

LIVING DIVERSITY **SHAPING EUROPE**



FUEEN

Flensburg / Flensburg · Berlin · Brussel / Bruxelles
www.fuen.org

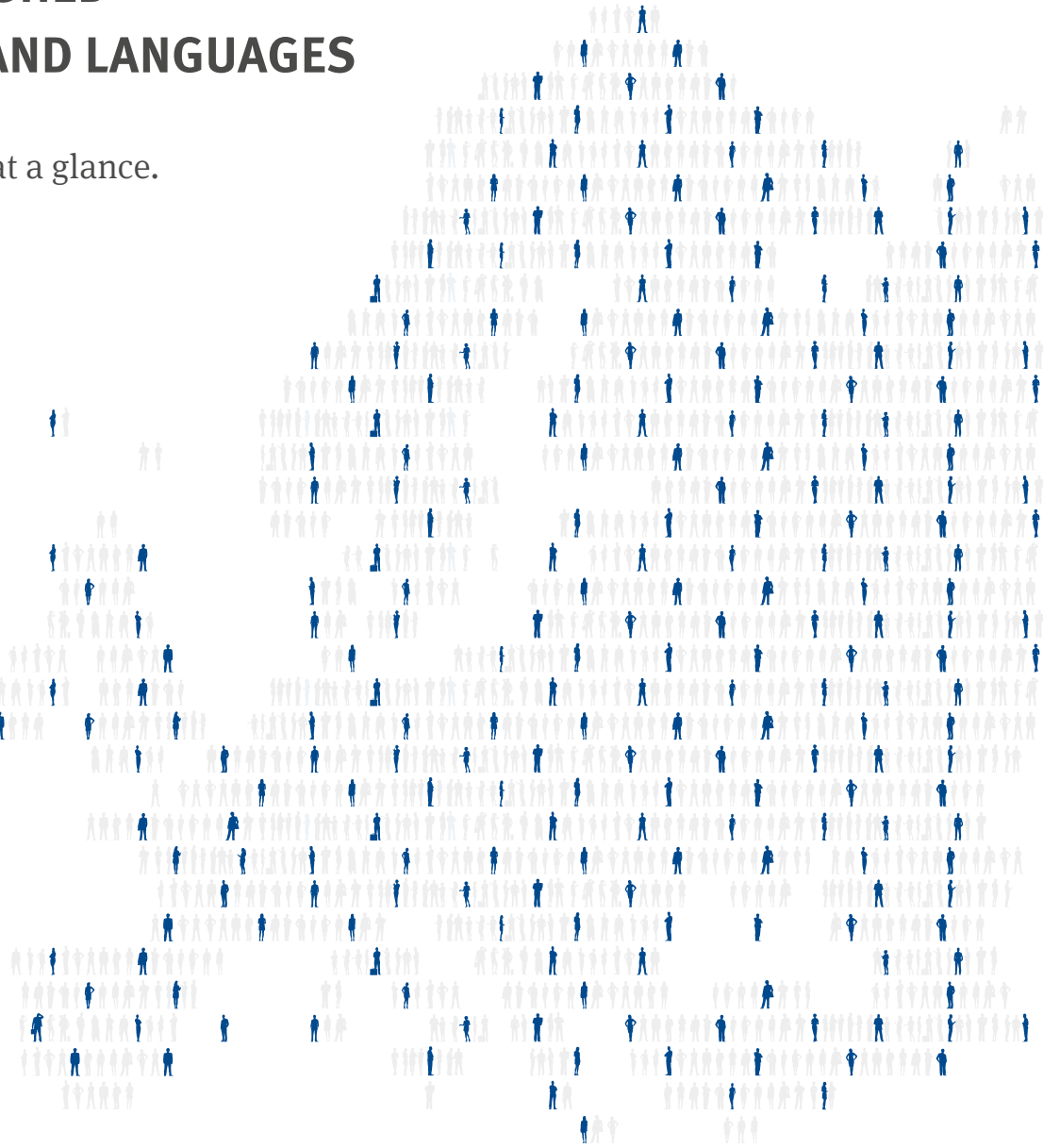
Europe’s best-kept secret

THE AUTOCHTHONOUS COMMUNITIES – OLD-ESTABLISHED MINORITIES AND LANGUAGES

Facts and diversity at a glance.

