

COUNCIL OF EUROPE

COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS

Recommendation RecChL(2004)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 15 December 2004
at the 909th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers,

In accordance with Article 16 of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages;

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 national 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 of the Committee of Experts and, as a matter of priority:

1. develop an overall and coherent policy for teaching of and in Frisian at all levels of education and adopt concrete measures for its implementation;
2. introduce practical measures in order to enable the use of Frisian in central State administration agencies located in the province of Fryslân, as well as in public services directly under the control of the State;
3. ensures that local and regional authorities coordinate and strengthen their efforts to protect and promote the Low-Saxon language, particularly in the field of education;
4. take measures to protect and promote the Romanes language in particular in the field of education, in cooperation with the speakers.