

The Language Charter entered into force 20 years ago and has been ratified by 25 States. Its implementation by the States Parties is monitored by the independent Committee of Experts on the basis of national periodical reports (hereafter "periodical reports") submitted by the States Parties.

In the course of its implementation, a number of challenges have emerged which call for action in order to maintain the effectiveness of the monitoring mechanism and preserve its authority and credibility. Amongst these challenges, the non-compliance with the monitoring cycle by a number of States Parties and, in some cases, the late adoption of the Committee of Ministers' Recommendations, and thus the late publication of Committee of Experts' evaluation reports, are of particular concern.

In order to address the above-mentioned challenges, a set of complementary reform proposals was put forward, setting out in each case the main arguments, with a view to:

- A. Adjusting the monitoring cycle;
- B. Ensuring the timely submission of periodical reports;
- C. Enhancing the accuracy of evaluation reports and ensuring that they are published within a reasonable time after their adoption;
- D. Increasing member turnover in the Committee of Experts.

The proposals A, B and C would work to their full effect if implemented together and should be seen as a package.