

**Recommendation RecChL(2009)6
of the Committee of Ministers
on the application of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages by the Slovak
Republic**

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 18 November 2009
at the 1070th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers,

In accordance with Article 16 of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages;

Having regard to the declarations submitted by the Slovak Republic on 9 April 2001;

Having taken note of the evaluation made by the Committee of Experts on the Charter with respect to the application of the Charter by the Slovak Republic;

Having taken note of the comments made by the Slovak authorities on the contents of the Committee of Experts' report;

Bearing in mind that this evaluation is based on information submitted by the Slovak Republic in its national report, supplementary information provided by the Slovak authorities, information submitted by bodies and associations legally established in the Slovak Republic and information obtained by the Committee of Experts during its on-the-spot visit;

Bearing also in mind that the evaluation report adopted by the Committee of Experts on 24 April 2009 did not contain any assessment of the amendments of the State Language Act of Slovakia of 30 June 2009;

Recommends that the authorities of the Slovak Republic take account of all the observations and recommendations of the Committee of Experts and, as a matter of priority:

1. review the requirement that minority language speakers should represent at least 20% of the municipal population for the undertakings in the field of administration to be operational;
2. provide for the teaching of all minority languages at all appropriate levels and inform parents about its availability;
3. improve teacher-training and set up a body in charge of monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved;
4. improve the provision of public sector television and radio in all minority languages and facilitate the broadcasting of private radio and television in minority languages by lifting the restrictive requirements of the respective legislation;
5. facilitate the creation of newspapers in minority languages;
6. continue measures to abolish the practice of unjustified enrolment of Roma children in schools for children with special needs and start to introduce Romani-language education for Roma children on a large scale.