

22 September 2017

New text of article 7 of the Ukrainian Law on education

Declaration of Romania

Mr. Chairman,

I would like to refer to the new Law on Education, adopted by the Supreme Rada of Ukraine on 5th of September 2017, more specifically, to Article 7 of this Law.

While acknowledging the importance of reforming the education in Ukraine and the objective of ensuring a good knowledge of the State language, Romania considers that the text of the current Article 7 of the new Law is reducing drastically the existing rights of the persons belonging to the Romanian minority in Ukraine as regards the education in their mother tongue.

Romania regrets that the article 7 was adopted despite the previous assurances by the Ukrainian side that the rights of persons belonging to the national minorities, including the Romanian one, will be preserved.

Furthermore, Romania regrets that there were no genuine consultations with the persons belonging to the Romanian minority in Ukraine before adopting the current form of Article 7.

During the recent bilateral Commission on minorities Romania-Ukraine, the Romanian side has asked the Ukrainian side to request the advice of the OSCE High Commissioner for the National Minorities and of the Venice Commission of the Council of Europe before the promulgation of the Law by the Ukrainian President.

We do hope that these messages shall be taken into account by the Ukrainian authorities.

Thank you!