

HDIM.CS/0347/19/EN  
24 September 2019

Enclosed information material is submitted by Movement for the Renaissance of Northern Epirus

Movement for the Renaissance of Northern Epirus

MOVEMENT FOR THE RENAISSANCE OF NORTHERN EPIRUS

OSCE HUMAN DIMENSION IMPLEMENTATION MEETING

16 September - 27 September 2019

Warsaw – Poland

Working session 12: Tolerance and non-discrimination II

– Rights of persons belonging to national minorities

Contact Persons: Dimitrios Perdiki

[northernepirusmovement@gmail.com](mailto:northernepirusmovement@gmail.com)

[dperdiki@otenet.gr](mailto:dperdiki@otenet.gr)

The Greek National Minority in Albania is fading away. The reason is the velvet ethnic cleansing applied by the Albanian governments. From the authorities and organizations down to the ordinary Albanians, they have all received the propaganda messages against the Greek minority transmitted by the media.

Unfortunately, an anti-Greek propaganda and xenophobia is being cultivated against the Greeks of Northern Epirus. Even this term is not accepted by the Albanian authorities, not even the names of the Greek villages themselves.

Many members of the Greek National Minority work in Greece and visit their families frequently. At the borders, the Albanian authorities are standing by to "offer" a special treatment.

Some are being taken to police stations for questioning, some remain in cold and wet detention centers for hours. Any documents or books, including their cell phones, are being confiscated without any explanation. Thorough checking is carried out on those of who take part in minority political activities, including university professors.

All these actions are clearly aimed at forcing the Greek National Minority to abandon its patrimonial lands, where the Greek language and place names still survive after 3000 years of Greek presence. The pressure from the Albanian authorities is often unbearable.

Not long ago we watched in the media that the Albanian Prime Minister Rama and the former Prime Minister Sali Berisha are competing for who has done more to tarnish and eradicate the Greek National Minority!

On October 28, 2018, in the village of Vouliarates in a minority zone, on the National Day of Greece, a member of the minority was killed by Albanian police Special Forces Unit "Renea". His crime was that he was hanging Greek flags in honor of the day. He resisted but they did not attempt to arrest him. The command was "kill him".

The Albanian authorities put pressure on eye witnesses to change their statements or they attempted to make them sign things they had never been. All these attempts had one thing in common: They were trying to put all the blame to Katsifas. The conclusion of the inquiry is still nowhere to be found after 11 months!

In the village of Krania, in a minority area, twice last year in December 2018 and once in July 2019, Albanian nationalists destroyed the monument to a national hero of the minority.

The second time they used a bomb and disaster was absolute. The Albanian authorities made no arrests and the Albanian leadership did not condemn the recurring incidents, demonstrating full tolerance for acts of terrorism against the Greek National Minority.

In the municipality of Himara, the Albanian government is trying to take possession of all coastal land from the Greek population of the area. For the tourist development the Albanian government must clear first the area from the Greek element.

Under the "New Himara" plan, as declared by the Albanian Prime Minister Edi Rama in the Albanian parliament, the region will be given for tourist development at a price of one Euro to large investors, behind whom government officials are hiding.

In other areas such as the area of Vourkos, in minority zones such as Albania calls them, large pieces of land are being taken from members of the Greek National Minority and attributed to Albanian settlers who are being brought from the north of the country.

This forced alteration of the demographics of the areas where the minority resides is in clear violation of the "Framework agreement for the Protection of National Minorities".

In the bay of Kakomaia, in Agioi Saranda, in Pogoni, in Narta near Avlona, properties belonging to the Greeks are seized by Albanians who display falsified real estate titles. It is the rule that when an Albanian claims property from a member of the Greek minority, the court's decision is always in favor of the Albanian, even if the documents presented are clearly falsified.

On the contrary, if a Greek asks for his property with all the legal documents in hand, the decision is almost always against him. The examples are numerous, too many for anyone to claim it is a coincidence...

We could present many more cases of violation of the minority rights of the Hellenic National Minority in all areas of human activity.

But we would need hundreds of pages for this...







