**Opinion 142 (1988)**[1]

# Resolution 192 (1988) on regional or minority languages in Europe, adopted by the Standing Conference of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe

Parliamentary Assembly

The Assembly,

1. Having noted Resolution 192 (1988) on regional or minority languages in Europe, adopted by the Standing Conference of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe ;

2. Recalling its concern to protect the linguistic diversity of Europe, as expressed for example in Recommendation 928 (1981) on the educational and cultural problems of minority languages and dialects in Europe, and Recommendation 1067 (1988) on the cultural dimension of broadcasting in Europe ;

3. Recalling also its Recommendation 1043 (1986) on Europe's linguistic and literary heritage, in which it recommended that the Committee of Ministers defend and encourage multilingualism in Europe ;

4. Noting the parallel interest expressed in resolutions adopted by the European Parliament on 16 October 1981, 11 February 1983 and 30 October 1987 ;

5. Welcoming the initiative of the Standing Conference of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe in preparing a draft European charter for regional or minority languages ;

6. Believing that the draft charter appended to Resolution 192 :

*a.* is sufficiently flexible to be applied in the widely different situations throughout Europe without interfering with the territorial integrity or official languages of contracting states ;

*b.* contains basic conditions for protecting and initiating a revival of these languages and represents a practical and necessary first step in this direction ;

7. Stressing the fact that the draft charter concerns languages and not linguistic minorities ;

8. Welcoming provision (under Article 13, paragraph 5, of the draft) for two-yearly reports by the Secretary General to the Assembly on the application of the charter ;

9. Believing that provision should also be made for European non-member states to become contracting parties to the charter,

10. Fully supports the request of the Standing Conference of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe for the Committee of Ministers to adopt a European charter for regional or minority languages with the character of a convention open to all European states.

1. Assembly debate on 4 October 1988 (11th Sitting) (see Doc. 5933, report of the Committee on Culture and Education, Rapporteur : Mr de Puig). Text adopted by the Assembly on 4 October 1988 (11th Sitting).