

**Resolution CM/ResCMN(2018)6  
on the implementation of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities  
by Norway**

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 2 May 2018  
at the 1315<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

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The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Articles 24 to 26 of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (hereinafter referred to as “the Framework Convention”),

Having regard to Resolution [Res\(97\)10](#) of 17 September 1997 setting out rules adopted by the Committee of Ministers on the monitoring arrangements under Articles 24 to 26 of the Framework Convention;

Having regard to the voting rule adopted in the context of adopting Resolution [Res\(97\)10](#);[1]

Having regard to the instrument of ratification deposited by Norway on 17 March 1999;

Recalling that the Government of Norway transmitted its State report in respect of the fourth monitoring cycle under the Framework Convention on 10 July 2015;

Having examined the Advisory Committee’s fourth opinion adopted on 13 October 2016,

**Adopts the following conclusions in respect of Norway:**

**The authorities are invited to take account of the observations and recommendations contained in Sections I and II of the Advisory Committee’s fourth opinion. In particular, they should take the following measures to improve further the implementation of the Framework Convention:**

**Recommendations for immediate action:**[2]

- address adequately and without delay the problems identified in the 2015 Ad hoc Committee’s report on assimilation policies towards the Tater/Romani minority by taking effective measures to rebuild trust, including by broadening awareness of the recognition of public responsibility; expand knowledge about this minority and encourage dialogue within the community, with the authorities and society at large;
- step up efforts to preserve and develop Tater/Romani and Roma cultural identities by combating discriminatory attitudes towards their travelling lifestyle and by facilitating access to education; ensure that alternative measures to placing children in child welfare services are put in place whenever possible and that placement remains a measure of last resort; intensify efforts to preserve family ties and the cultural identities of the children when placement in families occurs, including through the recruitment of foster families belonging to the respective minority and the promotion of a broad understanding of Roma culture among child welfare services;
- develop a comprehensive and adequately resourced plan to revitalise and promote the Kven language including through developing language teaching in education, teacher training, language centres and an increased presence in the media so as to ensure that persons belonging to the Kven minority can maintain and develop their cultural identities and actively use their language in the public sphere;
- strengthen and fund adequately the complaint mechanism resulting from the reform of the Equality and Non-Discrimination Ombudsperson; increase awareness of persons belonging to

national minorities about this instrument, by providing information in languages other than Norwegian.

Further recommendations:

- consider alternative ways of gathering disaggregated, anonymous data on persons belonging to national minorities to enable the adoption and implementation of effective policies for the protection of national minorities;
  - ensure that increased attention is given in future to adopting measures which effectively and appropriately address the needs of persons belonging to all national minorities and specifically those of women, within the broader framework of measures targeting to fight against ethnic discrimination and that these measures are adequately resourced and thoroughly implemented; improve knowledge relating to national minorities and competences to deal with cultural diversity in public services;
  - ensure that existing support for cultural activities of persons belonging to national minorities is administered in a way which allows for sustainability of minority institutions and projects. All decisions at local, regional and national level should be taken in close consultation with minority representatives thus taking their priorities into consideration;
  - pursue efforts to combat hate speech and to promote tolerance and intercultural dialogue through the effective implementation of the forthcoming strategy to prevent and combat hate speech, direct the strategy to building trust between national minorities and the institutions and society at large, and continue to firmly condemn derogatory and intolerant language in public discourse; prioritise the implementation of hate crime measures in order to guarantee more effective recording, investigation and prosecuting of alleged hate crimes against persons belonging to national minorities; intensify efforts to raise public trust in the police;
  - enhance significantly the presence of TV and radio broadcasting in Kven, as well as secure support for all minorities to increase their media presence in broadcasting, printed or online media; pursue the implementation of the existing legal framework on place name signs;
  - improve access of Roma children to education by allocating more financial resources for ensuring the work of Roma mentors with the aim of improving co-ordination between schools, municipal guidance services and the families; engage in a dialogue with the Tater/Romani and the Roma minorities to consider flexible and pragmatic solutions in order to allow for provision of teaching and learning of the Romani and Romanes languages for those interested;
  - step up efforts in co-operation with national minorities to ensure that curricula, textbooks and other teaching materials reflect appropriately the history and the diversity of society in Norway and teachers are adequately trained in order to improve their knowledge and teaching on national minorities;
  - intensify efforts to develop Kven language teaching and learning by developing the offer of language nests and early education in this language; provide teaching and learning opportunities in and of Kven in schools more widely and systematically, including outside the traditional geographical areas to take into account social trends of moving to urban centres; increase efforts to raise the number of students of Kven in higher education through financial incentives;
  - increase opportunities and mechanisms for persons belonging to national minorities to participate in decision-making processes; promote their recruitment into the administration and the police in order to send a clear message that diversity is valued across Norway;
  - step up efforts to facilitate the access of persons belonging to the Tater/Romani and Roma minorities' employment and apprenticeship opportunities; reduce the inequalities which Roma in particular experience in access to housing including by conducting research in order to assess the situation.
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[1] In the context of adopting Resolution [Res\(97\)10](#) on 17 September 1997, the Committee of Ministers also adopted the following rule: “Decisions pursuant to Articles 24.1 and 25.2 of the Framework Convention shall be considered to be adopted if two-thirds of the representatives of the Contracting Parties casting a vote, including a majority of the representatives of the Contracting Parties entitled to sit on the Committee of Ministers, vote in favour”.

[2] The recommendations below are listed in the order of the corresponding articles of the Framework Convention.