p> <p>4. Documents attesting to the identity of a Russian Federation citizen, excerpts from civil status records, work records and also documents concerning education, military service records and other documents shall be drawn up taking due account of ethnic naming traditions in the State language of the Russian Federation, and in the territory of a republic having instituted its own State language such documents may be drawn up in the State language of the republic alongside the State language of the Russian Federation. (paragraph 4 in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p>
<p>c to oppose practices designed to discourage the use of regional or minority languages in connection with economic or social activities;</p>	<p>Russian Federation Law No. 1807-1 of 25 October 1991 "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation"</p> <p>Article 28. Liability for an infringement of Russian Federation legislation on the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation</p> <p>The acts of legal and physical persons infringing Russian Federation legislation on the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation shall incur liability and be subject to complaint following the established procedure in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation and the Federation's constituent entities. (in the version of the Federal law of 24 July 1998 No. 126-FZ.)</p>
<p>d to facilitate and/or encourage the use of regional or minority languages by means other than those specified in the above sub-paragraphs.</p>	
<p>2 With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, in so far as the public authorities are competent, within the territory in which the regional or minority languages are used, and as far as this is reasonably possible:</p>	
<p>a to include in their financial and banking regulations provisions which allow, by means of procedures compatible with commercial practice, the use of regional or minority languages in drawing up payment orders (cheques, drafts, etc.) or other financial documents, or, where appropriate, to ensure the implementation of such provisions;</p>	
<p>b in the economic and social sectors directly under their control (public sector), to organise activities to promote the use of regional or minority languages;</p>	
<p>c to ensure that social care facilities such as hospitals, retirement homes and hostels offer the possibility of receiving and treating in their own language persons using a regional or minority language who are in need of care on grounds of ill-</p>	<p>• Fundamental principles of Russian Federation legislation on health protection No. 5487-1 of 22 July 1993</p> <p>Article 17. Right of Russian Federation citizens to</p>

<p>health, old age or for other reasons;</p>	<p>health protection</p> <p>The State shall guarantee health protection for citizens irrespective of their sex, race, nationality/ethnicity, language, social origin, official status, place of residence, attitude to religion, personal convictions, membership of public associations and other circumstances.</p> <p>• Russian Federation Law No. 3185-1 of 2 July 1992 "On psychiatric assistance and guarantees of the rights of citizens in its provision"</p> <p>Article 37. Rights of patients in residential psychiatric facilities</p> <p>1. The patient must receive an explanation of the grounds and purposes of their placement in a psychiatric facility, their rights and the rules established in the facility in a language spoken by them, of which a note is made in their medical record.</p>
<p>d to ensure by appropriate means that safety instructions are also drawn up in regional or minority languages;</p>	
<p>e to arrange for information provided by the competent public authorities concerning the rights of consumers to be made available in regional or minority languages.</p>	<p>Russian Federation Law No. 2300-1 of 7 February 1992 "On the protection of rights of consumers"</p> <p>Article 8. Right of the consumer to information on a manufacturer/contractor/vendor and on products/works/services</p> <p>1. The consumer shall be entitled to demand necessary and reliable information on a manufacturer/contractor/vendor, their work regulations and the products/works/services realised by them.</p> <p>2. The information referred to in paragraph 1 of the present Law shall be provided to consumers in clear and accessible form upon the concluding of buying and selling agreements and agreements on the execution of works/provision of services by means adopted in the individual consumer service spheres, in Russian, and also, at the discretion of the manufacturer/contractor/vendor, in the State languages of the Russian Federation constituent entities and the native languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation.</p>
<p>Article 14</p> <p>The Parties undertake:</p> <p>a to apply existing bilateral and multilateral agreements which bind them with the States in which the same language is used in identical or similar form, or if necessary to seek to conclude such agreements, in such a way as to foster contacts between the users of the same language in the States concerned in the fields of culture, education, information, vocational training and permanent education;</p>	<p>• Articles 17.1 and 18.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p> <p>• Law of 26 April 1990 "On the free national development of citizens of the USSR living outside the borders of their national-administrative entities, or having no such entities in the territory of the USSR"</p> <p>Article 13.1: In order to promote the maintenance of cultural ties with the external national and home States, national cultural centres, national associations and regional associations can be</p>



	<p>created.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law No. 74-FZ of 17 June 1996 "On National-Cultural Autonomy", Article 9.2 • Article 18.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. • Draft federal law No. 66064-5 "On transfrontier co-operation" currently being examined by the State Duma states: <p>Article 6. Aims of transfrontier co-operation.</p> <p>Transfrontier co-operation may be implemented with the following aims:</p> <p>...</p> <p>7) scientific or humanitarian co-operation, including:</p> <p>a) co-operation in the sphere of health protection, creation of conditions for mutual provision of medical assistance and recognition of medical insurance documents, exchange of information on the health and epidemiology situation, conducting of dynamic monitoring of the situation of infectious diseases on transfrontier co-operation territories of the Russian Federation and border territories of adjacent States, implementation of joint action to prevent dangerous infectious diseases, exchange of medical personnel for further training purposes;</p> <p>b) devising and implementing joint scientific and technical programmes and projects;</p> <p>c) development of partnership links between educational establishments: exchange of teaching and scientific/pedagogical staff, devising of education programmes geared to the specific characteristics of transfrontier co-operation territories of the Russian Federation and border territories of adjacent States, interaction in the study and teaching of languages and the cultural history of the peoples of the Russian Federation and adjacent States;</p> <p>...</p> <p>d) creating favourable conditions for the spiritual development of the population of transfrontier co-operation territories of the Russian Federation and border territories of adjacent States, including national minorities and ethnic communities, publishing books, travel guides and atlases, publishing articles, promoting cultural exchange, organising festive events, running exhibitions, concerts, sports competitions and ethnographical and historical research;</p> <p>e) support for nationals residing on the border territories of adjacent States.</p>
<p>b for the benefit of regional or minority languages, to facilitate and/or promote co-operation across borders, in particular between regional or local authorities in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form.</p>	

12. "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"

Provision of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages	Legal provisions, policies and practices complying with that Charter provision
Article 8 – Education	
1 With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:	
a i to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	
ii to make available a substantial part of pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	
iii to apply one of the measures provided for under i and ii above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient; or	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
iv if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of pre-school education, to favour and/or encourage the application of the measures referred to under i to iii above;	
b i to make available primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 6 (Education and Use of Languages) of the Ohrid Framework Agreement of 13 August 2001: "1. With respect to primary and secondary education, instruction will be provided in the students' native languages, while at the same time uniform standards for academic programmes will be applied throughout Macedonia. [...]" • Amendment VIII (replacing Article 48) of the Constitution of the Republic of Macedonia of 17 November 1991 (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. 52/91, 1/92, 31/98, 91/01)¹⁰⁷: "1. [...] Members of the communities shall have the right to instruction in their mother tongue in primary and secondary education in the manner determined by law. In schools where teaching is conducted in another language, the Macedonian language shall be taught as well." • Article 8 of the Law on Primary Education of 13 September 1995/Gesetz über Grundschulbildung vom 13. September 1995¹⁰⁸: "(1) Die pädagogisch-bildende Arbeit in den Grundschulen erfolgt in makedonischer Sprache und kyrillischer Schrift. (2) Für die Angehörigen der Minderheiten erfolgt die pädagogisch-bildende Arbeit in der Sprache und der Schrift der Minderheiten in der durch dieses Gesetz festgelegten Weise."

