

Recommendation RecChL(2007)3 of the Committee of Ministers on the application of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages by Norway

(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 16 May 2007 at the 995th 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 instrument of ratification submitted by Norway on 10 November 1993;

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

Bearing in mind that this evaluation is based on information submitted by Norway in its third periodical report, supplementary information given by the Norwegian authorities, information submitted by bodies and associations legally established in Norway and the information obtained by the Committee of Experts during its on-the-spot visit,

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

- adopt a structured policy for the protection and promotion of the Kven language in co-operation with the speakers, in particular concerning the standardisation of Kven, the improvement of teaching in/of Kven at all appropriate stages, and the increase of the use of Kven in the public sphere.
- strengthen their efforts to provide teaching materials and teacher training for Kven, Lule and South Sámi, Romani and Romanes.
- ensure that social and health care institutions within the Sámi administrative district offer services in Sámi.
- ensure that the national population registers and other public institutions accept Sámi names in their correct native form.