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EUROPEAN CHARTER FOR REGIONAL OR MINORITY LANGUAGES

Sixth periodical report
presented to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
in accordance with Article 15 of the Charter

SERBIA

The Republic of Serbia

THE EUROPEAN CHARTER FOR
REGIONAL OR MINORITY LANGUAGES

The Sixth Periodical Report
submitted to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
pursuant to Article 15 of the Charter

Belgrade, December 2022

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I. Introduction

Pursuant to Article 15 of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (hereinafter referred to as the Charter), which was ratified by the Law on Ratification of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages,¹ the Republic of Serbia hereby submits the Sixth Periodical Report on the Implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages for the period 2019-2022, drawn up in accordance with the Outlines for the periodical reports on the implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, adopted on 2 May 2019.

In addition to following the structure and systematics provided for by the abovementioned Outlines, the Report contains the latest information on the implementation of assumed obligations and recommendations based on them. In this sense, we would like to point out that information on the implementation of the recommendations of the Committee of Ministers and the Committee of Experts is contained in the relevant parts of the Report, which, for each of the languages for which the obligations referred to in Part III have been undertaken, refer to implementing measures in policy and legislation, as well as to implementing measures in practice. Also, bearing in mind that this concerns recommendations from the fourth monitoring cycle, and that the fifth and sixth monitoring cycles are combined, the authorities of the Republic of Serbia draw the attention of the Committee of Experts to the fact that measures for the implementation of these recommendations are described in more detail in the Fifth State Report, as well as that they are referred to in the Comments of the Republic of Serbia on the Fourth Report of the Committee of Experts. In this sense, the Report sections that describe measures for the implementation of the recommendations of the Committee of Ministers and the Committee of Experts also contain a description of only those measures that are not included in other sections of this Report and/or in those sections that refer only to the recommendations for which no information was provided in the Fifth State Report. The implementing measures in policy and legislation are the same for all minority languages for which the obligations referred to in all paragraphs and sub-paragraphs have been undertaken, unless otherwise indicated (e.g. Article 10, paragraph 2 c), and are presented in the part of the Report dedicated to the Albanian language, so that the further text of the Report, in terms of other languages for which the obligations referred to in Part III have been undertaken, refers only to the implementing measures in practice.

Preparation of the Sixth Report was preceded by answers which the Republic of Serbia provided to additional questions for national authorities on compliance with the obligations set out by the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, as well as with the recommendations adopted in the fourth monitoring cycle in 2018. Considering that the visit of the Committee of Experts regarding monitoring the implementation of the Charter was postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Committee of Experts sent these additional questions in December 2021, and the Republic of Serbia send its answers to the Council of Europe in January 2022.

The Sixth Report on the Implementation of the Charter was drawn up by the Ministry for Human and Minority Rights and Social Dialogue. The following state authorities participated in the compiling of the Report: the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development, the Ministry of Justice, the Administrative Inspectorate within the Ministry of

¹ *Official Gazette of Serbia and Montenegro - International Treaties*, No. 18/05

Public Administration and Local Self-Government, the Ministry of Culture and Information, as well as provincial authorities of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina: the Provincial Secretariat for Education, Regulations, Administration and National Minorities - National Communities, the Provincial Secretariat for Culture, Public Information and Relations with Religious Communities and the Provincial Secretariat for Higher Education and Scientific Research.

Supplements for the preparation of the Report were submitted by the basic courts in Backa Palanka, Becej, Bujanovac, Vrbas, Vrsac, Dimitrovgrad, Zrenjanin, Kikinda, Lehane, Novi Pazar, Novi Sad, Pancevo, Prijepolje, Senta, Smederevo, Sombor, Subotica, Surdulica and Sid.

All the local self-government units where a minority language is in official use, as well as local self-government units with a significant number of members of national minorities were invited to participate in the compiling of the Sixth Report on the Implementation of the Charter, and the following responded to the invitation: Babusnica, Bae, Backa Palanka, Backa Topola, Bela Palanka, Beocin, Bojnik, Boljevac, Bor, Bujanovac, Vladicin Han, Vrbas, Vrsac, Golubac, Dimitrovgrad, Doljevac, Zagubica, Zitiste, Zitorada, Zrenjanin, Kikinda, Kladovo, Kovacica, Kovin, Koceljeva, Kula, Kucevo, Lajkovac, Mali Idos, Malo Crnice, Medveda, Merosina, Negotin, Novi Becej, Novi Sad, Pancevo, Petrovac na Mlavi, Pecinci, Plandiste, Senta, Secanj, Sjenica, Sombor, Srbobran, Sremska Mitrovica, Subotica, Surdulica, Temerin, Titel, Coka and Sid. In addition to the data obtained from the local self-government units that submitted their supplements to this Report, data collected by the then Office for Human and Minority Rights in 2020 based on special questionnaires were also used.²

All administrative districts which include local self-government units where one of the minority languages is in official use responded to the invitation to take part in the compiling of the Sixth Report on the Implementation of the Charter: administrative districts of West Backa, Zlatibor, Jablanica, South Banat, South Backa, Pirot, Pcinj, Raska, North Banat, North Backa, Central Banat and Srem.

Supplements for the compiling of the Report were also provided by: the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts; Institute for Balkan Studies at the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts; Institute of Ethnography at the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts; University of Novi Sad; Faculty of Philosophy of the University in Belgrade; Faculty of Philology and Arts of the University in Kragujevac; Faculty of Philosophy of the University in Nis; State University in Novi Pazar; College of Vocational Studies for the Education of Preschool Teachers in Novi Sad; College of Vocational Studies for the Education of Preschool Teachers and Sports Trainers Subotica; Tech College of Applied Sciences Subotica; Cultural Centre of Vojvodina "Milos Crnjanski"; Institute for Culture of Vojvodina Hungarians; Institute for Culture of Vojvodina Romanians; Institute for Culture of Vojvodina Slovaks; Public Broadcasting Institution "Radio Television of Serbia"; Public Broadcasting Institution "Radio Television of Vojvodina".

All national councils of national minorities were invited to provide information and supplements to the Report. Data regarding the use of minority languages in certain areas relevant

² For the purposes of preparing a special study that was the result of cooperation between the Office for Human and Minority Rights of the Government of the Republic of Serbia and the OSCE Mission to Serbia, whose main purpose is to serve as a guidebook for the implementation of the regulations governing the use of languages and scripts of national minorities in local self-government units in the Republic of Serbia, an extensive questionnaire was prepared and sent to all local self-government units in the Republic of Serbia.

for the implementation of the Charter were submitted only by the national councils of Bunjevac and Bosniak national minorities.

The following associations of citizens were invited to participate in the preparation of the Report, which gather members of national minorities or engage in the protection of rights of national minorities: the Albanian Cultural Association *Perspektiva*, Bujanovac; Association *Matica Albanaca*, Novi Sad; Association for Bosnian Language and Literature, Novi Pazar; *Matica Bosnjacka*, Novi Pazar; Association for Bulgarian Language, Literature and Culture, Novi Sad; Association *Matica Bugara u Srbiji*, Bosilegrad; *Bunjevačka Matica*, Subotica; Association of Citizens *Bunjevačko kolo*, Sombor; *Matica Vlaha*, Belgrade; Serbian Vlach Movement, Pozarevac; Hungarian Literary Association of Vojvodina, Subotica; Association for the Hungarian Language *Szarvas Gaboor*, Ada; Association for Hungarian Language and Reading Club *Koosa Janos*, Novi Sad; Macedonian Cultural Centre *Blaze Koneski*, Pancevo; Union of Associations of Members of the Macedonian National Community in Serbia, Pancevo; Humanitarian Association of Germans *Gerhard*, Sombor; Centre of Banat Swabians *Haus Regina*, Zrenjanin; *Matica Romska*, Novi Sad; Association for the Romanian Language in Vojvodina - Republic of Serbia, Vrsac; Romanian Community in Serbia, Vrsac; Association for Ruthenian Language, Literature and Culture, Novi Sad; *Matica Rusinska*, Ruski Krstur; Ruthenian Cultural Centre, Novi Sad; Association of Slovak Pedagogues, Backi Petrovac; *Matica Slovacka u Srbiji*, Backi Petrovac; Association for Ukrainian Language, Literature and Culture *Prosvita*, Novi Sad; Ukrainian Cultural and Arts Association *Kalina*, Indija; *Matica Hrvatska*, Subotica; Croatian Cultural and Educational Association *Jelacic*, Petrovaradin; *Matica Ceska*, Bela Crkva; *Cesa Beseda Bela Crkva*, Bela Crkva. The following associations submitted their views on certain issues regarding the use of minority languages: *Bunjevačka Matica*, Subotica, Serbian Vlach Movement, Pozarevac and Association for Ruthenian Language, Literature and Culture, Novi Sad.

The main observations of the national councils of national minorities and associations on certain issues were presented as part of the implementation of the relevant provisions contained in the Sixth Report on the Implementation of the Charter. The views and observations of national councils of national minorities and associations do not necessarily reflect opinions and findings of state authorities.

In the Sixth Report on the Implementation of the Charter, the term "minority language" is used synonymously with the term "language of a national minority".

All financial support data presented in the tables of the Sixth Report on the Implementation of the Charter refer to the period 2019-2022 and are expressed in RSD, unless specified otherwise.

Any terms used in this Report in the grammatical masculine gender include both the masculine and feminine gender of the persons they refer to.

II. General development

2.1. Population census

The census of population, households and dwellings in the Republic of Serbia was postponed to October 2022 due to the unfavourable epidemiological situation caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. The census methodology for the Census 2022 is fully in compliance with the international recommendations prepared jointly by UNECE and Eurostat, and adopted by the Conference of European Statisticians,³ as well as with European Commission regulations.⁴ The mother tongue question was asked regularly in all the censuses in the Republic of Serbia, and it will be asked in the Census 2022. This question, as well as the questions about nationality and religion were created as open-ended questions, with no offered answers. The census enumerator is obliged to enter an answer exactly as provided by the respondent.

The Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia has traditionally, for many years, during the preparation and conducting of the census, intensively cooperated with the representatives of national minorities and with the state authorities and organisations dealing with national minorities issues. To this end, a large number of consultative meetings and consultations were held where, among other things, conditions for applying for a census position and the manner of selecting candidates for instructors and enumerators were considered, as well as organisation and method of enumeration of the Roma population living in informal and substandard settlements, as well as other issues relevant for conducting a census.

In order to effectively involve members of national minorities in the preparation and organisation of the census of population, households and dwellings, and in cooperation with the Coordination of National Councils of National Minorities, a Working Group was established in March 2021 for the coordination of the census activities related to the issues relevant for national minorities. In addition to four representatives of the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia, the Working Group consists of three representatives of the Coordination (from three national councils) and one representative of the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights and Social Dialogue.

The main tasks of the Working Group are as follows:

- Define areas of cooperation with national councils of national minorities on census activities, at the national and local level;
- Recognise potential challenges and define activities that can reduce risk effect on conducting census activities;
- Organise activities related to the translation of census material into the languages of national minorities;
- Define a manner to promote the importance of the census for members of national minorities;
- Coordinate census promotion activities and promotional material translation and distribution activities;
- Other activities related to census quality assurance.

³ https://unece.org/DAM/stats/publications/2015/ECECES4I_EN.pdf

⁴ Framework Regulation (EC)763/2008, Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/543, Commission Regulation (EU) 2017/712, Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/881, etc.

In accordance with the positive experience with the previous census, the Working Group decided to include 88 representatives of the Coordination of National Councils of National Minorities in the composition of census commissions in the local self-government units that have nationally mixed population (74 census commissions).

To conduct a census, the Statistical Office establishes a census commission at the local level in each municipality/city and hires instructors and enumerators. Selection of candidates for census-related work is carried out on the basis of pre-defined, unique and publicly available criteria and procedures. All recruited participants are local population, which ensures representation of members of national minorities in multinational environments. In addition, in cooperation with the National Council of the Roma national minority, enumerator assistants are hired to support enumeration in substandard settlements.

As in the previous census, the national level campaign for the Census 2022 is run in Serbian, while promotional material used at the local level (billboards, flyers, etc.) has been translated into the languages of national minorities. One of the promotional channels is also the specialised Census website, which contains all the relevant information about the importance of the census, the method of collecting and using census data, the protection of census data, the content of census questionnaires, the possibilities of participating in the census, etc. The complete content of the Census website is available in Serbian and English, while methodological explanations, census questionnaires, public invitation and other materials of importance for national minorities are also available in the languages of national minorities.⁵ Thus, census questionnaires, in addition to Serbian and English, are available in 20 other languages (Albanian, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Bunjevac, Vlach, Greek, Hungarian, Macedonian, German, Polish, Romani, Romanian, Ruthenian, Russian, Slovak, Slovenian, Ukrainian, Croatian, Montenegrin and Czech).

In August 2022, in cooperation with national councils and the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia, the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights and Social Dialogue initiated a campaign to provide information and raise awareness of members of national minorities about freedom of expression on the Census 2022 under the name "All of us, together, make Serbia". The goal of the campaign is to send a clear message that it is important for the members of national minorities to freely declare their nationality and that all sensitive data are fully protected, as well as that the further development and planning of minority policies in the Republic of Serbia depends on the results of the Census. In addition to informative workshops, the campaign also included printed material in the form of flyers and posters and a media campaign that includes video clips and radio jingles in the languages of national minorities. The above mentioned materials were distributed to public service broadcasters, as well as to the media that broadcast programmes in the languages of national minorities and to the national councils of national minorities.

2.2. Legislative changes after the fifth cycle

In the reporting period, the following laws, which are important for the use of minority languages in the Republic of Serbia, were fully or partially amended:

⁵ <https://popis2022.stat.gov.rs/4-metodoloskimaterijali/?r=0>

The Law on Pre-school Education,⁶
The Law on Primary Education,⁷
The Law on Secondary Education,⁸
The Law on Higher Education,⁹
The Law on Foundations of Educational System,¹⁰
The Law on Science and Research,¹¹
The Law on Electronic Media,¹²
The Law on the Election of Deputies,¹³
The Law on Local Elections,¹⁴
The Law on Prohibition of Discrimination.¹⁵

The above mentioned amendments are presented in the appropriate places in this Report, depending on their content and relevance. At this point, it is important to point out that these amendments do not reduce the achieved level of the right to use minority languages, but that, on the contrary, in certain cases, their use is confirmed and facilitated.

2.3. Strategic documents

In January 2022, after broad consultations with all relevant social partners, the Government of the Republic of Serbia adopted a new Strategy for Prevention and Protection against Discrimination for the period 2022-2030.¹⁶ The Strategy, among other things, envisages special goals that include the systematic introduction of an anti-discrimination perspective in the creation, implementation and monitoring of public policies, then the promotion of equality and greater social inclusion of male and female members of groups at increased risk of discrimination, and the improvement of the system for prevention and protection against discrimination, which, in the appropriate context, also refers to the use of minority languages and their speakers.

The goals and measures established by the Strategy for Social Inclusion of Roma Men and Roma Women for the period 2022-2030¹⁷ are also based on the principle of respect for Roma identity, i.e. the implementation of measures that have a positive effect on the preservation and promotion of culture, history, language and other aspects of Roma identity. The Strategy has seven specific goals in key areas that, among other things, refer to reducing the level of discrimination against the Roma national minority, improving participation of Roma in all social processes, as well as ensuring full inclusion in preschool, primary, secondary and higher

⁶ *Official Gazette of the RS*, Nos. 18/2010, 101/2017, 113/2017 - other law, 95/2018 - other law, 10/2019, 86/2019 - other law, 157/2020 - other law, 123/2021 - other law and 129/2021

⁷ *Official Gazette of the RS*, Nos. 55/2013, 101/2017, 10/2019, 27/2018 - other law and 129/2021

⁸ *Official Gazette of the RS*, Nos. 55/2013, 101/2017, 27/2018 - other law, 6/2020, 52/2021, 129/2021 and 129/2021 - other law

⁹ *Official Gazette of the RS*, Nos. 88/2017, 73/2018, 27/2018 - other law, 67/2019, 6/2020 - other law, 11/2021 - authentic interpretation, 67/2021 and 67/2021 - other law

¹⁰ *Official Gazette of the RS*, Nos. 88/2017, 27/2018 - other law, 10/2019, 27/2018 - other law, 6/2020 and 129/2021

¹¹ *Official Gazette of the RS*, No. 49/2019

¹² *Official Gazette of the RS*, Nos. 83/2014, 6/2016 - other law and 129/2021

¹³ *Official Gazette of the RS*, No. 14/2022

¹⁴ *Official Gazette of the RS*, No. 14/2022

¹⁵ *Official Gazette of the RS*, Nos. 22/2009 and 52/2021

¹⁶ *Official Gazette of the RS*, No. 12/2022

¹⁷ *Official Gazette of the RS*, No. 23/2022

education, and providing support to the functional education of adult Roma men and women, which, in the appropriate context, also refers to the use of the Romani language and its speakers.

Some of the activities envisaged by the Strategy for the Development of the Public Information System in the Republic of Serbia for the period 2020-2025¹⁸ and the Action Plan for the implementation of the Strategy for the Development of the Public Information System in the Republic of Serbia,¹⁹ which are of importance for national minorities, refer to the fulfilment of the national level obligation of the public service broadcaster to provide information in minority languages; ensurance of stable, transparent and non-discriminatory funding sources, as well as mechanisms for the financial sustainability of the media whose publishers were founded by national councils of national minorities; provision of incentives for media publishers that broadcast content in the languages of national minorities, whose founders or co-founders are not national councils of national minorities; encouragement of the creation and distribution of programme content in the languages of national minorities in order to encourage pluralism of the media content, i.e. provision of information in the languages of national minorities; establishment of clear criteria for the allocation of funds in a competition for co-financing and procedures for the evaluation of media projects related to the creation and distribution of media content in the languages of national minorities; increase in the number of professional staff that works in the media in the languages of national minorities; ensurance of exercise of the right to information by the numerically smallest national minorities, especially those that do not have their own media.

The Education Development Strategy in the Republic of Serbia until 2030 with the Action Plan for the period 2021-2023 for the implementation of the Education Development Strategy in the Republic of Serbia until 2030²⁰ envisage measures for further improving initial education of teachers in their mother tongue through accreditation of study programmes at higher education institutions for the education of teachers in the language of a national minority, in order to ensure qualified teaching staff. The Strategy emphasises that, in the following period, work should be done on developing a model of bilingual education in primary and secondary education, ensuring that, through curriculums, national majority students are familiarised with the culture of national minorities, as well as providing conditions for the development of intercultural education with the application of an interdisciplinary approach in regular classes, as well as in extracurricular activities. Supporting teachers from national minority communities to write textbooks and manuals was also recognised as an important step in improving education of national minorities. Work will also be done in providing conditions for acquiring teacher qualifications for teaching the elective programme "Mother tongue/speech with elements of national culture", especially for teaching the programme "Romani language with elements of national culture", and continuous professional development programmes for teachers teaching in the languages of national minorities will be developed, accredited and conducted, which form a basis for the educational process. Textbooks and other teaching aids for teaching in the languages of national minorities in primary and secondary schools will be continuously provided.

In January 2021, the Strategic Priorities of Cultural Development from 2021 to 2025³⁶ were adopted, which defined 20 cultural policy priority areas. Among other things, the plan is to

¹⁸ *Official Gazette of the RS*, No. 11/2020

¹⁹ *Official Gazette of the RS*, No. 148/2020

²⁰ *Official Gazette of the RS*, No. 63/2021

work on the improvement of the position of socially sensitive groups, and to appreciate their cultural creativity and contribution, especially national minorities and their linguistic and cultural peculiarities.

The National Strategy for the Rights of Victims and Witnesses of Crime in the Republic of Serbia (2020-2025),⁴⁰ with the accompanying Action Plan for the implementation of the Strategy for the period 2020-2022⁴¹, was adopted in order to fully harmonise this area with Directive 2012/29/EU of the European Parliament and the Council of 25 October 2012. The Strategy envisages the establishment of the national network of services for assistance and support to victims and witnesses of crime, as well as the establishment of contact points for providing information to victims and witnesses, development of primary (general) and secondary (specialised) assistance services. The plan is also to establish a mechanism that will enable a predetermined, standardised and efficient process from the moment of the victim's first contact with state authorities, until the provision of the necessary forms of support and assistance. The Strategy envisages activities that will ensure conditions for exercising the victims' right to receive information, the right to use their own language and to interpretation and translation, the right to legal aid, etc.

Since preparation of strategic documents has been presented in this section, in the parts of the Report that describe policy and legislation measures will be elaborated in more detail on legislative decisions.

2.4. Introduction of minority languages into official use

Further expansion of the official use of minority languages occurred during the reporting period, that is, they were introduced into official use either at the level of a local self-government unit or in certain settlements. Also, in accordance with the national legislation, some national councils of national minorities established traditional names of settlements in a minority language.

At the 9th meeting held on 6 May 2021, the Assembly of the City of Subotica adopted a Decision on amendments to the Statute, by which it was established that the Bunjevac language is also in official use in the City on equal terms with Serbian, Hungarian and Croatian. After that, in 2021, the National Council of the Bunjevac national minority adopted a Decision on the names of settlements in the City of Subotica in the Bunjevac language.²¹

No.	Name of settlement	Name of settlement in the Bunjevac language
1.	Baimok	Baimak
2.	MBicevo	Misicevo
3.	Batki Vinogradi	Kra[io]v Brig
4.	Bikovo	Bikovo
5.	Gorn.ii Tavankut	Gorn.ii Tavankut
6.	Donii Tavankut	Dolnji Tavankut
7.	Ljutovo	Mirges
8.	Hajdukovo	Hajdukovo

²¹ Official Gazette of the APV, No. 22/2021

9.	supliak	Supliak
10.	Durdin	Durdin
11.	Kelebija	Kelebija
12.	MalaBosna	MalaBosna
13.	Novi Zednik	Novi Zednik
14.	Stari Zednik	Stari Zednik
15.	Palic	Palic
16.	Subotica	Subatica
17.	Cantavir	Cantavir
18.	Backo Dusanovo	Backo Dusanovo
19.	Visnjevac	Visnjovac

As stated in the Fifth State Report, amendments to the Law on the Official Use of Languages and Scripts²² from 2018 prescribe that, in the settlements in which the percentage of members of a certain national minority in the total number of inhabitants in the territory of the settlement reaches 15% according to the results of the last population census, the names of the authorities exercising public powers, the names of local self-government units, settlements, squares, streets and other toponyms shall be written in the language of the respective national minority even in the event that the language of the national minority is not in official use in the (entire) territory of the local self-government unit. By applying this provision of the law, the below listed local self-government units defined by their statutes that the toponyms in the mentioned settlements will be written in the following minority languages:

Local self-government unit	Settlement	Language
Babusnica	Berin Izvor, Vuti Del, Zvonce, Jasenov Del, Nasuskovica, Rakita	Bulgarian
Bae	Vajska Bodani Plavna	Romani Croatian
Beograd	Sokolovo Ovca Boljevci	Romani Romanian Slovak
Jndija	Maradik Slankamenacki Vinogradi Stari Slankamen	Hungarian Slovak Croatian
Irig	Dobrodol, Satrinci	Hungarian
Mionica	Nanomir, Tolic	Romani
Pancevo	Kacarevo	Macedonian
Petrovac na Mlavci	Busur, Vitovnica, Dubocka, Zdrelo, Kladurovo, Leskovac, Manastirica, Melnica, Ranovac, Rasanac, Stamnica, Starcevo	Vlach
Sambor	Svetozar Miletic	Croatian
Sremska Mitrovica	Stara Bingula	Ruthenian, Slovak
Sid	Liuba	Croatian

²² Official Gazette of the RS, Nos. 45/1991, 53/1993, 67/1993, 48/1994, 101/2005 -other law, 30/2010, 47/2018 and 48/2018 - corr.

In 2020, the National Council of the Czech national minority adopted a Decision on determining the traditional name of the local self-government unit of the municipality of Bela Crkva, as well as of the settlements and other geographical names in the territory of the municipality of Bela Crkva in the Czech language.²³ The Decision established the following:

- a) The name of the local self-government unit: Municipality Bela Crkva - Okres Bily Kostel
- b) Names of settlements in Bela Crkva municipality:
 - Bela Crkva - Bily Kostel
 - Banatska Palanka - Banatska Palanka
 - Banatska Subotica - Banatska Subotica
 - Vracev Gaj - Vracev Gaj
 - Grebenac - Grebenac
 - Dobricevo - Dobricevo
 - Dupljaja - Dupljaja
 - Jasenovo - Jasenovo
 - Kajtasovo - Kajtasovo
 - Kaluderovo - Kaludjerovo
 - Kruscica- Kruscice
 - Kusic - Kusic
 - Crvena Crkva - Cerveny Kostel
 - Cesko Selo - Ablian
- c) Other geographical names in the area of Bela Crkva municipality:
 - Dunav -Dunaj
 - Nera-Nera

2.5. Measures regarding the provision of information about the obligations referred to in Article 6 of the Charter

Authorities, organisations and persons to which/whom the content of the Charter applies are informed about their rights and duties established by the Charter, among other things, through the opportunity to actively participate in the preparation of state reports, as well as to familiarise themselves with their content.

The drafting of state reports on the implementation of the international treaties acceded to by the Republic of Serbia, including reports on the implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, as well as answers to additional questions of the Committee of Experts and comments on the report of the Committee of Experts, are entirely based on the principle of transparency. Such determination was expressed through the publication of all documents related to the implementation of the European Charter.

All state reports on the implementation of the European Charter are published on the website of the Ministry for Human and Minority Rights and Social Dialogue and are available to the public at <https://www.minlim.pdd.gov.rs/multilateralni-ugovori.php>. The results of all previous monitoring cycles, including reports of the Committee of Experts, comments of the Republic of Serbia on those reports, as well as recommendations of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on the implementation of the European Charter in the Republic of

²³ *Official Gazette of the APV*, No. 65/2020

Serbia, were also published on this website. All findings of the Committee of Experts and recommendations of the Committee of Ministers have been translated into Serbian.

Apart from the above stated, it is important to point out that the Republic of Serbia participates in the project "Promotion of Diversity and Equality in Serbia", which is part of the joint programme of the European Union/Council of Europe "Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Turkey 2019-2022" (Phase 2). The goal of the project is to strengthen the capacities of national and local actors in order to better solve issues related to the fight against discrimination, hate speech and protection of the rights of national minorities and LGBTI persons, in accordance with the standards and recommendations set by the Council of Europe, especially those from the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities, the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages and the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance. The aim of the project is also to support Serbia in negotiations on accession to the European Union in the field of fundamental rights. As part of the project, certain activities were carried out with the aim of creating conditions for fulfilling recommendations of the competent bodies of the Council of Europe in the process of monitoring the implementation of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities and the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages. Representatives of various state authorities actively participated in those activities and were adequately informed about recommendations for the implementation of obligations from the Charter.

It is particularly important to point out that, within this project, the Republic of Serbia receives support for the preparation of a new Action Plan for the Exercise of the Rights of National Minorities, which will, among other things, be based on the Progress Report in the process of Serbia's accession to the European Union, as well as on the recommendations of the competent bodies of the Council of Europe. A Special Working Group for the preparation of the Draft Action Plan for the Exercise of the Rights of National Minorities consists of the representatives of competent institutions, national councils of national minorities and civil society organisations, and its work is managed by the Minister for Human and Minority Rights and Social Dialogue. If necessary and upon invitation, representatives of other institutions, as well as experts, advisors and consultants who have knowledge relevant to the drafting of this document, participate in the work of the Special Working Group. Following all the relevant recommendations for the drafting of this document, the Republic of Serbia strives to prepare a new Action Plan that will be of higher quality, more effective and efficient, with the aim of improving the effective exercise of the rights of national minorities in the Republic of Serbia.

III. Part II

Goals and principles

Article 7

paragraph 1 a

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The Republic of Serbia has consistently ensured recognition of minority languages as an expression of cultural wealth by implementing measures in its policy and legislation. First of all, minority languages are explicitly listed in relevant legal acts (especially when they are recognised as languages in official use), and their protection is an imperative that results from all relevant provisions of the national legislation that provide for the protection of cultural wealth. Moreover, the Law on Culture²⁴ stipulates, among other things, that the general interest in culture includes the discovery, creation, study, preservation and presentation of the culture of national minorities in the Republic of Serbia.

Implementing measures in practice

In practice, the authorities in the Republic of Serbia implement a series of measures aimed at recognising minority languages as an expression of cultural wealth. These measures are aimed at raising awareness about the importance of minority languages as an expression of cultural wealth, as well as at representing the culture of national minorities in the Republic of Serbia, where expressing creativity in minority languages makes its integral part.

The most significant measures that in practice raise awareness about the importance of minority languages as an expression of cultural wealth are certainly educational measures which ensure learning about history and culture concerning minority languages. These measures are described in more detail in the sections referring to the implementation of Article 8 paragraph 1 g. In addition to such measures, awareness about the importance of minority languages as an expression of cultural wealth is also raised through cultural events that focus on minority languages and their importance for the cultural wealth and cultural heritage of the Republic of Serbia. In this sense, it should be especially pointed out that, in the Republic of Serbia, the International Mother Language Day is traditionally celebrated on 21 February with a central event in the town of Kovacica, where speakers of various minority languages live, but also that, in the reporting period, such events were also organised in other settlements inhabited by the speakers of minority languages (e.g. Ivanovo). Such events are financially supported by public authorities from different levels of their organisation, and often, in addition to the exhibition of cultural creativity in minority languages, they are also accompanied by other forums (conferences, round tables, etc.) where the importance of minority languages as an expression of cultural wealth is discussed.

²⁴ Official Gazette of the RS, Nos. 72/2009, 13/2016, 30/2016 - corr., 6/2020, 47/2021 and 78/2021

Measures aimed at presenting the culture of national minorities in the Republic of Serbia, where expression of creativity in minority languages makes their integral part, are described in more detail in the sections referring to the implementation of Article 12 paragraph 1 a. It is important to point out that, in the reporting period, a total of 483 cultural projects of national minorities were (co)financed by the line ministry in the amount of RSD 61,296,000.00. The table below provides an overview of project (co)financing.

Competition in the field of cultural activities of national minorities in the Republic of Serbia								
National minority	In 2019		In 2020		In 2021		In 2022	
	Number of approved projects	Amount	Number of approved projects	Amount	Number of approved projects	Amount	Number of approved projects	Amount
Albanians	4	480,000.00	5	600,000.00	6	720,000.00	5	800,000.00
Bosniaks	18	2,312,000.00	19	2,370,000.00	21	2,600,000.00	20	2,750,000.00
Bulgarians	5	634,000.00	4	620,000.00	5	600,000.00	5	660,000.00
Bunjevci	5	650,000.00	4	510,000.00	4	480,000.00	5	610,000.00
Vlachs	6	754,000.00	6	810,000.00	3	360,000.00	5	600,000.00
Hungarians	17	2,465,000.00	13	1,820,000.00	20	2,500,000.00	20	2,400,000.00
Macedonians	5	650,000.00	7	840,000.00	7	840,000.00	8	970,000.00
Germans	2	240,000.00	1	120,000.00	3	360,000.00	2	240,000.00
Roma	14	1,747,000.00	14	1,715,000.00	14	1,700,000.00	18	2,370,000.00
Romanians	6	800,000.00	8	960,000.00	6	750,000.00	8	980,000.00
Russians					I	120,000.00	2	250,000.00
Ruthenians	6	941,000.00	5	680,000.00	7	840,000.00	7	900,000.00
Slovaks	8	1,044,000.00	8	1,020,000.00	9	1,080,000.00	9	1,120,000.00
Slovenians	4	480,000.00	3	360,000.00	3	390,000.00	3	370,000.00
Ukrainians					I	120,000.00	2	240,000.00
Croatians	13	1,614,000.00	13	1,560,000.00	II	1,350,000.00	II	1,350,000.00
Czechs	3	360,000.00	2	240,000.00	2	240,000.00	2	240,000.00
In total	116	15,171,000.00	112	14,225,000.00	123	15,050,000.00	132	16,850,000.00

The Provincial Secretariat of the AP Vojvodina responsible for the field of culture has (co)financed 591 projects of national minorities in the total amount of RSD 39,515,000.00.

Competition for projects of importance for the culture and art of national minorities in the AP Vojvodina								
National minority	In 2019		In 2020		In 2021		In 2022	
	Number of approved Projects	Amount	Number of approved projects	Amount	Number of approved projects	Amount	Number of approved projects	Amount
Bulgarians	2	50,000.00	1	50,000.00	1	50,000.00		
Bunjevci	6	470,000.00	8	560,000.00	8	530,000.00	9	700,000.00
Hungarians	54	3,375,000.00	58	3,325,000.00	53	3,350,000.00	73	5,850,000.00
Macedonians	6	170,000.00	3	170,000.00	4	200,000.00	6	350,000.00
Germans	5	200,000.00	4	200,000.00	4	200,000.00	6	300,000.00
Roma	7	300,000.00	4	250,000.00	2	250,000.00	5	470,000.00
Romanians	13	710,000.00	12	700,000.00	12	700,000.00	15	1,294,000.00
Russians	2	50,000.00	I	50,000.00	1	50,000.00	1	100,000.00
Ruthenians	10	695,000.00	10	575,000.00	9	600,000.00	13	1,094,000.00
Slovaks	12	1,100,000.00	12	1,150,000.00	15	1,150,000.00	26	2,080,000.00
Slovenians	1	50,000.00	1	50,000.00			2	100,000.00
Ukrainians	2	100,000.00	3	150,000.00	3	195,000.00	3	312,000.00
Croatians	16	1,000,000.00	18	990,000.00	17	1,000,000.00	27	1,850,000.00
Czechs	2	50,000.00	1	50,000.00	1	50,000.00	1	100,000.00

In total	138	8,320,000.00	136	8,270,000.00	130	8,325,000.00	187	14,600,000.00
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In addition, programmes and projects aimed at improving the rights of national minorities in the AP Vojvodina are co-financed from the provincial budget. In an open competition, funds are allocated for programmes and projects aimed at exercising the rights of national minorities, especially for preserving and nurturing languages, folk customs and old crafts; protection and presentation of folklore heritage; creating conditions for the development of culture, science and art; nurturing and encouraging folk creativity; presentation of cultural heritage of exceptional importance; literary, dramatic, scenic, musical and visual arts, memorials, festivals, jubilee events, art colonies, camps and conferences that foster tolerance and exercise the rights of national minorities; nurturing and developing amateurism and visiting of ensembles; as well as for cooperation with native countries and other forms of cooperation. In the reporting period, RSD 123,602,000 were allocated for these projects. The table below shows data on the allocation of funds on this basis.

Competition for projects aimed at improving the rights of national minorities in the AP Vojvodina				
	2019	2020	2021	2022
Bulgarians	120,000.00	160,000.00	138,000.00	70,000.00
Bunjevci	1,045,000.00	1,050,000.00	1,050,000.00	1,050,000.00
Macedonians	660,000.00	660,000.00	660,000.00	660,000.00
Hungarians	15,200,000.00	15,450,000.00	15,450,000.00	15,450,000.00
Germans	290,000.00	300,000.00	300,000.00	300,000.00
Roma	1,800,000.00	3,350,000.00	3,350,000.00	3,350,000.00
Romanians	2,315,000.00	2,350,000.00	2,350,000.00	2,350,000.00
Russians		100,000.00	104,000.00	50,000.00
Ruthenians	1,160,000.00	1,200,000.00	1,200,000.00	1,200,000.00
Slovaks	3,130,000.00	3,200,000.00	3,200,000.00	3,200,000.00
Slovenians	320,000.00	200,000.00	140,000.00	30,000.00
Ukrainians	410,000.00	410,000.00	410,000.00	410,000.00
Croatians	3,130,000.00	3,200,000.00	3,200,000.00	2,200,000.00
Czechs	130,000.00	130,000.00	130,000.00	130,000.00
In total	29,710,000.00	31,760,000.00	31,682,000.00	30,450,000.00

Such measures also included cultural projects of the minorities for whose languages, that is, speeches the Republic of Serbia did not undertake the obligations referred to in Part III of the Charter. These are cultural projects of the members of Bunjevac, Vlach, Macedonian, German and Czech national minorities.

During the reporting period, a total of 19 projects of the Bunjevac national minority were supported in the competitions in the field of cultural activities of national minorities in the Republic of Serbia conducted by the line ministry. The table below provides information on the amount of approved funds and the number of supported projects.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Bunjevci	650,000.00 5	510,000.00 4	480,000.00 4	610,000.00 6

Also, in other competitions conducted by the line ministry, significant budget means were allocated to support projects of the Bunjevac national minority or multicultural projects in which forms of expression and initiatives related to the Bunjevac language were also encouraged. According to the available data for 2019 and 2020, one cultural project of the Bunjevac national minority was funded in the amount of RSD 250,000.00 in other competitions of the line ministry.

As part of the "Cities in Focus" competition, various ways of accessing cultural works and works of art created in the Bunjevac language are also supported and enabled in a specific manner. As part of this competition in 2021, a total of RSD 13,500,000.00 were allocated for the project *Cultural Perspectives of Subotica*, in which activities were carried out to improve the work of a large number of cultural institutions in this city.

Other government organisation levels also conduct competitions in order to collect proposals for financing or co-financing cultural projects, as well as artistic projects, that is, projects for professional and scientific research in the field of culture. The following table provides information on the number of supported cultural projects of the Bunjevac national minority and the amount of allocated funds in the competition for financing - co-financing projects of importance for the culture and art of national minorities - national communities in the AP Vojvodina.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Bun-evci	470,000.00 6	560,000.00 8)	530,000.00 (8)	700,000.00 9

The budget of the AP Vojvodina provides funds for the work of the Bunjevac Culture Centre, a cultural institution that, with its programmes, exceeds local importance and more permanently meets the cultural needs of the citizens in the AP Vojvodina.

	2019	2020	2021
Bunjevac Culture Centre	443,000.00	443,000.00	550,000.00

According to the available data for 2020, two local self-government units (Sombor, Subotica) supported 23 cultural projects of the Bunjevac national minority in the amount of **RSD 2,700,000.00**.

During the reporting period, a total of 20 projects of the Vlach national minority were supported in the competitions in the field of cultural activities of national minorities in the Republic of Serbia conducted by the line ministry. The table below provides information on the amount of approved funds and the number of supported projects.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Vlachs	754,000.00 6	810,000.00 6	360,000.00 3	600,000.00 5

Also, in other competitions conducted by the line ministry, significant budget means were allocated to support projects of the Vlach national minority or multicultural projects in which forms of expression and initiatives related to the Vlach language were also encouraged. According to the available data for 2019 and 2020, one cultural project of the Vlach national minority was funded in the amount of RSD 200,000.00 in other competitions of the line ministry.

As part of the "Cities in Focus" competition, various ways of accessing cultural works and works of art created in the Vlach language are also supported and enabled in a specific

manner. In the reporting period, four projects of the local self-government units in which members of the Vlach national minority traditionally live in significant numbers (Boljevac, Bor, Negotin) were financed in the total amount of RSD 33,000,000.00.

Other government organisation levels also conduct competitions in order to collect proposals for financing or co-financing cultural projects, as well as artistic projects, that is, projects for professional and scientific research in the field of culture. According to the available data for 2020, three local self-government units (Bor, Kucevo, Petrovac na Mlavi) and the city municipality of Obrenovac supported eight cultural projects of the Vlach national minority in the amount of RSD 890,000.00.

During the reporting period, a total of 27 projects of the Macedonian national minority were supported in competitions in the field of cultural activities of national minorities in the Republic of Serbia conducted by the line ministry. The table below provides information on the amount of approved funds and the number of supported projects.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Macedonians	650 000.00 (5)	840 000.00 7	840 000.00 7	970 000.00 8

Other government organisation levels also conduct competitions in order to collect proposals for financing or co-financing cultural projects, as well as artistic projects, that is, projects for professional and scientific research in the field of culture. The following table provides information on the number of supported cultural projects of the Macedonian national minority and the amount of allocated funds in the competition for financing - co-financing projects of importance for the culture and art of national minorities - national communities in the AP Vojvodina.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Macedonians	170,000.00 6	170,000.00 3	200 000.00 4	350 000.00 6

According to the available data for 2019 and 2020, one project of the Macedonian national minority was supported in the amount of RSD 100,000.00 in other competitions of the competent provincial secretariat.

In addition, according to the available data for 2020, five local self-government units (Vranje, Novi Sad, Pirot, Stara Pazova, Subotica) supported five cultural projects of the Macedonian national minority in the amount of RSD 320,000.00.

During the reporting period, a total of eight projects of the German national minority were supported in the competitions in the field of cultural activities of national minorities in the Republic of Serbia conducted by the line ministry. The table below provides information on the amount of approved funds and the number of supported projects.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Germans	240,000.00 2	120,000.00	360,000.00 3	240 000.00 2

Also, in other competitions conducted by the line ministry, significant budget means were allocated to support projects of the German national minority or multicultural projects in which forms of expression and initiatives related to the German language were encouraged. According

to the available data for 2019 and 2020, one cultural project of the German national minority was funded in the amount of RSD 525,000.00 in other competitions of the line ministry.

Other government organisation levels also conduct competitions in order to collect proposals for financing or co-financing cultural projects, as well as artistic projects, that is, projects for professional and scientific research in the field of culture. The following table provides information on the number of supported cultural projects of the German national minority and the amount of allocated funds in the competition for financing - co-financing projects of importance for the culture and art of national minorities - national communities in the AP Vojvodina.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Germans	200,000.00 5	200,000.00 4)	200,000.00 4	300,000.00 6

According to the available data for 2020, five local self-government units (Backa Topola, Sombor, Sremska Mitrovica, Sremski Karlovci, Subotica) supported eight cultural projects of the German national minority in the amount of RSD 685,000.00.

During the reporting period, a total of nine projects of the Czech national minority were supported in the competitions in the field of cultural activities of national minorities in the Republic of Serbia conducted by the line ministry. The table below provides information on the amount of approved funds and the number of supported projects.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Czechs	360,000.00 3	240 000.00 (2	240 000.00 2	240,000.00 2

Also, in other competitions conducted by the line ministry, significant budget means were allocated to support projects of the Czech national minority or multicultural projects in which forms of expression and initiatives related to the Czech language were encouraged. According to the available data for 2019 and 2020, one cultural project of the Czech national minority was funded in the amount of RSD 200,000.00 in other competitions of the line ministry.

Other government organisation levels also conduct competitions in order to collect proposals for financing or co-financing cultural projects, as well as artistic projects, that is, projects for professional and scientific research in the field of culture. The following table provides information on the number of supported cultural projects of the Czech national minority and the amount of allocated funds in the competition for financing - co-financing projects of importance for the culture and art of national minorities - national communities in the AP Vojvodina.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Czechs	50 000.00 2	50 000.00	50,000 00	100,000.00

According to the available data for 2020, the municipality of Bela Crkva supported one cultural project of the Czech national minority in the amount of RSD 100,000.00.

paragraph 1 b

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

In order to ensure that the existing or new administrative division is not an obstacle to the improvement of a minority language, the geographical areas of each minority language is respected in the policy and legislation of the Republic of Serbia through constitutional and legal provisions which prohibit measures that would lead to an artificial change in the ethnic structure of the population, which would impede the enjoyment and exercise of minority rights. The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia²⁵ in Article 78 paragraph 3 stipulates that undertaking measures, which would cause artificial changes in the ethnic structure of population in areas where members of national minorities live traditionally and in large numbers, shall be strictly prohibited, while the Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities²⁶ in Article 22 stipulates that measures that change relations among the population in the areas inhabited by national minorities and impede the enjoyment and exercise of rights by national minorities, shall be prohibited. Moreover, in the context of the official use of minority languages, which the Committee of Experts was informed about in previous state reports, the Republic of Serbia has foreseen certain types of such use in its legislation at the settlement level, thus the administrative division was used in order to promote minority languages.

Implementing measures in practice

No changes were made in the administrative division in the Republic of Serbia nor were any measures taken that would represent an obstacle to the promotion of minority languages. The existing administrative division in no way prevents the promotion of minority languages.

paragraph 1 c

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The Republic of Serbia has based its policy, legislation and practice related to minority languages on the need to take decisive action in order to improve and thus preserve minority languages. This is particularly visible in the fact that its legislation provided for the existence of bodies and institutional mechanisms whose special tasks are aimed at supporting and protecting minority languages (e.g. national councils of national minorities, institutes for the culture of national minorities, the Serbian Council for National Minorities, relevant bodies in the field of education, culture, information in which representatives of speakers of minority languages are present, etc.), as well as financial mechanisms that provide funds for taking decisive actions in order to improve minority languages (Budget Fund for national minorities, regular financing of national councils of national minorities, competitive (co)financing of projects at different public authority organisation levels, etc.).

²⁵ Official Gazette of the RS, Nos. 98/2006 and 115/2021

²⁶ Official Journal of the FRY, No. 11/2002, Official Journal of Serbia and Montenegro, No. 1/2003 - Constitutional Charter and Official Gazette of the RS, Nos. 72/2009-other law, 97/2013 -CC decision and 47/2018

Implementing measures in practice

During the reporting period, decisive actions were undertaken in various spheres of social life in order to improve and preserve minority languages. Thus, corresponding scientific institutions provided support to the National Council of the Bunjevac national minority in the process of standardisation of Bunjevac speech. The National Council of the Bunjevac national minority states in its supplement to this Report that the standardisation process began in 2009 by organising field research that was conducted by the Institute of Balkan Studies at the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts. After research and observation of general language characteristics, preparation of a dictionary started, which was published in 2018 by *Matica Srpska* as the second supplemented edition of the first Dictionary from 1990, which was also published by *Matica Srpska*. The Grammar and Spelling Manual for the Bunjevac language was published in 2019, and in May 2021, the Bunjevac language was introduced into official use in the city of Subotica. The work continued in 2022, when the Grammar of the Bunjevac language was published, and work on the Spelling of the Bunjevac Language is in progress.

Apart from certainly the most important activities reflected in the process of standardisation of certain languages by the national councils of respective national minorities, which the Committee of Experts was already informed about in previous state reports, the RS authorities undertook and assisted such actions and measures in other spheres of social life as well. In this sense, it should be particularly emphasised that, in the reporting period, measures were taken in the field of culture, whose importance goes beyond the framework of the Republic of Serbia, and they really represent activities that, in the context of the goals of the Charter, represent decisive actions for the improvement of certain minority languages and their preservation on a global level. Certainly, the most important example of such activities in the reporting period is the establishment of the Centre of Slavic Cultures in Serbia, which was founded in 2018 at the National Library of Serbia, with the idea of preserving and developing the cultural values and traditions of Slavic countries, building bridges between countries, institutions and individuals, with a desire to make a joint presentation to other communities, which also refers to Slavic languages.²⁷ In this Centre was presented the first and so far the only translation of the Bible into the Ruthenian language in the world. The translation was done in the Republic of Serbia with the financial support of the competent authorities.

Significant activities related to the improvement of minority languages are also conducted by institutes for the culture of national minorities, which were established in 2008 by the Assembly of the AP Vojvodina and the Council of National Minorities for the purpose of doing scientific, professional, development and applied research in the field of culture, cultural heritage management, as well as cultural creativity of national minorities, whose work is funded by the budget means of the AP Vojvodina.

In its supplement to this Report, the Institute for Culture of Vojvodina Hungarians presented some of the activities that were carried out in the reporting period with the aim of preserving and improving the Hungarian language. The catalogued fund of the Institute's library is enriched every year and, in 2019, there were 6,343 items in the catalogue. Due to the introduction of a new library system, as well as the renovation of the library premises, the

²⁷ The initiator and co-founder is the Forum of Slavic Cultures, based in Ljubljana, which unites 13 countries: Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Macedonia, Poland, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Serbia, Ukraine, Montenegro, Croatia and the Czech Republic.

cataloguing of new items in 2020 was slower than in previous years, and the catalogue was enriched with 194 new items, while in 2021, a total of 1,788 new items were catalogued. The retrospective cataloguing of magazines was completed in 2019 (a total of 266 titles were entered in the electronic catalogue during the year, among which the most important weekly and specialised magazines of Vojvodina Hungarians can be found, as well as newspapers, official journals of various institutions and organisations, and occasional amateur issues). One of the main tasks of the Institute is digitising and archiving. The meta dating of the material found in the archive of the Institute continued in 2021, as well as the reorganisation of the records of archived data, creation of a catalogue system for the digital library, media library, photo, audio and film archive, as well as their integration into existing systems. In 2021 alone, a total of 267,981 pages of text and image material were digitised. Digitisation of daily newspaper *Magyar Szó* has been completed, and digitisation and processing of newspaper *Het Nap* has begun. Digitisation of the archives of the theatres of Vojvodina Hungarians is also being done in order to create a comprehensive archive which presents archival videos, photographs, posters and scripts of earlier and current performances of all five professional theatres in which plays are performed in the Hungarian language: the Novi Sad Theatre, National Theatre of Subotica, *Dezso Kosztolimy* Theatre, Hungarian Chamber Theatre in Senta and Children's Theatre in Subotica. The Institute also has an archive of original music with more than 8,000 items, i.e. about 250 hours of material, whose selection will be uploaded to the online platform of the Digital Database of Vojvodina Hungarians.²⁸ The Institute also documents news about the Vojvodina Hungarians which is published by the media in the Serbian language. Thus, in 2021, after proper documentation, a total of 1,680 articles in the Serbian language, as well as 119 video clips were uploaded to the Institute's website within the Observer of the Media of Vojvodina Hungarians and Serbian media from all over the country. In the column *Ogledalo stampe*, which collects media reports on the Institute's work, a total of 121 articles were processed in 2021. In addition, the Institute also implements numerous programmes, conducts professional training and organises events that are important for the preservation of the Hungarian language, such as the regular ceremony on the Day of Hungarian Culture, cooperates with institutions in Hungary and other countries where the Hungarian language is used, and conducts an extensive publishing activity.

The Institute for Culture of Vojvodina Romanians pointed out in its supplement to this Report that, every year, the Institute's programme of work is ambitious, envisages numerous projects, field work and organisation of numerous meetings and conferences, as well as support for the most important scientific, cultural and artistic events of Romanians, with the support of external collaborators and institutions with similar activities from the country and abroad (Romania, Croatia, Montenegro). In addition to the scientific and research aspect of activities, the Institute tried to direct a large portion of its activities to the activities of the Romanians from Romanian villages in Vojvodina and to engage young people who are willing to contribute to the Institute's publishing activity through various local level projects, such as monographic albums of settlements inhabited by the Romanian national minority. Over 150 titles were published by the Institute in the period 2009-2020. The Institute's major work is certainly the Serbian- Romanian dictionary from 2012 and its modified and supplemented edition from 2015, whose preparation involved participation of a team of experts from several fields. The Institute is also

²⁸ vamadia.rs

making a great effort to publish a Romanian-Serbian dictionary as soon as possible. It is also important to note that almost all books and publications issued by the Institute have either been completely translated into Serbian, or have a summary in Serbian, English or French. In 2019, as part of one of the Institute's long-term projects entitled *Encyclopedia of Banat*, in cooperation with the Institute for Banat Studies "Titu Maiorescu" at the Academy of Romania - Timisoara Branch, the second volume of the Encyclopedia was published, entitled *Stampa*. The Institute regularly publishes its yearbook, as well as the cultural magazine *Piramida*. One of the most important scientific events organised by the Institute is the International Scientific Symposium "Banat - History and Multiculturalism", which presents received scientific papers, organises book exhibitions and presents publications from previous symposia. In addition, during the reporting period, the Institute also organised the International Scientific Symposium "Literature and Press in Banat" and International Salon "Romanian Books and Publications from Vojvodina, Romanian Banat and Transylvania" and, in cooperation with the Centre for Culture and Art, Timis County (Romania), a camp for the improvement of the Romanian language that was traditionally attended by the awarded students from the national competition in the knowledge of the Romanian language.

The Institute for Culture of Vojvodina Slovaks also sent a supplement to this Report on the activities conducted in the field of study, research or affirmation of the use of the Slovak language. Activities of this institution are focused on information, documentation and communication activities, development and research, as well as the presentation of Slovak culture in Serbia and international cooperation. The *Majak* Institute's yearbook provides a detailed overview of all activities of this institution and contains reports on all events organised by the Institute in that year, and all texts are published bilingually - in Slovak and Serbian. The Institute also publishes collections of papers from scientific meetings, some of which are held traditionally e.g. conference "Slovak Music in Vojvodina", while other are organised once on a certain current topic e.g. theatre colloquium "Journey between Traditional and Modern". In the reporting period, the Institute also published several books that are significant for the preservation and improvement of the Slovak language, such as the monograph *Slovaks in Vojvodina* and *History of the Standard Slovak Language among the Vojvodina Slovaks in the Interwar Period*. The Institute also organised professional seminar *Slovak and Serbian Languages in the Context of Audiovisual Translation* and a seminar to support the development of theatrical art in the Slovak language. It also participates in the organisation of a large number of traditional events of the Slovak minority in Serbia, which are aimed at the preservation, development and presentation of Slovak culture and the Slovak language, such as the *Festival of Children's Theatrical Creativity "3xD"*, *Festival of Slovak Amateur Theatrical Creativity "Pozorisne Lovorike"*, *Slovak Music Festival "Zlatni Kljuc"*, etc.

Through financial mechanisms which, among other things, provide funds for undertaking decisive actions in order to improve minority languages, a total of RSD 1,655,486,336.00 was allocated in the reporting period, and the table below contains data on the total amount of funds that were allocated and paid out through each of the mentioned mechanisms. Significant part of the funds was earmarked for the improvement of minority languages, either directly or through projects that were implemented in minority languages.

Mechanism ²⁹	2019	2020	2021	2022 ³⁰
Budget fund	30,000,000.00	24,000,000.00	30,000,000.00	30,000,000.00
Financing the work of national councils from the RS and APV budgets	309,904,065.00	309,555,951.00	312,944,160.00	312,944,160.00
Competition for co-financing from the RS and APV budgets (competitions specialised for national minorities in the field of culture and information)	71,658,000.00	69,950,000.00	72,350,000.00	82,180,000.00

In the context of taking decisive measures to improve minority languages and thus preserve them, it is certainly particularly important to point out that there are associations for languages, literature and culture. The establishment of the first such association began at the end of 1960s and, over time, the associations undertook increasingly extensive and complex tasks in the field of language and literature, and some of them also published dictionaries, grammars, spelling manuals, as well as anthologies and other similar publications, and almost every association publishes a professional linguistic, literary and cultural magazine in its own language. Thus, the Association for Ruthenian Language, Literature and Culture published the Grammar of the Ruthenian Language by Julian Ramac, PhD, (2002), Ruthenian-Serbian Dictionary (2010) and Dictionary of the Ruthenian Folk Language, Vol. I and II (2017). The Linguistic Section of the Association is engaged in the preparation of the Spelling of the Ruthenian Language with a spelling dictionary to be published in 2022. Activities and work of these associations are supported through competitions conducted by competent authorities, and often by national councils of national minorities. The Coordination Board of Associations for Languages, Literature and Culture was founded in 1974 within the Cultural and Educational Community of Vojvodina in Novi Sad, and continued its work in 2004 at the Institute for Culture of Vojvodina, with the basic idea to harmonise initiatives and coordinate joint programmes of all associations. The founders of the Coordination Board were associations for the Serbian, Hungarian, Slovak, Romanian and Ruthenian languages,³¹ and in the later period associations for the Romani, Ukrainian, Bulgarian, German, Czech and Macedonian languages, Esperanto language, as well as the association for applied linguistics, book lovers, the association of scientific and professional translators, foundations, etc. In the period 2004-2011, the Board published the multilingual newsletter *Most*, which was renewed in 2017 as the multilingual magazine *Novi Most*. In addition, the Board holds one to two meetings every year and adopts a joint programme of work with a calendar of important anniversaries and jubilees and monitors its implementation. It also participates in book fairs with its editions, etc.