¹⁰⁷ See Report submitted by "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" pursuant to Article 25, paragraph 1 of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (ACFC/SR(2003)002), p. 87
¹⁰⁸ Klaus Schrameyer: Minderheitenschutz im östlichen Europa – Makedonien, research project co-ordinated by Angelika Nußberger, p. 62.
http://www.uni-koeln.de/jur-fak/ostrecht/minderheitenschutz/Vortraege/Makedonien/Makedonien_Schrameyer.pdf



	(3) Die Schüler nach Absatz 2 diese Artikels müssen auch die makedonische Sprache erlernen.”
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 curriculum; or	
iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient;	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
c i to make available secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 6 (Education and Use of Languages) of the Ohrid Framework Agreement of 13 August 2001: “1. With respect to primary and secondary education, instruction will be provided in the students' native languages, while at the same time uniform standards for academic programmes will be applied throughout Macedonia. [...]” Amendment VIII (replacing Article 48) of the Constitution of the Republic of Macedonia of 17 November 1991 (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. 52/91, 1/92, 31/98, 91/01): “1. [...] Members of the communities shall have the right to <u>instruction in their mother tongue in primary and secondary education</u> in the manner determined by law. In schools where teaching is conducted in another language, the Macedonian language shall be taught as well.” Article 4 of the Law on Secondary Education of 13 September 1995/Gesetz über die Oberschulbildung vom 13. September 1995¹⁰⁹: “(1) Die pädagogische und bildende Arbeit in der Oberschule erfolgt in makedonischer Sprache und kyrillischer Schrift. (2) Für die Angehörigen der Minderheiten erfolgt die pädagogische und bildende Arbeit in den öffentlichen Schulen in der Sprache und in der Schrift der Minderheit auf eine Weise und unter Voraussetzungen, die durch dieses Gesetz festgelegt sind. (3) Die Schüler nach Absatz 2 dieses Artikels müssen auch die makedonische Sprache erlernen. (4) In den öffentlichen Oberschulen kann der Unterricht in einer der Weltsprachen erteilt werden. (5) In den privaten Schulen kann der Unterricht auch in einer ausländischen Sprache erteilt werden.”
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 curriculum; or	
iv to apply one of the measures	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the

¹⁰⁹ Klaus Schrameyer, op. cit., p. 63

provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;	Protection of National Minorities.
d i to make available technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	
ii to make available a substantial part of technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or	
iii to provide, within technical and vocational education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or	
iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;	Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
e i to make available university and other higher education in regional or minority languages; or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 6 (Education and Use of Languages) of the Ohrid Framework Agreement of 13 August 2001: “[...] 6.2. State funding will be provided for university level education in languages spoken by at least 20% of the population of Macedonia, on the basis of specific agreements.[...]” Article 53 of the Law on the Use of Languages spoken by at least 20% of the Citizens of the Republic of Macedonia and in units of local self-government (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. 101, 13 August 2008)/Loi relative a l'utilisation des langues parlées d'au moins 20% des citoyens en République de Macédoine et au niveau des collectivités territoriales¹¹⁰: “L'enseignement supérieur est réalisé en langue macédonienne. Afin d'exprimer, préserver et développer leur identité, les membres des communautés ont le droit de réaliser l'enseignement supérieur selon les programmes et contenus établis, dans la langue de leur communauté, autre que le macédonien, conformément à la présente loi et aux Statuts de l'institution d'enseignement supérieur. L'État assurera le financement pour l'enseignement supérieur dans la langue parlée par au moins 20% des citoyens de la République de Macédoine. L'enseignement dans les institutions d'éducation supérieure d'État pour l'éducation d'instituteurs à l'école primaire, ainsi que l'enseignement didactique et méthodique pour les professeurs à l'école secondaire, peut être réalisé dans les langues des autres communautés non-majoritaires en République de Macédoine. [...]” Lorsque l'enseignement est réalisé dans les langues des communautés non-majoritaires en République de Macédoine, conformément aux paragraphes 2,3 et 4 du présent article, la langue macédonienne est étudiée en tant que sujet d'enseignement séparé, tandis que l'enseignement

¹¹⁰ French version available at <http://www.sobranie.mk/fr/WBStorage/Files/LOIRELATIVEpdf.pdf>



	<p>d'au moins deux autres sujets est aussi réalisé en macédonien. ”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law of 17 July 2003 on amending and supplementing the Law on Higher Education/ Gesetz vom 17. Juli 2003 zur Änderung und Ergänzung des Gesetzes über die Hochschulbildung (SV Nr. 64/2000; SV Nr. 49/2003, S. 26, Pos. 1140)¹¹¹. <p>Artikel 95 (1) Der Unterricht an den Hochschuleinrichtungen erfolgt in makedonischer Sprache. (2) <u>Die Angehörigen der Gemeinschaften haben das Recht, zur Manifestierung, Pflege und Entwicklung ihrer Identität und sonstiger Besonderheiten den Unterricht an den staatlichen Hochschuleinrichtungen in entsprechenden Studienprogrammen und Inhalten gemäß diesem Gesetz und dem Statut der Hochschuleinrichtung in der Sprache der Gemeinschaft durchzuführen, die sich von der makedonischen Sprache unterscheidet. Die Finanzierung seitens des Staates für die Hochschulbildung auch in der Sprache garantiert, die wenigstens 20% der Bevölkerung der Republik Makedonien sprechen.</u> (3) Der Unterricht an den staatlichen pädagogischen Hochschulinstitutionen zur Ausbildung von Tutoren und Lehrern an den Grundschulen sowie für didaktisch-methodische Fächer für Lehrer an den Oberschulen kann in den Sprachen der Angehörigen der übrigen Gemeinschaften erteilt werden, die nicht die Mehrheit in der Republik Makedonien haben. [...]”</p>
<p>ii to provide facilities for the study of these languages as university and higher education subjects; or</p>	
<p>iii if, by reason of the role of the State in relation to higher education institutions, subparagraphs i and ii cannot be applied, to encourage and/or allow the provision of university or other forms of higher education in regional or minority languages or of facilities for the study of these languages as university or higher education subjects;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 53 of the Law on the Use of Languages spoken by at least 20% of the Citizens of the Republic of Macedonia and in units of local self-government (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. 101, 13 August 2008)/ Loi relative a l'utilisation des langues parlées d'au moins 20% des citoyens en République de Macédoine et au niveau des collectivités territoriales: “[...] L'enseignement dans les institutions d'éducation supérieure privées peut être réalisé dans les langues des communautés non-majoritaires en République de Macédoine.[...]” • Article 95 of the Law of 17 July 2003 on amending and supplementing the Law on Higher Education/ Gesetz vom 17. Juli 2003 zur Änderung und Ergänzung des Gesetzes über die Hochschulbildung (SV Nr. 64/2000; SV Nr. 49/2003, S. 26, Pos. 1140): “[...] (6) Der Unterricht an den privaten Hochschulinstitutionen kann auch in den Sprachen der Angehörigen der Gemeinschaften erteilt werden, die nicht die Mehrheit in der Republik Makedonien haben, oder in den Weltsprachen. Wird der Unterricht in den

¹¹¹ Klaus Schrameyer, op. cit., p. 110-111

	<p>Sprachen der Angehörigen der Gemeinschaften, die nicht die Mehrheit in der Republik Makedonien haben, oder in den Weltsprachen erteilt, wird die makedonische Sprache als ein besonderes Unterrichtsfach gelernt, und der Unterricht wird in makedonischer Sprache noch in wenigstens zwei Unterrichtsfächern des Studienprogramms erteilt. [...]”</p>
<p>f i to arrange for the provision of adult and continuing education courses which are taught mainly or wholly in the regional or minority languages; or</p>	<p>Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p>
<p>ii to offer such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education; or</p>	<p>Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p>
<p>iii if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of adult education, to favour and/or encourage the offering of such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education;</p>	<p>Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p>
<p>g to make arrangements to ensure the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the regional or minority language;</p>	<p>Article 12.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p>
<p>h to provide the basic and further training of the teachers required to implement those of paragraphs a to g accepted by the Party;</p>	<p>Article 12.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p>
<p>i to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.</p>	
<p>2 With regard to education and in respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all the appropriate stages of education.</p>	<p>Article 14.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p>
<p>Article 9</p>	
<p>1 The Parties undertake, in respect of those judicial districts in which the number of residents using the regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below, according to the situation of each of these languages and on condition that the use of the facilities afforded by the present paragraph is not considered by the judge to hamper the proper administration of justice:</p>	
<p>a in criminal proceedings:</p>	
<p>i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or</p>	
<p>ii to guarantee the accused the right to use his/her regional or minority language; and/or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 10.3, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. • Article 6 (Education and use of Languages) Ohrid Framework Agreement of 13 August 2001: “[...] 7. In criminal and civil judicial proceedings at any level, an accused person or any party will have the right to translation at State expense of all