In Europe there are more than 400 minority communities comprising over 100 million people.

This means that almost **1 in 7 Europeans** belong to an autochthonous minority and/or speaks a regional or minority language.



Something worth considering

MINORITY POLITICS IS PEACE POLITICS

FUEN is Europe.

Europe is in motion, and this in many aspects. Europe is a place people long to be, a safe haven and a melting pot. Europe is in crisis and reveals a fragile architecture. But the fact remains, that Europe is reinventing itself and further needs to rediscover itself. And we are, in almost every country in Europe, right in the middle of it.

We are the traditional minorities and ethnic groups. We are a product of history, the result of historic events and the redrawing of borders. We are also small groups and stateless nations. We have never established a state of our own, but live on other state territories, and yet we make an irreplaceable contribution to a European heritage.

We are a diverse group that has created a community of solidarity under the umbrella of FUEN. For over 65 years FUEN has represented the interests of minority groups, of which there are over 400 groups in all of Europe. Almost 100 of these are members. Such a large number of people should attract a lot of attention, however, they are politically under-represented with insufficient resources.

We have many plans and a lot to offer!



FUEN at a glance

ADVOCATE AND UMBRELLA ORGANISATION

FUEN represents the interests of the European minorities.

FUEN is the most important advocate and the biggest umbrella organisation of the autochthonous, national minorities in Europe. FUEN unites over 90 member organisations from 32 European countries, with new members joining every year.

FUEN sees itself as a mutual support community that represents the interests of the European minorities on a regional, national, and particularly a European level. It maintains a large network of policy makers, scientific institutions, cultural and educational institutions, youth organisations, media and other associates.

FUEN works for the preservation and promotion of identity, language, culture, rights and traditions of the

European minorities. It is the mouthpiece of the minorities in dealing with international organisations, especially the European Union, the Council of Europe, the United Nations and the OSCE.

FUEN is represented in three different locations: The Secretariat-General in Flensburg, in Berlin and in Brussels.

FUEN is headed by a seven-person executive board, led by the FUEN president Loránt Vincze.

The MinoritySafePack Initiative – a European Citizens Initiative supported by the FUEN and their member organisations - will attract the attention of the European public towards the minorities.



