

Recommendation CM/RecChL(2010)4 of the Committee of Ministers on the application of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages by the United Kingdom

(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 21 April 2010 at the 1083rd 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 declarations submitted by the United Kingdom on 27 March 2001, 11 March 2003 and 22 April 2003;

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

Bearing in mind that this evaluation is based on information submitted by the United Kingdom in its third periodical report, information submitted by bodies and associations legally established in the United Kingdom and the information obtained by the Committee of Experts during its on-the-spot visit,

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

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

- 1. continue to take resolute action for the protection and promotion of Scottish Gaelic in all areas, and in particular strengthen Scottish Gaelic education, especially through the training of teachers and the production of teaching and learning materials;
- 2. adopt and implement a comprehensive Irish language policy, preferably through the adoption of legislation;
- 3. ensure that health and social care facilities offer services in Welsh;
- 4. adopt a strategy to enhance and develop Ulster Scots, in co-operation with the speakers.