

MULTILATERAL SEMINAR THE PROTECTION AND PARTICIPATION OF NATIONAL MINORITIES AS A CONDITION FOR SUCCESSFUL EURO- PEAN INTEGRATION

Predeal, Romania, 12-13 May 2000

PROGRAMME

- ✓ The participating countries are: Armenia, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine and the United Kingdom.
- Delegations will be composed of a maximum of 4 participants, including:
 - 1 official: typically a representative of the Ministry of European Integration or of the Governmental Office for National Minorities;
 - 1 Member of Parliament (from the Parliamentary Commission dealing with Minorities and Human Rights or from the Parliamentary Committee dealing with European Union Affairs);
 - 2 representatives of minority non-governmental organisations.
- International experts and representatives of international NGOs, as well as representatives of the European Commission, the Council of Europe, the European Parliament and the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly, will be present at the Seminar.
- Working languages: English, French, Romanian and Russian

Contact person in Romania:

- Ms. **Rodica PRECUPEȚU**, Department for the Protection of National Minorities of the Government of Romania, Directorate for the Relations with Civil Society, and International Bodies, tel: +40.1.230.62.08; fax: +40.1.222.61.37;

Thursday, 11 May 2000

Arrival of participants directly at Predeal by bus or by train. For those travelling by plane, they will be picked up at Bucharest airport by the Romanian authorities and transported by bus to Predeal. Accommodation at the Hotel ORIZONT, Predeal, str. Trei Brazi nr 6, RO-2211 Braşov, Romania, tel: +40.68.455.150/151; fax: +40.68.455472;

20h00 Welcome Party in Hotel ORIZONT

Friday, 12 May 2000

Part I.

09h00

Opening session

Welcome and opening statement by **Mr. Peter ECKSTEIN KOVACS**, Minister on National Minorities, Romanian Government

09h15

Introductory statement by **Dr. Hanno HARTIG**, Directorate General of Human Rights, Council of Europe

09h30

Introductory statement by **Mr. Fokion FOTIADIS**, Head of the Delegation of the European Commission in Romania

09h45

Welcome statement by **Ms. Rodica PRECUPEȚU**, Department for the Protection of National Minorities of the Government of Romania, Directorate for Relations with Civil Society and International Bodies

Part II.

“The Protection of National Minorities in the Context of the Enlargement of European Institutions - a common challenge”

10h00

Introductory remarks by the General Rapporteur **Mr. Pritti JÄRVE**, European Centre on Minority Issues - ECMI

10h15

Introductory statement by **Mr. Aurel CIOBANU-DORDEA**, Chief Negotiator for Romania's EU Accession, Department for European Affairs, Ministry for Foreign Affairs

10h30

Presentation on the process and consequences of Eastern Enlargement of the European Union in terms of monitoring of respect of basic human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to national minorities (Copenhagen criteria, Treaty of Amsterdam), and discussion - **Ms. Maria-Rosa GUIDA**, Deputy Head of Division, DG Enlargement, European Commission

11h15

Coffee break

11h30

Presentation by a member of the Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities on the implementation and monitoring of the framework Convention, followed by a discussion - **Ms. Iulia MOTOC**, Member of the Advisory Committee on the framework Convention

12h15

Lunch break

Note:

A speech written by **Mr Gunnar JANSSON**, Chairman of the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights on the consequences of Council of Europe accession of Central and Eastern European countries in terms of the respect for basic human rights, including the



	rights of persons belonging to minority groups, will be distributed at the meeting. Mr. Jansson will participate in the working group "Participation of minorities in Parliament" on Saturday morning.		
14h00	Presentation by a representative of the European Parliament Inter-Group on Minorities, followed by a discussion - Mr. Koldo GOROSTIAGA , Member of the European Parliament Intergroup "Minority Languages"	16h00	European Integration, Mr. Boris TSILEVICH , Member of the Human Rights and Public Affairs Committee of the Parliament of the Republic of Latvia
15h00	Coffee break	16h45	Presentation on "Minorities in Public Administration: an EU accession perspective" - Ms. Petra KOVACS , Open Society Institute
15h15	A viewpoint of a Parliamentarian on the Role of Minority Issues in the Process towards	17h30	General discussion and concluding remarks by the General Rapporteur - Mr. Priit JÄRVE , European Centre on Minority Issues (ECMI)
		19h00	Close of the first-day meeting
			Dinner in "Trei Brazi" restaurant (in the mountains next to Predeal)

Saturday, 13 May 2000

Part III.	Working groups on "Participation of minorities in Parliament" and "Strengthening the Role of Minority NGOs"
	<i>Participants will be divided into the two working groups according to their main interest. At the beginning of each working group session a chairperson and a working group rapporteur will be nominated among the participants. Each expert's presentation will be followed by a discussion.</i>

Working Group 1: PARTICIPATION OF MINORITIES IN PARLIAMENT	
09h00	Introductory statement by Mr Gunnar JANSSON , Chairman of the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly Committee on Legal Affairs and Human
09h20	Dr. Roland BANK Max-Planck Institute, Heidelberg, Germany, discussion
10h45	Coffee break
11h00	Presentation by Mr. Günther RAUTZ Researcher on Ethnic Minorities and Regional Autonomies at the European Academy Bolzano, general discussion

Working group 2: STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF MINORITY NGOS	
09h00	Presentation on the work of minority NGOs at the international level by Mr. Martin EMERSON , Roma Programme Co-ordinator Minority Rights Group International (MRG), discussion
10h45	Coffee break
11h00	Presentation on the work of minority NGOs at the domestic level by Ms. Nafsika PAPANIKOLATOS , Spokesperson of Minority Rights Group-Greece and Co-ordinator of CEDIME-SE, discussion

12h45 End of the workshops

II. CONCLUSIONS (plenary)

13h00	Summary of working group discussions by working groups rapporteurs, followed by a discussion
13h45	Concluding remarks
14h00	Close of the Seminar
14h15	Lunch break in Hotel Orizont
15h30	Departure for an excursion to Braşov (meeting with the German community and visit to the Black Church) and to Sf. Gheorghe (meeting with local authorities and community leaders)
20h30	Traditional Magyar Dinner offered by the Mayor of Sf. Gheorghe

Sunday, 14 May 2000

Morning	Excursion to Bran Castle (Dracula's legend)
Afternoon	Departure of the participants (those travelling by plane will be driven by bus to Bucharest airport)