YOU ARE NOT ALONE. ONE MILLION SIGNATURES FOR DIVERSITY IN EUROPE

DU BIST NICHT ALLEIN. EINE MILLION UNTERSCHRIFTEN FÜR DIE VIELFALT EUROPAS	NO ESTÁS SOLO/SOLA. UN MILLÓN DEFIRMAS PARA LA DIVERSIDAD EN EUROPA	TI N'ES BETG SULET. IN MILLIUN SUTTASCRIPZIUNS PER LA DIVERSITAT EN L'EUROPA	NİL TŪ I D'AONAR. MILLIŪN SINIŪ AR SON NA HEAGSŪLACHTA SAN EORAIÞ	NU ESHTSÁ SINGUR. UN MILIUN DI SEMNĂTURI TI DIVERSITATI TU EUROPA
TY NIEJSY SAM(A). MILION PODPISÓW ZA MNOGOTNOŚĆ EUROPY	DU ER IKKE ALENE. EN MILLION UNDERSKRIFTER FOR MANGFOLDIGHED I EUROPA	AEN EIZAI MONOZ. ENA EKATOMMYPIO YΠOΓΡΑΦΕΣ ΓΙΑ ΤΗΝ ΔΙΑΦΟΡΕΤΙΚΟΤΗΤΑ ΣΤΗΝ ΕΥΡΩΠΗ	N'OUT KET DA-UNAN-PENN. UR MILLION A SINADURIOŪ EVIT AL LIESSEURTED EN EUROPA	NID YDYCH AR BEN EICH HUN. UN MILIWN O LOFNODION AR GYFER AMRYWIAETH YN EWROP
DO BIST NET ALLINEE. IEN MILJOEN HANTEKENINGEN FOAR IT FERSKAAT YN EUROPA	IJ BENT NIET ALLEEN. EEN MILJOEN HANDEKENINGEN VOOR DE VERSCHIEDENHEID IN EUROPA	NO ESTÁS SOL. JEDNU MILION PODPISÓW PER LA DIVERSITAT A EUROPA	TI NISI SAM. JEDNU MILION PODPISÓV ZA ŠAROLIKOST U EUROPI	NUK JE VETĚM. NĚ MILION FIRMA PER DIVERSITETIN NĚ EUROPE
NEM VAGY EGYEDŰL. EGYMILLIO ALÁÍRÁS A SOKSZÍNŰ EURÓPÁÉRT	NIE JESTEŚ SAM. MILION PODPISÓW DLA RÓŻNORODNOŚCI EUROPY	TU NE TENĚ YÍ. YER MILYON NAVÍS JI BO CUDAHIVĚ LI EWROPA	SEN YANGIZ TŪGŪLSEN. BIR MILYON QOLBASIWLAR AVROÐADA MILLI RENKLIK BOLSUN UÇUN	TY NIEJSY SAM(A). MILION PODPISÓW ZA WJELERAKOŚĆ EUROPY
NE T'ÉS NIA SU/SORA. N MILIUN DE FIRMES POR LA PLURALITÉ	NON SEI SOLO/SOLA. UN MILIONE DI FIRME PER LA DIVERSITÀ IN EUROPA	NE TE IES NIA SĚUL/SĚULA. N MILION DE FIRMES PER LA PLURALITĚ	DŮ BAST AI ĀLINE. IINJ MILIJOON UNERSCHAFTE FOR EUROPAS MANINGFOULJ	DŮ BĀŠT NIT ALLEENICH. EEN MILLION UNERSKRIFTEN FOAR JU FUULFOALT FON EUROPA

WWW.MINORITY-SAFEPAK.EU



Flensburg / Flensburg



Bundeshaus Berlin



Hanse-Office Brussel / Bruxelles

Political Participation

REPRESENTATION AND DIALOGUE ON EQUAL FOOTING

FUEN is the advocate of minority interests – particularly on a European level

In close cooperation with international organisations, states and regions, FUEN endeavours to highlight minority issues in Europe's multi-level political system. Drawing on its many years of experience and its large network, FUEN encourages the relevant stakeholders to maintain a sustainable minority policy.

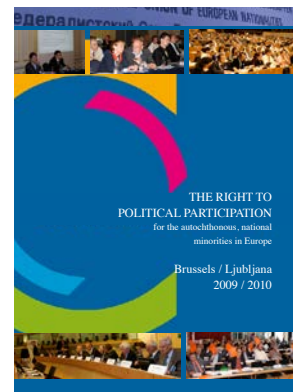
On a European level, FUEN's goals include the establishment of a political representation at the European Parliament, comparable with the contact and advisory bodies on nation state level.

FUEN has participatory status at the Council of Europe and consultative status at the United Nations.

FUEN demands that the Council of Europe's human rights convention, the recommendations of the OSCE

and the UN conventions and political instruments are taken seriously and updated to meet contemporary needs.

Together with the Members of the European Parliament, FUEN established the European Dialogue Forum. Its objective is to establish a dialogue and contact body to deal with minority interests directly at the European Parliament and to gain a stronger and constructive participation for social change in Europe.



Fundamental Rights

MINORITY RIGHTS ARE HUMAN RIGHTS

At home in our region, strong in Europe.

