



Strasbourg, 4 March 2008

ACFC/SR/II(2008)001

**SECOND REPORT SUBMITTED BY SERBIA
PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 25, PARAGRAPH 1
OF THE FRAMEWORK CONVENTION
FOR THE PROTECTION OF NATIONAL MINORITIES**

(received on 4 March 2008)

**FRAMEWORK CONVENTION
FOR THE PROTECTION OF
NATIONAL MINORITIES**

**Second Periodic Report Submitted to the Secretary
General of the Council of Europe pursuant to Article 25
of the Framework Convention**

Republic of Serbia

Belgrade, January 2008

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Part I

I. Background Information.....	9
1.1. Geographic Location	9
1.2. Historical Development	9
1.3. Demographic Data	10
1.4. Basic Economic Indicators	12
1.5. Indicators of Social Life	15
1.5.1. Education	15
1.5.2. Culture	17
1.5.3. Media	19
1.5.4. Periodical Publications	19
2. Constitutional and Administrative Structure	21
2.1. Constitutional Definition of the Republic of Serbia	21
2.2. Human and Minority Rights – Basic Principles	21
2.3. Relationship between International and Internal Law and the Status of International Treaties in the Hierarchy of Internal Law	22
2.4. Competences and Constitutional Bodies of the Republic of Serbia	22
2.5. Competences of Autonomous Provinces	25
2.6. Competences of Local Self-Governments	27
2.7. Delineation of Competences in the Field of Minorities Protection and Regulation of Usage and Protection of Minority Languages	30
2.8. Tasks and Organisation of the Public Administration	31
2.9. Tasks and Organisation of the Administration of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina	32
2.10. Organisation and Operation of the Municipal and City Administrations.....	33
2.11. Court Organisation	33
3. Information Concerning the Framework Convention	39
3.1. General Information Concerning the Framework Convention	39
3.2. Legal Instruments for the Implementation of the Framework Convention Referred to in the Report	39
3.3. Consultations with Relevant Bodies	41

Part II

II. Implementation of Individual Articles of the Convention	45
Article 1.....	45
1.1. The Republic of Serbia and the Protection of Human Rights under the International Law	45
1.2. Collaboration with International Organisations	47
Article 2.....	49
2.1. Principles of Implementation of the Framework Convention	49
Article 3.....	51
Paragraph 1	
3.1. The Concept of National Minority	51
3.1.1. Freedom of Expressing National Affiliation	52
3.1.2. Procedures for Establishing the Existence of a National Minority, Disputes on National Self-identity and Affiliation with a National Minority	52
3.1.3. Collection of Statistical Data and Protection of Personal Data	55

Paragraph 2	
3.2. Ways of Exercising the Rights and Enjoying the Freedoms	56
3.2.1. Individual Rights	56
3.2.2. Collective Rights.....	56
Article 4.....	58
Paragraph 1	
4.1. Equality, Legal Protection and Prohibition of Discrimination	58
4.1.1. Equality	58
4.1.2. Equal Legal Protection	58
4.1.3. Prohibition of Discrimination on grounds of Affiliation	
with National Minority	59
4.1.3.1. General Measures	59
4.1.3.2. Penalizing for Discrimination.....;	60
4.1.3.3. Prohibition of Discrimination in the Field of Education	60
4.1.3.4. Prohibition of Discrimination in the Field of Labour Relations.....	60
4.1.3.5. Prohibition of Discrimination in the Field of Information	60
4.1.3.6. Prohibition of Discrimination in the Field of Health Care	61
Paragraph 2	
4.2. Measures Promoting Full and Effective Equality	61
4.2.1. General Constitutional-legal and Legislative Bases for Undertaking Measures and	
Promoting Full and Effective Equality	61
4.2.2. Measures aimed at Promoting Full and Effective Equality in the Field of Economic	
and Social Life and Employment	62
4.2.2.1. General Measures	62
4.2.2.2. Measures aimed at Promoting Full and Effective Equality for the Roma	
in the Field of Economic and Social Life and Employment	63
4.2.3. Measures aimed at Promoting Full and Effective Equality in the Field of	
Educational and Cultural Life	65
4.2.3.1. General Measures	65
4.2.3.2. Measures aimed at Promoting Full and Effective Equality for the Roma	
in the Field of Educational and Cultural Life	65
4.2.4. Measures aimed at Promoting Full and Effective Equality in the Field of	
Political Life	67
Paragraph 3	
4.3.1. Non-discriminatory Character of the Measures aimed at Promoting Full and	
Effective Equality	68
4.3.2. Disputes regarding the Measures aimed at Promoting Full and	
Effective Equality	68
Article 5.....	70
Paragraph 1	
5.1. Conditions for Maintaining and Developing the Culture and Preserving	
the Essential Elements of Identity	70
5.1.1. Legal Bases for Creating Conditions for Maintaining and Developing the Culture	
of National Minorities	70
5.1.2. Preservation of Essential Elements of Identity	73
5.1.2.1. Preservation and Promotion of Language	73
5.1.2.1.1. Publishing	73
5.1.2.1.2. Library Sector	86
5.1.2.1.3. Theatre and Film	91
5.1.2.2. Preservation and Development of Culture	101
5.1.2.2.1. Fine Arts and Fine Arts Events	101

5.1.2.2.2. Activities of Minority Unions and Culture-Artistic Associations	104
5.1.2.2.3. Cultural Events	113
5.1.2.2.4. Houses of Culture and Centres of Culture	120
5.1.2.3. Preservation and Development of Tradition and Culture	122
5.1.2.3.1. Galleries and Museums	122
5.1.2.3.2. Archives	125
5.1.2.3.3. Monuments of Culture	126
5.1.2.3.4. National Symbols and Holidays	129
Paragraph 2	
5.2. Refraining from the Assimilation of Persons Belonging to National Minorities and Protection of these Persons from Assimilation	131
Article 6.....	133
Paragraph 1	
6.1. Tolerance and Promotion of Mutual Respect and Understanding	133
6.1.1. Encouraging and Fostering a Spirit of Tolerance and Intercultural Dialogue	133
6.1.2. Measures aimed at Promotion of Mutual Respect and Understanding	133
6.1.2.1. General and Regional	133
6.1.2.2. Measures Taken in Certain Aspects of Social Life	137
6.1.2.2.1. Education	137
6.1.2.2.2. Culture	138
6.1.2.2.3. Public Information	140
Paragraph 2	
6.2. Prohibition of Inequality, Hatred and Intolerance	140
6.2.1. Special Protection of Vulnerable Groups	144
6.2.1.1. Roma	145
6.2.1.2. Persons Belonging to National Minorities as Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons	145
6.2.1.3. Returnees	146
Article 7.....	147
7.1. Freedom of Peaceful Assembly	147
7.2. Freedom of Association	147
7.3. Freedom of Expression	148
7.4. Freedom of Thought, Conscience and Religion	148
7.5. Exercising the Freedom of Association in Practice	148
Article 8.....	152
8.1. Freedom of Manifesting Religion	152
8.2. Churches, Religious Communities and Religious Organisations	153
8.2.1. Churches, Religious Communities and Religious Organisations of Persons Belonging to National Minorities	155
8.3. State Support to Churches and Religious Communities	160
Article 9.....	163
Paragraph 1	
9.1. Freedom of Expression	163
9.1.1. Freedom of Opinion and Expression	163
9.1.2. Receiving and Imparting Information and Ideas in Minority Languages without Interference by Public Authorities and Regardless of Frontiers	164
9.1.3. Prohibition of Discrimination in the Access to Public Information Media	167
Paragraph 2	
9.2. Radio and TV programme Broadcasting Licences	167
Paragraph 3	

9.3. Creation and Use of the Information Media	167
9.3.1. Creation and Use of the Print Information Media	167
9.3.2. Creation and Use of Electronic Information Media	191
9.3.2.1. Radio and TV Programme Broadcasters	191
9.3.3. Public Broadcasting Service	218
Paragraph 4	
9.4. Measures to Facilitate the Access to the Media with a View to Strengthening Tolerance and Cultural Pluralism	221
Article 10.....	223
Paragraph 1	
10.1. Freedom to Use Minority Languages	223
Paragraph 2	
10.2. Official Use of Languages of National Minorities	244
10.2.1. The Concept of the Official Use of Languages of National Minorities	225
10.2.2. Manifestations of the Official Use of Languages of National Minorities	225
10.2.3. Territory and Languages in Official Use	227
10.2.4. Use of Minority Languages in Communication between Persons Belonging to National Minorities and Authorities	231
10.2.4.1. Submission of Petitions and Proposals	231
10.2.4.2. Use of Minority Languages in Communication between Persons Belonging to National Minorities and Administrative Bodies	232
10.2.4.2.1. Use of Minority Languages in Submissions Addressed to Administrative Bodies	232
10.2.4.2.2. Use of Minority Languages in Settling Administrative Matters in an Administrative Procedure	233
10.2.4.2.3. Issuing Official Documents and Keeping Official Records	233
10.2.4.2.4. The Practice of Using Minority Languages in Communication between Persons Belonging to National Minorities and Administration Bodies	235
10.2.4.3. Official Use of Minority Languages in the Work of Courts	238
10.2.4.3.1. Official Use of Minority Languages in Court Proceedings	238
10.2.4.3.2. Courts where the Official Use of Minority Languages is Practised	240
10.2.4.3.3. The Practice of Using Minority Languages in the Work of Courts	241
Paragraph 3	
10.3. Special Manifestations of the Use of Minority Languages in Criminal Proceedings	248
10.3.1. Information in a Minority Language on Grounds for the Arrest and the Cause of the Charge	248
10.3.2. Defence in a Minority Language	249
10.4. Legal Protection of the Private and Public Use of Minority Languages and the Right to the Use of Minority Languages in Procedures before State Bodies	249
Article 11.....	252
Paragraph 1	
11.1. Use of Name and Surname in Minority Language	252
11.1.1. The Right to Use the Name and Surname in a Minority Language	252
11.1.2. Enforcement of the Right of Persons Belonging to National Minorities to Use Their Name and Surname in the Minority Language	254
Paragraph 2	

11.2. Posting Signs, Inscriptions and Information of Private Nature	255
Paragraph 3	
11.3. Posting Traditional Local Names, Names of Streets and Topographic Signs	256
Article 12.....	272
Paragraph 1	
12.1. Fostering Culture, Language and Religion in Education and Research	272
12.1.1. Measures in the Field of Education	272
12.1.2. Fostering Culture and Language in Educational Practice	273
12.1.2.1. Primary Schools	273
12.1.2.2. Secondary Schools	276
12.1.2.3. Intercultural Fostering of Culture and Language in Education Practice	277
12.1.2.4. University Education and Scientific Research	280
12.1.3. Other Forms of Scientific Research	284
Paragraph 2	
12.2. Teacher Training and the Availability of Teaching Tools	284
12.2.1. Teacher Training	284
12.2.2. Availability of Teaching Tools	287
Paragraph 3	
12.3. Equal Education Opportunities	336
12.3.1. Equal Education Opportunities at the Level of Primary and Secondary Schools	337
12.3.2. Equal Education Opportunities at the Level of High Education	341
Article 13.....	345
Paragraph 1	
13.1. Right of Members of National Minorities to Establish Private Education Institutions...	345
Paragraph 2	
13.2. Financing Private Education Institutions	345
Article 14.....	346
Paragraph 1	
14.1. Right to Learn the Native Language	346
Paragraph 2	
14.2. Possibility of Education in Minority Languages	347
Paragraph 3	
14.3. Studying the Serbian Language	360
Article 15.....	361
15.1. Constitutional Provisions	361
15.2. Creation of Conditions for the Participation of Persons Belonging to National Minorities in the Representative Bodies	361
15.3. Cultural Autonomy of the National Minorities	363
15.4. Creation of Conditions for the Participation of Persons Belonging to National Minorities in the Protection and Promotion of the Status of Minorities and in International Bilateral Co-operation	364
15.5. Participation of Persons Belonging to National Minorities in the Executive Power and Administrative Bodies	367
15.6. Participation of Persons Belonging to National Minorities in the Judicial Power	368
15.7. Participation of Persons Belonging to National Minorities in Public Offices in Practice	368
15.7.1. Participation of Persons Belonging to National Minorities in Representative Bodies	369
15.7.2. Participation of Persons Belonging to National Minorities in the Executive	

Power and Administrative Bodies	370
15.7.3. Participation of Persons Belonging to National Minorities in the Judicial Power	381
Article 16.....	386
16.1. Prevention of the Measures Which Alter the Proportions of the Population	386
Article 17	388
Paragraph 1	
17.1. The Right to Maintain Free and Peaceful Contacts across Frontiers	388
Paragraph 2	
17.2. The right to Establish and Participate in the Activities of Non-Governmental Organisations.....	389
Article 18.....	390
18.1. Bilateral Agreements	390
Article 19.....	391
19.1. Restrictions of Rights	391
Article 20.....	392
20.1. Respecting the National Legislation and the Rights of Others	392
Article 21.....	393
Article 22.....	393
Article 23.....	393
Article 30.....	394
30.1 Territorial Application	394
Part III	
III. Answers to the Questions of the Advisory Committee of the Framework Convention	397
Appendix	
National Minorities in the Republic of Serbia – General Information	429

PART I

I. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1.1. Geographic Location

The Republic of Serbia is situated in the central part of the Balkan Peninsula, on the main traffic routes connecting Europe and Asia, covering an area of 88,361 sq. kilometres. The northern part of the Republic of Serbia has a predominantly lowland landscape, while its central and southern parts are hilly and mountainous. Lowlands are in the Pannonian Plain and its adjacent parts (Mačva, Posavina, Pomoravlje, Stig and Negotinska krajina). The Republic of Serbia has 55% of arable land, while 27% is covered by forests. The length of the Republic of Serbia's border is 2,619.2 km. The Republic of Serbia borders the Republic of Bulgaria to the east, Romania to the northeast, the Republic of Hungary to the north, the Republic of Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina to the west, Montenegro to the southwest and Albania and the Republic of Macedonia to the south.