	<p>proceedings as well as documents in accordance with relevant Council of Europe documents.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law amending the Law on Criminal Procedure of 19 June 2002 / Gesetz vom 19. Juni 2002 zur Änderung des Gesetzes über den Strafprozeß (SV Nr. 44/2002, S. 1, Pos. 691)¹¹²: <p>"Artikel 6 (1) Im Strafprozeß wird eine andere amtliche Sprache, die wenigstens 20% der Bürger sprechen und ihre Schrift in Übereinstimmung mit dem Gesetz benutzt.</p> <p>Artikel 7 (1) Der Beschuldigte, der Geschädigte, der Privatkläger, die Zeugen und die anderen Personen, die an dem Verfahren teilnehmen, und die eine andere amtliche Sprache als die makedonische Sprache sprechen, haben das Recht, bei der Vornahme von Ermittlungshandlungen und sonstigen gerichtlichen Handlungen und in der Hauptverhandlung sowie im Rechtsmittelverfahren ihre Sprache und ihre Schrift zu verwenden. Das Gericht sorgt für eine mündliche Übersetzung dessen, was die Person bzw. die anderen vortragen sowie der Urkunden und des sonstigen schriftlichen Beweismaterials. Das Gericht sorgt dafür, daß das geschriebene Material das für das Verfahren von Bedeutung ist, oder das für die Verteidigung des Beschuldigten wichtig ist, schriftlich übersetzt wird. (2) Die anderen Parteien, Zeugen und Verfahrensbeteiligten haben vor Gericht einen Anspruch auf kostenlose Hilfe eines Übersetzer, wenn sie die Sprache nicht verstehen oder sprechen, in der das Verfahren geführt wird. (3) Über das Recht auf einen Übersetzer ist die Person zu belehren. Im Protokoll ist zu vermerken, daß eine Belehrung stattgefunden hat und was die Person geäußert hat. (4) Die Übersetzung nimmt eine Gerichtsdolmetscher vor."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law on the Use of Languages spoken by at least 20% of the Citizens of the Republic of Macedonia and in units of local self-government (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. 101, 13 August 2008)/Loi relative a l'utilisation des langues parlées d'au moins 20% des citoyens en République de Macédoine et au niveau des collectivités territoriales: <p>Article 5 La langue officielle utilisée dans la procédure pénale est le macédonien et son alphabet cyrillique. Une autre langue officielle parlée par au moins 20% des citoyens et son alphabet sont utilisés dans la procédure pénale en accord avec la présente Loi."</p>
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¹¹² Klaus Schrameyer, op. cit., p. 103-104

	<p>Article 6 "Le prévenu, l'accusé, les accusateurs, les témoins et les autres personnes participant dans la procédure pénale ou criminelle, et qui parlent une langue officielle autre que le macédonien, ont le droit d'utiliser leur langue et alphabet lors des activités avant, pendant et après l'enquête et l'audience, ainsi que dans la procédure d'appel. Le tribunal assure une interprétation des dépositions, des pièces d'identité et des autres documents présentés. Le tribunal assure la traduction des documents pertinents pour la procédure et pour la défense des accusés. Les autres partis, témoins et participants dans la procédure ont le droit à utiliser les services d'interprétation pro bono, s'ils ne comprennent pas ou ne parlent pas la langue dans laquelle la procédure est menée. Les personnes concernées sont informées sur la possibilité d'interprétation. Le fait que la personne a été informée et sa déclaration seront enregistrés dans le procès-verbal. La traduction est faite par un traducteur assermenté."</p>
<p>iii to provide that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, shall not be considered inadmissible solely because they are formulated in a regional or minority language; and/or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 8 of the Law amending the Law on Criminal Procedure of 19 June 2002/Gesetz vom 19. Juni 2002 zur Änderung des Gesetzes über den Strafprozeß (SV Nr. 44/2002, S. 1, Pos. 691): "(1) Die Klagen, Rechtsmittel und sonstigen Schriftstücke werden in der Sprache an das Gericht gerichtet, in der das Verfahren geführt wird. (2) Die Bürger, die eine andere Sprache sprechen als die makedonische Sprache, können die Schriftstücke in ihrer Sprache und ihrer Schrift übermitteln, und das Gericht übersetzt diese Schriftstücke und übermittelt sie an die anderen Prozeßparteien. (3) Die sonstigen Personen, welche die makedonische Sprache und ihre kyrillische Schrift nicht sprechen und nicht verstehen, können die Schriftstücke in ihrer Sprache und ihrer Schrift an das Gericht richten. In diesen Fällen verfährt das Gericht wie in Absatz 2. (4) Dem Beschuldigten, der die Verfahrenssprache nicht versteht, wird eine Übersetzung der Anklage in der Sprache geliefert, derer er sich in dem Verfahren bedient hat.[...]" • Article 7 of Law on the Use of Languages spoken by at least 20% of the Citizens of the Republic of Macedonia and in units of local self-government (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. 101, 13 August 2008)/ Loi relative a l'utilisation des langues parlées d'au moins 20% des citoyens en République de Macédoine et au niveau des collectivités territoriales: "Les accusations, les appels et les autres motions sont soumis au tribunal dans la langue officielle de la procédure. Les citoyens parlant une langue officielle autre que le macédonien peuvent soumettre les motions dans leur langue et alphabet; ces soumissions sont ensuite traduites par le tribunal et distribuées aux autres parties dans la procédure. [...]"
<p>iv to produce, on request, documents</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law amending the Law on Criminal Proce-



<p>connected with legal proceedings in the relevant regional or minority language,</p>	<p>dure of 19 June 2002 / Gesetz vom 19. Juni 2002 zur Änderung des Gesetzes über den Strafprozeß (SV Nr. 44/2002, S. 1, Pos. 691):</p> <p>“Artikel 8 (1) Die Klagen, Rechtsmittel und sonstigen Schriftstücke werden in der Sprache an das Gericht gerichtet, in der das Verfahren geführt wird. (2) Die Bürger, die eine andere Sprache sprechen als die makedonische Sprache, können die Schriftstücke in ihrer Sprache und ihrer Schrift übermitteln, und das Gericht übersetzt diese Schriftstücke und übermittelt sie an die anderen Prozeßparteien. (3) Die sonstigen Personen, welche die makedonische Sprache und ihre kyrillische Schrift nicht sprechen und nicht verstehen, können die Schriftstücke in ihrer Sprache und ihrer Schrift an das Gericht richten. In diesen Fällen verfährt das Gericht wie in Absatz 2. (4) Dem Beschuldigten, der die Verfahrenssprache nicht versteht, wird eine Übersetzung der Anklage in der Sprache geliefert, derer er sich in dem Verfahren bedient hat. [...]”</p> <p>“Artikel 9: (1) Die Ladungen, Beschlüsse und sonstigen Schriftstücke des Gerichts werden in der Sprache, in der das Verfahren geführt wird, übermittelt. (2) Bürgern, die eine andere Amtssprache als die makedonische Sprache sprechen, werden die Ladungen, Beschlüsse und die sonstigen Schriftstücke in dieser Sprache zugestellt. (3) Dem Beschuldigten, der in Haft, im Gefängnis zur Verbüßung einer Strafe oder in zwangsweiser psychiatrischer Behandlung Aufsicht in einem Krankenhaus ist, wird eine Übersetzung der Schriftstücke nach Abs. 1 in der Sprache zugestellt, die er im Verfahren benutzt hat. (4) Dem Beschuldigten, der die Verfahrenssprache nicht versteht, wird eine Übersetzung des Urteil in der Sprache zugestellt, die er im Verfahren benutzt hat.”</p> <p>• Law on the Use of Languages spoken by at least 20% of the Citizens of the Republic of Macedonia and in units of local self-government (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. 101, 13 August 2008)/ Loi relative a l'utilisation des langues parlées d'au moins 20% des citoyens en République de Macédoine et au niveau des collectivités territoriales:</p> <p>“Article 7 Les accusations, les appels et les autres motions sont soumis au tribunal dans la langue officielle de la procédure. Les citoyens parlant une langue officielle autre que le macédonien peuvent soumettre les motions dans leur langue et alphabet; ces soumissions sont ensuite traduites par le tribunal et distribuées aux autres parties dans la procédure. L'accusé qui ne connaît pas la langue officielle de la procédure reçoit la traduction de l'acte</p>
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	<p>d'accusation dans la langue qu'il a utilisé lors de la procédure.”</p> <p>Article 8 “Le tribunal distribue les citations, les décisions et les autres documents écrits dans la langue officielle de la procédure. <u>Les citoyens qui parlent une langue officielle autre que le macédonien reçoivent les citations, les décisions et les autres documents écrits dans cette langue.</u> L'accusé placé en détention provisoire, emprisonné ou placé sous la tutelle d'une institution psychiatrique ou médicale, reçoit les soumissions mentionnées au paragraphe 1 de cet article dans la langue qu'il a utilisé lors de la procédure. <u>L'accusé qui ne connaît pas la langue officielle de la procédure reçoit la traduction du verdict dans la langue qu'il a utilisée lors de la procédure.</u>”</p>
<p>if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations involving no extra expense for the persons concerned;</p>	
<p>b in civil proceedings:</p>	
<p>i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or</p>	
<p>ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or</p>	<p>• Article 6 (Education and use of Languages) Ohrid Framework Agreement of 13 August 2001: “[...] 7. In criminal and civil judicial proceedings at any level, an accused person or any party will have the right to translation at State expense of all proceedings as well as documents in accordance with relevant Council of Europe documents.”</p> <p>• Law amending and supplementing the Law on Civil Procedure of 19 June 2002/Gesetz vom 19. Juni 2002 zur Änderung und Ergänzung des Gesetzes über den Zivilprozeß (SV Nr. 44/2002, S.1, Pos. 692)¹¹³:</p> <p>“Artikel 6 (1) Der Zivilprozeß wird in der makedonischen Sprache und ihrer kyrillischen Schrift geführt. (2) Im Zivilprozeß wird eine andere Amtssprache und ihre Schrift, die wenigstens 20% der Bürger sprechen, in Übereinstimmung mit diesem Gesetz verwendet. (3) Ein Angehöriger einer Gemeinschaft, der als Partei oder als sonstiger Verfahrensbeteiligter die makedonische Sprache und ihre kyrillische Schrift nicht versteht, hat das Recht auf einen Übersetzer. (4) Das Gericht trägt die Kosten für die Übersetzung. (5) Das Gericht hat die Partei bzw. den sonstigen Verfahrensbeteiligten nach den Absätzen 2 und 3 dieses Gesetzes über das in diesen Absätzen vorgesehene Recht hinzuweisen. Der Vorsitzende oder der Einzelrichter muß den Hinweis des Gerichts und die Erklärung der Partei bzw. des Verfahrensbeteiligten dazu protokollieren.</p>

