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(Final version)

Promoting the rights of persons belonging to national minorities

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A. Draft Resolution

1. The rights of persons belonging to national minorities form an integral part of the international human rights framework, as recognised by the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (ETS No. 157, "the Framework Convention"). The Parliamentary Assembly emphasises that full ratification of the Framework Convention by all member States of the Council of Europe is an important means of promoting the full and equal participation of all members of society, promoting the diversity of cultures and languages in Europe and guaranteeing stability, democratic security and peace throughout the continent.
2. The Assembly pays tribute to the fundamental role played by the Framework Convention in improving the protection of persons belonging to national minorities and promoting their rights over the twenty years since its entry into force. It moreover welcomes the fact that the multilateral system set up under the Framework Convention provides States with a regular source of expert analysis and early warnings when the structures and channels set up domestically in order to protect and promote the rights of persons belonging to national minorities and facilitate their full participation in society fall short of the aims sought to be achieved.
3. The Assembly recalls its Recommendation 1766 (2006) on the ratification of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities by the member states of the Council of Europe, in which it called on the four States that have signed the Framework Convention but not ratified it – Belgium, Greece, Iceland and Luxembourg –, and on the four others that have neither signed nor ratified it – Andorra, France, Monaco and Turkey –, to sign and/or ratify the Framework Convention as soon as possible, without reservations or declarations. It deplores the fact that little or no progress appears to have been made towards ratification by these States since then.
4. The Assembly once again reiterates its appeal to all member States to respond positively to the needs of persons belonging to national minorities and to safeguard

Amendment 1

Tabled by Mr Attila KORODI, Ms Erika BENKŐ, Ms Elvira KOVÁCS, Ms Dubravka FILIPOVSKI, Ms Biljana PANTIĆ PILJA, Mr Andreas NICK, Mr Zsolt NÉMETH, Ms Elisabeth MOTSCHMANN, Mr Stefan SCHENNACH, Mr Filippo LOMBARDI, Mr Raphaël COMTE, Lord Donald ANDERSON, Mr Imre VEJKEY, Mr Attila TILKI, Mr Aleksander POCIEJ, Mr Andrzej HALICKI, Mr Andrej HUNKO, Mr Tiny KOX, Ms Ria OOMEN-RUIJTEN, Ms Mónika BARTOS, Mr Ian LIDDELL-GRAINGER, Ms Katalin CSÖBÖR, Mr Jenő MANNINGER, Mr Lőrinc NACSA, Mr Zsolt CSENGER-ZALÁN, Mr Márton GYÖNGYÖSI, Mr Koloman BRENNER, Mr Barna Pál ZSIGMOND, Mr Dirk Van der MAELEN, Ms Klotilda BUSHKA, Mr Espen Barth EIDE, Ms Zita GURMAI, Mr Frank SCHWABE, Ms Petra De SUTTER, Mr Algirdas BUTKEVIČIUS, Ms Maryvonne BLONDIN, Mr Manuel TORNARE, Mr Mogens JENSEN, Mr Goran BEUS RICHEMBERGH, Mr František KOPŘIVA

In the draft resolution, paragraph 1, after the words "all members of society, promoting", insert the words "and protecting".

Amendment 2

Tabled by Mr Attila KORODI, Ms Erika BENKŐ, Ms Elvira KOVÁCS, Ms Dubravka FILIPOVSKI, Ms Biljana PANTIĆ PILJA, Mr

their rights, in particular as set forth in the Framework Convention.