1.2. Historical Development

Serbia is an old European state. It was formed as a separate state in the Middle Ages, as a result of the struggle of the Serbian people against Byzantine domination, which ended in the late 12th century. Serbia became a kingdom in 1217 and an empire in 1346. After the Turkish intrusion into the Balkan Peninsula, Serbia lost its independence and fell under the Turkish rule in 1459.

The development of modern Serbia began in 1804, with the First Serbian Uprising, which broke out in central Serbia. The First Serbian Uprising was a national liberation struggle against the Turks and a social revolution. After the Second Serbian Uprising in 1815, Serbia became an autonomous principality within the Ottoman Empire, as confirmed by Hatt-I Serifs of 1830 and 1833. Its independence from the Ottoman Empire Serbia gained after the Serbian – Turkish Wars from 1876 to 1878, which was confirmed by the Congress of Berlin in 1878.

After the First World War, Montenegro and Vojvodina joined the Kingdom of Serbia. Through the unification of the Kingdom of Serbia with the newly established state of the Slovenes, Croats and Serbs, on 1 December 1918, the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes was established, later to be named the Kingdom of Yugoslavia.

After the Second World War and the socialist revolution, the Democratic Federal Republic of Yugoslavia was created, which was to become the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. It comprised the Socialist Republic of Serbia as one of its federal units.

The break-up of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia commenced with the secession of the Republic of Slovenia and the Republic of Croatia in 1991. In April 1992, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia was formed, consisting of two federal units – the Republic of Serbia and the Republic of Montenegro. After the constitutional reconstruction of the relations between the members of the Federation, in 2003 the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro was created. In a referendum held in May 2006, the

inhabitants of Montenegro decided for the Republic of Montenegro to become an independent state, hence the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro ceased to exist. In a referendum held in October 2006, citizens of the Republic of Serbia endorsed a new Constitution. The Republic of Serbia is the legal successor of all the above predecessor states.

1.3. Demographic Data

According to the results of the 2002 population census, the Republic of Serbia has a population of 7,498,001. The table below provides a breakdown of the population by sex and by age group.

Population by Sex and by Broad Age Group

	Sex	Total	0-19	20-39	40-59	60 or over	80 or over	Not known	Mean age	Aging index (60+/0-19)
Republic of Serbia	P	7498001	1672421	1979451	2113919	1684289	145477	47921	40.25	1.01
	M	3645930	857616	992973	1040717	732306	53320	22318	38.97	0.85
	F	3852071	814805	986478	1073202	951983	92157	25603	41.46	1.17
Central Serbia	P	5466009	1212430	1433543	1532085	1248592	106303	39359	40.41	1.03
	M	2660988	621914	716743	752898	551167	40528	18266	39.23	0.89
	F	2805021	590516	716800	779187	697425	65775	21093	41.52	1.18
Vojvodina	P	2031992	459991	545908	581834	435697	39174	8562	39.82	0.95
	M	984942	235702	276230	287819	181139	12792	4052	38.27	0.77
	F	1047050	224289	269678	294015	254558	26382	4510	41.27	1.13

Natural population change is presented in the table below:

**Natural Population Change in the Republic of Serbia
over the Period 1998 – 2005**

Year	Mid-year population	Live births	Deaths		Natural increase	Live births	Deaths	Natural increase	Infant deaths per 1000 live births
			total	infants					
2000	7661365	73764	104042	785	-30278	9.6	13.6	-4	10.6
2001	7736362	78435	99008	799	-20573	10.1	12.8	-2.7	10.2
2002	7500031	78101	102785	790	-24684	10.4	13.7	-3.3	10.1

2003	7480591	79025	103946	711	-24921	10.6	13.9	-3.3	9
2004	7463157	78186	104320	633	-26134	10.5	14	-3.5	8.1
2005	7440769	72180	106771	579	-34591	9.7	14.3	-4.6	8

The table below presents data on mean population age and the aging index:

Mean Age of the Population, the Aging Index in the Republic of Serbia

Year	Mean age of the population			Aging index of the population		
	total	males	females	total	males	females
2000	39.8	38.7	40.8	95.6	83.0	108.2
2001	39.9	38.8	41.0	97.1	84.1	109.1
2002	40.2	39.0	41.5	99.1	84.2	114.8
2003	40.3	39.0	41.5	99.5	84.4	115.3
2004	40.4	39.1	41.7	100.4	84.9	116.6
2005	40.6	39.3	41.8	100.6	84.9	117.2

The national structure of the population according to the results of the 2002 population census is provided in the table below:

	Republic of Serbia		Central Serbia	AP Vojvodina
	Number	%		
Serbs	6212838	82.86	4891031	1321807
Montenegrins	69049	0.9	33536	35513
Albanians	61647	0.8	59952	1695
Ashkalia	584	0.01	413	171
Bosniacs	136087	1.8	135670	417
Bulgarians	20497	0.3	18839	1658
Bunjevci	20012	0.3	246	19766
Vlachs	40054	0.5	39953	101
Gorani	4581	0.1	3975	606
Greeks	572	0.01	352	220
Egyptians	814	0.01	685	129
Jews	1158	0.02	706	452
Yugoslavs	80721	1.1	30840	49881
Hungarians	293299	3.9	3092	290207
Macedonians	25847	0.3	14062	11785
Moslems	19503	0.3	15869	3634
Germans	3901	0.05	747	3154
Roma	108193	1.44	79136	29057
Romanians	34576	0.5	4157	30419
Russians	2588	0.03	1648	940
Ruthenians	15905	0.21	279	15626
Slovaks	59021	0.8	2384	56637
Slovenians	5104	0.07	3099	2005
Turks	522	0.01	385	137

Ukrainians	5354	0.1	719	4635
Croats	70602	0.9	14056	56546
Tzintzars	293	0.004	248	45
Czechs	2211	0.03	563	1648
Backa Croats (Sokci)	717	0.01	38	679
Total population	7498001		5466009	2031992

The tables below provide data on the educational level attained and literacy:

Population Aged 15 or Over according to the Education Level Attained and Literacy (Primary Education)

	No official education		1 st to 3 rd form of primary school		4 th to 7 th form of primary school	Primary education
	total	illiterate	total	illiterate		
Republic of Serbia	357552	227039	126127	2863	896847	1509462
Central Serbia	282175	184810	91401	2023	651184	1083898
Vojvodina	75377	42229	34726	840	245663	425564

Population Aged 15 or Over according to the Education Level Attained and Literacy (Secondary, Post-Secondary and Higher Education)

	Secondary education						Post-secondary education	Higher education	Not known
	total	Two- and three-year vocational education schools	Grammar schools	Vocational education schools	Secondary job-oriented education	Schools for specialization			
Republic of Serbia	2596348	787028	292204	1408272	72919	35925	285056	411944	137895
Central Serbia	1845166	502797	218484	1032654	60921	30310	211571	323348	122710
Vojvodina	751182	284231	73720	375618	11998	5615	73485	88596	151851

1.4. Basic Economic Indicators

The level of economic development of the country is reflected in the following indicators. The first table provides data on gross domestic product.

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
GDP, at current prices	397655.6	783896.7	1020116.5	1171563.8	1431313.1	1750000.0

- total in millions of RSD						
GDP, at current prices - per capita, in RSD	52905	104472	136015	156614	191784	235191
GDP, at constant prices, 2002 - total, in millions of RSD	933533.9	978749.8	1020116.5	1045570.4	1133650.6	1204065.3
Growth rates (%)	4.5	4.8	4.2	2.5	8.4	6.2
GDP - total, in millions of USD ³⁾	9013.0	10431.1	12171.8	16123.9	20965.5	...
GDP - per capita, in USD ³⁾	1199.1	1390.2	1622.9	2155.4	2809.2	...
Conversion factor	44.12	75.15	83.81	72.66	68.27	...
GDP - total, in millions of EUR ⁴⁾	26431.3	13186.2	16811.8	18008.7	19723.5	21107.9
GDP - per capita, in EUR ⁴⁾	3516.5	1757.4	2241.6	2407.4	2642.8	2836.8
Average exchange rate, EUR ⁴⁾	15.0449	59.4482	60.6785	65.0553	72.5689	82.9074

The table below provides data on employment and/or unemployment:

Employed Persons and Rates of Registered Unemployment

As of	Year	TOTAL EMPLOYMENT	Employed in firms, institutions and organisations, all ownership types ¹⁾	Individual entrepreneurs, self-employed persons and their employees ²⁾	Farmers (Source: Labour Force Survey)	Job-seekers ³⁾ according to data of the National Employment Service	Unemployed persons ³⁾ according to data of the National Employment Service	Rate of registered unemployment
-------	------	------------------	--	---	---------------------------------------	--	---	---------------------------------

March	2001	2798953	1766266	340958	691729	764965	...	21.5
September	2001	2787858	1738196	357933	691729	777356	...	21.8
March	2002	2773021	1706805	378381	687835	799499	...	22.4
September	2002	2736087	1646857	401395	687835	885742	...	24.5
March	2003	2720363	1628067	418425	673871	945960	...	25.8
September	2003	2710161	1595198	441092	673871	954794	...	26.1
March	2004	2706624	1600696	464208	641720	948837	...	26.0
September	2004	2678509	1559578	477211	641720	946512	842775	23.9 ⁵⁾
March	2005	2657205	1556871	513626	586708	992147	884111	25.0
September	2005	2654137	1536070	531359	586708	1000652	897724	25.3
March	2006	2533723	1496202	535584	501937	1012245	920031	26.6
September	2006	2521405	1447298	572170	501937	1007657	914564	26.6

¹⁾ Source: the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia (RZS), regular semi-annual surveys on employees and wages and salaries. Also included is the data on employees in small-sized enterprises (up to 50 employees) from the Supplementary Survey to the Semi-annual Survey on employees and salaries and wages.

²⁾ Source: the Serbian Health Insurance Fund.

³⁾ Under Article 3 of the Law on Employment.

⁴⁾ Under Article 4 of the Law on Employment (as of July 2004, "unemployed persons" and "job-seekers" are two separate categories)

⁵⁾ Since September 2004, the registered unemployment rate has been calculated relative to unemployed persons, rather than to job-seekers.

