



COUNCIL OF EUROPE      CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Committee of Ministers  
Comité des Ministres

**Recommendation RecChL(2011)4  
of the Committee of Ministers  
on the application of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages  
by Poland**

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 7 December 2011  
at the 1129th 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 Poland on 12 February 2009;

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

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

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

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

1. promote awareness and tolerance in Polish society at large vis-à-vis the regional or minority languages and the cultures they represent;
2. make available education in Belorussian, German, Kashub, Lemko and Ukrainian as a medium of instruction at pre-school, primary and secondary levels;
3. provide updated textbooks for regional or minority language education in accordance with the New National Core Curriculum and the basic and further training of a sufficient number of teachers who are able to teach subjects in Belorussian, German, Kashub, Lemko and Ukrainian;
4. take measures to strengthen the offer of broadcasting in all regional or minority languages;
5. reconsider the application of the 20%-threshold with regard to the undertakings in Article 10 and create the legal possibility to submit oral or written applications in the regional or minority languages also in relation to districts and voivodships;
6. establish, in close co-operation with the speakers concerned, a structured policy and take flexible measures facilitating the application of the Charter to the Armenian, Czech, Karaim, Romani, Russian, Slovak, Tatar and Yiddish languages.