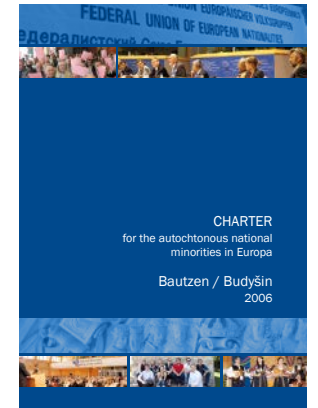
FUEN was founded in Paris in 1949, the same year as the Council of Europe. The core idea was to create a federal based Europe of the Regions as an instrument for guaranteeing peace. The experiences of two World Wars should lead to a reorganisation of Europe as one of regions.

In its charter, FUEN affirms its identity and its declared belief in the peaceful coexistence of all peoples. The Programmatic Declaration of 2013 creates the framework for the necessary legal and support for minorities from the Council of Europe and the European Union.

Europe has a self-defined responsibility for the minorities and for linguistic and cultural diversity. This has entered a new dimension with the Treaty of Lisbon and the European Union Charter of Fundamental Rights.

The legal commitments undertaken must also be reflected in more tangible action with regard to the protection and support for the minorities.

A collection of concrete proposals are already on the table in the shape of the European Citizens' Initiative Minority SafePack (Page 8).



European Citizens' Initiative

ONE MILLION SIGNATURES FOR MINORITY ISSUES

MINORITY SAFEPAK INITIATIVE – has already written history!

FUEN members started a European Citizens' Initiative, which is already the most significant initiative started by European minorities in decades. Launched with a great deal of euphoria and political support, the project was initially rejected by the European Commission in September 2013, on the grounds of being outside the European Commission's remit.

After many years (2013 – 2017) of pressure from the Citizens' Committee at the European Court of Justice, the European Commission finally approved and registered the initiative.

The Minority SafePack, carefully compiled by a team of experts, contains several measures and specific legal instruments for the support and protection of European minorities and regional and minority languages.

9 of the 11 suggested proposals have been registered by the EU Commission on the 03.04.2017 and are now released for signature collection.

The Minority SafePack Initiative is thereby the only initiative that has prevailed in court and has been partially approved. The campaign goes under the motto – you are not alone. One Million Signatures for Diversity in Europe.

The initiative addresses the entire EU population and will further make symbolic support from all across Europe possible. Together, it should be possible to succeed in uniting Europeans in support to strengthen the protection of the European cultural and linguistic heritage by signing the Initiative.

Give your support by signing the initiative at www.minority-safepack.eu.



European Network

FUEN AS A COMMUNITY OF SOLIDARITY

The largest umbrella organisation for European minorities is constantly growing.

FUEN maintains a large network and contacts to the European minorities and their organisations, to policymakers, scientific institutions, youth organisations, media, cultural and educational institutions and other partners. It supports such projects as the joint project of the European minority theatres and the creation of a European museum network.

FUEN sees itself as a community based on solidarity. The situation, needs and challenges faced by the individual minorities in Europe are varied. There are exemplary models of protection and support for minorities, but there are also states that still deny the existence of their autochthonous minorities. The European minorities demand more voice and influence in the regions, the nation states and on the European level.

On the Internet:
 Working Group of German Minorities
www.agdm.fuen.org
 Working Group of Turkic Minorities
www.tag.fuen.org
 Working Group of Slavic Minorities
www.sm.fuen.org

In collaboration with its members, FUEN stages many events with a European dimension. Worthy of particular mention here are the EUROPEADA – the European Football Championship of the Minorities, which will be held for the fourth time in 2020 – and the annual meeting of the Slavic, Turkic and German minorities.



