

**Recommendation CM/RecChL(2016)7
of the Committee of Ministers
on the application of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages
by the Netherlands**

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 14 December 2016
at the 1273bis 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 acceptance submitted by the Kingdom of the Netherlands on 2 May 1996 and to the supplementary declaration submitted on 19 March 1997;

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 Netherlands;

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

Bearing in mind that this evaluation is based on information submitted by the Netherlands in their fifth periodical report, supplementary information provided by the Dutch authorities, information submitted by bodies and associations legally established in the Netherlands and information obtained by the Committee of Experts during its on-the-spot visit,

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

1. adopt a structured policy for the implementation of the Charter also for the languages covered only by Part II, in co-operation with the speakers;
2. take measures to ensure that the ongoing changes in the media system do not hamper the offer of programmes in regional or minority languages;
3. continue to strengthen the teaching of and in Frisian at all levels of education in order to improve the level of literacy in the language;
4. upgrade the teaching of Limburgish and Low Saxon to the status of regular school subjects and extend the offer of education in these languages, including in pre-schools;
5. take measures, in co-operation with representatives of the speakers, to protect and promote Romanes and Yiddish.