²⁹ Since, during the preparation of this Report, data on financing the work of national councils of national minorities and data on competitions for co-financing projects of national minorities from the budget of local self-government units were not fully available, these data are not presented in the table.

³⁰ Presented funds planned in the budget for 2022.

³¹ The Association for Serbian Language and Literature of Serbia was founded in 1910 in Belgrade, the Association for Romanian Language of Vojvodina in 1962 in Vrsac, the Association for Hungarian Language in 1964 in Novi Sad, the Association of Slovakists of Vojvodina in 1969 in Novi Sad, the Association for Ruthenian Language and Literature in 1970 in Novi Sad, the Association for Romani Language and Literature in 1987, etc.

paragraph 1 d

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The policy and legislation of the Republic of Serbia create conditions for facilitating and/or encouraging the use of minority languages in speech and writing, and in public and private life. The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia in Article 79 guarantees members of national minorities, among other things, the right to use their language and script, while the Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities in Article JO provides that members of national minorities may freely use their language and script, in private and in public alike.

The private use of minority languages in speech and writing is entirely within the domain of personal freedoms and preferences of their speakers. The public use of minority languages in the Republic of Serbia is facilitated in all spheres of social life and more closely regulated by a series of legislative decisions that do not only refer to the use of those languages in terms of judicial powers, administrative authorities and public services (of which official use, among other things, includes the possibility that state authorities, organisations entrusted with public powers, authorities of autonomous provinces and local self-government units conduct legal (judicial and administrative) proceedings in those languages as well), but also regulate the fields of education, culture, information, publishing, economic and social life, as well as cross-border exchanges, which are presented in the parts of this Report that refer to the relevant articles of the Charter. It is especially important to point out that the public use of minority languages also refers to the names and work of associations, as well as to the names and work of political parties. Namely, according to Article 13 paragraph 4 of the Law on Associations,³² the name of an association, if provided for by the statute, may be in the language and script of the national minority. The name in the language and script of the national minority is entered in the Register of associations after the name in the Serbian language and Cyrillic script. The Law on Political Parties also contains the same provisions.³³ Of course, associations and political parties can freely use minority languages in their work. The public use of minority languages should also include broadcasting of radio and TV programmes in minority languages, both by public service broadcasters and by private media, which is accompanied by appropriate project (co)financing.

Moreover, with a series of legislative decisions, the use of minority languages in speech and in writing in all spheres of public life is encouraged through a series of affirmative measures, such as legal measures that refer to employment in the public sector of members of minorities and speakers of minority languages, or measures that provide entire education in the languages of national minorities for even less than 15 students, which are described in more detail in the relevant parts of the Report, and which refer not only to the languages for which the obligations referred to in Part III have been undertaken, but to all minority languages. Also, encouraging the use of minority languages in public life is done through (co)financing projects in the field of culture and information, which, in addition to projects in minority languages and creation of media content in minority languages, encourages the purchase of books in minority languages for public libraries throughout the Republic of Serbia, supports the work of theatres in which plays are performed in minority languages, as well as publishing of books and other publications in

³² *Official Gazette of the RS*, Nos. 5 I/2009, 99/2011 - other laws and 44/2018 - other law

³³ *Official Gazette of the RS*, Nos. 36/2009 and 6I/2015 - CC decision

minority languages, of which translation of books published in Serbian into minority languages deserves special attention.

Implementing measures in practice

The described normative framework for facilitating and/or encouraging the use of minority languages in speech and in writing in public life is fully implemented in practice. Aggregate data for all spheres of public life should be used as an illustration.

In the field of education in the Republic of Serbia, classes are conducted in 16 minority languages. In the school year 2021/2022, a total of 65,813 students attended the classes (excluding higher education). Facilitating and encouraging the use of minority languages in this field is achieved through the implementation of programmes co-financed by the competent ministry with budget means. Namely, the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development allocates funds every year for programmes that support civil society organisations that engage in the promotion and improvement of human and minority rights in education. One of the priority fields in the reporting period was improving competencies of educators and teachers through the programmes implemented in the languages of national minorities or programmes in the field of education of national minorities. The following tables present the total number of supported programmes and the number of supported programmes whose target group were members of national minorities.

Year	Total number of supported programmes	National minority as a target group in approved programmes	Number of supported programmes for minorities
2019	53	Hungarian national minority	2
		Roma national minority	3
		Jewish national minority	1
		Vlach national minority	1
		Romanian national minority	1
	TOTAL		8
2020	31	Hungarian national minority	6
		Roma national minority	3
		Macedonian national minority	2
		Bunjevac national minority	1
		Croatian national minority	1
		Slovak national minority	1
	TOTAL		14
2021	37	Hungarian national minority	6
		Roma national minority	8
		Croatian national minority	2
		Romanian national minority	1
	TOTAL		17
2022	49	Hungarian national minority	5
		Roma national minority	4
		Croatian national minority	1
		Slovak national minority	1
		Macedonian national minority	1
	TOTAL		12

In the period from January 2019 to June 2022, a total of 84 professional meetings at the topic of continuous professional development and obtaining the title of a teacher, educator and professional associate who teach in the languages of national minorities were held and attended by a total of 4,440 participants. The following table shows the number of participants of these meetings per working languages.

Working languages of the expert meeting/year	2019	2020	2021	June 2022	Total
Serbian language	95	0	0	0	95
Hungarian language	318	234	551	315	1418
Croatian language	0	65	17	22	104
Slovak language	0	0	0	76	76
Serbian and Hungarian language	371	20	419	0	810
Croatian, German and Serbian language	35	0	0	0	35
Slovak and Serbian language	514	0	0	0	514
Serbian and Croatian language	310	129	73	0	512
Serbian, Slovak and Hungarian language	200	131	220	0	551
Croatian, Slovak and Serbian language	46	0	0	0	46
Ruthenian and Serbian language	79	0	0	0	79
Serbian and Montenegrin language	0	0	70	0	70
Hungarian and Croatian language	0	0	0	130	130
In total	1968	579	1350	543	4440

The unique platform *Learning Passport* was set up on the website of the Institute for the Improvement of Education as a special form of support for educational practice.³⁴ The platform was developed for the needs of professional development of employees in preschool education, it is easily accessible to everyone and is set up in Serbian and in nine languages of national minorities: Albanian, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Hungarian, Romani, Romanian, Ruthenian, Slovak and Croatian.

In this context, it is important to point out that, since 2015, it has been possible to take entrance exams in minority languages to check preferences and ability for admission to all faculties and colleges founded by the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina. The tables below provide data on the number of candidates who took entrance exams in minority languages during the reporting period.

Facult	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022
Faculty of Agriculture	Hungarian - 3	Hungarian - 11 Slovak- 1	Hungarian - 7
Faculty of Philosophy ³⁵	Hungarian - 10	Ruthenian - 1 Slovak- 6	Hungarian - 3
Faculty of Technology	Hungarian - 2	Hungarian - 1	
Faculty of Law	Hungarian - 2		

³⁴ <https://srbija.learningpassport.org/>

³⁵ In addition to the listed candidates, a total of 22 candidates applied to the Department of Hungarian Language at the Faculty of Philosophy in 2019, 15 candidates in 2020, and 14 candidates in 2021; there were no registered candidates at the Department of Ruthenian Language in 2019, and one candidate applied in 2020 as well as in 2021; 2 candidates applied to the Department of Slovak Language in 2019 as well as in 2020, and 3 candidates in 2021; 5 candidates applied to the Department of Romanian Language in 2019, there were no candidates in 2020, and 5 candidates applied in 2021.

Faculty of Medicine	Hungarian - 17	Hungarian - 11	Hungarian - 10
Faculty of Economics	Albanian - 23 Hungarian - 6	Albanian - 34 Hungarian - 26	Albanian - 29 Hungarian - 21
Faculty of Technical Sciences	Hungarian - 9 Slovak - 1 Croatian - 1	Hungarian - 19 Croatian - 1	Hungarian - 7
Faculty of Sciences	Hungarian - 10	Hungarian - 7 Slovak - 1	Hungarian - 8
Academy of Arts ³⁶	Hungarian - 15		Hungarian - 1
Faculty of Civil Engineering	Hungarian - 5	Hungarian - 12	Hungarian - 4
Technical Faculty "Mihajlo Pupin"	Hungarian - 2		Hungarian - 1
Faculty of Sport and Physical Education	Hungarian - 1		
Faculty of Education			
Faculty of Teacher Education in the Hungarian language	Hungarian - 37	Hungarian - 62	Hungarian - 62

College	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022
Tech College of Applied Sciences in Subotica	Hungarian - 105	Hungarian - 130	Hungarian - 133
College of Vocational Studies for the Education of Preschool Teachers in Novi Sad		Hungarian - 1	Hungarian - 3
College of Vocational Studies for the Education of Preschool Teachers "Mihailo Pavlov" in Vrsac	Romani - 7 Romanian - 7	Romani - 8 Romanian - 1	Romani - 10 Romanian - 2
Tech College of Applied Sciences in Novi Sad			
College of Vocational Studies for the Education of Preschool Teachers and Sports Trainers in Subotica	Hungarian - 1	Hungarian - 5	Hungarian - 1
Tech College of Applied Studies in Zrenjanin			
Novi Sad School of Business	Hungarian - 1		
Preschool Teacher Training College of Applied Studies in Kikinda			
Preschool Teacher Training and Business Informatics College of Applied Studies - Sirmium in Sremska Mitrovica			

Information in minority languages in the Republic of Serbia is provided through electronic and printed media, as well as through editorially designed websites/web portals. Public service broadcasters broadcast programme in 16 languages of national minorities. The following table shows the total number of minutes of broadcast television and radio programmes in the

³⁶ The entrance exam for admission to the study programmes of undergraduate and master academic studies of Acting in the Hungarian language is taken in the Hungarian language and candidates are enrolled every other year.

languages of national minorities per public service broadcasters (RTS and RTV) in the period 2019-2021.

		2019	2020	2021
TV	Total RTS I, RTS 2, RTS Svet, RTV	353,294	373,363	374,018
Radio	Total Radio Belgrade, Radio Novi Sad	1,053,493	1,057,256	1,054,892

Also, in 2019, a total of 31 newspapers and magazines were published in minority languages in the Republic of Serbia, four of which were bilingual, and three multilingual. In 2020, that number was 33, three of which were bilingual and three multilingual.

In the field of culture, minority languages are publicly used in all aspects of cultural life. In 2019, there were 29 theatres in the Republic of Serbia in which plays were performed in minority languages, while in 2020 that number was 22. The public use of minority languages in the field of culture is also reflected in literary creation and, generally, in the publication of books and brochures in those languages. In 2019, a total of 846 books were published in minority languages in the Republic of Serbia, 164 of which were bilingual (in Serbian and a minority language), while 245 were multilingual. In 2020, that number was 664, and 127 of those books were bilingual (in Serbian and a minority language), while 153 were multilingual. Facilitating and encouraging the use of minority languages in the field of culture is also reflected in the translation of representative works of Serbian literature into minority languages. During the reporting period, a total of 146 translations into 13 minority languages, as well as 3 multilingual translations were supported in the competitions for co-financing projects in the field of translation of representative works of Serbian literature conducted by the line ministry. In 2019, a total of 58 titles in 6 minority languages were purchased in competitions conducted by the line ministry for the purchase of books for public libraries. In 2020, a total of 71 titles were translated into 14 minority languages, while in 2021, 67 titles were translated into 10 minority languages. This refers to the number of titles and not to the actual number of copies distributed to libraries, which is much higher.

The public use of minority languages also exists in the publishing of magazines and other serials in minority languages. In 2019, a total of 100 magazines and other serials were published in 13 minority languages in the Republic of Serbia, 15 of which were bilingual (in Serbian and a minority language), while 33 magazines and serials were published in multiple languages. In 2020, a total of 127 magazines and serials were published in 13 minority languages in the Republic of Serbia, 17 of which were bilingual and 46 multilingual.

Radio Television of Serbia started with the implementation of the project for the adaptation of the web platform planetaplus.rs for users in multiple languages, including minority languages, which means that domestic series, feature and TV films, documentary programmes, etc. will be subtitled in those languages and available to their speakers.

The described measures also specifically apply to the languages for which the obligations referred to in Part III of the Charter have not been undertaken.

The following table shows the number of students who took the elective subject/programme "Bunjevac language with elements of national culture" in primary schools during the reporting period.

	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022
Bunjevac language with elements of national culture	343	233	270

In the school year 2021/2022, the elective programme "Bunjevac language with elements of national culture" in secondary schools was taken by 15 students, three of whom were in the first grade, seven in the second, one in the third, and four in the fourth grade.

The elective subject/programme "Vlach speech with elements of national culture" is studied in primary schools. The following table shows the number of students who took this subject in the reporting period.

	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022
Vlach speech with elements of national culture	391	353	678

The following table shows the number of students who took the elective subject/programme "Macedonian language with elements of national culture" in primary schools in the reporting period.

	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022
Macedonian language with elements of national culture	294	238	246

In the Republic of Serbia, the German language is taught as a foreign language in the education system and as such is studied at all levels of education. Apart from English, German has become the most popular foreign language in primary and secondary schools in recent years. As the second foreign language, studied from the fifth grade of primary school, German convincingly prevails, thus, due to numerous requests from parents, it is introduced even by the schools that never had it in their curriculum before. The situation is the same in most secondary schools because Germany is a frequent destination for further education or employment. Interest in the German language is greatest in medical and technical schools such as secondary school for construction engineering.

In addition, bilingual education in Serbian and German began to be provided in the Republic of Serbia from the school year 2011/2012. In the reporting period, bilingual education in German was provided in four institutions, namely in one primary school and in three grammar schools. Bilingual education in Primary School "10. Oktobar" in Subotica is provided in Serbian and German in one class of the sixth, seventh and eighth grades, and in Hungarian and German in one class of the sixth, seventh and eighth grades. The following table shows the number of students in primary school who attend bilingual classes in Serbian and German and Hungarian and German during the reporting period.

School year	Number of classes	Number of students
2019/2020	8	186
2020/2021	6	141
2021/2022	6	141

Bilingual education is also provided in the First Nis Grammar School "Stevan Sremac", Valjevo Grammar School and Grammar School "Jovan Jovanovic Zmaj" in Novi Sad. The following table shows the number of students in secondary school who attended bilingual classes in Serbian and German during the reporting period.

School year	Number of classes	Number of students
2019/2020	11	227
2020/2021	12	216
2021/2022	12	196

It is particularly important to point out that the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development supported the initiative of the National Council of the German national minority to develop a curriculum for the "German language with elements of national culture", which was a prerequisite for this subject to be offered to parents in a survey for the selection of an elective subject/programme in primary school. After these programmes were created, "German language with elements of national culture" began to be studied in primary schools from the school year 2019/2020.

The following table shows the number of students who took the elective subject/programme "German language with elements of national culture" in primary schools in the reporting period.

	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022
German language with elements of national culture	422	495	723

The following table shows the number of students who took the elective subject/programme "Czech language with elements of national culture" in primary schools in the reporting period.

	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022
Czech language with elements of national culture	208	185	195

Public service broadcasters broadcast programme in the languages for which the obligations referred to in Part III of the Charter were not undertaken.

The television and radio programme in the Bunjevac language is broadcast at the Public Broadcasting Institution "Radio Television of Vojvodina". The tables below contain data on the broadcast programme in minutes.

RTV - TV programme in the Bunjevac language

	2019	2020	2021	Until 30 June 2022
Total broadcast time	7511	7948	8493	4268

RTV- Rad' w programm e m i' h e B u r n _ J e v a c I a n e u a g e

	2019	2020	2021	Until 30 June 2022
Total broadcast time	1560	1560	1590	750

According to the 2020 research *Media in the languages of national minorities*³⁷ (hereinafter referred to as the Independent Research), except by public service broadcasters, information in the Bunjevac language is also provided through the media listed in the following table, where the "Primary language" column lists the media that primarily provide information in the Bunjevac language, and the "Secondary language" column lists the media in which the Bunjevac language is used as the secondary language.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
	TV Subotica	Cable TV	Serbian, Hungarian, Croatian
Bunjevacki Radio		Web Radio	
Bunjevacke novine		Biweekly	
Bocko		Monthly	

During the reporting period, a total of four projects of the Bunjevac national minority were supported in the competitions for co-financing projects for the creation of media content in the languages of national minorities conducted by the line ministry. The table below contains data on the amount of approved funds and the number of supported projects.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Bunjevci	409,000.00 (1)	400,000.00 (1)	438,000.00 (1)	408,000.00 (1)

The provincial secretariat responsible for the field of information also annually opens a competition for financing projects for the creation of media content in the field of public information in the languages of national minorities. The following table provides an overview of supported projects in the Bunjevac language and allocated funds for projects in the Bunjevac language in these competitions.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Bunjevci	1,570,000.00 (9)	1,150,000.00 (5)	1,050,000.00 (5)	1,100,000.00 (5)

Newspapers that publish information in the languages of national minorities, which are published by the newspaper publishing institutions founded by national councils of national minorities, are financed from the AP Vojvodina budget. The publisher for the Bunjevac language

³⁷ <https://www.osce.org/files/f/documents/5/a/473682.pdf>

is NPI Bunjevac Information Centre, which publishes one monthly and two youth/children's newspapers (*Bunjevacke novine, Tandrcak, Bocko*). Information on allocated funds for the newspapers in the Bunjevac language is provided in the table below.

Language	2019	2020	2021	2022
Bunjevac	9,719,856.00	9,719,856.00	9,719,856.00	12,149,820.00

Local self-government units also open annual competitions for the allocation of budget means for the creation of media content that is important for a specific local self-government unit. According to the available data, the table below provides an overview of local self-government units that financed projects in the Bunjevac language and the amount of allocated funds.

LSGU	2019	2020	2021	2022
Novi Sad	"BUNJEVAC CULTURAL CENTRE", Novi Sad (Chronicle - Days of Bunjevac Culture in Novi Sad) - 220,000.00	"BUNJEVAC CULTURAL CENTRE", Novi Sad (Chronicle - Days of Bunjevac Culture in Novi Sad) - 220,000.00	"BUNJEVAC CULTURAL CENTRE", Novi Sad (Chronicle - Days of Bunjevac Culture in Novi Sad) - 100,000.00	"BUNJEVAC CULTURAL CENTRE", Novi Sad (Chronicle - Days of Bunjevac Culture in Novi Sad) - 100 000.00
Sombor	Bunjevac media centre "Preservation of the national identity of Bunjevci from the aspect of life in the multi-ethnic environment of the city of Sombor" - 145 000.00	Bunjevac media centre "Preservation of the national identity of Bunjevci from the aspect of life in the multi-ethnic environment of the city of Sombor" - 145,000.00	Bunjevac media centre "Preservation of the national identity of Bunjevci from the aspect of life in the multi-ethnic environment of the city of Sombor" - 100 000.00	Bunjevac media centre "Preservation of the national identity of Bunjevci from the aspect of life in the multi-ethnic environment of the city of Sombor" - 100,000.00
Subotica	1. <i>Bunjevacka Matica</i> - 100,000.00; 2. Bunjevac media centre - 650,000.00; 3. Bunjevac youth centre - 100,000.00;	1. <i>Bunjevacka Matica</i> - 100,000.00; 2. Bunjevac media centre - 300,000.00; 3. Bunjevac youth centre - 100,000.00.	1. <i>Bunjevacka Matica</i> - 100.000,00; 2. Bunjevac media centre - 300,000.00; 3. Bunjevac youth centre - 100,000.00.	1. <i>Bunjevacka Matica</i> - 130.000,00; 2. Bunjevac media centre - 450,000.00; 3. Bunjevac youth centre - 150,000.00;

According to data from the Independent Research, information in the Vlach language is provided through the media listed in the following table.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
	TVBor	TV	Serbian, Romanian
	TVMlava	TV	Serbian
	TV I Majdanpek	TV	Serbian
	TV F Zajecar	TV	Serbian
	MIG Radio, Svilajnac	Radio	Serbian
	Radio Bor	Radio	Serbian

Radio Mlava	Radio	Serbian
Radio F Zajecar	Radio	Serbian

During the reporting period, a total of 21 projects of the Vlach national minority were supported in the competitions for co-financing projects for the creation of media content in the languages of national minorities conducted by the line ministry. The table below contains data on the amount of approved funds and the number of supported projects.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Vlach	2,600,000.00 (6)	1,700,000.00 (4)	2,580,000.00 (5)	2,905,000.00 (6)

Local self-government units also open annual competitions for the allocation of budget means for the creation of media content that is important for a specific local self-government unit. According to the available data for 2019, four local self-government units (Boljevac, Bor, Kucevo, Svilajnac) supported projects for the creation of media content in the Vlach language in the amount of RSD 650,000.00.

Television and radio programmes in the Macedonian language are broadcast by both public service broadcasters. The tables below contain data on the broadcast programme in minutes.

RTS - TV programme in the Macedonian language

	2019	2020	2021
Total broadcast time	548	388	745

RTV - TV programme in the Macedonian language

	2019	2020	2021	Until 30 June 2022
Total broadcast time	7599	8156	8568	4238

RTV - Radio programme in the Macedonian language

	2019	2020	2021	Until 30 June 2022
Total broadcast time	1620	1650	1560	840

According to data from the Independent Research, except by public service broadcasters, information in the Macedonian language is also provided through the media listed in the following table.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
	NisTV	TV	Serbian, Bulgarian
	TV Fokus, Vranje	TV	Serbian
	TV Pancevo	TV	Serbian, Hungarian, Romani, Romanian, Slovak

www.makinfo.rs		Web portal	
<i>Makedonska Videlina</i>		Monthly	
<i>Sunica</i>		Biweekly	

During the reporting period, a total of five projects of the Macedonian national minority were supported in the competitions for co-financing projects for the creation of media content in the languages of national minorities conducted by the line ministry. The table below contains data on the amount of approved funds and the number of supported projects.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Macedonians	400,000.00 (1)	550,000.00 (1)	700,000.00 (1)	950,000.00 (2)

The provincial secretariat responsible for the field of information also annually opens a competition for financing projects for the creation of media content in the field of public information in the languages of national minorities. The following table provides an overview of supported projects in the Macedonian language and allocated funds for projects in the Macedonian language in these competitions.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Macedonians	250,000.00 (2)	100,000.00 (1)	200,000.00 (2)	300,000.00 (2)

Newspapers that publish information in the languages of national minorities, which are published by the newspaper publishing institutions founded by national councils of national minorities, are financed from the AP Vojvodina budget. The publisher for the Macedonian language is the NPI Macedonian Information and Publishing Centre, which publishes one monthly and two youth/children's newspapers (*Macedonska Videlina*, *Makedon*, *Sunica*). Information on allocated funds for newspapers in the Macedonian language is provided in the table below.

Language	2019	2020	2021	2022
Macedonian	6,054,624.00	6,054,624.00	6,054,624.00	7,568,280.00

Local self-government units also open annual competitions for the allocation of budget means for the creation of media content that is important for a specific local self-government unit. According to the available data, the table below provides an overview of local self-government units that financed projects in the Macedonian language and the amount of allocated funds.

LSGU	2019	2020	2021	2022
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Novi Sad				Macedonian Association of Journalists "MAK-INFO", Pancevo (Notable Macedonians of Novi Sad)- 100,000.00
Pancevo	Macedonian Association of Journalists "MAK-INFO" (Macedonian Media Centre) - 200,000.00	Macedonian Association of Journalists "MAK-INFO" (Macedonian Media Centre)- 260,000.00	Macedonian Association of Journalists "MAK-INFO" (Macedonian Media Centre) - 250,000.00	1. Macedonian Association of Journalists "MAK-INFO" (<i>Pancevacka Madija</i>)- 200,000.00; 2. Forum of Young Macedonians - 100,000.00
Plandiste		1. "Macedonian Multimedia Centre - Correspondence Network in Plandiste" - 50,000.00; 2. "Macedonian Customs and Culture in the Municipality of Plandiste" - 320,000.00;	Web portal (Strengthening of social capital and sense of belonging to the Macedonian community in Plandiste) - 150,000.00	Web portal (<i>Makedonska Mandia</i> in Plandiste) - 180,000.00

The Public Broadcasting Institution "Radio and Television of Vojvodina" broadcasts a radio programme in the German language. The table below contains data on the broadcast programme in minutes.

RTV- Radio programme in the German language

	2019	2020	2021	Until 30 June 2022
Total broadcast time	1560	1560	1560	780

According to the data of the Independent Research, except by public service broadcasters, information in the German language is also provided through the media listed in the following table.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
	Naxi Radio Apatin	Radio	Serbian, Romani, Hungarian, Croatian
	Q Radio, Kula	Radio	Serbian, Ruthenian, Hungarian, Ukrainian
	Radio Marija	Radio	Croatian, Slovak, Hungarian, Ruthenian, Ukrainian

It is important to point out that the Foundation for the Protection of the Native Heritage of the Danube Swabians *Zavicajna Kuca* from Sremski Karlovci publishes the bilingual German-Serbian magazine *Fenster*. This magazine is published with the support of the Ministry of Culture and Information, the Provincial Secretariat for Culture, Public Information and Relations with Religious Communities and the Municipality of Sremski Karlovci.

During the reporting period, a total of five projects of the German national minority were supported in the competitions for co-financing projects for the creation of media content in the languages of national minorities conducted by the line ministry. The table below contains data on the amount of approved funds and the number of supported projects.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Germans	650,000.00 (1)	500,000.00 (1)	800,000.00 (1)	800,000.00 (2)

The provincial secretariat responsible for the field of information also annually opens a competition for financing projects for the creation of media content in the field of public information in the languages of national minorities. The following table provides an overview of supported projects in the German language and allocated funds for projects in the German language in these competitions.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Germans	230,000.00 (2)	300,000.00 (2)	400,000.00 (4)	550,000.00 (4)

Local self-government units also open annual competitions for the allocation of budget means for the creation of media content that is important for a specific local self-government unit. According to the available data, the table below provides an overview of local self-government units that financed projects in the German language and the amount of allocated funds.

LSGU	2019	2020	2021	2022
Kula	Informative - Propaganda Centre "Kula" d.o.o. (Hungarian, German, Ruthenian, Ukrainian) - 1 000,000.00	Informative - Propaganda Centre "Kula" d.o.o. (Hungarian, German, Ruthenian, Ukrainian) - 1 000,000.00	Informative - Propaganda Centre "Kula" d.o.o. (Hungarian, German, Ruthenian, Ukrainian) - 1.000 000.00	Informative - Propaganda Centre "Kula" d.o.o. (Hungarian, German, Ruthenian, Ukrainian) - 1,000 000.00
Novi Sad			German Cultural Association (<i>Sprichst du Deutsch?</i>)- 100,000.00	

Sremski Karlovci		Foundation for the protection of the native heritage of the Danube Swabians <i>Zavicajna kuf:a</i> , Sremski Karlovci (<i>Fenster</i> magazine)-100,000.00		
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The radio programme in the Czech language is broadcast by the Public Broadcasting Institution "Radio Television of Vojvodina". The table below contains data on the broadcast programme in minutes.

RTV - Radio J: Jrogramme in the Czech language

	2019	2020	2021	Until 30 June 2022
Total broadcast time	780	810	1170	780

According to the data of the Independent Research, except by public service broadcasters, information in the Czech language is provided through the media listed in the following table.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
	Radio Bela Crkva	Radio	Serbian, Roma, Hungarian, Romanian
www.hlas.rs		Web portal	Serbian

During the reporting period, a total of four projects of the Czech national minority were supported in the competitions for co-financing projects for the creation of media content in the languages of national minorities conducted by the line ministry. The table below contains data on the amount of approved funds and the number of supported projects.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Czechs	402,900.00 (1)	400,000.00 (1)	413,000.00 (1)	410,000.00 (1)

The provincial secretariat responsible for the field of information also annually opens a competition for financing projects for the creation of media content in the field of public information in the languages of national minorities. The following table provides an overview of supported projects in the Czech language and allocated funds for projects in the Czech language in these competitions.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Czechs	230,000.00 (2)	200,000.00 (2)	200,000.00 (2)	150,000.00 (1)

Local self-government units also open annual competitions for the allocation of budget means for the creation of media content that is important for a specific local self-government unit. According to the available data, two local self-government units (Bela Crkva, Vrsac) supported two projects for the creation of media content in the Czech language in the amount of RSD 300,000.00.

Also, measures have been taken in the field of culture for the languages for which the obligations referred to in Part III of the Charter have not been undertaken.

According to the data of the National Library of Serbia, in the reporting period, a total of 93 publications were published in the Macedonian language, as well as 57 publications that are translations from Macedonian to Serbian. In the competitions for co-financing projects in the field of translation of representative works of Serbian literature, conducted by the line ministry, a total of 46 literary works were translated into Macedonian in the reporting period, which the ministry supported with funds in the amount of EUR 34,160. Radio Television of Serbia, which started implementation of the project for the adaptation of the web platform planetaplus.rs for users in multiple languages, included Macedonian in those languages. According to the data of the National Library of Serbia, a total of 423 publications in German were published in the reporting period. In the competitions for co-financing projects in the field of translation of representative works of Serbian literature, conducted by the line ministry, a total of 12 literary works were translated into German in the reporting period, which the ministry supported with funds in the amount of EUR 13,800 and RSD 740,000.00. Radio Television of Serbia, which started implementation of the project for the adaptation of the web platform planetaplus.rs for users in multiple languages, included German in those language. According to the data of the National Library of Serbia, a total of 8 publications in Czech were published in the reporting period. In the competitions for co-financing projects in the field of translation of representative works of Serbian literature, conducted by the line ministry, one literary work was translated into Czech in the reporting period, which the ministry supported with funds in the amount of EUR 1,500.

In its supplement to this Report, *Bunjevacka Matica* pointed out that it has its own regular printed editions in the Bunjevac language, as well as a website and a Facebook page where it provides information to its members and all interested parties about its work and numerous events that basically have an aim to preserve the Bunjevac identity and Bunjevac language. For 13 years, *Bunjevacka Matica* has been organising a competition for children who learn the Bunjevac language with elements of national culture, in which children demonstrate their level of language knowledge and literary abilities. *Bunjevacka Matica* also has an extensive library of publications in the Bunjevac language, and it published a large number of these publications. The library of *Bunjevacka Matica* is accessible to all interested citizens of Subotica, as well as to members of the Bunjevac community.

In its supplement to this Report, the Association "Serbian Vlach Movement" pointed out that, through the projects it implemented in 2021, it also implemented the following projects: *Promotion of Vlach Identity*, *Poiarevac Fosters Diversity*, then *Reading Literature*, *My Best Friend*, and *Promotion of the Vlach National Minority in the Territory of the City of Poiarevac* as well as many other projects. It tried to help in the preservation, development and promotion of the Vlach language and the cultural heritage of the Vlachs.

paragraph 1 e

Implementing measures in politics and legislation

Maintaining and developing relations in the fields covered by the Charter, between groups that use minority languages, and establishing cultural relations with other groups in the country that use different languages, is ensured and guaranteed by a series of decision in the policy and legislation of the Republic of Serbia. Namely, improving relations between linguistic groups and promoting cooperation and solidarity that bridge linguistic differences in the country is a constitutional imperative, because, according to Article **81** of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, in the field of education, culture and information, Serbia shall give impetus to the spirit of tolerance and intercultural dialogue and undertake efficient measures for enhancement of mutual respect, understanding and cooperation among all people living on its territory, among other things, regardless of their linguistic identity. This constitutional obligation was implemented and more closely regulated with a series of systemic Laws regulating the mentioned fields of social life.

According to the Law on the Fundamentals of the Education System,³⁸ the basic objectives of education in the Republic of Serbia are, among other things, the development of and respect for linguistic equality, tolerance and respect for diversity, respect and fostering of the Serbian language and mother tongue, traditions and cultures of the Serbian people and national minorities, as well as development of interculturality. The achievement of these objectives was made possible with legislative decisions on providing entire education in minority languages, on the possibility of learning the mother tongue, on the content of curricula in which certain units are dedicated to minority languages and cultures and development of understanding, appreciation and cooperation, as well as with legislative decisions on the role of national councils of national minorities in the field of education. All such legislative decisions will be described in more detail in the relevant parts of this Report.

The Law on Culture expressly stipulates that the general interest in the field of culture in the Republic of Serbia includes the discovery, creation, study, preservation and presentation of Serbian culture and culture of national minorities in the Republic of Serbia, as well as the creation of conditions for the free flow and exchange of cultural expressions and contents. Of course, cultural works and cultural expressions and contents exchanged may be created in different minority languages. The achievement of the above mentioned elements of general interest in the field of culture is made possible in the Republic of Serbia through a series of legislative decisions on cultural institutions of national minorities, on competitions for co-financing multicultural and multilingual projects, as well as on the participation of national councils of national minorities in the decision-making process and representation of the interests of speakers of minority languages in the field of culture, which will be described in more detail in the relevant parts of this Report.

The Law on Public Information and Media³⁹ stipulates that the public interest in the field of public information, in addition to truthful, impartial, timely and complete provision of information in the mother tongue of the citizens of the Republic of Serbia belonging to national

³⁸ *Official Gazette of the RS*, Nos. 88/2017, 27/2018-other law, 10/2019, 27/2018-other law, 6/2020 and 129/2021

³⁹ *Official Gazette of the RS*, Nos. 83/2014, 58/2015 and 12/2016 - authentic interpretation

minorities and the preservation of the cultural identity of the national minorities living in the territory of the Republic of Serbia, also includes support for the creation of media content in order to protect and develop human rights and democracy. The achievement of the above mentioned elements of public interest in the field of information is made possible in the Republic of Serbia through a series of legislative decisions on publishing and broadcasting media content in minority languages, on competitions for co-financing multilingual projects and projects in minority languages, as well as on the participation of national councils of national minorities in the decision-making process in the field of information, which will be described in more detail in the relevant parts of this Report.

Implementing measures in practice

Maintaining and developing relations in the fields covered by the Charter, between groups that use minority languages, and establishing cultural relations with other groups in the country that use different languages, was smoothly achieved in practice in the Republic of Serbia in the reporting period. Administrative division in the country, as pointed out, in no way hinders the maintenance and development of these relations. Groups that use minority languages, from different parts of the country, easily maintain and develop cultural relations, which is evident both in the fact that they participate in the process of selection of their national councils and in the fact that their associations from different parts of the country cooperate and often jointly submit project proposals for competitions for co-financing with funds from the budgets of different levels of public authorities. Also, cooperation between groups that use different languages is visible through the submission of joint multicultural and multilingual project proposals.

The table below contains data on multicultural projects in specialised competitions of the Ministry of Culture and Information, which are exclusively intended for co-financing cultural activities of national minorities.

	2019	2020	2021
Number of registered projects	10	10	12
Number of supported projects	5	7	7
Amount of funds	667,000.00	845,000.00	840,000.00

Apart from specialised competitions that are exclusively intended for the co-financing of cultural activities of national minorities, the co-financing of multicultural projects was also carried out in other competitions of this Ministry. Information about this is provided in the table below.

	2019	2020	2021
Number of supported projects	7	9	8
Amount of funds	5.909.000,00	6.640.000,00	7.020.000,00

In the field of protection and preservation of cultural heritage in the AP Vojvodina, the competition for financing - co-financing projects that is opened on an annual basis includes projects in the field of protection of immovable, movable and intangible heritage of all peoples and national minorities whose heritage is considered to be cultural heritage, according to the law.

In accordance with international standards, cultural heritage, as a civilization asset, belongs to everyone, thus its protection and preservation has common benefits, and the largest number of supported projects (more than 80%) are multicultural in their character, according to this competition. In the field of contemporary creativity, projects that have a multicultural dimension are also supported, and the number of supported multicultural projects depends primarily on the number and quality of submitted applications.

Protection and preservation of cultural heritage			
	2019	2020	2021
Total number of projects	36	30	91
Multicultural	30	25	77
Amount of funds in the competition	7,000,000.00	7,000,000.00	32,810,400.00
Contemporary creativity			
Number of projects	1	2	2
Amount of funds	500,000.00	600,000.00	400,000.00

According to the available data, the table below provides an overview of the number of local self-government units, the number of supported multicultural projects and the amount of allocated funds in 2020.

Number of LSGU	Number of supported projects	Amount of funds
14	29	6,475,800.00

In the competition for co-financing projects in the field of public information in the languages of national minorities, conducted by the Ministry of Culture and Information, support is provided to multilingual and multicultural projects that contribute to the development of a dialogue, better acquaintance with and understanding of multinational environments. The following table shows data on the multilingual and multicultural projects supported with funds from the budget of the Republic of Serbia in this reporting period.

	2019	2020	2021
Number of supported projects	10	9	6
Amount of funds	4,569,400.00	4,550,000.00	3,800,000.00

Such projects are also supported in other competitions in the field of public information opened by the Ministry. Data on supported multilingual and multicultural projects in those competitions are available for 2020 and are presented in the table below.

Competition	Number of supported projects	Amount of funds
Creation of media content for the Internet	2	750,000.00
Creation of media content for televisions	7	5,750,000.00
Creation of media content for print media and news agencies services	2	1,300,000.00

Organising and participating in professional, scientific and special gatherings, as well as improving professional and ethical standards	3	1,600,000.00
Creation of media content for electronic media whose publishers are based in the territory of AP Kosovo and Metohiia	1	850,000.00

The following table provides data on multilingual projects supported in the competitions of the Provincial Secretariat for Culture, Public Information and Relations with Religious Communities in the field of public information in the reporting period.

	2019	2020	2021
Number of supported projects	4	2	4
Amount of funds	550,000.00	350,000.00	450,000.00

According to the available data, the table below provides an overview of the number of supported multilingual projects in competitions for the creation of media content opened by local self-government units, the number of local self-government units that opened them, and the amount of allocated funds in 2020.

Number ofLSGU	Number of supported projects	Amount of funds
18	34	23,760,000.00

paragraph 1 f

Implementing measures in politics and legislation

Provisions by which the study of minority languages at all appropriate levels would be ensured in an appropriate manner and with appropriate means, are contained in all the laws regulating the fields of preschool, primary and secondary education, which are presented in the relevant parts of this Report. The authorities of the Republic of Serbia specifically point out that the study of minority languages in the Republic of Serbia takes place in public educational institutions and that it implies the possibility not only of their study, but also of providing the entire education in those languages.

Implementing measures in practice

In the Republic of Serbia, the study of minority languages at all appropriate levels is progressing smoothly. The following table shows the number of children/students who, in the reporting period, attended classes in minority languages, both in the form of entire education, as well as bilingually or through the subject "Mother tongue with elements of national culture", in public institutions of preschool, primary and secondary education.

		2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022
PRESCHOOL	Entire	6,941	6,654	6,605
	Bilingual	1,522	1,604	1,666
	In total	8,463	8,258	8,271

PRIMARY	Entire	32,669	31,871	32 480
	Language with elements of culture	12,539	13,059	13,556
	In total	45,208	44,930	46 036
SECONDARY	Entire	11,483	11,899	11,506

paragraph 1 g

Implementing measures in politics and legislation

Facilitating people who do not speak minority languages but live in the area where they are spoken to learn them if they wish, is made possible through legal provisions that create conditions for providing entire education in minority languages in public educational institutions, i.e. for studying the subject "Mother tongue with elements of national culture". In other words, every student in the public education system in the Republic of Serbia has the right and opportunity to learn minority languages. Also, persons who do not speak minority languages have the opportunity to study them in higher education institutions in the Republic of Serbia (see the following sections), and learning minority languages is also offered by many language schools that operate undisturbed in the Republic of Serbia.

Implementing measures in practice

For data on the number of persons learning minority languages in the Republic of Serbia, please refer to the relevant parts of this Report.

paragraph 1 h

Implementing measures in politics and legislation

Improvement of the study and research of minority languages at universities or similar institutions is first made possible in the legislation of the Republic of Serbia by the provisions of the Law on Higher Education. According to the provisions of that Law, the autonomy of universities and other higher education institutions includes, among other things, the right to determine study programmes. Also, according to the Law on Science and Research, scientific work is free and not subject to any restrictions, except for those resulting from compliance with scientific and ethical standards in scientific and research work, protection of human and minority rights, protection of defense and security interests, as well as environmental protection. The freedom of scientific work and creativity is reflected in the freedom of scientific action, freedom of choice and development of scientific methods of research and interpretation, as well as respect for copyright. Therefore, it is completely free to do a scientific study and research of minority languages in the Republic of Serbia. Moreover, such studies and research are improved precisely through financial assistance obtained from public sources, since they are conducted at public universities and within scientific and research organisations (institutes) founded by the Republic of Serbia, autonomous province, local self-government unit, as well as the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts. The Law on Science and Research stipulates that institutionally funded

programmes that meet the general interest of the Republic of Serbia include the institutionally funded programme of accredited institutes founded by the Republic of Serbia, autonomous province, local self-government unit and institutes founded by the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts.

Implementing measures in practice

The study and research of minority languages is conducted in the Republic of Serbia at a large number of universities and higher education institutions. A total of 14 minority languages are studied at five universities and two colleges of vocational studies. More detailed information on this is contained in the parts of the Report that refer to Article 8 of the Charter.

The study and research of minority languages at universities is also conducted in terms of languages for which the obligations referred to in Part III of the Charter have not been undertaken.

As part of the Graduate Teacher and Graduate Educator study programmes at the Faculty of Education in Sombor, there is an elective subject in the second year of studies - the course "Ethno-Cultural History of Bunjevac", which partly refers to the linguistic specificities of this community.

As part of the "Serbian language and literature" study programme at the Faculty of Philology of the University of Belgrade, students have the opportunity to take the elective subject "Macedonian language".

As part of the study programmes in the field of philology at the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Novi Sad, students have subjects related to the Macedonian language and literature.

The Macedonian language is studied as a separate subject within the study programmes of the undergraduate studies of Serbian and Russian language and literature at the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Nis.

The German language and literature is studied at the Faculty of Philosophy at University of Novi Sad.

	Academic year	Number of students enrolled in the first year
German language	2019/20	49
	2020/21	55
	2021/22	32

German language, literature and culture are studied at the Department of German Studies at the Faculty of Philology of the University of Belgrade.

	Academic year	Number of students
German language	2019/20	439
	2020/21	391
	2021/22	412

The German language and literature study programme exists at the Faculty of Philology and Arts of the University of Kragujevac.

	Academic year	Number of students
German language	2019/20	166
	2020/21	141
	2021/22	91

German is also studied as a second foreign language within all study programmes of the Department of Philology at the Faculty of Philology and Arts, in the first, second and third year of study.

German language studies are part of the study programme at the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Nis.

	Academic year	Number of students
German language	2019/20	53
	2020/21	81
	2021/22	101

Czech language, literature and culture are studied within the Group for Czech Language and Literature at the Department of Slavic Studies at the Faculty of Philology of the University of Belgrade.

	Academic year	Number of students
Czech language	2019/20.	53
	2020/21.	52
	2021/22.	46

The establishment of the Lectorship of the Czech language is underway at the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Novi Sad as part of cooperation between this Faculty and the South Moravian Institute from the Czech Republic.

Research of minority languages is the subject of many scientific projects in scientific and research organisations. First of all, it should be pointed out that the Committee for the Study of National Minorities and Human Rights and the Committee for the Study of Life and Customs of the Roma were established at the Department of Social Sciences at the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts (SANU), which have been operating for more than 30 years. Research of minority language has also been conducted by some scientific institutes established within SANU. For many years, the Institute for Balkan Studies has been implementing different projects whose goal is, among other things, the study of the languages of national minorities. The project *Language, Fofklöre and Migration in the Balkans* was implemented in the period 2011-2019. The research conducted through this project included documenting materials in the following languages: Vlach, Romanian, Romani, Bulgarian, publishing monographs and scientific and research articles on the basis of collected language material, as well as participation in national and international conferences. Then, from 2018 to 2021, with the support of the Norwegian Research Council and the University of Oslo, the project *Probing the Boundaries of the (Trans)National: Imperial Legacies, Transnational Literary Networks and Multilingualism in East Central Europe* was implemented. In 2022, the project *Vulnerable Languages and Linguistic Varieties in Serbia* began. The project is funded by the Science Fund of the Republic of Serbia as part of the *Ideas* programme. The project promoter is the Institute for Balkan Studies, and the Faculty of Philology of the University of Belgrade, Faculty of

Philosophy of the University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Nis and the Department of Interpretation and Translation of the University of Bologna are involved in the project. The project covers the following minority linguistic varieties in Serbia: Aromanian (Cincarian), Banat Bulgarian, Banjas Romanian, East Serbia Romanian, Megleno-Romanian, Romani, Ruthenian, Sephardic (Jewish-Spanish). The project deals with research on the vulnerability/endangerment of the mentioned minority varieties on the territory of the Republic of Serbia using a sociolinguistic questionnaire, and one of the goals is to document the linguistic structure of the mentioned varieties.

Apart from the projects, a certain number of scientific conferences were organised within SANU. In the reporting period, the Institute for Balkan Studies organised two significant scientific conferences. In cooperation with the SANU Committee for the Study of Life and Customs of the Roma, the 14th International Conference on Studies of Romani Language was held in September 2021. A total of 17 researchers from universities and research centres from 10 countries participated in the conference, who presented their research in the field of morphology, syntax, language repertoires and discourse and language contacts within the Romani language. In April 2022, the international conference *Minority Languages and Multilingualism in Serbia and Central and Eastern Europe* was held as part of the international project "Probing the Boundaries of the (Trans)National: Imperial Legacies, Transnational Literary Networks and Multilingualism in East Central Europe". The conference was focused on various minority languages in Serbia (Hungarian, Romanian, Slovak, Romani), as well as on the issues related to the application of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages. In the reporting period, researchers of the Institute for Balkan Studies published a significant number of scientific papers on minority languages in the Republic of Serbia in famous domestic and foreign scientific journals.

Several important publications were published in the reporting period. In 2021, the former Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Unit of the Government of the Republic of Serbia published the book *Romology*, by Professor Rajko Durie, PhD, one of the greatest connoisseurs of the history of the Roma people, culture and the Romani language. Apart from the concept, definition and development of Romology as a scientific discipline, the book discusses the culture, identity, history of the Roma, as well as the grammar and standardisation of the Romani language. In the same year, the collection of papers from the international scientific conference *A quarter of a century of Belgrade Hungarianology*, held in 2019 at the Faculty of Philology of the University of Belgrade, were published.

The Faculty of Philology has a very long and rich publishing activity. Currently, numerous serials are published at the Faculty (twenty-one, including student magazines), and a large number of monographs have also been published. One of the publications is the scientific journal *Slavistika* in the field of Slavic languages, literature and culture, which the Faculty of Philology published in cooperation with the Slavic Society of Serbia. The magazine is published biannually and contains original papers in the field of Slavic philology, linguistics and literature theory, history of Slavic studies and related scientific disciplines, as well as science criticism, chronicles and bibliographies. The magazine gathers a wide academic community that studies all Slavic languages, literatures and cultures.

The Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Novi Sad is currently implementing several research projects related to the languages of national minorities:

- Intercultural aspects of the Hungarian language and literature in Vojvodina;
- Translation as a research topic among Vojvodina Slovaks;

- Research and development of functional spheres of the Ruthenian language;
- (In)visibility of women from the Romanian national community; status and perspective.

The Faculty also publishes a large number of scientific journals that are important for the study of minority languages. At the end of 2010, publication of the journal *Collection of Languages and Literature of the Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad* was launched. The journal provides space for authors from the country and abroad to present original scientific papers, reviews and professional papers in the field of language and literature, as well as reviews of monographs. Papers can be written in all the languages studied at the Faculty of Philosophy. The Collection is published once a year and is categorised as a journal of national importance.

Since 1969, the Department of Hungarian Studies at the Faculty of Philosophy has been publishing two scientific journals: Papers of Hungarian Studies (*Hungarológiai Közlemények*) and Studies (*Tanulmányok*). Papers of Hungarian Studies are published quarterly and include studies primarily in the field of Hungarian linguistics, Hungarian literature, cultural history, ethnography and comparative studies. These papers were mostly created as part of scientific projects, or they present scientific results announced at national and international scientific meetings.

The journal *Studies* is published biannually and contains scientific studies of regional topics, primarily in Hungarian, but also in Serbian, English, German and French. The topics of published professional papers concern Hungarian and comparative linguistics, Hungarian literature (with special reference to the literature of Hungarians in Serbia), history of Hungarian culture, folklore studies, mutual relations between Serbian and Hungarian literature and culture.

The Provincial Secretariat for Higher Education and Scientific Research regularly announces an open competition for financing scientific-research and development-research projects of national minorities - national communities in the AP Vojvodina. The following table shows the amount of approved funds and the number of approved projects per language/minority in the reporting period.

Year	Amount of approved funds	Languages/minorities
2019	Total RSD 5,000,000.00, maximum amount of funds per project RSD 400,000.00	- Hungarian 6 - Slovak 2 - Romanian I - Ruthenian I - Ukrainian I - Croatian I - Bunjevac I
2020	Total RSD 5,000,000.00, maximum amount of funds per project RSD 400,000.00	- Hungarian 5 - Slovak I - Romanian I - Ruthenian 2 - Croatian I - Bunjevac I - German I - Romani 2
2021	Total RSD 6,000,000.00, maximum amount of funds per project RSD 400,000.00	- Hungarian 5 - Slovak 2 - Romanian I - Ruthenian I - Russian 2

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bunjevac I - German 3 - Jews I - Multicultural 1
2022	Total RSD 7,000,000.00, maximum amount of funds per project RSD 500,000.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hungarian 6 - Slovak 2 - Romanian 2 - Ruthenian 1 - Bunjevac 1 - Jews 1 - Croatian I - Romani2

paragraph 1 i

Implementing measures in politics and legislation

Appropriate forms of transnational exchange, in the areas of social life referred to in the Charter, and for the benefit of minority languages, are ensured in the legal system of the Republic of Serbia primarily by constitutional provisions. According to Article 80 of the Constitution, members of national minorities have the right to undisturbed relations and cooperation with their compatriots outside the territory of the Republic of Serbia, which certainly includes linguistic cooperation in all the areas of social life referred to in the Charter. In addition to members of national minorities and speakers of minority languages, local self-government units and autonomous provinces are defined by constitutional provisions as subjects of transnational exchange, which may also include cooperation in various areas of social life for the benefit of minority languages. Namely, according to Article 181 of the Constitution, autonomous provinces and local self-government units shall cooperate with the corresponding territorial communities and local self-government units from other countries, within the foreign policy of the Republic of Serbia, observing the territorial integrity and legal system of the Republic of Serbia. Also, subjects of such transnational cooperation in various spheres of social life may be appropriate forms of public services, more precisely, institutions in the field of education, culture, science, etc.

Implementing measures in practice

Data on the forms of transnational exchange, in the areas of social life referred to in the Charter, and for the benefit of minority languages, are presented in more detail in the relevant parts of the Report. In this part of the Report, special attention should be paid to the forms of transnational exchange in the field of science for the benefit of minority languages. Namely, scientific institutions from the Republic of Serbia and faculties where minority languages are studied, have intensive scientific cooperation with corresponding scientific institutions around the world, including scientific institutions in the countries in which the minority languages of the Republic of Serbia are used in an identical or similar form.

International cooperation of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts first takes place through the exchange of researchers within the framework of bilateral agreements on cooperation in science (inter-academic, inter-institutional, as well as agreements at the inter-state level), then

through multilateral cooperation, which includes activities related to the programmes supported by funds of the European Commission or some other funds (FP 7, EUREKA, TEMPUS, COST, HORIZON 2020), and membership in non-governmental international scientific associations at various levels,⁴⁰ as well as participation at international scientific meetings abroad, organisation of such meetings in the country and hosting of distinguished scientists from the world and the country as lecturers. The Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts also promotes scientific cooperation with institutions that are not its members, which primarily takes place through the implementation of joint scientific projects within the framework of signed agreements on cooperation in science with other academies.⁴¹ During the reporting period, the following projects were implemented or are still being implemented, which are important, among other things, for the study of minority languages on the basis of signed cooperation agreements:

- Ethnological studies of Serbs in Hungary and Hungarians in Serbia;
- Anthropological-linguistic and sociolinguistic research of Serbian and Romanian Banat;
- Encyclopedia of Banat;
- Intangible cultural heritage in the Carpathian region and Banat - Romania and Serbia;
- Slovak community in Serbia: Current social and political processes;
- Slovakia and the community of Vojvodina Slovaks: Intra-ethnic relations and boundaries;
- Language as a record of the ethnological and linguistic analysis in the Serbia-Macedonia relation.

The University of Belgrade has extensive and successful international cooperation with a number of academic and research institutions in the country and abroad, thus all students of the Faculty of Philology have the right and numerous opportunities to participate in this cooperation. Cooperation agreements have been signed with 229 universities around the world, a significant number of which are universities from countries where languages that have the status of minority languages in the Republic of Serbia are used in an identical or similar form.⁴²

Likewise, the University of Novi Sad cooperates with numerous institutions in the field of science and higher education and has signed bilateral cooperation agreements with a large number of universities and institutes around the world.⁴³ Apart from the Faculty of Philosophy, whose departments for studying minority languages have long-term cooperation with the corresponding institutions in numerous countries where these languages are spoken, other faculties of this University also have scientific and educational cooperation that is important for the study of minority languages. Thus, the Faculty of Education in Sombor signed a cooperation agreement with the Faculty of Education of the University "Matej Bel" in Banská Bystrica in the Slovak Republic. Cooperation includes exchange of teachers, publication of joint publications and joint projects. Some of the projects that help establishing cooperation were: Interdisciplinary approach to contemporary processes in Slovak language, literature and education in the context of Slovak-Serbian relations in Vojvodina (2017/2018), Contexts of Slovak literacy through an

⁴⁰ At the world level: IAP - InterAcademy Partnership, ISC - International Science Council, UAI - International Union of Academies, UNESCO; at the level of Europe: All European Academies (ALLEA), European Academy of Sciences and Arts (EASA), European Academy of Arts, Sciences and Humanities (EAASH); at the regional level: Global Round Table, Euro-Mediterranean Academic Network (EMAN), Danube Academies Conference (DAC), and at the level of the Balkans: Inter Academy Council for South East Europe (IAC SEE).

⁴¹ <https://www.sanu.ac.rs/medjunarodna-saradnja>

⁴² <http://bg.ac.rs/files/sr/saradnja/Lista-sporazurni-o-saradnji.pdf>

⁴³ <https://www.uns.ac.rs/index.php/c-saradnja/intemacionalizacija-uns-a/sporazumi-o-saradnji/bilateralni>

interdisciplinary approach (2018/2019), Linguistic culture, literary influences and education of Slovaks in the Vojvodina context (2019/2020) and Mixed marriages of Hungarian, Slovak and Romanian national communities in Vojvodina: Qualitative analysis (2021/2022). In addition to the usual exchange programmes, the Faculty of Teacher Education in the Hungarian language in Subotica also participates in the *Malwvecz* exchange programme for professors and students, which is financed and organised by the relevant Hungarian ministries. The programme supports financing of the engagement of visiting professors from Hungary for the purpose of providing high-quality education in the students' mother tongue, according to the Faculty's accredited programmes. According to this principle, the Faculty hires 3-5 professors per academic year, while student exchange is financed and organised according to the same principle as the Erasmus student exchange programme and applies to both incoming and outgoing exchanges. The Faculty is a member of the Board of Cross-Border Institutions in the Hungarian Teaching Language of the Hungarian Rector's Conference, which also includes institutions from Romania, Ukraine and Slovak Republic.