Andreas NICK, Mr Zsolt NÉMETH, Ms Elisabeth MOTSCHMANN, Mr Filippo LOMBARDI, Mr Raphaël COMTE, Lord Donald ANDERSON, Mr Imre VEJKEY, Mr Attila TILKI, Mr Aleksander POCIEJ, Mr Andrej HUNKO, Mr Tiny KOX, Ms Ria OOMEN-RUIJTEN, Ms Mónika BARTOS, Mr Ian LIDDELL-GRAINGER, Ms Katalin CSÖBÖR, Mr Jenő MANNINGER, Mr Lőrinc NACSA, Mr Zsolt CSENGER-ZALÁN, Mr Márton GYÖNGYÖSI, Mr Koloman BRENNER, Mr Barna Pál ZSIGMOND, Mr Dirk Van der MAELEN, Ms Klotilda BUSHKA, Mr Espen Barth EIDE, Ms Zita GURMAL, Mr Frank SCHWABE, Ms Petra De SUTTER, Mr Algirdas BUTKEVIČIUS, Ms Maryvonne BLONDIN, Mr Manuel TORNARE, Mr Mogens JENSEN, Mr Goran BEUS RICHEMBERGH, Mr František KOPŘIVA

In the draft resolution, paragraph 4, after the words "to respond positively", insert the words "and pay close attention".

Amendment 5

Tabled by Mr Mustafa YENEROĞLU, Ms Serap YAŞAR, Mr Zafer SIRAKAYA, Mr Cemal ÇETİN, Mr Ali ŞAHİN, Mr Kamil AYDIN

In the draft resolution, paragraph 4, after the words "in the Framework Convention", insert the following words: "and in bilateral and international treaties that they are part of".

5. It recalls in this context that the principle of equality and non-discrimination constitutes a fundamental human right. While 20 Council of Europe member States have ratified Protocol No. 12 to the European Convention on Human Rights (ETS No. 177), including Andorra and Luxembourg, 27 have not. Eighteen States have signed but not ratified Protocol No. 12, including Belgium, Greece, Iceland and Turkey, which are also not Parties to the Framework Convention. Nine States, including two that have neither signed nor ratified the Framework Convention – France and Monaco – have neither signed nor ratified Protocol No. 12.
6. The Assembly underlines that the ratification of Protocol No. 12 to the European Convention on Human Rights would strengthen the protection of the rights of persons belonging to national minorities, whether or not such minorities are recognised as such.
7. It regrets that, since the Committee of Experts on Issues Relating to the Protection of National Minorities (DH-MIN)

Amendment 6

Tabled by Mr Mustafa YENEROĞLU, Ms Serap YAŞAR, Mr Zafer SIRAKAYA, Mr Cemal ÇETİN, Mr Ali ŞAHİN, Mr Kamil AYDIN

In the draft resolution, paragraph 6, after the words: "European Convention on Human Rights", insert the following words: "and full implementation of the judgments of the European Court of Human Rights concerning the rights of persons belonging to national minorities".

ceased functioning at the end of 2011, no forum for addressing these issues has been provided by the Committee of Ministers beyond its periodical exchanges of views with the president-in-office of the Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention.

8. Considering the concerns raised by the Advisory Committee as regards current trends and challenges in the protection of minority rights, echoed at the conference held on 18 and 19 June 2018 to mark the 20th anniversary of the Framework Convention and of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (ETS No. 148), the Assembly underlines the importance of dealing with the rights of persons belonging to national minorities through a multilateral approach, providing collective mechanisms and guarantees.
9. In the light of the above, the Assembly calls on:
 - 9.1. those member States which have not yet done so to sign and ratify the Framework Convention, without reservations or declarations amounting to reservations;
 - 9.2. those member States which have signed but not yet ratified the Framework Convention to ratify this instrument, without reservations or declarations amounting to reservations;
 - 9.3. those States Parties which have ratified the Framework Convention while entering restrictive declarations or reservations to withdraw them.

