



A round table on the Protection of National Minorities in Finland Follow-up to the Committee of Ministers' Recommendation

Date and time: Tuesday, 11 December 2018, from 09:00 to 12:30
Venue: Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Building A, Ritarikatusali, Laivastokatu 22

On 1 February 1998, the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (FCNM) entered into force in Finland. It is the first legally binding multilateral treaty on minority protection. For two decades, the Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (ACFC) has advised on the implementation of the Framework Convention, visiting Finland four times, most recently in October 2015, given visibility to national minorities and promoted integration of diverse societies.

The round table provides an opportunity to discuss the implementation and interpretation of the Framework Convention in Finland. What kind of impact the changing societal conditions and new political realities have had on the situation of the national minorities in Finland?

08:45 Registration and coffee

09:00 Opening remarks - Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ms Krista OINONEN, Director of the Unit for Human Rights Courts and Conventions

09:05 Remarks by Mr Detlev REIN, Member of the Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities

09:30 Remarks by Mr Mikko PUUMALAINEN, Deputy Chancellor of Justice

09:45 Remarks by Ms Kirsi PIMIÄ, Non-Discrimination Ombudsman

10:00 Remarks by the representatives of the national minorities in Finland

11:00 Coffee break

11:15 Discussion – information on the implementation measures provided by the Ministries

12:00 The Scope of Application of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities - ACFC Thematic Commentary No. 4 (2016)

12:20 Discussion

12:30 Closing