Through the Faculty or directly, the University of Nis establishes bilateral and multilateral cooperation with many scientific and educational institutions and associations in the country and abroad. Cooperation is also established through membership in international and inter-university associations, through international projects, as well as through direct cooperation agreements. On the basis of inter-university agreements concluded between the Faculty of Philosophy in Nis and the Faculty of Philology in Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria, working visits of students and professors take place every year. The work programme includes the introduction of students studying the Bulgarian language in Nis to their colleagues studying the Serbian language and culture at the University of Veliko Tarnovo, the introduction of students to cultural, historical and tourist attractions in the area of Veliko Tarnovo, and a scientific meeting on a specific topic, and results of these meetings are bilingual thematic collections. For the year 2021, the collection is called *Path in the Culture of Bulgarians and Serbs / Ilorrm e Ky:rtmypama ,w EMzapu u Cbp6u (BellUKO TbpHoeo, 2021)*, and in 2022 *Friendship in the Culture of Bulgarians and Serbs / llpuameJlcmeomo e Ky.llmypama Ha EoRzapu u Cbp6u*. Every year, the Faculty of Philology in Veliko Tarnovo organises a translation competition *TpaHcnonMalJUU* for twenty languages, in which students from the Faculty of Philosophy in Nis regularly participate and win prizes.

The University of Kragujevac has signed bilateral cooperation agreements with about 60 universities across Europe and the world. These agreements represent the basis for the mobility of students and teachers, their professional and scientific training, as well as the expansion and deepening of international cooperation in the direction of the development of integrated study and research programmes.

The Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development actively participates in the role of a coordinator or project partner in the project within the Erasmus+ and CEEPUS programmes, which aim at establishing cooperation between educational institutions and organisations from the Republic of Serbia and institutions from the countries where some of the minority languages of the Republic of Serbia are used. The following tables provide data that refer to the reporting period on the number of mobility and cooperation projects in the field of education, which were implemented with countries where some of the minority languages are used.

Erasmus+

Field		Germany	North Macedonia	Romania	Србија	Slovakia	Словенија	Italy	Bosnia and Herzegovina	
Adult education	7	2	4				2		2	
Professional education	5	6	7		7					
General education	7	5	5	6	5		4			
Higher education	14	6	8	14	12	9	5			6

CEEPUS

COUNTRY	Number of achieved and planned student mobility for the period 2019-2022	The number of achieved and planned mobility of guest teachers or associates for the period 2019-2022
Albania	6	3
Bosnia and Herzegovina	42	125
Bulgaria	5	28
Slovakia	8	30
Romania	9	36
Hungary	21	69
Croatia	68	72
Czech Republic	10	15
North Macedonia	16	11
TOTAL	185	389

Transnational exchange in the areas of social life referred to in the Charter also takes place for the benefit of minority languages for which the obligations referred to in Part III of the Charter have not been undertaken.

On the basis of the Agreement between the FR Yugoslavia and the Republic of Macedonia in the field of education, culture and sports⁴⁴, programmes of cultural and educational cooperation between the two countries are regularly concluded. The Programme for cooperation between the Ministry of Culture and Information of the Republic of Serbia and the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Macedonia for the period 2015-2019 is in force, and the Draft Programme for cooperation between the Ministry of Culture and Information of the Republic of Serbia and the Ministry of Culture of North Macedonia for the period 2022-2025 was agreed upon, and its signing is expected in the following period.

Also, the Agreement on the Protection of Cultural Heritage (2004), Agreement on Cooperation between Archives (2004) and Protocol on Cooperation between the National Library of Serbia and the National and University Library of the Republic of Macedonia "St. Clement of Ohrid" (2018) are also in force.

⁴⁴ Official Journal of the FRY - International Treaties, No. 1/1998

Cooperation between the two national theatres is taking place according to the set plan and includes cooperation between drama, opera and ballet ensembles. The Macedonian National Theatre from Skopje performed on the Main Stage of the National Theatre in Belgrade in December 2019, while Drama of the National Theatre in Belgrade was performed on the stage of the Macedonian National Theatre in Skopje in 2021.

Cooperation between two national cinematheques has also begun: the Yugoslav Cinematheque and the Cinematheque of North Macedonia. In May 2022, the event "Anthology of Serbian Film - A retrospective of digitally restored classics of Serbian cinematography" was held in Skopje, which was the first presentation of the Yugoslav Cinematheque in North Macedonia.

The Film Centre of Serbia regularly opens competitions for co-financing production of minority co-productions. This competition co-finances projects in cinematography which make a significant contribution to cooperation in the region and support the creation of art of great cultural importance. In addition to the creation of cinematographic work, minority co-production includes organisation of premieres and promotions of films in the countries that participate in the project, as well as joint performances at film markets and festivals. Five film co-productions of Serbia and North Macedonia were supported in these competitions in the reporting period in the amount of RSD 19,377,500.00.

The Agreement on Cultural and Scientific Cooperation between the Government of the SFRY and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany⁴⁵, which was signed in 1969, is still in force until the new Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Serbia and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany on cooperation in the field of culture, education and science has been confirmed, which was signed on 10 June 2022. The Agreement between the SFRY and FR Germany on cooperation in the field of film, from 1972, is also still in force.

Periodic bilateral programmes for educational and cultural cooperation, which in an earlier period specified the content and conditions of cooperation in the three-year period, have been replaced with periodic meetings of bilateral mixed commissions on which current cooperation is analysed and guidelines for future work are provided.

Cooperation with the German provinces of Bavaria, Baden-Württemberg, Saxony and North Rhine-Westphalia, with which Serbia signed cooperation protocols, is especially important, with which Serbia implements special programmes and organises meeting of joint mixed commissions.

In 2019, the National Theatre from Belgrade signed a cooperation agreement with the Deutsches Theatre from Berlin. Cooperation protocols were signed by the Archives of Yugoslavia and the Federal Archives of the Federal Republic of Germany in 2022, and by the National Library of Serbia and the Goethe Institute (Serbia) in 2013.

Cooperation between the two countries also takes place at the multilateral level. In 2007, Serbia was admitted to the Association of European Union National Institutes of Culture and Cultural Departments of the Embassies of the EU Member States in Berlin (EUNIC Berlin), and gained the status of a permanent guest, which enables it to participate in numerous activities conducted by the Association. In 2014, Serbia became a full member of the international translation network *Traduki*, whose goal is to strengthen European and interregional cultural exchange. *Traduki* supports translation of contemporary literature, non-fiction, as well as books

⁴⁵ *Official Gazette of the SFRY - International treaties and other agreements*, No. 46/1970

for children and young adults. Support is provided to translations from German into 13 Southeast European languages, from 13 Southeast European languages into German, and mutual translations into Southeast European languages. Likewise, Serbia and Germany are members of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR), whose goals are, among other things, aimed at promoting cultural heritage and continuing with the creation of preconditions for the development of culture on the pan-Danube route.

The Film Centre of Serbia is an important contact for festival selectors in Berlin, Mannheim, Cottbus, Wiesbaden for obtaining information about new films and about projects in development. Serbian films also have success in competitions conducted by German film funds MDM (*Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung*) and MBB (*Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg*). The festival of contemporary German film GoetheFEST was held for the tenth time in 2021. The main organiser of the festival is the Goethe Institute, and permanent partners are the Cultural Centre of Belgrade, Cultural Centre of Novi Sad and Cultural Centre of Nis.

The Film Centre of Serbia regularly opens competitions for co-financing production of minority co-productions. This competition co-finances projects in cinematography which make a significant contribution to cooperation in the region and which support the creation of art of great cultural importance. In addition to the creation of cinematographic work, minority co-production includes organisation of premieres and promotions of films in the countries that participate in the project, as well as joint performances at film markets and festivals. Three film co-productions of Serbia and Germany were supported in these competitions in the reporting period in the amount of RSD 9,570,000.00.

The book fair in Leipzig is significant for the affirmation of the so-called small European languages and cultures, in which Serbia traditionally participates. Keeping in mind the constant interest of German and Austrian publishers in writers from Serbia and Southeast Europe, the Ministry of Culture and Information organises national performance at the Leipzig Fair so that the focus is on contemporary writers from Serbia and their works that have been translated into German by the time of the Fair in cooperation with the translation network *Traduki*. The Frankfurt Book Fair also traditionally presents Serbian publishers and authors. Translations of works into German are financially supported by the Ministry of Culture and Information, and German publishers also participate in the competition to encourage translation of Serbian authors into German.

The ERASMUS+ Programme for adult education envisaged implementation of the project *Discovering European Neighbours in the Third Age* in 2021, which involved participation of the Institute for Cultural Development Research and Institute for Virtual and Face-To-Face Learning in the area of Adult Education at the Ulm University.

Institutional cooperation with the Czech Republic in the field of culture takes place on the basis of the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Serbia and the Government of the Czech Republic on cooperation in the field of culture, education, science, youth and sports⁴⁶ from 2017. However, many institutions from the two countries started successful cooperation long before signing of this Agreement. One of them is the Yugoslav Cinematheque, which has a successful multi-decade cooperation with the National Film Archive from Prague. Thus, as part of this cooperation, Czech and Slovak Film Days were organised at the Yugoslav Cinematheque in 2019 and 2021.

⁴⁶ *Official Gazette of the RS - International Treaties*, No. 2/2017

The National Library of Serbia signed a Protocol on cooperation in the field of mutual exchange of publications and library experts with the National Library of the Czech Republic in Prague. In addition to the National Library of the Czech Republic, the National Library has been exchanging publications with the Slavic Library in Prague and Moravian Library in Brno for many years. The following Slavic centres are also supplied with Serbian books: the Library of the Department of Slavic Studies at the Faculty of Philosophy in Prague, the Main Library at the Masaryk University in Prague, as well as the Faculty of Philosophy at the Masaryk University in Brno.

A number of joint projects were implemented in the reporting period, including a project dedicated to media education of young people in the Republic of Serbia, which was implemented within the transformational cooperation programme "Transition" financed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic. As part of the programme for support to the Czech cultural heritage abroad, the project "Open Gate for Language and Literature" was implemented, which aims at raising awareness of the Czech national minority in the Republic of Serbia about Czech language, culture and identity.

In cooperation with Serbian institutions, the Embassy of the Czech Republic mediates in providing scholarship programmes for candidates from Serbia, assists in learning the Czech language at the University of Belgrade and sending students to the Summer School of Slavic Studies and educational programmes for the representatives of the Czech minority, and participates in the preparation of performances of Czech artists in Serbia. In the Centre of Slavic Cultures in the National Library of Serbia, with the support of the Embassy, exhibition "Europe is the work of translators - Dusan Karpatski and our writers" was opened in June 2022, dedicated to the Czech literary historian, philologist and translator who translated works of some of the most important Serbian writers into the Czech language. The exhibition was originally shown in Prague, then in several cities in Croatia, then in Sarajevo, Novi Sad and Subotica. In cooperation with the Belgrade Children's Cultural Centre, the Embassy organised the Czech Children's Day in Belgrade in May 2022, with the participation of members of the Czech community from Banat and students of bohemian studies. An interesting all-day programme was prepared for the visitors, and children had the opportunity to paint, participate in workshops and various quizzes about the Czech Republic, games, or watch Czech animated movies.

paragraph 2

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

In the legislation of the Republic of Serbia there are no provisions with unjustified distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference to the use of minority languages, with the aim to discourage or bring into question their maintaining and development. On the contrary, the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia prohibits all discrimination, direct or indirect, based on any grounds, and particularly on language. The obligation that the adoption of special measures in favour of regional or minority languages cannot be considered to be an act of discrimination against the ones using the languages that are more widely used than minority languages, is also implemented through the constitutional provision according to which special measures which the Republic of Serbia may introduce to achieve full equality of individuals or group of individuals in a substantially unequal situation compared to other citizens, shall not be deemed discrimination.

Constitutional provisions on the prohibition of discrimination are regulated with a series of legal solutions which criminalise language discrimination both in a criminal (according to national legislation, criminal offence of Racial and Other Discrimination is described in Article 387 of the Criminal Code) and misdemeanour sense, and there are also special legal means for the protection against discrimination (actions, complaints to the Commissioner for the Protection of Equality pursuant to the Law on the Prohibition of Discrimination, etc.), and the Committee of Experts in several previous state reports was informed in detail about it. Furthermore, constitutional provisions on the application of affirmative measures are a legal basis for a series of legal solutions for improving equality of the speakers of minority languages, which are presented in detail in the appropriate parts of the Report (e.g. affirmative measures related to the possibility of approving the performance of overall teaching in minority languages for fewer students than the number of students required by law, measures for the employment of speakers of minority languages in the bodies of the local self-government units and autonomous province, etc.).

Implementing measures in practice

The principle of prohibition of discrimination on the basis of language is consistently respected in the Republic of Serbia. Competent national authorities adequately prosecute criminal and misdemeanour offences of discrimination. In the table below, please find statistical data for criminal offence under Article 387 of the Criminal Code for the period from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021.

	Total number of reported persons	Order to conduct an investigation	Charging documents (indictment motion, direct indictment and indictment)	Final convictions
Racial and other discrimination under Article 387 of the Criminal Code	13	1	3	3

We would like to note that data relate to all criminal offences of discrimination, and not only to the linguistically motivated ones.

Discrimination on the grounds of national and ethnic origins is only in the eighth place by frequency of occurrence in complaints filed to the Commissioner for the Protection of Equality in 2019, with 50 complaints, which is 6.8% of the total number of complaints according to different grounds of discrimination. The largest number of complaints were filed because of discrimination of the members of the Roma national minority (32), which is 64% of all complaints filed because of discrimination on such grounds. As far as the area of social relations is concerned, most of the complaints on these grounds were filed in the areas of labour and employment, procedures before public authorities, public information and media, providing of public services or using public surfaces and facilities, public sphere/general public, then followed by other areas with insignificant number of complaints. In 2020, because of discrimination on grounds of national and ethnic origins, total number of 114 complaints were filed, while the largest number of complaints were filed because of discrimination of the members of the Roma

national minority (94), which is more than 82% of all complaints on grounds of national origin. When discrimination is concerned, complaints related to providing public services, procedures before public authorities, public sphere, labour and employment, as well as education and vocational training. In 2021, because of discrimination on grounds of national and ethnic origins, total number of 96 complaints were filed, like in the previous years, mostly because of discrimination of the members of the Roma national minority - 74, which makes 77.1% of all complaints filed because of discrimination on such grounds. As far as the area of social relations is concerned, majority of complaints on such grounds related to public sphere, procedures before public authorities, areas of labour and employment, service providing, as well as education and vocational training. Like in the case of criminal offence of discrimination, we would like to note that the presented data relate only in part to the use of language and language origin.

In the national minority rights area, the Protector of Citizens considered 71 cases in 2019, which makes 2.17 % of the total number of the considered cases. In the national minority rights area, in 71 cases, it was pointed to 76 violation of rights, and the majority related to special rights in the national minority rights area, such as special Roma rights, the right to cultural creativity in mother tongue, the right to exercising competence of national councils of national minorities and prohibition of discrimination. In the national minority rights area, in 2020, 46 cases were considered, and the majority of violation of rights related to: special Roma rights, prohibition of discrimination, individual rights of the members of national minorities. Cases in this area make only about 1% of the total number of cases considered in 2020. In the national minority rights area, the Protector of Citizens considered 44 cases in 2021. Violations of rights in these cases most frequently related like in previous years, to special Roma rights, prohibition of discrimination and the right to exercising competences of the national councils of national minorities.

paragraph 3

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

Measures through which the Republic of Serbia implements in its policy and legislation the undertaken obligation to implement in an appropriate manner mutual understanding between all language groups in the country, and especially to include respect, understanding and tolerance in relation to minority languages within the educational process, as well as to encourage the media to follow the same goal, are described in detail in the parts of the Report dedicated to Article 7, paragraph 1 e, as well as Articles 8 and 11 of the Charter.

Implementing measures in practice

Beside measures undertaken in practice and described in detail in the parts of the Report dedicated to Article 7, paragraph 1 e, as well as Articles 8 and 11 of the Charter, in this part of the Report we should point out to a series of projects implemented and supported by the state authorities at different levels of organisation, for the improvement of mutual understanding between all language groups in the country, as well as respect, understanding and tolerance in relation to minority languages. Here, beside pointing to a series of multicultural projects described in more detail in the previous sections, we particularly need to mention a successful multi-year Project of the Provincial Secretariat for Education, Regulations, Administration and

National Minorities: *Affirmation of Multiculturalism and Tolerance*, with the goal of fostering cultural diversity and developing the spirit of interethnic tolerance, which has been implemented since 2005. The Project activities are aimed at young people, primarily pupils and students of higher grades of primary schools and all grades of secondary schools; bearing in mind that these projects imply inclusion and direct contact with several thousands of young people, the project implementation indirectly influences the wider population. In 2020 and 2021, some of the activities within the projects were not carried out due to Covid-19 pandemic, since they meant participation of a large number of people in the same space. In the table below, please find data on the activities implemented within this project in the reporting period.

2019		
Quiz "How Well We Know Each Other"	Teams from 27 secondary schools	Media coverage from regional and semi-final competitions and the final show were broadcast on programmes of Public Media Institution RTV
Call for co-funding of projects for preserving and fostering interethnic tolerance in Vojvodina	Of 288 eligible projects, 139 projects were funded	
Educational trip - Romania	45 students and 11 professors	
Total funds		20,968,647.17
2020		
Video competition: "Multiculturalism and Ethnic Diversity in Voivodina"	Secondary school students	
Call for co-funding of projects for preserving and fostering interethnic tolerance in Voivodina	Of 445 eligible projects, 214 projects were funded	
Total funds		15,130,000.00
2021		
"Multiculturalism on Click" - 6 prize contests (video, photography, literary form, design, fine art work, etc.)	Primary and secondary school students	
Call for co-funding of projects for preserving and fostering interethnic tolerance in Voivodina	Of 344 eligible projects, 184 projects were funded	
Total funds		14,619,645.00

Within this project, in 2022, sub-project "Multiculturalism on Click" was co-funded; within this project, eight prize contests of general public interest were organised for primary and secondary school students in the areas of multiculturalism, tolerance and preserving and promoting ethnic diversity and cultural identity of national minorities, including, *inter alia*, selection of works on the topic "The Vojvodina Harmony" in video form - music tracks, which should express authentic vision of ethnic diversity or cultural specificities of ethnic communities

in AP Vojvodina; primary school students' literary work on the topic "My Famous Fellow Citizen", as well as literary work on the topic "This is Us - Multicultural Youth, Life in a Multilingual Family" for secondary school students; the works could be submitted in the minority languages in official use in AP Vojvodina.

We would like to point out to a multi-year, strategic project of the Vojvodina Cultural Centre *Milos Cnyanski* under the title *Cultures, Identities, Literatures*. It is an international conference primarily aimed at scientific contributions in the improvement of relations and cultural cooperation between scientists, writers and institutions of Central and Eastern Europe, as well as the improvement and consideration of topics of cultural contacts, identities and literatures between Serbia and Hungary, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Romania, etc. This project belongs to the group of multi-year development projects, and was carried out for the first time in October 2018. Every year, the languages of the conference are: Hungarian, Slovak, Romanian and Serbian, while the works published after the conference in the Journal "Interculturality" are translated from the mentioned languages into Serbian. Within the publishing activity of the Vojvodina Cultural Centre, several bilingual editions, translations as well as essays, dealing with exploring the identity and use of languages of national minorities, were published. Topicalization, affirmation and research on the use of languages of national minorities, as well as publishing translations and contemporary literary and theoretical achievements in the languages of national minorities are part of the long-term strategic programme goals of this institution.

paragraph 4

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

In determining its policy for minority languages, the Republic of Serbia bears in mind the needs and wishes of the population groups using these languages, and encourages them to establish adequate bodies involved in counselling of authorities on all issues related to minority languages. In the legal system of the Republic of Serbia, these bodies are national councils of national minorities, which may be elected, according to the Constitution, by members of the national minorities, in accordance with law, for exercising rights to self-government in culture, education, information and official use of language and script. The Law regulating the election procedure as well as authorisations of such bodies in the by Constitution determined areas of social life, is the Law on National Councils of National Minorities.⁴⁷ In appropriate sections of this Report, authorisations of the national councils of national minorities with regard to minority languages, as well as their participation in the institutional mechanisms in the culture and information areas (National Council for Culture and Regulatory Authority of Electronic Media), are presented. The representatives of national councils also participate in institutional mechanisms in other areas, within which policy creation is influenced and/or is decided on different areas of social life, such as the National Educational Council.

Furthermore, we would like to point out that the presidents of national councils of national minorities, together with the Prime Minister and relevant ministries, are members of the Council for National Minorities, whose tasks are as follows: Monitoring and considering the exercising of rights of national minorities and the situation of interethnic relations in the Republic of Serbia; proposing measures for the improvement of full and effective equality of the

⁴⁷ *Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia*, Nos. 72/2009, 20/2014-Decision of the Constitutional Court, 55/2014 and 47/2018

members of national minorities; monitoring the implementation of cooperation of national councils of national minorities with the state authorities, as well as bodies of the autonomous province and local self-government units; considering working conditions of national councils of national minorities and proposing measures in this area; monitoring the fulfilment of international obligations of the Republic of Serbia in the area of exercising the rights of the members of national minorities; considering international agreements relating to the status of national minorities and protection of their rights in the process of their conclusion; considering draft laws and other regulations of importance for exercising the rights of national minorities, and providing to the Government its opinion on it; and confirming symbols, signs and holidays of national minorities at the proposal of the national councils of national minorities.

Implementing measures in practice

In the Republic of Serbia 23 national councils of national minorities were elected. Work and public powers of these bodies are funded from the Budget of the Republic of Serbia, and for the national councils with their seat in the territory of AP Vojvodina from the Provincial Budget as well. Tables below show data on the amount of funds allocated in the reporting period from the state and provincial budgets for the operation of these bodies.

Funding from the Budget of the Republic of Serbia

National Council of the National Minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Albanian	13,226,019.00	13,226,019.00	13,226,019.00	13,226,019.00
Ashkali	1,848,114.00		3,388,209.00	3,388,209.00
Bosniac	27,828,583.00	27,828,583.00	27,828,583.00	27,828,583.00
Bulgarian	7,643,683.00	7,643,683.00	7,643,683.00	7,643,683.00
Bunjevac	7,141,540.00	7,141,540.00	7,141,540.00	7,141,540.00
Vlachs	7,757,459.00	7,757,459.00	7,757,459.00	7,757,459.00
Greek	3,572,471.00	3,572,471.00	3,572,471.00	3,572,471.00
Egyptian	3,683,326.00	3,683,326.00	3,683,326.00	3,683,326.00
Federation of Jewish Communities	3,616,063.00	3,616,063.00	3,616,063.00	3,616,063.00
Hungarian	59,438,983.00	59,438,983.00	59,438,983.00	59,438,983.00
Macedonian	6,952,728.00	6,952,728.00	6,952,728.00	6,952,728.00
German	3,963,046.00	3,963,046.00	3,963,046.00	3,963,046.00
Polish	3,326,088.00	3,326,088.00	3,326,088.00	3,326,088.00
Romani	22,122,634.00	22,122,634.00	22,122,634.00	22,122,634.00
Romanian	14,160,015.00	14,160,015.00	14,160,015.00	14,160,015.00
Ruthenian	9,033,971.00	9,033,971.00	9,033,971.00	9,033,971.00
Russian	3,326,088.00	3,326,088.00	3,326,088.00	3,326,088.00
Slovakian	17,778,529.00	17,778,529.00	17,778,529.00	17,778,529.00
Slovenian	4,095,241.00	4,095,241.00	4,095,241.00	4,095,241.00
Ukrainian	4,601,055.00	4,601,055.00	4,601,055.00	4,601,055.00
Croatian	12,975,990.00	12,975,990.00	12,975,990.00	12,975,990.00
Montenegrin	7,675,264.00	7,675,264.00	7,675,264.00	7,675,264.00
Czech	4,037,175.00	4,037,175.00	4,037,175.00	4,037,175.00

Total	249,804,06s.00 ,1	247,955,9s1.00 ,1	2s1,344,160.00 ,1	2s1,344,160.00 ,1
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Funding from the Bud et of AP Vojvodina

National Council of the National Minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Ashkali	100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00
Bunjevac	2,569,240.00	2,540,920.00	2,533,200.00	2,592,600.00
Greek	100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00
Egyptian	100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00
Hunearian	24,194,720.00	24,672,360.00	24,417,200.00	24,742,400.00
Macedonian	2,665,640.00	2,790,440.00	2,729,600.00	2,702,000.00
Gennan	1,593,560.00	1,764,360.00	1,754,800.00	1,681,600.00
Polish	1,282,920.00	1,315,160.00	1,315,200.00	1,315,200.00
Romani	3,584,560.00	3,782,080.00	3,771,600.00	3,746,200.00
Romanian	4,174,360.00	4,238,600.00	4,314,400.00	4,188,800.00
Ruthenian	3,073,000.00	3,114,200.00	3,071,600.00	3,046,000.00
Russian	100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00
Slovakian	6,430,760.00	6,445,960.00	6,391,600.00	6,322,000.00
Ukrainian	1,653,640.00	1,683,840.00	1,674,400.00	1,668,400.00
Croatian	4,145,800.00	4,437,000.00	4,741,600.00	4,720,400.00
Montenegrin	2,601,680.00	2,645,680.00	2,731,200.00	2,724,200.00
Czech	1,730,080.00	1,769,400.00	1,753,600.00	1,750,200.00
Total	60,100,000.00	61,600,000.00	61,600,000.00	61,600,000.00

Measures for the implementation of recommendations of the Committee of Ministers

1. *Make available adequate teaching of Romani and Ukrainian languages in pre-school, primary and secondary education, and extend the current teaching and study in/of German, Czech or other languages included only in Part II of the Charter.*
2. *Make available the broadcasting of public and private radio and television programmes in the minority languages in order to reach an appropriate total broadcast time for each language.*
3. *Support the use of all regional or minority languages in the judiciary and administration.*
4. *Strengthen the capacity of the national councils of national minorities to effectively promote the regional or minority languages in public life.*
5. *Promote awareness and tolerance in Serbian society at large with respect to the minority languages and cultures as integral part of the heritage of Serbia.*

Data on measures for the implementation of the recommendations of the Committee of Ministers are found in appropriate parts of this as well as the previous state report.

Measures for the implementation of recommendations of the Committee of Experts related to languages, for which obligations from Part III have not been undertaken

Data on the measures for the implementation of recommendations of the Committee of Experts are contained in appropriate parts of this Report as well as the previous state report. This part of the Report will present only data on measures for the implementation of recommendations not contained in other sections of this Report and/or which relate only to

recommendations for which there is no information in the 5th state report, and which according to their content do not exceed the framework of Part II of the Charter.

Starting a broadcast of the planned television programme in German on RTV Vojvodina.

Although the mentioned recommendation somewhat exceeds with its content the framework of Part II of the Charter, we would like to point out that in October 2018, on RTV Vojvodina, television show in German, *Deutsche Minuten* was introduced on RTV2 TV programme, and is broadcast once a month for 30 minutes, and rebroadcast twice a month.

Promoting awareness and tolerance in education and media towards German language and culture as integral part of the cultural heritage of Serbia.

Republic of Serbia is fully committed to promoting the awareness and tolerance in education and media towards all minority languages and cultures as integral part of cultural heritage of Serbia, which is understandably related to German as well. The results of this commitment reflect in the growing number of schools in which, in the educational process, German language and national culture are studied, and growing number of students who study them, as well as the growing offer of media content in/on German language and culture.

Facilitating broadcast of television programme in Czech language on a private television (e.g. TV Banat).

Although the mentioned recommendation somewhat exceeds with its content the framework of Part II of the Charter, we would like to point out that in October 2021, on RTV Vojvodina a show in Czech language *Ceske per/ice* on RTV2 was introduced and is broadcast once a month for 30 minutes. The broadcasting contract was signed by General Director of RTV and the representative of independent production Czech Media Centre from Bela Crkva. We would like to note that facilitating broadcast of programmes in Czech language on private television not only exceeds, as highlighted, the content of Article 7 of the Charter, but also exceeds the provision of Article 11 of the Charter (which otherwise does not apply for Czech language), and which prescribes obligations of the Parties in the area of public information, but only to the extent to which public authorities, directly or indirectly, are in charge of, have power or play an appropriate role in this field, and observing the principle of independence and autonomy of the media, which, therefore, can't relate to private televisions in the Republic of Serbia.

IV Situation of the individual languages

ALBANIAN LANGUAGE

A. Part III

Article 8

paragraph 1 a (iii)

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The Law on Pre-school Education prescribes that for members of a national minority educational and pedagogical work and activities are delivered in the language of the national minority, and may be also delivered bilingually in the language of the national minority and in Serbian, if more than 50% of the parents, i.e. other legal representatives of children, request so. It is important to highlight that educational and pedagogical work and activities in bilingual educational groups are delivered with 10% less children than the number of children determined by this Law as the necessary number of children in a group. The pre-school teacher job with children - members of national minorities may be performed by a person who meets general requirements for a pre-school teacher, if he/she has acquired adequate education in the language in which educational and pedagogical work and activities are delivered, or passed the exam in this language with methods in language teaching and learning in an appropriate higher education institution. Exceptionally, if there is a lack of pre-school teachers with the knowledge of the language of the national minority, according to Law, along with the pre-school teacher who does not meet the requirements because he/she does not speak the language, an assistant pre-school teacher with the knowledge of the language and at least a secondary education course of teaching profile, until the completion of the procedure after the announced competition, shall be engaged. The significance of determining possibilities that educational and pedagogical work and activities are also delivered in the languages of national minorities is evidenced by the provision, according to which a pre-school institution, i.e. a school delivering a preparatory pre-school curriculum, shall be fined in the amount ranging from RSD 50,000 to RSD 1,000,000, if it does not allow parents to declare in which language the child will receive pre-school education.

Implementing measures in practice

Pre-school educational and pedagogical work and activities in Albanian are organised in the Municipalities of Bujanovac and Prdevo.

School year	Number of local self-government units	Number of pre-school institutions	Number of groups	Number of children
2019/2020	2	2	46	588
2020/2021	2	2	45	564
2021/2022	2	2	46	573

In the Municipality of Medveda, educational and pedagogical work and activities are organised bilingually, in Serbian and Albanian.

School year	Number of local self-government units	Number of school institutions	Number of groups	Number of children
2019/2020	1	1	3	21
2020/2021	1	1	3	24
2021/2022	1	1	3	24

For pre-school educational and pedagogical work and activities in Albanian, according to the Catalogue of textbooks in the languages of national minorities for school year 2022/2023,⁴⁸ three textbooks were approved.

paragraph 1 a (iv)

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

Except by the Republic of Serbia, autonomous province and local self-government units, a pre-school institution may be also established by another legal or natural person, in accordance with the Law. Furthermore, a pre-school institution may be also established by a foreign state, foreign legal or natural person. Pre-school curriculum shall be drawn up by a pre-school institution, i.e. school which delivers a preparatory pre-school curriculum, in accordance with the fundamentals of the pre-school education determined by competent public authorities. The Statute of a pre-school institution determines the language in which educational and pedagogical work and activities are delivered, while the pre-school curriculum determines the manner of delivery. Bearing in mind the presented provisions of law, it is clear that other legal and natural persons as well as foreign states, foreign legal or natural persons, have a certain freedom in regulating a particular pre-school curriculum, as well as determining the language in which the educational and pedagogical work and activities in pre-school institutions, whose founders they are, will be delivered, but also that the presented legal framework related to paragraph 1 a (iii) is an adequate stimulus or encouragement for the application of the abovementioned measures, since these founders may apply the presented provisions of law.

Implementing measures in practice

In the territory where the Albanian language is used there are no pre-school institutions whose founders are other legal or natural persons as well as foreign states, foreign legal or natural persons.

⁴⁸ <https://mpn.gov.rs/p-content/uploads/2022/03/Katalog-udzbenika-na-jezicima-nacionalnih-manjina.pdf>

paragraph 1 b (iv)

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The Law on Primary Education foresees that for the members of a national minority educational and pedagogical work and activities are delivered in the language and script of the national minority. Exceptionally, for members of a national minority, educational and pedagogical work and activities may be also delivered bilingually in the language and script of the national minority and in Serbian. For delivering such forms of teaching, a minimum of 15 pupils enrolled in the first grade is required, although the ministry responsible for education, upon obtained opinion of the appropriate national council of a national minority, may approve delivery of educational and pedagogical work and activities completely in the language of the national minority or bilingually even for less than 15 pupils enrolled in the first grade (for the territory of AP Vojvodina, such approval is given by the competent provincial secretariat). When educational and pedagogical work and activities are delivered in Serbian, for pupils members of a national minority, teaching and learning are organised in the language of the national minority with elements of national culture as elective curriculum. Same solutions are foreseen in the Law on the Fundamentals of the Education System.

Implementing measures in practice

The entire teaching in Albanian is carried out in 16 primary schools.

Number of OUDils attending primary school in Albanian

School year	Number of pupils		Number of schools
	y	%	
2019/20	4,195	0.72	16
2020/21	4,078	0.74	16
2021/22	4,264	0.75	16

Bearing in mind that majority of pupils of Albanian national origin attend all classes in Albanian language, the number of pupils who attend the elective subject/curriculum in Albanian with elements of national culture, is significantly lower.

Number of pupils attending elective subject/curriculum

Elective subject/curriculum	2019/20	2020/21
Albanian language with elements of national culture	70	60

Curriculum reform of the education system in the Republic of Serbia, which means preparation of new curricula for all subjects, began in 2018. It actually means that new textbooks are being prepared for every subject and class which correspond to new curricula. For the "Albanian language", "Albanian Language and Literature", and for the elective curriculum "Albanian Language with Elements of National Culture", new plans and curricula for primary school, which follow the education reform for pre-university education, were adopted. In the curriculum reform context, it is important to emphasise that the Commission for expert assessment of the quality of textbooks in Albanian for primary school in the period 2019-2022 reviewed and approved 43 textbooks in Albanian, which were included in the Catalogue of

textbooks in the languages of national minorities. For primary education in Albanian, according to the Catalogue of textbooks in the languages of national minorities for school year 2022/2023, total number of 55 textbooks were approved.

The fulfilment of the undertakings is also enabled by teacher training implemented through the system of permanent vocational training, as well as participation in different programmes. One of them is online training: "Strengthening language competencies of teachers teaching in eight languages of national minorities", for enhancing language competencies of teachers delivering classes in one of the languages of national minorities, in which all classes are delivered both in the primary and secondary education.

Number of teachers delivering classes in Albanian who attended training

Mathematics	46
Biology	21
History	19
Geography	15
Physics	20
Chemistry	13
General subject competencies	186
Total	320

Simultaneously with the curriculum reform, in the Centre for Quality Assurance of Institutions, General standards of achievements for the end of compulsory education for the subject "mother tongue and literature" (2016), then General standards for the end of general secondary education and secondary vocational education for the subject "mother tongue and literature" (2018), as well as General standards of achievement for the subject "mother tongue" for the end of the first cycle of primary education (2020), were created. Appropriate textbook for the subject "Albanian language"⁴⁹ was published, while in 2020, trainings attended by 124 teachers of Albanian language were held.

With the aim of improvement of the quality of education in Albanian, the responsible ministry engaged two advisers-external associates for education in Albanian in primary and secondary schools.

As special support to pupils who attend classes in Albanian, a Serbian- Albanian/Albanian-Serbian Small Dictionary/Fjalor i vogel was created, and was promoted and distributed in 16 primary schools with classes in Albanian in the Municipalities of Presevo, Bujanovac and Medveda. The dictionary is bilingual, illustrated and adapted to pupils both with regard to content and design. Small Dictionary/Fjalor i vogel is available in digital edition on the website: <http://dictionary.hcnm.org/dict/>.

paragraph 1 c (iv)

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The Law on Secondary Education foresees that for the members of a national minority educational and pedagogical work and activities are delivered in the language and script of a national minority, i.e. bilingually, if during the enrolment in the first grade minimum 15 students

⁴⁹ <https://ceo.edu.rs/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Albanski-jezik-Priruc%CC%8Cnik.pdf>

request so, while the ministry responsible for education, upon obtained opinion of the appropriate national council of a national minority, may approve delivery of educational and pedagogical work and activities completely in the language of the national minority or bilingually even for less than 15 pupils enrolled in the first grade (for the territory of AP Vojvodina, such approval is given by the competent provincial secretariat). When educational and pedagogical work and activities are delivered in the Serbian language, for students members of the national minority classes in the language of the national minority with elements of national culture, which is an optional form of educational and pedagogical work, are organised.

Implementing measures in practice

Secondary education in Albanian is delivered in four secondary schools: Technical School "Nikola Tesla" in Medveda, Secondary School "Sezai Suroi" in Bujanovac, Grammar School "Skenderbeg" and Secondary Technical School "Presevo" in Presevo.

Number of students attending secondary school in Albanian

	Number of students		Number of schools
	I	%	
2019/20	2,545	1.04	4
2020/21	2,311	0.87	4
2021/22	2,569	1.80	4

Bearing in mind that for certain secondary school profiles a smaller number of students is registered, and with the goal to enable to students greater selection of educational profiles in the languages of national minorities, classes with less students than prescribed (less than 15 students) are regularly approved.

Total number of classes with less than 15 students

Language for teaching	School year	Number of classes with less than 15 students
Albanian language	2019/20	5
	2020/21	5
	2021/22	5

paragraph 1 d (iv)

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

Legal solutions on the use of minority languages with regard to technical or specialist education are contained in the Law on Secondary Education and presented within paragraph 1 c (iv).

Implementing measures in practice

Profiles for vocational secondary school in Albanian are: economic technician, electrical installer, mechanical technician for computer construction, electrical computer technician,

financial administrator, medical nurse - technician, car mechanic, welder, computer control machine technician, road traffic technician. Classes for these profiles are organised and carried out in technical schools mentioned within paragraph 1 c (iv), while the number of students attending such classes is included in the number of students attending secondary school in Albanian.

paragraph 1 e (ii)

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The Law on Higher Education enables studying of minority languages, thus the Albanian language as well, as university or college subject, since the autonomy of the university and other higher education institutions include, *inter alia*, the rights to determine study programmes, the right to determine study rules and requirements for enrolment of students, and the right to regulate the internal organisation.

Implementing measures in practice

Albanian language, literature and culture are studied at the Department of Albanology, Faculty of Philology of the Belgrade University. Every year approximately 15 students are enrolled in studies of Albanian language and literature.

	Academic year	Total number of students
Albanian language	2019/20	52
	2020/21	47
	2021/22	42

In the Bujanovac Department of the Faculty of Economics from Subotica, part of the classes are delivered by visiting professors who teach in Albanian, i.e. approximately 30% to 35% of the classes is delivered in Albanian.

paragraph 1 f (iii)

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

In accordance with the Law on Adult Education⁵⁰, this form of education is delivered as formal and informal education. Formal education are organised learning processes implemented pursuant to curricula of primary and secondary education and other forms of vocational training adapted to the adult needs and capacity and requirements of the labour market; while informal education consists of organised learning processes of adults pursuant to special programmes, with the aim of acquiring knowledge, values, positions, capacity and skills focused on personal development of adults, labour and employment and social activities.

The Law on Adult Education foresees that for members of a national minority adult education is also delivered in mother tongue, i.e. bilingually, if during the enrolment in the

⁵⁰ Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia, Nos. 55/2013, 88/2017 - other law, 27/2018 -other law and 6/2020 -other law

programme minimum 50% of learners or candidates⁵¹ request so. The members of national minorities, during inclusion in the recognition procedure for previous education, shall choose whether the procedure will be carried out in mother tongue or Serbian.

In principle, when the issue of formal education of adults is concerned, all regular primary schools may deliver adult education, although they have to be previously verified for delivering the adult education programmes for three years. In the environments where the education process in primary schools is delivered in minority languages, there is no impediment that the adult education programme in these languages is delivered as well. In secondary schools, continuation of education of adults is performed according to general curricula for secondary education, although adults have the status of part-time students. In such terms, in every secondary school in which education process is delivered in minority languages, there is a possibility that adults continue their education in minority languages.

Implementing measures in practice

Within formal adult education during the enrolment in the programme, in the reporting period there were no persons reported for education in Albanian.

paragraph 1 g

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The arrangements which would ensure the teaching of history and culture with regard to minority languages are foreseen in the legal system of the Republic of Serbia and regulated by the Law on the Fundamentals of the Education System. According to this Law, some of the objectives of education are, *inter alia*, development and respect for the national, cultural, linguistic equality, tolerance and respect for differences, as well as development of personal and national identity, respecting and fostering of the Serbian language and mother tongue, tradition and culture of Serbian people and national minorities, as well as developing interculturality, respect and preservation of national and world heritage. History and culture related to minority languages are studied through the process of all teaching activities in minority languages, as well as through the subject "mother tongue with elements of national culture", what has been discussed more in the previous sections. Furthermore, the Law on National Councils of National Minorities foresees that the national councils, as representatives of minorities propose, *inter alia*, to the minister responsible for education the general platforms of preschool syllabi, primary and secondary school curricula, as well as basic programmes of instructions, for content expressing specific features of a national minority, especially in the fields of history, music and art; as well as primary and secondary school syllabi for a national minority language, and language, or speech, of a national minority with elements of national culture.

⁵¹ The mentioned percent corresponds with the number of students required for delivering all classes in minority languages at all stages up to university education, since the threshold of 15 students is 50% of 30 students necessary to form one class.

Implementing measures in practice

Within the Council of Europe and European Union Project Horizontal Facility (HF 33) - *Strengthening the Protection of National Minorities in Serbia* 2019, an analysis of selected curricula, respective competencies and educational standards was made. The results of this analysis show a heterogeneous situation with regard to the presence and relationship to national minorities in the educational framework of the Republic of Serbia. The analysis emphasises that official documents with regard to education, i.e. standards and curricula (particularly tasks and teaching units) for certain school subjects ("nature and society" and "music culture" in the first cycle; "Serbian language and literature" and "geography" in the second cycle, and "geography", "sociology" and "Constitution and citizens' rights" in the third cycle), directly deal with the issue of national minorities or their cultural heritage, and represent positive trends or examples. Determination that national minorities are included as integral part of these documents is recognised. Additionally, it is left to teachers to instruct on certain content of importance for the national identity with the aim that teaching should lead to development of intercultural competencies of students, their getting acquainted with the members of different ethnic/national groups. Subject "history" has been recognised as one of utmost importance for raising awareness on different views of the past, including the situation and perspective of national minorities. The analysis of curricula shows that during whole education, from the first till the end of the third cycle, in subjects "nature and science" and "history" and somewhat "geography", national minorities living in Serbia today do not get enough attention. Such conclusion is to some degree a consequence of the fact that teachers handle content referring to cultural and historical heritage of minorities for the subject "history" within the defined annual classload. Namely, classes are planned and delivered in such a manner that this content is not observed or handled in an isolated way, but is connected and integrated with other curricula content, thus developing in students their sense of belonging to their national minority. At the same time, in curricula and teaching the subject "history" topics (content) relating to common and specific historical and cultural heritage, periods of coexistence of different peoples, i.e. ethnic communities in regional and European frameworks, with a special focus on peacetime and joint challenges in different life situations, are represented. Curriculum set in such a way, despite the fact that it may not be paying enough attention to each of the national minorities individually, nevertheless strengthens multicultural environment for teaching and learning and promotes respect for all groups in the society, points to joint contribution to its development and ensures wide and deepened knowledge on minorities as integral part of the Serbian society, and the students are encouraged to continue learning and exploring multiple perspectives.

In order to improve the presentation of national minorities in the process of education, within the Joint Initiative of the Council of Europe and the European Union, Guidelines were prepared for appropriate presentation of national minorities in educational content. This document is derived from the Report on representation of national minorities in curricula and educational standards of the Republic of Serbia and the Report on representation and presentation of national minorities in school textbooks in the Republic of Serbia, as well as accompanying recommendations. Beside general guidelines, the document also proposes particular guidelines including examples and instructions how to transfer recommendations to educational content in an appropriate manner. Furthermore, the document includes a set of guidelines related to institutions in charge of adoption, alignment, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of curricula and teaching. The last set of the proposed guidelines relates to the

textbook content and possible ways of including the content on national minorities. The recommendations are defined as a form of support to institutions, participants and stakeholders in the education system in developing awareness (especially of student population and employees in the education and culture areas) on the need to understand the rights, position and participation of national minorities, accept cultural differences, develop tolerance, foster social life and comprehensive inclusion in the Republic of Serbia. Recommendations are directed toward institutions responsible for education and relate to curricula for primary and secondary school, as well as the improvement of democratic culture in schools. A special set of recommendations relates to the improvement of the textbook content quality (visual and textual), which should reflect respect for the minority rights, as well as set of recommendations for the improvement of quality initial education of teachers who deliver classes in a language of a national minority. The result of this project is incorporating Guidelines, opinions and recommendations in curricula for the second grade of grammar school, which include clearly marked elements of democratic culture, i.e. content supporting and encouraging differences, active application of tolerance and protection against discrimination within the education system. The Guidelines relate to both Albanian and other minority languages.

Article 9

paragraph 1 a (ii)

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia prescribes in Article 199 paragraph 1 that everyone shall have the right to use his/her language in the proceedings before the court, other state body or organisation with delegated public powers, when his/her right or duty is decided on. This provision also relates to the criminal procedure and includes all speakers of minority languages, thus also Albanian. Constitutional solutions on the use of language are elaborated in the Criminal Procedure Code⁵², which in Article 11 paragraph 3 prescribes that the parties participating in proceedings shall be entitled to use their own language and script during proceedings, thus the defendants also have the right to use in proceedings their own language and script.

Implementing measures in practice

In the reporting period the defendants used the Albanian language in criminal proceedings before basic courts.

Number of cases before the basic courts in which the defendants used Albanian

Basic Court	2019	2020	2021	until June 2022
in Bujanovac	154	202	144	62
in Senta	108	49	44	15
in Smederevo	1			
in Subotica	12	2	6	9

⁵² Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia, Nos. 72/2011, 101/2011, 121/2012, 32/2013, 45/2013, 55/2014, 35/2019, 27/2021 - Decision of the Constitutional Court and 62/2021 - Decision of the Constitutional Court

paragraph 1 a (iii)

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

Providing that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, shall not be considered inadmissible solely because they are formulated in a minority language is included in Article 11 paragraph 3 of the Criminal Procedure Code, which prescribes that parties, witnesses and other persons participating in proceedings shall be entitled to use their own languages and scripts and are entitled to translation, the interpretation of what they or others are saying, as well as translation of documents and other written evidence.

Implementing measures in practice

In the Bujanovac Basic Court in criminal proceedings conducted in Serbian, in 2019 there were 50 testimonies in Albanian, 60 in 2020, 72 in 2021 and 22 until June 2022.

paragraph 1 b (ii)

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The Constitutional provision according to which everyone shall have the right to use his/her language in the proceedings before the court when his/her right or duty is decided on, is connected with civil litigations elaborated by the Civil Procedure Law.⁵³ In accordance with Article 6 paragraph 3, the parties and other participants to the proceedings are entitled to use their own language and script, in accordance with the provisions of this Law.

Implementing measures in practice

In the reporting period, the Albanian language was used in civil litigations in procedures before the Basic Court in Bujanovac (13 testimonies in 2019, 22 in 2020, 16 in 2021 and 7 until June 2022), as well as in a procedure before the Basic Court in Subotica in 2021.

paragraph 1 c⁵⁴ (ii)

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

⁵³ *Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia*, Nos. 72/2011, 49/2013 - Decision of the Constitutional Court, 74/2013 - Decision of the Constitutional Court, 55/2014, 87/2018 and 18/2020

⁵⁴ We would like to point out that in legal system of the Republic of Serbia, the term from the Charter *administrative matter* may only be applied to individual indisputable life situations, namely, in the context of the Law on General Administrative Procedure, only in an individual situation in which an authority, directly applying laws, other regulations and general acts, either legally or factually influences the position of the party by adopting the administrative acts, adopting letters of guarantee, entering into administrative contracts, undertaking administrative actions and providing public services. Therefore, this term does not relate to misdemeanours (misdemeanour matters) which according to the Misdemeanour Law (*Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia*, Nos. 65/2013, 13/2016, 98/2016 - Decision of the Constitutional Court, 91/2019 and 91/2019 - other law), which mean unlawful acts stipulated as misdemeanours by the law or other regulation of a competent authority for which a misdemeanour sanctions are prescribed. We would like to note that in practice the use of minority languages in misdemeanour proceedings is present, of which the Committee of Experts can be subsequently informed.

The Constitutional provision according to which everyone shall have the right to use his/her language in the proceedings before the court when his/her right or duty is decided on, is connected with administrative disputes elaborated in the Law on Administrative Disputes⁵⁵, which although it does not explicitly regulate the use of language in the proceedings, refers to the appropriate application of the law regulating civil procedure. It means that in administrative proceedings, identical solutions explained in the section on civil litigations shall apply.

Implementing measures in practice

In the reporting period there were no cases in which the Albanian language was used.

paragraph 1 d

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

Measures ensuring that by application of sub-paragraphs a (ii), a (iii), b (ii), c (ii) and any other use of translators and interpreters, additional expenses to interested parties are not caused, are prescribed in Article 11 paragraph 3 of the Criminal Procedure Code and Article 95 paragraph 2 of the Civil Procedure Law. According to the Criminal Procedure Code, if the proceedings are not conducted in the language of the parties, witnesses and other persons participating in proceedings, and if, after being advised on their right to translation, these persons don't declare that they know the language in which the proceedings are being conducted and waive their right to translation, the interpretation of what they or others are saying, as well as translation of instruments and other written evidence, shall be secured and paid from the Budget. According to the Civil Procedure Law (which is, as emphasised, when it comes to the use of language and script, also applied in administrative disputes), if such proceedings are not held in the language of the parties or other participants to the proceedings, they shall, upon request, be provided with an interpretation of the proceedings into the language they understand, including oral translations of all documents used as evidence in the course of the proceedings.

Implementing measures in practice

In the reporting period, in the Basic Court in Bujanovac court interpreters-translators into the Albanian language were engaged in 279 cases in 2019; 384 cases in 2020; 359 cases in 2021; and 129 cases until June 2022. In the Basic Court in Bujanovac there are 4 court interpreters-translators for the Albanian language employed for indefinite period of time and funded from the Budget.

In the Basic Court in Senta, in 2019 there were 109 cases, in which court interpreters-translators for the Albanian language were engaged; 49 cases in 2020; 39 cases in 2021, while by the middle of 2022 there were 15 cases. Translation costs from/into the Albanian language in 2019 amounted to RSD 166,200.00; in 2020 RSD 49,200.00; in 2021 RSD 45,600.00; and in 2022 RSD 8,400.00.

⁵⁵ Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia, No. 111/2009

In the Basic Court in Smederevo, a court interpreter-translator for the Albanian language was engaged in one case in 2019, and the translations costs paid from the Budget amounted to RSD 112,570.20.

In the Basic Court in Subotica, court interpreters-translators for the Albanian language were engaged in 12 cases in 2019; in 2 cases in 2020; in 7 cases in 2021; and in 9 cases by the middle of 2022. Translation costs in 2019 amounted to RSD 22,800.00; in 2020 to RSD 3,600.00; in 2021 RSD 15,600.00; and in 2022 RSD 40,800.00.

paragraph 2 a, b, c

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

Undertakings of the Republic of Serbia not to deny the validity of legal documents solely because they are drafted in minority languages; not to deny the validity of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in minority languages; and not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents solely because they are drafted in minority languages, mentioned in the ratification instrument for Part III of the Charter (which also relates to the Albanian language), are implemented through a series of legal solutions. Firstly, the Law on the Official Use of Languages and Scripts foresees that within the territory of a local self-government unit that is traditionally inhabited by persons belonging to a national minority, language and script of such persons may have equal official use (Article 11 paragraph 1), while local self-government units inhabited by more than 15% of persons belonging to a national minority, based on the latest population census, are required to introduce to their statutes equal official use of such national minority's language no later than 90 days from the date of determining by law prescribed conditions (paragraph 2). Languages of national minorities in official use in the work of autonomous province's bodies shall be specified by their statute (paragraph 7). Official use of languages of national minorities means especially: use of languages of national minorities in administrative procedures and court proceedings and conducting the administrative procedure and court proceedings in the language of a national minority; use of language of a national minority in communication with bodies exercising public authority with citizens; issuing public documents and keeping official records and personal data collections in the languages of national minorities and recognition of such documents as valid; use of languages of national minorities when printing ballot papers and voting material; use of language of national minorities in the work of representative bodies (paragraph 3).

Provisions on the validity of legal documents drawn up in minority languages are included in the appropriate procedural laws (Criminal Procedure Code and Civil Procedure Law), because in the appropriate legal proceedings acceptance of the validity of legal documents drawn up in minority languages (see the text on the implementing measures in policy and legislation for the rest of the sub-paragraphs within this paragraph) is evident. According to Article 11 paragraph 3 of the Criminal Procedure Code, to parties, witnesses and other persons participating in proceedings and are entitled to use their own languages and scripts during proceedings, where proceedings are not being conducted in their language and if, after learning of their right to translation, these persons don't declared that they know the language in which the proceedings are being conducted and waive their right to translation, the interpretation of what they or others are saying, as well as translation of instruments and other written evidence, shall be secured and paid from the Budget. Furthermore, according to Article 95 paragraph 2 of

the Civil Procedure Code, if such proceedings are held in the language which the parties, i.e. other participants to the proceedings do not understand, they shall, upon request, be provided with interpreting of the proceedings in the language they understand, *inter alia*, including interpreting of all documents used as evidence in the course of the proceedings. Moreover, according to Article 97 of the same Law, parties and other participants in the proceedings shall submit to court their complaints, appeals and other submissions in the language in official use in the court, and they may also submit to court their submissions in the language of a national minority which is not in official use in court.

Bearing in mind the mentioned provisions, it is clear that the validity of legal documents drawn up in minority languages (individual legal acts drawn up in administrative procedure and court proceedings, public documents, complaints, appeals, contracts, authorisations, wills, etc.) cannot be questioned.

Implementing measures in practice

According to data of Basic Courts in Bujanovac and Lehane in the reporting period there were no proceedings in which valid documents drawn up in Albanian were used.

paragraph 3

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The undertakings of the Republic of Serbia to make available in minority languages the most important national statutory texts and those relating particularly to users of these languages, are implemented in the legal system by the Law on the Official Use of Languages and Scripts, which in Article 11 paragraph 8 prescribes that laws and regulations shall be published in the languages of national minorities, in accordance with the law governing protection of rights and freedoms of national minorities. The Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, in Article 11 foresees as follows: The Ministry competent for the exercise of the rights of national minorities shall ensure the translation and shall publish collections of revised texts of the most significant laws of the Republic of Serbia, governing, either in the whole or for the most part, the exercise of the rights of the national minorities. The Ministry shall be under the obligation to make these laws available in the electronic form, on its website and on the eGovernment portal, and to deliver the agreed certain number of collections of the revised texts of these laws to the national councils of national minorities. According to the same Article, a national council of national minority may submit a proposal to the competent ministry, along with a rationale stating that it is of special importance for the exercise of rights and freedoms of the national minority, to have the competent ministry ensure the translation and publication of the collection of revised texts of specific laws, within its legal scope, which contain the provisions referring to the exercise of rights and freedoms of the national minorities, i.e. to define the social relations which are of special importance for the national minorities. When deciding upon such proposal, the Ministry shall pay particular attention to the availability of the planned budget funds, and whether in the period of the following year, upon adoption of the proposal of the national council of the national minority, amendments and changes have been planned or the adoption of a new law in lieu of the law whose translation i.e. publication is being proposed.

Implementing measures in practice

Since 2018, certain laws governing rights and situation of the members of national minorities have been amended, and these laws as well as the accompanying bylaws have been translated in the languages of national minorities in official use. They are: Law on National Councils of National Minorities, Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, Law on the Official Use of Languages and Scripts, Regulation on the procedure of the allocation of resources from the budget fund for a national minority and Rulebook on the manner of entry in and keeping the Register of national councils, available in Albanian. Besides, during the electoral cycle for the election of the members of national councils of national minorities, which were held in November 2018, the following laws and bylaws were translated into the Albanian language: Law on the Election of Members of Parliament; Time schedule for conducting electoral actions in the procedure of direct elections for the members of national councils of national minorities, called for 4 November 2018; Rules on the work of polling committees for the implementation of elections for the members of national councils of national minorities; Instruction for conducting direct elections for members of national councils of national minorities.