Amendment 3

Tabled by Mr Attila KORODI, Ms Erika BENKŐ, Ms Elvira KOVÁCS, Ms Dubravka FILIPOVSKI, Ms Biljana PANTIĆ PILJA, Mr Andreas NICK, Mr Zsolt NÉMETH, Ms Elisabeth MOTSCHMANN, Mr Stefan SCHENNACH, Mr Filippo LOMBARDI, Mr Raphaël COMTE, Lord Donald ANDERSON, Mr Goran BEUS RICHEMBERGH, Mr František KOPŘIVA, Ms Mónika BARTOS, Mr Attila TILKI, Mr Imre VEJKEY, Ms Klotilda BUSHKA, Ms Zita GURMAI, Mr Frank SCHWABE, Mr Espen Barth EIDE, Mr Mogens JENSEN, Ms Petra De SUTTER, Mr Algirdas BUTKEVIČIUS, Mr Manuel TORNARE, Ms Maryvonne BLONDIN, Ms Katalin CSÖBÖR, Mr Jenő MANNINGER, Mr Lőrinc NACSA, Mr Zsolt CSENGER-ZALÁN, Mr Márton GYÖNGYÖSI, Mr Koloman BRENNER, Mr Pieter OMTZIGT, Mr Barna Pál ZSIGMOND, Mr Dirk Van der MAELEN, Mr Frithjof SCHMIDT, Mr Andrej HUNKO, Mr Tiny KOX, Mr Aleksander POCIEJ, Ms Ria OOMEN-RUIJTEN, Ms Tineke STRIK

In the draft resolution, after paragraph 9.3, insert the following paragraph:

"those State Parties which have ratified the Framework Convention to take note of and to apply the Recommendations of the Council of Europe - Resolution 1985(2014), Resolution 1334(2003), Recommendation 1201(1993), Recommendation 1944(2010) and Resolution 2196(2018)."

Amendment 4

Tabled by Mr Attila KORODI, Ms Erika BENKŐ, Ms Elvira KOVÁCS, Ms Dubravka FILIPOVSKI, Ms Biljana PANTIĆ PILJA, Mr Andreas NICK, Mr Zsolt NÉMETH, Ms Elisabeth MOTSCHMANN, Mr Filippo LOMBARDI, Mr Raphaël COMTE, Lord Donald ANDERSON, Mr Goran BEUS RICHEMBERGH, Mr František KOPŘIVA, Ms Mónika BARTOS, Mr Attila TILKI, Mr Imre VEJKEY, Ms Klotilda BUSHKA, Ms Zita GURMAI, Mr Frank SCHWABE, Mr Espen Barth EIDE, Mr Mogens JENSEN, Ms Petra De SUTTER, Mr Algirdas BUTKEVIČIUS, Mr Manuel TORNARE, Ms Maryvonne BLONDIN, Ms Katalin CSÖBÖR, Mr Jenő MANNINGER, Mr Lőrinc NACSA, Mr Zsolt CSENGER-ZALÁN, Mr Márton GYÖNGYÖSI, Mr Koloman BRENNER, Mr Pieter OMTZIGT, Mr Barna Pál ZSIGMOND, Mr Dirk Van der MAELEN, Mr Andrej HUNKO, Mr Tiny KOX, Mr Aleksander POČIEJ, Ms Ria OOMEN-RUIJTEN, Mr Ian LIDDELL-GRAINGER

In the draft resolution, after paragraph 9.3, insert the following paragraph:

"those State Parties which have ratified the Framework Convention to implement it fully;"

10. The Assembly also calls on:
- 10.1. those member States which have not yet done so to sign and ratify Protocol No. 12 to the European Convention on Human Rights;
- 10.2. those member States which have signed but not yet ratified Protocol No. 12 to the European Convention on Human Rights to ratify this instrument.

Amendment 7

Tabled by Mr Mustafa YENEROĞLU, Ms Serap YAŞAR, Mr Zafer SIRAKAYA, Mr Cemal ÇETİN, Mr Ali ŞAHİN, Mr Kamil AYDIN

In the draft resolution, after paragraph 10.2, insert the following paragraph:

"The Assembly recognises the key role that can be played by civil society organizations representing persons belonging to national minorities in making fundamental rights and values a reality for everyone, and stresses that they should be able to carry out their work to promote the social, economic, political and cultural participation of persons belonging to national minorities in a safe and well-supported environment."