The tables below provide data on salaries and wages and their movements:

2006	Average wage¹	Average wage net of taxes and contributions
REPUBLIC OF SERBIA	31745	21707
Central Serbia	31509	21560
Vojvodina	32392	22110

2005	Total average wage		Average wage in the economy		Average wage in non-economic activities	
	gross	net	gross	net	gross	net
REPUBLIC OF SERBIA	25514	17443	24072	16472	28754	19623
Central Serbia	25178	17213	23654	16195	28570	19478
Vojvodina	26440	18076	25212	17229	29275	20033

¹ Denominated in dinars at an exchange rate of EUR 1 = RSD 80; all tables in the Report provide data in dinar amounts

2004	Total average wage		Average in the economy		Average wage in non-economic activities	
	gross	net	gross	net	gross	net
REPUBLIC OF SERBIA	20555	14108	19126	13128	23990	16464
Central Serbia	20235	13877	18755	12868	23766	16286
Vojvodina	21432	14740	20135	13836	24619	16962

1.5. Indicators of Social Life

1.5.1. Education

There are several levels of education in the Republic of Serbia. The data on preschool education and care is provided in the table below:

Preschool Education

Number of Educational and Caregiving Institutions and the Number of Children – by Sex and by Age Bracket

Year	Number of institutions	Number of children								
		total	girls	by age bracket						
				under 18 months	18 months to 2 years	from 2 to 3 years	from 3 to 4 years	from 4 to 5 years	from 5 to 7 years	from 3 to 7 years mixed groups
Republic of Serbia										
2004	1840	162256	78957	4211	7202	13079	20145	22812	78426	16381
2005	1873	167441	81287	4313	6844	13758	20582	25464	79515	16965
Central Serbia										
2004	1220	115560	56338	3488	5780	9834	14611	16084	55471	10292
2005	1243	119648	58242	3457	5523	10685	15011	18085	56898	9989
Vojvodina										
2004	620	46696	22619	723	1422	3245	5534	6728	22955	6089
2005	630	47793	23045	856	1321	3073	5571	7379	22617	6976

The data on regular primary education is provided in the table below:

Regular Primary Education

Number of Schools, Classes and the Number of Pupils – by Sex and by Form - at school year start -

Year	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils									
			total	female pupils	By form							
					I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII
Republic of Serbia												
2004	3579	31032	659543	321119	80219	80286	82416	81992	83813	82473	84840	83504
2005	3572	30669	641612	312612	71633	79556	79421	81904	82665	82079	81323	83031
Central Serbia												
2004	3043	22609	481763	234628	58578	58557	59897	60072	61331	60370	61964	60994
2005	3036	22331	469213	228754	52385	58218	57963	59610	60545	60024	59626	60842
Vojvodina												
2004	536	8423	177780	86491	21641	21729	22519	21920	22482	22103	22876	22510
2005	536	8338	172399	83858	19248	21338	21458	22294	22120	22055	21697	22189

The data on regular secondary education is provided in the table below:

Regular Secondary Education

Number of Schools, Classes and the Number of Pupils – by Sex and by Form - at school year start -

Year	Number of schools	Number of classes	Number of pupils					
			total	female pupils	by form			
					I	II	III	IV
Republic of Serbia								
2004	480	10891	297708	150508	84894	82385	79246	51183
2005	482	10916	101477	148220	81279	80848	78437	50913
Central Serbia								
2004	357	7946	220162	110747	62592	60709	58281	38580
2005	359	7963	215509	109065	59895	59563	57678	38373
Vojvodina								
2004	123	2945	77546	39761	22302	21676	20965	12603
2005	123	2953	75968	39155	21384	21285	20759	12540

The data on post-secondary and higher education is provided in the table below:

Post-Secondary and Higher Education

Number of Enrolled Students, by Sex, by Financing Mode and by Study Year

Year	Number of students		Financing mode		Students by study year - total				
	total	female students	budget-financed	self-financed and partially self-financed	I	II	III	IV	V+VI
Republic of Serbia									
2004	218508	121760	108220	110288	72846	66657	47648	23459	7898
2005	229355	127034	110520	118835	76231	66763	52887	25538	7936
Central Serbia									
2004	172235	96303	83426	88809	57588	52884	38220	17525	6018
2005	179691	100002	84279	95412	59836	52988	41654	19475	5738
Vojvodina									
2004	46273	25457	24794	21479	15258	13773	9428	5934	1880
2005	49664	27032	26241	23423	16395	13775	11233	6063	2198

1.5.2. Culture

The situation in the field of culture in the Republic of Serbia is described by the data on libraries, theatres, cinemas, archives, museums and published books and brochures.²

Libraries in the Republic of Serbia in 2004

Type of library	Number of libraries	Users in thousands
Scientific and research libraries	328	2670
School libraries	2038	-
Public libraries	536	3703

Professional Theatres, Theatre Societies and Children's Theatres in the Republic of Serbia and Their Shows

Year	Type of theatre		
	professional theatres	theatre societies	children's theatres

² The data refers to different years since it is monitored differently by statistics. The lack of data on 2005 and 2006 in certain fields is a consequence of periodical monitoring or of the fact that the data is still processed.

	number of theatres	number of shows	number of theatres	number of shows	number of theatres	number of shows
2002/03	40	3756	44	814	12	1682
2003/04	39	4437	38	754	10	1645
2004/05	40	4473	35	880	9	1562

The table provides data only on formally registered theatres. The number of theatre societies that produce plays, and are active in community culture halls, cultural and artistic societies, community cultural centres, etc., is far higher. Thus, in the territory of AP Vojvodina, there is a total of 196 theatre societies, alongside with 14 professional theatres.

Number of Cinemas in the Republic of Serbia

Year	Number of cinemas
2002	156
2003	156
2004	152
2005	138

Archives (three-year periods)

Year	Number	Visitors, in thousands
2002	36	34
2005	38	35

Museums (three-year periods)

Year	Number	Visitors, in thousands
2003	124	1515

Books and Brochures by Field in the Republic of Serbia in 2006

Field	Total number of books
General	1618
Philosophy, psychology	330

Religion, theology	411
Social sciences (general)	3396
Natural sciences	507
Applied sciences, medicine, technology	1799
Arts	1147
Linguistics, philology, literature	4546
Archaeology, geography, biography, history	1031
Total	14785

1.5.3. Media

Hours of radio shows broadcast in the Republic of Serbia are presented in the table below:

Year	2002	2003	2004	2005
Republic of Serbia	1030810	1344885	1321611	1384989
Central Serbia	884927	1146303	1123606	1239650
Vojvodina	145883	198582	198005	145339

Hours of broadcast TV shows are presented in the table below:

Year	2002	2003	2004	2005
Republic of Serbia	395139	428322	425604	550281
Central Serbia	370497	394205	388602	494041
Vojvodina	24642	34117	37002	56240

1.5.4. Periodical Publications

Information on periodical publications in the Republic of Serbia in 2006 is provided in the tables below:

Periodical Publications

total	1425
journals	842
magazines	421
other periodical publications	162

Periodical Publications by Type of Publication and by Frequency of Publication

Frequency of publication	total	journals	magazines	other periodical publications
	1425	842	421	162
daily	23		23	

two times a week	6	1	5	
weekly	92	21	69	2
biweekly	37	11	24	2
monthly	354	205	133	16
bimonthly	109	80	22	7
quarterly	178	146	26	6
semi-annually	93	86	5	2
annually	166	81	2	83
not known	246	145	73	28
occasionally	113	66	39	16

Periodical Publications by Field

type of publication		total
	total periodical publications	1425
journals		842
	general	87
	philosophy, psychology	14
	religion, theology	22
	social sciences (general)	215
	natural sciences	36
	applied sciences, medicine, technology	235
	arts	114
	linguistics, philology and literature	90
	archaeology, geography, biography, history	29
magazines		421
	general	23
	philosophy, psychology	2
	religion, theology	9
	social sciences (general)	191
	natural sciences	1
	applied sciences, medicine, technology	105
	arts	65
	linguistics, philology and literature	25
other periodical publications		162
	general	33
	religion, theology	4
	social sciences (general)	46
	natural sciences	3
	applied sciences, medicine, technology	29
	arts	21
	linguistics, philology and literature	8
	archaeology, geography, biography, history	18

2. Constitutional and Administrative Structure

2.1. Constitutional Definition of the Republic of Serbia

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia was endorsed in the referendum held in October 2006.

The Preamble of the Constitution stipulates that the citizens of Serbia adopt the Constitution *considering the state tradition of the Serbian people and equality of all citizens and ethnic communities in Serbia and also considering that Kosovo and Metohija is an integral part of the Republic of Serbia, which has the status of a substantial autonomy within the sovereign state of Serbia.*

The Constitution sets out in its Article 1 that the Republic of Serbia is *a state of the Serbian people and all citizens who live in it, based on the rule of law and social justice, principles of civil democracy, human and minority rights and freedoms, and commitment to European principles and values.*

2.2. Human and Minority Rights – Basic Principles

The entire Section Two of the Constitution deals with human and minority rights, which under Article 1 of the Constitution belong to the values on which the state is based. The fundamental principles of human and minority rights include direct exercise of guaranteed rights, constitutional regulation of the purposes of constitutional guarantees, the regulation of restrictions on human and minority rights, prohibition of discrimination and their protection.

Article 18 of the Constitution provides for *direct exercise of guaranteed rights*. Paragraph 2 of the same Article prescribes that *human and minority rights guaranteed by the generally accepted rules of international law and ratified international treaties are guaranteed by the Constitution and directly implemented as such. Laws may prescribe a manner of exercising human rights only if that is explicitly stipulated in the Constitution or necessary to exercise a specific right owing to its nature, whereby the law is not to affect the substance of the relevant guaranteed right.* Under paragraph 3 of the same Article of the Constitution, *the provisions on human and minority rights are to be interpreted to the benefit of promoting values of a democratic society, pursuant to applicable international standards of human and minority rights, as well as the practice of international institutions which supervise their implementation.*

Article 19 of the Constitution prescribes that *guarantees of human and minority rights have the purpose of preserving human dignity and exercising full freedom and equality of each individual in a just, open, and democratic society based on the principle of the rule of law.*

Human and minority rights guaranteed by the Constitution may, under Article 20 of the Constitution, *be restricted, if the Constitution permits such restriction, and for the*

purpose allowed by the Constitution, to the extent necessary to meet the constitutional purpose of the restriction in a democratic society and without encroaching upon the substance of the relevant guaranteed right.

All are equal before the Constitution and law, and Article 21, paragraph 3, of the Constitution *explicitly prohibits any, direct or indirect, discrimination on any grounds.*

In the constitutional-legal system of the Republic of Serbia, under Article 22 of the Constitution, *everyone has the right to judicial protection when any of their human or minority rights guaranteed by the Constitution has been violated or denied, and citizens also have the right to address international institutions in order to protect their freedoms and rights guaranteed by the Constitution.*

2.3. Relationship between International and Internal Law and the Status of International Treaties in the Hierarchy of Internal Law

Article 16, paragraph 2, of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia stipulates that *generally accepted rules of international law and ratified international treaties are an integral part of the legal system of the Republic of Serbia.* The identical arrangement is enshrined in Article 194, paragraph 4. Under the same Article and paragraph of the Constitution, *ratified international treaties may not be in contravention of the Constitution.* Under Article 194, paragraph 5, *laws and other general acts adopted in the Republic of Serbia may not contravene ratified international treaties.* In line with the above provisions is also the jurisdiction of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Serbia pursuant to Article 167 of the Constitution to decide on the conformity of laws and other general acts with ratified international treaties, as well as on the conformity of ratified international treaties with the Constitution. The above constitutional provisions actually mean that *in the hierarchical ranking of the legal system of the Republic of Serbia ratified international treaties are above laws and other general acts, but below the Constitution.*

Nevertheless, not all international treaties are of lesser legal power than the Constitution. Article 18, paragraph 2, of the Constitution sets forth that *human and minority rights guaranteed by, inter alia, ratified international treaties are guaranteed by the Constitution and are directly implementable as such.* The above provision actually means that *in the legal system of the Republic of Serbia the provisions of international treaties that guarantee human and minority rights are of the same legal power as the provisions of the Constitution.*

2.4. Competences and Constitutional Bodies of the Republic of Serbia

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia in its Article 4, paragraph 1, prescribes that *the legal system of the Republic of Serbia is single,* while Article 8, paragraph 1, sets out that *the territory of the Republic of Serbia is inseparable and indivisible.*

The unity of the legal system and of the territory of the Republic of Serbia is not undermined by the existence of provincial autonomies and local self-governments. Considering the existence of the provincial autonomies and local self-governments, it can be said that the *Republic of Serbia is a decentralised state*. The Constitution, in its Article 176, sets out that *citizens have the right to the provincial autonomy and local self-government, which they exercise directly or through their freely elected representatives*. Under Article 177 of the Constitution, *local self-government units have competences in matters which can be dealt with, in an effective manner, within a local self-government unit, and autonomous provinces in matters which can be dealt with, in an effective manner, within an autonomous province, over which the Republic of Serbia has no competences*.