Article 10

paragraph 1 a (iv)

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia **in** Article 79 guarantees, *inter alia*, to the members of national minorities the right to use of their language and script, which also relates to submitting oral and written applications in their languages, thus also in Albanian. Moreover, the Constitution prescribes in Article 199 paragraph 1 that everyone shall have the right to use his/her language in the proceedings before the state body or organisation performing public powers, when his/her right or duty is decided on.

The constitutional provisions, in the context of the obligation of the Republic of Serbia to ensure that the ones using minority languages may submit oral or written applications in these languages, thus also in Albanian, in the legal system of the Republic of Serbia are implemented by legal solutions included in the Law on the Official Use of Languages and Scripts and the Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities. According to Article 11 paragraphs 10 and 11 of the Law on the Official Use of Languages and Scripts, the members of national minorities, whose share in the total population of the Republic of Serbia is no less than 2% based on the latest census, may address the Republic authorities and receive a reply thereof in their own language (paragraph 10), while the members of national minorities, whose share in the total population of the Republic of Serbia does not reach 2% based on the latest census, may address the Republic authorities in their own language and are entitled to receive a reply in the same language through the local self-government unit, in which the language of the respective national minority is in official use, whereas the local self-government unit shall provide the translation and bear the translation costs of the application filed to the Republic authority and

reply thereof (paragraph 11). The same provisions are included in the Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities.

Implementing measures in practice

According to data of competent authorities, in the reporting period there were no cases of making oral and filing written applications to the Republic authorities in Albanian, or their local branches in administrative areas of the country, in which the number of its inhabitants using the Albanian language justifies the measures mentioned in this Article.

paragraph 1 a (v)

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia in Article 79 guarantees, *inter alia*, to the members of national minorities to have proceedings also conducted in their languages before state bodies, organisations with delegated public powers. The Law on General Administrative Procedure⁵⁶ prescribes that these proceedings are also conducted in the language and with the use of script of a national minority in the areas in which the language of a national minority is in official use, in accordance with law, which also relates to valid submission of documents in such proceedings in Albanian.

Implementing measures in practice

According to data of competent authorities, **in** the reporting period there were no cases of submission of documents to the Republic authorities in Albanian, or their local branches in administrative areas of the country, in which the number of its inhabitants using the Albanian language justifies the measures mentioned **in** this Article.

paragraph 1 c

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

Bearing in mind the mentioned legal solutions presented within the implementing measures in policy and legislation with regard to paragraph 1 a of the Charter, it is clear that the legal system of the Republic of Serbia enables to state administration authorities and their local branches in administrative areas of the country, in which the number of its inhabitants using the Albanian language justifies the measures mentioned in this Article, to draft documents in Albanian.

⁵⁶ Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia, Nos. 18/2016 and 95/2018-authentic interpretation

Implementing measures in practice

According to data of competent authorities, in the reporting period there were no cases of drafting documents in Albanian by state administration authorities or their local branches in administrative areas of the country, in which the number of its inhabitants using the Albanian language justifies the measures mentioned in this Article.

paragraph 2 b

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

Enabling speakers of minority languages, thus also in Albanian, to submit written or oral applications in these languages to the local and regional authorities is implemented in the legal system of the Republic of Serbia by appropriate provisions of the Law on General Administrative Procedure, Law on the Official Use of Languages and Scripts and the Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, which foresee conducting of administrative procedures in minority languages, as well as submission of applications in minority languages (see the previous sections of the Report).

Implementing measures in practice

The Municipalities of Bujanovac and Medveda, in which Albanian is in official use, in their supplements for drafting this Report did not indicate accurate data on the number of written or oral applications submitted to local authorities in the Albanian language, since such records are not kept; however, in order to illustrate the possibilities of application submission and written or oral addressing of local authorities in Albanian, data on the number of administrative procedures, fully conducted in the reporting period in Albanian, as well as on the number of administrative procedures conducted in Serbian, but in which the parties used Albanian, shown in the table below, could be stated. We would like to draw attention to the fact that the Municipality of Presevo, where the largest number of members of the Albanian minority live, and in which political representatives of the Albanian minority are in power, did not send its supplement for the State report.

*Number of administrative procedures which were fully conducted in the reporting period
in Albanian in the Municipality of Bujanovac*

2019	2020	2021	until June 2022
612	901	923	286

Number of administrative procedures conducted in Serbian in which the parties used Albanian

	2019	2020	2021	until June 2022
Municipality of Bujanovac	75	182	201	34
Municipality of Medveda	5	6	12	7

paragraph 2 c

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

Bearing in mind that the Republic of Serbia emphasised in its ratification instrument that the term "territory in which regional or minority languages are used" shall relate to areas in which regional or minority languages are in official use in accordance with national legislation, it is clear that the undertaking concerning the publication by regional authorities their official documents in their minority languages, in present circumstance, does not relate to Albanian.

paragraph 2 d

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia prescribes in Article 196 paragraph 3 that statutes and general acts of local self-government units shall be published in local official journals. In areas where languages of national minorities are in official use, the local official journals shall be published in these languages as well. Moreover, according to the Regulation on detailed conditions for the creation and holding web presentations of state authorities⁵⁷, governing the creation and holding of web presentations of state authorities and organisations, bodies and organisations of the provincial autonomy, bodies and organisations of the local self-government units, institutions, public enterprises, special bodies, through which regulatory function of legal and natural persons to whom public powers are entrusted is implemented, the mentioned entities are obliged to create a web presentation in the language and script which are in official use, in accordance with the regulation governing official use of languages and scripts. Furthermore, according to the Instruction for creating and publishing information booklets⁵⁸ relating to state authorities, bodies of territorial autonomy, local self-government bodies and organisations to whom public powers are entrusted, the mentioned entities shall develop information booklets in the languages of national minorities in official use in the territory including their seat. The information booklet of a national minority shall be published in the version of the web presentation made in the language of this national minority. If there is no version of web presentation in the language of a national minority, the information booklet made in the language of a national minority shall be published in the Serbian version of the web presentation.

Implementing measures in practice

Statutes of the Municipalities Bujanovac, Medveda and Presevo prescribe that Albanian is in official use. Furthermore, the mentioned municipalities have their web presentations in Albanian.⁵⁹

Acts of these local self-government units are published in Albanian in the *Official Gazette of the City of Leskovac* (Municipality of Medveda)⁶⁰, *Official Gazette of the Municipality*

⁵¹ *Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia*, No. 104/2018

⁵⁸ *Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia*, Nos. 68/2010 and 10/2022-other instruction

⁵⁹ Bujanovac - <https://bujanovac.rs/sa/>; Medveda - <https://www.medvedja.ls.gov.rs/sg/>; Presevo - <https://presevo.rs/>.

⁶⁰ www.gradleskovac.org/index.php/lokalna-samouprava/skupstina-grada/sluzbeni-glasnik

of Bujanovac (Municipality of Bujanovac)⁶¹ and *Official Gazette of the Municipality of Presevo* (Municipality of Presevo).⁶²

paragraph 2 g

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia guarantees in Article 79, *inter alia*, to members of national minorities to use their own language in areas where they make a significant majority of population, the right to education in their languages in public institutions and institutions of autonomous provinces, traditional local names, names of streets, settlements and topographic names also written in their languages. The Law on National Councils of National Minorities in Article 22 prescribes that a national council shall determine the traditional names of local self-government units, settlements and other geographical terms in the language of a national minority if this language is in official use in the territory of the local self-government unit or settlement; and that the names determined by a national council shall become officially used terms together with the Serbian names and shall be published in the *Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia*; and in case of national councils with the headquarter on the territory of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, in the *Official Gazette of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina*. Furthermore, these names shall be also published in a local official gazette.

Implementing measures in practice

In the Decision on determining traditional names of settlements in the Albanian language and script for the Municipalities of Presevo, Bujanovac and Medveda⁶³, traditional names of settlements were determined in Albanian, of which the Committee of Experts was informed in detail in the previous state reports.

paragraph 4 c

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

Effective measures aimed at making progress with regard to representation of national minorities and speakers of minority languages in public administration are foreseen in a number of laws, and their implementation enables, *inter alia*, to meet the requirements of the employees in public services having knowledge of a minority language to be engaged in the territories where these languages are used. Beside the Law on Employees in Autonomous Provinces and Local Self-government Units,⁶⁴ which foresees taking care of the knowledge of languages and scripts of national minorities, of which the Committee of Experts was informed in previous state reports, new general legal acts were adopted in the reporting period.

⁶¹ <https://bujanovac.rs>

⁶² <https://presevo.rs/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Gazeta-zvrtare-Sluzbeni-glasnik-br.-6-2022.pdf>

⁶³ *Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia*, No. 118/2012

⁶⁴ *Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia*, Nos. 21/2016, 113/2017, 95/2018 and 113/2017 - other law

By amendments to the Law on Civil Servants⁶⁵, which started to apply as of 1 January 2019, Article 9 of this Law, which prescribes that during the employment in state authorities, care shall be taken of national composition, reflects, *inter alia*, to the fullest extent possible the population structure, was elaborated. Namely, the amendments of Article 55 of the Law prescribe that if a vacancy is filled in a state authority where a special requirement is knowledge of language and script of a national minority, the job advertisement shall particularly mention this requirement, as well as possible written knowledge test. Besides, Article 57 prescribes that in case of equally qualified candidates, during the selection of candidates from a list, priority shall have the candidate, member of a national minority. Namely, the manager is obliged to employ within 15 days from the date of receipt of the list of candidates, the candidate who with the best results met the selection criteria (paragraph 2 of this Article), while paragraph 3 of this Article prescribes that the manager of the authority when passing the ruling referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article, shall give priority to an equally qualified candidate, member of a national minority.

With the aim of implementing this Law, the Government of the Republic of Serbia adopted a Regulation on internal and external job postings in state authorities⁶⁶ governing in detail the manner of giving priority to members of national minorities in the job posting process in all state authorities. Namely, this regulation prescribes that if there is a need for the employment of a member of a national minority, which is insufficiently represented among the employees, in the job advertisement shall be particularly stated that the members of this national minority have priority on the list of candidates in relation to other candidates with whom they have achieved the same result in the job posting process. The need for employment of a member of a certain national minority comes from the ratio of the number of employees who have declared themselves members of a certain national minority according to data from the Register of employees in public administration, in accordance with law, and their representation in the population on the territory of a local self-government unit, in which the seat of the state authority, i.e. local branch of the state authority, in which the vacancy is filled according to the results of the last census, under the condition that 30% of the employed in the state authority, i.e. local branch of the state authority, have declared their national origin.

Furthermore, this regulation prescribes that if in the job advertisement it is mentioned that there is a need for employment of members of national minorities, which are insufficiently represented among the employees, the first additional criterium for ranking candidates who have the same number of marks on the selection list, is that he/she is a member of a national minority, which means the candidate who voluntarily declared his/her belonging to a national minority in the application. If several candidates who have the same number of marks belong to a national minority, the priority on the shortlist in relation to other equally evaluated candidates, members of a national minority, has the candidate with more marks for evaluated behavioural competencies (second additional criterium), and in case of scoring equal marks score when it comes to behavioural competencies, the priority has the candidate who has scored more marks at the interview with the commission (third additional criterium), while in case of scoring equal marks at the interview with the commission, the priority has the candidate with more marks scored at special functional competencies (fourth additional criterium).

⁶⁵ *Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia*, Nos. 79/2005, 81/2005 - corr., 83/2005- corr., 64/2007, 67/2007 - corr., 116/2008, 104/2009, 99/2014, 94/2017, 95/2018 and 157/2020

⁶⁶ *Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia*, Nos. 2/2019 and 67/2021

The Law on Public Agencies⁶⁷ also prescribes affirmative measures for the employment of the members of national minorities, i.e. it prescribes that if a vacancy is filled in a state authority where a special requirement is knowledge of language and script of a national minority, the job advertisement shall particularly mention this requirement, as well as possible written knowledge test. Furthermore, it is prescribed that if a vacancy, for which it is foreseen by rulebook on internal organisation and systematisation of job positions as a special requirement the knowledge of language and script of a national minority, is filled, in the job advertisement this requirement is particularly mentioned, as well as possible written knowledge test. Furthermore, it is prescribed that in the selection procedure, priority shall be given to an equally qualified candidate, member of a not sufficiently represented national minority, who meets the selection criteria with the same best score with the other candidate, with the aim of achieving appropriate representation of the members of national minorities and full equality among the members of a national minority and citizens belonging to the majority, if the priority prerequisites foreseen by this Law are met.

The Law on Employees in Public Services⁶⁸ prescribes in Article 10 paragraph 3 that in order to achieve appropriate representation of the members of national minorities, when employing in public services, priority shall be given to equally qualified candidates, members of national minorities. This provision was elaborated first of all by the solution in Article 52, according to which it is particularly mentioned in the job announcement that a member of a national minority has a priority in the selection in case of equal scores of qualified candidates, if the members of a national minority are insufficiently represented among the employees. The provisions of the same Article stipulate that representation of the members of a certain national minority is considered to be insufficient if it is not proportional to the percentage of their share in the population on the territory of the local self-government unit in which the seat of the public service, i.e. its organisational unit is found, in accordance with the results of the last census, under the condition that at least 30% of the employees in the seat of the public service, i.e. its organisational unit, have declared their belonging to the national minority, according to data from the Register of employees in public administration, in accordance with the Law. The staff selection commission, when making the decision on the candidate selection, shall give priority to equally qualified candidates, members of national minorities, with the aim of reaching appropriate representation of the members of national minorities and full equality among the members of a national minority and citizens belonging to the majority. Of importance for the employment of the members of national minorities in public services are also provisions of the Law relating to the knowledge of languages and scripts of national minorities in official use. Namely, according to Article 30 of the Law, the rulebook on organisation and systematisation of public service tasks also determines, *inter alia*, job positions for which there is a special requirement concerning knowledge of languages and scripts of national minorities in the official use on the territory of a local self-government unit, where the seat of the public service, i.e. its organisational unit is found. Furthermore, such job vacancies may be filled only by persons with the knowledge of language and script of a national minority in the official use. If job advertisement is published by a public service found on the territory of the local self-government unit, in which the language of a national minority is in official use, notification on the job

⁶⁷ Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia, Nos. 18/2005, 81/2005 - corr. and 47/2018

⁶⁸ Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia, Nos. 113/2017, 95/2018, 86/2019, 157/2020 and 123/2021

advertisement shall be also published in a local or intermunicipal newspaper published in this language.

For determining data on the representation of national minorities and speakers of minority languages in public administration, it is important to point out that by the appropriate amendments to law, conditions for the data collection have been created. Namely, the Law on the Central Register of Compulsory Social Insurance⁶⁹ prescribes that the Central Register of Compulsory Social Insurance shall take over the tasks of keeping the Register of the employees, selected, designated, appointed and engaged persons with the beneficiaries of public funds, in which, *inter alia*, in accordance with the applicable regulations, data on national origin, language in which primary school was completed and the language in which secondary school was completed, are entered, in accordance with voluntary declaration prescribed under the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia. The amendments to the Law on Civil Servants, which started to apply as of 1 January 2019, foresee that in the Central Human Resources Records, according to the principle of voluntary declaration, data on national origin as well as language in which, primary, secondary and higher education were acquired, are kept. Namely, the Law on Civil Servants prescribes in Article 159 that the Central Human Resources Records serve for **HR** management and other needs in the sphere of employment relations, and that the Central Human Resources Records on civil servants and employees in all state authorities are kept by the Human Resources Management Service. Article 160 of this Law prescribes that data on civil servants and employees, relating, *inter alia*, to national origin, if a civil servant or employee has voluntarily declared about this data, as well as the language in which primary, secondary and higher education were completed, are entered. Article 161 paragraph 6 prescribes that the Human Resources Management Service may process data entered *in* the Central Human Resources Records with the purpose of performing tasks within its competence and in accordance with the law governing the protection of personal data.

Implementing measures in practice

In the Rulebook on internal organisation and systematisation of job positions in the Municipality of Bujanovac, descriptions of all job positions are also in the Albanian language, and in the municipality administration there is a large number of speakers of the Albanian language. The Rulebook on the systematisation of job positions in the Municipality of Medveda foresees knowledge of Albanian as a special requirement for performing tasks for three job positions, and these job positions were filled. On the other hand, in the past period three more members of the Albanian national minority were engaged on other grounds. Although the Municipality of Presevo did not submit its supplement for the development of this Report, the vast majority of employees in the municipality administration are speakers of the Albanian language, which is the result of the national and language composition of the population.

As an activity for the improvement of the administration capacity to perform its tasks related to consistent application of the Law on the Official Use of Languages and provisions of the Statute of the Municipality of Medveda, a Special Professional Development Programme was implemented, and one of the trainings for the municipal officers was an Albanian language course completed by officers to whom the knowledge of Albanian would be useful in their work (Head of Administration, Head of the General Administration Department, Internal Auditor of

⁶⁹ *Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia*, Nos. 95/2018 and 91/2019

the Municipality of Medveda, Deputy President of the Municipality, Registrar of the Medveda registration district, Registrar of the Sijarinska Banja registration district and Front Office Officer).

paragraph 5

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia in Article 79 guarantees, *inter alia*, to the members of national minorities the right to use of their name and family name in their language. The Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities foresees in Article 9 that members of national minorities shall have the right to freely choose and use their own personal names and names of their children, as well as to have such personal names entered in all public documents, official records and collection of personal data in accordance with the language and orthography of the members of national minorities concerned (paragraph 1), which shall not preclude parallel entry of names in accordance with the Serbian language and orthography (paragraph 2).

Implementing measures in practice

With the aim of facilitating the implementation of regulations governing the manner of entry of names and family names of the citizens from the Albanian community, the Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-Government, in cooperation with the OSCE Mission to the Republic of Serbia and the National Council of the Albanian National Minority, developed at the end of 2019 a Catalogue of most frequent Albanian names and family names with transcription in the Serbian language and Cyrillic script. The Catalogue was made out of the need to improve the rights of the speakers of Albanian and is intended for the employees in state authorities and public services. The Catalogue contains 3,664 units, of which 3,134 names and 530 family names. All data were collected in field in cooperation with the registry offices in Nis, Vranje, Leskovac, Bujanovac, Medveda and Presevo. Beside the accurate printout of names and family names in the Albanian script, the Catalogue offers for the first time a standardised printout of names and family names in the Serbian language and Cyrillic script.

In the reporting period, in the registry office of the Municipality of Bujanovac there was only one regular entry in the registry of births in the Albanian language in 2022. Other entries, i.e. transcripts in the registries of birth were performed pursuant to foreign birth certificates. With regard to the entry of personal names in Albanian in other registries, there were 98 entries in 2019, 74 entries in 2020, 110 entries in 2021, and 43 entries until the middle of 2022.

Besides, in the registry office of the City of Zrenjanin, there were two entries in the registry of birth in the Albanian language in 2022.

Article 11

paragraph 1 a (iii)

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The provisions enabling to broadcasters to offer content in minority languages, in the legal system of the Republic of Serbia, are included in the Public Information and Media Law, Law on Electronic Media and the Law on the Public Service Media.⁷⁰

The Public Information and Media Law foresees in Article 13 that with the aim of enabling exercise of rights of the national minorities to information in their own language and fostering own culture and identity, the Republic of Serbia, autonomous province, i.e. local self- government unit shall provide a portion of the funds through co-financing, or other conditions for the work of media which publish information in the languages of national minorities, through the body competent for public information. Article 15 of this Law prescribes, *inter alia*, that public interest in the area of public information is truthful, unbiased, timely and complete information in the mother tongue of the citizens of the Republic of Serbia, members of national minorities.

The Law on Electronic Media prescribes in Article 69 that the obligation of the media service provider to publish programme content in the Serbian language, or to ensure that programme content produced in foreign languages is translated into Serbian, does not relate to media service providers who publish programme content intended for national minorities, as well as to the programme content of the public service media providers, which meet the needs of national minorities with regard to information in their own language. According to Article 70 paragraph 3 of this Law, a media service provider whose programme content is intended for national minorities, is obliged to broadcast of the total annual time of broadcast programme content in the language of a national minority, at least 25% of programme content in own production.

The Law on the Public Service Media foresees in Article 7 that public interest pursued by the public service media, *inter alia*, includes meeting the needs of citizens with regard to programme content which ensures maintaining and expressing cultural identity of national minorities, taking care of that national minorities watch certain programme wholeness in their mother tongue and script as well. In pursuing public interest, a public service media is obliged, according to Article 8 of the Law, to also observe linguistic and speech standards in the right proportion of national minorities in whose territory the programme is broadcast. Article 9 of this Law foresees that the use of the Serbian language is not mandatory in the programme intended for members of national minorities, although these programmes may have subtitles in Serbian.

Implementing measures in practice

Bearing in mind that the legislation of the Republic of Serbia includes appropriate provisions, we would like to point out that data on their application practice are found in the sections to follow. We would also like to note that the mentioned provisions are applied in practice through the competition co-financing.

In the competitions for co-financing projects of media content productions in the languages of national minorities, carried out through the relevant ministry, in the reporting period a total number of 25 projects of the Albanian national minority were supported. The table below shows data on the amount of approved funds and the number of supported projects.

⁷⁰ Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia, Nos. 83/2014, 103/2015, 108/2016, 161/2020 and 129/2021

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Albanians	3,217,400.00 (6)	3,300,000.00 (6)	3,700,000.00 (6)	3,930,000.00 (7)

The production of media content in minority languages is also co-financed by the Ministry of Information and Culture through its other announced and carried out competitions. According to available data for 2019 and 2020, in other competitions of this Ministry, 6 projects in the Albanian language in the amount of RSD 4,764,000.00 were supported.

The Provincial Secretariat competent for information supported in the competition for financing media content production projects in 2020, one project in Albanian in the amount of RSD 150,000.00.

Also, the local self-government units announce annual competitions for the allocation of budget funds for the media content production of importance for a particular local self-government unit. The table below shows, according to available data, overview of local self-government units which financed projects in Albanian and the amount of the allocated funds.

LSGU	2019	2020	2021	2022
Bujanovac	For information in Albanian, RSD 3,890,000.00 was allocated for 16 projects (television, radio, websites, newspapers and magazines)	There were no competitions	For information in Albanian, RSD 4,500,000.00 was allocated for 16 projects (television, radio, websites, newspapers and magazines)	
Medveda	I. Centre for Democracy and Education - <i>Dolina</i> (co-financing of the project <i>The Young</i>)- RSD 50,000.00; 2. Radio Medveda d.o.o. (media content in Serbian and Albanian) - RSD 2,400,000.00;	Radio Medveda d.o.o. (media content in Serbian and Albanian)- RSD 2,800,000.00	1. Centre for Democracy and Education - <i>Dolina</i> (co-financing of the project <i>We Care Together Medveaa</i>)- RSD 50,000.00; 2. Radio Medveda d.o.o. (media content in Serbian and Albanian) - RSD 1 700,000.00;	Radio Medveda d.o.o. (media content in Serbian and Albanian) - RSD 2,000,000.00

paragraph 1 b (ii)

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The undertaking of the Republic of Serbia to encourage or facilitate regular broadcast of radio programmes in minority languages, was met through appropriate provisions of the media legislation presented within the section including implementing measures in policy and legislation in connection with paragraph 1 a (iii), and particularly through the provision which foresees that the Republic of Serbia, autonomous province, i.e. local self-government unit, with the aim of enabling exercise of rights of national minorities to information in own language and

fostering own culture and identity, shall provide a portion of the funds through co-financing or other conditions for the work of media publishing information in the languages of national minorities.

Implementing measures in practice

Broadcast of programmes in Albanian on Radio Belgrade 1 started on 2 October 2018 within the Editorial Board of the Programmes in languages of national minorities. The programme in Albanian is realised in the form of five-minute news *Lajmet*, five days a week (Monday-Friday), at 22:20 h. These radio broadcasts are realised as external production.

Radio programme in Albanian is broadcast on RTV Vojvodina. The table below shows data on the number of minutes and type of broadcast radio programme in the reporting period.

RTV - Radio programme in Albanian

	2019	2020	2021	until 30 June 2022
News shows	1,560	1,560	1,560	780
Special shows	0	0	0	0
Sport shows	0	0	0	0
Educational shows	0	0	0	0
Musical shows	0	0	0	0
Culture and Science	0	0	0	0
Entertainment shows	0	0	0	0
Fiction/drama shows	0	0	0	0
Total broadcast	1,560	1,560	1,560	780

According to Independent research data, except on public service media, radio programme in Albanian is broadcast in the media mentioned in the table below as well. Within the column Primary language are media primarily informing in Albanian, while within the column Secondary language are media where Albanian is a secondary language.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
Radio Bujanovac		Radio	Serbian
	Radio Medveda	Radio	Serbian
Radio Presevo		Radio	Serbian

paragraph 1 c (ii)

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The undertaking to encourage or facilitate regular broadcast of television programmes in minority languages, the Republic of Serbia has implemented through the appropriate provisions of the media legislation presented within the section on implementing measures in policy and legislation in connection with paragraph 1 a (iii), and particularly through a provision which foresees that with the aim of enabling exercise of rights of national minorities to information in own language and fostering own culture and identity, the Republic of Serbia, autonomous

province, i.e. local self-government unit, shall provide a portion of the funds through co- financing, or other conditions for the work of media which publish information in the languages of national minorities.

Implementing measures in practice

The television programme in Albanian is regularly broadcast on the Public Service Media RTS. The table below shows data on the broadcast programme.

RT.S- TV programme in Albanian

Group of basic types of shows according to the REM classification	2019		2020		2021		until 30 April 2022	
	Number of shows	Minutes	Number of shows	Minutes	Number of shows	Minutes	Number of shows	Minutes
Information programme	675	4,997	670	4,829	664	4,722	225	1,662
Children's programme and programme for teenagers					1	15		

Independent research data on broadcasting television programme, beside on the Public Service Media, are shown on the table below.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
TV Bujanovac		TV	Serbian
TV Pre evo		TV	Serbian
TV Aldi, Pre evo		TV	
TV Spekt3, Bujanovac		TV	
	TV Info plus, Vranje	Cable TV	Serbian

paragraph 1 d

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The undertaking to encourage or facilitate the production and distribution of audio or audiovisual works in minority languages, the Republic of Serbia has implemented through appropriate provisions of the media legislation presented within the section on implementing measures in policy and legislation in connection with paragraph 1 a (iii), and particularly through the provision which foresees that with the aim of enabling exercise of rights of national minorities to information in own language and fostering own culture and identity, the Republic of Serbia, autonomous province, i.e. local self-government unit, shall provide a portion of the funds through co-financing, or other conditions for the work of media which publish information in the languages of national minorities.

Implementing measures in practice

Beside the radio and TV programmes, the production and distribution of audio and audiovisual works in Albanian are also carried out through web portals. The table below shows the Independent research data on web portals in Albanian.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
www.rtvpresheva.com		Web portal	
www.presheva.com		Web TV portal	Serbian
luginalajm.com		Web portal	
spektri.tv		Web portal	
preshevaobserver.com		Web portal	
www.hanapress.net		Web portal	
ministrialajmeve.com		Web portal	
Titulli.com		Web portal	
Preshevajone.com		Web portal	
Bujanoci.net		Web portal	
Fonline.com		Web portal	
Luginapress.com		Web portal	
Preshevapress.com		Web portal	
Presheva.al		Web portal	
Rtvaldi.com		Web portal	
	Bujanovacke.co.rs	Web portal	Serbian

paragraph 1 e (i)

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The undertaking to encourage or facilitate the production and distribution of audio or audiovisual works in minority languages, the Republic of Serbia has implemented through appropriate provisions of the media legislation presented within the section on implementing measures in policy and legislation in connection with paragraph 1 a (iii), and particularly through the provision which foresees that with the aim of enabling exercise of rights of national minorities to information in own language and fostering own culture and identity, the Republic of Serbia, autonomous province, i.e. local self-government unit, shall provide a portion of the funds through co-financing, or other conditions for the work of media which publish information in the languages of national minorities.

Implementing measures in practice

According to the Independent research data, journal *Perspektiva* is published in Albanian, while the funds are provided through competitions of the Municipality of Bujanovac and the relevant ministry.

paragraph 1 f (ii)

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The undertaking of applying financial support for audiovisual production in minority languages as well, in the legal system of the Republic of Serbia has been implemented through appropriate provisions of the media legislation presented within the section on implementing measures in policy and legislation in connection with paragraph 1 a (iii), and particularly through the provision which foresees that with the aim of enabling exercise of rights of national minorities to information in own language and fostering own culture and identity, the Republic of Serbia, autonomous province, i.e. local self-government unit, shall provide a portion of the funds through co-financing, or other conditions for the work of media which publish information in the languages of national minorities.

Implementing measures in practice

Data on co-financing through competitions are presented in the part of the Report on paragraph 1 a (iii).

paragraph 2

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The freedom of reception and retransmission is a special achievement of the European media law and is incorporated in the legal system of the Republic of Serbia in accordance with Article 12, paragraph 2 of the Charter. Article 46 of the Law on Electronic Media guarantees, *inter alia*, the freedom of reception and retransmission of media services from other countries, which is in the Republic of Serbia guaranteed through ratified international treaties. This primarily relates to the European Convention on Transfrontier Television of the Council of Europe⁷¹, but also other international treaties in the area of human and minority rights to which the Republic of Serbia acceded. Moreover, since the Republic of Serbia is a candidate for membership in the European Union and signatory of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement⁷², its regulations in the area of electronic media must be aligned with the European Union law, therefore with the Audiovisual Media Services Directive also guaranteeing the freedom of reception and retransmission of programmes of TV stations from Member States of the European Union.

Implementing measures in practice

As already mentioned, TV programmes, for which a competent authority in a Member State of the European Union or a State Party to the European Convention on Transfrontier Television, issued a broadcasting license may be freely retransmitted in the territory of the Republic of Serbia. In practice, it means that it is not possible to apply for a license of the

⁷¹Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia - International Treaties, No. 42/2009

⁷²Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia - International Treaties, No. 83/2008

Republic of Serbia, i.e. require stop of the retransmission of the programme because such license has not been issued. Beside the mentioned, it is essential to point out that Radio Television of Vojvodina established a Media Material Exchange Service⁷³ with the intention to initiate cooperation of the public service media of countries in the Danube region in terms of exchange of content, meaning the possibility to place the audiovisual content on the mentioned portal, including also content of radio and TV programmes broadcast in minority languages.

paragraph 3

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The undertaking to ensure that the interests of the users of regional or minority languages are represented and taken into account in the media sphere is implemented in the legal system of the Republic of Serbia through a number of legal provisions.

The Public Information and Media Law foresees that for the projects which are submitted for the competition announced for raising quality of information for the members of national minorities, obtaining an opinion of appropriate national council of a national minority is mandatory (Article 24 paragraph 2).

According to Article 9 of the Law on Electronic Media, national councils of national minorities have the authorisation and duty to propose two candidates for the members of the Council of the Regulatory Body (Regulator), who decides on all issues in the scope of work of the Regulatory Body⁷⁴. The Law on National Councils of National Minorities in Article 20 foresees that the proposal of two candidates of national councils is obtained by a joint agreement of the national councils, and the National Assembly, in its plenary session, shall elect one candidate for a member in the Council of the Regulatory Body for Electronic Media, by voting.

⁷³ *Danube Media Network*, also available in English at <https://dmn.rtv.rs/en/media>

⁷⁴ The Regulator shall: 1) determine the Development Strategy Proposal for radio and audiovisual media services in the Republic of Serbia, and submit it, observing by law foreseen procedure, to the Government for adoption; 2) adopt a Statute; 3) adopt general bylaws foreseen by law; 4) issue licenses for the provision of television and radio linear media services; 5) regulate in detail the procedure, conditions and criteria for the issuance of licenses in accordance with the provisions of this Law, and prescribe the form and content of the license; 6) issue approvals for the provision of media services at request, and regulate in detail the issuance approval procedure; 7) keep the Register of media services and records of the media service providers at request; 8) control the work of media service providers and take care of consistent application of the law provisions; 9) impose measures to the media service providers in accordance with this Law; 10) prescribe rules binding for the media service providers, and particularly the ones ensuring the implementation of the Strategy referred to in point 1 of this paragraph; 11) decide on reports regarding the programme actions of media service providers; 12) determine in detail logical channel numbering; 13) provide opinions to the competent state authorities related to accession to international conventions relating to the area of media service provision; 14) give initiatives for the adoption and amending of laws, other regulations and general acts for efficient performance of tasks from its scope of work; 15) determine detailed rules relating to the programme content with regard to the protection of human dignity and other personal rights, protection of the rights of minors, prohibition of hate speech, etc.; 16) perform analyses of the relevant media market, in cooperation with the body responsible for the protection of competition, in accordance with the methodology prescribed by the act adopted by the Regulator; 17) perform research of the needs of the users of media services and protect their interests; 18) cooperate and coordinate its work with the body competent for electronic communications and the body competent for the protection of competition, as well as other regulatory bodies in accordance with this Law; 19) encourage the preservation and protection of Serbian culture and language, as well as the culture and languages of national minorities; 20) encourage the improvement of the availability of media services to persons with disabilities; 21) encourage the development of creativity in the area of radio, television and other audiovisual media services in the Republic of Serbia; 22) encourage the development of professionalism and higher education degree of the employees in the electronic media in the Republic of Serbia, as well as the improvement of editorial independence and autonomy of media service providers; 23) perform other tasks and duties in accordance with the law.

Article 23 of the Law on the Public Service Media foresees that General Director of the public service media shall, *inter alia*, obtain the opinion of a national council of a national minority on the candidates for the editor in charge of the programme in the language of a national minority before submission of the proposal for his/her appointment to the Management Board. Besides, in the area of public service media, the Law on National Councils of National Minorities also foresees that a national council of a national minority shall give proposals and recommendations to management boards and programme councils of public service media related to programmes in the languages of national minorities, and provide its opinion on the report of the programme council of public services in relation to the programme content in the languages of national minorities.

Implementing measures in practice

At the proposal of national councils of national minorities, the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia elected on 27 December 2019 a member of the Council of the Regulatory Body for Electronic Media. This implementing measure also relates to other languages for which obligations were undertaken.

Article 12

paragraph 1 a

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The undertaking of the Republic of Serbia to encourage forms of expression and initiatives specific for minority languages and to enable different ways of access to works of art produced in these languages, has been implemented in the legal system through provisions of the Law on Culture. Article 76 of this Law prescribes that at least on an annual basis, the ministry responsible for culture, body of the autonomous province, i.e. body of a local self-government unit, shall announce public competitions for gathering proposals for financing or co-financing projects in the field of culture, as well as projects of artistic, i.e. professional and scientific research in the field of culture (paragraph 1). Paragraph 5 of the same Article, according to which a national council of a national minority gives proposals for the allocation of funds granted through a public competition from budgets of the Republic, autonomous province or local self-government units to institutions, events or associations of national minorities in the field of culture, provides that one of the announced competitions is dedicated to cultural creativity of national minorities; while the forms of cultural expression in minority languages and initiatives specific for minority languages, as well as different ways of access to works of art produced in these languages, may be subject of the proposed projects in other competitions as well.

Implementing measures in practice

In competitions in the field of cultural activities of national minorities in the Republic of Serbia implemented by the relevant ministry, in the reporting period a total number of 20

projects of Albanian national minority were supported. The table below shows data on the amount of approved funds and the number of supported projects.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Albanians	480,000.00 (4)	600,000.00 (5)	720,000.00 (6)	800,000.00 (5)

Furthermore, in other competitions carried out by the relevant ministry, significant budget funds were allocated to support projects of the Albanian national minority or multicultural projects in which forms of expression and initiatives related to the Albanian language were encouraged. According to available data for 2019 and 2020, in other competitions of the relevant ministry, two cultural projects of the Albanian national minority in the amount of RSD 400,000.00 were funded.

We would especially like to point to the fact that within the Competition *Cities in Focus*, different ways of access to cultural works and works of art produced in Albanian have also been supported and enabled in a specific manner. Within the competition in 2021, RSD 5,000,000.00 were allocated for the reconstruction of the stage and stage technology in the Cultural Centre *Abdula Krasnica* in Presevo.

As emphasised in the section on implementing measures in policy and legislation, other levels of authorities also carry out competitions for gathering proposals for financing or co-financing projects in the field of culture, as well as projects of artistic, i.e. professional and scientific research in the field of culture. Municipalities of Bujanovac and Presevo, in which members of the Albanian minority traditionally live in a significant number, for example, only in 2020, supported 36 cultural projects of the Albanian national minority in the amount of RSD 5,615,000.00.

paragraph 1 b, c

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

Assisting and developing translation, voice-over and subtitles from minority languages, in order to make available the works made in these languages, as well as into minority languages, with the aim of access of speakers of these languages to works produced in other languages, may be subject of the proposed projects in competitions, when there is a legal obligation to announce these competitions presented in the section on implementing measures in policy and legislation in connection with paragraph 1 a.

Implementing measures in practice

According to the data of the National Library of Serbia, in the reporting period, 82 publications in the Albanian language were published, of which eight publications were translated into Serbian.

In the competitions for co-financing projects in the field of translation of representative works of national literature, carried out by the relevant ministry, in the reporting period, three literary works were translated into Albanian, which the Ministry supported with EUR 4,500.

The Radio Television of Serbia has begun to implement the project of adjusting the internet platform planetaplus.rs for the users of several languages, among which is also Albanian, which means that the national series, fiction and TV films, documentary programme, etc. shall be subtitled into this language and available to its speakers.

paragraph 1 f

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The undertaking of the Republic of Serbia to encourage direct participation by representatives of the users of Albanian in providing facilities and planning cultural activities, has been implemented in the legal system of the Republic of Serbia not only through the provisions prescribing that a national council of a national minority shall give a proposal for the allocation of funds granted through a public competition from the budget of the Republic, autonomous province or local self-government unit, to institutions, events and associations of a national minority in the field of culture, but also through provisions of Articles 5 and 16 of the Law on Culture. According to Article 5 of this Law, national councils of national minorities shall take care of the implementation of the cultural policy of a national minority and, in accordance with the law, participate in the decision-making process or make decisions on their own on certain matters related to their culture, establish cultural institutions and other legal entities in the field of culture. Article 16 prescribes, *inter alia*, that the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia shall elect two members to the National Council for Culture proposed by the national councils of national minorities. The National Council for Culture, according to Article 15 of the Law on Culture, shall be established as an expert and advisory body, for the provision of permanent expert support with the aim to preserve, develop and spread culture.

Implementing measures in practice

The National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia adopted at its session of 26 November 2021 the Proposal for the appointment of 11 members of the National Council for Culture, and among them are also two members from the proposed list of candidates of national councils of national minorities.

In all competitions carried out in the reporting period by the relevant ministry, the National Council of the Albanian National Minority had the possibility to state its proposals on the allocation of funds.

paragraph 2

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

Bearing in mind that all presented provisions of the Law on Culture in sections on the implementing measures in policy and legislation in connection with the previous paragraph relate to the whole territory of the Republic of Serbia, it is clear that the undertaking to approve, encourage and/or provide appropriate cultural activities and facilities in accordance with the previous paragraph and in the territories other than those in which minority languages are traditionally used, are fully implemented in the legal system of the Republic of Serbia.

Implementing measures in practice

In the reporting period, in the territories in which the Albanian language is not traditionally used, according to available data, there were no cases of submitting cultural projects in Albanian.

Article 13

paragraph 1 c

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The undertaking to oppose practices designed to discourage the use of minority languages in connection with economic and social activities, the Republic of Serbia has implemented through a number of legal solutions. We would especially like to point out to the provisions of the Law on Consumer Protection¹⁵, which foresees in Article 12 that before the conclusion of a sales or service contract, the trader shall provide the consumer with the following information in a clear and comprehensible manner, in Serbian or language of a national minority: 1) the main characteristics of the goods or services; 2) the trading name, registration number, registered office address and the phone number; 3) the selling price or, if the nature of the goods/services is such that the selling price cannot be calculated in advance, the manner in which the selling price is to be calculated, as well as all additional postal, freight and delivery charges and the possibility that such additional charges may be charged at the expense of the consumer; 4) the method of payment, the manner and time of delivery, the manner of execution of other contractual obligations; 5) the existence of legal liability for non-conformity of the goods or services with the contract; 6) the manner of the submission of complaints to the trader, in particular the place of receipt and the manner the trader proceeds upon them, as well as terms related to exercising the rights of the consumers on the grounds of conformity; 7) when offering and selling technical goods, the availability of spare parts, consumables, connecting devices and similar parts, technical service, or maintenance and repair service during and after the expiry of the period in which the trader is accountable for non-conformity with the contract, i.e. after the cessation of production or the import of the goods; 8) the conditions for terminating the contract, if the contract is of indeterminate duration or is to be extended automatically; 9) the possibility of out-of-court dispute resolution. Furthermore, depending on the circumstance of a particular case or type of goods/service, before the conclusion of the contract in Serbian or language of a national minority, the trader shall inform the consumer on the following: 1) the duration of the contract; 2) the minimum duration of the contract obligations; 3) the functionality, including applicable technical measures for the protection of digital content; 4) any relevant interoperability of digital content with hardware and software that the trader is aware of or can reasonably be expected to have been aware of; 5) the existence and conditions for after-sales service and warranties. According to Article 158 of the same Law, in the process of out-of-court dispute resolution, Serbian and Cyrillic script shall be in official use, while in the areas in which

¹⁵ Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia, No. 88/ 2021

members of national minorities live, in official use shall be their languages and scripts, in accordance with the Constitution and law.

Implementing measures in practice

In the reporting period there were no case of discouraging the use of any minority language in connection with economic and social activities.

Article 14

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

Beside bilateral Agreements on the Protection of National Minorities concluded with Hungary, Romania, North Macedonia and Croatia, whose provisions are also committed to the improvement of contacts between the users of the same language in the fields of culture, education, information, training and permanent education, the Republic of Serbia also concluded a significant number of Agreements on Cultural and Educational Cooperation with the states in which languages, with the status of languages of national minorities in the Republic of Serbia, are spoken, and whose validity is most often automatically extended until the execution of a new agreement. These Agreements are as follows: The Agreement on Scientific, Educational and Cultural Cooperation between the SPRY and PSR of Albania⁷⁶, The Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Serbia and the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the field of Education, Culture and Sports⁷⁷, The Agreement on Cultural Cooperation between the Government of FPRY and the Government of the PR of Bulgaria⁷⁸, The Agreement on Cooperation in the field of Education, Science, Culture, Youth and Sports between the Council of Ministers of Serbia and Montenegro with the Government of Hungary⁷⁹, The Agreement between the SR Yugoslavia and the Republic of Macedonia in the field of Education, Culture and Sports⁸⁰, The Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Serbia and the Government of the Republic of Macedonia on Cooperation in the field of Education, Science and Technology,⁸¹ The Agreement on Cultural and Scientific Cooperation between the SPRY and the GDR⁸², The Agreement on Cultural Cooperation between the Government of FPRY and PR of Romania⁸³, The Agreement on Cooperation in the field of Education, Culture and Sports between the Federal Government of SR Yugoslavia and the Government of the Slovak Republic⁸⁴, The Agreement on Cooperation in the field of Education, Culture and Sports between the Federal Government of FR of Yugoslavia with the Government of Ukraine⁸⁵, The Agreement between the Federal Government of the FRY and the Government of the Republic of

⁷⁶ *Official Gazette of the SFRY - International Treaties*, No. 11/1990

⁷⁷ *Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia - International Treaties*, No. 6/2011

⁷⁸ Addendum to the *Official Gazette*, No. 12/1957

⁷⁹ *Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia - International Treaties*, No. 38/2009

⁸⁰ *Official Gazette of the FRY - International Treaties*, No. 1/1998

⁸¹ *Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia-International Treaties*, No. 1/2020

⁸² *Official Gazette of the SFRY -International Treaties and other Agreements*, No. 46/1970

⁸³ Addendum to the *Official Gazette*, No. 10/1957

⁸⁴ *Official Gazette of the FRY -International Treaties*, No. 4/1996

⁸⁵ *Official Gazette of the FRY - International Treaties*, No. 4/1996

Croatia in the field of Culture and Education⁸⁶, The Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Serbia and the Government of the Czech Republic on Cooperation in the field of Culture, Education, Science and Sports⁸⁷.

Facilitating and promoting cooperation across borders, and particularly between the regional or local authorities, in the territories in which the same language is used in the identical or similar form, are first of all enabled under Article 181 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, according to which autonomous provinces and local self-government units shall cooperate with the corresponding territorial communities and local self-government units from other countries, within the foreign policy of the Republic of Serbia, observing the territorial integrity and legal system of the Republic of Serbia. Using this right, AP Vojvodina and many other local self-government units concluded agreements with other territorial communities and local self-government units of other states, thus facilitating and improving their cooperation. AP Vojvodina signed a Joint Statement on Cooperation with the Federal State of Styria (2022), Republic of Austria; Protocols on Cooperation with the Tuzla (2014) and the Zenica-Doboj Cantons (2005), Bosnia and Herzegovina; Protocols on Cooperation with the Csongrad County (2013) and Bacs-Kiskun County (2013) and the Letter of Intent with the Jasz-Nagykun-Szolnok County (2011), Hungary; Joint Statements on establishing cooperation with the State of Hessen (2019), Stuttgart District (2019) and State of Baden-Württemberg (2014), FR of Germany; Declaration of Intent on establishing cooperation and developing friendly relationships with the Timi County (2019), Agreement on Cooperation with the Arad County (2018) and Cara-Severin County (2004) and Protocol on Intent for establishing cooperation with the Alba County (2011), Romania; Agreement on Cooperation with the Bratislava Self-governing Region (2011), Trnava Self-governing Region (2004) and Presov Self - Governing Region (2014), Slovak Republic; Agreements on Cooperation with the Zakarpattia Oblast (2013) and Kyiv City State Administration (2006) and Protocol on Intent with the Kirovgrad Region (2011), Ukraine; The Agreement on Cooperation with the Istria County (2006) and Protocol on Mutual Relations with the Vukovar-Srijem County (2002), Republic of Croatia; The Agreement on Cooperation with the Olomouc Region (2003) and Memorandum on Cooperation with the Usti Region (2018), Czech Republic.

As concerns cooperation with local authorities in the territories in which the same language is used in the identical or similar form, the local self-government units in the Republic of Serbia concluded a number of Agreements on Cooperation with foreign partners from the following countries: Republic of Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republic of Bulgaria, Hungary, Republic of North Macedonia, Federal Republic of Germany, Romania, Slovak Republic, Ukraine, Republic of Croatia and Czech Republic. In the Republic of Serbia these local self-government units are as follows: Ada, Apatin, Babusnica, Bae, Backa Palanka, Backa Topola, Backi Petrovac, Becej, Bor, Veliko Gradiste, Vrsac, Golubac, Dimitrovgrad, Zabari, Zitiste, Zajecar, Zrenjanin, Indija, Irig, Kanjiza, Kikinda, Kladovo, Kovacica, Kovin, Kula, Majdanpek, Novi Becej, Novi Pazar, Novi Sad, Pancevo, Petrovac na Mlavi, Pirot, Plandiste, Pozarevac, Senta, Sjenica, Sombor, Sremska Mitrovica, Stara Pazova, Subotica and Temerin.

⁸⁶ *Official Gazette of the FRY-International Treaties*, No. 12/2002

⁸⁷ *Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia - International Treaties*, No. 2/2017

Implementing measures in practice

Beside the Agreements on Scientific, Educational and Cultural Cooperation between the SFRY and PSR of Albania, there is also a Programme of Cultural Cooperation between the Ministry of Culture and Information of the Republic of Serbia and the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Albania for the period 2017-2021. To the Albanian Party Draft Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Culture and Information of the Republic of Serbia and the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Albania on Cooperation in the field of Film Art was submitted at the end of 2021.

Also, certain cultural institutions have signed Agreements on Cooperation with the corresponding institutions in Albania: The Republic Institute for the Protection of Cultural Monuments - Memorandum of Understanding *Cultural Heritage Without Borders - Albania* (2016); The National Theatre in Belgrade and the National Theatre of Opera and Ballet in Tirana (2015); The National Theatre in Belgrade and the National Theatre in Tirana (2006).

The National Library of Serbia exchanges publications with the National Library of Albania in Tirana and the Library of the Academy of Science of the Republic of Albania in Tirana.

At the Summit of the Open Balkan Initiative, held in Ohrid on 7 and 8 June 2022, the Ministry of Culture and Information of the Republic of Serbia, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Albania and the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of North Macedonia concluded a Memorandum of Understanding in the field of culture in the Western Balkans. The goal of the Memorandum is creating conditions for facilitating, expanding and deepening institutional cooperation in the field of culture, and the Parties shall promote regional mobility of artists and professionals and consider the establishment of residential programmes in order to provide to artists and professionals conditions for extended time of stay, use of work space and resources, individually or in groups, in their professional areas.

B. Measures for the implementation of recommendations of the Committee of Experts

a. Take organisational measures to ensure that Albanian speakers can submit oral or written applications in Albanian to local branches of the national authorities.

Bearing in mind the presented amendments to laws which facilitate the employment of speakers of minority languages, it is clear that the additional organisational measures have been taken in order to ensure to speakers of minority languages, including the speakers of Albanian, to submit oral or written applications in Albanian in local branches of the competent state authorities. We would like to point out that, although there are no impediments to submit oral or written applications in minority languages, including in Albanian, so far, the number of such applications submitted to professional services of administrative districts has been negligible. The authorities of the Republic of Serbia are aware of the significance of this recommendation and will also consider in the upcoming period, beside strengthening **HR** capacity, to undertake other organisational measures with the aim of implementing this recommendation.

h. Encourage the local branches of the national authorities to draft documents in Albanian.

Bearing in mind the presented amendments to law which facilitate the employment of speakers of minority languages, it is clear that strengthening the HR capacity has begun in order to encourage local branches of national authorities to draft documents in minority languages, including the Albanian language. We would like to point out that drafting documents by local branches of state authorities is connected with conducting appropriate proceedings in minority languages, including in Albanian, which in the end depends on the decision of the party to the proceedings, whose rights and interests are decided on, that the proceedings are conducted in his/her language. The authorities of the Republic of Serbia are aware of the significance of this recommendation and will also consider in the upcoming period, beside strengthening the HR capacity, to undertake other organisational measures with the aim of implementing this recommendation.

BOSNIAN LANGUAGE

A. Part III

Article 8

paragraph 1 a (iii)

Pre-school educational work in Bosnian was organised in Novi Pazar, Sjenica and Tutin.

School year	Number of self-government units	Number of pre-school institutions	Number of groups	Number of children
2019/2020	3	3	102	1,590
2020/2021	3	3	94	1,305
2021/2022	3	3	90	1,183

For pre-school educational work in Bosnian, according to the Catalogue of textbooks in the languages of national minorities for the school year 2022/2023, 11 textbooks were approved.

paragraph 1 a (iv)

In the territory where Bosnian is used, two pre-school institutions whose founders are other legal or natural persons are registered. These are Pre-school Institution *15th July*, Sjenica, founded by the Board of the Islamic Community of Sjenica and the Private Pre-school Institution *Zvezdica* - Tutin, founded by the Association for Education, Culture and Religious Studies *Sulaymaniyah* - Tutin.

paragraph 1 b (iv)

Complete education in Bosnian is performed in 27 primary schools.

	<i>Number of pupils who attend primary school in Bosnian</i>			
School year	Number of pupils	% of total number of pupils	Number of schools	

2019/2020	11,940	2.06%	27
2020/2021	11,905	2.16%	27
2021/2022	11,241	2.16%	27

Teaching of the Bosnian language with elements of national culture is organised for pupils who do not attend classes in their mother tongue.

Optional subject/programme	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Bosnian with elements of national culture	1,217	2,464	2,853

For primary education in Bosnian, according to the Catalogue of textbooks in the languages of national minorities for the school year 2022/2023, a total of 80 textbooks were approved.

Additional training of teachers, which has been implemented through a system of continuous professional development and participation in various programmes, enables the implementation of assumed undertakings. One of them is the online training "Strengthening the language competences of teachers who teach in eight languages of national minorities" to strengthen the language competences of teachers in primary and secondary education.

mathematics	93
biology	74
history	45
geography	34
physics	67
chemistry	37
general subject competences	608
Total	958

In parallel with the curriculum reform, the Centre for Quality Assurance of the Institutions' Work created General Achievement Standards for the end of compulsory education for the subject Mother Tongue and Literature (2016), then General Standards for the end of general secondary education and secondary vocational education and training for the subject Mother Tongue and Literature (2018), as well as the General Achievement Standards for the Mother Tongue for the end of the first cycle of primary education and training (2020). The appropriate manual for the Bosnian language subject⁸⁸ was published, and in 2020, training sessions were held attended by 285 Bosnian language teachers.

With the aim of improving the quality of education in Bosnian, six advisers - external associates for education in Bosnian in primary and secondary schools were hired by the competent ministry.

paragraph 1 c (iv)

Secondary education in Bosnian takes place in three secondary schools.

⁸⁸ https://ceo.edu.rs/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Prirucnik_bosanski-jezik_Komplet.pdf

Number of pupils who attend secondary school in Bosnian

School year	Number of pupils	% of total number of pupils	Number of schools
2019/2020	3,085	1.26%	3
2020/2021	3,655	1.38%	3
2021/2022	3,619	1.37%	3

Bearing in mind that a smaller number of pupils apply for some secondary school profiles, and with the aim of providing pupils with a greater choice of educational profiles in the languages of national minorities, the formation of classes with a smaller number of pupils than prescribed (less than 15 pupils) is regularly approved.

Total number of classes with less than 15 pupils

Teaching language	School year	Number of classes with less than 15 pupils
Bosnian	2019/20	7
	2020/21	7
	2021/22	7

Despite all the stated data on the number of pupils who attend the entire education in Bosnian in primary and secondary schools and the number of classes with less than 15 pupils, the National Council of the Bosniak National Minority in its supplement to this report states that the conditions for all children of the Bosniak nationality to attend classes have not been provided in the native Bosnian language, as well as that education in the Bosnian language is not provided for groups of less than 15 pupils in certain school institutions where there is a need and interest of pupils and parents.

paragraph 1 d (iv)

The following table lists the vocational areas for Bosnian language secondary schools in the school year 2020/2021, as well as the number of approved places and the number of pupils enrolled in the first grade.

Areas of secondary school profiles in Bosnian for the first grade in the school year 2021/22

Area of work	Number of approved places/number of the enrolled
Economics law and administration	150/150
Electrical engineering	120/109
Health and social protection	120/120
Machine industry and metal processing	120/86
Other personal services	30/30
Agriculture, food production and processing	30/30
Traffic	90/90
Textile and leather industry	150/115
Trade, catering and tourism	90/72

The National Council of the Bosniak National Minority, in its supplement to this report, states that conditions for education in Bosnian of certain vocational profiles are not provided in secondary education, without specifying which profiles are in question.

paragraph 1 e (ii)

At the State University in Novi Pazar, Bosniak culture, history and literature are studied in the study programme Serbian literature and language. Bosniak culture, history and literature are studied within this study programme through the following subjects: Cultural history of Bosniaks - compulsory subject and Serbian and Bosniak national culture in the European context - optional subject (second year), Bosniak literature of the 20th century - compulsory subject (third year) and Old Bosniak literature - optional subject (fifth year).

Number of students enrolled in the Serbian literature study programme

Academic year	Number of students				
	1st year	2nd year	3rd year	4th year	5th year
2019/20	32	46	42	25	26
2020/21	20	46	41	35	17
2021/22	46	44	42	13	20

The State University in Novi Pazar, at the request of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development, as part of the lifelong learning programme, organises training for teaching lessons of Bosnian for subject teachers and professional associates in primary and secondary schools, as well as training for teaching lessons of Bosnian with methodology, for teachers in pre-school institutions and class teachers.

After the training, which includes 24 hours of lectures and 12 hours of exercises and exams, the State University shall issue a certificate recognised by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development, to candidates who successfully fulfil all obligations. From 2016 to 2022, about 700 teachers, professional associates and pre-school teachers from Novi Pazar, Tutin and Sjenica completed this training.