¹¹³ Klaus Schrameyer, op. cit., p. 105-106



	<p>[...]</p> <p>Kapitel 5a Verfahrensprache Artikel 94 a</p> <p>(1) Die Parteien und die Verfahrensbeteiligten, die eine andere Amtssprache sprechen als diejenige, die eine Amtssprache in der Republik Makedonien ist, haben im Verfahren bei der Teilnahme an den Sitzungen und bei der Vornahme anderer Prozeßhandlungen vor dem Gericht das Recht, ihre Sprache zu benutzen.</p> <p>(2) Den Parteien und den sonstigen Verfahrensbeteiligten nach Absatz 1 dieses Artikels wird eine mündliche Übersetzung in ihre Sprache dessen geliefert, was auf der Sitzung vorgetragen wird, sowie eine mündliche und schriftliche Übersetzung der Urkunden, die auf der Sitzung zur Beweisführung benutzt werden.</p> <p>(3) Die Übersetzung nehmen Gerichtsdolmetscher vor.”</p> <p>• Article 10 on the Law on the Use of Languages spoken by at least 20% of the Citizens of the Republic of Macedonia and in units of local self-government (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. 101, 13 August 2008)/ Loi relative a l'utilisation des langues parlées d'au moins 20% des citoyens en République de Macédoine et au niveau des collectivités territoriales (Procédure juridique): Les partis et les autres participants dans la procédure qui parlent une autre langue officielle de la République de Macédoine, ont le droit à utiliser leur langue lors des auditions et dans les autres activités verbales devant le tribunal. Les partis et les autres participants mentionnés au paragraphe 1 de cet article, bénéficient d'une interprétation des auditions et d'une traduction des pièces et documents utilisés en tant que preuves lors des auditions. La traduction est faite par un traducteur assermenté.”</p>
<p>iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,</p>	<p>• Law amending and supplementing the Law on Civil Procedure of 19 June 2002 / Gesetz vom 19. Juni 2002 zur Änderung und Ergänzung des Gesetzes über den Zivilprozeß (SV Nr. 44/2002, S.1, Pos. 692):</p> <p>“Kapitel 5a Verfahrensprache Artikel 94 b (...) (2) Den Parteien und den sonstigen Beteiligten, die Bürger der Republik Makedonien sind, deren Sprache eine andere Amtssprache als die makedonische Sprache ist, werden die Ladungen, die Beschlüsse und die sonstigen gerichtlichen Schriftstücke in ihrer Sprache zugestellt.</p> <p>Artikel 94 c (...) (2) Die Parteien und die sonstigen Verfahrensbe-</p>

	<p>teiligten, die Bürger der Republik Makedonien sind, und deren Sprache eine andere Amtssprache als die makedonische Sprache und ihre kyrillische Schrift ist, können die Klagen, die Rechtsmittel und die sonstigen Schriftsätze dem Gericht in ihrer Sprache und Schrift übermitteln. Solche Schriftsätze übersetzt das Gericht in die makedonische Sprache und die kyrillische Schrift und stellt den anderen Parteien und Verfahrensbeteiligten zu.</p> <p>Artikel 94 d (1) Die Parteien und die sonstigen Verfahrensbeteiligten, die Bürger der Republik Makedonien sind, deren Sprache weder die makedonische Sprache und die kyrillische Schrift noch eine andere, von der makedonischen Sprache und der kyrillischen Schrift unterschiedliche Amtssprache ist, haben das Recht, im Verfahren bei einer Teilnahme an den Verhandlungen und bei der mündlichen Vornahme sonstiger Prozeßhandlungen vor dem Gericht ihre eigene Sprache zu verwenden. Diesen Parteien und Verfahrensbeteiligten wird eine mündliche Übersetzung in ihre Sprache dessen geliefert, was in der Verhandlung erörtert wird, sowie eine mündliche Übersetzung der Urkunden, die in der Verhandlung zu Beweis Zwecken benutzt werden. (2) Die Parteien und die sonstigen Verfahrensbeteiligten nach Absatz 1 dieses Artikels werden über ihr Recht belehrt, dem mündlichen Verfahren vor Gericht in ihrer Sprache mit Hilfe eines Dolmetscher zu folgen. (...)</p> <p>• Law on the Use of Languages spoken by at least 20% of the Citizens of the Republic of Macedonia and in units of local self-government (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. 101, 13 August 2008)/Loi relative a l'utilisation des langues parlées d'au moins 20% des citoyens en République de Macédoine et au niveau des collectivités territoriales: “Procédure juridique [...] Article 11 Les citations, les décisions et les autres documents écrits du tribunal sont distribués aux partis et aux autres participants dans la procédure en langue macédonienne et son alphabet cyrillique. Les partis et les autres participants – citoyens de la République de Macédoine qui parlent une langue officielle autre que le macédonien reçoivent les citations, les décisions et les autres documents écrits dans cette langue.</p> <p>Article 12 Les partis et les autres participants dans la procédure juridique déposent les actes d'accusation, les appels et les autres soumissions en langue macédonienne et son alphabet cyrillique. Les partis et les autres participants – citoyens de la République de Macédoine qui parlent une langue officielle autre que le</p>
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	<p>macédonien peuvent déposer les actes d'accusation, les appels et les autres soumissions dans cette langue. Ces soumissions sont ensuite traduites par le tribunal en langue macédonienne et son alphabet cyrillique et distribuées aux autres partis et participants dans la procédure.</p> <p>Article 13 Les frais de traduction pour les partis et les participants dans la procédure - citoyens de la République de Macédoine, contractés par la mise en oeuvre des dispositions de cette loi, sont à la charge du tribunal.”</p>
if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;	
c in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:	
i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or	
ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 14 of the Law on the Use of Languages spoken by at least 20% of the Citizens of the Republic of Macedonia and in units of local self-government (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. 101, 13 August 2008)/Loi relative a l'utilisation des langues parlées d'au moins 20% des citoyens en République de Macédoine et au niveau des collectivités territoriales (Autres procédures): “Les dispositions de la présente loi concernant l'utilisation des langues lors du procès sont également applicables à la procédure hors procès et à la procédure administrative.” Article 60a of the Law of 19 June 2002 supplementing the Law on .../Gesetz vom 19. Juni 2002 zur Ergänzung des Gesetzes über die Verwaltungsstreitigkeiten (SV Nr. 44/2002, S. 3, Pos. 694)¹¹⁴: “Die Vorschriften des Gesetzes über den Zivilprozeß, die sich auf die Verwendung der Sprachen beziehen, finden auch im Verfahren über Verwaltungsstreitigkeiten Anwendung.“
iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,	
if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;	
d to take steps to ensure that the application of sub-paragraphs i and iii of paragraphs b and c above and any necessary use of interpreters and translations does not involve extra expense for the persons concerned.	
2 The Parties undertake:	
a not to deny the validity of legal documents drawn up within the State solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language; or	
b not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language, and to provide that they can be	

¹¹⁴ Klaus Schrameyer, op. cit., p. 108

invoked against interested third parties who are not users of these languages on condition that the contents of the document are made known to them by the person(s) who invoke(s) it; or	
c not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language.	
3 The Parties undertake to make available in the regional or minority languages the most important national statutory texts and those relating particularly to users of these languages, unless they are otherwise provided.	Article 8.2 of the Law for Amending the Law on Publication of Laws and Other Regulations in the “Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia” (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. /02): “The laws shall also be published in another official language ¹¹⁵ and its alphabet spoken by at least 20% of the citizens belonging to the communities in the Republic of Macedonia.” ¹¹⁶
Article 10	
1 Within the administrative districts of the State in which the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below and according to the situation of each language, the Parties undertake, as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a i to ensure that the administrative authorities use the regional or minority languages; or	
ii to ensure that such of their officers as are in contact with the public use the regional or minority languages in their relations with persons applying to them in these languages; or	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
iii to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications and receive a reply in these languages; or	Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 6 (Education and use of Languages) Ohrid Framework Agreement of 13 August 2001: “[...] 5. [...] Any person living in a unit of local self-government in which at least 20% of the population speaks an official language other than Macedonian may use any official language to communicate with the regional office of the central government with responsibility for that municipality; such an office will reply in that language in addition to Macedonian. Any person may use any official language to communicate with a main office of the central government, which will reply in that language in addition to Macedonian.” Amendment V (replacing Article 7) of the Constitution of the Republic of Macedonia of 17 November 1991 (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. 52/91, 1/92, 31/98, 91/01)¹¹⁷: “1. The Macedonian language and its Cyrillic alphabet shall be the official language throughout the Republic of Macedonia and in the international relations of the Republic of Macedonia.”