The competences of the Republic of Serbia are laid down by the Constitution in its Article 97. Under that Article of the Constitution, the Republic of Serbia regulates and provides:

1. *sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and security of the Republic of Serbia, its international status and relations with other states and international organisations;*
2. *exercise and protection of freedoms and rights of citizens; constitutionality and legality; proceedings before courts and other state bodies; responsibility and sanctions for violation of freedoms and rights of citizens enshrined in the Constitution and for violation of laws, other regulations and general acts; amnesty and pardon for criminal offences;*
3. *territorial organisation of the Republic of Serbia; the system of local self-government;*
4. *defence and security of the Republic of Serbia and its citizens; measures to be taken in the state of emergency;*
5. *the system of crossing the border and controlling cross-border trade in goods and services and passenger traffic; status of aliens and foreign legal entities;*
6. *the single market; legal status of economic agents; the system of performing particular economic and other activities; strategic stocks; monetary, banking, foreign exchange and customs systems; foreign economic relations; the system of foreign credit relations; the tax system;*
7. *property and contractual relations and protection of all types of ownership;*
8. *the system in the area of labour relations, occupational safety, employment, social insurance and other forms of social security; other economic and social relations of the public interest;*
9. *sustainable development; the system of protection and improvement of the environment; protection and improvement of flora and fauna;*

production of, trade in and transport of arms, toxic, inflammable, explosive, radioactive and other hazardous substances;

10. *the system in the areas of health care, social protection, protection of war veterans and disabled persons, childcare, education, culture and protection of cultural heritage, sports, public information, the system of public services;*
11. *control of legality of management of legal entities' assets; financial audits of public funds; collection of statistical and other data of the public interest;*
12. *development of the Republic of Serbia, policies and measures for encouraging a balanced development of individual parts of the Republic of Serbia, including the development of underdeveloped areas; organisation and utilisation of space; scientific and technological development;*
13. *the regime and safety in all types of transport;*
14. *holidays and decorations of the Republic of Serbia;*
15. *financing of the exercise of rights and the discharge of duties of the Republic of Serbia, laid down by the Constitution and law;*
16. *organisation, competences and work of the bodies of the Republic;*
17. *other relations of interest to the Republic of Serbia, in accordance with the Constitution.*

The holder of legislative power in the Republic of Serbia is the National Assembly. Under Article 100, paragraph 1, of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, the National Assembly has 250 seats, and deputies to the National Assembly are elected in direct elections by secret ballot in accordance with the law. *The Constitution prescribes legal grounds for the participation of representatives of speakers of minority languages in the legislative branch of power in the Republic of Serbia. Under paragraph 2 of the same Article of the Constitution, equality and representation of national minorities' representatives is to be ensured in the National Assembly, in accordance with Law, thus also ensuring the equality and representation of speakers of those minority languages.* The Law on the Election of Deputies, in its Article 81, paragraphs 2 and 3, lays down that *political parties of national minorities and coalitions of political parties of national minorities take part in the distribution of seats even in those situations where they have won less than the statutory threshold of 5% of the total number of votes cast and that political parties of national minorities are all those parties whose main objective is to represent and advocate interests of national minorities and to protect and advance rights of persons belonging to national minorities, in keeping with international legal standards.*

The holder of executive power in the Republic of Serbia is the Government of the Republic of Serbia. Pursuant to Article 123 of the Constitution, the Government 1. establishes and pursues policies, 2. implements laws and other general acts of the National Assembly, 3. issues decrees and other general acts for the purpose of law implementation,

4. proposes to the National Assembly bills and drafts of other general acts and gives opinions on them if they are submitted by some other mover, 5. directs and coordinates the work of public administration bodies and performs supervision of their work, 6. performs other tasks as well, as stipulated by the Constitution and law.

The state unity of the Republic of Serbia is expressed by the President of the Republic. Under Article 112 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, the President of the Republic 1. represents the Republic of Serbia in the country and abroad, 2. promulgates laws by virtue of his/her decree, in keeping with the Constitution, 3. proposes Prime Minister Designate to the National Assembly, after he/she has heard the views of representatives of the elected party tickets, 4. proposes nominees for public offices to the National Assembly, in accordance with the Constitution and law, 5. appoints and recalls by virtue of his/her decree, ambassadors of the Republic of Serbia, based on the proposal by the Government, 6. receives letters of credit and letters of recall of foreign diplomatic representatives, 7. grants pardons and awards decorations, 8. in accordance with the law, commands the Army and appoints, promotes and relieves of duty officers of the Army of Serbia, 9. performs other tasks as well, as stipulated by the Constitution.

2.5. Competences of Autonomous Provinces

Under Article 182, paragraph 1, of the Constitution, autonomous provinces are *autonomous territorial communities established by the Constitution, in which citizens exercise the right to provincial autonomy.*

The Republic of Serbia has two autonomous provinces as its integral parts – the *Autonomous Province of Kosovo and Metohija and the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina.* Under Article 182, paragraph 3, of the Constitution, *new autonomous provinces may be established, and the already established ones may be abolished or merged, following the procedure envisaged for amending the Constitution.*

United Nations Security Council resolution no. 1244 of 1999 has established the UN Interim Administration Mission (UNMIK) in the territory of AP Kosovo and Metohija, which will remain there pending the establishment of essential autonomy of Kosovo and Metohija as an integral part of the Republic of Serbia. Article 182, paragraph 2, of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia stipulates that essential autonomy of Kosovo and Metohija is to be regulated by a special law which will be adopted in accordance with the procedure envisaged for amending the Constitution. Bearing in mind that the Autonomous Province of Kosovo and Metohija is under the interim international administration, the Report on the Implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages in the Republic of Serbia does not cover that part of the territory Republic of Serbia.

The competences of the autonomous provinces are laid down by Articles 177 and 183 of the Constitution. Under Article 177, the *autonomous provinces have competences in those matters which may be dealt with, in an effective way, within an autonomous province, and which do not fall among the competences of the Republic of Serbia,* while

under Article 183 of the Constitution, the autonomous provinces, *in accordance with the Constitution and their Statutes, regulate the competences, election, organisation and work of bodies and services which they establish, while in accordance with the law, they regulate matters of relevance to the province in the following fields:*

- 1. spatial planning and development,*
- 2. agriculture, water management, forestry, hunting, fishery, tourism, catering, spas and health resorts, environmental protection, industry and crafts, road, riverine and railway transport and road repairs, organisation of fairs and other economic events,*
- 3. education, sports, culture, health care and social protection and public information at the provincial level.*

Pursuant to paragraph 3 of the same Article of the Constitution, the *autonomous provinces ensure the exercise of human and minority rights, in accordance with the law, while under paragraph 4, the autonomous provinces define symbols of the provinces and the manner of their use.*

The autonomous provinces can have broader competences than those explicitly stipulated in the Constitution. Under Article 178, paragraph 1, of the Constitution, *the Republic of Serbia may delegate to the autonomous provinces particular matters falling in its competence, by virtue of the law.*

The Law on the Establishment of Specific Competences of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina of 2002 specifically and precisely lays down primary and delegated competences of that autonomous province.

The autonomous provinces manage provincial assets in the manner provided for by the law. The autonomous provinces, under Article 183, paragraph 6, of the Constitution have their own revenues, provide funding to local self-government units for the performance of delegated tasks, adopt their own budgets and annual financial statements, in keeping with the Constitution and law.

Under Article 185 of the Constitution, the supreme legal act of the autonomous province is its Statute.

The Statute of the autonomous province is adopted by its assembly, subject to prior approval of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia.

The autonomous province enacts other decisions and other general acts on matters within its competences.

The bodies of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina are the Assembly, the Executive Council and administrative bodies.

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia provides for a legal ground for the participation of representatives of speakers of minority languages in the assembly of the autonomous province. Article 180, paragraph 4, sets out that in the autonomous provinces with a mixed national structure of the population, a proportional representation of national minorities in the assemblies is to be ensured, in accordance with the law.

2.6. Competences of Local Self-Governments

The competences of local self-government units are laid down in general terms in Article 177 of the Constitution. In that Article, the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia stipulates that *local self-government units have competences in those matters which can be dealt with, in an effective manner, within local self-government units.*

Local self-government units in the Republic of Serbia are *municipalities, towns and the City of Belgrade*. As regards the competences of the above local self-government units, the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia provides for no major differences. It stipulates that a town has competences delegated to the municipality, whereas other competences may be delegated to it by the law.

Article 190 of the Constitution more precisely defines the competences of municipalities. Under that Article, municipalities, through their bodies, in accordance with the law:

- 1. regulate and ensure the performance and development of municipal activities;*
- 2. regulate and ensure the use of buildable land and business premises;*
- 3. ensure construction, reconstruction, maintenance and use of local roads and streets as well as other public facilities of municipal significance; regulate and provide local transportation;*
- 4. ensure that the needs of citizens are met in the fields of education, culture, health care and social protection, childcare, sports and physical culture;*
- 5. ensure development and promotion of tourism, crafts, catering and trade;*
- 6. ensure environmental protection, protection against natural and other disasters; protection of cultural heritage of significance to the municipality;*
- 7. ensure the protection, improvement and use of agricultural land;*
- 8. perform other duties as well, as specified by the law.*

In accordance with the law, the municipality autonomously *adopts its budget and annual financial statement, zoning plan and municipal development programme, determines symbols of the municipality and their use.*

The municipality ensures *the exercise, protection and promotion of human and minority rights, as well as public information in the municipality.*

The Law on Local Self-government of the Republic of Serbia sets out that the municipality is responsible for the performance through its bodies, in conformity with the Constitution and law, of the following tasks from its direct purview: 1) adoption of development programmes; 2) adoption of zoning plans; 3) adoption of the budget and annual financial statement; 4) regulation and provision of the functioning and development of utility services (purification and distribution of water, steam and hot water generation and supply, transportation of passengers in road traffic on inner city services and suburban commuter services, cleaning of towns and settlements, maintenance of landfills, development, maintenance and utilisation of green markets, parks, green, recreation and other public areas, public parking lots, street lighting, regulation and maintenance of cemeteries and burials, etc.), as well as of the organisational, financial and other conditions for their performance; 5) maintenance of residential buildings and provision of safety of their use, as well as the setting of fees for the maintenance of residential buildings; 6) conduct of the procedure for eviction of illegal tenants from flats and auxiliary premises in residential buildings; 7) adoption of development plans for buildable land, regulation and ensuring of the performance of works on the development and use of buildable land and setting of fees for the development and use of buildable land; 8) regulation and ensuring of the use of business premises under its management, setting of fees for the use of business premises and supervision of the use of business premises; 9) care for environmental protection, adoption of programmes for the use and protection of natural values and of environmental protection programmes, i.e., local action and rehabilitation plans, in accordance with its strategic documents and its own interests and specific characteristics, and the setting of a separate fee for environmental protection and promotion; 10) regulation and ensuring of the performance of tasks related to construction, rehabilitation and reconstruction, maintenance, protection, use, development and management of local and non-categorised roads and streets in settlements; 11) regulation and provision of special conditions for and organisation of passenger taxi services; 12) regulation and provision of regular shipping lines in the territory of the municipality and definition of parts of the coastline or riverbanks and aquatic areas where hydraulic works and shipping berthed are allowed; 13) establishment of strategic stocks and determination of their size and structure, subject to approval of the competent ministry, in order to satisfy the needs of the local population; 14) founding of institutions and organisations in the fields of primary education, culture, primary health care, physical education, sports, childcare and social protection and tourism, monitoring and provision of their functioning; 15) organisation of the performance of tasks related to the protection of cultural heritage of significance to the municipality, encouragement of the development of cultural and artistic amateurism and creation of conditions for the work of museums, libraries and other cultural institutions whose founder it is; 16) organisation of protection against natural and other large-scale disasters and fires, and creation of conditions for their elimination, i.e., for the alleviation of their consequences; 17) adoption of the basic principles for the protection, utilisation and cultivation of agricultural land and ensuring of their observance, definition of erosion hazard areas, organisation of the use of pastures and deciding on the change of their purpose; 18) regulation and determination of the manner of the use and management of springs, public wells and fountains, determination of requirements for water management, issuance of water management approvals and licenses for local-level facilities; 19) provision and

creation of conditions for the preservation, utilisation and promotion of areas with natural curative properties; 20) organisation and encouragement of tourism development on its territory and determination of the level of the tourist tax; 21) ensuring of the development and promotion of catering, arts and crafts and trade, setting of working hours, designation of locations where particular activities may be conducted and determination of other requirements for their work; 22) use of state owned assets and ensuring of their safekeeping and growth; 23) regulation and organisation of the performance of activities related to the keeping and protection of domestic and exotic animals; 24) organisation of the performance of tasks related to the legal protection of its rights and interests; 25) setting up of bodies, organisations and services for the needs of the municipality and definition of their organisation and work; 26) encouragement of and support to the development of co-operatives; 27) setting up, if necessary, of legal aid services for citizens; 28) provision of protection and exercise of personal and collective rights of national minorities and ethnic groups; 29) determination of the languages and scripts of national minorities in official use on the territory of the municipality; 30) provision of public information of local significance; 31) definition of petty offences for violations of municipal regulations; 32) setting up of inspection services and performance of controls over enforcement of regulations and other general acts falling in the competences of the municipality; 33) regulation of the organisation and work of conciliation committees; 34) regulation and ensuring of the use of the name, coat of arms and other symbols of the municipality; 35) performance of other tasks of direct interest to the local population, in accordance with the Constitution, law and statute.

The municipality may have broader competences than those stipulated by the Constitution and the Law on Local Self-government. In certain fields, the Law provides for special competences of a local self-government. Thus, Article 2 of the Law on Registers of Births, Marriages and Deaths sets forth that the maintenance of registers is ensured by the municipal administrative body responsible for administrative affairs. Just as the Republic may delegate certain tasks from its purview to the province, the autonomous province, under Article 178, paragraph 2, of the Constitution, may also delegate certain matters falling in its competence to local self-government units by virtue of a decision.

The municipality is autonomous in the management of municipal assets, in accordance with the law.

The municipality, in accordance with the law, prescribes petty offences for violations of municipal regulations.

The supreme legal act of the municipality is its *Statute*. The Statute is adopted by the municipal assembly.

The municipal assembly adopts general acts falling in its competences, adopts the budget and annual financial statement of the municipality, adopts a development plan and a spatial plan for the municipality, calls municipal referendums and performs other tasks as laid down by law and the Statute.

The bodies of the municipality are the municipal assembly and other bodies defined by its Statute, in accordance with the law. Under the applicable Law on Local Self-government, which is yet to be harmonised with the new Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, the municipality has the president of the municipality and the municipal council as its executive bodies. Municipalities also have their own municipal administrations, which are referred to in the Law as municipal services. In addition to the above bodies, in nationally mixed municipalities, councils for interethnic relations are established. Municipalities can also establish the Ombudsman and the Council for Development and Protection of Local Self-government.

