

RESOLUTION 2016-02

Resolution on the situation of the Macedonian minority in Albania

submitted by the Macedonian Association “Ilinden” Tirana

At the Assembly of Delegates in Wrocław / Breslau, on 21 May 2016, the Delegates of the Member Organisations of the Federal Union of European Nationalities adopted the following resolution:

The Assembly of Delegates of FUEN calls on the Republic of Albania:

1. To sign and ratify the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages of the Council of Europe that the Albanian state has delayed for years in an unclear and irresponsible way.
2. To officially recognise the Macedonian minority on the whole territory of the Republic of Albania.
3. To grant all the minority rights to the Macedonian minority especially in the regions of Golo Brdo and Gora, as these are implemented in the region of Mala Prespa.
4. To teach the Macedonian language as mother tongue in public schools in Golo Brdo and Gora and across the territory of the Republic of Albania where a significant number of people belonging to the Macedonian minority are present.

The Macedonian minority in Republic of Albania considers the administrative reform implemented in year 2015 as a setback for the rights of the Macedonian minority in the regions of Golo Brdo and Gora. Before the administrative reform was implemented the government of the Republic of Albania assured that the municipalities where the Macedonian minority lives will not be dissolved. Since the year 1913 the regions of Golo Brdo and Gora had been in separate administrative units.

The administrative reform implemented in 2015 did not meet not one of the criteria set by the government of the Republic of Albania, let alone take account of the demographic, geographic, economic and cultural factors in these two regions because the Macedonian minority lives here. The closure of the municipalities in the region of Golo Brdo complicates life for residents of the regions of Golo Brdo and Gora; even for a simple administrative document they have to travel nearly two hours.

The Assembly of Delegates of FUEN calls on the Republic of Albania:

5. To create in the regions of Golo Brdo and Gora two municipalities, the Golo Brdo Municipality and the Gora Municipality.
6. To provide financial support from the Ministry of Culture of Albania for cultural and educational activities of the Macedonian minority in the Republic Albania.