¹¹⁵ According to Article 3.1 of the ECRML, a State may grant protection under Part III to regional or minority languages or to official languages which are less widely used on the whole or part of its territory.

¹¹⁶ Report submitted by “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” pursuant to Article 25, paragraph 1 of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (ACFC/SR(2003)002), p. 99

¹¹⁷ *Ibidem*, p. 87



	<p>Any other language spoken by at least 20% of the citizens shall also be an official language, written using its alphabet, as determined in this article. [...]</p> <p>Any citizen living in a unit of local self-government in which at least 20% of the citizens speak an official language other than Macedonian may use any official language to communicate with the regional office of the ministries; regional offices responsible for those local self-government units shall reply in Macedonian and its Cyrillic alphabet and in the official language and alphabet used by that citizen. Any citizen may use one of the official languages and its alphabet to communicate with ministries, while ministries shall reply in Macedonian and its Cyrillic alphabet and in the official language and alphabet used by the particular citizen [...].”</p> <p>• Law on the Use of Languages spoken by at least 20% of the Citizens of the Republic of Macedonia and in units of local self-government (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. 101, 13 August 2008)/Loi relative a l'utilisation des langues parlées d'au moins 20% des citoyens en République de Macédoine et au niveau des collectivités territoriales:</p> <p>Article 4</p> <p>Tout citoyen habitant dans une collectivité territoriale dont au moins 20% des citoyens parlent une langue autre que le macédonien, peuvent utiliser cette langue et alphabet dans la communication avec les filières locales des ministères sur le territoire de la collectivité territoriale.</p> <p>Les filières locales des ministères dans les collectivités territoriales concernées répondent en langue macédonienne et son alphabet cyrillique, et dans la langue officielle utilisée par le citoyen.</p> <p>Tout citoyen habitant dans une collectivité territoriale dont au moins 20% des citoyens parlent une langue autre que le macédonien, peuvent utiliser cette langue et alphabet dans la communication avec les filières locales des ministères sur le territoire de la collectivité territoriale.</p> <p>Les ministères répondent en langue macédonienne et son alphabet cyrillique, ainsi que dans la langue et alphabet utilisés par les citoyens habitant dans une collectivité territoriale dont au moins 20% des citoyens parlent une langue autre que le macédonien.</p> <p>[...]</p> <p>Procédure administrative générale</p> <p>Art 18</p> <p>Les citoyens parlant une langue autre que le macédonien et parlée par au moins 20% des citoyens de la République de Macédoine, ont le droit à utiliser cette langue lors de la procédure administrative menée au sein des autorités d'état, les autres institutions de l'état, les autorités</p>
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	<p>municipales, la ville de Skopje et les municipalités de la ville de Skopje, ainsi que les personnes légales autorisées d'exercer des fonctions publiques en accord avec la loi.</p> <p>Le droit mentionné au paragraphe 1 du présent article peut être exercé par tout citoyen habitant dans une collectivité territoriale où au moins 20% des citoyens parlent une langue autre que le macédonien, dans sa communication avec les filières locales des ministères.</p> <p>Les filières situées dans ces collectivités locales répondent en langue macédonienne et son alphabet cyrillique, et dans la langue officielle utilisée par le citoyen. Dans leur communication avec les ministères, les citoyens peuvent utiliser une des langues officielles et son alphabet, tandis que les ministères répondent en langue macédonienne et son alphabet cyrillique, ainsi que dans la langue et alphabet utilisés par les citoyens.</p> <p>Les partis dans la procédure qui parlent une langue autre que le macédonien, considérée comme officielle, peuvent déposer leurs soumissions dans cette langue et alphabet. Les organes devant lesquels la procédure est menée traduisent ces soumissions en langue macédonienne et son alphabet cyrillique et agissent dans ce sens.</p> <p>Les organes devant lesquels la procédure administrative est menée répondent en langue macédonienne et son alphabet cyrillique ainsi que dans la langue officielle et alphabet utilisés par le parti. Lorsque le témoin ne connaît pas la langue dans laquelle la procédure administrative est menée, il est interpellé par l'intermédiaire d'un interprète.</p> <p>Si la procédure administrative et les auditions sont réalisés avec un interprète, la langue de source et le nom de l'interprète seront clairement indiqués dans le procès – verbal.”</p> <p>iv to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications in these languages; or</p> <p>v to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may validly submit a document in these languages;</p> <p>b to make available widely used administrative texts and forms for the population in the regional or minority languages or in bilingual versions;</p> <p>Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p> <p>Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p> <p>• Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p> <p>• Article 6 (Education and Use of Languages) of the Ohrid Framework Agreement of 13 August 2001: “[...] 8. Any official personal documents of citizens speaking an official language other than Macedonian will also be issued in that language, in addition to the Macedonian language, in accordance with the law.”</p> <p>• Amendment V, replacing Article 7, of the Constitution of the Republic of Macedonia (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. 52/91,</p>
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	<p>1/92, 31/98, 91/01): “1. The Macedonian language and its Cyrillic alphabet shall be the official language throughout the Republic of Macedonia and in the international relations of the Republic of Macedonia.</p> <p><u>Any other language spoken by at least 20% of the citizens shall also be an official language, written using its alphabet, as determined in this article. [...]</u></p> <p><u>Personal documents of citizens speaking an official language other than Macedonian shall be issued in Macedonian and its alphabet, as well as in that language and alphabet in accordance with the law [...].”</u></p> <p>• Law on the Use of Languages spoken by at least 20% of the Citizens of the Republic of Macedonia and in units of local self-government (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. 101, 13 August 2008)/ Loi relative a l'utilisation des langues parlées d'au moins 20% des citoyens en République de Macédoine et au niveau des collectivités territoriales: “6. Pièces d'identité</p> <p>Article 29 Pour les citoyens utilisant une langue officielle autre que le macédonien, la demande de carte nationale d'identité est imprimée aussi dans la langue et alphabet officiels utilisés par le citoyen. À la demande des citoyens utilisant une langue autre que la langue officielle, les données sur le nom et prénom inscrites sur la carte d'identité sont inscrites en langue macédonienne et son alphabet cyrillique ainsi que dans la langue et alphabet utilisés par le citoyen.</p> <p>Article 30 Les demandes de passeports et de visas sont imprimées en langue macédonienne et son alphabet cyrillique, suivies par une traduction en langue anglaise et française et leurs alphabets. <u>À la demande des citoyens utilisant une langue officielle autre que le macédonien, la demande de passeport et documents de voyage est imprimée aussi dans la langue et alphabets officiels utilisés par le citoyen. À la demande des citoyens utilisant une langue officielle autre que le macédonien, les données inscrites dans le passeport et les documents de voyage sont aussi inscrites dans la langue et alphabets officiels utilisés par le citoyen.</u> À la demande des citoyens utilisant une langue autre que la langue officielle, les données sur le nom et prénom inscrites dans le passeport et les documents de voyage sont inscrites en langue macédonienne et son alphabet cyrillique ainsi que dans la langue et alphabet utilisés par le citoyen.</p>
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	<p>7. Registre de l'état civil</p> <p>Article 31 Le registre de l'état civil est maintenu en langue macédonienne et son alphabet cyrillique. Sur le territoire des communautés territoriales où au moins 20% des citoyens utilisent une langue officielle autre que le macédonien, le formulaire du registre de l'état civil est imprimé, et les données y sont inscrites en langue macédonienne et son alphabet cyrillique ainsi que dans la langue et alphabet officiels utilisés par le citoyen. Les copies d'actes délivrées sur la base du registre de l'état civil mentionné dans le paragraphe 2 du présent article sont délivrés en langue macédonienne et son alphabet cyrillique ainsi que dans la langue et alphabet officiels utilisés par le citoyen.”</p> <p>• According to Macedonian legislation, two types of identity cards may be issued. Type A is printed in Macedonian, the Cyrillic alphabet and English; at the request of people who speak another language other than the official one, the personal data are printed in Macedonian and the Cyrillic alphabet and in the respective language and alphabet (Romani, Turkish, Vlach, Serbian or Bosnian). Type B is issued to people speaking an official language other than Macedonian and is printed in the respective language and alphabet as well.¹¹⁸</p>
<p>c to allow the administrative authorities to draft documents in a regional or minority language.</p>	<p>Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p>
<p>2 In respect of the local and regional authorities on whose territory the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages is such as to justify the measures specified below, the Parties undertake to allow and/or encourage:</p>	
<p>a the use of regional or minority languages within the framework of the regional or local authority;</p>	<p>• Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.</p> <p>• Article 6 (Education and use of Languages) of the Ohrid Framework Agreement of 13 August 2001: “[...] 6. With respect to local self-government, in municipalities where a community comprises at least 20% of the population of the municipality, the language of that community will be used as an official language in addition to Macedonian. With respect to languages spoken by less than 20% of the population of the municipality, the local authorities will decide democratically on their use in public bodies.”</p> <p>• Amendment V (replacing Article 7) of the Constitution of the Republic of Macedonia of 17 November 1991 (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. 52/91, 1/92, 31/98, 91/01): “1. [...] In the units of local self-government, <u>the language and its alphabet used by at least 20% of the population shall be used as an official language in addition to Macedonian and the Cyrillic alphabet. The</u></p>