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia provides for the legal basis for the participation of representatives of speakers of minority languages in the assemblies of local self-government units. Article 180, paragraph 4, sets forth that in local self-government units with a mixed national structure of the population, a proportional representation of national minorities in their assemblies is to be ensured, in accordance with the law.

2.7. Delineation of Competences in the Field of Minorities Protection and Regulation of Usage and Protection of Minority Languages

In view of the constitutional and legal provisions presented above, it may be said that the competence in the field of regulation of usage and protection of regional or minority languages is divided between different organisation levels of public authorities.

With reference to the constitutional provision that the Republic of Serbia regulates and establishes relations with other countries and international organisations, the Republic of Serbia is competent to enter into international multilateral and bilateral treaties that are in whole or in part dedicated to protection of national minorities and usage and protection of minority languages.

Considering that the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia stipulates that the official usage of other languages and scripts is regulated by law, it is clear that the Republic of Serbia regulates by law the official usage of languages and scripts of national minorities.

The Republic of Serbia is also competent to regulate the matters of language usage in proceedings before courts and other public bodies.

With reference to the constitutional provision that the Republic is competent to govern the exercise and protection of citizens' freedoms and rights, it is clear that the Republic is competent to regulate the manner of exercise of minority rights.

The Republic is also competent to regulate the liabilities and sanctions for violation of citizens' freedoms and rights stipulated by the Constitution and for violations of laws, other regulations and statutory instruments; therefore, the Republic regulates by its law the liabilities and sanctions for violations of freedoms and rights of persons belonging to national minorities.

The Statute of an autonomous province lays down the languages and scripts in official use in the territory of the autonomous province. The Law on the Establishment of Specific Competences of AP Vojvodina entrusts to the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina certain matters of interest for protection of national minorities and regulation of the usage and protection of minority languages. Under Article 12, paragraph 1, clauses 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 of the said Law, the Autonomous Province, through its bodies, in accordance with the law governing primary education, adopts the syllabi for languages of national minorities, approves textbooks for languages of national minorities, adopts the syllabi for specific school subjects of interest to national minorities in agreement with the minister competent for educational affairs, sets the requirements for and manner of organisation of the teaching in languages of national minorities, approves textbooks and teaching aids for specific school subjects of interest to national minorities in agreement with the minister competent for educational affairs, and issues approvals for realisation of the curriculum in languages of national minorities for classes of fewer than 15 pupils. Identical competences are envisaged for secondary education. Under Article 18 of the said Law, the Autonomous Province, through its bodies, in accordance with the law governing the official use of languages and scripts, regulates more specifically the official use of languages and scripts of national minorities on the territory of the Autonomous Province. Under Article 55 of the same Law, the Autonomous Province, through its bodies, in accordance with the law governing the seals of state and other bodies, regulates more specifically the contents and design of the seals of provincial bodies, bodies of local self-government units and legal entities vested with administrative authorities which have their seat in the territory of the Autonomous Province.

The statutes of local self-government units lay down the languages and scripts of national minorities in official use in the territory of the local self-government unit. The statutes of local self-government units in the territory of AP Vojvodina also lay down the languages of national minorities that are in official use in the territory of specific settlements or local communities. Under the Law on Local Self-Government, local self-government units, in accordance with their statutes, regulate by their decisions the purview, composition and manner of work of councils for interethnic relations.

2.8. Tasks and Organisation of the Public Administration

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, in its Article 136, paragraph 1, prescribes that *the public administration is independent, bound by the Constitution and law and accountable for its work to the Government.*

The tasks of the public administration are performed by the ministries and other bodies of the public administration defined by the law.

The tasks of the public administration and the number of ministries are provided for by the law.

The Law on the Public Administration of the Republic of Serbia stipulates that the tasks of the public administration include: *participation in the formulation of government policies, monitoring of the situation in the fields falling in the purview of administrative bodies,*

implementation of laws, other regulations and general acts, inspection supervision, ensuring the operation of public services, development-related tasks and other professional tasks.

The public administration in the Republic of Serbia is organised in the form of ministries, administrative bodies within ministries (which exist as administrations, inspectorates and directorates) and special administrative organisations (existing as secretariats and bureaus). Under the Law on Ministries of 2004, the public administration of the Republic of Serbia comprises the following ministries: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Interior Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-Government, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, Ministry of Economy and Regional Development, Ministry of Mining and Energy, Ministry of Infrastructure, Ministry of Telecommunications and Information Society, Ministry of Trade and Services, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, Ministry of Science, Ministry of Environmental Protection, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Youth and Sports, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Religion, Ministry of Diaspora, Ministry for Kosovo and Metohija. For the purpose of performing the tasks of the public administration outside the seat of the public administration bodies, administrative districts are formed.

Under the Law on the Government, the *Government, by virtue of its decrees, sets up agencies for professional or technical tasks shared by all public administration bodies or several of them, and prescribes their organisation and purview.* The Government of the Republic of Serbia has set up several agencies that perform professional tasks, or tasks for all public administration bodies or several of them (e.g. the Agency for Human and Minority Rights, etc.).

2.9. Tasks and Organisation of the Administration of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina

The tasks of the provincial administration include: *implementation of laws, other regulations and general acts of the Republic of Serbia delegated to the province, decision-making in administrative matters and exercise of administrative supervision in those cases where that has been delegated to the province on the strength of law, implementation of decisions and other general acts adopted by the provincial Assembly and the Executive Council, drafting of decisions and other general acts to be adopted by the provincial Assembly and the Executive Council, performance of other tasks defined by the Constitution, law and provincial Statute, as well as of other professional tasks for the needs of the Assembly of AP Vojvodina and of the Executive Council of AP Vojvodina.*

The only existing form of provincial administrative bodies includes provincial secretariats. In addition to secretariats, it is also possible to set up provincial administrative organisations, agencies and directorates. The secretariats in AP Vojvodina have been established for individual administrative fields – the economy, education and culture, information, health care, labour and social policy, finances, administration,

regulations and national minorities, etc. Provincial secretariats are headed by Secretaries General, who are at the same time members of the Executive Council of AP Vojvodina.

2.10. Organisation and Operation of the Municipal and City Administrations

In the legal system of the Republic of Serbia, the tasks of the municipal and city administrations, as the principal form of local self-government organisation, comprise: implementation of decisions and other general acts of the municipal assembly and the president of the municipality, deciding in first instance administrative proceedings on the rights and duties of citizens, firms, institutions and other organisations from the direct purview of municipalities, exercise of administrative supervision of the enforcement of regulations and other general acts of the municipal assembly, implementation of laws of the Republic of Serbia and other regulations of the Republic of Serbia and the Autonomous Provinces, whose implementation was delegated to the municipality, drafting of the regulations and other acts adopted by the municipal assembly and the president of the municipality and performance of professional and other tasks as defined by the municipal assembly and the president of the municipality.

The decision on the establishment and organisation of the municipal administration is adopted by the municipal assembly. The internal organisation of, and the job classification in, the municipal administration are regulated by the Rules issued by the head of the municipal administration, upon approval of the president of the municipality. The municipal administration can have, and in most of the cases it has, its internal organisational units, as entities for the performance of related tasks. With a view to meeting the needs and interests of the local population, local communities and other forms of local-level self-government are established in villages; these may also be established in urban settlements (quarter, block, area etc.). A local community may also be established from two or more villages. Certain administrative tasks are performed in local communities, such as the maintenance of registers and civil registry; they also issue certificates and transcripts confirming the facts on which the municipal administration is keeping records, receive and transmit submissions, provide information on the procedures for the exercise of rights and discharge of duties of citizens, etc. Local community offices should be differentiated from local communities, which, under the Law on Local Self-government, constitute a form of self-government at the lowest level of organization, which is established by virtue of a decision of the assembly of a local self-government unit for one, two or more villages, or parts of cities, for the purpose of self-governing performance of tasks and exercise of rights and discharge of duties laid down in the decision on the founding of the local community and its Statute. In practice, the territorial jurisdiction of a local community office in rural areas largely tallies with the territory of a local community.

2.11. Court Organisation

Judicial power is single in the territory of the Republic of Serbia.

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia sets out in Article 143, paragraph 1, that *judicial power belongs to courts of general and special jurisdiction*, while in paragraph 2 of the same Article it prescribes that the *establishment, organisation, jurisdiction, setup and structure of courts are to be regulated by the law*.

Under the applicable legal arrangements, which have to be harmonised with the new Constitution by 31 December 2008, the courts of general jurisdiction in the Republic of Serbia are municipal and district courts, while courts of special jurisdiction include commercial courts and the Higher Commercial Court. The highest-instance court in the Republic of Serbia is the Supreme Court of the Republic of Serbia.

Municipal courts with jurisdiction *ratione loci* include: 1) Ada Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Ada; 2) Aleksandrovac Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Aleksandrovac; 3) Aleksinac Municipal Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Aleksinac and Ražanj, with a department of the Court in Ražanj; 4) Alibunar Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Alibunar; 5) Apatin Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Apatin; 6) Arandjelovac Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Arandjelovac; 7) Arilje Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Arilje; 8) Babušnica Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Babušnica; 9) Bajina Bašta Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Bajina Bašta; 10) Batočina Municipal Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Batočina and Lapovo; 11) Bačka Palanka Municipal Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Bačka Palanka and Bač, with a department of the Court in Bač; 12) Bačka Topola Municipal Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Bačka Topola and Mali Idoš; 13) Bela Crkva Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Bela Crkva; 14) First Belgrade Municipal Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Palilula and Stari grad; 15) Second Belgrade Municipal Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Savski venac, Čukarica and Rakovica; 16) Third Belgrade Municipal Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Vračar and Zvezdara; 17) Fourth Belgrade Municipal Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Zemun and Novi Belgrade; 18) Fifth Belgrade Municipal Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Barajevo, Voždovac and Grocka; 19) Bečej Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Bečej; 20) Bogatić Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Bogatić; 21) Boljevac Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Boljevac; 22) Bor Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Bor; 23) Bosilegrad Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Bosilegrad; 24) Brus Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Brus; 25) Bujanovac Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Bujanovac; 26) Valjevo Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Valjevo; 27) Varvarin Municipal Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Varvarin and Čičevac; 28) Veliko Gradište Municipal Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Veliko Gradište and Golubac; 29) Velika Plana Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Velika Plana; 30) Vladimirci Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Vladimirci; 31) Vitina Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Vitina; 32) Vladičin Han Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Vladičin Han; 33) Vlasotince Municipal Court, for the territories of the

municipalities of Vlasotince and Crna Trava; 34) Vranje Municipal Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Vranje and Trgovište; 35) Vrbas Municipal Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Vrbas and Srbobran, with a department of the Court in Srbobran; 36) Vršac Municipal Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Vršac and Plandište with a department of the Court in Plandište; 37) Vrnjačka Banja Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Vrnjačka Banja; 38) Vučitrn Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Vučitrn; 39) Gnjilane Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Gnjilane; 40) Gornji Milanovac Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Gornji Milanovac; 41) Guča Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Lučani; 42) Despotovac Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Despotovac; 43) Dimitrovgrad Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Dimitrovgrad; 44) Dragaš Municipal Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Gora and Opolje; 45) Đakovica Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Đakovica; 46) Žabari Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Žabari; 47) Žagubica Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Žagubica; 48) Zaječar Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Zaječar; 49) Zrenjanin Municipal Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Zrenjanin, Žitište and Sečanj, with a department of the Court in Sečanj; 50) Ivanjica Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Ivanjica; 51) Inđija Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Inđija; 52) Istok Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Istok; 53) Kanjiža Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Kanjiža; 54) Kladovo Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Kladovo; 55) Kikinda Municipal Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Kikinda and Nova Crnja, with a department of the Court in Nova Crnja; 56) Knjaževac Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Knjaževac; 57) Kovin Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Kovin; 58) Kovačica Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Kovačica; 59) Kosjerić Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Kosjerić; 60) Kosovska Kamenica Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Kosovska Kamenica; 61) Kosovska Mitrovica Municipal Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Kosovska Mitrovica, Zubin Potok, Zvečan and Srbica, with a department of the Court in Zubin Potok; 62) Koceljeva Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Koceljeva; 63) Kragujevac Municipal Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Kragujevac and Knić; 64) Kraljevo Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Kraljevo; 65) Krupanj Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Krupanj; 66) Kruševac Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Kruševac; 67) Kula Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Kula; 68) Kuršumlija Municipal Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Kuršumlija and Podujevo with a department of the Court in Podujevo; 69) Kučevo Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Kučevo; 70) Klina Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Klina; 71) Lazarevac Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Lazarevac; 72) Lajkovac Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Lajkovac; 73) Lebane Municipal Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Bojnik, Lebane and Medveđa; 74) Leskovac Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Leskovac; 75) Lipljan Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Lipljan; 76) Loznica Municipal Court, for the territories of the

