

FINAL PROTOCOL

Yerevan, on 29- 31 August in Sevan, the OSCE Office in Yerevan together with the non-governmental organization CIVITAS organized a conference on the framework for the protection of the national minorities: legal and practical implementation of the convention in Armenia.

Representatives of state structures and local authorities, representatives of all national minorities in Armenia, non-governmental and international organizations, state officials and independent experts, scientists, journalists were participating at the conference (list of participants is attached).

The conference was consisted of six sessions, there have been analyzed international standards by separate blocks and ways of protection of national minorities' rights, whether corresponds the Armenian legislation to this standards, taken obligations and their executing by state structures, introducing the national minorities to the state structures and local authorities, culture and religion, language and education, connection with their ethnic roots, legitimating of the Congress of national minorities and elected Coordinating Council, the work, the role and functions (program of the conference is attached).

Submitted reports will be published in order to have a clear understanding of the present situation of national minorities of the RoA. These issues will assist you to have a view, to have a research and deep understanding of the problem of national minorities of the RoA as well as to find the ways to overcome them.

Participants of the conference

Stimulating to support the developing of democratic civil society, mutual understanding and giving equal opportunities for harmonic development its members,

Realizing that the development of intercultural, interethnic relations, exchange of information and experience, future development of folk diplomacy will assist to a progressive development of the society,

Expressing the readiness to cooperate on basis of mutual understanding, good will and seeking the optimal ways of solving the problems,

Taking into account historically established situation in the country,
Reporting about the existing definite problems,
Discussion of the concrete and real ways of their solving

Deciding to follow the principles and standards on protection rights of national minorities and giving them equal opportunities to develop and preserve their identity.

Understanding that the presence of various cultures and values on their territory enrich any government,

Taking into consideration the situation of each national minority's community and the whole country in general.

Agreed on the mentioned below:

- Elect the editorial board with the purpose to work out the Final Protocol and formulate the recommendations given during the conference to the state structures for solving the problems in the field of security and protection of national minorities' rights
- Authorize the Coordinating Council to prepare the adoption and signing the present protocol, above mentioned recommendations and to develop future actions following for implementation
- Formulate well-grounded addresses to the President of the RoA, Parliament and the government of the Republic of Armenia with suggestions and recommendations to assist to solve the problem jointly.
- Address to the OSCE Office in Yerevan with the requirement to be a moderator between the Coordinating Council and state structures of Armenia in order to establish productive dialog and cooperation to implement present recommendations in the future joint work;
- Within one month after signing the Protocol to edit all official addresses and documents necessary for grounding and confirming the recommendations and send them to the relevant authorities.

The worked out recommendations are attached to the Protocol.

Present Final Protocol is directing to:

Mr. Robert Kocharyan, President of the RoA
Chairman of the Parliament
Prime-minister

OSCE Office in Yerevan and other international organizations
Mass Media

Recommendations

Legal field:

- Include in the new constitution of the RoA a provision on protection of national minorities' rights
- Implementing the constitutional reforms to bring into conformity the articles 15 and 37 the Constitution of the RoA with the provisions of the Framework Convention
- Bring into conformity the legislative and other normative legal acts of the RoA with the provisions of international legal documents in the field of protection of the national minorities' rights, ratified by the Republic of Armenia.
- Bring into conformity the armenian legislation with the international norms, related to the national minorities' representatives in the authorities structures.
- Involve the Coordinating Council to draft a law on national minorities, according to the international practice: establishing the alternative project, law or expert trained by

Language and education:

- Work out the official strategy on security, preserving and developing of the education for the representatives of national minorities, publishing the text-books, training of lectures, drafting curriculum methodological programs.
- Introduce changes into laws of the Republic of Armenia on language and education, taking into consideration the rights and interests of national minorities and refugees.
- Guarantee the official support the national minorities' representatives to get the high education.

Culture:

- Assist to preserve and develop the national cultures on the state level.
- Provide the conditions of the national minorities' connections in Armenia with their ethnic land on the basis of mutual diplomatic agreements

Coordinating Council:

- Define the legal status of the Coordinating Council of the national minorities.
- Involve the representatives of national minorities to draft the regulation of the Coordinating Council

Coordinating Council:

- | | |
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| 1. Gasparyan Irina | assyrian |
| 2. Khosroev Razmik | assyrian |
| 3. Gavrilovich Galina | byelorussian |

4. Simonyan Mari	byelorussian
5. Poladov Eduard	greek
6. Rafaelidis Slava	greek
7. Asatiani Tinatin	georgian
8. Namchevadze Svetlana	georgian
9. Bournshtein Gersh	jewish
10. Levin Lazar	jewish
11. Bakoyan Siaband	yezid
12. Tamoyan Hasan	yezid
13. Hasanov Knyaz	curdish
14. Chatoev Vladimir	curdish
15. Voukhrer Victor	german
16. Yaskorski Alexander	german
17. Gadachik Gurgun	polish
18. Kuzminskaya Alla	polish
19. Yakovenko Yuri	russian
20. Semenov Ivan	russian
21. Ocheredko Dmitri	ukrainian
22. Yavir Romania	ukrainian

Scientists and experts:

23. Khachatryan Hranoush, ethnografer, Armenian center of ethnography researches;
24. Asatryan Garnik, orientalist, ESU Chair of iranistic, The Caucasus center of Iranistic
25. Tokhyan Felix, member of Constitutional court of the RoA
26. Arakelova Viktoriya, orientalist, The Caucasus center of Iranistic
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