



Doc. 15334
25 June 2021

The ongoing worsening of the access of Ukraine's national minorities to education in their mother tongues: need for a follow-up to Parliamentary Assembly Resolution 2189 (2017)

Motion for a resolution

tabled by Mr Titus CORLĂȚEAN and other members of the Assembly

This motion has not been discussed in the Assembly and commits only those who have signed it

The Parliamentary Assembly adopted [Resolution 2189 \(2017\)](#) “The new Ukrainian law on education: a major impediment to the teaching of national minorities’ mother tongues” in which it made a number of recommendations to the Ukrainian authorities in order to ensure respect for the rights of persons belonging to national minorities to be taught in their own languages, in accordance with the relevant European standards, especially the Framework Convention on the protection of national minorities and the European Charter for Minority or Regional Languages.

Despite the two opinions of the Venice Commission on this subject, on 2017 and 2019, which stated that the legitimate action of Ukraine to carry out measures meant to enhance the official language cannot go against the language rights of persons belonging to national minorities, Ukraine has adopted two other laws – on the state language, in 2019, and on the secondary education, in 2020 – both of them with a serious impact on the use of minority languages.

Unfortunately, the Ukrainian authorities have continued to clearly violate the right to education in the mother tongue for the persons belonging to national minorities. As a matter of fact, the President of Ukraine, Volodymyr Zelensky, submitted in May 2021 a bill to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on the indigenous peoples, recognising only the Crimean Tatars, Karaite and Krymchak peoples the right to develop their ethnic, cultural, linguistic and religious identity. If adopted, this law will literally deny the right to education in their mother tongue to all the persons belonging to national minorities having a kin-state, such as Romanian, Hungarian, Polish, Bulgarian, Greek and Russian ethnics.

All these worrying developments concerning the observance of the right to education for national minorities need a firm updated response from the Assembly, as follow-up to its [Resolution 2189 \(2017\)](#).

Signed (see overleaf)



*Signed*¹:

CORLĂȚEAN Titus, Romania, SOC
BADEA Viorel-Riceard, Romania, EPP/CD
BARTOS Mónika, Hungary, EC/DA
BECHT Olivier, France, ALDE
BUSHATI Ervin, Albania, SOC
CILEVIČS Boriss, Latvia, SOC
COTTIER Damien, Switzerland, ALDE
CRISTEA Andi-Lucian, Romania, SOC
FASSINO Piero, Italy, SOC
FOURNIER Bernard, France, EPP/CD
FRIDEZ Pierre-Alain, Switzerland, SOC
GAVRILĂ Anamaria, Romania, EC/DA
GIOVAGNOLI Gerardo, San Marino, SOC
GUTIÉRREZ Antonio, Spain, SOC
KERN Claude, France, ALDE
KOVÁCS Elvira, Serbia, EPP/CD
KOX Tiny, Netherlands, UEL
MITREA Dumitrina, Romania, EC/DA
MONTEMAGGI Marica, San Marino, SOC
MULARONI Mariella, San Marino, EPP/CD
SCHWABE Frank, Germany, SOC

1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
EC/DA: European Conservatives Group and Democratic Alliance
EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party
SOC: Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group
UEL: Group of the Unified European Left