



24 July 2003

CONFERENCE

**5th ANNIVERSARY OF THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE FRAMEWORK
CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NATIONAL MINORITIES**

DRAFT AGENDA

Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg

30-31 October 2003

*Organised by the Secretariat of the Framework Convention
for the Protection of National Minorities,
Directorate General of Human Rights,
Council of Europe*

Thursday 30 October 2003

8:30-9:00 Registration of participants

OPENING PLENARY

9:00:10:00 WELCOME AND OPENING STATEMENTS
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Chair: Pierre-Henri Imbert, Director General, Directorate General of Human Rights, Council of Europe

Mr Walter Schwimmer, Secretary General of the Council of Europe

10:00-13:00 INITIAL PRESENTATIONS
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10:00-11:00 The Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (FCNM) at the end of the first cycle of monitoring

Mr Rainer Hofmann, President of the Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities

The Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities within the context of the Council of Europe

Boris Cilevičs, Member of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly

Followed by comments by Robert Dunbar, Senior Lecturer, University of Glasgow (specific emphasis on the relations between the FCNM and the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages)

11:00- 11:15 Coffee break

11:15-11:35 Situating the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities in a wider context: achievements and challenges

John Packer, Visiting Professor at the Fletcher School, Tuft University of Law and Diplomacy.

11:35-12:15 Comments

12:15-13:00 The Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities as a catalyst for action at domestic level: the NGO perspective

Mark Lattimer, Director of Minority Rights Group
Dimitrina Petrova, Director of the European Roma Rights Centre

Followed by discussion

13:00-14:30 Lunch

14:30-17:30 THEMATIC WORKSHOPS¹ ON RESULTS OF THE MONITORING OF THE FRAMEWORK CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NATIONAL MINORITIES

WORKSHOP 1

Creating the conditions necessary for the effective participation of persons belonging to national minorities

Chair: Jenö Kaltenbach, Vice-Chair of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI)

Rapporteur – Marc Weller, Director of the European Centre for Minority Issues, Flensburg

Sub theme 1 – Ensuring the participation of national minorities in local governance
Member of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe (to be confirmed)

Sub theme 2 – Social and economic participation of national minorities
Alan Phillips, Human Rights Advisor, former First Vice-President of the Advisory Committee of the FCNM

WORKSHOP 2

Persons belonging to national minorities and the media

Rapporteur: Karol Jacobowicz, Advisor to the Chairman, National Broadcasting Council of Poland

¹ Please note that as the workshops will be organised in parallel, participants will need to opt for one of the three workshops.

Sub theme 1 – Media Representation of Persons belonging to National Minorities and the Promotion of a Spirit of Tolerance and Intercultural Dialogue

Milića Pesić, Director, Media Diversity Institute, London

Sub theme 2 - Access of Persons belonging to National Minorities to the media

Tarlach McGonagle, Researcher, Institute for Information Law, University of Amsterdam

WORKSHOP 3

Educational rights of persons belonging to national minorities

Chair: Athanasia Spiliopoulou Åkermark, First Vice-President of the Advisory Committee on the FCNM (to be confirmed)

Rapporteur: Duncan Wilson, Associate Expert, International Bureau of Education, UNESCO

Sub theme 1 –The challenges of adaptation: from segregation to inclusive education

Andrej Mirga, Chairman of the Roma Advisory Council of Project of Ethnic Relations and Chair of the Group of Specialists on Roma, Gypsies and Travellers (MG-S-ROM)

Sub theme 2 – The status of minority languages in the education process

18:00 Reception

Friday 31 October

CONCLUDING PLENARY

Chair: Rainer Hofmann, President of the Advisory Committee on the FCNM (to be confirmed)

9:00-10:40	REPORTS FROM THE WORKSHOPS
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9:00-9:50 **WORKSHOP 1 - Creating the conditions necessary for the effective participation of persons belonging to national minorities**

Followed by discussion

9:50-10:40 **WORKSHOP 2 – Persons belonging to national minorities and the media**

Followed by discussion

10:40-11:10 **Coffee break**

11:10-12:00 **WORKSHOP 3 - Educational rights of persons belonging to national minorities**

Followed by discussion

12:00-12:30	CONCLUSIONS OF THE CONFERENCE
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Chairman: Alexander Vladychenko, Director, Directorate General of Human Rights (to be confirmed)

Presentation of the conclusions of the Conference

General Rapporteur – Patrick Thornberry , Professor of International Law, University of Keele