Despite all the data presented, the National Council of the Bosniak National Minority in its supplement to this report states that the conditions for the education of staff for teaching in Bosnian have not been provided.

paragraph 1 f (iii)

In the framework of formal adult education, when enrolling in the syllabus during the reporting period, there were no registered persons for education in Bosnian.

paragraph 1 g

Implementing measures in practice for the implementation of this paragraph are the same for all minority languages and are presented in the part of the report referring to Albanian.

Article 9

paragraph 1 a (ii)

During the reporting period, defendants used Bosnian in criminal proceedings before basic courts.

Basic Court	2019	2020	2021	until June 2022
in Novi Pazar				1
in Prijepolje	12	4	5	2

paragraph 1 a (iii)

In the reporting period, there were no submissions or evidence in Bosnian in criminal proceedings.

paragraph 1 b (ii)

In the reporting period, Bosnian was used in civil litigation in two proceedings before the Basic Court in Novi Pazar.

paragraph 1 c (ii)

In the reporting period, there were no cases in which Bosnian was used.

paragraph 1 d

In the reporting period in the Basic Court in Novi Pazar, court interpreters - translators for the Bosnian language were engaged in three cases. Interpreter's costs for the participants who used Bosnian in one criminal case amounted to RSD 46,000.00, while in two proceedings in civil litigation the interpreter's costs were not awarded.

In the Basic Court in Prijepolje in 2019, there were 12 cases in which interpreters for the Bosnian language were hired, in 2020 there were four, in 2021 there were five, while by the middle of 2022 there were two. Interpreter's costs for participants who used Bosnian amounted to RSD 445,740.00 in 2019, RSD 271,982.00 in 2020, RSD 26,200.00 in 2021, and RSD 18,200.00 in 2022.

paragraph 2 a, b, c

According to the data of the Basic Court in Novi Pazar, in the reporting period, there were no proceedings in which valid documents drawn up in Bosnian were used.

The Basic Court in Prijepolje states that in the reporting period, in a certain number of inheritance proceedings that were conducted in Serbian, there were documents (mainly inheritors' declarations) that were drawn up in the territory of the former republics of the SFRY (Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia), but since their content was clear and understandable for the court, it was not determined in which language they were written.

paragraph 3

Implementing measures in practice for the implementation of this paragraph are the same for all minority languages that are in official use and are presented in the part of the report referring to Albanian, i.e. all the laws and by-laws mentioned in that part of the report have been translated into Bosnian.

Article 10

paragraph 1 a (iv)

According to the data of the competent authorities, in the reporting period there were no cases of oral or written submissions in Bosnian delivered to the republican authorities, nor to their regional units in the administrative areas of the state where the number of its inhabitants who use Bosnian justifies the measures specified in this Article.

paragraph 1 a (v)

According to the data of the competent authorities, in the reporting period there were no cases of submission of documents in Bosnian delivered to the republican authorities, nor to their regional units in the administrative areas of the state where the number of its inhabitants who use Bosnian justifies the measures specified in this Article.

paragraph 1 c

According to the data of the competent authorities, in the reporting period there were no cases of drafting documents in Bosnian by the state administrative authorities, nor by their regional units in the administrative areas of the state where the number of its inhabitants who use Bosnian justifies the measures specified in this Article.

The National Council of the Bosniak National Minority, in connection with paragraphs I a(iv) and I c, in its supplement to this report pointed out that citizens were not given the opportunity to declare the language in which the administrative procedure would be conducted and that translated forms were not provided which are used in the administrative procedure in Bosnian. Despite the position of the National Council presented in its supplement to this report, it was announced on the official website of the National Council of the Bosniak National Minority that the obstacles in the process of issuing personal documents in Bosnian were removed.⁸⁹

⁸⁹

<https://www.bnv.org.rs/objava/OTKLONJENE SMETNJE U POSTUPKU IZDAVANJA LI¼C4%8CNIH DOKUMENATA NA BOSANSKOM JEZIKU>

paragraph 2 b

According to the data from the answers to the questionnaires of the former Office for Human and Minority Rights, which were discussed in more detail in the Introduction of this report, in the city of Novi Pazar in 2019, 10,559 first-instance proceedings were conducted in Bosnian.

The municipality of Sjenica stated in its supplement to this report that in the majority of cases, parties of Bosniak nationality used Bosnian in the administrative procedure, which was not precisely recorded.

In addition to the presented data, the National Council of the Bosniak National Minority, in its supplement to this report, indicates that local self-governments have not provided adequate conditions for conducting administrative procedures in Bosnian.

paragraph 2 c

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

Bearing in mind that the Republic of Serbia has emphasised in its instrument of ratification that the term "territory where regional or minority languages are in use" will refer to areas where regional or minority languages are in official use in accordance with national legislation, it is clear that the obligation for regional authorities to publish their official documents in the respective minority languages does not, in the current circumstances, refer to Bosnian.

paragraph 2 d

The Official Gazette of the Municipality of Sjenica is the "Municipal Official Gazette of Sjenica"¹⁹⁰ which contains a bilingual front page, contents and masthead, while acts of local self-government bodies are published in the Latin script. The "Official Gazette of the Municipality of Tutin" is published in Bosnian⁹¹, the Official Gazette of the City of Novi Pazar is published in the Latin script, while the gazette of the municipality of Prijepolje is published in the Cyrillic and Latin scripts.⁹²

The municipalities of Sjenica and Tutin have websites in Bosnian, while the websites of the city of Novi Pazar and the municipality of Prijepolje are available in Cyrillic and Latin.

Despite these data, the National Council of the Bosniak National Minority in its supplement to this report points out that local gazettes (official gazettes) and decisions in them and other acts of local self-government bodies are not issued and are not published in Bosnian.

paragraph 2 g

Decision on determining the traditional names of local self-government units, settlements and other geographical names in Bosnian in the area of Novi Pazar, Tutin, Sjenica and

⁹⁰ <http://sienica.rs/opstinski-sluzbeni-glasnik/>

⁹¹ <http://www.tutin.rs/dokumenta/sluzbeni-glasnik-opstine-tutin/>

⁹² Novi Pazar: <https://www.novipazar.rs/dokumenti#sluzbeni-list>" Prijepolje: http://www.opstinaprijepolje.rs/OpstinaPrijepolje-Slu%C5%BEbeni-glasnik_220_cir

Prijepolje⁹³ established the traditional names in Bosnian, about which the Committee of Experts was informed in more detail in previous state reports.

paragraph 4 c

The following table shows the available data on the number of people employed in local self-government units who speak Bosnian.

Local self-government unit	Number of employees who speak the language
Zitište	2
Novi Pazar	201
Sjenica	62

Despite the mentioned data obtained from the local self-government units, the National Council of the Bosniak National Minority in its supplement to this report points out that a register is not kept, or rather that there is no record of employees in administrations who know Bosnian.

paragraph 5

The table below contains data on the use of the right to enter a personal name in Bosnian in the register obtained from the municipality of Sjenica. Other local self-government units where a significant number of members of the Bosniak national minority live did not send a supplement to this report.

	Number of registrations of personal names in Bosnian			
	2019	2020	2021	2022
Sjenica	47	64	142	95

In the local self-government units where the statute establishes that Bosnian is also in official use, forms of the register certificates are printed bilingually. According to data from the Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-Government, in 2020, 7,378 register certificates were issued on bilingual, Serbian-Bosnian forms, while in 2021, 1,785 such forms were issued.

Despite the mentioned data received from the relevant ministry, the National Council of the Bosniak National Minority in its supplement to this report points out that bilingual birth, marriage and death certificates are not provided and that they are not issued.

Article 11

paragraph 1 a (iii)

⁹³ *Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia*, No. 5/2010

Bearing in mind that the legislation of the Republic of Serbia contains appropriate provisions, we refer to data on their application in practice contained in the following sections. At this point, we indicate that implementation of the presented provisions in practice is achieved through competition co-financing.

A total of 27 projects of the Bosniak national minority were supported during the competitions for co-financing projects for the production of media content in the languages of national minorities, which are implemented by the relevant ministry in the reporting period. The table below contains data on the amount of approved funds and the number of supported projects.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Bosniaks	4,183,700.00 (8)	2,900,000.00 (6)	3,780,000.00 (7)	3,401,000.00 (6)

The Ministry of Culture and Information also co-finances the production of media content in minority languages in other competitions that it announces and manages. According to the available data for 2019 and 2020, two projects in Bosnian in the amount of RSD 800,000.00 were supported in other competitions of the competent ministry.

Local self-government units also announce annual competitions for the allocation of funds from the budget for the production of media content that is important for a specific local self-government unit. The table below provides, according to the available data, an overview of the local self-government units that financed projects in Bosnian and the amount of allocated funds.

LSGU	2019	2020	2021	2022
Novi Pazar	1. Bosniak community of culture, <i>Preporod</i> - 150,000.00; 2. Cultural centre <i>Zambak (Stecci in Sandzak)</i> - 1,000,000.00;	Bosniak community of culture, <i>Preporod</i> - 150,000.00;	1. El Kelimeh doo Novi Pazar (Islamic cultural heritage in Novi Pazar) - 200,000,00; 2. Cultural centre <i>Zambak (Welcome to Sandzak)</i> - 250,000.00; 3. Free media, Novi Pazar (<i>Da se bolje razumemo i razumjemo</i>) - 280,000,00; 4. Lokalni media plan Novi Pazar (Intangible culture of Bosniaks)- 260,000.00;	

Prijepolje	El Kelimeh doo Novi Pazar (Feature - Cultural treasures of the Muslims of Prijepolje)- 450,000.00			
Tutin	Cultural centre <i>Zambak</i> (Tutin info on SNews)- 400,000.00	1. Cultural centre <i>Zambak</i> (Tutin and Sandzak on the website)- 1,600,000.00; 2. Video production and web design agency <i>Emedia Group</i> , Novi Pazar (Mosaic of Bosniak culture)- 250,000.00	Cultural centre <i>Zambak</i> (SNews, on the side/page of truth)- 1,200,000.00	

paragraph 1 b (ii)

According to data from the Independent Research, radio programme in Bosnian is also broadcast on the media listed in the following table.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
Radio Amaro, Sjenica		Radio	
Radio Novi Pazar		Radio	Serbian
	Radio Sto plus	Radio	Serbian
RefRef radio		Radio	

paragraph 1 c (ii)

According to data from Independent Research, television programme in Bosnian is also broadcast on the media listed in the following table.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
TV Novi Pazar		TV	Serbian
	TV Forum, Prijepolje TV	TV	Serbian
	TV Connect	TV	Serbian
Sandfak TV, Novi Pazar TV		TV	
Sandfak TV network, Tutin		TV	

paragraph 1 d

In addition to radio and TV programmes, production and distribution of audio and audiovisual works in Bosnian are also realised through web portals. The table below contains data from the Independent Research on web portals in Bosnian.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
sandzacke.rs		Web portal	
sandzakpress.net		Web portal	
sandzaknews.rs		Web portal	
www.snews.rs		Web portal	
altv.net		Web portal	

paragraph 1 e (i)

According to the data from the Independent Research, the newspapers listed in the following table are published in Bosnian.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
	<i>The Varoske Novine, Nova Varos</i>	Every several weeks	Serbian
	<i>The Polimije, Prijepolje</i>	Every several weeks	Serbian
<i>The Glas Jslama</i>		biweekly	

paragraph 1 f (ii)

Data on competition co-financing is given in the part of the Report referring to paragraph 1 a(iii).

paragraph 2

Implementing measures in practice for the implementation of this paragraph are the same for all minority languages and are presented in the part of the report referring to Albanian.

Article 12

paragraph 1 a

In competitions in the field of cultural activities of national minorities in the Republic of Serbia conducted by the relevant ministry, a total of 78 projects of the Bosniak national minority were supported in the reporting period. The table below contains data on the amount of approved funds and the number of supported projects.

national minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Bosniaks	2,12,000.00 (18)	2,370,000.00 (19)	2,600,000.00 (21)	2,750,000.00 (20)

Also, in other competitions conducted by the relevant ministry, significant budget funds were allocated to support projects of the Bosniak national minority or multicultural projects in which forms of expression and initiatives related to Bosnian were encouraged. According to the available data for 2019 and 2020, 10 cultural projects of the Bosniak national minority were financed in the amount of RSD 9,429,000.00 in other competitions of the relevant ministry.

As part of the "Cities in Focus" Competition, different ways of accessing cultural and artistic works produced in Bosnian are also specifically supported and enabled. In the reporting period, in this competition seven projects of local self-government units where traditionally and in a significant number of members of the Bosniak national minority live (Novi Pazar, Priboj, Prijepolje, Sjenica, Tutin) were financed in the total amount of RSD 47,500,000.00.

In its supplement to the state report, the municipality of Sjenica states that the Sjenica Municipal Assembly is the founder of two cultural institutions: the Sjenica Cultural Institution and the *Muhamed Abdagit* Library. The municipality of Sjenica continuously supports the work of these institutions by financing various programmes and activities aimed at promoting the use of the Bosnian language. In the reporting period, a number of cultural festivals, theatre performances, literary meetings and promotion of books written in Bosnian were held, and procurement of the library fund in Bosnian continued.

The National Council of the Bosniak National Minority in its supplement to this report states that local self-governments do not undertake effective measures and activities aimed at encouraging different forms of expression, i.e. they do not provide funds for financing activities and manifestations aimed at promoting the use of Bosnian.

paragraph 1 b, c

Bearing in mind that the content of cultural works produced in both Bosnian and Serbian languages, without translation and subtitles, can be familiar to speakers of those languages, there were no special translations, dubbing and subtitling of those works in the reporting period. On the other hand, three literary works written in Bosnian were translated into English and Turkish during the reporting period in competitions for co-financing projects in the field of translation of representative works of domestic literature conducted by the relevant ministry in the reporting period, which the ministry supported with funds in the amount of EUR 2,000.

paragraph 1 f

The National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia adopted at its session on 26 November 2021, the Proposal on the appointment of 11 members of the National Council for Culture, including two members from the list of candidates proposed by the national councils of national minorities.

In all competitions conducted by the relevant ministry in the reporting period, the National Council of the Bosniak National Minority had the opportunity to present its proposals on the distribution of funds.

In its supplement to this report, the municipality of Sjenica states that representatives of the National Council of the Bosniak National Minority actively participate in the planning of cultural activities at the level of this municipality.

paragraph 2

According to available data, there were no cases of submission of cultural projects in Bosnian in the reporting period in territories where the Bosnian language is not traditionally used.

Article 14

The Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Serbia and the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the field of education, culture and sports was signed in 2011.

Institutional cooperation with institutions from Bosnia and Herzegovina was established on the basis of an agreement/protocol on cooperation between the Ethnographic Museum in Belgrade and the National Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina (2015); Archives of Yugoslavia and Archives of Bosnia and Herzegovina (2007); Archives of Serbia and Archives of Bosnia and Herzegovina (2012).

The National Theatre in Belgrade signed a Protocol on cooperation with the National Theatre in Sarajevo, on the basis of which mutual guest performances were organised in 2022. Cinematheques and film archives from the region of the former SFRY reached an agreement in principle on concrete cooperation in the field of digital restoration of films when it comes to achievements that represent common cultural heritage (2019). The National Library of Serbia and the *Matica Srpska* Library cooperate and exchange publications with libraries in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Film Centre Serbia regularly participates in the "Sarajevo Film Festival".

The Film Centre Serbia regularly announces a competition for co-financing the production of minority co-productions. This competition co-finances projects in cinematography that make a significant contribution to cooperation in the region and which supports the creation of works of great cultural importance. In the framework of minority co-productions, in addition to the production of the cinematographic works, premieres and promotions of films are realised in the countries participating in the project, as well as joint performances at film markets and festivals. Five film co-productions of Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina were supported in these competitions in the reporting period in the amount of RSD 22,260,000.00.

In the framework of the Cross-Border Cooperation Programme of Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina for the period from 2014 to 2020 as part of the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA II), the "Museum Stories" project was implemented, the aim of which was to strengthen mutual cooperation between 11 museums from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia.

B. Measures for implementation of recommendations of the Committee of Experts

b. Take organisational measures to ensure that speakers of Bosnian can submit an oral or written application in Bosnian to local branches of the national competent authorities and encourage speakers of Bosnian to make use of this possibility in practice.

The measures taken are described in respect of implementation of the recommendation of the same content for the Albanian language.

c. Ensure that RTV Serbia offers radio and television programmes in Bosnian.

Apart from the recommendation of the Committee of Experts, the National Council of the Bosniak National Minority has also pointed out that RTS does not provide information in Bosnian, and that RTS' programme contents has little content from the culture of the Bosniak people, i.e. content that ensures the fostering of Bosnian.

In accordance with this recommendation of the Committee of Experts, which also applies to other languages, we point out that in 2022, RTS established the Section for National Minorities, which aims to improve information and increase the offer of media content intended for members of national minorities. Also, through the Internet platform of RTS Planet, since 2018, the Video Library service has been enabled, within which there is a special category *National Minorities*. This category is continuously renewed and currently has a total of about 100 hours of programmes dedicated, among other things, to the Bosniak national minority. A special category of the internet platform is *My City*, which contains short media contents dealing with various aspects of people's lives in almost all cities throughout Serbia. This category is realised by 26 correspondence offices, which work as part of RTS, including the correspondence office in Novi Pazar which also prepares its articles in Bosnian. This approach of RTS should be seen in the context of Article II(1) of the Charter, according to which the undertaking of public authorities to enable the broadcasting of programmes in minority languages is conditioned by the extent of their powers and legitimate role in the field of media freedom, which also applies to the Republic of Serbia. In accordance with the aforementioned article of the Charter, the Republic of Serbia has stimulated and encouraged the broadcasting of programmes in Bosnian and on RTS through legal solutions related to public service media and regular and stable financing of their core activity, which includes the broadcasting of programmes in the languages of national minorities. It is the degree to which the state has jurisdiction, power or role in relation to public service media, which means that it must not interfere with the institutional, programme and financial independence of public services. Bearing in mind that Article 11(I) of the Charter takes into account the situation of Bosnian, as well as the fact that the forms through which RTS provides content in Bosnian fall within the institutional autonomy and editorial independence of the public service media, the authorities of the Republic of Serbia indicate that RTS contents in Bosnian are represented in the regular programme of RTS, therefore, not only in the special broadcasts *Citizen* and *Da nam nije - autobiography about my people* which are intended for speakers of minority languages, but also in other broadcasts⁹⁴ on the Programme 1 and Programme 2 of the Public Service Media.

BULGARIAN LANGUAGE

A.Part III

Article 8

paragraph 1 a (iii)

Bilingual pre-school educational work in Serbian and Bulgarian is organised in Bosilegrad and Dimitrovgrad.

School year	Number of local self-government units	Number of pre-school institutions	Number of groups	Number of children
2019/2020	2	2	15	307

⁹⁴ *Dnevnik, Ovo je Srbija, Jutarnji Program, Oko, Beogradska Hronika, Kvadratura Kruga, Sarenica, Kuhinja Moga Kraja, Od Zlata Jabuka, Moja Lepa Srbija, etc.*

2020/2021	2	2	15	305
2021/2022	2	2	15	314

paragraph 1 a (iv)

In the territory where Bulgarian is used, there are no pre-school institutions founded by other legal or natural persons, as well as foreign countries, foreign legal or natural persons.

paragraph 1 b (iv)

Primary school pupils have the opportunity to attend all classes in Bulgarian or bilingual classes in Serbian and Bulgarian.

Number of pupils who attend primary school bilingual or in Bulgarian

School year	Bilingual classes (Bulgarian-Serbian)	Classes in Bulgarian
2019/2020	74	72
2020/2021	137	85
2021/2022	161	62

For pupils who do not attend classes in their mother tongue, classes in Bulgarian with elements of national culture are organised.

Number of pupils who attend optional subject/programme

optional subject/programme	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Bulgarian with elements of national culture	759	685	350

For primary education in the Bulgarian language, according to the Catalogue of textbooks in the languages of national minorities for the school year 2022/2023 and Additions to the Catalogue,⁹⁵ total number of 83 textbooks were approved.

Additional training of teachers, which is realised through a system of continuous professional development, as well as participation in various programmes, enables the implementation of assumed undertakings. One of them is the online training "Strengthening the language competences of teachers who teach in eight languages of national minorities" to strengthen the language competences of teachers **in** primary and secondary education.

The number of teachers teaching in Bulgarian who have attended training

mathematics	4
biology	1
history	1
geography	1
physics	2
chemistry	1
general subject competences	36
Total	46

⁹⁵ <https://prosveta.gov.rs/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Dopuna-kataloga-udzbenika-na-jezicima-nacionalnih-manjina-za-predskolu-i-sr-skolu-avgust-2022.pdf>

In parallel with the curriculum reform, the Centre for Quality Assurance of the Institutions' Work created General Achievement Standards for the end of compulsory education for the subject Mother Tongue and Literature (2016), then General Standards for the end of general secondary education and secondary vocational education and training for the subject Mother Tongue and Literature (2018), as well as the General Achievement Standards for the Mother Tongue for the end of the first cycle of primary education and training (2020). The appropriate manual for the Bulgarian language subject⁹⁶ was published, and during 2020 training sessions were held attended by 41 teachers for the Bulgarian language.

With the aim of improving the quality of education in Bulgarian, two advisers - external associates for education in Bulgarian in primary and secondary schools were hired by the competent ministry.

paragraph 1 c (iv)

Secondary education in Bulgarian takes place in two secondary schools.

Number of pupils who attend secondary school in Bulgarian

School year	Classes in Bulgarian
2019/2020	151
2020/2021	130
2021/2022	146

For secondary education in the Bulgarian language, according to the Catalogue of textbooks in the languages of national minorities for school year 2022/2023 and Additions to the Catalogue, total number of 32 textbooks were approved.

Bearing in mind that a smaller number of pupils apply for some secondary school profiles, and with the aim of providing pupils with a greater choice of educational profiles in the languages of national minorities, the formation of classes with a smaller number of pupils than prescribed (less than 15 pupils) is regularly approved.

Total number of classes with less than 15 pupils

Teaching language	School year	Number of classes with less than 15 pupils
Bulgarian	2019/20	3
	2020/21	3
	2021/22	3

paragraph 1 d (iv)

Pupils who attend classes in Bulgarian have the option of secondary vocational education in the field of trade, catering and tourism. In the school year 2021/2022, 30 pupils were approved to enrol in the first grade for educational profiles in this area in Bulgarian, and a total of eight pupils were enrolled.

⁹⁶ <https://ceo.edu.rs/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Bucarski-lezik-Priruc%CC%8Cnik.pdf>

paragraph 1 e (ii)

Bulgarian is studied within the Group for the Bulgarian Language, Literature and Culture at the Department of the Serbian with South-Slavonic Languages at the Faculty of Philology of the University of Belgrade.

	Academic year	Total number of students
Bulgarian	2019/20	36
	2020/21	26
	2021/22	22

In addition, at the Faculty of Philology, students within the Serbian language and literature study programme have the opportunity to attend elective course The Bulgarian language.

The Bulgarian language is studied as a separate course within the study programmes of the undergraduate studies of the Serbian studies and the Russian language and literature at the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Nis.

Since 2001, this faculty has had a Lectorship of the Bulgarian Language and Culture within the Department of Serbian Studies. In addition to the Lectorship, there is a Commission for testing knowledge of the Bulgarian language. The Lectorship maintains ties with the *Hristo Botev* Primary School and the *Saint Cyril and Methodius* Grammar School in Dimitrovgrad, where classes are held in Serbian and Bulgarian. Every year, teachers come from these schools who want to test their knowledge and get a certificate for the level of mastery of the Bulgarian language, which they need for work in the mentioned schools.

paragraph 1 f (iii)

In the framework of formal adult education, when enrolling in the syllabus during the reporting period, there were no registered persons for education in Bulgarian.

paragraph 1 g

Implementing measures in practice for the implementation of this paragraph are the same for all minority languages and are presented in the part of the report referring to Albanian.

Article 9

paragraph 1 a (ii)

In the reporting period, the defendants used Bulgarian in criminal proceedings before the Basic Court in Subotica in one proceeding in 2021 and in two proceedings in 2022.

paragraph 1 a (iii)

In the reporting period, there were no submissions or evidence in Bulgarian in criminal proceedings.

paragraph 1 b (ii)

In the reporting period, Bulgarian was used in civil litigation in one proceeding before the Basic Court in Surdulica in 2021.

paragraph 1 c (ii)

In the reporting period, there were no cases in which Bulgarian was used.

paragraph 1 d

In the reporting period in the Basic Court in Vrsac, court interpreters - translators for Bulgarian were hired in two cases during 2020, and the interpreter's costs for the participants who used Bulgarian amounted to RSD 8,300.00.

In the Basic Court in Subotica in 2020, there was one case in which an interpreter for Bulgarian was hired, and in 2021 there were two cases. Interpreter's costs for participants who used Bulgarian amounted to RSD 14,000.00.

In the Basic Court in Surdulica in 2021, there was one case in which an interpreter for Bulgarian was hired.

paragraph 2 a, b, c

According to the data of the basic courts in Dimitrovgrad and Surdulica in the reporting period, there were no proceedings in which valid documents drawn up in Bulgarian were used.

paragraph 3

Implementing measures in practice for the implementation of this paragraph are the same for all minority languages that are in official use and are presented in the part of the report referring to Albanian, i.e. all the laws and by-laws mentioned in that part of the report have been also translated into Bulgarian.

Article 10

paragraph 1 a (iv)

According to the data of the competent authorities, in the reporting period there were no cases of oral or written submissions in Bulgarian delivered to the republican authorities, nor to their regional units in the administrative areas of the country where the number of its inhabitants who use Bulgarian justifies the measures specified in this Article.

paragraph 1 a (v)

According to the data of the competent authorities, in the reporting period there were no cases of submission of documents in Bulgarian to the republican authorities, nor to their regional units in the administrative areas of the country where the number of its inhabitants who use Bulgarian justifies the measures specified in this Article.

paragraph 1 c

According to the data of the competent authorities, in the reporting period there were no cases of drafting documents in Bulgarian by the state administration authorities, nor by their regional units in the administrative areas of the country where the number of its inhabitants who use Bulgarian justifies the measures specified in this Article.

paragraph 2 b

According to the data from the answers to the questionnaires of the former Office for Human and Minority Rights, which were discussed in more detail in the Introduction of this report, in the municipality of Dimitrovgrad all employees who communicate with the parties know Bulgarian. However, a negligibly small number of parties address municipal authorities in Bulgarian in written and oral communication. In 2021 and 2022, one party in each year submitted documents in Bulgarian in the procedure to exercise their rights and interests.

paragraph 2 c

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

Bearing in mind that the Republic of Serbia has emphasised in its instrument of ratification that the term "territory where regional or minority languages are in use" will refer to areas where regional or minority languages are in official use in accordance with national legislation, it is clear that the obligation for regional authorities to publish their official documents in the respective minority languages does not, in the current circumstances, refer to Bulgarian.

paragraph 2 d

The Official Gazette of the Municipality of Dimitrovgrad is published in Bulgarian and in the Gazette the general and individual acts of the local self-government bodies are published in Serbian and Bulgarian.⁹⁷

The websites of the municipalities of Bosilegrad and Dimitrovgrad are available in Bulgarian, while some parts of the website of the city of Pancevo have been translated into Bulgarian.⁹⁸

⁹⁷ <https://www.dimitrovgrad.rs/sluzbeni-listbg>

⁹⁸ Bosilegrad: <http://www.bosilegrad.org/bg/Vesti.aspx>; Dimitrovgrad: <https://www.dimitrovgrad.rs/pocetna>; Pancevo: <http://www.pancevo.rs/sadrzaj/uploads/2015/12/STATUT-grada-Pan%C4%8Deva-bugarski.pdf>

paragraph 2 g

Decision on determining the traditional names of local self-government units and settlements in municipalities where Bulgarian is in official use⁹⁹ established the traditional names in Bulgarian, about which the Committee of Experts was informed in more detail in previous state reports.

paragraph 4 c

The following table shows the available data on the number of employees in local self-government units who speak Bulgarian.

Local self-government unit	Number of systematised jobs	Number of employees who know the language
Babusnica		3
Dimitrovgrad		40
Sombor		1

paragraph 5

In the registry office of the municipality of Dimitrovgrad, in 2019, three registrations were made in the register in the Bulgarian language, in 2021, two registrations were made, while until the middle of 2022, one registration was made. The municipality of Bosilegrad, where a significant number of members of the Bulgarian national minority live, did not submit a supplement to this report.

In the local self-government units where the statute establishes that Bulgarian is also in official use, forms of the register certificates are printed bilingually. According to data from the Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-Government, in 2021, six register certificates were issued on bilingual, Serbian-Bulgarian forms.

The Municipality of Dimitrovgrad stated in its supplement to this report that in 2019 it issued five bilingual register certificates on Serbian-Bulgarian forms, while in 2022 one such certificate was issued.

Article 11

paragraph 1 a (iii)

Bearing in mind that the legislation of the Republic of Serbia contains appropriate provisions, we refer to data on their application in practice contained in the following sections. At this point, we indicate that implementation of the presented provisions in practice is achieved through competition co-financing.

A total of 24 projects of the Bulgarian national minority were supported during the competitions for co-financing projects for the production of media content in the languages of

⁹⁹ *Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia*, No. 94/2013

national minorities, which are implemented by the relevant ministry in the reporting period. The table below contains data on the amount of approved funds and the number of supported projects.

National minorities	2019	2020	2021	2022
Bulgarians	2,352,000.00 (5)	3,800,000.00 (8)	2,670,000.00 (4)	3,300,000.00 (7)

Local self-government units also announce annual competitions for the allocation of funds from the budget for the production of media content that is important for a specific local self-government unit. The table below provides, according to the available data, an overview of the local self-government units that financed projects in Bulgarian and the amount of allocated funds.

LSGU	2019	2020	2021	2022
Dimitrovgrad	1. Television Caribrod "Treasury of culture - 130 years of culture in Caribrod" - 2,700,000.00; 2. Radio Caribrod <i>OmMuHaummu ceiJMulJa</i> /this week has also passed, 520,000.00; 3. In the competition for co-financing of media content production projects, 9 projects for information in Bulgarian were supported in the amount of 9,660,000.00;	1. Television Caribrod <i>MuHuamI0pu Ha MaKCU me.ttu</i> - 6,200,000.00; 2. Radio Caribrod <i>f_(apu6poiJc,m ucmapuu-</i> 1,500,000.00; 3. In the competition for co-financing of media content production projects, 9 projects for information in Bulgarian were supported in the amount of 11,000,000.00;	1. Television Caribrod "Compleum" - 4.300.000,00; 2. Radio Caribrod "Open radio - First-hand stories" - 3.500.000,00; 3. In the competition for co-financing of media content production projects, 7 projects for information in Bulgarian were supported in the amount of 10,040,000.00;	1. Television Caribrod <i>Ha Kojcme aiJpecu</i> - 3.790.000,00; 2. Radio Caribrod <i>He 6pJJCe oiJ J/CUeoma-</i> 3,480,000.00; 3. In the competition for co-financing of media content production projects, 7 projects for information in Bulgarian were supported in the amount of 10,950,000.00;
Pirot	Citizens' association <i>Emblem</i> (Bulgarian minority and Pirot together on the way to the EU)- 120,000.00	Citizens' association <i>Emblem (Pirotska pramenka-</i> part of the cultural and natural heritage of Stara Planina) - 150,000.00		

Surdulica	Center for Culture, Information and Protection of the Rights of National Minorities <i>Pa3eumue</i> (Coexistence of Roma, Serbs and Bulgarians in Surdulica) - 100,000.00			
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paragraph 1 b (ii)

The radio programme in Bulgarian is broadcast on Radio Television of Vojvodina. The table below contains data on the number of minutes and the type of broadcast radio programme in the reporting period.

RTV - radio programme in Bulgarian

	2019	2020	2021	until 30 June
Information broadcasts	780	780	1,230	750
Special broadcasts	0	0	0	0
Sports broadcasts	0	0	0	0
Education broadcasts	0	0	0	0
Music shows	0	0	0	0
Culture and science	0	0	0	0
Entertainment shows	0	0	0	0
Feature/drama broadcasts	0	0	0	0
Total broadcasting	780	780	1,230	750

According to data from the Independent Research, radio programmes in Bulgarian are also broadcast on the media listed in the following table.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
Radio Caribrod, Dimitrovgrad		Radio	Serbian
	Gold radio, Surdulica	Radio	Serbian
Radio Bosilegrad		Radio	

paragraph 1 c (ii)

Television programme in Bulgarian is broadcast on Public Service Media RTS. The table below contains information about the broadcast programme.

RTS - TV programme in Bulgarian

2019	2020	2021	until 30 April 2022
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Groups of basic types of broadcasts according to REM classification	Number of broadcasts	Minutes	Number of broadcasts	Minutes	Number of broadcasts	Minutes	Number of broadcasts	Minutes
Children's programme and programme for minors			3	44	7	104		
Documentary programme			4	319	2	159		

According to data from the Independent Research, television programmes in Bulgarian are also broadcast on the media listed in the following table.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
TV Caribrod, Dimitrovgrad		TV	Serbian
	TV Info plus, Vranje	TV	Serbian
	Niš Television	TV	Serbian

paragraph 1 d

In addition to radio and TV programmes, production and distribution of audio and audiovisual works in Bulgarian are also realised through web portals. The table below contains data from the Independent Research on web portals in Bulgarian.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
Far.rs		Web portal	Serbian
tvinfobosilegrad.co.rs		Web portal	Serbian
	rtcaribrod.rs	Web portal	Serbian
www.glaspress.rs		Web portal	Serbian

paragraph 1 e (i)

According to data from Independent Research, the newspapers listed in the following table are published in Bulgarian.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
<i>The Vizija</i> , Dimitrovgrad		Monthly	
<i>The Novo Bratstvo</i>		Biweekly	

In the reporting period, the municipality of Bosilegrad provided funds from its budget for the work of the National Council of the Bulgarian National Minority (e.g. in 2019, RSD 5,176,770.65). With these funds, the National Council financed the work of the media institution "New Radio Television Bosilegrad" and the newspaper *The Novo Bratstvo*.

In addition, at the end of 2018, the Government of the Republic of Serbia concluded that the media publishing information in Bulgarian in the Republic of Serbia should receive a one-time financial aid in the total amount of RSD 45,439,900.00 in order to provide a subsidy, that is, to provide assistance to a certain number of written and electronic media.

paragraph 1 f (ii)

Data on competition co-financing is given in the part of the Report referring to paragraph 1 a(iii).

paragraph 2

Implementing measures in practice for the implementation of this paragraph are the same for all minority languages and are presented in the part of the report referring to Albanian.

Article 12

paragraph 1 a

In competitions in the field of cultural activities of national minorities in the Republic of Serbia conducted by the relevant ministry, a total of 19 projects of the Bulgarian national minority were supported in the reporting period. The table below contains data on the amount of approved funds and the number of supported projects.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Bulgarians	634,000.00 (5)	620,000.00 (4)	600,000.00 (5)	660,000.00 (5)

Also, in other competitions conducted by the relevant ministry, significant budget funds were allocated to support projects of the Bulgarian national minority or multicultural projects in which forms of expression and initiatives related to Bulgarian were encouraged. According to the available data for 2019 and 2020, one cultural project of the Bulgarian national minority was financed in the amount of RSD 300,000.00 in other competitions of the relevant ministry.

As part of the "Cities in Focus" Competition, different ways of accessing cultural and artistic works produced in Bulgarian are also specifically supported and enabled. Within this competition in 2022, RSD 3,000,000.00 were allocated for maintenance and equipping works for the National Library in Babusnica.

As it was pointed out in the section dedicated to implementing measures in policy and legislation, other levels of organising authorities conduct competitions in order to collect proposals for financing or co-financing cultural projects, as well as artistic projects or professional and scientific research projects in culture. Thus, in the reporting period, four projects of the Bulgarian minority were supported in the amount of RSD 150,000.00 during the competitions for financing - co-financing of projects of importance for the culture and art of national minorities - national communities in AP Vojvodina.

According to available data for 2020, the municipalities of Bosilegrad, Vranje and Novi Sad supported four cultural projects of the Bulgarian national minority in the amount of RSD 844,000.00.

paragraph 1 b, c

According to the data of the National Library of Serbia, a total of 79 publications were published in Bulgarian in the reporting period, of which 21 publications were translated into Serbian.

During the competitions for co-financing of projects in the field of translation of representative works of domestic literature conducted by the relevant ministry, eight literary works were translated into Bulgarian during the reporting period, which the ministry supported with funds in the amount of EUR 9,200.

Radio-television of Serbia has started the implementation of a project to adapt the internet platform planetaplus.rs for users of multiple languages, including Bulgarian, which means that domestic series, feature and TV films, documentary programmes, etc. will be subtitled in this language and available to its speakers.

paragraph 1 f

The National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia adopted at its session on 26 November 2021, the proposal on the appointment of 11 members of the National Council for Culture, including two members from the list of candidates proposed by the national councils of national minorities.

In all competitions conducted by the relevant ministry and the Province authorities in the reporting period, the National Council of the Bulgarian National Minority had the opportunity to present its proposals on the distribution of funds.

paragraph 2

In the reporting period, in the territories where Bulgarian is not traditionally used, according to available data, there were cases of submission of cultural projects in Bulgarian, which is presented in paragraph 1 a.

Article 14

Based on the Agreement on Cultural Cooperation between the Government of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia and the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, harmonisation of the draft programme of cultural cooperation between the Ministry of Culture and Information of the Republic of Serbia and the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Bulgaria for the period 2022-2024 is in progress.

The following cultural institutions of the two countries have signed cooperation agreements: the National Library of Serbia and the National Library of St. Cyril and Methodius; The National Library of Serbia and the Center for Slavic and Byzantine Studies - *Prof Ivan Dujcev*; Archives of Serbia and State Agency Archives of the Republic of Bulgaria; Archives of

Yugoslavia and the Main Archives Administration under the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Bulgaria. Inter-institutional cooperation exists between the National Museum in Belgrade and the National Archaeological Institute and Museum of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences; Yugoslav Cinematheques and Bulgarian Cinematheques; The Museum of Naive and Marginal Art and the Sofia City Art Museum; Open air museum *Staro Selo*, Sirogojno and Museum *Etar*, Gabrovo; *Matica Srpska* Galleries and City Gallery from Sofia.

The *Matica Srpska* Library cooperates with seven institutions in Bulgaria: Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (Central Library and Center for Bulgarian Studies), Sofia; Center for Slavic and Byzantine Studies, Sofia; International Center for the Study of Historical Sources of the Balkans, Sofia; *Cyril and Methodius* National Library, Sofia; *Ivan Vazov* National Library, Plovdiv; Sofia University *St. Kliment Ohridski*, Sofia. Currently, the Library has 237 periodical titles in its holdings that arrived through exchange with Bulgaria, and the Library's electronic database currently contains about 5,000 monographic publications also obtained through exchange.

The National Library of Serbia has established a long-standing exchange of publications with the National Library *St. Cyril and Methodius*, the Central Library of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and the University Library of the Sofia University *St. Kliment Ohridski*, and in Plovdiv with the *Ivan Vazov* National Library.

The Institute for Cultural Development Research participates in the implementation of the "Erasmus+ Project Living Cultural Heritage: East and West" programme. The project seeks to create a digital tool for networking and promotion of common culture through a participatory process, by observing and connecting the most significant elements of intangible heritage, among other things, in Serbia and Bulgaria.

Cooperation in the field of film takes place on several levels, first of all on the plan of presenting films, participation of films at festivals in two countries and in joint co-productions, then within the South East European Cinema Network (SEECN) of which Serbia and Bulgaria are founders and members, in the framework of promotion and development of the projects of this network, as well as by participating in the Market Festival in Cannes, within the joint pavilion (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Macedonia, Slovenia and Serbia founded in 2010 common regional pavilion SEE Pavilion, and in 2011, instead of Albania, which withdrew for financial reasons, Montenegro joined the pavilion).

Within the implementation of the "Novi Sad 2021 - European Capital of Culture" project, cooperation was achieved with the city of Plovdiv which was the European Capital of Culture. On that occasion, a twinning agreement was signed between the two cities - the European Capital of Culture, projects were launched to promote the Cyrillic script as part of the common European cultural heritage, and a calligraphy workshops of Cyrillic writing were organised with the guest calligraphers from Plovdiv.

Cooperation also takes place through multilateral projects, such as the Regional Center for the Preservation of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Southeast Europe, which was founded in 2008 in Sofia, under the auspices of UNESCO. The goal of the Regional Center is to promote cooperation in the field of intangible cultural heritage at the national, regional and international levels, as well as to implement initiatives for the preservation and popularisation of the intangible cultural heritage of Southeastern European countries.

Of importance for bilateral and multilateral cultural cooperation are the programmes related to cooperation in the Danube Region and the EU Strategy for the Danube Region, whose

goals are aimed at promoting cultural heritage and continuing to create preconditions for development of culture on the Pan-Danube route. Bulgaria and Romania are coordinators of the Priority Area "Tourism, Culture and People-to-People Contacts".

As part of the initial economic cooperation in the Black Sea region, a sub-group for culture is also active, in which there are opportunities for joint development of projects in the field of modern production, creative industries and cultural heritage, which connect Bulgaria and Serbia. Joint projects in the Black Sea region are planned, such as a joint virtual library, development of cultural routes, participation in film festivals, as well as joint participation in programmes of international organisations, expert networks, etc.

B. Measures for implementation of recommendations of the Committee of Experts

b. Take organisational measures to ensure that speakers of Bulgarian can submit an oral or written application in Bulgarian to local branches of the national competent authorities and encourage speakers of Bulgarian to make use of this possibility in practice.

h. Ensure that local branches of the national authorities draw up documents in Bulgarian.

The measures taken are described in respect of implementation of the recommendation of the same content for the Albanian language.

f. Inform the speakers of Bulgarian about the possibility to validly draw up a legal document in this language.

j. Encourage the speakers of Bulgarian to use this language in communication with public service providers.

Bearing in mind that in the territory where Bulgarian is used, most of the employees in the authorities and public services use Bulgarian, it is clear that they inform the speakers of that language about the possibility of using Bulgarian in communication, and that they can validly draw up a legal document in this language. Also, according to the Special Report of the Protector of Citizens on the Official Use of the Bulgarian Language and Script¹⁰⁰ dated 2021, all employees in professional services are well aware of the regulations governing the rights of members of national minorities, and all local self-government units in which Bulgarian is in official use have technical and personnel conditions to conduct the proceedings in Bulgarian and prepare appropriate decisions. In the same report, it is also stated that the representatives of the administrations of the local self-government units point out that they orally inform the parties about these rights.

l. Draw the attention of local competent authorities to the right to use a surname in Bulgarian in accordance with the spelling and script of that language, and if necessary, provide them with technical assistance to ensure the effective enjoyment of this right.

¹⁰⁰ <https://ombudsman.rs/attachments/artic/e/7286.pdf>

The Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-Government, acting on the recommendations of the Protector of Citizens, in order to standardise the work practice and apply the regulations on registers in the past period, delivered to all bodies that keep records the Instruction on how to enter the personal name of a member of a national minority in registers. The instruction directs the way of working in connection with the registration of the personal name of a member of a national minority, regardless of the place of registration of a certain fact in the register and regardless of whether this information is entered during the basic registration in the register or subsequent registration. Also, along with the aforementioned instruction, an example of the Notification on the procedure and method of entering the personal name of a member of a national minority in the register was submitted for highlighting on the notice boards of all register areas of cities/municipalities for which registers are kept. According to the aforementioned report of the Protector of Citizens, the former problem of entering surnames in the feminine form in Bulgarian (with the appropriate suffix A) has been completely solved technically and administratively.

HUNGARIAN LANGUAGE

A.Part ID

Article 8

paragraph 1 a (iii)

Pre-school educational work is organised in Hungarian in 24 local self-government units.

School year	Number of local self-government units-	Number of pre-school institutions	Number of groups	Number of children
2019/2020	24	24	204	3 576
2020/2021	24	24	205	3 701
2021/2022	24	24	206	3,736

Bilingual educational work, in Serbian and Hungarian, is organised in 15 local self-government units.

School year	Number of local self-government units	Number of pre-school institutions	Number of groups	Number of children
2019/2020	15	15	53.5	993
2020/2021	15	15	53.5	1,023
2021/2022	15	15	56.5	1 079

Bilingual educational work in German and Hungarian, was organised in Subotica.

School year	Number of local self-government units	Number of pre-school institutions	Number of groups	Number of children
2019/2020	1	1	1	24

2020/2021	24
2021/2022	20

For pre-school educational work in Hungarian, according to the Catalogue of textbooks in the languages of national minorities for the school year 2022/2023, 14 textbooks were approved.

paragraph 1 a (iv)

In the school year 2021/2022 in two private pre-school institutions, in Subotica and Backa Topola, educational work took place in Hungarian and bilingually in Serbian and Hungarian for a total of 96 children.

paragraph 1 b (iv)

All classes in Hungarian are carried out in 77 primary schools.

Number of pupils who attend primary school in HunRarian

School year	Number of pupils		Number of schools
	I	%	
2019/20	12 730	2.20	77
2020/21	12,104	2.19	77
2021/22	12,100	2.19	77

Number of pupils who attend optional subject/programme

optional subject/programme	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Hungarian language with elements of national culture	3,423	3,128	3,064

For primary education in the Hungarian language, according to the Catalogue of textbooks in the languages of national minorities for the school year 2022/2023 and Additions to the Catalogue, total number of 110 textbooks were approved.

Additional training of teachers, which has been implemented through a system of continuous professional development and participation in various programmes, enables the implementation of assumed undertakings. One of them is the online training "Strengthening the language competences of teachers who teach in eight languages of national minorities" to strengthen the language competences of teachers in primary and secondary education.

The number of teachers teaching in Hungarian who have attended training

mathematics	174
biology	78
history	60
geography	72
physics	97
chemistry	33
general subject competences	803
Total	1,317

In parallel with the curriculum reform, the Center for Quality Assurance of the Institutions' Work created General Achievement Standards for the end of compulsory education for the subject Mother Tongue and Literature (2016), then General Standards for the end of general secondary education and secondary vocational education and training for the subject Mother Tongue and Literature (2018), as well as the General Achievement Standards for the Mother Tongue for the end of the first cycle of primary education and training (2020). The appropriate manual for the Hungarian language subject¹⁰¹ was published, and in 2020, training sessions were held attended by 403 Hungarian language teachers.

With the aim of improving the quality of education in the Hungarian language, five advisers - external associates for education in the Hungarian language in primary and secondary schools were hired by the competent ministry.

paragraph 1 c (iv)

Secondary education in Hungarian takes place in 35 secondary schools.

Number of pupils who attend secondary school in Hungarian

Hungarian	Number of pupils		Number of schools
	<i>L</i>	%	
2019/20	4,972	2.02	36
2020/21	5,077	1.91	35
2021/22	4,388	2.00	35

In the school year 2019/2020, 21 pupils in secondary schools studied the Hungarian language with elements of national culture. In the following school years, there were no pupils registered for the optional study of this subject.

For secondary education the Hungarian language, according to the Catalogue of textbooks in the languages of national minorities for the school year 2022/2023 and Additions to the Catalogue, total number of 48 textbooks were approved.

Bearing in mind that a smaller number of pupils apply for some secondary school profiles, and with the aim of providing pupils with a greater choice of educational profiles in the languages of national minorities, the formation of classes with a smaller number of pupils than prescribed (less than 15 pupils) is regularly approved.

Total number of pupils with less than 15 pupils

Teaching language	School year	Number of pupils with less than 15 pupils
Hungarian	2019/20	26
	2020/21	28
	2021/22	30

¹⁰¹ [https://ceo.edu.rs/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Ke%CC%8Jziko%CC%88nvv-oszta%CC%8\)lvtani%CC%8Itto%CC%8lk-sza%CC%8lma%CC%8lra.pdf](https://ceo.edu.rs/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Ke%CC%8Jziko%CC%88nvv-oszta%CC%8)lvtani%CC%8Itto%CC%8lk-sza%CC%8lma%CC%8lra.pdf)

paragraph 1 d (iv)

The following table shows the number of pupils attending secondary school education in Hungarian according to the type of secondary school.

	Grammar school	Secondary vocational school	Secondary art school	Secondary music school
2019/20	931	4,041	12	280
2020/21	907	3,922	-	248

The following table lists the professional areas for secondary schools in Hungarian in the school year 2021/2022, as well as the number of approved places and the number of pupils enrolled in the first grade.

Areas of secondary school profiles in Hungarian for the first grade in the school year 2021/22

Area of work	Number of approved places/number of the enrolled
Geodesy and construction industry	60/16
Economics, law and administration	130/126
Electrical engineering	270/209
Health and social protection	270/164
Culture arts and public information	64/28
Machine industry and metal processing	240/161
Other personal services	60/30
Agriculture, food production and processing	240/101
Traffic	90/78
Textile and leather industry	30/12
Trade, catering and tourism	210/84
Chemistry, non-metals and graphic arts	30/23

paragraph 1 e(ii)

The Hungarian language and literature is studied at the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Novi Sad, while lectures in Hungarian are also delivered at the Faculty of Technical Sciences, the Academy of Arts and the Hungarian Language Teacher Training Faculty of the University of Novi Sad.

Faculty of Philosophy		
	Academic year	Number of students enrolled in the first Year
Hungarian	2019/20	22
	2020/21	14
	2021/22	14
Faculty of Technical Sciences		
Hungarian	2019/20	7
	2020/21	12
	2021/22	5

Academy of Arts		
Hungarian	2019/20	8
	2020/21	
	2021/22	6
The Hungarian Language Teacher Training Faculty		
Hungarian	2019/20	35
	2020/21	56
	2021/22	58

In addition, bearing in mind that the Faculty of Economics in Subotica enrolls a large number of students belonging to the Hungarian national minority, part of the teaching is carried out by visiting professors who deliver about 20% to 25% of the lectures in Hungarian.

The Hungarian language, literature and culture are studied at the Department of Hungarian Studies at the Faculty of Philology at the University of Belgrade.

	Academic year	Total number of students
Hungarian	2019/20	47
	2020/21	43
	2021/22	39

Lectures in Hungarian are delivered at the Higher Technical School of Vocational Studies in Subotica and the College of Vocational Studies for the Education of Pre-school Teachers and Sports Trainers in Subotica.

Higher Technical School of Vocational Studies in Subotica	
Academic year	Number of students enrolled in the first year
2019/20	102
2020/21	130
2021/22	129
College of Vocational Studies for the Education of Pre-school Teachers and Sports Trainers in Subotica	
2019/20	1
2020/21	5
2021/22	1

At the College of Vocational Studies for the Education of Pre-school Teachers in Novi Sad, all study programmes are taught in Serbian, while some students also take certain subjects in Hungarian. In 2019/2020, seven students studied some subjects in Hungarian, in 2020/2021, 12 students studied them and in 2021/2022 there were 15 students.

paragraph 1 f (iii)

Primary education for adults in Hungarian is provided at three regular compulsory primary schools in two local self-governments (in Senta and Subotica).

Name of school	School year					
	2019/20		2020/21		2021/22	
	m	f	m	f	m	f
<i>Pete_fiSandor</i> , Senta	25	30	20	21	29	40
<i>Temerkenj Istvan</i> , Tomjo	20	17	31	30	32	23
<i>Jovan Jovanovic Zmaj</i> , Subotica	62	32	54	30	74	32

paragraph 1 g

Implementing measures in practice for the implementation of this paragraph are the same for all minority languages and are presented in the part of the report referring to Albanian.

Article 9

paragraph 1 a (ii)

Information on the use of Hungarian by defendants in criminal proceedings in the reporting period is contained in the table below.

Basic Court	2019	2020	2021	until June 2022
in Becej	18	16	23	10
in Zrenjanin				1
in Senta	155	174	128	48
in Sombor	4	8	12	2
in Subotica	64	52	93	64

paragraph 1 a (iii)

Information on the number of cases in which requests or evidence were submitted in Hungarian in criminal proceedings in the reporting period is contained in the table below.

Basic Court	2019	2020	2021	until June 2022
in Becej	45	27	44	11
in Zrenjanin	2	1	1	1
in Pancevo			1	

paragraph 1 b (ii)

Information on the use of Hungarian in civil litigation in the reporting period is given in the table below.

Basic Court	2019	2020	2021	until June 2022
in Becej	25	18	22	9
in Zrenjanin	8	3	1	2

in Novo Sad

31102

in Pancevo

paragraph 1 c (ii)

In the reporting period there were no cases in which Hungarian was used.

paragraph 1 d

Information on the number of cases in which court interpreters - translators for Hungarian were engaged, and on the interpreters' costs paid from the budget for their engagement, where such data were available, are contained in the table below.

Basic Court in Becej				
	2019	2020	2021	until June 2022
Number of cases	71	45	66	20
Amount of funds	198,230.00	154 230.00	205 474.66	68,234.90
Basic Court in Vrsac				
Number of cases			I	
Amount of funds			3,600.00	
Basic Court in Zrenjanin				
Number of cases	10	4	2	4
Amount of funds	19 240.00	13,200.00	7 200.00	6,600.00
Basic Court in Kikinda				
Number of cases	8	2	2	
Basic Court in Pancevo				
Number of cases			1	I
Amount of funds			14,400.00	2,700.00
Basic Court in Senta				
Number of cases	424	429	464	210
Amount of funds	1 062,000.00	946,200.00	1,006,800.00	37 200.00
Basic Court in Sombor				
Number of cases	17	23	26	4
Amount of funds	30,240.00	76,360.00	73,280.00	34,760.00
Basic Court in Subotica				
Number of cases	134	180	314	109
Amount of funds	420,600.00	583,550.00	858,700.00	449,722.00

¹⁰² The Basic Court in Novi Sad provided summary data for the entire reporting period and stated that 31 proceedings were conducted in Hungarian.

paragraph 2 a, b, c

A large number of courts in their appendices for the preparation of the state report pointed out that it was not possible to provide data on the number of inheritance and other non-contentious litigation proceedings in Serbian in which there were documents drawn up in one of the languages of the national minorities, as well as on the number of proceedings in which a power of attorney was given to representatives in one of the languages of the national minorities, including Hungarian, bearing in mind that such records were not kept, and tens of thousands of cases would have to be reviewed manually, in order to determine by direct inspection whether there had been any document in the language of the national minorities, which was not feasible technically and in respect of personnel.

The Basic Court in Becej states that it is common practice to print a power of attorney on bilingual Serbian-Hungarian forms, since it is a nationally mixed environment with a large proportion of the Hungarian population.

The Basic Court in Senta states that in 2019 there were 62 inheritance and other non-contentious litigation proceedings in Serbian in which there were documents drawn up in Hungarian, in 2020 there were 57, in 2021 70, and in the first half of 2022, there were 45 such proceedings.

paragraph 3

Implementing measures in practice for the implementation of this paragraph are the same for all minority languages that are in official use and are presented in the part of the report referring to Albanian, i.e. all the laws and by-laws mentioned in that part of the report have also been translated into Hungarian by competent state authorities. In addition, the National Council of the Hungarian National Minority has translated a certain number of laws and by-laws, which the Committee of Experts was informed about in previous reports.

Article 10

paragraph 1 a (iv)

In the supplement of the South Backa administrative district to this report, it is stated that in 2022, one submission was delivered to the district regional units in Hungarian.

paragraph 1 a (v)

In the supplement of the South Backa administrative district to this report, it is stated that in 2022 one party submitted a document in Hungarian in the proceedings for the exercise of its rights and interests.

paragraph 1 c

According to the data of the competent authorities, in the reporting period there were no cases of drafting documents in Hungarian by the state administrative authorities, nor by their

regional units in the administrative areas of the state where the number of its inhabitants who use Hungarian justifies the measures specified in this Article.

paragraph 2 b

The majority of local self-government units in which Hungarian is in official use, and which submitted appendices for the preparation of the state report, did not indicate the exact number of written or oral submissions delivered to local authorities in Hungarian, because such records are not kept. The exception is the municipality of Backa Topola, which stated that in 2019, 181 submissions were delivered in Hungarian, in 2020, 290 submissions were delivered, in 2021, 372 were delivered, while by the middle of 2022, 180 submissions were delivered. In addition, according to the data from the answers to the questionnaires of the former Office for Human and Minority Rights, which were discussed in more detail in the Introduction of this report, during 2019 there were 35 submissions in Hungarian in the municipality of Kanjiza, and about 800 in the city of Kikinda.