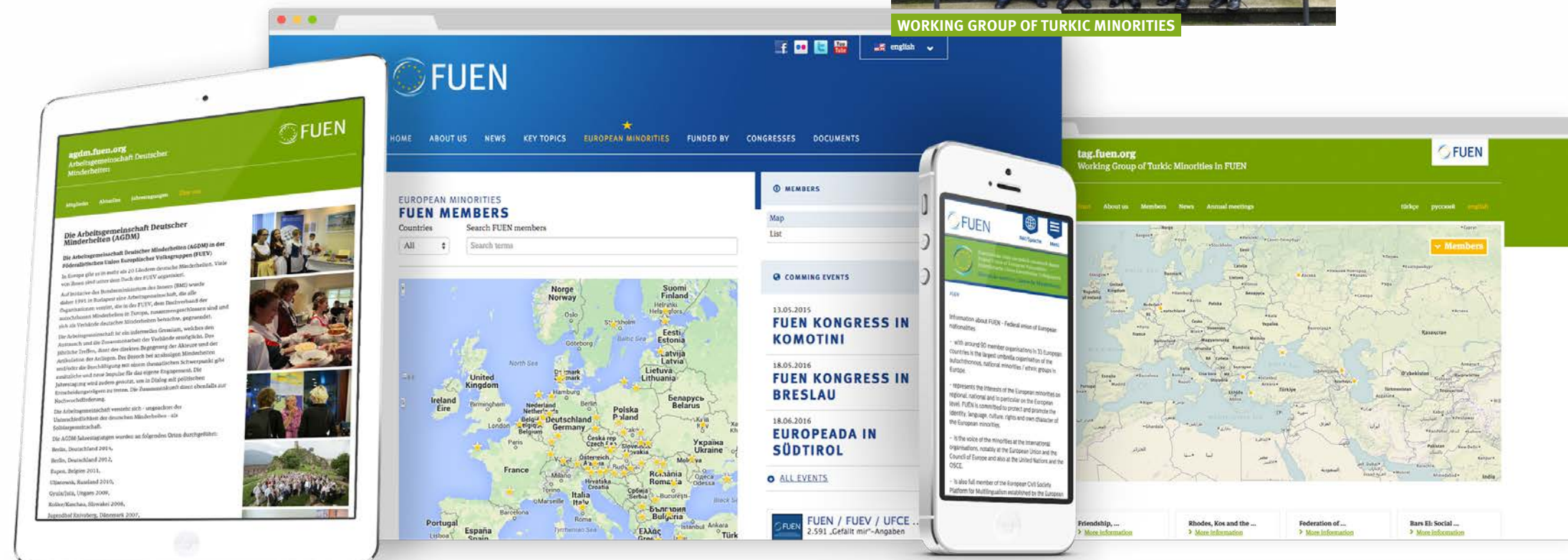
WORKING GROUP OF GERMAN MINORITIES



WORKING GROUP OF SLAVIC MINORITIES



WORKING GROUP OF TURKIC MINORITIES



We are looking for Member Organisations to organise the upcoming FUEN Congresses: 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 ...



European Network FUEN CONGRESS

The largest annual meeting of the European Minorities.

Every year FUEN hosts the congress of European Minorities in different European capitals and regions. The congress is usually attended by around 250 representatives of different minorities, where they critically discuss the situation of the minorities in a European context.

2016 the FUEN Congress was held in the European Capital of Culture Wrocław in cooperation with the German minority in Poland. The OSCE high commissioner Astrid Thors spoke at the opening of the congress, and the minorities in Poland gave a presentation of their current situation, while the debate focused on the future of Europe and the minorities in times of crisis. FUEN present-

ed a successful and positive report and the assembly of delegates elected a new executive board.

The 62nd Congress will take place from 17. – 21. May 2017 in Grand Hotel Napoca in Cluj-Napoca / Kolozsvár / Klausenburg, Romania. It is organized by our member organisation RMDSZ (Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania) in cooperation With other member organisations from Romania. The FUEN Congress is dedicated towards the successful registration of the Minority SafePack Initiative.



LANGUAGE DIVERSITY

Map of Minorities & the Minority & Regional & Languages in Europe

The folding map shows the linguistic and cultural diversity of our continent. It shows the minorities that live, and the languages spoken, in every country in Europe. This interactive map enables you to visualise the diversity in many different ways.

Click on
map.language-diversity.eu
and experience our interactive map and a lot more interesting information.