municipalities of Loznica and Mali Zvornik; 77) Leposavić Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Leposavić; 78) Ljig Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Ljig; 79) Ljubovija Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Ljubovija; 80) Majdanpek Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Majdanpek; 81) Mionica Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Mionica; 82) Mladenovac Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Mladenovac; 83) Negotin Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Negotin; 84) Niš Municipal Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Gadžin Han, Doljevac, Niš and Bela Palanka, with a department of the Court in Bela Palanka; 85) Nova Varoš Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Nova Varoš; 86) Novi Bečej Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Novi Bečej; 87) Novi Kneževac Municipal Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Novi Kneževac and Čoka; 88) Novi Sad Municipal Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Bački Petrovac, Beočin, Žabalj, Novi Sad and Sremski Karlovci, with departments of the Court in Bački Petrovac, Beočin and Žabalj; 89) Novi Pazar Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Novi Pazar; 90) Obrenovac Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Obrenovac; 91) Orahovac Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Orahovac; 92) Osečina Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Osečina; 93) Odžaci Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Odžaci; 94) Pančevo Municipal Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Pančevo and Opovo; 95) Paraćin Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Paraćin; 96) Petrovac Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Petrovac; 97) Peć Municipal Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Peć and Dečane; 98) Pirot Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Pirot; 99) Požarevac Municipal Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Malo Crniće and Požarevac; 100) Požega Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Požega; 101) Preševo Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Preševo; 102) Priboj Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Priboj; 103) Prizren Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Prizren; 104) Prijepolje Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Prijepolje; 105) Prokuplje Municipal Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Blace, Žitorađa, Merošina and Prokuplje, with a department of the Court in Blace; 106) Priština Municipal Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Glogovac, Priština, Obilić, Kosovo Polje and Novo Brdo; 107) Rača Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Rača; 108) Rekovac Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Rekovac; 109) Raška Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Raška; 110) Ruma Municipal Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Irig, Pećinci and Ruma, with departments of the Court in Irig and Pećinci; 111) Svetozarevo Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Svetozarevo; 112) Svilajnac Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Svilajnac; 113) Svrljig Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Svrljig; 114) Senta Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Senta; 115) Sjenica Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Sjenica; 116) Smederevo Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Smederevo; 117) Smederevska Palanka Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Smederevska Palanka; 118) Sombor Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Sombor; 119) Sopot Municipal Court, for the territory of

the municipality of Sopot; 120) Sokobanja Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Sokobanja; 121) Sremska Mitrovica Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Sremska Mitrovica; 122) Stara Pazova Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Stara Pazova; 123) Subotica Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Subotica; 124) Suva Reka Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Suva Reka; 125) Surdulica Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Surdulica; 126) Temerin Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Temerin; 127) Titel Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Titel; 128) Užice Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Užice; 129) Topola Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Topola; 130) Trstenik Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Trstenik; 131) Tutin Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Tutin; 132) Čuprija Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Čuprija; 133) Ub Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Ub; 134) Uroševac Municipal Court, for the territories of the municipalities of Uroševac, Kačanik, Štimlje and Štrpce, with a department of the Court in Štrpce; 135) Čačak Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Čačak; 136) Čajetina Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Čajetina; 137) Šabac Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Šabac; 138) Šid Municipal Court, for the territory of the municipality of Šid.

District Courts with jurisdiction *ratione loci* include: 1) Belgrade District Court, for the jurisdictions of the First Municipal Court, Second Municipal Court, Third Municipal Court, Fourth Municipal Court and Fifth Municipal Court in Belgrade and municipal courts in Obrenovac, Lazarevac, Sopot and Mladenovac; 2) Valjevo District Court, for the territories of the municipal courts in Valjevo, Lajkovac, Ljig, Mionica, Osečina and Ub; 3) Vranje District Court, for the territories of the municipal courts in Bosilegrad, Bujanovac, Vladičin Han, Vranje, Preševo and Surdulica; 4) Zaječar District Court, for the territories of the municipal courts in Boljevac, Bor, Zaječar, Knjaževac and Sokobanja; 5) Zrenjanin District Court, for the territories of the municipal courts in Zrenjanin, Kikinda, Novi Bečej and Novi Kneževac; 6) Kragujevac District Court, for the territories of the municipal courts in Aranđelovac, Batočina, Kragujevac, Rača and Topola; 7) Kraljevo District Court, for the territories of the municipal courts in Kraljevo, Raška and Vrnjačka Banja; 8) Kruševac District Court, for the territories of the municipal courts in Aleksandrovac, Brus, Varvarin, Kruševac and Trstenik; 9) Leskovac District Court, for the territories of the municipal courts in Vlasotince, Lebane and Leskovac; 10) Negotin District Court, for the territories of the municipal courts in Kladovo, Majdanpek and Negotin; 11) Niš District Court, for the territories of the municipal courts in Aleksinac, Niš and Svrlijig; 12) Novi Sad District Court, for the territories of the municipal courts in Novi Sad, Bačka Palanka, Bečej, Vrbas, Titel and Temerin; 13) Novi Pazar District Court, for the territories of the municipal courts in Novi Pazar, Sjenica and Tutin; 14) Pančevo District Court, for the territories of the municipal courts in Alibunar, Bela Crkva, Kovačica, Kovin, Vršac and Pančevo; 15) Peć District Court, for the territories of the municipal courts in Peć, Istok, Klina and Đakovica; 16) Pirot District Court, for the territories of the municipal courts in Babušnica, Dimitrovgrad and Pirot; 17) Požarevac District Court, for the territories of the municipal courts in Veliko Gradište, Žagubica, Žabari, Kučevo, Petrovac and Požarevac; 18) Prizren District Court,

for the territories of the municipal courts in Dragaš, Orahovac, Prizren and Suva Reka; 19) Priština District Court, for the territories of the municipal courts in Lipljane, Priština and Uroševac; 20) Prokuplje District Court, for the territories of the municipal courts in Kuršumlija and Prokuplje; 21) Svetozarevo District Court, for the territories of the municipal courts in Despotovac, Paraćin, Svetozarevo, Svilajnac, Rekovac and Čuprija; 22) Smederevo District Court, for the territories of the municipal courts in Velika Plana, Smederevo and Smederevska Palanka; 23) Sombor District Court, for the territories of the municipal courts in Apatin, Kula, Odžaci and Sombor; 24) Sremska Mitrovica District Court, for the territories of the municipal courts in Inđija, Ruma, Sremska Mitrovica, Stara Pazova and Šid; 25) Subotica District Court, for the territories of the municipal courts in Ada, Bačka Topola, Kanjiža, Senta and Subotica; 26) Užice District Court, for the territories of the municipal courts in Arilje, Bajina Bašta, Ivanjica, Kosjerić, Nova Varoš, Požega, Priboj, Prijepolje, Užice and Čajetina; 27) Čačak District Court, for the territories of the municipal courts in Gornji Milanovac, Guča and Čačak; 28) Šabac District Court, for the territories of the municipal courts in Bogatić, Vladimirci, Koceljeva, Krupanj, Loznica, Ljubovija and Šabac; 29) Gnjilane District Court, for the territories of the municipal courts in Vitina, Gnjilane and Kosovska Kamenica; 30) Kosovska Mitrovica District Court, for the territories of the municipal courts in Vučitrn, Kosovska Mitrovica and Leposavić.

3. Information Concerning the Framework Convention

3.1. General Information Concerning the Framework Convention

The Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities of the Council of Europe was ratified by the Federal Assembly of FR Yugoslavia in 1998. At the invitation of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, FR Yugoslavia became party to the Framework Convention on 11th May 2001 and the Convention entered into force for FR Yugoslavia on 1st September 2001, pursuant to the provision of Article 29, paragraph 2 of this document. The first report on the implementation of the Framework Convention was submitted by FR Yugoslavia on 16th October 2002. The Advisory Committee visited FR Yugoslavia in the period between 27th September and 3rd October 2003. The Advisory Committee adopted its Opinion on the Implementation of the Convention on 27th November 2003. The state submitted its comments on the Opinion of the Advisory Committee on 29th April 2004. The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe adopted the Resolution on the Implementation of the Framework Convention by Serbia and Montenegro on 17th November 2004. The follow-up seminar on the implementation of the convention was held on 10th October 2005.

3.2. Legal Instruments for the Implementation of the Framework Convention Referred to in the Report

In view of the delineation of competences in the field of regulation and protection of the status of national minorities, the legal instruments for the implementation of the Convention can be classified by the adopting authority and by the sphere of social life in which minority languages are used.

The national legislation can be grouped into the following categories:

Constitutional law, criminal law, the judiciary, state and public administration

- Constitution of the Republic of Serbia (*RS Official Gazette*, nos. 83/2006 and 98/2006)
- Statute of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina (APV Official Journal no. 17/91)
- Statutes of the local self-government units where minority languages are in official use – see the table
- Law on Official Use of Languages and Scripts (*RS Official Gazette*, no. 45/91)
- Law on the Election of Deputies (*RS Official Gazette*, nos. 35/2000 and 18/2004)
- Law on the Establishment of Specific Competences of AP Vojvodina (*RS Official Gazette*, no. 6/2002)
- Law on Local Self-government (*RS Official Gazette*, nos. 9/2002, 33/2004 and 105/2004)
- Criminal Code (*RS Official Gazette*, nos. 85/2005, 88/2005 and 107/2005)
- Criminal Procedure Code (*RS Official Gazette*, no. 46/2006)

- Law on Litigation (*RS Official Gazette*, no. 125/2004)
- Law on Non-contentious Proceedings (*SRS Official Gazette*, nos. 25/82, 48/88 and *RS Official Gazette*, no. 46/95 and 18/05)
- Law on Administrative Disputes (FRY Official Journal, no. 46/96)
- Law on General Administrative Procedure (FRY Official Journal no. 33/97 and 31/2001)
- Law on the Public Administration (*RS Official Gazette*, no. 79/2005)
- Law on the Government of the Republic of Serbia (*RS Official Gazette*, nos. 55/2005 and 71/2005)
- Law on the Ombudsman (*RS Official Gazette*, nos. 79/2005 and 54/2007)
- Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities (*FRY Official Journal*, no. 11/2002 (57/2002))
- Law on the Seals of State and Other Bodies (*RS Official Gazette*, no. 11/91)
- Law on the Identity Card (*RS Official Gazette*, no. 62/2006)
- Law on the Principal Data from the Registers of Births, Marriages and Deaths (*SFRY Official Journal*, no. 6/73)
- Law on Registers of Births, Marriages and Deaths (*SRS Official Gazette*, no. 15/90, *RS Official Gazette*, nos. 57/03 and 101/05)
- Law on the Organisation of Courts (*RS Official Gazette*, nos. 63/2001, 42/2002, 27/03, 29/04, 101/05, 46/06)
- Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia (*RS Official Gazette*, no. 56/05)
- Law on the Publishing of Laws and other Regulations and General Acts and on the Publication of the *Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia* (*RS Official Gazette*, no. 72/91)
- Rules of Procedure of the Assembly of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina (APV Official Journal nos. 23/2002 and 30/2004)
- Decree on the Establishment of the Council for National Minorities of the Republic of Serbia (*RS Official Gazette*, no. 61/2006)
- Resolution on the Measures Aimed at Increasing the Participation of Persons belonging to National Minorities in the Public Administration Bodies (*RS Official Gazette*, no. 40/2006)
- Decision on More Specific Regulation of Certain Issues concerning Official Use of Languages and Scripts of National Minorities in the Territory of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina (APV Official Journal nos. 8/2003 and 9/2003)
- Instruction on Administration and Forms of Registers of Births, Marriages and Deaths (*SRS Official Gazette*, no. 48/90 and *RS Official Gazette*, no. 22/91)
- Decision on Multilingual Forms for Certificates of Births, Marriages and Deaths and on the Method of Making Entries in the Registers of Births, Marriages and Deaths (APV Official Journal no. 1/2001)
- Decision on Foreign Language and National Minority Language Exams for Employment in Administrative Bodies (APV Official Journal nos. 14/2003 and 2/2006)

Education

- Law on Basic Principles of the Educational System (*RS Official Gazette*, nos. 62/2003, 62/2003, 58/2004 and 62/2004)
- Law on Primary Schools (*RS Official Gazette*, nos. 50/92 and 22/2002)
- Law on Secondary Schools (*RS Official Gazette*, nos. 50/92, 24/96, 23/2002 and 25/2002)
- Law on Higher Education (*RS Official Gazette*, no. 76/2005)

Culture

- Law on Activities of the Public Interest in the Field of Culture (*RS Official Gazette*, no. 49/92)
- Law on Librarianship (*RS Official Gazette*, nos. 34/94, 101/2005)

Media

- Public Information Law (*RS Official Gazette*, nos. 43/2003 and 61/2005)
- Broadcasting Law (*RS Official Gazette*, nos. 42/02, 97/04, 76/05, 62/06, 85/06 and 86/06)

3.3. Consultations with Relevant Bodies

The following organisations were invited to participate in preparing the Report on the Implementation of the Framework Convention: National Council of the Bosniac National Minority, National Council of the Bulgarian National Minority, National Council of the Bunjevci National Minority, National Council of the Vlach National Minority, National Council of the Greek National Minority, National Council of the Egyptian National Minority, National Council of the Hungarian National Minority, National Council of the Macedonian National Minority, National Council of the Roma National Minority, National Council of the Romanian National Minority, National Council of the Ruthenian National Minority, National Council of the Slovak National Minority, National Council of the Ukrainian National Minority, National Council of the Croat National Minority and the Union of Jewish Municipalities in Serbia.