In order to illustrate the possibility of delivering submissions and writing and speaking to local authorities in Hungarian, data can be provided on the number of administrative procedures that were entirely conducted in Hungarian, on the number of administrative procedures that were conducted in Serbian, but in which the parties used Hungarian as well and the number of documents submitted by the parties in proceedings for the exercise of their rights and interests in Hungarian, which are contained in the tables below.

Number of administrative procedures that were entirely conducted in Hungarian during the reporting period

	2019	2020	2021	until June 2022
Backa Topola	152	107	100	48
Becei	50			
Kula	1			
Senta	49	28	21	6
Subotica ¹⁰³	202	98	94	3

Number of administrative procedures conducted in Serbian in which the parties used Hungarian

	2019	2020	2021	until June 2022
Backa Topola	241	350	534	222
Mali Idos	208	242	242	141
Senta	1,983	1,789	1,642	541
Temerin	6	7	4	1
Coka	10	5	6	5

Number of documents submitted in Hungarian by parties

	2019	2020	2021	until June 2022
Backa Topola	252	215	203	114

¹⁰³ The City of Subotica stated in its supplement to the report that the total number of administrative procedures conducted entirely in the languages of national minorities that were in official use was not recorded. Every request submitted to the authorities of the city of Subotica is available in all languages that are in official use on the territory of the city. Separate records

- the list of acts is kept only within the General Administration and Joint Affairs Service for administrative cases of keeping separate electoral rolls of national minorities. From 2022, separate records on registration and deletion in separate electoral rolls and by languages of national minorities were started, and before 2022, only total records were kept on the number of decisions issued, regardless of the language in which they were issued.

Becej	500			
Mali Ido	16	10	24	35
Senta	3	6	3	
Temerin	2			
Coka	5	3	7	4

paragraph 2 c

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia stipulates that the Autonomous Province shall determine the languages in official use. The statute of the AP Vojvodina¹⁰⁴ states that the Hungarian language and script is one of the five languages of national minorities that is in official use in the work of the authorities of the AP Vojvodina.

Implementing measures in practice

The Official Gazette of AP Vojvodina in which all official documents of AP Vojvodina are published, is also published in Hungarian.¹⁰⁵

paragraph 2 d

Some local self-government units have taken advantage of the opportunity to stipulate in their statutes that official gazettes are also published in the minority languages that are in official use, and the availability of official documents is also made available on official internet presentations, because some of the local self-government units have websites in the minority language as well. The following tables provide an overview of local self-government units that have an official website in Hungarian, as well as local self-government units that publish an official gazette in Hungarian.

LSGU	Website in a minority language	Website address
Ada	Hungarian	http://www1.ada.org.rs/hu/ada-kozsegl
Backa Topola	Hungarian	http://www.btQQQia.Qrg.rs/hu
Becej	Hungarian	http://wY:f.W.Q!.Cej.rs/hu/
Zrenjanin	Hungarian	http://www.zrenjanin.rs/hu
Kanjiza	Hungarian	http://www.kanjiza.rs/uilag/site/
Mali Ido	Hungarian	http://www.nrnliidos.com/index/index/1e/hu
Novi Knezevac	Hungarian	http://www.noviknez!.ac.rs/hun/
Pancevo	Part of the website in Hungarian	http://www.12ancevo.rs/
Senta	Hungarian	http://www.zenta-senta.eo.rs/
Subotica	Hungarian	http://www.subotica.rs/index/index/1g/hu
Temerin	Hungarian	http://temerin.rs/hu/
Coka	Hungarian	http://www.coka.rs/hu/

¹⁰⁴ *Official Gazette of AP Vojvodina*, No. 20/2014

¹⁰⁵ <http://www.puma.vojvodina.gov.rs/index.php?lang=3>

LSGU	Official gazette in minority language	Website address
Ada	Hungarian	http://www.yiyi.ad!!Qrg.rs/hu/helyi-onkormanvzat/hivatalos-laook/
Backa Topola	Hunearian	http://www.btoola.orfl.rs/c:r/slist
Becej	Hungarian	<a "="" "l.rs="" href="http://www.be" sluzbeni-list="">http://www.be""l.rs/sluzbeni-list/
Mali Idos	Hungarian	http://maliid'los.rs/index/sllist/vear/2022/IIU'hu
Novi Knezevac	Hungarian	http://www.noviknezevac.rs/dok/S1.8.2022.udf
Senta	Hungarian	http://www.zenta-senta.co.rs/hu/7/o/250
Srbobran	Hungarian	<a href="http://srhobran.rs/euorav<i/sluzheni-list/2021-s1">http://srhobran.rs/euorav<i/sluzheni-list/2021-s1
Coka	in Hungarian if necessary	http://www.coka.rs/sr/samouorava/sluzbenilist.oho

paragraph 2 g

Decision to determine the Hungarian names of settlements ¹⁰⁶ established the traditional names in Hungarian, which the Committee of Experts was informed about in more detail in previous state reports.

paragraph 4 c

The following table provides data on the number of jobs in local self-government units for which the rules on the internal organisation and systematisation of jobs stipulate knowledge of Hungarian as a special condition for performing work, as well as data on the number of employees who speak Hungarian.

Local self-government unit	Number of systematised jobs	Number of employees who know the language
Aoatin		2
Backa Palanka		1
Backa Topola	25	44
Becej	15	35
Vrbas		10
Vrsac		2
Zitiste		2
Zrenjanin	1	13
Kanjiza	65	58
Kikinda	1	15
Kovacica		5
Kovin		5
Kula	2	4
Mali Idos	10	23
NovaCmja	2	7
Novi Becej	2	6

¹⁰⁶ Official Gazette of AP Vojvodina, Nos. 32/2013 - consolidated text, 12/2015 and 46/2019

Novi Knezevac		4
Novi Sad		27
Plandiste		3
Secanj		2
Senta	74	62
Sombor	8	20
Srbobran	1	7
Subotica	127101	81
Temerin	2	15
Titel		1
Coka	43	43

paragraph 5

The table below contains data on the use of the right to enter a personal name in Hungarian in the register obtained from the register offices of local self-government units.

Local self-government unit	Number of registrations of personal names in Hungarian			
	2019	2020	2021	2022
Apatin	3			
Backa Topola	226	223	278	120
Vrbas	8	13	16	6
Zitiste	3	3	3	1
Zrenianin	14	27	7	5
Kaniiza	22			
Kikinda	8	13	8	4
Kovacica	4	3	4	1
Kovin	1	4	4	2
Kula	7	1	9	4
Mali Idos	52	26	55	14
Novi Sad	109	113	116	59
Senta	674	613	710	243
Sombor	56	40	43	22
Srbobran			1	
Subotica	34			
Temerin	11	8	20	6
Coka	124	39	29	5

In local self-government units where the statute establishes that Hungarian is also in official use, forms of register certificates are printed bilingually. According to data from the Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-Government, in 2020, 5,598 register certificates were issued on bilingual, Serbian-Hungarian forms, while in 2021, 5,157 such forms were issued.

The table below shows the data on the issued register certificates on bilingual, Serbian-Hungarian forms, according to the data obtained from the local self-government units that took

¹⁰⁷ The city of Subotica stated data on total number of jobs for which knowledge of minority language is required.

part in the preparation of this report or sent answers to the questionnaires of the former Office for Human and Minority Rights.

Local self-government unit	Number of register certificates issued on bilingual, Serbian-Hungarian forms			
	2019	2020	2021	2022
Aoatin	10			
Backa Tooola	242	57	47	25
Becej	3.550			
Vrbas	15	14	33	8
Vrsac	14			
ZiMte	5		7	
Zrenianin	15	27	7	5
Kaniifa	684			
Kovin	18			
Kula	38	45	61	59
Mali Idos	187	134	116	72
NovaCmja	5			
Novi Becei	7	8	6	5
Novi Knezevac	171			
Novi Sad ¹⁰⁸	431	427	265	162
Senta	695	161	158	91
Sombor ¹⁰⁹	111	49	47	47
Srbobran	4	2	2	1
Subotica	3.216			
Coka	87	54	45	

Article 11

paragraph 1 a (iii)

Bearing in mind that the legislation of the Republic of Serbia contains appropriate provisions, we refer to data on their application in practice contained in the following sections. At this point, we indicate that implementation of the presented provisions in practice is achieved through competition co-financing.

A total of 33 projects of the Hungarian national minority were supported during the competitions for co-financing projects for the production of media content in the languages of national minorities, which are implemented by the relevant ministry in the reporting period. The table below contains data on the amount of approved funds and the number of supported projects.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Hungarians	3,350,000.00 (8)	4,600,000.00 (9)	3,251,000.00 (6)	5,051,000.00 (10)

¹⁰⁸ The City of Novi Sad provided summary data on the number of issued bilingual certificates.

¹⁰⁹ The Civil Records of the Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-Government does not provide the possibility of checking the issued bilingual register certificates classified by language, but gives the total number of issued register certificates (Serbo-Hungarian and Serbo-Croat).

The Ministry of Culture and Information also co-finances the production of media content in minority languages in other competitions that it announces and manages. According to the available data for 2019 and 2020, two projects in Hungarian in the amount of RSD 1,800,000.00 were supported in other competitions of the competent ministry.

The Provincial Secretariat responsible for the field of information also annually announces a competition for financing projects for the production of media content in the field of public information in the languages of national minorities. The following table provides an overview of the number of supported projects and allocated funds for projects in Hungarian in these competitions.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Hungarians	2,540,000.00 (18)	2,070,000.00 (13)	1,900,000.00 (10)	3,250,000.00 (18)

The competent provincial secretariat supports the production of media content in minority languages and in other competitions that it announces. According to the available data for 2019 and 2020, two projects in Hungarian in the amount of RSD 370,000.00 were supported in other competitions of the competent provincial secretariat.

Local self-government units also announce annual competitions for the allocation of funds from the budget for the production of media content that is important for a specific local self-government unit. The table below provides, according to the available data, an overview of local self-government units that financed projects in Hungarian and the amount of allocated funds.

LSGU	2019	2020	2021	2022
Backa Palanka	1. <i>Nedeljne Novine AD</i> (information in Slovak and Hungarian)- 1,000,000.00;	1. <i>Nedeljne Novine AD</i> (information in Slovak and Hungarian) - 1 000,000.00;	1. <i>Nedeljne Novine AD</i> (information in Slovak and Hungarian)- 800,000.00;	1. <i>Nedeljne Novine AD</i> (information in Slovak and Hungarian) - 650,000.00;
Backa Topola	1. <i>VAJDASAG MA</i> (internet portal) - 150,000.00; 2. Radio Panon (radio)- 450,000.00; 3. TV Panon (TV) - 550,000.00; 4. RBTPRESS (newspaper)- 700,000.00; 5. Radio Regions (radio programme in Hungarian, Ruthenian, Slovak) - 3,700,000.00; 6. Express Channel (TV programme in Hungarian, Ruthenian, Slovak)-	1. <i>VAJDASAG MA</i> (internet portal) - 150,000.00; 2. Radio Panon (radio)- 450,000.00; 3. TV Panon (TV) - 550,000.00; 4. RBTPRESS (newspaper) - 700,000.00; 5. Radio Regions (radio programme in Hungarian, Ruthenian, Slovak) - 3,700,000.00; 6. Express Channel (TV programme in Hungarian,	1. <i>VAJDASAG MA</i> (internet portal) - 200,000.00; 2. Radio Panon (radio)- 350,000.00; 3. TV Panon (TV) - 650,000.00; 4. RBTPRESS (newspaper)- 600,000.00; 5. Radio Regions (radio programme in Hungarian, Ruthenian, Slovak) - 3,900,000.00; 6. Express Channel (TV programme in Hungarian	1. <i>VAJDASAG MA</i> (internet portal) - 200,000.00; 2. TV Panon (TV) - 1,000,000.00; 3. RBTPRESS (newspaper) - 700,000.00; 4. https://topreport.rs/ (internet portal) - 1,500,000.00; 5. Radio Regions (radio programme in Hungarian, Ruthenian, Slovak) - 3,400,000.00; 6. Express Channel (TV programme in Hungarian,

	3,750,000.00;	Ruthenian, Slovak) - 3,750,000.00;	Ruthenian, Slovak) - 4,000,000.00.	Ruthenian, Slovak) - 2,600,000.00.
Ziti e	1. <i>AD Zreryanin (Glas Zitista in Hungarian)</i> - 300,000.00; 2. <i>Club Tordai ujsago</i> - 100,000.00;	1. <i>AD Zrenjanin (Glas Zitista in Hungarian)</i> - 400,000.00; 2. <i>Club Tordai ujsago</i> -144.000.00;	1. <i>AD Zreryanin (Glas Zitista in Hungarian)</i> - 340,000.00; 2. <i>Club Tordai ujsago</i> -130 000.00:	1. <i>AD Zrenjanin (Glas Zitista in Hungarian)</i> - 300,000.00; 2. <i>Club Tordai ujsago</i> - 150,000.00;
Zrenjanin		Support for printed media in Hungarian-100 000.00	Support for printed media in Hungarian -80,000.00	Broadcast in Hungarian on the Internet portal - 100,000.00
Kanjiza	Agency <i>Honestas</i> , Novi Sad (Participation of <i>Vajdasag Ma</i> in local information in the municipality of Kanjiza in 2019)-400,000.00	1. Agency <i>Hones/as</i> , Novi Sad (Participation of <i>Vajdasag Ma</i> in local information in the municipality of Kanjiza in 2020)-400,000.00; 2. Fox Media doo, Becej (Timely information of the citizens of the municipality of Kanjiza in Hungarian)-200,000.00;		
Kikinda		<i>Ruskoselski Glasnik</i> - 300,000.00	<i>Ruskoselski Glasnik</i> -350 000.00	<i>Ruskoselski Glasnik</i> - 800,000.00
Kovacica	1. Television Kovacica (Slovak, Hungarian and Romanian)-5,000,000.00; 2. Radio Kovacica (Slovak, Hungarian and Romanian) - 4,560,000.00;	1. Television Kovacica (Slovak, Hungarian and Romanian) - 4,900,000.00; 2. Radio Kovacica (Slovak, Hungarian and Romanian)-3 000,000.00.	1. Television Kovacica (Slovak, Hungarian and Romanian) - 2,500,000.00; 2. Radio Kovacica (Slovak, Hungarian and Romanian)-3 000 000.00;	1. Television Kovacica (Slovak, Hungarian and Romanian) - 6,000,000.00; 2. Radio Kovacica (Slovak, Hungarian and Romanian)-3,600,000.00.
Kula	Information and propaganda center "Kula" d.o.o. (Hungarian, German, Ruthenian, Ukrainian) - 1,000,000.00	Information and propaganda center "Kula" d.o.o. (Hungarian, German, Ruthenian, Ukrainian) - 1,000,000.00	Information and propaganda center "Kula" d.o.o. (Hungarian, German, Ruthenian, Ukrainian)-1,000,000.00	Information and propaganda center "Kula" d.o.o. (Hungarian, German, Ruthenian, Ukrainian) - 1,000,000.00
Mali Idos	1. Society for Development of the Environment and Community <i>Zold Dombok</i> -100,000.00;	The competition was not implemented	1. Society for Development of the Environment and Community <i>Zold Dombok</i> - 200,000.00;	1. Society for Development of the Environment and Community <i>Zold Dombok</i> - 150,000.00.

	2. Association <i>So Besed</i> - 100,000.00;		2. Association <i>So Besed</i> - 200,000.00; 3. Foundation <i>Panonija</i> (TV Panon)- 100 000.00.	2. Association <i>So Besed</i> - 150,000.00; 3. Foundation <i>Panonija</i> (TV Panon) - 200,000.00;
NovaCmja	AD for newspaper and publishing activity <i>Zrenjanin</i> ("The Voice of Banat, pages in Hungarian") - 100 000.00	AD for newspaper and publishing activity <i>Zrenjanin</i> ("The Voice of Banat, pages in Hungarian") - 100 000.00		
Novi Sad	1. <i>Novosadska TV doo</i> , Novi Sad <i>Objective in Slovak and Hungarian</i> - 1,980,000.00; 2. <i>Milos Runjajic</i> production of audio visual products and television programme <i>Boomerang</i> , Novi Sad - 200,000.00;	1. <i>Novosadska TV doo</i> , Novi Sad <i>News in Slovak and Hungarian</i> - 1,000,000.00; 2. IN Radio doo, Novi Sad <i>Lepa rec - a szep dolog - lucur frumos - sukar a/av</i> - 1,000,000.00;	1. <i>Novosadska TV doo</i> , Novi Sad <i>Objective in Slovak and Hungarian</i> - 1,000,000.00; 2. Linea Electronics Ltd, Novi Sad "Culture and Education - guardians of the Hungarian identity- 150,000.00; 3. REC-ON Production Ltd, Novi Sad (To remain a dance - cycle of shows in Hungarian)- 150,000.00; 4. RTV Signal, Novi Sad (Treasury of Diversity) - 500,000.00;	1. <i>Novosadska TV doo</i> , Novi Sad <i>Objective in Slovak and Hungarian</i> - 1,130,000.00; 2.REC-ON Production Ltd, Novi Sad (<i>Sacuvvari</i> -cycle of shows in Hungarian)- 100,000.00; 3. RTV Signal, Novi Sad (Hungarian magazine)- 670,000.00;
Pancevo		<i>Honestas Agency Imre Sebescen PR</i> Novi Sad- <i>Vajdasag Ma</i> - 130,000.00		
Senta	I. <i>Honestas Agency Imre Sebescen PR</i> Novi Sad (participation of <i>Vajdasag Ma</i> in local information in the territory of the municipality of Senta) - 200,000.00; 2. Fox Media Ltd production, trade and services Becej	The competition was not announced	BRIF MEDIA NET Ltd Novi Sad (Events by the Tisza) - 500,000.00	

	(Timely information of the citizens of the municipality of Senta in Hungarian) - 200,000.00; 3. Shop for television and radio activities Pro Media <i>Frides Irmenji pr. Senta</i> (Regular notifications in Hungarian about the activities of the Association of the Disabled)- 100,000.00;			
Secanj		AD for newspaper and publishing activity "Zrenjanin" ("The Voice of Banat, pages in Hungarian") - 120 000.00		
Srbobran	Cultural center <i>Gian Nandor</i> , Srbobran (<i>Szenttamas az elso he/yen</i>)- 400,000.00	Cultural center <i>Gian Nandor</i> , Srbobran (<i>Szenttamasi napjaink</i>)- 350,000.00		
Subotica	1. TV Panon- 2,300,000.00; 2. Radio Panon - 1,300,000.00; 3. <i>Dinovizija</i> - 600,000.00;	1. TV Panon- 1,500,000.00; 2. Radio Panon - 1,000,000.00; 3. <i>Dinovizija</i> - 633,000.00; 4. Association <i>Maria</i> - 100,000.00; 5. <i>Janos Pap PR</i> Agency for radio and television media K23 - 400,000.00;	1. Foundation <i>Panonija</i> - 1,800,000.00; 2. <i>Dinovizija</i> - 513,000.00; 3. <i>Janos Pap PR</i> Agency for radio and television media K23- 400,000.00;	1. Foundation <i>Panonija</i> - 2,300,000.00; 2. <i>Dinovizija</i> - 550,000.00; 3. <i>Janos Pap PR</i> Agency for radio and television media K23 - 400.000,00; 4. <i>Honestas</i> Agency - 100,000.00; 5. Radio <i>Maria</i> - 150,000.00; 6. <i>Pakodoo</i> - 200,000.00;
Temerin	<i>Temerini Ujsag</i> - 600,000.00	<i>Temerini Ujsag</i> - 500,000.00	<i>Temerini Ujsag</i> - 500,000.00	<i>Temerini Ujsag</i> - 600,000.00
Coka	4,000.000.00 was allocated for information in Hungarian for seven projects	4,400.000.00 was allocated for information in Hungarian for eight oroiects	4,400.000.00 was allocated for information in Hungarian for seven projects	4,400.000.00 was allocated for information in Hungarian for seven oroiects

paragraph 1 b (ii)

The radio programme in Hungarian is broadcast on Radio Television of Vojvodina. The table below contains data on the number of minutes and the type of broadcast radio programme in the reporting period.

RTV - radio programme in Hungarian

	2019	2020	2021	until 30 June
Information broadcasts	110,044	108,956	109,045	55,359
Special broadcasts	37,921	36,498	41,825	25,147
Sports broadcasts	11,658	9,541	10,125	4,639
Education broadcasts	46,756	45,622	42,640	21,660
Music shows	237,517	247,721	240,128	115,748
Culture and science	23,790	22,303	21,317	8,962
Entertainment shows	46,435	46,567	48,225	23,690
Feature/drama broadcasts	5,682	4,830	6,829	2,707
Total broadcasting	519,803	522,038	520,134	257,912

According to data from the Independent Research, radio programmes in Hungarian are also broadcast on the media listed in the following table.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
Radio Panon		Radio	
Subotica Hungarian radio		Radio	
	Radio Trend, Backa Tooola	Radio	Serbian, Slovak
	Radio Bus, Kovin	Radio	Serbian, Romani, Romanian
	Radio YU ECO, Subotica	Radio	Serbian, Croatian
	Radio Subotica	Radio	Serbian, Croatian
	Radio Indija	Radio	Serbian, Romani, Ukrainian, Croatian
	Radio Kovacica	Radio	Serbian, Romanian, Slovak
	Radio Odzaci	Radio	Serbian, Romani, Slovak
	Radio Srbobran	Radio	Serbian, Romani
	Radio Regions, Backa Topola	Radio	Serbian, Ruthenian, Slovak
	Radio Maria	Radio	Croatian, Slovak, German, Ruthenian, Ukrainian
	Radio Fox, Becej	Radio	Serbian
	Radio Breg, Titel	Radio	Serbian, Romani

	Naxi Radio Apatin	Radio	Serbian, Romani, German, Croatian
	Radio Impulse, Backa Palanka	Radio	Serbian, Slovak, Romanian
	Q Radio, Kula	Radio	Serbian, Ruthenian, German, Ukrainian
	Radio Pancevo	Radio	Serbian, Slovak, Romanian
	Naxi Active Radio Becej	Radio	Serbian
	Radio Bela Crkva	Radio	Serbian, Romani, Romanian, Czech
	Radio Naxi Max, Novi Knezevac	Radio	Serbian

paragraph 1 c (ii)

Television programme in Hungarian is broadcast on both public service media. The tables below contain information about the broadcast programme.

RTV'S-TV programme in Hungarian

Groups of basic types of broadcasts according to REM classification	2019		2020		2021		until 30 April 2022	
	Number of broadcasts	Minutes	Number of broadcasts	Minutes	Number of broadcasts	Minutes	Number of broadcasts	Minutes
Children's programme and programme for minors					2	30		
Documentary programme	2	177	2	177				
Film programme	2	227			1	136	1	113

RTV - TV Programme in Hungarian

	2019	2020	2021	until 30 June 2022
Information broadcasts	64,600	73,242	77,849	42,253
Documentary programme	4,908	2,232	888	116
Entertainment programme	6,786	6,564	6,775	4,042
Cultural and artistic programme	10,764	9,333	9,156	5,175
Religious programme	1,283	1,757	1,531	767
Music programme	7,643	5,716	5,235	3,123
Children's programme	4,239	8,038	7,160	3,608
Scientific and educational	4,441	4,859	5,605	3,023

programme				
Off-programme content	1,250	1,501	539	170
Sports programme	5,983	5,789	6,148	2,984
Commercial broadcasts	9	11	0	9
Total broadcasting	111,906	119,042	120,886	65,270

According to data from the Independent Research, television programmes in Hungarian are also broadcast on the media listed in the following table.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
TV Panon		TV	
	TV YU ECO, Subotica	TV	Serbian, Croatian
	TV Santos	TV	Serbian
	TV O.K., Kovacica	TV	Serbian, Slovak
	<i>Novosadska TV</i>	TV	Serbian, Slovak
	TV Pancevo	TV	Serbian, Romani, Romanian, Slovak, Macedonian
	TV Rubin, Kikinda	TV	Serbian
	TV Lav, Vrfac	TV	Serbian, Romanian
	TV Subotica	Cable TV	Serbian, Bunjevac, Croatian
TVBMosaic		Cable TV	
	TVBecej	Cable TV	Serbian
TV Tiszapart		Cable TV	

paragraph 1 d

In addition to radio and TV programmes, the production and distribution of audio and audiovisual works in Hungarian are also realised through web portals. The table below contains data from the Independent Research on web portals in Hungarian.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
Vajdasaf!Ma		Web portal	
Szabad Magyar Szo		Web portal	Serbian
kanizsaiu jsag.rs		Web portal	Serbian
	Autonomy	Web portal	Serbian
	q-media.rs, Kula	Web portal	Serbian, Ruthenian
Szenttamas.rs		Web portal	
Szo-beszed.org		Web portal	

paragraph 1 e (i)

According to data from Independent Research, the newspapers listed in the following table are published in Hungarian.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
<i>The Magyar Szo</i>		Daily newspaper	
<i>The Kepes Ijjasag</i>		Biweekly	
<i>The Jo Pajtas</i>		Biweekly	
<i>The HETNAP</i>		Weekly	
<i>The Csa/adi Kor</i>		Weekly	
<i>The Temerini Ujsag</i>		Biweekly	
	Becej Mosaic	Biweekly	Serbian
	Becej Days	Biweekly	Serbian
	Vr ac Tower	Biweekly	Serbian

Newspapers that publish information in the languages of national minorities are financed from the AP Vojvodina budget, which are published by newspaper-publishing institutions founded by national councils of national minorities. In Hungarian, they are: *Magyar szo do.o.* which publishes one daily and three youth/children's newspapers (*The Magyar szo, The Kepes Ijjasag, The Jo pajtas, The Mezes kalac'*) and *Het nap do.o.* which publishes the weekly newspaper *The Het nap*. Information on the allocated funds for the newspapers in Hungarian is given in the table below.

	2019	2020	2021	2022
<i>Magyar szo d.o.o.</i>	105,944,196.00	105,944,196.00	105,944,196.00	132,430,236.00
<i>Het nap d.o.o.</i>	30,943,032.00	30,943,032.00	30,943,032.00	38,678,784.00

paragraph 1 f (ii)

Data on competition co-financing is given in the part of the Report referring to paragraph I a(iii).

paragraph 2

Implementing measures in practice for the implementation of this paragraph are the same for all minority languages and are presented in the part of the report referring to Albanian.

Article 12

paragraph 1 a

During the reporting period, a total of 70 projects of the Hungarian national minority were supported in competitions in the field of cultural activities of national minorities in the Republic of Serbia conducted by the relevant ministry. The table below contains data on the amount of approved funds and the number of supported projects.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Hungarians	2,465,000.00 (17)	1,820,000.00 (13)	2,500,000.00 (20)	2,400,000.00 (20)

Also, in other competitions conducted by the relevant ministry, significant budget funds were allocated to support projects of the Hungarian national minority or multicultural projects in which forms of expression and initiatives related to Hungarian were encouraged. According to the available data for 2019 and 2020, three cultural projects of the Hungarian national minority were financed in the amount of RSD 1,381,000.00 in other competitions of the relevant ministry.

As part of the "Cities in Focus" Competition, different ways of accessing cultural and artistic works produced in Hungarian are also specifically supported and enabled. In the reporting period, 15 projects of local self-government units where members of the Hungarian national minority traditionally live in significant numbers (Apatin, Bae, Becej, Vrbas, Kanjiza, Kikinda, Novi Becej, Ruma, Sombor, Srbobran, Subotica, Temerin) were financed in the total amount of RSD 127,000,000.00.

As it was pointed out in the section dedicated to implementing measures in policy and legislation, other levels of organising authorities conduct competitions in order to collect proposals for financing or co-financing cultural projects, as well as artistic projects or professional and scientific research projects in culture. The following table provides information on the number of supported cultural projects of the Hungarian national minority and the amount of allocated funds in the Competition for financing - co-financing of projects of importance for the culture and art of national minorities - national communities in AP Vojvodina.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Hungarians	3,375,000.00 (54)	3,325,000.00 (58)	3,350,000.00 (53)	5,850,000.00 (73)

According to the available data for 2019 and 2020, two projects of the Hungarian national minority were supported in other competitions of the competent provincial secretariat in the amount of RSD 600,000.00.

In addition, the budget of AP Vojvodina finances the work of the Institute for Hungarian Culture in Vojvodina and the Forum Publishing House -*Forum Konyvkiadó Intezet*, which deals with publishing activities in Hungarian.

	2019	2020	2021
Institute for Hungarian Culture in Vojvodina	15,000,000.00	15,000,000.00	15,000,000.00
Forum Publishing House	20,384,428.00	18,708,327.00	19,643,385.00

According to the available data for 2020, 15 local self-government units (Ada, Backa Topola, Zitiste, Indija, Kanjifa, Kikinda, Kovacica, Kovin, Novi Becej, Novi Knezevac, Novi Sad, Sombor, Subotica, Temerin and Coka) allocated RSD 22,028,500.00 for cultural projects of the Hungarian national minority.

paragraph 1 b, c

According to the data of the National Library of Serbia, in the reporting period, a total of 966 publications were published in Hungarian, of which 96 publications were translated into Serbian.

During the competitions for co-financing projects in the field of translation of representative works of domestic literature conducted by the line ministry in the reporting period, nine literary works were translated into Hungarian, which the ministry supported with funds in the amount of EUR 1,200 and RSD 1,620,000.00.

Radio Television of Serbia has started the implementation of the project of adapting the internet platform planetaplus.rs for users in several languages, including Hungarian, which means that domestic series, feature and TV films, documentary programmes, etc. will be subtitled in this language and available to its speakers.

paragraph 1 f

The National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia adopted at its session on 26 November 2021, the Proposal on the appointment of 11 members of the National Council for Culture, including two members from the list of candidates proposed by the national councils of national minorities.

In all competitions conducted by the relevant ministry and the Province authorities in the reporting period, the National Council of the Hungarian National Minority had the opportunity to present its proposals on the distribution of funds.

paragraph 2

According to available data, there were no cases of submission of cultural projects in Hungarian in the reporting period in territories where Hungarian is not traditionally used.

Article 14

The programme of cooperation in the field of education, science and culture between the Government of the Republic of Serbia and the Government of Hungary for the period from 2018 to 2020 adopted in order to implement the Agreement on Cooperation in the Fields of Education, Science, Culture, Youth and Sports between the Council of Ministers of Serbia and Montenegro and the Government of the Republic of Hungary as of 2009, was signed on 8 February 2018. In addition, the Agreement on Cooperation between the Archives of Serbia and Montenegro and the National Archives of Hungary (2005) and the Memorandum of Understanding in the film sector between Serbia and Hungary, signed in November 2021, are also in force. The Memorandum of Understanding in the film sector will enable joint projects, as well as shooting of films and series related to important events and persons of the common history that unites the two peoples.

The Hungarian side submitted a draft Agreement on mutual establishment of cultural centres, which is in the phase of harmonisation. The *Matica Srpska* Library is preparing to sign a renewed agreement on cooperation with the National Library of Hungary from Budapest, as well as an agreement on cooperation with the *Csorba Gyozo* Library from Pees.

The Hungarian cultural center in Belgrade - the Balassi Institute *Collegium Hungaricum* was opened in 2014 as the Culture Department of the Hungarian Embassy. In this modernly renovated and equipped institution, opportunities are provided for organising cultural and scientific programmes, concerts, exhibitions, literary evenings, discussions, film screenings and scientific gatherings, as well as accommodation for Hungarian artists, visiting scientists and Hungarian experts on study visits in Serbia.

As part of the "Colourful Cooperation" project, through the INTERREG-IPA cross-border cooperation programme Hungary - Serbia, in 2019, the Serbian cultural center *Kolo* was opened in the Morahalom spa near the Hungarian-Serbian border. About seventy events were planned for 2020, with the participation of communities on both sides of the border, which included theatre performances, literary evenings, classical and jazz music concerts, folklore festivals and children's programmes, but due to the situation caused by the pandemic of the infectious disease COVID-19 many of them were not held. As part of the same project, construction of the Hungarian Cultural Center in Palic was completed in 2022, and the building was handed over for a ten-year lease to the "Hungarian Cultural and Artistic Society Palic". This project was implemented with the aim of developing a comprehensive cultural and tourism strategy for the entire Hungarian-Serbian border region and strengthening cross-border relations between the two nations. The Hungarian Cultural Center will be a place to preserve the culture of the Hungarians from Palic and a place to hold activities and manifestations of the associations.

The Yugoslav Cinematheque cooperates with the Hungarian Film Archive from Budapest and participates with its film programmes in the Budapest Film Marathon, which takes place every year. The Ensemble of Folk Songs and Dances of Serbia *KOLO* and the Hungarian State Folk Ensemble *MANE* also actively cooperate.

As part of the "Novi Sad 2021 - European Capital of Culture" project, a large number of manifestations, exhibitions of an international character and gatherings were held, in the implementation of which institutions from Hungary participated as partners or for their implementation works were borrowed from institutions from Hungary.

Programmes related to cooperation in the Danube region and the EU Strategy for the Danube region, whose goals are aimed at promoting cultural heritage and continuing to create preconditions for the development of culture on the pan-Danube route, are important for development of bilateral, but also joint, multilateral cultural cooperation. Considering the proximity of the borders and the numerous Hungarian minority in Vojvodina, the institutions of AP Vojvodina foster intensive cooperation with Hungarian partners in these projects.

B. Measures for implementation of recommendations of the Committee of Experts

b. Take organisational measures to ensure that speakers of Hungarian can submit an oral or written application in Hungarian to local branches of the national competent authorities and encourage speakers of Hungarian to make use of this possibility in practice.

h. Ensure that local branches of the national authorities draw up documents in Hungarian.

The measures taken are described in respect of implementation of the recommendation of the same content for the Albanian language.

f Inform the speakers of Hungarian about the possibility to validly draw up a legal document in this language.

i. Provide users of Hungarian with the opportunity to submit an oral or written application in Hungarian to regional or local competent authorities.

k Encourage Hungarian speakers to submit requests to public service providers in Hungarian.

Taking into account the data presented in this report, it is clear that Hungarian speakers are largely informed and encouraged, and that they are enabled to submit appropriate requests and applications and to draft relevant legal documents in Hungarian.

ROMANI LANGUAGE

A. Part III

Article 8

paragraph 1 a (iii)

During the reporting period, there were not enough applications for the introduction of complete/bilingual educational work in the Romani language in pre-school education during the enrolment of children.

paragraph 1 a (iv)

In the territory where Romani is used, there are no pre-school institutions founded by other legal or natural persons, as well as foreign countries, foreign legal or natural persons.

paragraph 1 b (iv)

In primary education, when enrolling in the first grade during the reporting period, there were not enough applications for the entire education in Romani.

Primary school pupils have the opportunity to attend the optional subject/programme the Romani language with elements of national culture.

Number of pupils attending the optional subject/programme

Optional subject/programme	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
The Romani language with elements of national culture	2,553	2,467	2,566

For implementation of subject the Romani language with elements of national culture, according to the Catalogue of textbooks in the languages of national minorities for the school year 2022/2023, a total of six textbooks were approved.

paragraph 1 c (iv)

In secondary education, when enrolling in the first grade during the reporting period, there were not enough applications for the entire education in Romani, that is, for the optional study of subject the Romani language with elements of national culture.

paragraph 1 d (iv)

In secondary vocational education (technical or specialist education) when enrolling in the first grade during the reporting period, there were not enough applications for the entire education in Romani, that is, for the optional study of subject the Romani language with elements of national culture.

paragraph 1 e (ii)

At the *Mihai/o Pavlov* Higher Vocational School for Pre-School Teacher Education in Vrsac, teachers of pre-school children are educated in Romani.

paragraph 1 f (iii)

In the framework of formal adult education, when enrolling in the syllabus during the reporting period, there were no registered persons for education in Romani.

paragraph 1 g

Implementing measures in practice for the implementation of this paragraph are the same for all minority languages and are presented in the part of the report referring to Albanian.

Article 9

paragraph 1 a (ii)

In the reporting period, the defendants used Romani in 2019 in two criminal proceedings, that is one before the basic court in Becej and one before the basic court in Zrenjanin, and in three proceedings before the Basic Court in Subotica, while in 2021 Romani was used in eight criminal proceedings before the Basic Court in Senta and one criminal proceeding before the Basic Court in Sambor.

paragraph 1 a (iii)

In the Basic Court in Becej, in 2019, requests or evidence in Romani were submitted in two criminal proceedings, and in 2020, they were submitted in one criminal proceeding.

paragraph 1 b (ii)

In the reporting period, Romani was not used in civil litigation.

paragraph 1 c (ii)

In the reporting period, there were no cases in which Romani was used.

paragraph 1 d

In the reporting period in the Basic Court in Becej, court interpreters -translators for Romani were engaged in two cases during 2019, and interpreters' costs for the participants who used Romani amounted to RSD 3,900.00, as well as in one case in 2020, for which the interpreters' costs amounted to RSD 2,340.00.

In the Basic Court in Zrenjanin in 2019, there was one case in which an interpreter for Romani was hired, and the interpreter's costs for the participants who used the Romani language amounted to RSD 2,500.00.

In the Basic Court in Senta in 2021, there were eight cases in which interpreters for Romani were engaged, and the interpreters' costs amounted to RSD 80,000.00.

In the Basic Court in Sambor in 2021, an interpreter for Romani was engaged in one case.

In the Basic Court in Subotica in 2021, an interpreter for Romani was engaged in five cases and the interpreter's costs amounted to RSD 10,000.00.

paragraph 2 a, b, c

A large number of courts pointed out in their appendices for the preparation of the state report that it was not possible to provide data on the number of inheritance and other non-contentious litigation proceedings in Serbian in which there were documents drawn up in one of the languages of the national minorities, as well as on the number of proceedings in which a power of attorney was given to representatives in one of the languages of the national minorities, including Romani, bearing in mind that such records were not kept, and tens of thousands of cases would have to be reviewed manually, in order to determine by direct inspection whether there had been any document in the language of the national minorities, which was not feasible technically and in respect of personnel.

paragraph3

In addition to the legal texts mentioned in earlier reports, the most important laws regulating the areas of human rights protection and prohibition of discrimination - the Law on the Protector of Citizens¹¹⁰ and the Law on Prohibition of Discrimination have been translated into Romani, starting from the fact that members of the Roma national minority and speakers of Romani are most often exposed to potential discrimination.

Article 10

paragraph 1 a (iv)

¹¹⁰ *Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia*, No. 105/2021

According to the data of the competent authorities, in the reporting period there were no cases of oral or written submissions in Romani delivered to the republican authorities, nor to their regional units in the administrative areas of the state where the number of its inhabitants who use Romani justifies the measures specified **in** this Article.

paragraph 1 a (v)

According to the data of the competent authorities, in the reporting period there were no cases of submission of documents in Romani to the republican authorities, nor to their regional units in the administrative areas of the state where the number of its inhabitants who use Romani justifies the measures specified in this Article.

paragraph 1 c

According to the data of the competent authorities, in the reporting period there were no cases of drafting documents in Romani by the state administration authorities, nor by their regional units in the administrative areas of the state where the number of its inhabitants who use Romani justifies the measures specified in this Article.

paragraph 2 b

According to the available data, there were no written or oral submissions in Romani during the reporting period.

paragraph 2 c

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

Bearing in mind that the Republic of Serbia has emphasised in its instrument of ratification that the term "territory where regional or minority languages are in use" will refer to areas where regional or minority languages are in official use in accordance with national legislation, it is clear that the obligation for regional authorities to publish their official documents in the respective minority languages does not, in the current circumstances, refer to Romani.

paragraph 2 d

According to the available data, in the reporting period there was no publication of official documents in Romani.

paragraph 2 g

At the same time as the amendments to the Law on Official Use of Languages and Scripts were adopted in 2018, the amendments to the Law on Local Self-Government¹¹¹ were also adopted. Based on the amendments to the Law on Local Self-Government, local self-government units had the obligation to harmonise their statutes and other general acts with this law within nine months from the entry into force of the law, and the ministry responsible for the local self-government was obliged to give an opinion on the harmonisation of the statute with this law within 30 days from the receipt of the statute proposal.

Acting in accordance with the stated obligation, all local self-government units amended their statutes, and some of them, in accordance with Article 11(5) of the Law on the Official Use of Languages and Scripts, determined that in settlements where the percentage of members of a certain national minority in total number of inhabitants in the territory of the settlement reaches 15% according to the results of the last population census, the names of authorities exercising public powers, the names of local self-government units, settlements, squares and streets and other toponyms shall also be written in the language of the respective national minority. The following table provides information on local self-government units and settlements where, in this context, Romani is used.

Local self-government unit	Settlement	Language
Belgrade	Sokolovo	Romani
Mionica	Nanomir Tolic	Romani

paragraph 4 c

The following table shows the available data on the number of employed persons in local self-government units who speak Romani.

Local self-government unit	Number of employed persons who know the language
Aoatin	1
Bojnik	1
Boljevac	1
Zrenianin	1
Novi Becei	1
Sombor	1
Surdulica	1

paragraph 5

According to the available data, in the reporting period in the registry office of the municipality of Zitiste in 2019, one entry of a personal name was made in the register in Romani.

¹¹¹ Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia, Nos. 129/2007, 83/2014 -other Law, 101/2016 - other law, 47/2018 and 111/2021 - other law.

Article 11

paragraph 1 a (iii)

Bearing in mind that the legislation of the Republic of Serbia contains appropriate provisions, we refer to data on their application in practice contained in the following sections. At this point, we indicate that implementation of the presented provisions in practice is achieved through competition co-financing.

A total of 82 projects of the Roma national minority were supported during the competitions for co-financing projects for the production of media content in the languages of national minorities implemented by the relevant ministry in the reporting period. The table below contains data on the amount of approved funds and the number of supported projects.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Roma	11,991,000.00 (24)	10,950,000.00 (21)	10,949,000.00 (20)	9,390,000.00 (17)

The Ministry of Culture and Information also co-finances the production of media content in minority languages in other competitions that it announces and manages. According to the available data for 2019 and 2020, three projects in Romani in the amount of RSD 2,510,000.00 were supported in other competitions of the competent ministry.

The Provincial Secretariat responsible for the field of information also annually announces a competition for financing projects for the production of media content in the field of public information in the languages of national minorities. The following table provides an overview of the number of supported projects and allocated funds for projects in Romani in these competitions.

National minority	2019	2020	2021
Roma	450,000.00 (4)	250,000.00 (2)	300,000.00 (1)

Local self-government units also announce annual competitions for the allocation of funds from the budget for the production of media contents that are important for a specific local self-government unit. The table below shows, according to the available data, an overview of local self-government units that financed projects in Romani and the amount of allocated funds.

LSGU	2019	2020	2021	2022
Novi Sad	INVITEM DOO, Kac (Amari Culture - Our Culture)- 1, 100,000.00	1. INVITEM DOO, Kac (History and customs of the Roma)- 700,000.00; 2. IN radio doo, Novi Sad <i>Lepa rec - a szep dolog - lucru frumos - sukar a/av</i>	1. INVITEM DOO, Kac (History and customs of the Roma)- 500,000.00; 2. Association <i>Phralipe</i> (Young Roma women and Roma men in the	INVITEM DOO, Kac (Romani life and tradition) - 800,000.00

		- 1,000,000.00; 3. Association for information through electronic and printed media "Rom press", Belgrade (Civil Society of Novi Sad)- 150,000.00;	focus of life decisions: stay or leave, challenges and expectations)- 100,000.00; 3. Association <i>Golubica</i> (Media inclusion of the Roma community)- 100,000.00.'	
Belgrade	"Univerzum Company 2015" d.o.o. (Media image of Roma in Serbia) - 200,000.00			
Valjevo	1. Radio 014 (We are Roma, Valjevo is also our city)- 300,000.00; 2. Association for information through electronic and printed media <i>Rom press</i> (Roma in focus)- 90,000.00			
Veliko Gradi te		Roma Association of Branicevo District, Po. farevac (Internet radio "Radio Roma Heart") - 30,000.00		
Vladicin Han	1. Center for Public Advocacy of Democracy CEDEM Vranje (The Roma also have a say)-- 80,000.00; 2. Association "Green Horizons" Haninfo, Vladicin Han (Improving the position and equality of the Roma in Vladicin Han) - 350,000.00;	Infoactivist (Promotion of social responsibility of civil society in the south of Serbia in Serbian and Romani)- 150,000.00		
Koceljeva		Radio diffusion company o.d. "Petica", Koceljeva (Education of the Roma) - 420,000.00		
Kru evac		TV Diskos, Aleksandrovac (Roma in Kru evac) - 250,000.00		

Lazarevac	Development center "Rom", Obrenovac ("Roma our neighbours") - 120,000.00	Rado „Rom", Obrenovac- 15,000.00	Rado„Rom", Obrenovac (Roma then and now)- 75,000.00	
Leskovac	Roma reconstruction, cooperation and alternative - ROSA (<i>Amaro romano lafi</i>) - 200,000.00	Roma reconstruction, cooperation and alternative - ROSA (<i>Po sukar te haljovamen</i>)- 400,000.00		
Loznica	<i>Loznicke novosti</i> , Publishing Company "Logo" d.o.o. Loznica (Let the Roma soeak)- 700,000.00	Radio TV Podrinje doo Loznica - Television Podrinje (For a better life of the Roma)- 2.300,000.00		
Mionica		Information company Radio Valjevo (Mionica for all) - 300,000.00		
Ni	Association of Roma citizens "Roma World Production" (Lfe of the Roma - <i>Romano dtivdipa</i>)- 500 000.00	Association of Roma citizens "Roma World Production" (In the world of Roma - <i>Ki Rpomani Lumija</i>)- 500 000.00		
Obrenovac		Rado „Rom", Obrenovac (Rom info) - 30,000.00		
Pirot	Organisation for Development and Democracy, Bujanovac (Promotion of social responsibility of civil society in the south of Serbia in Serbian and Romani)- 120,000.00			
Pofarevac	Roma Association of Branicevo District, (Untold stories)- 100,000.00	Roma Association of Branicevo District, (Roma - people of the sun)- 150,000.00		

Smederevo	Roma media service, Belgrade (Information and support through education of Roma in Smederevo) - 1,350,000.00	Roma media service - 1,340,000.00	Romink Smederevo portal (Roma focus) - 180,000.00	
Sremski Karlovci	Roma association <i>Karlovacke zore (Nasa rec - amaro alav)</i> -150,000.00	Roma association <i>Karlovacke zore</i> - 100,000.00		
Surdulica	Center for Culture, Information and Protection of the Rights of National Minorities <i>Razvitie</i> (Coexistence of Roma, Serbs and Bulgarians in Surdulica) - 100,000.00			

paragraph 1 b (ii)

Broadcasting of programmes for the Roma national minority, in Romani and Serbian, on the RTS Public Service Media began on 1 October 2001, on the First Programme of Radio Belgrade. Now, the programme in Romani on the First Programme of Radio Belgrade is realised within the editorial office Programmes in languages of national minorities through the half-hour daily magazine show "Romano them" from 7:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. On 29 June 2022, the 7,325th show "Romano them" was broadcast. The show "Romano them" is entirely a production of the First Programme of Radio Belgrade, journalists and collaborators of Romani Section.

The radio programme in Romani is also broadcast on Radio Television of Vojvodina. The table below contains data on the number of minutes and the type of broadcast radio programme in the reporting period.

RTV- radio programme in Romani

	2019	2020	2021	until 30 June
Information broadcasts	15,720	15,810	15,600	7,800
Special broadcasts	14,040	14,040	13,680	6,600
Sports broadcasts	0	0	0	0
Educational broadcasts	3,000	3,180	3,120	1,560
Music shows	18,870	18,780	18,240	8,310
Culture and science	3,060	3,120	3,390	1,920
Entertainment shows	3,060	3,030	3,000	1,410
Feature/drama broadcasts	0	0	0	0
Total broadcasting	57,750	57,960	57,030	27,600

According to data from the Independent Research, radio programmes in Romani are also broadcast on the media listed in the following table.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
	Radio Bus, Kovin	Radio	Serbian, Hungarian, Romanian
	Radio Srbobran	Radio	Serbian, Hungarian
	Radio Bela Crkva	Radio	Serbian, Hungarian, Romanian, Czech
	Radio Nisava	Radio	Serbian
	Radio Help, Mladenovac	Radio	Serbian
Radio Rom, Obrenovac		Radio	Serbian
	Radio Indija	Radio	Serbian, Hungarian, Ukrainian, Croatian
	Radio Krusevac	Radio	Serbian
	Radio Barajevo	Radio	Serbian
	Gold Radio, Surdulica	Radio	Serbian, Bulgarian
	Tempo naxi Radio, Zajecar	Radio	Serbian
	Radio Bujanovac	Radio	Serbian, Albanian
	Radio Breg, Titel	Radio	Serbian, Hungarian
	Naxi Radio Apatin	Radio	Serbian, Hungarian, German, Croatian
	Radio Han, Vladicin Han	Radio	Serbian
	Radio Odzaci	Radio	Serbian, Hungarian, Slovak

paragraph 1 c (ii)

Television programme in Romani is broadcast on both public service media. The table below contains data on the broadcast programme.

RTS - TV programme in Romani

Groups of basic types of broadcasts according to REM classification	2019		2020		2021		until 30 April 2022	
	Number of broadcasts	Minutes	Number of broadcasts	Minutes	Number of broadcasts	Minutes	Number of broadcasts	Minutes
Information programme	134	6,012	102	6,521	100	6,502	34	2,069
Music programme			7	230				
Film programme	I	136						

RTV - TV programme in Romani

	2019	2020	2021	until 30 June 2022
Information broadcasts	38,699	38,860	39,431	24,029

Documentary programme	0	0	0	0
Entertainment programme	0	0	0	0
Cultural and artistic programme	0	0	0	0
Religious programme	0	27	0	0
Music programme	3.329	2.970	3.208	0
Children's programme	0	0	0	0
Scientific and educational programme	99	0	0	0
Off-programme content	34	81	0	2
Sports programme	0	0	73	0
Commercial broadcasts	0	0	0	0
Total broadcasting	42,161	41,938	42,712	24,031

According to data from the Independent Research, television programmes in Romani are also broadcast on the media listed in the following table.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
	TV Bor	TV	Serbian, Vlach, Romanian
	TV abac	TV	Serbian
	TV Pancevo	TV	Serbian, Hungarian, Romanian, Slovak, Macedonian
	TV KruSevac	TV	Serbian
	TV Pozega	TV	Serbian
	TV Trstenik	TV	Serbian
	TV Mag, Obrenovac	TV	Serbian
	TV Banat, Vrfac	TV	Serbian, Romanian
	TV Leskovac	TV	Serbian

paragraph 1 d

Production and distribution of audio and audiovisual works in the Romani language is carried out through the radio and television channels mentioned in the previous paragraphs. Also, it is important to point out that RTS has a constantly open competition for the selection of programme contents of European independent productions, which are broadcast on RTS programmes and internet platforms, to which productions producing programmes in minority languages can apply. For years, RTS has been cooperating with the Production Group *Mreia*, which talks about successful individuals belonging to all national minorities through the broadcasts *Da nam nije*. In cooperation with an external production, a science and educational series *Mogu i ja* was created, signed by a Roma production.

paragraph 1 e (i)

According to data from the Independent Research, the newspaper *The Cirikljori* is published in Romani.

paragraph 1 f (ii)

Data on competition co-financing is given in the part of the Report referring to paragraph 1 a(iii).

paragraph 2

Implementing measures in practice for the implementation of this paragraph are the same for all minority languages and are presented in the part of the report referring to Albanian.

Article 12

paragraph 1 a

During the reporting period, a total of 60 projects of the Roma national minority were supported in competitions in the field of cultural activities of national minorities in the Republic of Serbia conducted by the relevant ministry. The table below contains data on the amount of approved funds and the number of supported projects.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Roma	1,747,000.00 (14)	1,715,000.00 (14)	1,700,000.00 (14)	2,370,000.00 (18)

Also, in other competitions conducted by the relevant ministry, significant budget funds were allocated to support projects of the Roma national minority or multicultural projects in which forms of expression and initiatives related to Romani were encouraged. According to the available data for 2019 and 2020, five cultural projects of the Roma national minority were financed in the amount of RSD 1,350,000.00 in other competitions of the relevant ministry.

As part of the "Cities in Focus" Competition, different ways of accessing cultural and artistic works produced in Romani are also specifically supported and enabled. In the reporting period, eight projects of local self-government units where members of the Roma national minority traditionally live in significant numbers (Beocin, Bojnik, Vladicin Han, Ruma, Srbobran, Surdulica) were financed in the total amount of RSD 39,300,000.00.

As it was pointed out in the section referring to implementing measures in policy and legislation, other levels of organising authorities conduct competitions in order to collect proposals for financing or co-financing cultural projects, as well as artistic projects or professional and scientific research projects in culture. The following table provides information on the number of supported cultural projects of the Roma national minority and the amount of allocated funds in the Competition for financing - co-financing of projects of importance for the culture and art of national minorities - national communities in AP Vojvodina.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Roma	300,000.00 (7)	250,000.00 (4)	250,000.00 (2)	470,000.00 (5)

According to the available data for 2019 and 2020, one project of the Roma national minority was supported in the amount of RSD 100,000.00 in other competitions of the competent provincial secretariat.

According to available data for 2020, 20 local self-government units (Bela Palanka, Bor, Bujanovac, Valjevo, Vladicin Han, Vranje, Doljevac, Indija, Knjazevac, Kragujevac, Kraljevo, Leskovac, Lucani, Novi Knezevac, Pozarevac, Prokuplje, Sombor, Sremska Mitrovica, Stara Pazova, Trstenik) and two city municipalities of the city of Belgrade (Mladenovac, Surcin) allocated RSD 3,428,050.00 for cultural projects of the Roma national minority.

paragraph 1 b, c

According to the data of the National Library of Serbia, in the reporting period, a total of 108 publications were published in Romani, of which 13 publications were translated into Serbian.

paragraph 1 f

The National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia adopted at its session on 26 November 2021, the Proposal on the appointment of 11 members of the National Council for Culture, including two members from the list of candidates proposed by the national councils of national minorities.

In all competitions conducted by the relevant ministry and the province authorities in the reporting period, the National Council of the Roma National Minority had the opportunity to present its proposals on the distribution of funds.

paragraph 2

In the Republic of Serbia, there are almost no territories where Romani is not traditionally used, so everything stated in the previous paragraphs can also refer to the application of this paragraph.

Article 14

Bearing in mind that Roma do not have their own home country, the Republic of Serbia did not sign agreements in the field of interstate cooperation promoting Romani, but Roma have contacts with compatriots from other countries, primarily neighbouring ones, and at the level of local self-government units from neighbouring countries. Cooperation takes place in the form of exchange of cultural and artistic societies, organisation of joint events and exchange of professional personnel.

As the Committee of Experts has already been informed, as part of the implementation of the "Novi Sad 2021 - European Capital of Culture" project, cooperation was achieved with the city of Plovdiv from Bulgaria, which is the European Capital of Culture for 2019. The connection between the two cities aims, among other things, to include the Roma population in the cultural processes of these cities.

B. Measures for implementation of recommendations of the Committee of Experts

a. Enable pre-school education in Romani.

Bearing in mind that, in accordance with the Law on Pre-school Education, for pre-school education in the language of the national minority or for bilingual pre-school education, the declaration of 50% of parents is a condition, pre-school institutions survey parents when enrolling children in the first year of education of the educational cycle on the desired language of educational work. The institution is obliged to provide educational work in the language of the national minority, if the conditions prescribed by Law are met. Given that the conditions prescribed by law for the implementation of educational work in Romani have not been met, and that no institution has contacted the competent ministry or the competent school administration with a request for the introduction of complete/bilingual educational work in Romani, pre-school activities of education in Romani have not been organised.