¹¹⁸ See Third Report submitted by “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” pursuant to Article 25, paragraph 2 of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (ACFC/SR/III(2010)002).



	<p>organs of the self-government unit shall decide on the use of languages spoken by less than 20% of the population of a unit of local self-government.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 90 of the Law on Local Self-Government/Gesetz über die örtliche Selbstverwaltung (Gemeindegesezt) vom 24. Januar 2002 (SV Nr. 5 vom 29. Januar 2002, S. 1, Pos. 73)¹¹⁹ <p>(1) In den Gemeinden ist die Amtssprache neben der makedonischen Sprache und ihrer Schrift auch die Sprache und die Schrift, welche wenigstens 20% der Gemeindebewohner verwenden.</p> <p>(2) Über die Verwendung der Sprachen und Schriften, die weniger als 20% der Bewohner der Gemeinde verwenden, entscheidet der Gemeinderat.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 41 of the Law on the Use of Languages spoken by at least 20% of the Citizens of the Republic of Macedonia and in units of local self-government (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. 101, 13 August 2008)/Loi relative a l'utilisation des langues parlées d'au moins 20% des citoyens en République de Macédoine et au niveau des collectivités territoriales: "La langue officielle des municipalités est la langue macédonienne et son alphabet cyrillique. <u>A part le macédonien et son alphabet cyrillique, la langue et l'alphabet utilisés par au moins 20% des habitants d'une municipalités est aussi considérée comme officielle.</u> Les décisions relatives à l'utilisation des langues et alphabets utilisés par moins de 20% des citoyens de la municipalités sont adoptées par le Conseil municipal."
<p>b the possibility for users of regional or minority languages to submit oral or written applications in these languages;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 6 (Education and use of Languages) of the Ohrid Framework Agreement of 13 August 2001: "[...] 6. With respect to local self-government, in municipalities where a community comprises at least 20% of the population of the municipality, the language of that community will be used as an official language in addition to Macedonian. With respect to languages spoken by less than 20% of the population of the municipality, the local authorities will decide democratically on their use in public bodies." Amendment V (replacing Article 7) of the Constitution of the Republic of Macedonia of 17 November 1991 (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. 52/91, 1/92, 31/98, 91/01): "1. [...] In the units of local self-government, <u>the language and its alphabet used by at least 20% of the population shall be used as an official language in addition to the Macedonian language and the Cyrillic alphabet.</u> The organs of the self-government unit

¹¹⁹ Klaus Schrameyer, op. cit., p. 97-98

	<p>shall decide on the use of languages spoken by less than 20% of the population of a unit of local self-government.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 90 of the Law on Local Self-Government/Gesetz über die örtliche Selbstverwaltung (Gemeindegesezt) vom 24. Januar 2002 (SV Nr. 5 vom 29. Januar 2002, S. 1, Pos. 73)¹²⁰ <p>(1) In den Gemeinden ist die Amtssprache neben der makedonischen Sprache und ihrer Schrift auch die Sprache und die Schrift, welche wenigstens 20% der Gemeindebewohner verwenden.</p> <p>(2) Über die Verwendung der Sprachen und Schriften, die weniger als 20% der Bewohner der Gemeinde verwenden, entscheidet der Gemeinderat.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 41 of the Law on the Use of Languages spoken by at least 20% of the Citizens of the Republic of Macedonia and in units of local self-government (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. 101, 13 August 2008)/ Loi relative a l'utilisation des langues parlées d'au moins 20% des citoyens en République de Macédoine et au niveau des collectivités territoriales: "La langue officielle des municipalités est la langue macédonienne et son alphabet cyrillique. <u>A part le macédonien et son alphabet cyrillique, la langue et l'alphabet utilisés par au moins 20% des habitants d'une municipalités est aussi considérée comme officielle.</u> Les décisions relatives à l'utilisation des langues et alphabets utilisés par moins de 20% des citoyens de la municipalités sont adoptées par le Conseil municipal."
<p>c the publication by regional authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;</p>	
<p>d the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 10.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 6 (Education and use of Languages) of the Ohrid Framework Agreement of 13 August 2001: "[...] 6. With respect to local self-government, in municipalities where a community comprises at least 20% of the population of the municipality, the language of that community will be used as an official language in addition to Macedonian. With respect to languages spoken by less than 20% of the population of the municipality, the local authorities will decide democratically on their use in public bodies." Amendment V (replacing Article 7) of the Constitution of the Republic of Macedonia of 17 November 1991 (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. 52/91, 1/92, 31/98, 91/01): "1. [...] In the units of local self-government, <u>the language and its alphabet used by at least 20% of the population shall be used as an official language in addi-</u>

¹²⁰ Klaus Schrameyer, op. cit., p. 97-98



	<p>tion to the Macedonian language and the Cyrillic alphabet. The organs of the self-government unit shall decide on the use of languages spoken by less than 20% of the population of a unit of local self-government.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 90 of the Law on Local Self-Government/Gesetz über die örtliche Selbstverwaltung (Gemeindengesetz) vom 24. Januar 2002 (SV Nr. 5 vom 29. Januar 2002, S. 1, Pos. 73)¹²¹ <p>(1) In den Gemeinden ist die Amtssprache neben der makedonischen Sprache und ihrer Schrift auch die Sprache und die Schrift, welche wenigstens 20% der Gemeindebewohner verwenden.</p> <p>(2) Über die Verwendung der Sprachen und Schriften, die weniger als 20% der Bewohner der Gemeinde verwenden, entscheidet der Gemeinderat.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 41 of the Law on the Use of Languages spoken by at least 20% of the Citizens of the Republic of Macedonia and in units of local self-government (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. 101, 13 August 2008)/ Loi relative a l'utilisation des langues parlées d'au moins 20% des citoyens en République de Macédoine et au niveau des collectivités territoriales: “La langue officielle des municipalités est la langue macédonienne et son alphabet cyrillique. <u>A part le macédonien et son alphabet cyrillique, la langue et l'alphabet utilisés par au moins 20% des habitants d'une municipalités est aussi considérée comme officielle.</u> Les décisions relatives à l'utilisation des langues et alphabets utilisés par moins de 20% des citoyens de la municipalités sont adoptées par le Conseil municipal.”
<p>e the use by regional authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;</p>	
<p>f the use by local authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 6 (Education and use of Languages) of the Ohrid Framework Agreement of 13 August 2001: “[...] 6. With respect to local self-government, in municipalities where a community comprises at least 20% of the population of the municipality, the language of that community will be used as an official language in addition to Macedonian. With respect to languages spoken by less than 20% of the population of the municipality, the local authorities will decide democratically on their use in public bodies.” Amendment V (replacing Article 7) of the Constitution of the Republic of Macedonia of 17 November 1991 (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. 52/91, 1/92, 31/98, 91/01): “1. [...] In the units of local self-government, <u>the language and its alphabet used by at least 20% of the population shall be used as an official language in addi-</u>