The following non-governmental organisations were also invited to participate: Belgrade Centre for Human Rights, Belgrade; Civic Initiatives, Belgrade; Forum for Ethnic Relations, Belgrade; Young Lawyers of Serbia, Belgrade; Youth Initiative for Human Rights, Belgrade; Centre for Multiculturalism, Novi Sad; Centre for Regionalism, Novi Sad; Vojvodina Centre for Human Rights, Novi Sad; Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in Serbia, Novi Sad; Fund for an Open Society, Novi Sad; Human Rights Council, Bujanovac; Centre for Multicultural Education, Preševo; Centre for Civic Initiatives and Actions “Vision”, Preševo; Cultural Community of Bosniacs in Sandžak “Preporod”, Novi Pazar; Centre for Multiethnic Dialogue, Novi Pazar; Centre for Peace and Reconciliation, Novi Pazar; Civic Forum, Novi Pazar; Cultural Centre “Damad”, Novi Pazar; The Bosniac Society of Sandžak – Society for Culture, Science and Arts, Novi

Pazar; Sandžak Intellectual Circle – SIC, Novi Pazar; Sandžak Committee for Protection of Human Rights, Novi Pazar; Urban-In, Novi Pazar; European Movement, Local Council in Novi Pazar; Centre for Human Rights, Priboj; Civic Action for Human Rights, Priboj; Women’s Initiatives, Priboj; Committee for Human Rights Protection and Humanitarian Action, Priboj; “New Vision”, Prijepolje; Centre for Civic Action “Integra”, Prijepolje; Civic Association “Centre for Political Research – Argument”, Prijepolje; Civic Association “Flores”, Sjenica; “Impuls”, Tutin; Cultural and Information Centre of the Bulgarian Minority “Caribrod”, Dimitrovgrad; Bulgarian Cultural Society “Trandafer”, Belo Blato; Federation of Hungarian Students in Vojvodina, Subotica; Society for the Hungarian Language in Vojvodina, Novi Sad; Society for the Hungarian Culture in Serbia, Novi Sad; Methodology Centre, Novi Sad; Association of Citizens Belonging to the Macedonian National Minority in Juznobanatski District “Vardar”, Jabuka; Association of Macedonians of Srednjebanatski District “Sveti Kliment Ohridski”, Zrenjanin; German National Federation, Subotica; German Association “Donau”, Novi Sad; German Association “Bela Crkva”, Bela Crkva; Roma Centre for Democracy, Bujanovac; Youth Forum for Roma Education, Bujanovac; Roma Humanitarian Centre, Bujanovac; Multicultural Centre “Narajan”, Preševo; Federation of Roma Societies of Pčinjsko-Jablanički District, Surdulica; Community of Romanians from Serbia, Vršac; Society for the Romanian Language in Vojvodina, Novi Sad; Romanian Ethnography and Folklore Society (Foundation) of Vojvodina, Pančevo; “Tibiskus” Literary and Artistic Society, Uzdin; The Ruthenian Society, Ruski Krstur; Society for the Ruthenian Language, Literature and Culture, Novi Sad; Federation of Ruthenians and Ukrainians of Serbia, Novi Sad; The Slovak Society, Bački Petrovac; Society for Slovak Studies of Vojvodina, Novi Sad; Society for the Ukrainian Language, Literature and Culture “Prosvita”, Novi Sad; Civic Association “Krov”, Subotica; Croatian Academic Association, Subotica; The Czech Society, Bela Crkva; Cultural and Educational Association “Czechs of Južni Banat”, Bela Crkva.

The following organisations submitted their contributions for the preparation of the Report: National Council of the Bosniac National Minority (an identical contribution was also submitted to the Network of Committees for Human Rights in Serbia – CHRIS, which produced the Alternative Report on the Implementation of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities), Human Rights Council, Bujanovac and The Czech Society, Bela Crkva.

The relevant public administration bodies that participated in the preparation of the Report on the Implementation of the Framework Convention are as follows: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Interior Affairs, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Religion, Coordinating Body of the Republic of Serbia for the Municipalities of Preševo, Bujanovac and Medveđa, and the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia.

The following organisations participated or were consulted in the preparation of the Report: Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture, Provincial Secretariat of Information and Provincial Secretariat of Regulations, Administration and National Minorities.

A part of the documentary material prepared compiled for the preparation of the Report on the Implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages was also used in the preparation of this Report.

Representatives of the Agency for Human and Minority Rights of the Government of the Republic of Serbia participated at the conference on alternative reports on the implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority languages and the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities, organised by Vojvodina Human Rights Centre and the Network of Committees for Human Rights in Serbia (CHRIS), as authors of the said alternative reports.

PART II

II. IMPLEMENTATION OF INDIVIDUAL ARTICLES OF THE CONVENTION

Article 1

The protection of national minorities and of the rights and freedoms of persons belonging to those minorities forms an integral part of the international protection of human rights, and as such falls within the scope of international co-operation.

1.1. The Republic of Serbia and the Protection of Human Rights under the International Law

The Republic of Serbia as the legal successor of the previous states in the territory of the former Yugoslavia is a member of the following international-law instruments in the field of human rights protection:

- International Pact on Civil and Political Rights³ and both optional Protocols⁴
- International Pact on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights⁵
- International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination⁶
- Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment⁷
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women⁸ and the optional Protocol⁹
- Convention on the Rights of Child¹⁰ and both optional Protocols¹¹
- International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid¹²

In the period of consideration of the First Periodical Report on the Implementation of Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities, the Republic of Serbia has acceded to the Convention of the Council of Europe for Protection of the Rights of

³ “SFRY Official Journal – International Treaties”, no.7/1971

⁴ “SFRY Official Journal – International Treaties”, no.4/2001

⁵ “SFRY Official Journal – International Treaties”, no.7/1971

⁶ “SFRY Official Journal – Supplement”, no. 6/67

⁷ “SFRY Official Journal – International Treaties”, no.9/1991

⁸ “SFRY Official Journal – International Treaties”, no.11/1981

⁹ “SFRY Official Journal – International Treaties”, no.13/2002

¹⁰ “SFRY Official Journal – International Treaties”, no.15/1990

¹¹ “SFRY Official Journal – International Treaties”, no.4/2001

¹² “SFRY Official Journal”, no.14/1975

Man and Fundamental Freedoms¹³ as well as European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages¹⁴.

The Republic of Serbia is the successor of the following bilateral treaties for protection of national minorities:

- Treaty between Serbia & Montenegro and the Republic of Macedonia on the protection of Serbian and Montenegrin national minority in the Republic of Macedonia and Macedonian national minority in Serbia & Montenegro (*“Official Journal of Serbia and Montenegro” – International Treaties, no. 6/2005*)
- Treaty between Serbia & Montenegro and the Republic of Hungary on the protection of Hungarian national minority in Serbia & Montenegro and Serbian and Montenegrin national minority in the Republic of Hungary (*“Official Journal of Serbia and Montenegro” – International Treaties, no. 14/2004*)
- Treaty between the Federal Government of FRY and the Government of Romania on collaboration in the field of protection of national minorities (*“Official Journal of Serbia and Montenegro” – International Treaties, no. 14/2004*)
- Treaty between Serbia & Montenegro and the Republic of Croatia on the protection of Serbian and Montenegrin national minority in the Republic of Croatia and Croatian minority in Serbia & Montenegro (*“Official Journal of Serbia and Montenegro” – International Treaties, no. 3/2005*)

The Republic of Serbia is the successor of the following bilateral treaties on collaboration in the fields of culture and education which are important for the national minorities or for the official use of minority languages:

- Treaty between the Federal Government of FRY and the Government of Ukraine on collaboration in the fields of culture, education and sports (*“FRY Official Journal” – International Treaties, no. 4/96*)
- Treaty between the Federal Government of FRY and and the Government of the Republic of Slovakia on collaboration in the fields of culture, education and sports (*“FRY Official Journal” – International Treaties, no. 4/96*)
- Treaty between the Federal Government of SRY and and the Government of the Republic of Macedonia on collaboration in the fields of culture, education and sports (*“FRY Official Journal” – International Treaties, no. 1/98*)
- Treaty between the Federal Government of FRY and and the Government of the Republic of Croatia on collaboration in the fields of culture and education (*“FRY Official Journal” – International Treaties, no. 12/02*)

¹³ “Official Journal of Serbia and Montenegro – International Treaties”, no. 9/2003- ratification instruments deposited with SG of the Council of Europe on 3rd March 2004

¹⁴ “Official Journal of Serbia and Montenegro – International Treaties”, no. 18/2005. Minority languages protected under the Charter in the Republic of Serbia are Albanian, Bosniac, Bulgarian, Croatian, Hungarian, Romany, Romanian, Ruthenian, Slovak, and Ukrainian.

1.2. Collaboration with International Organisations

The Republic of Serbia has realized its most productive collaboration in the field of protection of human and minority rights with the relevant international organisations – OSCE and the Council of Europe (CoE). According to their mandates the OSCE Mission in the Republic of Serbia and CoE Office in Belgrade act in close cooperation with the Government of the Republic of Serbia, providing the expertise to competent authorities at all levels in the fields of democratization and the protection of human and minority rights.

OSCE

Cooperation between the authorities of the Republic of Serbia and OSCE included:

- Provision of support to the state bodies and civil sector in the implementation of regulations in the field of protection of human and minority rights;
- Provision of support for enacting the Ombudsman Law;
- Promotion of tolerance and provision of support for the activities focused on the inter-ethnic tolerance and common faith in the dialog between young people. The project includes the preparation of the national and ethnic-historical Guide as well as the organisation of visits to schools across Serbia aimed at assisting the students to reconsider their present understanding of the cultures of different national minorities;
- Within the project“Getting to know your country better”, a study tour to Belgrade was organised for students, teachers and school principals coming from 16 multiethnic towns in Serbia, with the aim of enhancing their knowledge of the country and enabling them to meet their counterparts from Belgrade and other regions of Serbia;
- Organisation of a bar exam training programme in minority language for persons belonging to national minorities throughout the region of Sandžak and Southern Serbia;
- Preparation of the Guide through the work of municipal councils for inter-ethnic relations;
- Supporting the development of the Roma National Strategy Secretariat operating within the Office of Human and Minority Rights of the Republic of Serbia, which is to develop and coordinate the issues related to the Roma, in particular in the area of adoption and implementation of additional plans and strategies;
- Supporting the establishment of the Centre for Returnees Reintegration which is to develop the mechanisms of legal assistance and to furnish the returnees with the local sources of information;
- Co-financing the implementation of Action Plans on the level of Local Self-Governments, including additional donations and Roma coordinators for the projects;

- Taking part in developing the legal framework as well as a guide for affirmative action measures, for a continued course of action on the part of the Centre for Returnees Reintegration and Roma National Strategy Secretariat within the Office of Human and Minority Rights of the Republic of Serbia;
- Assistance in institutionalization of Roma teaching assistants;
- Organisation of round tables on implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages;
- Collaboration with the Ministry of the Interior in the process of realization of the projects, such as the “Police Force in the Local Community in the South of Serbia”, “Minorities within the Police Force”, “The Roma in the Police Force”.

CoE

Collaboration between the authorities of the Republic of Serbia and CoE has included:

- Organisation of the All Different – All Equal campaign reinforcing the fight against discrimination and laying down positive values of society through three fundamental concepts: diversity, human rights and active participation of young people;
- “Support to Freedom of Expression and Information in Serbia” Project;
- “Advancing Equality, Tolerance and Peace: Equal Rights and Treatment for Roma in Southeast Europe 2006-2007” Project;
- Cooperation in implementation of campaign against discrimination of the Roma titled “Enough!”;
- “The Implementation of the Results of the Monitoring of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities” Seminar;
- Organisation of round tables regarding the Draft Law on the establishment of National Councils and their terms of reference;
- Professional expertise of the Draft Law on the establishment of National Councils and their terms of reference, conducted by the CoE experts.

Article 2

The provisions of this framework Convention shall be applied in good faith, in a spirit of understanding and tolerance and in conformity with the principles of good neighbourliness, friendly relations and co-operation between States.

2.1. Principles of Implementation of the Framework Convention

Foreign policy of the Republic of Serbia rests on universally accepted principles and rules of the international law. The universally accepted principles and acknowledged international agreements are integral parts of the rule of law in the Republic of Serbia and are directly applied. The acknowledged international agreements, pursuant to Article 16 of the Constitution, must be in conformity with the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia. Human and minority rights guaranteed under the Constitution are directly applied. Guaranteed under the Constitution, and as such directly applied, are the human and minority rights, which are guaranteed by the universally accepted principles of the international law, acknowledged by virtue of international agreements and international laws. Pursuant to Article 18 of the Constitution, the provisions on human and minority rights shall be interpreted to the benefit of promoting the values of a democratic society, pursuant to valid international standards in human and minority rights, as well as the practice of international institutions that supervise their implementation.