Linguistic Diversity

CREATIVE SUPPORT WITH POTENTIAL

“It’s never too late ...”: Attractive language promotion and planning with Language Diversity.

Multilingualism and linguistic diversity are fundamental European values. This is enshrined in Article 22 of the European Charter of Fundamental Human Rights, “The Union shall respect cultural, religious and linguistic diversity.” The European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages guarantees their protection.

The EUROMOSAIC study quantifies the critical threshold for the survival of a language at 300,000 speakers.

One of the largest stateless languages is Catalan, with around six million speakers. While the Welsh, Basques, West Frisians, Bretons and some of the Russian peoples, like the Bashkirs and the Chuvash, are above the critical language threshold. The great majority of regional and minority languages, such as Ladin, Romansch, Upper and Lower Sorbian, North Frisian and Kashubian are below the threshold.

The preservation and promotion of their own language within the scope of European multilingualism is extremely important for every minority. This requires attractive language development, long-term language planning and reliable language policy.

FUEN puts its trust in joint initiatives for language policy and promotion, and in networking with other stakeholders, such as the Network to Promote Linguistic Diversity (NPLD).

FUEN promotes creative linguistic diversity and multilingualism through its Language Diversity project and Language Diversity Map. “It’s never too late ...” is not just a campaign motto but also an active encouragement.



Forum of the European Minorities

MAKE USE OF THE ADDED VALUE OF MINORITIES

House of Minorities – the point of contact for minority issues in Europe.

The minorities in Europe – which comprise over 100 million Europeans – want to help shape the future of the continent and contribute to the strengthening of European civil society.

The European minorities represent an unrecognised potential. Their knowledge and experience are not utilised enough. Although their contribution to linguistic and cultural diversity is clearly visible, a fact that is often overlooked is that minorities also possess skills that can contribute to economic and regional development.

In the shape of the House of Minorities, FUEN and its partners in the German-Danish border region have established a European information and documentation centre. Before this, there has not been a point of

contact for minority issues in Europe. The office of the House of Minorities has been in use for different events and shop window for the ambitious project since 2014.

With the establishment of a Forum of the European Minorities that includes the European regions in which the minorities live, FUEN wants to reach out in a new direction, which will emphasise the social and political importance of the minorities.

After a first meeting on the occasion of the EUROPEADA 2016 in South Tyrol, East Belgium with the support of the Government of the German-speaking Community will perform as the 2017 Forum host.





Minorities Help Minorities

LEARNING FROM ONE ANOTHER

Specific projects as social added value.

Minorities can learn from other minorities and their experience can help others to improve their life conditions and make a valuable contribution to solving problems. Through dialogue and exchange of ideas and experiences, minorities also contribute to strengthening commitment to civil society. Members of minorities have been proven to possess a special social and intercultural expertise that qualifies them to act as mediators.

We would like to draw attention to one particular example: with its project “Solidarity with the Roma”, FUEN has been supporting Roma, many of whom live under inhumane conditions. As the largest umbrella organisation of the minorities in Europe, it can use the

experiences of its members to improve the inclusion of the Roma in all areas of public and political life. The idea is to show a new way for these ten to twelve million people with European citizenship to gain more acceptance and understanding.

This aspired solidarity between minorities is not just relevant with regard to the Roma population. It enhances the status of all minorities and how they are perceived by the majority population. If the solidarity of the minorities can contribute to solving a current problem then this is proof that minorities embody an added value for society as a whole.

Make use of the minorities' expertise

CONFLICT PREVENTION AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION

Minority politics is peace politics.

