



COUNCIL CONSEIL
OF EUROPE DE L'EUROPE

Committee of Ministers
Comité des Ministres

**Recommendation RecChL(2009)2
of the Committee of Ministers
on the application of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages by Serbia**

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 6 May 2009
at the 1056th 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 declaration made by Serbia on 15 February 2006;

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

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

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

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

1. promote awareness and tolerance in Serbian society at large vis-à-vis the regional or minority languages and the cultures they represent;
2. clarify the status of Bunjevac and Vlach in consultation with representatives of all speakers;
3. introduce teaching of/in Part II languages at primary and secondary levels,
4. strengthen teacher training and provide adequate teaching materials for all regional or minority languages;
5. secure the implementation of Articles 9 and 10, in particular regarding Romani and Ukrainian, and ensure that the Part III languages can be used in relations with local branches of the State authorities;
6. take the necessary legal and practical measures to ensure that personal names and place names in the regional or minority languages can be used officially in conformity with the tradition and orthography of the languages concerned.