¹²¹ Klaus Schrameyer, op. cit., p. 97-98

	<p>tion to the Macedonian language and the Cyrillic alphabet. The organs of the self-government unit shall decide on the use of languages spoken by less than 20% of the population of a unit of local self-government.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 90 of the Law on Local Self-Government/Gesetz über die örtliche Selbstverwaltung (Gemeindengesetz) vom 24. Januar 2002 (SV Nr. 5 vom 29. Januar 2002, S. 1, Pos. 73)¹²² <p>(1) In den Gemeinden ist die Amtssprache neben der makedonischen Sprache und ihrer Schrift auch die Sprache und die Schrift, welche wenigstens 20% der Gemeindebewohner verwenden.</p> <p>(2) Über die Verwendung der Sprachen und Schriften, die weniger als 20% der Bewohner der Gemeinde verwenden, entscheidet der Gemeinderat.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 41 of the Law on the Use of Languages spoken by at least 20% of the Citizens of the Republic of Macedonia and in units of local self-government (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. 101, 13 August 2008)/ Loi relative a l'utilisation des langues parlées d'au moins 20% des citoyens en République de Macédoine et au niveau des collectivités territoriales: “La langue officielle des municipalités est la langue macédonienne et son alphabet cyrillique. <u>A part le macédonien et son alphabet cyrillique, la langue et l'alphabet utilisés par au moins 20% des habitants d'une municipalités est aussi considérée comme officielle.</u> Les décisions relatives à l'utilisation des langues et alphabets utilisés par moins de 20% des citoyens de la municipalités sont adoptées par le Conseil municipal.”
<p>g the use or adoption, if necessary in conjunction with the name in the official language(s), of traditional and correct forms of place names in regional or minority languages.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 11.3, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 40 of the Law on the Use of Languages spoken by at least 20% of the Citizens of the Republic of Macedonia and in units of local self-government (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. 101, 13 August 2008)/ Loi relative a l'utilisation des langues parlées d'au moins 20% des citoyens en République de Macédoine et au niveau des collectivités territoriales: “Les noms de rues, places, ponts ou autres types d'infrastructure, sont écrits en langue macédonienne et son alphabet cyrillique. <u>Dans les municipalités où au moins 20% des citoyens utilisent une langue officielle autre que le macédonien, les noms de rues, places, ponts et autres types d'infrastructure, sont écrits en langue macédonienne et son alphabet cyrillique ainsi que dans la langue et alphabet utilisés par au moins 20% des citoyens de cette municipalité.</u>”
<p>3 With regard to public services provided by</p>	

¹²² Klaus Schrameyer, op. cit., p. 97-98



the administrative authorities or other persons acting on their behalf, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which regional or minority languages are used, in accordance with the situation of each language and as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a to ensure that the regional or minority languages are used in the provision of the service; or	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
b to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request and receive a reply in these languages; or	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
c to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request in these languages.	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
4 With a view to putting into effect those provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 accepted by them, the Parties undertake to take one or more of the following measures:	
a translation or interpretation as may be required;	
b recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required;	
c compliance as far as possible with requests from public service employees having a knowledge of a regional or minority language to be appointed in the territory in which that language is used.	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
5 The Parties undertake to allow the use or adoption of family names in the regional or minority languages, at the request of those concerned.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 11.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Law on the Use of Languages spoken by at least 20% of the Citizens of the Republic of Macedonia and in units of local self-government (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. 101, 13 August 2008)/ Loi relative a l'utilisation des langues parlées d'au moins 20% des citoyens en République de Macédoine et au niveau des collectivités territoriales: "6. Pièces d'identité <p>Article 29 Pour les citoyens utilisant une langue officielle autre que le macédonien, la demande de carte nationale d'identité est imprimée aussi dans la langue et alphabet officiels utilisés par le citoyen. <u>À la demande des citoyens utilisant une langue autre que la langue officielle, les données sur le nom et prénom inscrites sur la carte d'identité sont inscrites en langue macédonienne et son alphabet cyrillique ainsi que dans la langue et alphabet utilisés par le citoyen.</u>"</p>
Article 11	
1 The Parties undertake, for the users of the regional or minority languages within the territories in which those languages are spoken, according to the situation of each language, to the extent that the public authorities, directly or indirectly, are competent, have power or play a role in this field, and respecting the principle of the independence and autonomy of the media:	
a to the extent that radio and television	

carry out a public service mission:	
i to ensure the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	
iii to make adequate provision so that broadcasters offer programmes in the regional or minority languages;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Law on the Use of Languages spoken by at least 20% of the Citizens of the Republic of Macedonia and in units of local self-government (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. 101, 13 August 2008)/ Loi relative a l'utilisation des langues parlées d'au moins 20% des citoyens en République de Macédoine et au niveau des collectivités territoriales: "Article 34 Les diffuseurs sont obligés de diffuser au moins 30% de programmes produits en langue macédonienne ou dans les langues des communautés non-majoritaires en République de Macédoine, le temps accordé aux journal, événements sportifs, jeux, publicité, teletexte et téléachat non compris. Les diffuseurs sont obligés d'assurer la diffusion d'au moins 30% de musique vocale/instrumentale en langue macédonienne ou dans la langue des communautés ethniques non-majoritaires en République de Macédoine. Les provisions du paragraphe 1 du présent article ne sont pas applicables aux diffuseurs offrant de services thématiques (type) ou payants. Article 35 Les diffuseurs diffusent leur programme en macédonien, mais au cas où le programme est destiné à une communauté non-majoritaire, le programme est diffusé dans la langue de cette communauté.[...] Article 38 Sur le territoire de la République de Macédoine, la Télévision et Radio Macédoniennes (ci-après: TRM) diffuse <u>une chaîne de programmes en langue macédonienne et une chaîne de programmes dans la langue utilisée par au moins 20% des citoyens, autre que le macédonien et autre que les langues des autres communautés non-majoritaires.</u> Sur le territoire de la République de Macédoine, la TRM diffuse au moins deux chaînes de programmes radio en langue macédonienne et une chaîne de programmes radio dans la langue utilisée par au moins 20% des citoyens, autre que le macédonien et autre que les langues des autres communautés non-majoritaires. La TRM diffuse des programmes radio spéciales consacrés à la diaspora, c'est-à-dire aux citoyens de la République de Macédoine qui habitent à



	<p>l'étranger, dans les pays voisins et sur les autres continents, en langue macédonienne et dans la langue utilisée par au moins 20% des citoyens, autre que le macédonien et autre que les langues des autres communautés non-majoritaires.</p> <p>La TRM diffuse au moins une chaîne de radio et de télévision par satellite consacrées à la diaspora, c'est-à-dire aux citoyens de la République de Macédoine qui habitent à l'étranger, dans les pays voisins et sur les autres continents, en langue macédonienne et dans la langue utilisée par au moins 20% des citoyens, autre que le macédonien et autre que les langues des autres communautés non-majoritaires.</p> <p>Article 39 De 18:00 à 22 :00, la TRM est obligée d'assurer à chaque chaîne télévisée au moins 40% de programme produite en langue macédonienne ou dans les langues des communautés non-majoritaires en République de Macédoine du temps total annuel de diffusion, selon un système qui prévoit qu'au moins 30% du programme quotidien soit produit en langue macédonienne ou dans les langues des communautés non-majoritaires en République de Macédoine.</p> <p>La MRT est obligé d'assurer chaque jour la diffusion d'au moins 40% de programme produit en langue macédonienne ou dans les langues des communautés non-majoritaires en République de Macédoine.</p> <p>La MRT est obligée d'assurer la diffusion d'au moins 45% de musique vocale / instrumentale en langue macédonienne ou dans la langue des communautés ethniques non-majoritaires en République de Macédoine."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The offer of the Macedonian Radio and Television Station (MRT) includes, according to the Law on Broadcasting (2005), one television programme service and one radio programme service "in the language spoken by at least 20% of the citizens, different from the Macedonian language and in the languages of the non-majority communities."¹²³ • MTV 2, the second channel of the Macedonian Television broadcasts exclusively in Albanian, Turkish, Romani, Serbian, Vlach and Bosniak. The Macedonian radio broadcasts as well programmes in Albanian, Turkish, Romani, Serbian, Vlach and Bosniak¹²⁴.
b i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station in the regional or minority languages; or	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of radio programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. • Law on the Use of Languages spoken by at

¹²³ See Second Report submitted by "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" pursuant to Article 25, paragraph 2 of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (ACFC/SR/II(2006)004), p. 25

¹²⁴ See Third Report submitted by "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" pursuant to Article 25, paragraph 2 of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (ACFC/SR/III(2010)002).