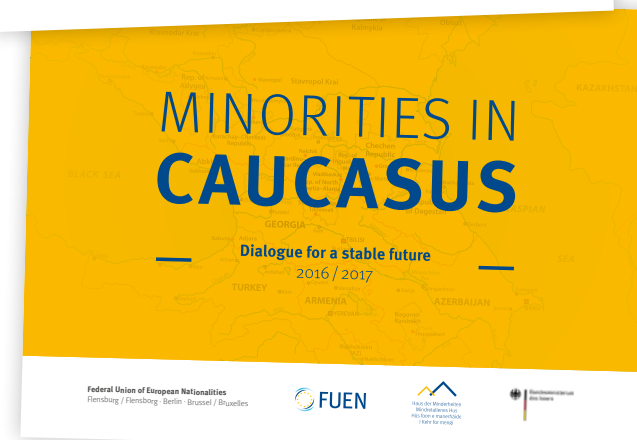
In the history of Europe, crises and conflicts are often associated with the coexistence of different peoples, and often also with minorities. Many of the over 90 FUEN member organisations have been and still are being affected by the most recent conflicts in Europe. FUEN promotes a peaceful coexistence in Europe, and demonstrates how in many European regions minorities have been committed to this for decades, in a peaceful and future-oriented way. Minority politics is peace politics.

FUEN works beforehand in order to reinforce minority communities in regional engagement, using European initiatives and thereby avoid conflicts. We rely on dialogue and social participation.

One of the three priorities of the OSCE chairmanship, to which FUEN feels committed, is the subject of national minorities. Following up on Germany's foreign minister Steinmeier's statement, that "we also want to use

your expertise for our foreign policy", FUEN wants to bring in the experience and knowledge of the minorities for conflict resolution and prevention.

Projects such as Minorities in Caucasus and Minorities in Western Balkans, which have been in progress since 2016, serve this purpose.



EUROPEADA EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE AUTOCHTHONOUS MINORITIES

Football festival of languages and cultures.

Sport and games bring people together – and attract attention.

After being hosted by the Romansh people of Grisons in 2008 and the Lusatian Sorbs in 2012, the EUROPEADA, the 2016 European football championship of the autochthonous, national minorities, was held from 18 to 26 June 2016 in South Tyrol. During the same time as the UEFA Euro in France, twenty-four teams were competing for the EUROPEADA title in the Puster and Val Badia/Gadertal valleys, an increase from 19 teams who participated at the previous championship.

The tournament was organised by FUEN, and hosted by the Ladins and the German-speaking South Tyroleans. A great difference to the UEFA EURO is that 2016 marks the first women's competition. Similar to the male counterparts, the women's teams are entirely made up of members from minorities and participate in a sporty and fair competition against each other.

The EUROPEADA is a meeting of living diversity of the long-established minorities – and that is what makes this European football tournament a special major sporting event. A key component of the EUROPEADA is a culture day, where the individual minorities present themselves and exchange ideas and experiences.

The call for expressions of hosting the EUROPEADA 2020 has already been made. Two applicants have shown their interest in May 2017, the Danish-German border region and the Carinthian Slovenes. Both regions unite the European enthusiasm and the 100th anniversary of their respective border demarcation.

www.europeada.eu



EUROPEADA 2020

FUSSBALLEUROPAMEISTERSCHAFT DER AUTOCHTHONEN
NATIONALEN MINDERHEITEN

FODBOLD EUROPAMEISTERSKABET FOR DE AUTOKTONE
NATIONALE MINDRETAL

FÖTJBÅLEUPAMÄISTERSCHAP FOON DA AUTOCHTOONE,
NATSJONÅÅLE MANERHÄIDE

EVROPSKO NOGOMETNO PRVENSTVO AVTOHTONIH NARODNIH MANJŠIN

FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE AUTOCHTHONOUS NATIONAL MINORITIES IN EUROPE



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Would you like to support the FUEN?

The FUEN secretariat can provide you with a list of upcoming projects and sponsoring/funding options. Please use our account for donations. As a registered German charity, FUEN is allowed to issue a recognised donation receipt. **FUEN account for donations at Sydbank Flensburg** · IBAN: DE46 2151 0600 1000 5064 77 · BIC/SWIFT: SYBKDE22

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We would like to thank
all the institutions,
individuals and members
that have supported us
over the years.



MINORITY SAFEPAK INITIATIVE

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SIGNATURES FOR DIVERSITY IN EUROPE

www.minority-safepack.eu