Nevertheless, as it was pointed out, at the *Mihailo Pavlov* Higher Vocational School for Pre-School Teacher Education in Vrsac, teachers of pre-school children are educated in Romani. Also, the Institute for the Improvement of Education, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development, developed a system training called "Training for pedagogical assistants for children and pupils of Roma nationality who need additional support in education". The programme is intended for pedagogical assistants who provide help and additional support to a group of children and pupils of Roma nationality, and it is organised in four modules and includes improving the competencies of pedagogical assistants in pre-school and primary education. Special attention was paid to the processing of topics dedicated to the history, language and culture of the Roma. 260 participants attended the training.

b. In primary, secondary, technical and vocational education, enable the learning of Romani as an integral part of the curriculum.

In addition to the presented data on the learning of Romani in the educational process, in connection with the implementation of this recommendation, it should be pointed out that in 2021 the Institute for the Improvement of Education created a professional development programme *Training for teachers of the Romani language with elements of national culture*, in cooperation with the Center for Education of Roma and Ethnic Communities. The training was attended by 30 participants, who were empowered in planning, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and self-evaluation of the teaching and learning process in accordance with the requirements of the new educational paradigm, educational goals and the nature of the subject. The participants improved their linguistic competences and strengthened their knowledge of Roma cultural heritage, contemporary Roma culture and its presence in general social and

cultural movements. Also, in April 2022, the Pedagogical Institute of Vojvodina organised a professional development programme for employees in education entitled *Teaching methodology for the elective programme - the Romani language with elements of national culture*. The programme got the status of a programme of public interest, and is intended for teachers who teach the elective programme *The Romani language with elements of national culture* and aims to improve the methodological and pedagogical competences of teachers of the Romani language for the implementation of this elective programme. The participants of the programme (15 teachers of the Romani language) were presented with different methodical procedures in the analysis of literary works, ways of motivating pupils to read and analyse prose text, as well as functional procedures in teaching grammar and various lexical and semantic exercises. This training was conducted in the Romani language.

c. Initiate the introduction of Romani into local official use in order to ensure the implementation of the Charter.

Bearing in mind that the Republic of Serbia in its instrument of ratification emphasised that the term "territory where regional or minority languages are in use" will refer to areas where regional or minority languages are in official use in accordance with national legislation, which may also refer to the level of the settlement, we draw your attention to the fact that the relevant information on the initiation of the procedure for the introduction of Romani into official use is presented in the sections of the Report referring to Article IO.

ROMANIAN LANGUAGE

A. Part III

Article 8

paragraph 1 a (iii)

Pre-school education in Romanian is organised in four local self-government units.

School year	Number of local self-government units	Number of pre-school institutions	Number of classes	Number of children
2019/2020	4	4	7	76
2020/2021	4	4	7	77
2021/2022	4	4	7	75

Bilingual pre-school education in Serbian and Romanian language is organised in three local self-government units.

School year	Number of local self-government units	Number of pre-school institutions	Number of classes	Number of children
2019/2020	3	3	4	78
2020/2021	3	3	4	78
2021/2022	3	3	4	70

paragraph 1 a (iv)

In the territory in which Romanian is in use there are no pre-school institutions founded by other legal or natural persons, or foreign countries, foreign legal or natural persons.

paragraph 1 b (iv)

Complete education in Romanian is realised in 17 elementary schools.

Number of pupils who attend elementary schools in Romanian

School year	Number of pupils	Number of schools
2019/2020	826	17
2020/2021	790	17
2021/2022	1.544	17

Romanian language with elements of national culture is a course available for students who do not attend courses in their mother tongue.

Number of pupils who attend elective subject/programme

Elective subject/Programme	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Romanian language with elements of national culture	983	907	1.016

For elementary education in the Romanian language, according to the Catalogue of textbooks in the languages of national minorities for the school year 2022/2023 and Additions to the Catalogue, total number of 80 textbooks were approved.

Additional training for teachers, which is realised through the system of permanent professional development and participation in different programmes, also enables the realisation of assumed undertakings. One of them is the online training "Strengthening the language competences of teachers who teach in eight languages of national minorities" to strengthen the language competences of teachers in primary and secondary education.

Number of teachers who teach in Romanian and who have completed the training

Math	19
Biology	6
History	9
Geography	10
Physics	7
Chemistry	13
General competence	96
Total	160

In parallel with the curriculum reform, the Center for Quality Assurance of the Institutions' Work created General Achievement Standards for the end of compulsory education for the subject Mother Tongue and Literature (2016), then General Standards for the end of general secondary education and secondary vocational education and training for the subject Mother Tongue and Literature (2018), as well as the General Achievement Standards for the

Mother Tongue for the end of the first cycle of primary education and training (2020). The appropriate manual for the Romanian language was published,¹¹² and during 2020 training courses were organised at which 31 teachers of Romanian took part.

With the aim of improving the quality of education in the Romanian language, the competent ministry hired an associate - external advisor for education in the Romanian language in elementary and secondary schools.

paragraph 1 c (iv)

Secondary education in the Romanian language is available in two secondary schools.

Number of students attending secondary school in the Romanian language

School year	Classes in Romanian
2019/2020	111
2020/2021	112
2021/2022	112

In the 2019/2020 school year, 31 secondary school students took Romanian language with elements of national culture. In the following school years, there were no students registered for this elective subject.

According to the Catalogue of textbooks in the languages of national minorities for 2022/2023 school year, a total of 23 textbooks was approved for secondary education in the Romanian language.

With the aim of providing students with a greater choice of educational profiles in the languages of national minorities, and bearing in mind that there are fewer applicants for certain secondary school profiles, and, the formation of classes that are smaller than prescribed (less than 15 students) is regularly approved.

Total number of classes with less than 15 students

Class language	School year	No. of classes with less than 15 students
Romanian language	2019/20	2
	2020/21	2
	2021/22	2

paragraph 1 d (iv)

Students who attend classes in the Romanian language have the possibility of secondary vocational education in the field of economics, law, and administration. In the 2021/2022 school year, 30 spots were approved for enrolment in the first grade for these educational profiles in the Romanian language, and a total of 12 students were enrolled.

¹¹² <https://ceo.edu.rs/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Prirucnik-Rumunski-jezik-Komplet.pdf>

paragraph 1 e (ii)

Romanian language and literature are studied at the Faculty of Philology, University of Novi Sad.

	Academic year	Number of enroled freshman students
Romanian language	2019/20	5
	2020/21	2
	2021/22	4

Romanian language, literature and culture are also studied within the Group for Romanian Language and Literature at the Department of Romance Studies at the Faculty of Philology, University of Belgrade.

	Academic year	Total number of students
Romanian language	2019/20	46
	2020/21	32
	2021/22	23

At the Pre-school Teacher Training College "Mihailo Palov" in Vrsac, pre-school teachers are trained in the Romanian language, while at the Teacher Education Faculty of the University of Belgrade, Department in Vrsac, teachers are trained to teach in the Romanian language in elementary and secondary schools.

paragraph 1 f (iii)

In the framework of formal adult education, during the enrolment period there were no applicants registered for education in the Romanian language, during the reporting period.

paragraph 1 g

Implementing measures in practice for the application of this paragraph are the same for all minority languages and are presented in the part of the report dealing with the Albanian language.

Article 9

paragraph 1 a (ii)

Before the Basic Court in Vrsac defendants used the Romanian language in three criminal proceedings in 2019, nine proceedings in 2020, four proceedings in 2021, and two proceedings by the middle of 2022.

Before the Basic Court in Zrenjanin defendants used the Romanian language in one criminal proceeding in 2019, and two proceedings in 2020.

Before the Basic Court in Senta defendants used the Romanian language in one criminal proceeding in 2019 and one in 2021.

paragraph 1 a (iii)

Before the Basic Court in Pancevo in 2019, a request or evidence in the Romanian language was submitted in one criminal proceeding, and in two proceedings in 2020.

paragraph 1 b (ii)

Before the Basic Court in Zrenjanin the Romanian language was used in three civil cases in 2019, and before the Basic Court in Pancevo it was used in one civil case in 2020 and one in 2021.

paragraph 1 c (ii)

In the reporting period there were no cases in which the Romanian language was used.

paragraph 1 d

The table below provides information, where such data is available, on the number of cases in which court interpreters - translators for the Romanian language were engaged, as well as on the translation costs paid from the budget for their services, is given in.

Basic Court in Vrsac				
	2019.	2020.	2021.	By June 2022
Number of cases	6	10	6	3
Funds paid	34,800.00	43,500.00	131 800.00	16 200.00
Basic Court in Zrenjanin				
Number of cases	4	2		
Funds paid	6,600.00	9,600.00		
Basic Court in Pancevo				
Number of cases	1	3	1	
Funds paid	3,000.00	16,360.00	3 150.00	
Basic Court in Senta				
Number of cases	5		1	
Funds paid	24,000.00		3,000.00	
Basic Court in Subotica				
Number of cases		1	1	

paragraph 2 a, b, c

A large number of courts pointed out in their appendices for the preparation of the state report that it is not possible to provide data on the number of inheritance and other non-contentious litigation proceedings in the Serbian language in which there were documents drawn up in one of the languages of the national minorities, or on the number of proceedings in which a

power of attorney was given to representatives in one of the languages of the national minorities, including the Croatian language, bearing in mind that such records are not kept, and tens of thousands of cases would have to be reviewed manually in order to determine by direct inspection whether there was a document in the language of the national minorities, which was not feasible technically or personnel-wise.

paragraph 3

Implementing measures in practice for the application of this paragraph are the same for all minority languages that are in official use and are presented in the part of the report dedicated to the Albanian language, i.e. all the laws and bylaws mentioned in that part of the report have been translated into the Romanian language.

Article 10

paragraph 1 a (iv)

According to the data of the competent authorities, in the reporting period there were no submissions of oral or written petitions to the government bodies in the Romanian language, nor to their regional units in the administrative areas where the number of inhabitants who use the Romanian language justifies the measures specified in this article.

paragraph 1 a (v)

According to the data of the competent authorities, in the reporting period there were no submissions of documents to the government bodies in the Romanian language, nor to their regional units in the administrative areas where the number of inhabitants who use the Romanian language justifies the measures specified in this article.

paragraph 1 a

According to the data of the competent authorities, in the reporting period there were no cases of preparation of draft documents by the government bodies in the Romanian language, nor by their regional units in the administrative areas where the number of inhabitants who use the Romanian language justifies the measures specified in this article.

paragraph 2 b

The city of Vrsac, where the Romanian language is in official use, in the attachment for the preparation of the state report, provided data on the number of written addresses by parties in the Romanian language: 9 addresses in 2019, 12 in 2020, 9 in 2021, and 10 by mid-2022.

paragraph 2 c

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia stipulates that the autonomous province determines the languages in official use. The Statute of AP Vojvodina states that the Romanian language and script is one of the five languages of national minorities that is in official use in the work of authorities of AP Vojvodina.

Implementing measures in practice

The official gazette of AP Vojvodina, in which all official documents of AP Vojvodina are published, is also published in Romanian.¹¹³

paragraph 2 d

Some local self-government units took advantage of the opportunity to stipulate in their statutes that official gazettes are also published in the minority languages that are in official use, and official documents are also made available via official website, because some local self-government units have websites in the minority language as well. The website of the city of Zrenjanin is available in Romanian, and certain pages on the website of the city of Pancevo have been translated into Romanian.¹¹⁴

paragraph 2 e

Traditional names of towns, municipalities and settlements in the Romanian language are determined pursuant the decision on determining the traditional names in the Romanian language¹¹⁵, of which the Committee of Experts was informed in more detail in previous state reports.

paragraph 4 c

The following table provides data on the number of work positions in local self-government units for which the rules on the internal organisation and systematisation of work positions stipulate knowledge of the Romanian language as a special condition for performing work, as well as data on the number of employees who speak the Romanian language.

Local self-government unit	Number of systematised work positions	Number of employees who speak the language
Alibunar		18
Vrsac	2	12
Zitište		4
Zrenjanin	3	8
Kovacica		6
Kovin		3
Plandi te		2

¹¹³ <http://www.puma.vojvodina.gov.rs/index.php?lang=5>

¹¹⁴ Zrenjanin: <http://www.zrenjanin.rs/ro>; Pancevo: <http://www.pancevo.rs/sk/?0=lat>

¹¹⁵ *Official Gazette of AP Vojvodina*, No. 12/2003

Secanj	3
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paragraph 5

The table below shows data on the use of the right to enter personal name in the Romanian language in the registers obtained from the register offices of local self-government units.

Local self-government unit	Number of entries of personal names in Romanian			
	2019	2020	2021	2022
Alibunar	6			
Vrfac	9	12	9	10
Ziti te	1		1	3
Zrenjanin		3		
Secani	1			2
Temerin				1

In local self-government units where the statute establishes that the Romanian language is also in official use, register certificate forms are printed bilingually. According to data from the Ministry of State Administration and Local Self-Government, in 2020, 13 extracts from registers were issued on bilingual forms for Serbian and Romanian.

The table below shows the data on the issued certificates from registers on Serbian-Romanian bilingual forms, according to the data obtained from the local self-government units that participated in the preparation of this report or answered the questionnaires of the former Office for Human and Minority Rights.

Local self-government unit	Number of issued certificates on Serbian-Romanian bilingual forms			
	2019	2020	2021	2022
Alibunar	2			
Vrfac	14	12	16	
Zrenjanin		3		
Kovacica	3	1	2	

Article 11

paragraph 1 a (iii)

Bearing in mind that the legislation of the Republic of Serbia contains appropriate provisions, we note that data on their application in practice are contained in the following sections. At this point, we point out that the implementation of the presented provisions in practice is achieved through open competitions for co-financing.

In the reporting period a total of four projects of the Romanian national minority were supported on tenders for the co-financing of projects on the production of media content in the languages of national minorities, which is carried out by the line ministry. The table below shows data on the amount of approved funds and the number of supported projects.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Romanian	474,600.00 (1)	400,000.00 (1)	650,000.00 (1)	470,000.00 (1)

The provincial secretariat responsible for information also announces annual competition for financing projects for the production of media content in the field of public information in the languages of national minorities. The following table provides an overview of the number of supported projects and the allocated funds for projects in the Romanian language.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Romanian	400,000.00 (3)	100,000.00 (1)	350,000.00 (2)	300,000.00 (1)

Local self-government units also publish annual tenders for the allocation of budget funds for the production of media content that is important for a specific local self-government unit. The table below, according to the available data, gives an overview of the local self-government units that financed projects in the Romanian language and amounts.

me	2019.	2020.	2021.	2022.
Alibunar		Wagner production doo Pancevo (Buna ziua)- 550,000.00		
Bela Crkva		Wagner production doo Pancevo (Buna ziua) - 500,000.00		
Vr ac				Society for Romanian Language, Vr ac (magazin Logos)- 60,000.00
Ziti te	Association for Romanian culture and art (periodical Lumina Toraceana) - 100,000.00		Association for Romanian culture and art (periodical Lumina Toraceana) - 130,000.00	Association for Romanian culture and art (periodical Lumina Toraceana) - 150,000.00
Kovacica	1. TV Kovacica (Slovak, Hungarian and Romanian) - 5,000,000.00; 2. Radio Kovacica (Slovak, Hungarian and Romanian) - 4 560 000.00;	1. TV Kovacica (Slovak, Hungarian and Romanian) - 4,900,000.00; 2. Radio Kovacica (Slovak, Hungarian and Romanian)- 3,000,000.00.	1. TV Kovacica (Slovak, Hungarian and Romanian) - 2,500,000.00; 2. Radio Kovacica (Slovak, Hungarian and Romanian) - 3,000,000.00;	1. TV Kovacica (Slovak, Hungarian and Romanian) - 6,000,000.00; 2. Radio Kovacica (Slovak, Hungarian and Romanian) - 3,600,000.00;
Novi Sad	Society for Romanian Language of Vojvodina (Multilingual magazine LOGOS /PEI) - 220,000.00		Society for Romanian Language of Vojvodina (Multilingual magazine New Bridge to	Society for Romanian Language of Vojvodina (Multilingual magazine LOGOS /PEI) - 100,000.00

Tolerance)-
220,000.00

paragraph 1 b (ii)

The radio programme in the Romanian language is broadcast on the Radio Television of Vojvodina. The table below shows data on the number of minutes and the type of radio programme in the reporting period.

RTV - Radio programme in Romanian

	2019	2020	2021	by 30 June 2022
News/Info	16,166	17,540	19,027	10,047
Special programme	6,375	5,454	6,156	2,986
Sports	2,340	2,758	3,130	1,542
Education	10,823	9,919	11,884	7,333
Music	63,520	70,172	63,575	30,022
Culture and science	16,625	15,875	17,505	8,701
Entertainment	28,110	20,271	20,466	9,666
Fiction and drama	2,147	4,137	4,219	1,787
Total	146,106	146,126	145,962	72,084

According to data from the Independent Research, radio programs in the Romanian language are also broadcast on the media listed in the following table.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
	Radio Bus, Kavin	Radio	Serbian, Hungarian, Roma
	Radio Kovacica	Radio	Serbian, Hungarian, Slovak
	Radio Bela Crkva	Radio	Serbian, Hungarian, Roma, Czech
	Radio Far, Alibunar	Radio	Serbian, Slovak
	Radio Pancevo	Radio	Serbian, Hungarian, Slovak

paragraph 1 c (ii)

Television programme in the Romanian language is broadcast on the Public Media Service RTV. The table below shows information about the broadcast programme.

RTV - TV programme in Romanian

	2019	2020	2021	by 30 June 2022
News/Info	31,750	32,404	34,334	19,720
Documentary	553	584	367	0
Entertainment	2,069	685	570	0

Culture/Art	1.483	3.250	455	30
Religious	0	85	0	0
Music	11.535	9.380	11.284	7.306
Children	0	491	0	0
Science/Education	181	584	658	0
Non-scheduled programme	286	210	180	235
Sports	0	0	0	0
Commercial shows	11	38	0	0
Total	47.868	47.711	47.848	27.291

According to data from the Independent Research, TV programmes in the Romanian language are also broadcast on the media listed in the following table.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
	TV Banat, Vrancea	TV	Serbian, Roma
	TV OK, Kovacic	TV	Slovak, Serbian, Hungarian
	TV Bor	TV	Serbian Vlach
	TV Panciova	TV	Serbian, Hungarian, Roma, Slovak, Macedonian
	TV Lav, Vrancea	TV	Serbian, Hungarian

paragraph 1 d

The production and distribution of audio and audio-video works in the Romanian language is carried out through the radio and television channels mentioned in the previous paragraphs. It is important to point out that RTS has a constantly open competition for the selection of programme content of European independent productions, which are broadcast on RTS channels and internet platforms, which are open to productions that produce programmes in minority languages. RTS has been cooperating with the Production Group Mreza for many years, which produces the show "*Dana nam nije*", about successful individuals who are members of all national minorities.

paragraph 1 e (i)

According to data from the Independent Research, the papers listed below are published in Romanian.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
Libertatea		Weekly	
Bucuria copiilor		Monthly	
Tineretea		Monthly	
Lumina		Quarterly	

Newspapers that publish information in the languages of national minorities are financed from the budget of AP Vojvodina, which are published by newspaper-publishing institutions founded by national councils of national minorities. The publisher in Romanian is NIU Libertatea, which publishes one weekly and two youth/children's papers (Libertatea, Bucuria copiilor, Tineretea). Information about the funds allocated for Romanian-language newspapers is given in the table below.

	2019	2020	2021	2022
NIU Libertatea	39.466.500,00	39.466.500,00	39.466.500,00	49.333.116,00

paragraph 1 f (ii)

Data on open competitions for co-financing are given in the part of the Report devoted to paragraph 1. a (iii).

paragraph 2

Implementation measures in practice for the application of this paragraph are the same for all minority languages and are presented in the part of the report dedicated to the Albanian language.

Article 12

paragraph 1 a

A total of 28 projects of the Romanian national minority were supported in open competitions in the field of cultural activities of national minorities in the Republic of Serbia, conducted by the line ministry in the reporting period. The table below contains data on the amount of approved funds and the number of supported projects.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Romanian	800,000.00 (6)	960,000.00 (8)	750,000.00 (6)	980,000.00 (8)

Significant budget funds were allocated in other open competitions conducted by the relevant ministry, to support projects of the Romanian national minority or multicultural projects that encourage different forms of expression and initiatives related to the Romanian language. According to the available data for 2019 and 2020, in other open competitions of the relevant ministry one culture project of the Romanian national minority was financed in the amount of RSD 283,900.00.

As part of the "Cities in Focus" competition, different ways of accessing cultural and artistic works produced in the Romanian language are also specifically supported and enabled. In the reporting period, three projects were financed in the total amount of RSD 11,200,000.00 by

local self-government units where there is a significant number of members of the Romanian national minority (Vrsac, Kovacica).

As it was pointed out in the section dedicated to implementing measures in policy and legislation, other levels of authorities carry out open competitions in order to collect proposals for financing or co-financing cultural projects, artistic projects, and professional and scientific research projects in culture. The following table provides data on the number of supported cultural projects of the Romanian national minority and the amount of allocated funds in open competitions for financing - co-financing of projects of importance for the culture and art of national minorities - national communities in AP Vojvodina.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Romanian	710,000.00 (13)	700,000.00 (12)	700,000.00 (12)	1,294,000.00 (15)

According to the available data for 2019 and 2020, one project of the Romanian national minority was supported in the other open competitions carried out by the competent provincial secretariat in the amount of RSD 400,000.00.

In addition, the work of the Institute for the Culture of Romanians in Vojvodina is financed from the budget of AP Vojvodina.

	2019.	2020.	2021.
Institute for the culture of Romanians in Vojvodina	9,400,000.00	9,400,000.00	9,400,000.00

According to available data for 2020, four local self-government units (Vrsac, Zitiste, Kovacica, Novi Sad) supported 12 cultural projects of the Romanian national minority in the amount of RSD 810,000.00.

paragraph 1 b, c

According to the data of the National Library of Serbia, a total of 250 publications were published in the Romanian language in the reporting period, of which 70 publications were translated into the Serbian language.

In open competitions for co-financing of projects in the field of translation of representative works of domestic literature conducted by the relevant ministry, six literary works were translated into the Romanian language in the reporting period, for which the ministry allocated EUR 7,000.

Radio Television of Serbia has started to implement the project of adapting the internet platform planetaplus.rs for users in multiple languages, including Romanian, which means that domestic series, feature and TV films, documentary programs, etc. will be subtitled and available to its speakers.

paragraph 1 d

The National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia adopted on November 26, 2021, the proposal on the appointment of 11 members of the National Council for Culture, including two members from the list of candidates proposed by the national councils of national minorities.

In all open competitions conducted by the relevant ministry and provincial authorities in the reporting period, the National Council of the Romanian National Minority had the opportunity to present its proposals on the allocation of funds.

paragraph 2

In the reporting period, in the territories where the Romanian language is not traditionally used, according to the available data, there were cases of submission of cultural projects in the Romanian language, which is presented in paragraph 1. a.

Article 14

The agreement on cultural cooperation between the Government of the FNRJ and the Republic of Romania from 1956 shall remain in force until the new Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Serbia and the Government of Romania on cooperation in the fields of education, science, culture, media, youth, and sports, which was signed in January 2022, is confirmed.

Also, the following documents are in force: the Agreement on Cooperation between the Archives of Yugoslavia and the National Archives of Romania (1996), the Agreement and Protocol on Cooperation between the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts and the Romanian Academy of Sciences (2007), the Protocol on Cooperation between the National Library of Serbia and the National Library of Romania (2008), Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperation between the Institute for the Study of Cultural Development and the National Institute for Cultural Research of Romania (2018) and the Protocol on Cooperation between the Matica Srpska Gallery from Novi Sad and the National Art Museum in Timisoara (2019).

The National Library of Serbia cooperates with the following libraries and cultural centres from Romania: The National Library of Romania, The Library of the Romanian Academy of Sciences, Central Library of the University Karol 1, Serbian Reading Room: Library of Serbs in Diaspora, The Library of the Faculty of Foreign Languages, Department of Slavic Languages, the Slavic Centre, University of Timisoara, the Faculty of Literature, Philosophy and History, while the most important partner of the Matica Srpska Library is the National Library from Bucharest.

The National Theatre in Belgrade cooperates with the National Theatre, Ballet, and Opera in Timisoara. In addition, many other theatres from Serbia, such as the Tosa Jovanovic National Theatre from Zrenjanin, Steria National Theatre from Vrsac, Kikinda National Theatre, the National Theatre in Subotica, the National Theatre in Sambor, the Serbian National Theatre from Novi Sad and the National Theatre from Sabac, maintain long-term, continuous cooperation with partners from Romania.

The Yugoslav Film Archive cooperates with the Romanian Cinematheque, especially in the preparation and organisation of the events "Romanian Film Days in Serbia" and "Serbian Film Days in Romania". The Film Center of Serbia cooperates with the Transilvania

International Film Festival. The Film Centre of Serbia is also the founder and member of the South Eastern European Cinema Network - SEE CN (South Eastern European Cinema Network), which unites cinematography institutions from 11 countries of the region - national film centres and film archives from Albania, Bulgaria, Greece, Romania, Cyprus, and Macedonia.

The Film Centre of Serbia regularly announces open competition for co-financing the production of content in minority languages. This competition co-finances film projects that make a significant contribution to cooperation in the region, by which it supports the works of great cultural importance. In addition to the production of contents, film premieres and promotions are realised in the countries participating in the project, as well as joint performances at film markets and festivals. Five film co-productions of Serbia and Romania were supported in these competitions in the reported period in the amount of RSD 28,865,000.00.

The development of joint cooperation has a lot of potential within various transnational programs, such as Creative Europe, the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR), the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) and the China-CIEZ (17+1) mechanism.

The implementation of the EU project Novi Sad - European Capital of Culture 2022 and Timisoara - European Capital of Culture 2023, foresees the implementation of joint projects that should bring closer together the two European capitals of culture. A project realised in the framework of cooperation between the Matica Srpska Gallery and the National Art Museum in Timisoara is the exhibition „Parallels. Novi Sad!Timisoara", in which two collections were combined and parallels were made between artists, themes, ideas and artistic visions of the former shared cultural space.

The cooperation between the two countries and the promotion of the Romanian language are also related to the celebration of January 15 - the National Day of Romanian Culture, when various cultural events are organized, primarily in local self-government units with the Romanian minority. In addition, the Cultural Centre Vrsac, as part of the Vrsac Cultural Summer 2022, in cooperation with the National council of the Romanian national minority, organised Romanian Culture Promotion Days, which included several different events.

B. Measures for implementation of recommendations of the Committee of Experts

a. Take organisational measures to ensure that speakers of Romanian can submit oral or written applications in this language to local branches of the national authorities and encourage speakers of Romanian to make use of this possibility in practice.

b. Encourage the local branches of the national authorities to draft documents in Romanian.

The measures taken are described in respect of implementation of the recommendation of the same content for the Albanian language.

c. Inform speakers of Romanian of the possibility to validly draft legal documents in this language.

d. Ensure that users of Romanian may submit oral or written applications in Romanian to the local authorities.

e. Encourage speakers of Romanian to use their language in communication with public service providers.

Taking into account the data presented in this report, it is clear that speakers of the Romanian language are informed and encouraged, as well as enabled to submit appropriate applications and to prepare relevant legal documents in the Romanian language.

RUTHENIAN LANGUAGE

A. Part III

Article 8

paragraph 1 a (iii)

Pre-school education in Ruthenian is organised in two local self-government units.

School year	Number of local self-government units	Number of pre-school institutions	Number of groups	Number of children
2019/2020	3	3	9	191
2020/2021	2	2	8	177
2021/2022	2	2	8	187

Bilingual pre-school education in Serbian and Ruthenian language is organised **in** one local self-government unit.

School year	Number of local self-government units	Number of pre-school institutions	Number of groups	Number of children
2019/2020	-	-	-	-
2020/2021	1	1	1	26
2021/2022	1	1	1	30

paragraph 1 a (iv)

In the territory in which Ruthenian is in use there are no pre-school institutions founded by other legal or natural persons, or foreign countries, foreign legal or natural persons.

paragraph 1 b (iv)

Full classes in the Ruthenian language are organised in two elementary schools.

Number of pupils who attend classes in the Ruthenian language

School year	Number of students		Number of schools
	.	%	
2019/20	299	0,05	2
2020/21.	311	0 06	2

2021/22.	315	0,06	2
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Ruthenian language with elements of national culture are organised for pupils who do not attend classes in the mother tongue.

Number of students who attend elective subject/programme

Elective subject / programme	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Ruthenian language with elements of national culture	358	363	324

For elementary education in the Ruthenian language, according to the Catalogue of textbooks in the languages of national minorities for the school year 2022/2023 and Additions to the Catalogue, total number of 84 textbooks were approved.

Additional training for teachers, which is realised through the system of permanent professional development and participation in different programmes, also enables the realisation of assumed undertakings. One of them is the online training "Strengthening the language competences of teachers who teach in eight languages of national minorities" to strengthen the language competences of teachers in primary and secondary education.

Number of teachers who teach in Ruthenian and who have completed the training

Math	7
Biology	4
History	5
Geography	2
Physics	6
Chemistry	2
General competence	31
Total	57

In parallel with the curriculum reform, the Centre for Quality Assurance of the Institutions' Work created General Achievement Standards for the end of compulsory education for the subject Mother Tongue and Literature (2016), then General Standards for the end of general secondary education and secondary vocational education and training for the subject Mother Tongue and Literature (2018), as well as the General Achievement Standards for the Mother Tongue for the end of the first cycle of primary education and training (2020). The appropriate manual for the Ruthenian language was published,¹¹⁶ and during 2020 training courses were organised at which 14 teachers of Ruthenian took part.

paragraph 1 c (iv)

Secondary education in the Ruthenian language is organised in one secondary school.

Number of students who attend secondary school in Ruthenian

School year	Classes in Ruthenian
2019/2020	43
2020/2021	36

¹¹⁶ <https://ceo.edu.rs/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Rusinski-jezik-Priruc%CC%8Cnik.pdf>

According to the Catalogue of textbooks in the languages of national minorities for 2022/2023 school year, a total of 36 textbooks was approved for secondary education in the Ruthenian language.

With the aim of providing students with a greater choice of secondary education profiles in the languages of national minorities, and bearing in mind that there are fewer applicants for certain secondary school profiles, the formation of classes that are smaller than prescribed (less than 15 students) is regularly approved.

Total number of classes with less than 15 students

Class language	School year	No. of classes with less than 15 students
Ruthenian language	2019/20	I
	2020/21	I
	2021/22	I

paragraph 1 d (iv)

As part of technical or specialist education, conditions have been met to make learning of the Ruthenian language available through the subject Ruthenian language with elements of national culture. The Republic of Serbia is ready to apply this measure for those who wish to take this class, but since in the reporting period the number of applicants was below sufficient, in practice this course is not carried out.

paragraph 1 e (ii)

Ruthenian language and literature are studied at the Faculty of Philology, University of Novi Sad.

	Academic year	Total number of freshmen students
Ruthenian language	2019/20	.
	2020/21	I
	2021/22	2

paragraph 1 f (iii)

In the framework of formal adult education, during the enrolment period there were no applicants registered for education in the Ruthenian language, during the reporting period.

paragraph 1 g

Implementing measures in practice for the application of this paragraph are the same for all minority languages and are presented in the part of the report dealing with the Albanian language.

Article 9

paragraph 1 a (ii)

In the reporting period there were no cases in which the Romanian language was used.

paragraph 1 a (iii)

At the Basic court in Vrbas in 2019 requests or evidence were submitted in the Ruthenian language in one criminal proceeding.

paragraph 1 b (ii)

In the reporting period the Ruthenian language was not used in civil litigations.

paragraph 1 c (ii)

In the reporting period there were no cases in which the Ruthenian language was used.

paragraph 1 d

In the reporting period court interpreters - translators for the Ruthenian language were not engaged.

paragraph 2 a, b, c

A large number of courts pointed out in their appendices for the preparation of the state report that it is not possible to provide data on the number of inheritance and other non-contentious litigation proceedings in the Serbian language in which there were documents drawn up in one of the languages of the national minorities, or on the number of proceedings in which a power of attorney was given to representatives in one of the languages of the national minorities, including the Croatian language, bearing in mind that such records are not kept, and tens of thousands of cases would have to be reviewed manually in order to determine by direct inspection whether there was a document in the language of the national minorities, which was not feasible technically or personnel-wise.

paragraph 3

Implementing measures in practice for the application of this paragraph are the same for all minority languages that are in official use and are presented in the part of the report dedicated to the Albanian language, i.e. all the laws and bylaws mentioned in that part of the report have been translated into the Ruthenian language.

Article 10

paragraph 1 a (iv)

According to the data of the competent authorities, in the reporting period there were no submissions of oral or written petitions to the government bodies in the Ruthenian language, nor to their regional units in the administrative areas where the number of inhabitants who use the Ruthenian language justifies the measures specified in this article.

paragraph 1 a (v)

According to the data of the competent authorities, in the reporting period there were no submissions of documents to the government bodies in the Ruthenian language, nor to their regional units in the administrative areas where the number of inhabitants who use the Ruthenian language justifies the measures specified in this article.

paragraph 1 c

According to the data of the competent authorities, in the reporting period there were no cases of preparation of draft documents by the government bodies in the Ruthenian language, nor by their regional units in the administrative areas where the number of inhabitants who use the Ruthenian language justifies the measures specified in this article.

paragraph 2 b

According to the available data, the speakers of the Ruthenian language did not avail themselves of this right in the reporting period.

paragraph 2 c

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia stipulates that the autonomous province determines the languages in official use. The Statute of AP Vojvodina states that the Ruthenian language and script is one of the five languages of national minorities that is in official use in the work of authorities of AP Vojvodina.

Implementing measures in practice

The official gazette of AP Vojvodina, which publishes all official documents of AP Vojvodina, is also published in the Ruthenian language.¹¹⁷

paragraph 2 d

Some local self-government units took advantage of the opportunity to stipulate in their statutes that official gazettes are also published in the minority languages that are in official use, and official documents are also made available via official website, because some local self-

¹¹⁷ <http://www.puma.vojvodina.gov.rs/index.php?lang=6>

government units have websites in the minority language as well. Local community Ruski Krstur has a website in Ruthenian.¹¹⁸ Also, certain documents that were prepared by the bodies of the City of Novi Sad are regularly published in the publication *Ruske slovo* in the Ruthenian language.

paragraph 2 g

Traditional names of municipalities and settlements in the Ruthenian language are determined pursuant to the decision on determining the traditional names in the Ruthenian language of 2016, of which the Committee of Experts was informed in more detail in previous state reports. This decision was amended in 2021,¹¹⁹ after the national council had determined the traditional name of the city of Sremska Mitrovica and the settlement Stara Bingula in the Ruthenian language.

Name of the LSGU in Serbian	Name of the settlement in Serbian	Name of the LSGU in Ruthenian	Name of the settlement in Ruthenian
Sremska Mitrovica	Stara Bingula	Ср҃МС҃Ка М҃ТрОБ҃Н҃а	Ср҃па Е҃Н҃р҃на

paragraph 4 c

The following table provides data on the number of work positions in local self-government units for which the rules on the internal organisation and systematisation of work positions stipulate knowledge of the Ruthenian language as a special condition for performing work, as well as data on the number of employees who speak the Ruthenian language.

Local self-government unit	Number of work positions	Number of employees who speak the language
Betei		1
Vrbas		19
Zabajj	1	1
Kula	2	7
Novi Sad		1
Sid		2

paragraph 5

According to the available data, in the reporting period, two entries of personal name in the registry in the Ruthenian language were made at the registry office of the city of Novi Sad in 2020, and two in 2021.

In local self-government units where the statute establishes that the Ruthenian language is also in official use, register certificate forms are printed bilingually. The table below shows the

¹¹⁸ <https://mzruskikrstur.rs/>

¹¹⁹ *Official Gazette of AP Vojvodina*, Nos. 61/2016 and 14/2021

total number of issued certificates from registries on bilingual forms in the city of Novi Sad, including Serbian-Ruthenian forms.

Local self-government unit	Number of issued certificates on Serbian-Ruthenian bilingual forms			
	2019	2020	2021	2022
Novi Sad ¹²⁰	431	427	265	162

Article 11

paragraph 1 a (iii)

Bearing in mind that the legislation of the Republic of Serbia contains appropriate provisions, we note that data on their application in practice are contained in the following sections. At this point, we point out that the implementation of the presented provisions in practice is achieved through open competitions for co-financing.

In the reporting period a total of four projects of the Ruthenian national minority were supported on open competitions for the co-financing of projects of media content production in the languages of national minorities, which is carried out by the line ministry. The table below shows data on the amount of approved funds and the number of supported projects.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Ruthenian	400,000.00 (1)	450,000.00 (1)	500,000.00 (1)	504,000.00 (1)

The provincial secretariat responsible for information also announces annual competition for financing projects for the production of media content in the field of public information in the languages of national minorities. The following table provides an overview of the number of supported projects and the allocated funds for projects in the Ruthenian language.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Ruthenian	400,000.00 (2)	-	-	100,000.00 (1)

Local self-government units also publish annual tenders for the allocation of budget funds for the production of media content that is important for a specific local self-government unit. The table below, according to the available data, shows the local self-government units that financed projects in the Ruthenian language and amounts.

LSGU	2019	2020	2021	2022
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¹²⁰ The City of Novi Sad gave a compound data on the number of issued bilingual certificates

Kula	Information and propaganda center "Kula" d.o.o. (Hungarian, German, Ruthenian, Ukrainian) - 1000000.00	Information and propaganda center "Kula" d.o.o. (Hungarian, German, Ruthenian, Ukrainian)- I 000,000.00	Information and propaganda center "Kula" d.o.o. (Hungarian, German, Ruthenian, Ukrainian) - 1,000,000.00	Information and propaganda center "Kula" d.o.o. (Hungarian, German, Ruthenian, Ukrainian)- 1,000,000.00
Novi Sad		IN radio d.o.o Novi Sad "Lepa rec - a szep dolog - Jucru frumos - sukar alav" - 1 000,000.00;	"Sesta dimenzija", NOVI SAD (Rusinska harmonija)- 200,000.00;	

paragraph 1 b (ii)

The radio programme in the Ruthenian language is broadcast on the Radio Television of Vojvodina. The table below shows data on the number of minutes and the type of radio programme in the reporting period.

RTV - Radio programme in Ruthenian

	2019	2020	2021	by 30 June 2022
News/Info	19.317	17.126	17.810	9.989
Special programme	12.240	11.010	11.125	5.287
Sports	1.357	1.213	1.706	909
Education	11.470	10.941	10.789	5.773
Music	53.902	57.565	57.605	28.636
Culture and science	6.826	7.931	8.123	3.734
Entertainment	34.201	34.171	33.008	15.307
Fiction and drama	1.290	2.284	1.540	917
Total	140.603	142.241	141.706	70.552

According to data from the Independent Research, radio programmes in the Ruthenian language are also broadcast on the media listed in the following table.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
	Radio Sid	Radio	Serbian, Slovak
	Radio Maria	Radio	Croatian, Slovak, German, Hungarian, Ukrainian
	Radio regije, Backa Topola	Radio	Serbian, Hungarian, Slovak
	Radio Backa, Bae	Radio	Serbian, Slovak, Croatian
	Q Radio, Kula	Radio	Serbian, Hungarian, German, Ukrainian

paragraph 1 c (ii)

Television programme in the Ruthenian language is broadcast on the Public Media Service RTV. The table below shows information about the broadcast programme.

RTV- TV programme m^R u^he-man

	2019	2020	2021	by 30 June 2022
News/Info	34,336	36,199	37,692	20,492
Documentary	1,514	2,300	1,625	957
Entertainment	1,185	1,877	2,565	1,307
Culture/Art	1,219	117	180	449
Religious	0	0	0	0
Music	2,899	1,874	1,757	1,670
Children	350	719	524	264
Science/Education	178	118	0	0
Non-scheduled programme	662	619	406	273
Sports	0	0	0	0
Commercial shows	0	6	0	0
Total	42,343	43,829	44,749	25,412

paragraph 1 d

The production and distribution of audio and audio-video works in the Ruthenian language is carried out through the radio and television channels mentioned in the previous paragraphs. It is important to point out that RTS has a permanently open competition for the selection of programme content of European independent productions, which are broadcast on RTS channels and internet platforms, which are open to productions that produce programmes in minority languages. RTS has been cooperating with the Production Group Mreza for many years, which produces the show "Da nam nije", about successful individuals who are members of all national minorities.

paragraph 1 e (i)

According to data from the Independent Research, the papers listed below are published in Ruthenian.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
Ruske slovo		Weekly	
Mak		Monthly	
Zahratka		Monthly	

Newspapers that publish information in the languages of national minorities are financed from the budget of AP Vojvodina, which are published by newspaper-publishing institutions founded by national councils of national minorities. The publisher in Ruthenian is NIU Ruske slovo, which publishes one weekly and two youth/children's papers (Ruske slovo, Mak,

Zahratka). Information about the funds allocated for Ruthenian-language newspapers is given in the table below.

	2019.	2020.	2021.	2022.
NIU Ruske Slovo	36,625,344.00	36,625,344.00	36,625,344.00	45,781,680.00

paragraph 1 f (ii)

Data on open competitions for co-financing are given in the part of the Report devoted to paragraph 1. a (iii).

paragraph 2

Implementing measures in practice for the application of this paragraph are the same for all minority languages and are presented in the part of the report dedicated to the Albanian language.

Article 12

paragraph 1 a

A total of 25 projects of the Ruthenian national minority were supported in open competitions in the field of cultural activities of national minorities in the Republic of Serbia, conducted by the line ministry in the reporting period. The table below contains data on the amount of approved funds and the number of supported projects.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Ruthenian	941,000.00 (6)	680,000.00 (5)	840,000.00 (7)	900,000.00 (7)

Significant budget funds were allocated in other open competitions conducted by the relevant ministry, to support projects of the Ruthenian national minority or multicultural projects that encourage different forms of expression and initiatives related to the Ruthenian language.

As part of the "Cities in Focus" competition, different ways of accessing cultural and artistic works produced in the Ruthenian language are also specifically supported and enabled. In the reporting period, two projects were financed in the total amount of RSD 24,000,000.00 by local self-government units where there is a significant number of members of the Ruthenian national minority (Vrbas, Sid).

As it was pointed out in the section dedicated to implementing measures in policy and legislation, other levels of authority carry out open competitions in order to collect proposals for financing or co-financing cultural projects, artistic projects, and professional and scientific research projects in culture. The following table provides data on the number of supported cultural projects of the Ruthenian national minority and the amount of allocated funds in open

competitions for financing - co-financing of projects of importance for the culture and art of national minorities - national communities in AP Vojvodina.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Ruthenian	695,000.00 (10)	575,000.00 (10)	600,000.00 (9)	1,094,000.00 (13)

According to the available data for 2019 and 2020, five projects of the Ruthenian national minority were supported in the other open competitions carried out by the competent provincial secretariat in the amount of RSD 1,300,000.00.

In addition, the work of the Institute for the Culture of Ruthenians in Vojvodina is financed from the budget of AP Vojvodina.

	2019	2020	2021
Institute for the Culture of Ruthenians in Voivodina	6,600,000.00	6,600,000.00	6,600,000.00

According to available data for 2020, three local self-government units (Backa TopoJa, Novi Sad, Subotica) supported 13 cultural projects of the Ruthenian national minority in the amount of RSD 1,825,451.00.

paragraph 1 b, c

According to the data of the Society for Ruthenian Language, Literature and Culture, in the reporting period, their publishing activity included publications of works and translations, such as the works *Dr. Gabriel Kostelnik, Poetry and Prose*, a selection of translations into the Serbian language by Dr. Julijan Ramac and Miroslav Aleksic and the book *Moments and a Deceased Girl, Selected Poems and Prose* by Vladimir Sabo-Dajko, *Poems and Short Stories* by Mikola M. Kocisa, bilingual books of poems *Popatrunok* by Zdenko Lazor and book *Misli mi lete* by Sonia Papuga, bilingual book by Dr. Mihajlo Fejsa *Besedujme po ruski / Govorimo Rusinski*, etc. Also, the Institute for the Culture of Ruthenians in Vojvodina has issued several publications translated into Serbian, such as the proceedings of the Ruthenian scientific conferences of young scientists, a book by Dura Hardi *Rusini od prisajedinjavanja do Prosvete*, and the book *Rusinske porodice u Sidu*, etc.

paragraph 1 f

The National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia adopted on November 26, 2021, the proposal on the appointment of 11 members of the National Council for Culture, including two members from the list of candidates proposed by the national councils of national minorities.

In all open competitions conducted by the relevant ministry and provincial authorities in the reporting period, the National Council of the Ruthenian National Minority had the opportunity to present its proposals on the allocation of funds.

paragraph 2

In the reporting period, in the territories where the Ruthenian language is not traditionally used, according to the available data, there were cases of submission of cultural projects in the Ruthenian language, which is presented in paragraph 1. a.

Article 14

The National council of the Ruthenian national minority was the initiator of the signing of two interregional agreements between AP Vojvodina and Transcarpathian Region in Ukraine and the Presov Region in Slovakia, with the aim of improving cooperation between members of the Ruthenian community in Serbia and in these countries, primarily in the field of culture and education. as well as in other areas.

Members of the Society for the Ruthenian language, literature and culture are primarily cultural and educational workers (teachers, professors, pedagogues), writers, journalists, publicists, translators, and other admirers of the Ruthenian language and literature. The Society's work takes place through professional bodies, through sections formed in several places in the Republic of Serbia, as well as directly in cooperation with Society members in Miklusevci and Petrovci (Republic of Croatia), in Kitchener and North Battleford (Canada), and in other areas. The society implements several cultural, artistic and educational programs, one of them being "Meetings of Ruthenian schools", which has been organised regularly since 1994, where participants from schools from the Republic of Serbia and the Republic of Croatia study Ruthenian language.

B. Measures for implementation of recommendations of the Committee of Experts

a. Take organisational measures to ensure that speakers of Ruthenian can submit oral or written applications in this language to local branches of the national authorities and encourage Slovak speakers to make use of this possibility in practice.

h. Encourage the local branches of the national authorities to draft documents in Ruthenian.

The measures taken are described in respect of implementation of the recommendation of the same content for the Albanian language.

SLOVAK LANGUAGE

A. Part III

Article 8

paragraph 1 a (iii)

Pre-school education in Slovak is organised in six local self-government units.

School year	Number of local self-government units	Number of pre-school institutions	Number of groups	Number of children
2019/2020	6	6	37	817
2020/2021	6	6	37	741
2021/2022	6	6	36	741

Bilingual pre-school education in Serbian and Slovak language is organised in three local self-government units.

School year	Number of local self-government units	Number of pre-school institutions	Number of groups	Number of children
2019/2020	3	3	3	45
2020/2021	3	3	4	70
2021/2022	3	3	4	78

paragraph 1 a (iv)

In the territory in which Slovak is in use there are no pre-school institutions founded by other legal or natural persons, or foreign countries, foreign legal or natural persons.

paragraph 1 b (iv)

Complete education in the Slovak language is organised in 17 elementary schools.

Number of pupils who attend classes in the Slovak language

School year	Number of students		Number of schools
	y	%	
2019/20	2.329	0,40	17
2020/21	2.230	0,41	17
2021/22	2.568	0,5	17

Slovak language with elements of national culture is organised for students who do not attend classes in the mother tongue.

Number of students who attend elective subject/programme

Elective subject/ programme	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Slovak language with elements of national culture	950	914	770

For elementary education in the Slovakian language, according to the Catalogue of textbooks in the languages of national minorities for the school year 2022/2023 and Additions to the Catalogue, total number of 108 textbooks were approved.

Additional training for teachers, which is realised through the system of permanent professional development and participation in different programmes, also enables the realisation of assumed undertakings. One of them is the online training "Strengthening the language competences of teachers who teach in eight languages of national minorities" to strengthen the language competences of teachers in primary and secondary education.

Number of teachers who teach in Slovak and who have completed the training

Math	17
Biology	16
History	7
Geography	6
Physics	8
Chemistry	5
General competence	99
Total	158

In parallel with the curriculum reform, the Centre for Quality Assurance of the Institutions' Work created General Achievement Standards for the end of compulsory education for the subject Mother Tongue and Literature (2016), then General Standards for the end of general secondary education and secondary vocational education and training for the subject Mother Tongue and Literature (2018), as well as the General Achievement Standards for the Mother Tongue for the end of the first cycle of primary education and training (2020). The appropriate manual for the Slovak language was published,¹²¹ and during 2020 training courses were organised at which 39 teachers of Slovak took part.

With the aim of improving the quality of education in the Slovak language, the competent ministry hired three associate - external advisors for education in the Slovak language in elementary and secondary schools.

paragraph 1 c (iv)

Secondary education in the Slovak language is available in three secondary schools.

Number of students attending secondary school in the Slovak language

School year	Classes in Slovak
2019/2020	378
2020/2021	369
2021/2022	439

The Slovak language with elements of national culture class is organised for students who do not attend school in the mother tongue.

Number of students who attend elective subject/programme

Elective subject/ programme	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
The Slovak language with elements of national culture	65	50	68

For secondary education in the Slovak language, according to the Catalogue of textbooks in the languages of national minorities for the school year 2022/2023 and Additions to the Catalogue, total number of 60 textbooks were approved.

¹²¹ <https://ceo.edu.rs/WO=content/uploads/2020/10/Slovak%CC%8Cki-jezik-Priruc%CC%8Cnik.pdf>

With the aim of providing students with a greater choice of educational profiles in the languages of national minorities, and bearing in mind that there are fewer applicants for certain secondary school profiles, and, the formation of classes that are smaller than prescribed (less than 15 students) is regularly approved.

Total number of classes with less than 15 students

Class language		School year	Number of classes with less than 15 students
Slovak		2019/20	2
		2020/21	3
		2021/22	-

paragraph 1 d (iv)

The following table shows vocational secondary schools in the Slovak language in the 2020/2021 school year, including the number of approved places and the number of enrolled freshman students.

Secondary school educational profiles in the Slovak language for the first year of school in 2021/2022

Area	No. of places/ enrolled
Health and social protection	30/30
Trade, hospitality and tourism	30/12

paragraph 1 e (ii)

Slovak language and literature are studied at the Faculty of Philology, University of Novi Sad.

	Academic year	Number of enrolled freshman students
Slovak language	2019/20	3
	2020/21	4
	2021/22	4

Slovak language, literature and culture are also studied within the Group for Slovak Language and Literature at the Department of Slavic Studies at the Faculty of Philology, University of Belgrade.

	Academic year	Number of students
Slovak language	2019/20	42
	2020/21	38
	2021/22	37

At Higher Professional School for the Education of Teachers classes in all study programmes are held in the Serbian language, and certain students attend some classes in the Slovak language. In the 2019/2020, 2020/2021 and 2021/2022, each school year three students attended classes in the Slovak language.

paragraph 1 f (iii)

In the framework of formal adult education, during the enrolment period there were no applicants registered for education in the Slovak language, during the reporting period.

paragraph 1 g

Implementing measures in practice for the application of this paragraph are the same for all minority languages and are presented in the part of the report dealing with the Albanian language.

Article 9

paragraph 1 a (ii)

In the reporting period there were no cases in which the Slovak language was used.

paragraph 1 a (iii)

Before the Basic Court in Pancevo in 2019, a request or evidence in the Slovak language was submitted in one criminal proceeding.

paragraph 1 b (ii)

Before the Basic Court in Stara Pazova, a civil proceeding was conducted entirely in the Slovak language. In the reporting period, the Slovak language was used in civil litigation in one proceeding before the Basic Court in Becej in 2019 and one proceeding before the Basic Court in Pancevo in 2020.

paragraph 1 c (ii)

In the reporting period there were no cases in which the Slovak language was used.

paragraph 1 d

In the reporting period in the Basic Court in Becej, court interpreters - translators for the Slovak language were engaged in one case each in 2019 and 2020, and translation costs for the participants who used the Slovak language amounted to RSD 1,540.00 in 2019 and RSD 6,000.00 in 2020.

In the Basic Court in Pancevo in 2019, there was one case in which an interpreter for the Slovak language was engaged, and the translation costs amounted to RSD 3,690.00.

In the Basic Court in Subotica, there were three cases in which an interpreter for the Slovak language was hired, one in 2019, 2020 and 2022 each, and the translation costs for the participants who used the Slovak language amounted to RSD 2,200.00 (2019), RSD 8,600.00 (2020) and RSD 24,000.00 (2022).

paragraph 2 a, b, c

A large number of courts pointed out in their appendices for the preparation of the state report that it is not possible to provide data on the number of inheritance and other non-contentious litigation proceedings in the Serbian language in which there were documents drawn up in one of the languages of the national minorities, or on the number of proceedings in which a power of attorney was given to representatives in one of the languages of the national minorities, including the Croatian language, bearing in mind that such records are not kept, and tens of thousands of cases would have to be reviewed manually in order to determine by direct inspection whether there was a document in the language of the national minorities, which was not feasible technically or personnel-wise.

paragraph 3

Implementing measures in practice for the application of this paragraph are the same for all minority languages that are in official use and are presented in the part of the report dedicated to the Albanian language, i.e. all the laws and bylaws mentioned in that part of the report have been translated into the Slovak language.

Article 10

paragraph 1 a (iv)

According to the data of the competent authorities, in the reporting period there were no submissions of oral or written petitions to the government bodies in the Slovak language, nor to their regional units in the administrative areas where the number of inhabitants who use the Slovak language justifies the measures specified in this article.

paragraph 1 a (v)

According to the data of the competent authorities, in the reporting period there were no submissions of documents to the government bodies in the Slovak language, nor to their regional units in the administrative areas where the number of inhabitants who use the Slovak language justifies the measures specified in this article.

paragraph 1 a

According to the data of the competent authorities, in the reporting period there were no cases of preparation of draft documents by the government bodies in the Slovak language, nor by their regional units in the administrative areas where the number of inhabitants who use the Slovak language justifies the measures specified in this article.

paragraph 2 b

According to the data from the answers to the questionnaires of the former Office for Human and Minority Rights, which were discussed in more detail in the Introduction of this

report, in the municipality of Backa Palanka in 2019, 91 requests were submitted for conducting first-instance proceedings in the Slovak language.

In 2020, the translation of all requests from administrative procedures carried out by the city administrations of the city of Novi Sad into the Slovak language was carried out from the planned funds from the budget of the city of Novi Sad.

In the attachment to this report, the Municipality of Sid stated that in 2020, one request was submitted for access to information of public importance in the Slovak language and script.

paragraph 2 c

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia stipulates that the autonomous province determines the languages in official use. The Statute of AP Vojvodina states that the Slovak language and script is one of the five languages of national minorities that is in official use in the work of authorities of AP Vojvodina.

Implementing measures in practice

The official gazette of AP Vojvodina, in which all official documents of AP Vojvodina are published, is also published in the Slovak language.¹²²

paragraph 2 d

Statutes of local self-government units in which minority languages are in official use regulate the publishing of local municipal acts in official gazettes of the local self-government unit. Some local self-government units took advantage of the opportunity to stipulate in their statutes that official gazettes are also published in the minority languages that are in official use. Municipality of Backi Petrovac publishes the official gazette in the Slovak language,¹²³ which means that the statute and all general acts of the local self-government unit are available in the Slovak language.