	<p>least 20% of the Citizens of the Republic of Macedonia and in units of local self-government (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. 101, 13 August 2008)/ Loi relative a l'utilisation des langues parlées d'au moins 20% des citoyens en République de Macédoine et au niveau des collectivités territoriales:</p> <p>"Article 34 Les diffuseurs sont obligés de diffuser au moins 30% de programmes produits en langue macédonienne ou dans les langues des communautés non-majoritaires en République de Macédoine, le temps accordé aux journaux, événements sportifs, jeux, publicité, teletexte et téléachat non compris. Les diffuseurs sont obligés d'assurer la diffusion d'au moins 30% de musique vocale/instrumentale en langue macédonienne ou dans la langue des communautés ethniques non-majoritaires en République de Macédoine. Les provisions du paragraphe 1 du présent article ne sont pas applicables aux diffuseurs offrant de services thématiques (type) ou payants.</p> <p>Article 35 Les diffuseurs diffusent leur programme en macédonien, mais au cas où le programme est destiné à une communauté non-majoritaire, le programme est diffusé dans la langue de cette communauté. [...]"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 82.1 of the Law on Broadcasting (2005) provides that "broadcasters broadcast the programme in Macedonian language, and in cases when the programme is aimed at a community which does not represent the majority it is the language of that community."¹²⁵
c i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of television programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. • Article 35 of the Law on the Use of Languages spoken by at least 20% of the Citizens of the Republic of Macedonia and in units of local self-government (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. 101, 13 August 2008)/ Loi relative a l'utilisation des langues parlées d'au moins 20% des citoyens en République de Macédoine et au niveau des collectivités territoriales: "Les diffuseurs diffusent leur programme en macédonien, mais au cas où le programme est destiné à une communauté non-majoritaire, le programme est diffusé dans la langue de cette communauté. [...]" • Article 82.1 of the Law on Broadcasting (2005) provides that "broadcasters broadcast the pro-

¹²⁵ Second Report submitted by "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" pursuant to Article 25, paragraph 2 of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (ACFC/SR/II(2006)004), p. 26



	gramme in Macedonian, and in cases when the programme is aimed at a community which does not represent the majority it is the language of that community.” ¹²⁶
d to encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audiovisual works in the regional or minority languages;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
e i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages; or	Articles 9.3 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
ii to encourage and/or facilitate the publication of newspaper articles in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
f i to cover the additional costs of those media which use regional or minority languages, wherever the law provides for financial assistance in general for the media; or	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
ii to apply existing measures for financial assistance also to audiovisual productions in the regional or minority languages;	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
g to support the training of journalists and other staff for media using regional or minority languages.	Article 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
2 The Parties undertake to guarantee freedom of direct reception of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language, and not to oppose the retransmission of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in such a language. They further undertake to ensure that no restrictions will be placed on the freedom of expression and free circulation of information in the written press in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language. The exercise of the above-mentioned freedoms, since it carries with it duties and responsibilities, may be subject to such formalities, conditions, restrictions or penalties as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputation or rights of others, for preventing disclosure of information received in confidence, or for maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary.	Articles 9.1, 9.2, 9.3 and 18, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
3 The Parties undertake to ensure that the interests of the users of regional or minority languages are represented or taken into account within such bodies as may be established in accordance with the law with responsibility for guaranteeing the freedom and pluralism of the media.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Article 33 of the Law on the Use of Languages spoken by at least 20% of the Citizens of the Republic of Macedonia and in units of local self-government (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. 101, 13 August 2008)/ Loi relative a l'utilisation des langues parlées d'au moins 20% des citoyens en République de Macédoine et au niveau des collectivités territoriales: "Le Conseil audiovisuel, à part les critères établis par la Loi sur l'audiovisuel, évalue

¹²⁶ Ibidem.

	les déclarations sur la base de la diversité de genre et thématique des programmes, la proportion des programmes produits en langue macédonienne ou dans les langues utilisées par les communautés non-majoritaires en République de Macédoine par rapport au programme total quotidien prévu à être diffusé, la proportion de programmes traitant des sujets et des événements d'une importance pour le territoire sur lequel le programme sera diffusé et la proportion d'oeuvres audiovisuels européens.”
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to the Law on Broadcasting (2005) the composition of the Broadcasting Council “requires appropriate and equitable representation of the citizens who belong to all communities”¹²⁷.
Article 12	
1 With regard to cultural activities and facilities – especially libraries, video libraries, cultural centres, museums, archives, academies, theatres and cinemas, as well as literary work and film production, vernacular forms of cultural expression, festivals and the culture industries, including, <i>inter alia</i> , the use of new technologies – the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used and to the extent that the public authorities are competent, have power or play a role in this field:	
a to encourage types of expression and initiative specific to regional or minority languages and foster the different means of access to works produced in these languages;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 5.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Amendment VIII (replacing Article 48) of the Constitution of the Republic of Macedonia of 17 November 1991 (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. 52/91, 1/92, 31/98, 91/01): “1. Members of communities shall have the right to freely express, foster and develop their identity and characteristics of their communities and to use the symbols of their community. <p>The Republic of Macedonia shall guarantee the protection of ethnic, cultural, linguistic and religious identity of all communities.</p> <p>Members of the communities shall have the right to establish cultural, art, educational institutions as well as scientific and other associations for expressing, fostering and developing their identity. [...]”¹²⁸</p>
b to foster the different means of access in other languages to works produced in regional or minority languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;	Articles 9.1 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
c to foster access in regional or minority languages to works produced in other languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;	Articles 9.1 and 9.4, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.

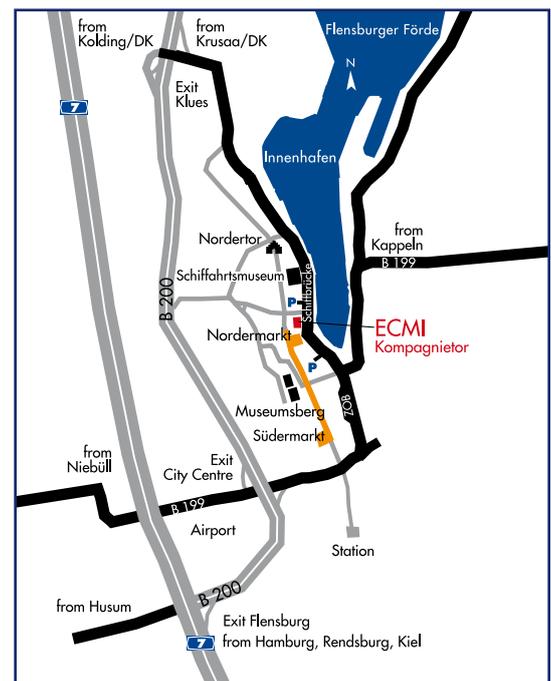
¹²⁷ Ibidem.

¹²⁸ Report submitted by “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” pursuant to Article 25, paragraph 1 of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (ACFC/SR(2003)002), p. 87



d to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities of various kinds make appropriate allowance for incorporating the knowledge and use of regional or minority languages and cultures in the undertakings which they initiate or for which they provide backing;	Articles 5.1 and 9.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
e to promote measures to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities have at their disposal staff who have a full command of the regional or minority language concerned, as well as of the language(s) of the rest of the population;	Articles 5.1 and Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
f to encourage direct participation by representatives of the users of a given regional or minority language in providing facilities and planning cultural activities;	Article 15, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
g to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of a body or bodies responsible for collecting, keeping a copy of and presenting or publishing works produced in the regional or minority languages;	
h if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.	
2 In respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage and/or provide appropriate cultural activities and facilities in accordance with the preceding paragraph.	
3 The Parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect.	
Article 13	
1 With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, within the whole country:	
a to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of regional or minority languages in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations;	Article 4.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
b to prohibit the insertion in internal regulations of companies and private documents of any clauses excluding or restricting the use of regional or minority languages, at least between users of the same language;	
c to oppose practices designed to discourage the use of regional or minority languages in connection with economic or social activities;	
d to facilitate and/or encourage the use of regional or minority languages by means other than those specified in the above sub-paragraphs.	
2 With regard to economic and social	

activities, the Parties undertake, in so far as the public authorities are competent, within the territory in which the regional or minority languages are used, and as far as this is reasonably possible:	
a to include in their financial and banking regulations provisions which allow, by means of procedures compatible with commercial practice, the use of regional or minority languages in drawing up payment orders (cheques, drafts, etc.) or other financial documents, or, where appropriate, to ensure the implementation of such provisions;	
b in the economic and social sectors directly under their control (public sector), to organise activities to promote the use of regional or minority languages;	
c to ensure that social care facilities such as hospitals, retirement homes and hostels offer the possibility of receiving and treating in their own language persons using a regional or minority language who are in need of care on grounds of ill-health, old age or for other reasons;	
d to ensure by appropriate means that safety instructions are also drawn up in regional or minority languages;	
e to arrange for information provided by the competent public authorities concerning the rights of consumers to be made available in regional or minority languages.	
Article 14	
The Parties undertake:	
a to apply existing bilateral and multilateral agreements which bind them with the States in which the same language is used in identical or similar form, or if necessary to seek to conclude such agreements, in such a way as to foster contacts between the users of the same language in the States concerned in the fields of culture, education, information, vocational training and permanent education;	Articles 17.1 and 18.1, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.
b for the benefit of regional or minority languages, to facilitate and/or promote co-operation across borders, in particular between regional or local authorities in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form.	Article 18.2, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.



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