



Doc. 14656

16 October 2018

The rights of the German minority in Romania

Motion for a resolution

tabled by Mr Frank HEINRICH and other members of the Assembly

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

For centuries, an autochthonous German minority, which comes under the scope of the 1995 Council of Europe Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (ETS No. 157), has settled in Romania. Romania has ratified the Convention.

Since a member of the German minority was elected Romanian president in 2014, and increasingly over the last months, this minority has faced systematic attacks and targeted collective insults by high-ranking representatives of the PSD governing party and media close to the government which have potential to permanently damage the social peace. The chairman of the Education Committee, former minister Liviu Pop, called the self-organisation of the German community in Romania a “Nazi organisation” in a public interview in August. In addition to this, the country’s former Minister of Finance and advisor to the government, Mr Darius Vâlcoş, published a video on Facebook which uses a photo montage incorporating National Socialist symbols to alienate the Romanian president who is a member of the German minority. The intensity and frequency of the collective defamations from government circles, and the failure of others to distance themselves publicly from these, are cause for concern.

The Parliamentary Assembly should investigate the implementation of the protection of national minorities in Romania and urgently call on Romania to comply with its duties to protect national minorities – in this case to protect the German minority.

Signed (see overleaf)



*Signed*¹:

HEINRICH Frank, Germany, EPP/CD
BARNETT Doris, Germany, SOC
BENNING Sybille, Germany, EPP/CD
BEYER Peter, Germany, EPP/CD
GATTI Marco, San Marino, EPP/CD
HARDT Jürgen, Germany, EPP/CD
HEINRICH Gabriela, Germany, SOC
KANDELAKI Giorgi, Georgia, EPP/CD
LOMBARDI Filippo, Switzerland, EPP/CD
MUNYAMA Killion, Poland, EPP/CD
NÉMETH Zsolt, Hungary, EPP/CD
NICK Andreas, Germany, EPP/CD
O'REILLY Joseph, Ireland, EPP/CD
OEHME Ulrich, Germany, NR
OMTZIGT Pieter, Netherlands, EPP/CD
SCHÄFER Axel, Germany, SOC
SCHNEIDER-SCHNEITER Elisabeth, Switzerland, EPP/CD
SHEHU Tritan, Albania, EPP/CD
SVENSSON Michael, Sweden, EPP/CD
ULLRICH Volker, Germany, EPP/CD
VAREIKIS Egidijus, Lithuania, EPP/CD
ZINGERIS Emanuelis, Lithuania, EPP/CD

1. EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party
SOC: Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group
NR: Representatives not belonging to a Political Group