The availability of official documents of local self-government units in minority languages is also made possible on official websites, because some of the local self-government units in which minority languages are in official use have websites in the minority language as well. The municipality of Backi Petrovac and the city of Zrenjanin have websites in Slovak, while some parts of the website of the city of Pancevo have been translated into the Slovak language.¹²⁴

¹²² <http://www.puma.voivodina.gov.rs/index.php?lang=4>

¹²³ <https://www.backipetrovac.rs/sk/dokumenti/sluzbeni-list-opstine-backi-petrovac>

¹²⁴ Backi Petrovac: <https://www.backipetrovac.rs/sk>; Zrenjanin: <http://www.zrenjanin.rs/sk>; Pancevo: <http://www.pancevo.rs/sk/?O=lat>

paragraph 2 g

Traditional names of towns, municipalities and settlements in the Slovak language are determined pursuant the decision on determining the traditional names in the Slovak language ¹²⁵, of which the Committee of Experts was informed in more detail in previous state reports.

paragraph 4 c

The following table provides data on the number of work positions **in** local self- government units for which the rules on the internal organisation and systematisation of work positions stipulate knowledge of the Slovak language as a special condition for performing work, as well as data on the number of employees who speak the Slovak language.

Local self-government unit	Number of work places	Number of employees who speak the language
Bae	1	8
Backa Palanka	2	4
Beocin		1
Zrenjanin	4	2
Kovacica		29
Novi Sad		6
Sid		3

paragraph 5

The table below shows data on the use of the right to enter personal name in the Slovak language in the registers obtained from the register offices of local self-government units.

Local self-government unit	Number of entries of personal names in Slovak			
	2019	2020	2021	2022
Beocin	1	3	1	
Zrenianin	1			
Novi Sad	36	32	22	12

In local self-government units where the statute establishes that the Slovak language is also in official use, register certificate forms are printed bilingually. According to data from the Ministry of State Administration and Local Self-Government, **in** 2020, 165 certificates from registers were issued on bilingual forms for Serbian and Slovak, and 155 such forms were issued in 2021.

The table below shows the data on the issued certificates from registers on Serbian-Slovak bilingual forms, according to the data obtained from the local self-government units that participated in the preparation of this report or had answered the questionnaires of the former Office for Human and Minority Rights.

¹²⁵ *Official Gazette of AP Vojvodina*, No. 13/2003

Local self-government unit	Number of issued certificates on Serbian-Slovak bilingual forms			
	2019	2020	2021	2022
Alibunar	2			
Bae	5	3	8	3
Backa Palanka	5	5		
Beocin	6	-	6	2
Zrenjanin	1			
Kovacica	12	12	15	4
Novi Sad ¹²⁶	431	427	265	162
Sid	11	I	3	

Article 11

paragraph 1 a (iii)

Bearing in mind that the legislation of the Republic of Serbia contains appropriate provisions, we note that data on their application in practice are contained in the following sections. At this point we point out that the implementation of the presented provisions in practice is achieved through open competitions for co-financing.

In the reporting period a total of 22 projects of the Slovak national minority were supported on open competitions for the co-financing of media content production projects in the languages of national minorities, which is carried out by the line ministry. The table below shows data on the amount of approved funds and the number of supported projects.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Slovak	2,400,000.00 (6)	2,550,000.00 (5)	3,692,000.00 (6)	2,764,000.00 (5)

The Ministry of Culture and Information also co-finances the production of media content in minority languages in other competitions that it announces and manages. According to the available data for 2019 and 2020, one project in Slovak in the amount of RSD 700,000.00 was supported in other competitions of the competent ministry.

The provincial secretariat responsible for information also announces annual competition for financing projects for the production of media content in the field of public information in the languages of national minorities. The following table provides an overview of the number of supported projects and the allocated funds for projects in the Slovak language.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Slovak	1,000,000.00 (6)	550,000.00 (2)	750,000.00 (5)	1,200,000.00 (9)

Local self-government units also publish annual open competitions for the allocation of budget funds for the production of media content that is important for a specific local self-

¹²⁶The city of Novi Sad provided compound data on the number of issued bilingual certificates.

government unit. The table below, according to the available data, gives an overview of the local self-government units that financed projects in the Slovak language and amounts.

LSGU	2019	2020	2021	2022
Alibunar		Slovakki izdavacki centar Backi Petrovac- Porodicni magazin Rovina)- 50 000.00		
Backa Palanka	I. Nedeljne novine ad (information in Slovak and Hungarian)- 1,000,000.00; 2. Bap net (a show in Slovak)- 300,000.00;	1. Nedeljne novine ad (information in Slovak and Hungarian) - 1,000,000.00; 2. Bap neet (a show in Slovak)- 150,000.00;	1. Nedeljne novine ad (information in Slovak and Hungarian)- 800,000.00;	1. Nedeljne novine ad (information in Slovak and Hungarian)- 650,000.00;
Backa Topola	1. Radio regije (Hungarian, Ruthenian, Slovak) - 3,700,000.00; 2. TV Express Channel (Hungarian, Ruthenian, Slovak) - 3,750,000.00;	1. Radio regije (Hungarian, Ruthenian, Slovak) - 3.700.000,00; 2. TV Express Channel (Hungarian, Ruthenian, Slovak) - 3,700,000.00;	I. Radio regije (Hungarian, Ruthenian, Slovak) - 3.900.000,00; 2. TV Express Channel (Hungarian, Ruthenian, Slovak) - 4,000,000.00;	1. Radio regije (Hungarian, Ruthenian, Slovak) - 3.400.000,00; 2. TV Express Channel (Hungarian, Ruthenian, Slovak) - 2,600,000.00;
Backi Petrovac	1. "Novosadska TV" d.o.o., Novi Sad (Kultura vojvodanskih Slovaka- 1,000,000.00; 2. Televizija Petrovec (Slovaks in the municipality of Backi Petrovac-300 years)- 700,000.00;			
Kovacica	1. TV Kovacica (Slovak, Hungarian, Romanian)- 5,000,000.00; 2. Radio Kovatica (Slovak, Hungarian, Romanian)- 4,560,000.00;	1. TV Kovacica (Slovak, Hungarian, Romanian)- 4.900.000,00; 2. Radio Kovacica (Slovak, Hungarian, Romanian)- 3,000,000.00; 3. Slovacki izdavacki centar Backi Petrovac (porodicni magazin Rovina)- 200,000.00; 4. Wagner production doo	I. TV Kovacica (Slovak, Hungarian, Romanian)- 2,500,000.00; 2. Radio Kovacica (Slovak, Hungarian, Romanian)- 3,000,000.00;	I. TV Kovacica (Slovak, Hungarian, Romanian)- 6,000,000.00; 2. Radio Kovacica (Slovak, Hungarian, Romanian)- 3,600,000.00;

		Pancevo (Information on the life of Slovaks) - 820,000.00;		
Novi Sad	1. Novosadska TV DOO" News in Slovak and Hungarian " - 1,980,000.00; 2. „FRONT KULTURE" - "Documentary show Veza - Safarik" - 211,000.00;	1. Novosadska TV DOO"Newsin Slovak and Hungarian" - 1,000,000.00	1. Novosadska TV DOO" News in Slovak and Hungarian" - 1,000,000.00;	1. Novosadska TV DOO"Newsin minority languages " - 1,130,000.00;
Plandiste		Radio show „Information on the life of Slovaks on the territory of the city of Pancevo and South Banat" - 500,000.00		
Stara Pazova	"Slovmedia" PR ("Slovaks in Stara Pazova after two and a half centuries") - 3,800,000.00	"Slovaks in Stara Pazova after two and a half centuries) - 3,975,000.00		

paragraph 1 b (ii)

The radio programme in the Slovak language is broadcast on the Radio Television of Vojvodina. The table below shows data on the number of minutes and the type of radio programme in the reporting period.

RTV– Radio programme in Slovak

	2019	2020	2021	by 30 June 2022
News/Info	21,104	22,229	22,316	11,327
Special programme	2,756	4,282	5,159	2,542
Sports	5,980	5,007	5,980	2,990
Education	9,090	9,498	9,865	5,284
Music	60,190	60,359	60,298	30,003
Culture and science	11,960	12,237	15,216	7,495
Entertainment	32,767	29,998	25,506	12,169
Fiction and drama	3,439	3,216	2,980	1,480
Total	147,286	146,826	147,320	71,810

According to data from independent research, radio programs in the Slovak language are also broadcast on the media listed in the following table.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
Radio Kovacica		Radio	Serbian, Hungarian, Romanian
	Radio trend, Backa Topola	Radio	Serbian, Hungarian
	Radio Sid	Radio	Serbian, Ruthenian
	Radio Odzaci	Radio	Serbian, Hungarian, Roma
	Radio Marija	Radio	Croatian, Ruthenian, German, Hungarian, Ukrainian
	Radio regije, Backa Topola	Radio	Serbian, Hungarian, Ruthenian
	Radio Backa, Bae	Radio	Serbian, Croatian, Ruthenian
	Radio Stara Pazova	Radio	Serbian
	Radio Pancevo	Radio	Serbian, Hungarian, Romanian

paragraph 1 c (ii)

Television programme in the Slovak language is broadcast on the Public Media Service RTV. The table below shows information about the broadcast programme.

RTV– TV programme in Slovak

	2019	2020	2021	by 30 June 2022
News/Info	29.417	24.858	27.225	15.698
Documentary	1.751	1.434	2.426	602
Entertainment	2.242	3.724	3.669	1.156
Culture/Art	2.342	3.848	4.024	2.464
Religious	0	2.527	1.931	1.444
Music	8.879	5.680	5.180	3.900
Children	0	5.168	1.646	540
Science/Education	1.471	1.919	1.844	877
Non-scheduled programme	557	578	378	277
Soorts	0	0	0	0
Commercial shows	0	14	0	0
Total	46.659	49.750	48.323	26.958

According to data from the Independent Research, television programmes in Slovak are also broadcast on the media listed in the following table.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
	Novosadska TV	TV	Serbian, Hungarian
TV OK, Kovacica		TV	Serbian, Hungarian, Romanian

	TV Pancevo	TV	Serbian, Hungarian, Roma, Romanian, Macedonian
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paragraph 1 d

The production and distribution of audio and audio-video works in the Slovak language is carried out through the radio and television channels mentioned in the previous paragraphs, as well as via web portal www.storryteller.rs. It is important to point out that RTS has a constantly open competition for the selection of programme content of European independent productions, which are broadcast on RTS channels and internet platforms, which are open to productions that produce programmes in minority languages. RTS has been cooperating with the Production Group Mreza for many years, which produces the show "Da nam nije", about successful individuals who are members of all national minorities.

paragraph 1 e (i)

According to data from the Independent Research, the papers listed below are published in Slovak.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
Hlasludu		Weekly publication	
Vzlet		Monthly publication	
Zomiicka		Monthly publication	
Rovina		Monthly publication	
Novy zivot		Monthly publication	
Narodn y kalendar		Annual publication	

Newspapers that publish information in the languages of national minorities, which are published by newspaper-publishing institutions founded by national councils of national minorities, are financed from the budget of AP Vojvodina. The publisher in Slovak is NIU Hlas l'udu, which publishes one weekly and two youth/children's papers (Hlas l'udu, Vzlet, Zomicka). Information about the funds allocated for Slovak-language newspapers is given in the table below.

	2019	2020	2021	2022
NIU Hlas l'udu	39,975,480.00	39,975,480.00	39,975,480.00	49,969,344.00

paragraph 1 f (ii)

Data on open competitions for co-financing are given in the part of the Report devoted to paragraph I. a (iii).

paragraph 2

Implementation measures in practice for the application of this paragraph are the same for all minority languages and are presented in the part of the report dedicated to the Albanian language.

Article 12

paragraph 1 a

A total of 34 projects of the Slovak national minority were supported in open competitions in the field of cultural activities of national minorities in the Republic of Serbia, conducted by the line ministry in the reporting period. The table below contains data on the amount of approved funds and the number of supported projects.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Slovak	1,044,000.00 (8)	1,020,000.00 (8)	1,080,000.00 (9)	1,120,000.00 (9)

Significant budget funds were allocated in other open competitions conducted by the relevant ministry, to support projects of the Slovak national minority or multicultural projects that encourage different forms of expression and initiatives related to the Slovak language. According to the available data for 2019 and 2020, in other open competitions of the relevant ministry one culture project of the Slovak national minority was financed in the amount of RSD 1,800,000.00.

As part of the "Cities in Focus" competition, different ways of accessing cultural and artistic works produced in the Slovak language are also specifically supported and enabled. In the reporting period, nine projects were financed in the total amount of RSD 56,200,000.00 by local self-government units where there is a significant number of members of the Slovak national minority (Bae, Backi Petrovac, Beocin, Kovacica, Sid).

The municipality of Backi Petrovac provided space for the new Museum of Vojvodina Slovaks in the building of the former Municipal Assembly of Backi Petrovac. This museum was founded on January 16, 2012 and houses artifacts and testimonies about the Slovak national community on the territory of Serbia. Support for the reconstruction and adaptation of the building was provided within the competition "Cities in Focus" 2021 by the competent ministry.

As it was pointed out in the section dedicated to implementing measures in policy and legislation, other levels of authorities carry out open competitions in order to collect proposals for financing or co-financing cultural projects, artistic projects, and professional and scientific research projects in culture. The following table provides data on the number of supported cultural projects of the Slovak national minority and the amount of allocated funds in open competitions for financing - co-financing of projects of importance for the culture and art of national minorities - national communities in AP Vojvodina.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
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Slovak	1.100.000,00 (12)	1.150.000,00 (12)	1.150.000,00 (15)	2.080.000,00 (26)
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According to the available data for 2019 and 2020, nine projects of the Slovak national minority were supported in the other open competitions carried out by the competent provincial secretariat in the amount of RSD 2,520,000.00.

In addition, the work of the Institute for the Culture of Slovaks, as well as the Museum of Slovaks in Vojvodina, an institution of culture whose programmes go beyond the local significance and meets the cultural needs of citizens in the entire AP Vojvodina.

	2019	2020	2021
Institute for the Culture of Slovaks	10,000,000.00	10,000,000.00	10,000,000.00
Museum of Slovaks in Vojvodina	130,000.00	140,000.00	413,300.00

According to available data for 2020, six local self-government units (Bae, Backa Topola, Backi Petrovac, Kovacica, Novi Sad, Stara Pazova) and the municipality of Surcin, have supported 19 cultural projects of the Slovak national minority in the amount of RSD 2,296,737.00.

paragraph 1 b, c

According to the data of the National Library of Serbia, a total of 479 publications were published in the Slovak language in the reporting period, of which 42 publications were translated into the Serbian language.

In open competitions for co-financing of projects in the field of translation of representative works of domestic literature conducted by the relevant ministry, eight literary works were translated into the Slovak language in the reporting period, for which the ministry allocated EUR 2,450 and RSD 820,000.00.

paragraph 1 f

The National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia adopted on November 26, 2021, the proposal on the appointment of 11 members of the National Council for Culture, including two members from the list of candidates proposed by the national councils of national minorities.

In all open competitions conducted by the relevant ministry and provincial authorities in the reporting period, the National Council of the Slovak National Minority had the opportunity to present its proposals on the allocation of funds.

paragraph 2

In the reporting period, in the territories where the Slovak language is not traditionally used, according to the available data no cultural projects in the Slovak language were submitted.

Article 14

Based on the Agreement on Cooperation in the field of education, culture and sports between the Federal Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Government of the Slovak Republic from 1996, the Programme of cooperation in the field of culture between the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia and the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic for the period 2016-2020 was adopted, with automatic renewal of its validity. Main areas of cooperation are literature, filmmaking, librarianship, theatre, music, fine arts, museology, protection of cultural monuments, as well as establishing connections between individuals and institutions of the two countries with the aim of permanent exchange of information between cultural institutions. The exchange between the Library of Matica srpska and the Slovak Republic was established in 1863, when Matica slovaccka was founded, and Matica srpska became its first partner in international exchange. The Library of Matica Srpska has active cooperation with the following Slovak institutions:

1. Slovak National Library (Martin);
2. University Library (Bratislava);
3. Comenius University, Faculty of Philosophy, Department of Slavic Philology (Bratislava);
4. Slovak Academy of Sciences, Central Library (Bratislava);
5. Slavic Library at the Czech National Library (Prague);
6. Slavic Institute at the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic (Prague).

Currently, the Matica Srpska Library has 105 journal titles from the Slovak Republic in its fund. In return, the Library of Matica Srpska sends the Annals of Matica Srpska, Collections of Matica Srpska, and other publications of Marica Srpska and the Library of Matica Srpska. As part of the exchange, so far 3,025 monographs have been received and 3,905 have been sent.

The National Library of Serbia has established a successful long-term cooperation with the Slovak National Library in Martin. According to the existing Cooperation Agreement, which dates from 2007, the cooperation between the two national libraries is based on common interests and goals in librarianship, digitalisation, preservation of cultural heritage, exchange of knowledge and experts, as well as joint activities and projects. Apart from the library in Martin, publications are also exchanged with the Central Library of the Slovak Academy of Sciences in Bratislava. The National Libraries of Serbia and Slovakia also organise exchange of experts for up to 20 working days, in two years, according to the possibilities and needs of both parties, and actively cooperate through European projects, conferences and seminars, as well as through regular annual CENL (Conference of European National Librarians) where directors of national libraries of Europe meet.

Since 1966, the Museum of Naive and Marginal Art has had significant cooperation with partners from the Slovak Republic, especially in the organisation of exhibitions and publishing programs of the Museum of Naive and Marginal Art.

In the last few years, the "Days of Slovak Culture" event has been organised in Belgrade. This manifestation includes a series of cultural events aimed at presenting the Slovakian culture through various artistic genres to the citizens of Belgrade, but also beyond, since certain manifestations take place in other cities.

International Mother Language Day has been celebrated in Kovacica for twenty years with the support and participation of institutions from Serbia and Slovakia. The theme of this event in 2019 was the Influence of the numerous languages of the Pannonian Plain and the Balkans on the formation and sustainability of the Slovak naive painting in Serbia and its creative economy.

B. Measures for implementation of recommendations of the Committee of Experts

a. Take organisational measures to ensure that speakers of Slovak can submit oral or written applications in this language to local branches of the national authorities and encourage Slovak speakers to make use of this possibility in practice.

h. Encourage the local branches of the national authorities to draft documents in Slovak

The measures taken are described in respect of implementation of the recommendation of the same content for the Albanian language.

UKRAINIAN LANGUAGE

A. Part III

Article 8

paragraph 1 a (iii)

At the time of this report, in the registration period for the pre-school education there were not enough applications for the introduction of complete/bilingual class work in the Ukrainian language.

paragraph 1 a (iv)

In the territory in which Ukrainian is in use there are no pre-school institutions founded by other legal or natural persons, or foreign countries, foreign legal or natural persons.

paragraph 1 b (iv)

Elementary school students have the possibility to attend an elective course Ukrainian language with elements of national culture.

Number of students who attend elective subject/ programme

Elective subject/ programme	2019/20.	2020/21.	2021/22.
Ukrainian language with elements of national culture	65	63	42

According to the Catalogue of textbooks in the languages of national minorities for 2022/2023 school year, a total of 8 textbooks was approved for elementary education in the Ukrainian language.

paragraph 1 c (iv)

At the time of this report, in the registration period for the freshman year of the complete secondary education in the Ukrainian language or for the elective subject Ukrainian language with elements of national culture there were not enough applications.

paragraph 1 d (iv)

At the time of this report, in the secondary education (vocational or special) during the enrolment period for the freshman year, there were not enough applicants for the complete education in the Ukrainian language or elective subject Ukrainian language with elements of national culture.

paragraph 1 e (ii)

Ukrainian language, literature and culture are studied at the Group for Ukrainian language and literature, Department of Slavic languages, Faculty of Philology, University of Belgrade.

	Academic year	Number of students
Ukrainian language	2019/20	53
	2020/21	48
	2021/22	46

Subjects related to the Ukrainian language are offered within the philology study programmes at the Faculty of Philosophy, University of Novi Sad.

paragraph 1. f (iii)

In the framework of formal adult education, during the enrolment period there were no applicants registered for education in the Ukrainian language, during the reporting period.

paragraph 1 g

Implementing measures in practice for the application of this paragraph are the same for all minority languages and are presented in the part of the report dealing with the Albanian language.

Article 9

paragraph 1 a (ii)

Before the Basic Court in Subotica defendants used the Ukrainian language in one criminal proceeding in 2019, and two proceedings in 2021, and two proceedings in the first half of 2022.

paragraph 1 a (iii)

At time of this report, no requests or evidence in criminal proceedings were submitted in the Ukrainian language.

paragraph 1 b (ii)

In the reporting period the Ukrainian language was not used in civil proceedings.

paragraph 1 c (ii)

In the reporting period there were no cases in which the Ukrainian language was used.

paragraph 1 d

Before the Basic Court in Subotica, there was one case in which an interpreter for the Ukrainian language was hired in 2020, two in 2021, and by mid-2022 one case. The translation costs for the participants who used the Ukrainian language amounted to RSD 3,600.00 (2020), RSD 3,700.00 (2021). These costs were not determined for 2022.

paragraph 2 a, b, c

A large number of courts pointed out in their appendices for the preparation of the state report that it is not possible to provide data on the number of inheritance and other non-contentious litigation proceedings in the Serbian language in which there were documents drawn up in one of the languages of the national minorities, or on the number of proceedings in which a power of attorney was given to representatives in one of the languages of the national minorities, including the Croatian language, bearing in mind that such records are not kept, and tens of thousands of cases would have to be reviewed manually in order to determine by direct inspection whether there was a document in the language of the national minorities, which was not feasible technically or personnel-wise.

paragraph 3

In the reporting period there were no translations of legal texts in the Ukrainian language.

Article 10

paragraph 1 a (iv)

According to the data of the competent authorities, in the reporting period there were no submissions of oral or written petitions to the government bodies in the Ukrainian language, nor

to their regional units in the administrative areas where the number of inhabitants who use the Ukrainian language justifies the measures specified in this article.

paragraph 1 a (v)

According to the data of the competent authorities, in the reporting period there were no submissions of documents to the government bodies in the Ukrainian language, nor to their regional units in the administrative areas where the number of inhabitants who use the Ukrainian language justifies the measures specified in this article.

paragraph 1 c

According to the data of the competent authorities, in the reporting period there were no cases of preparation of draft documents by the government bodies in the Ukrainian language, nor by their regional units in the administrative areas where the number of inhabitants who use the Ukrainian language justifies the measures specified in this article.

paragraph 2 b

In the reporting period there were no written or oral submissions in the Ukrainian language.

paragraph 2 c

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

Bearing in mind that the Republic of Serbia emphasised in its ratification instrument of that the term "territory where regional or minority languages are in use" shall refer to areas where regional or minority languages are in official use in accordance with national legislation, it is clear that the obligation of regional authorities to publish their official documents in the respective minority languages does not, under the current circumstances, apply to the Ukrainian language.

paragraph 2 d

In the reporting period the local authorities did not publish official documents in the Ukrainian language.

paragraph 2 g

The national council of the Ukrainian national minority did not avail itself of the opportunity prescribed by national legislation, and in line with the Charter, to determine the traditional names of settlements in the Ukrainian language.

paragraph 4 c

In the reporting period there were no requests for the engagement of public service employees who speak Ukrainian in territories where this language is used.

paragraph 5

According to the available data, in the reporting period there were no applications for exercising the right envisaged by the Constitution and relevant legislation to enter personal name in the registry in the Ukrainian language.

Article 11

paragraph 1 a (iii)

Bearing in mind that the legislation of the Republic of Serbia contains appropriate provisions, we note that data on their application in practice are contained in the following sections. At this point we point out that the implementation of the presented provisions in practice is achieved through open competitions for co-financing.

In the reporting period a total of 2 projects of the Ukrainian national minority were supported on open competitions for the co-financing of media content production projects in the languages of national minorities, which is carried out by the line ministry. The table below shows data on the amount of approved funds and the number of supported projects.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Ukrainian	400,000.00 (1)	500,000.00 (1)	-	-

The provincial secretariat responsible for information also announces annual competition for financing projects for the media content production in the field of public information in the languages of national minorities. The following table provides an overview of the number of supported projects and the allocated funds for projects in the Ukrainian language.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Ukrainian	350,000,00 (3)	400,000,00 (2)	400,000,00 (4)	300,000,00 (3)

Local self-government units also publish annual open competitions for the allocation of budget funds for the media content production that is important for a specific local self-government unit. The table below, according to the available data, gives an overview of the local self-government units that financed projects in the Ukrainian language and amounts.

LSGU	2019	2020	2021	2022
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Kula	Information and propaganda centre "Kula" d.o.o. (Hungarian, German, Ruthenian, Ukrainian) - 1,000,000.00	Information and propaganda centre "Kula" d.o.o.. (Hungarian, German, Ruthenian, Ukrainian) - 1 000,000.00	Information and propaganda centre "Kula" d.o.o. (Hungarian, German, Ruthenian, Ukrainian) - 1,000,000.00	Information and propaganda centre "Kula" d.o.o. (Hungarian, German, Ruthenian, Ukrainian) - 1,000 000.00
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paragraph 1 b (ii)

The radio programme in the Ukrainian language is broadcast on the Radio Television of Vojvodina. The table below shows data on the number of minutes and the type of radio programme in the reporting period.

RTV- Radio programme in U.krainian

	2019	2020	2021	by 30 June 2022
News/Info	6,240	6,270	6,255	3,150
Special programme	0	0	0	0
Sports	0	0	0	0
Education	3,090	3,090	3,150	1,530
Music	3,180	3,180	3,150	1,590
Culture and science	3,060	3,030	3,000	1,440
Entertainment	0	0	0	0
Fiction and drama	0	0	0	0
Total	15,570	15,570	15,555	7,710

According to data from independent research, TV programmes in the Ukrainian language are also broadcast on the media listed in the following table.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
	Radio Maria	Radio	Croatian, Ruthenian, German, Hungarian, Slovak
	Radio Indija	Radio	Serbian, Roma, Hungarian, Croatian
	Q Radio, Kula	Radio	Serbian, Ruthenian, German, Hungarian

paragraph 1 c (ii)

Television programme in the Ukrainian language is broadcast on the Public Service RTV. The table below shows information about the broadcast programme.

RTV- TV pro ramme in U.krainian

	2019	2020	2021	by 30 June 2022
Info /News	7,861	9,133	8,983	4,975
Documentary programme	0	0	0	0

Entertainment	0	0	0	0
Culture/Art	0	0	0	0
Religious	0	0	0	0
Music	0	0	0	0
Children	0	22	0	0
Science/Education	0	0	0	0
Non-scheduled programme	0	5	0	0
Spats	0	0	0	0
Commercial shows	0	0	0	0
Total	7,861	9,133	8,983	4,975

paragraph 1 d

The production and distribution of audio and audio-video works in the Ukrainian language is carried out through the radio and television channels mentioned in the previous paragraphs. It is important to point out that RTS has a constantly open competition for the selection of programme content of European independent productions, which are broadcast on RTS channels and internet platforms, which are open to productions that produce programmes in minority languages. RTS has been cooperating with the Production Group Mreza for many years, which produces the show "Da nam nije", about successful individuals who are members of all national minorities.

paragraph 1 e (i)

According to data from the Independent Research, the papers listed below are published in Ukrainian.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
Ridne slovo		Monthly publication	
Solovejko		Monthly publication	

Newspapers that publish information in the languages of national minorities, which are published by newspaper-publishing institutions founded by national councils of national minorities, are financed from the budget of AP Vojvodina. The publisher in Ukrainian is NIU Ridne slovo, which publishes one weekly and two youth/children's papers (Ridne slovo, Solovejko). Information about the funds allocated for Ukrainian-language newspapers is given in the table below.

	2019	2020	2021	2022
NIU Ridne slovo	4,773,924.00	4,773,924.00	4,773,924.00	5,967,444.00

paragraph 1 f (ii)

Data on open competitions for co-financing are given in the part of the Report devoted to paragraph I. a (iii).

paragraph 2

Implementation measures in practice for the application of this paragraph are the same for all minority languages and are presented in the part of the report dedicated to the Albanian language.

Article 12

paragraph 1 a

A total of 3 projects of the Ukrainian national minority were supported in open competitions in the field of cultural activities of national minorities in the Republic of Serbia, conducted by the line ministry in the reporting period. The table below contains data on the amount of approved funds and the number of supported projects.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Ukrainian	-	-	120,000.00 (1)	240,000.00 (2)

Significant budget funds were allocated in other open competitions conducted by the relevant ministry, to support projects of the Ukrainian national minority or multicultural projects that encourage different forms of expression and initiatives related to the Ukrainian language. As part of the "Cities in Focus" competition, different ways of accessing cultural and artistic works produced in the Ukrainian language are also specifically supported and enabled. In this competition in 2022, a total of RSD 20,000,000.00 was allocated for the theatre reconstruction and for the Youth Poetry Festival at the Vrbas Cultural Centre.

As it was pointed out in the section dedicated to implementing measures in policy and legislation, other levels of authorities carry out open competitions in order to collect proposals for financing or co-financing cultural projects, artistic projects, and professional and scientific research projects in culture. The following table provides data on the number of supported cultural projects of the Ukrainian national minority and the amount of allocated funds in open competitions for financing - co-financing of projects of importance for the culture and art of national minorities - national communities in AP Vojvodina.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Ukrainian	100,000.00 (2)	150,000.00 (3)	195,000.00 (3)	312,000.00 (3)

According to the available data for 2020, three local self-government units (Indija, Novi Sad, Sremska Mitrovica) have supported five cultural projects of the Ukrainian national minority in the amount of RSD 820,000.00.

paragraph 1 b, c

According to the data of the National Library of Serbia, a total of 241 publications were published in the Ukrainian language in the reporting period, of which 11 publications were translated into the Serbian language.

In open competitions for co-financing of projects in the field of translation of representative works of domestic literature conducted by the relevant ministry, ten literary works were translated into the Ukrainian language in the reporting period, for which the ministry allocated EUR 12,890.

paragraph 1 f

The National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia adopted on November 26, 2021, the proposal on the appointment of 11 members of the National Council for Culture, including two members from the list of candidates proposed by the national councils of national minorities.

In all open competitions conducted by the relevant ministry and provincial authorities in the reporting period, the National Council of the Ukrainian National Minority had the opportunity to present its proposals on the allocation of funds.

paragraph 2

In the reporting period, in the territories where the Ukrainian language is not traditionally used, according to the available data no cultural projects in the Ukrainian language were submitted.

Article 14

The Agreement on cooperation in the field of education, culture and sports between the Government of Ukraine and the Federal Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, signed in 1996, is in force. The last programme of cooperation in the field of culture between the two ministries was prepared in 2014, but was not signed since the Ukrainian party did not complete the necessary national procedure as a precondition for implementation.

Since the beginning of armed conflicts in Ukraine, there has been no cooperation at the level of ministries. The last major manifestation "Days of Ukraine" was held from May 16 to 23, 2017 in the form of a series of manifestations in cultural institutions in Novi Sad - Matica srpska, Cultural Centre of Novi Sad (exhibition "History of Ukraine - Serbia relations"), Studio M, Museum of Vojvodina, Historical Archive of Novi Sad, and other locations. A Ukrainian film review was held at the Cultural Centre of Novi Sad, and two events were held in the Serbian National Theatre in which representatives of the Ukrainian national minority from Serbia took part: Dance evening "Plesni vemisaz" (cultural and artistic societies from Kula, Ruski Krstur, Sremska Mitrovica, Durdeva, Novi Sad), and a concert of music and choral performance "Ukrajna poziva u goste" (choirs from Ruski Krstur and Novi Sad "Harmonija", "Pastorala", and "Lavovska filharmonija").

B. Measures for implementation of recommendations of the Committee of Experts

a. Enable education in the Ukrainian language on all adequate levels.

Conditions for education in the Ukrainian language and for learning the Ukrainian language have been created at all appropriate levels. The Republic of Serbia is ready to apply any measure provided under Article 8, paragraph 1. a, b, c, d to students who wish to do so, but since in the reporting period they did not express this desire in a number that is considered sufficient, in practice this type of teaching was carried out only through the subject Ukrainian language with elements of national culture at the elementary school level.

h. Encourage the local branches of the national authorities to draft documents in Ukrainian.

The measures taken are described in respect of implementation of the recommendation of the same content for the Albanian language.

CROATIAN LANGUAGE

A. Part III

Article 8

paragraph 1 a (iii)

Pre-school educational work in the Croatian language is organised in one local self-government unit.

School year	Number of local self-government units	Number of pre-school institutions	Number of groups	Number of children
2019/2020	1	1	6	103
2020/2021	1	1	6	89
2021/2022	1	1	7	110

Bilingual pre-school educational work in Serbian and Croatian is organised in one local self-government unit.

School year	Number of local self-government units	Number of pre-school institutions	Number of groups	Number of children
2019/2020	1	1	2	7
2020/2021	1	1	2	6
2021/2022	1	1	1	4

For primary education in Croatian according to the Catalogue of textbooks in the languages of national minorities for the school year 2022/2023, one textbook was approved.

paragraph 1 a (iv)

In the territory where Croatian is used, there are no pre-school institutions founded by other legal or natural persons, as well as foreign countries, foreign legal or natural persons.

paragraph 1 b (iv)

Full classes in the Croatian language are carried out in six elementary schools.

Number of pupils who attend Primary school in Croatian

School year	Number of pupils	Number of schools
2019/2020	240	6
2020/2021	231	6
2021/2022	225	6

Croatian language with elements of national culture is organised for students who do not attend classes in the mother tongue.

Number of pupils who attend elective subject/programme

elective subject/programme	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Croatian language with elements of national culture	490	473	449

For elementary education in the Croatian language, according to the Catalogue of textbooks in the languages of national minorities for the school year 2022/2023 and Additions to the Catalogue, total number of 75 textbooks were approved.

Additional training for teachers, which is realised through the system of permanent professional development and participation in different programmes, also enables the realisation of assumed obligations. One such programme is online training „Strengthening language competences for teachers who teach in the eight languages of national minorities", for teachers in elementary and secondary education.

Number of teachers who teach in Croatian and who have completed the training

Math	19
Biology	4
History	6
Geography	4
Physics	19
Chemistry	4
General competence	44
Total	100

In parallel with the curriculum reform, the Centre for Quality Assurance of the Institutions' Work created General Achievement Standards for the end of compulsory education for the subject Mother Tongue and Literature (2016), then General Standards for the end of general secondary education and secondary vocational education and training for the subject Mother Tongue and Literature (2018), as well as the General Achievement Standards for the Mother Tongue for the end of the first cycle of primary education and training (2020). The

appropriate manual for the Croatian language was published,¹²⁷ and during 2020 training courses were organised at which 39 teachers of Ukrainian took part.

With the aim of improving the quality of education in the Croatian language, the competent ministry hired three associate - external advisors for education in the Croatian language in elementary and secondary schools.

paragraph 1 c (iv)

Secondary education in Croatian is organised in 3 secondary schools.

Number of students who attend secondary school in Croatian

School year	Classes in Croatian
2019/2020	198
2020/2021	209
2021/2022	208

For secondary education in the Croatian language, according to the Catalogue of textbooks in the languages of national minorities for the school year 2022/2023 and Additions to the Catalogue, total number of 29 textbooks were approved.

With the aim of providing students with a greater choice of educational profiles in the languages of national minorities, and bearing in mind that there are fewer applicants for certain secondary school profiles, and, the formation of classes that are smaller than prescribed (less than 15 students) is regularly approved.

Total number of classes with less than 15 students

Class language	School year	No. of classes with less than 15 students
Croatian language	2019/20	1
	2020/21	1
	2021/22	2

paragraph 1 d (iv)

The following table lists the vocational areas for secondary schools in Croatian in the school year 2021/2022, as well as the number of approved places and the number of pupils enrolled in the first grade.

Areas of secondary school profiles in Hungarian for the first Grade in the school Year 2021/22

Area of work	Number of approved places/ number of the enrolled students
Health and social protection	30/30
Chemistry, non-metals and w-aohic arts	30/0

paragraph 1 e (ii)

At the Faculty of Philosophy, University of Novi Sad from the academic year 2018/2019, a Croatian language department was established to implement the Programme for the Acquisition

¹²⁷ <https://ceo.edu.rs/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Hrvatski-jezik-Priruc%CC%8Cnik.pdf>

of Competences in the Croatian Language, Culture and Literature with Methodology, within the Centre for Teacher Training, designed to ensure the acquisition of knowledge and skills necessary for competent educational work in the Croatian language at the level of class teaching / subject teaching and realisation of pre-school activities. The programme is performed by a teacher/lecturer of Croatian language and literature as a Croatian native speaker. In the current academic year 7 candidates have enrolled in the Competency Acquisition Programme for the Croatian Language and Literature with Methodology.

paragraph 1 f (iii)

In the framework of formal adult education, during the enrolment period there were no applicants registered for education in the Croatian language, during the reporting period.

paragraph 1 g

Implementing measures in practice for the application of this paragraph are the same for all minority languages and are presented in the part of the report dealing with the Albanian language.

Article 9

paragraph 1 a (ii)

Before the Basic Court in Senta defendants used the Croatian language in one criminal proceeding in 2021, and one criminal proceeding in 2020 before the Basic Court in Sombor.

paragraph 1 a (iii)

In the reporting period no requests or evidence in criminal proceedings were submitted in the Croatian language.

paragraph 1 b (ii)

In the reporting period Croatian was not used in civil litigations.

paragraph 1 c (ii)

In the reporting period there were no cases in which the Croatian language was used.

paragraph 1 d

Before the Basic Court in Senta, in one case an interpreter for the Croatian language was engaged, and translation costs for the participants who have used the Croatian language amounted to RSD 1,200.00.

Before the Basic Court in Senta, in one case an interpreter for the Croatian language was engaged, and translation costs for the participants who have used the Croatian language amounted to RSD 13,200.00.

paragraph 2 a, b, c

A large number of courts pointed out in their appendices for the preparation of the state report that it is not possible to provide data on the number of inheritance and other non-contentious litigation proceedings in the Serbian language in which there were documents drawn up in one of the languages of the national minorities, or on the number of proceedings in which a power of attorney was given to representatives in one of the languages of the national minorities, including the Croatian language, bearing in mind that such records are not kept, and tens of thousands of cases would have to be reviewed manually in order to determine by direct inspection whether there was a document in the language of the national minorities, which was not feasible technically or personnel-wise.

paragraph 3

Implementing measures in practice for the application of this paragraph are the same for all minority languages and are presented in the part of the report dealing with the Albanian language, that is, all the laws and by-laws mentioned in that part of the report, except for the by-law relating to direct elections for national councils, have been translated into Croatian. Bearing in mind that the Croatian national minority elected its national council at the electoral assembly, the Instruction for the Implementation of the Electoral Assembly for the Election of Members of the National Councils of National Minorities was translated into Croatian.

Article 10

paragraph 1 a (iv)

According to the data of the competent authorities, in the reporting period there were no submissions of oral or written petitions to government bodies in the Croatian language, nor to their regional units in the administrative areas where the number of inhabitants who use the Croatian language justifies the measures specified in this article.

paragraph 1 a (v)

According to the data of the competent authorities, in the reporting period there were no submissions of documents to the government bodies in the Croatian language, nor to their regional units in the administrative areas where the number of inhabitants who use the Croatian language justifies the measures specified in this article.

paragraph 1 c

According to the data of the competent authorities, in the reporting period there were no cases of preparation of draft documents by the government bodies in the Croatian language, nor

by their regional units in the administrative areas where the number of inhabitants who use the Croatian language justifies the measures specified in this article.

paragraph 2 b

In its supplement to the report, the City of Subotica did not enter the exact data on the number of oral or written submissions or the number of administrative procedures conducted entirely in the Croatian language in the reporting period because such records are not kept. It is important to point out that all requests submitted to the authorities of the city of Subotica are also available in the Croatian language. In order to illustrate the possibility of submitting petitions and writing and speaking to local authorities in the Croatian language, data can be cited from special records maintained by the Service for General Administration and Joint Affairs for administrative matters of maintaining special electoral roll of national minorities.

<i>Number of administrative procedures conducted entirely in Croatian in the reporting period</i>				
	2019	2020	2021	By June 2022
Subotica ¹²⁸	202	98	94	43

paragraph 2 c

Implementing measures in policy and legislation

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia stipulates that the autonomous province determines the languages in official use. The Statute of AP Vojvodina states that the Croatian language and script is one of the five languages of national minorities that is in official use in the work of authorities of AP Vojvodina.

Implementing measures in practice

The official gazette of AP Vojvodina, in which all official documents of AP Vojvodina are published, is also published in Croatian.¹²⁹

paragraph 2 d

Some local self-government units took advantage of the opportunity to stipulate in their statutes that official gazettes are also published in the minority languages that are in official use, and official documents can be obtained from official websites, because some of the local self-government units in which minority languages are in official use have websites in the minority language as well. The website of the City of Subotica is available in Croatian.¹³⁰

¹²⁸ From 2022, special records on registration and deletion in special electoral rolls according to the national minority languages are kept from 2022, and before that only records of total numbers were kept, regardless of the language in which decisions were issued.

¹²⁹ <http://www.puma.vojvodina.gov.rs/index.php?lang=8>

¹³⁰ <http://www.subotica.rs/index/index/lg/hr>

paragraph 2 g

In 2009, the National council of the Croatian national minority adopted the Decision on determining the traditional names of settlements in the Croatian language, and the list of traditional names was supplemented in 2016 and 2020.¹³¹

Name of the city/municipality in Serbian	Name of the settlement in Serbian	Name of the city/municipality in Croatian	Name of the settlement in Croatian
Subotica	Bajmok	Subotica	Bajmak
Subotica	MBicevo	Subotica	Misicevo
Subotica	Baeki Vinogradi	Subotica	Kraljev brig
Subotica	Bikovo	Subotica	Bikovo
Subotica	Gornji Tavankut	Subotica	Gornji Tavankut
Subotica	Donji Tavankut	Subotica	Tavankut
Subotica	Ljutovo	Subotica	Mirges
Subotica	Hajdukovo	Subotica	Hajdukovo
Subotica	Supljak	Subotica	Supljak
Subotica	Durdin	Subotica	Durdin
Subotica	Kelebija	Subotica	Kelebija
Subotica	MalaBosna	Subotica	MalaBosna
Subotica	NoviZednik	Subotica	NoviZednik
Subotica	Stari Zednik	Subotica	Zednik
Subotica	Palic	Subotica	Palic
Subotica	Cantavir	Subotica	Cantavir
Subotica	Baeko Dusanovo	Subotica	Baeko Dusanovo
Subotica	Visnjevac	Subotica	Visnjevac
Sombor	Baeki Monostor	Sombor	Monostor
Sombor	Baeki Breg	Sombor	Bereg
Sombor	Svetozar Miletic	Sombor	Lemes
Sremska Mitrovica	Stara Bingula	Srijemska Mitrovica	Stara Bingula
Apatin	Sonta	Apatin	Sonta
Bae	Bodani	Bae	Bodani
Bae	Vajska	Bae	Vajska
Bae	Plavna	Bae	Plavna
Indija	Stari Slankamen	Indija	Stari Slankamen
Sid	Batrovci	Sid	Batrovci
Sid	Sot	Sid	Sot

¹³¹ m Official Gazette of AP Vojvodina, Nos. 3/2010, 65/2016 and 63/2020

paragraph 4 c

The following table provides data on the number of work positions in local self- government units for which the rules on the internal organisation and systematisation of jobs stipulate knowledge of Croatian as a special condition for performing work, as well as data on the number of employees who speak Croatian.

Local self-government unit	Number of work positions	Number of employees who speak the language
Becei		1
ZitBte		1
Sombor		11
Subotica	127 ¹³²	11
Sid		8

paragraph 5

The table below contains data on the use of the right to enter a personal name in Croatian in the register obtained from the register offices of local self-government units.

Local self-government unit	Number of registrations of personal names in Croatian			
	2019	2020	2021	2022
Sombor	5	1	7	
Subotica	1			
Temerin			2	1

In local self-government units where the statute establishes that Croatian is also in official use, forms of register certificates are printed bilingually. According to data from the Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-Government, in 2020, 1,405 register certificates were issued on bilingual, Serbian-Croatian forms, while in 2021, 1,259 such forms were issued.

The table below shows the data on the issued register certificates on bilingual, Serbian - Croatian forms, according to the data obtained from the local self-government units that took part in the preparation of this report or sent answers to the questionnaires of the former Office for Human and Minority Rights.

Local self-government unit	Number of register certificates issued on bilingual, Serbian-Croatian forms			
	2019	2020	2021	2022
Sombor ¹³³	111	49	47	47
Subotica	1.268			

¹³² The City of Subotica provided data on the total number of work positions for which the knowledge of minority languages is required.

¹³³ The Civil Records of the Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-Government does not provide the possibility of checking the issued bilingual register certificates classified by language, but gives the total number of issued register certificates (Serbo-Hungarian and Serbo-Croat).

Article 11

paragraph 1 a (iii)

Bearing in mind that the legislation of the Republic of Serbia contains appropriate provisions, we refer to data on their application in practice contained in the following sections. At this point, we indicate that implementation of the presented provisions in practice is achieved through competition co-financing.

A total of 12 projects of the Croatian national minority were supported during the competitions for co-financing projects for the production of media content in the languages of national minorities, which are implemented by the relevant ministry in the reporting period. The table below contains data on the amount of approved funds and the number of supported projects.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Croatians	1,000,000.00 (2)	1,650,000.00 (3)	1,777,000.00 (3)	2,293,000.00 (4)

The Ministry of Culture and Information also co-finances the production of media content in minority languages in other competitions that it announces and manages. According to the available data for 2019 and 2020, two projects in Croatian in the amount of RSD 800,000.00 were supported in other competitions of the competent ministry.

The Provincial Secretariat responsible for the field of information also annually announces a competition for financing projects for the production of media content in the field of public information in the languages of national minorities. The following table provides an overview of the number of supported projects and allocated funds for projects in Hungarian in these competitions.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Croatians	1,300,000.00 (11)	780,000.00 (6)	1,000,000.00 (6)	1,000,000.00 (4)

Local self-government units also announce annual competitions for the allocation of funds from the budget for the production of media content that is important for a specific local self-government unit. The table below provides, according to the available data, an overview of local self-government units that financed projects in Croatian and the amount of allocated funds.

LSGU	2019	2020	2021	2022
Sombor	HKD Vladimir Nazor Stanisic „Nedeljna jednosatna informativna radio emisija Glas Hrvata" - 145,000.00	HKD Vladimir Nazor Stanisic „Nedeljna jednosatna informativna radio emisija Glas Hrvata" - 145,000.00	HKD Vladimir Nazor Stanisic „Nedeljna jednosatna informativna radio emisija Glas Hrvata" - 100,000.00	

Subotica	I. Croatian Independent List - 200,000.00; 2. Udmzenje CRO info - 300,000.00; 3.HUNCRO-news- 100,000.00; 4. Radio Maria - 250,000.00;	1. Croatian Independent List - 200,000.00; 2. Udruzenje CRO info - 100.000,00; 3. HUNCRO-news - 100,000.00;	I. Croatian Independent List - 200,000.00; 2. Udruzenje CRO infor-100,000.00; 3. HUN CRO news - 100,000.00; 4. Udruzenje Maria - 100,000.00;	I. Udruzenje CRO info - 400,000.00; 2. Udruzenje CRO-news - 350,000.00;
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paragraph 1 b (ii)

The radio programme in the Croatian language is broadcast on the Radio Television of Vojvodina. The table below shows data on the number of minutes and the type of radio programme in the reporting period.

RTV - Radio orogramme in Croatian

	2019	2020	2021	By 30 June 2022
News/Info	3.120	3.090	3.120	1.560
Special programme	0	30	0	0
Sports	0	0	0	0
Education	0	0	0	0
Music	0	60	0	0
Culture and science	0	0	0	0
Entertainment	0	0	0	0
Fiction and drama	0	0	0	0
Total	3,120	3,180	3,120	1,560

According to data from the Independent Research, radio programmes in the Croatian language are also broadcast on the media listed in the following table.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
	Radio Maria	Radio	Ruthenian, German, Hungarian, Slovak, Ukrainian
	Naxi radio Apatin	Radio	Serbian, Roma, Hunearian. Croatian
	Radio Subotica	Radio	Serbian, Hungarian
	Radio Batka, Bat	Radio	Serbian, Ruthenian, Slovak

paragraph 1 c (ii)

Television programme in Croatian is broadcast on both public service media. The tables below contain information about the broadcast programme.

RTS - TV programme in Croatian

Groups of basic types of broadcasts according to REM classification	2019		2020		2021		until 30 April 2022	
	Number of broadcasts	Minutes	Number of broadcasts	Minutes	Number of broadcasts	Minutes	Number of broadcasts	Minutes
News programme	52	1,447	52	1,475	47	1,320	19	514
Documentary programme	5	308	3	231	6	352	1	54
Religious programme	6	191	7	310	6	186	3	94
Film programme	6	551	5	447	4	35		
TV Series							12	631
Children's programme and programme for minors			5	73	16	234		
Cultural-artistic programme			3	158			2	195

RTV - TV programme in Croatian

	2019	2020	2021	until 30 June 2022
Information broadcasts	11,969	11,351	12,775	6,164
Documentary programme	84	0	287	287
Entertainment programme	0	481	962	370
Cultural and artistic programme	2,433	2,863	2,066	1,314
Religious programme	160	212	155	22
Music programme	2,640	3,068	2,570	1,192
Children's programme	0	3,120	0	0
Scientific and educational programme	0	0	0	0
Off-Programme content	3	41	5	5
Sports Programme	0	0	117	0
Commercial broadcasts	0	0	0	0
Total broadcasting	17,299	21,136	18,937	9,354

According to data from the Independent Research, television programmes in Croatian are also broadcast on the media listed in the following table.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
	TV YU ECO, Subotica	TV	Serbian, Hungarian

TV Subotica	Cable TV	Serbian, Hungarian, Bunjevac
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paragraph 1 d

The production and distribution of audio and audio-video works in the Croatian language is carried out through the radio and television channels mentioned in the previous paragraphs, as well as via web portal www.croinfo.rs. It is important to point out that RTS has a constantly open competition for the selection of programme content of European independent productions, which are broadcast on RTS channels and internet platforms, which are open to productions that produce programmes in minority languages. RTS has been cooperating with the Production Group Mreza for many years, which produces the show "Da nam nije", about successful individuals who are members of all national minorities.

paragraph 1 e (i)

According to data from Independent Research, the newspapers listed in the following table are published in Croatian.

Primary language	Secondary language	Type of media	Other languages
Hrvatska rijec		Monthly publication	
Hrcko		Monthly publication	
Kuzis?!		Monthly publication	

Newspapers that publish information in the languages of national minorities, which are published by newspaper-publishing institutions founded by national councils of national minorities, are financed from the budget of AP Vojvodina. The publisher in Croatian is NIU Hrvatska rijec, which publishes one weekly and two youth/children's papers (Hrvatska rijec, Hrcko, Kuzis?!). Information about the funds allocated for Croatian-language newspapers is given in the table below.

	2019	2020	2021	2022
NIU Hrvatska rijec	38,479,044.00	38,479,044.00	38,479,044.00	48,121,296.00

paragraph 1 f (ii)

Data on open competitions for co-financing are given in the part of the Report devoted to paragraph 1 a (iii).

paragraph 2

Implementation measures in practice for the application of this paragraph are the same for all minority languages and are presented in the part of the report dedicated to the Albanian language.

Article 12

paragraph 1 a

A total of 38 projects of the Croatian national minority were supported in open competitions in the field of cultural activities of national minorities in the Republic of Serbia, conducted by the line ministry in the reporting period. The table below contains data on the amount of approved funds and the number of supported projects.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Croats	1,614,000.00 (13)	1,560,000.00 (13)	1,350,000.00 (II)	1,350,000.00 (II)

Also, in other competitions conducted by the relevant ministry, significant budget funds were allocated to support projects of the Hungarian national minority or multicultural projects in which forms of expression and initiatives related to Croatian were encouraged. According to the available data for 2019 and 2020, three cultural projects of the Croatian national minority were financed in the amount of RSD 300,000.00 in other competitions of the relevant ministry.

As part of the Cities in Focus competition, different ways of accessing cultural and artistic works produced in the Croatian language are also specifically supported and enabled. In the reporting period, nine projects were financed in the total amount of RSD 49,500,000.00 by local self-government units where there is a significant number of members of the Croatian national minority (Apatin, Bae, Ruma, Sambor, Sremski Karlovci, Sid).

As it was pointed out in the section dedicated to implementing measures in policy and legislation, other levels of authorities carry out open competitions in order to collect proposals for financing or co-financing cultural projects, artistic projects, and professional and scientific research projects in culture. The following table provides data on the number of supported cultural projects of the Croatian national minority and the amount of allocated funds in the Competitions for financing - co-financing of projects of importance for the culture and art of national minorities - national communities in AP Vojvodina.

National minority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Croatian	1,000,000.00 (16)	990,000.00 (18)	1,000,000.00 (17)	1,850,000.00 (27)

In addition, the budget of AP Vojvodina finances the work of the Institute for Croatian Culture in Vojvodina.

	2019	2020	2021
Institute for Croatian culture in Vojvodina	10,000,000.00	10,000,000.00	10,000,000.00

According to the available data for 2020, 15 local self-government units (Bae, Novi Sad, Ruma, Sombor, Subotica) and municipality Surein have supported 44 cultural projects of the Croatian national minority in the amount of RSD 5,785,000.

paragraph 1 b, c

According to the data of the National Library of Serbia, in the reporting period, a total of 771 publications were published in Croatian, of which 58 publications were translated into Serbian.

paragraph 1 f

The National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia adopted on November 26, 2021, the proposal on the appointment of 11 members of the National Council for Culture, including two members from the list of candidates proposed by the national councils of national minorities.

In all open competitions conducted by the relevant ministry and provincial authorities in the reporting period, the National council of the Croatian national minority had the opportunity to present its proposals on the allocation of funds.

paragraph 2

In the reporting period, in the territories where the Croatian language is not traditionally used, according to the available data cultural projects in the Croatian language were submitted, as presented in paragraph 1 a.

Article 14

Apart from the Agreement between the Federal Government of the FRY and the Government of the Republic of Croatia on cooperation in the field of culture and education from 2002, protocols on cooperation between the National Library of Serbia and the National and University Library in Zagreb (2012) and the National Library of Serbia and the Library of Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts (2010). In 2016, the Yugoslav Film Archive signed a protocol on long-term cooperation with the Pula Festival.

RE-ACT is a transregional development initiative (Italy, Slovenia, Croatia) set up in 2015 by the Italian FVG audiovisual fund. The main goal is to encourage international co-production in the region. Serbia has been a full member of RE-ACT since 2019, along with Slovenia, Italy, and Croatia. Serbian film professionals have the opportunity to attend RE-ACT workshops and to apply for the co-production financing programme as part of the mentioned initiative. The Film Centre of Serbia allocated funds for project participation in the amount of RSD 5,022,000.00 in 2020, EUR 35,000 in 2021 and EUR 35,000 in 2022.

The Film Centre of Serbia regularly announces open competition for co-financing minority production. This competition co-finances film projects that make a significant contribution to cooperation in the region, by which it supports the works of great cultural importance. In addition to the production of contents, film premieres and promotions are realised in the countries participating in the project, as well as joint performances at film markets and festivals. A total of 13 film co-productions of Serbia and Croatia were supported in these competitions in the reported period in the amount of RSD 70,597,500.00.

In the field of theatre art, cooperation takes place primarily through guest appearances by Serbian theatres in Croatia and vice versa, as well as through the exchange of artists. In April

2022, the Croatian National Theatre from Zagreb was a guest on the Grand Stage of the National Theatre in Belgrade with the neoclassical ballet *Gospoda Glembejevi*, while the ensemble of the Ballet of the National Theatre in Belgrade performed the ballet *Ko to tamo peva*.

B. Measures for implementation of recommendations of the Committee of Experts

b. Take organisational measures to ensure that Croatian speakers can submit oral or written applications in this language to local branches of the national authorities and encourage Croatian speakers to make use of this possibility in practice.

j. Encourage the local branches of the national authorities to draft documents in Croatian.

The measures taken are described in respect of implementation of the recommendation of the same content for the Albanian language.