



## Statement

Civic Engagement Movement, Romania

Thank you Mr. Chair

My name is Enikő Szigeti, I am a Hungarian from Romania, member of a autochthonous minority community that amounts to almost 1.3 million people. I am the executive director of a human rights organization, Civic Engagement Movement that operates in Tirgu Mures/Marosvásárhely a city where Hungarians make up almost half of the population. We advocate for the implementation of laws relevant to language rights protection through litigation and advocacy work at the local, national and international level.

A great number of laws and policies guarantee the language rights of the 13 recognized minorities of Romania, including the rights of the largest Hungarian minority community. Since language rights guaranteed by the Romanian legislation are often not translated into practice, under the circumstances of a possible humanitarian crisis, linguistic minorities would face additional challenges. Respect of the language rights of minorities are crucial in mitigating the impacts of humanitarian crisis, therefore, the draft recommendations should integrate important dimension throughout. It is on this basis that I would like to add several comments to the following draft recommendations.

I suggest that:

- 20(c) “effective measures to prevent advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred” should make mention explicitly of the linguistic dimension as well.
- 20(f) relevant institutional framework should be set up based on consultation with minorities who should be represented in these bodies.

CIVIL ELKÖTELEZETTSÉG MOZGALOM  
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT MOVEMENT  
MIȘCAREA ANGAJAMENT CIVIC



„Legyünk mi, a változás amit látni szeretnénk a világban.” *GANDHI*

- 20(i) “complaint mechanisms for minorities to voice their concern and disseminate information on their existence should be accessible in minority languages as well as operate in minority languages.
- 20(j) should include discrimination against minority languages.

Thank you for your attention.

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