



MINISTRY OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE
OF HUNGARY

In co-operation with



SAVE THE DATE

International Conference on the Protection of Regional or Minority Languages in Europe

Protection of identity through language rights

13-14 November 2017

Budapest

25 years after the opening for signature of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages the aim of this Conference organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary in co-operation with the Council of Europe is to increase knowledge about the Charter and underline the fact that ensuring linguistic rights is a prerequisite to building a democratic and culturally diverse Europe. The event will provide an opportunity to promote the Charter, discuss current issues and to take a fresh look at the obstacles of increasing the number of ratifications.

Representatives from governments, parliaments as well as international experts, academic, civil society representatives that deal with the protection of linguistic rights will be invited to the event. In order to promote the ratification of the Charter a special emphasis is placed on inviting representatives from countries that have not yet ratified it.

As to the format, four panels are planned, which are dedicated to:

- *the international legal framework,*
- *the implementation in practice,*
- *the regional and minority language education and*
- *the role of civil society.*

Roundtable discussion formats will be organized to ensure a more informal setting that should not only elaborate on the academic or expert questions, but also on more general, practical aspects.

You are kindly requested to forward this information to senior officials of your national authorities. Official invitations, the draft program, a concept note and logistical information will be circulated after the summer break.