The Republic of Serbia is faithfully committed to the principles embodied in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities, the UN Declaration on Principles of International Law, OSCE documents from the Human Dimension Implementation Meetings etc.

The promotion of a spirit of understanding and tolerance and the development of international relations in conformity with the principles of good neighbourliness, friendly relations and cooperation between the States became particularly prominent in the meetings held between the highest representatives of the Republic of Serbia and the representatives of other countries in the region. The meetings that the President and Prime Minister of the Republic of Serbia have had with the heads of governments and states in the region are very important with respect to the improvement of cooperation in the field of national minorities and to the establishment of cultural relations regardless of the country in which the persons belonging to different nations actually live.

With the aim of applying the provisions of this Framework Convention in a spirit of understanding and tolerance and in conformity with the principle of good neighbourliness, the Government of the Republic of Serbia is inviting the presidents of the national councils of national minorities to become members of the State Delegation that conducts visits to parent countries of the persons belonging to the corresponding national minorities.

Good-neighbourly and friendly relations as well as cooperation between the Republic of Serbia and a neighbouring country are governed by mutually signed treaties. Treaty between the Republic of Serbia and Romania on friendly and good-neighbourly relations and cooperation between the States also comprises some principal provisions regarding national minorities. Pursuant to Article 20 of the Treaty, it is binding on both contracting parties to provide, in their respective territories, the protection and respect of the rights of persons belonging to national minorities in conformity with the provisions of the UN and OSCE documents.

The Republic of Serbia has set in motion the implementation of the bilateral treaties on protection of national minorities in good faith, which is best illustrated in setting up bilateral commissions with Hungary and Croatia.

Article 3

- 1. Every person belonging to a national minority shall have the right freely to choose to be treated or not to be treated as such and no disadvantage shall result from this choice or from the exercise of the rights which are connected to that choice.**
- 2. Persons belonging to national minorities may exercise the rights and enjoy the freedoms flowing from the principles enshrined in the present framework Convention individually as well as in community with others.**

Paragraph 1

3.1. The Concept of National Minority

In the Republic of Serbia, the definition of a national minority is specified in Article 2, paragraph 1 of the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, and with respect to this Law, a national minority is any group of citizens which is representative to a sufficient extent in terms of the number of persons belonging to it and, although it constitutes a minority in the territory of the Republic of Serbia, belongs to one of the groups of population which have a lasting and firm connection with the territory of the Republic of Serbia, and possesses some distinctive features, such as language, culture, national or ethnic affiliation or origin, and whose members are distinguished by their concerns to jointly maintain their common identity, including their culture, tradition, language or creed.

The stated definition is the principal legally binding definition of “national minority” in the Republic of Serbia. Considering that the legal documents, which were adopted prior to enacting this Law, contained diverse and non-harmonised concepts and taking into account the fact that the very national minorities often define themselves in different ways, the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities specifies furthermore, in Article 2, paragraph 2, that national minorities are all the groups of citizens named or defined as peoples, national or ethnic communities, national or ethnic groups, nationalities or ethnicities that meet the stipulations set under Article 2, paragraph 1 of this Law. This solution is in accordance with the new Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, which principally guarantees special protection to *national minorities* and does not use any other technical term for denoting the groups of citizens which differ from the majority of citizens in their culture, language, religion, origin, etc. The stated provisions of the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities provide for practically all interested communities i.e. their members, to define themselves as national minorities and accordingly be entitled to all the rights and freedoms as guaranteed under this Law. The stated legal definition also standardizes the terminology that was not standardized heretofore (communities protected under the Framework Convention were previously denoted in legal documents as peoples, national communities, national and ethnic groupes, ethnic minorities, minority communities, etc.). The term *national*

minorities, which goes by the spirit of the Framework Convention and Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities is invariably used in this Report.

3.1.1. Freedom of Expressing National Affiliation

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia in Article 47, paragraph 1, provides for the freedom of expression of national affiliation, whilst in Article 47, paragraph 2, it stipulates that no person is obliged to declare his/her national affiliation against their will. In addition, the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, under Article 79, provides for, among other rights to preservation of their specificities, the right of persons belonging to national minorities to express, preserve, foster, develop and publicly express their national, ethnic, cultural and religious specificities. In the spirit of the Framework Convention, the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, under Article 5, Paragraph 1, explicitly specifies that, in conformity with the freedom of national affiliation and expression of national belonging as proclaimed in the Constitution, no disadvantage shall arise to anyone whether they decide to express their national affiliation and choice or decide to abstain from doing so. Furthermore, any registration of persons belonging to national minorities that obliges them to express their affiliation against their will is prohibited under the provisions of Paragraph 2 of the same Article.

3.1.2. Procedures for Establishing the Existence of a National Minority, Disputes on National Self-identity and Affiliation with a National Minority

In the stated legal definition of national minority, due attention should be paid to subjective criterion of the definition - i.e. the section specifying that a national minority is a group of citizens *whose members are distinguished by their concerns to jointly maintain their common identity, including their culture, tradition, language or creed*. It should be construed as follows: a group of citizens, even though in possession of such specific features that differentiate it from the majority of citizens, shall not be considered a national minority unless its members are distinguished by their concerns to jointly maintain their common identity, including their culture, tradition, language or creed.

This interpretation also derives from the constitutional freedom of expression of national affiliation (Article 47 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia) and/or from the right of any person belonging to a national minority to their choice of being or not being addressed as such (Article 3 of the Framework Convention). The legislation attaches particular importance to self-identity of national minority, which is evident in the section of the legal definition that specifies that persons belonging to a national minority should *jointly maintain their common identity*. Accordingly, the subjective criterion for defining a national minority includes two subjective elements – first there is *common awareness of self identity* that might rest on their culture, tradition, language or religion (alternatively), and then there is *common concern for preserving and/or maintaining this identity*.

The concept of self-identity is further developed in paragraph 2 of the same Article by virtue of the provision specifying that all groups that *name or define themselves* as peoples, national or ethnic communities, national or ethnic groups, nationalities or

ethnicities, and which meet the stipulations set under paragraph 1 of the same Article, shall be considered as national minorities in accordance with the Law.

Common concerns for preserving and maintaining the identity on the part of the persons belonging to a national minority might be exercised in different ways and in different spheres of social life. In the field of culture, education, media and official use of language and script, the concerns of persons belonging to national minorities to jointly maintain their common identity are shown in the process of establishment of the national minorities' national councils. Pursuant to the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia and the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, national councils are official bodies that represent their national minorities as groups in the stated spheres of social life i.e. official bodies that act in the capacity of exponents of cultural autonomy in the stated spheres of social life. So far, in accordance with the provisions of the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, the members of Bosniac, Bulgarian, Bunjevci, Croatian, Greek, Egyptian, Hungarian, Macedonian, Romany, Romanian, Ruthenian, Slovakian, Ukrainian and Vlach minorities have established their national councils. The Presidents of the national councils of national minorities are the members of the Minority Council of the Republic of Serbia. Taking into account that the members of Jewish minority have traditionally been organised in a form of the Union of the Jewish Municipalities established on the same principles as the national councils, by virtue of amendments to the Decree on Establishment of the Minority Council of the Republic of Serbia, the President of the Union of the Jewish Municipalities has also been included into the membership of the Council as a member in full standing. In other fields of social life, common concern for maintaining the identity on the part of persons belonging to a national minority is exercised in a different way and is partly regulated by virtue of provisions of specific laws. Considering the foregoing, it is not mandatory for persons belonging to national minorities to establish their national councils, as they can otherwise employ their endeavours to maintain their identity in other fields of social life (e.g. by establishing political parties); however, the very fact that the members of a national minority have established their national council undoubtedly implies, under provisions of the Constitution and the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, that that group must be regarded as a national minority. Pursuant to the Law on the Election of Deputies, the political parties of *national minorities* as well as the coalitions of political parties of *national minorities* participate in the distribution of mandates even if they fail to reach 5% of the total number of votes cast. Therefore, the implementation of the Law on the Election of Deputies is preceded by the issue of an established existence of the national minority. Bearing in mind that, pursuant to the Law, the decision on whether or not the submitter of electoral list has got the status of political party/coalition of political parties of national minorities is reached by the Republic Electoral Commission, it is clear that the Republic Electoral Commission shall base its decision upon provisions of the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities. In this respect, a group of citizens who have settled in recently and have no firm connections with the Republic of Serbia is not considered a national minority, whilst the status of a political party of national minority or coalition of political parties of national minorities is inherently given to any such organisation which assembles persons belonging to one or more national minorities that have established their national councils.

Nevertheless, the status of a political party of national minority or coalition of political parties of national minorities can also be given to any such organisation which assembles persons belonging to national minorities that have not established their national councils and whose existence was identified in the 2002 Population Census of the Republic of Serbia, because *that form of organizing, through a political party, also shows their readiness to jointly maintain their identity, inasmuch as the political life includes all the fields of social life of concern to the identity of a national minority.* The same conclusion also refers to the associations of citizens, which assemble members of communities whose members have not established National Councils and whose existence was identified in the 2002 Population Census of the Republic of Serbia, because the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, in Article 80, paragraph 2, specifies that the Republic of Serbia shall acknowledge the special role of educational and cultural associations of national minorities in the realization of the rights of persons belonging to national minorities.

The question arises, regarding the definition of national minority as specified in the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, if this definition is in conformity with the international standards, although there is no binding definition of national minority in the International Law. Advisory Committee in Section 23 of its Opinion on the Implementation of the Framework Convention in Serbia and Montenegro gives positive remarks to the fact that *the definition covers a great number of groups that live in Serbia and Montenegro, including the groups with a rather limited membership*¹⁵.

Strangely enough, despite the results of the Census, the overall democratization of the country and the fact that the definition of national minorities is legally regulated, there are still intense attempts in the Republic of Serbia at denying the existence of certain national minorities and imposing different identities upon the members of some communities that were identified in the 2002 Census. Common trait in many such denials is making the point that the State stimulates ostensible partitioning of other communities and minorities through creation of new national minorities, which implicitly calls for imposing different identities upon the members of the registered national minorities by the State and public authorities at other levels of its organisation. The government bodies have not participated in such debates so far, maintaining the line that the authorities of the Republic of Serbia could and must not interfere into debates on national identity, must not arbitrate in disputes on national identity of some communities nor impose any national identity upon any national community. Indeed, bearing in mind that the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities permits only one national council per national minority, it is clear that among the minorities whose members have so far established their respective national councils there is no sameness and that the establishment of a national council of one national minority binds the government bodies to acknowledge the status of national minority to that group, and public authorities at other levels to observe this acknowledgement. *Accordingly, the authorities of the Republic of Serbia must not impose upon the members of national minorities a national identity that was not declared as theirs in the Census, as that would be in opposition to the freedom of expression of national belonging as guaranteed by the Constitution and*

¹⁵ ACFC/OP/I(2003)08 of 27th November 2003

the Framework Convention. It should be pointed out that precisely these attempted denials of certain national identities are based on the assumption that persons who expressed their affiliation with a community in the Census in fact have another national identity. This stands in sharp contrast not only to the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, but as well to the Framework Convention and other international documents that provide for the freedom of national affiliation and expression. Taking into account precisely Article 3 of the Framework Convention for Protection of Ethnic Minorities, the Advisory Committee in Section 26 of its Opinion on the Implementation of the Framework Convention in Serbia and Montenegro stated that *there were some disputes in Serbia and Montenegro regarding the interrelation between the Vlach and Romanian self-identity, between the Croatian and Bunjevci self-identity as well as between the Bosniac and Moslem self-identity, and underlined that this issue must be approached with full observance to the principles enshrined in Article 3 of the Framework Convention, and that there should be no attempts at imposing certain self-identity upon any person to whom this issue may be of concern. In this respect, the Advisory Committee welcomes the fact that the Census in the Republic of Serbia conducted in 2002 acknowledged the said self-identities on equal footing and without discrimination.*¹⁶

3.1.3. Collection of Statistical Data and Protection of Personal Data

The Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia is authorized for the official processing of statistical data in the Republic of Serbia. The freedom of expression of national affiliation is guaranteed by the Constitution; therefore, such an expression is optional and no obligation is imposed upon the citizens to declare themselves on the issue when statistical data are collected. Still, when the census is conducted, most of the persons belonging to national minorities do express their national affiliation. The stipulation that it is not binding on the citizens to declare themselves on their national affiliation, pursuant to the Law on Census of Citizens, Households and Flats (Article 8, paragraph 3) of 2001, must be clearly specified in the census questionnaires. The very form of the census questionnaires is governed by the methodological instructions for the preparation, organisation and implementation of the census, provided by the former Federal Bureau of Statistics. The census questionnaires contain blank spaces for filling in the data on national affiliation, native language and religion of the person interviewed. Under the methodological instructions, the census-taker is obliged to note down in the blank space for the data on national affiliation “the exact answer that the person questioned has provided i.e. has declared himself/herself” or otherwise, in the event that the person questioned has withheld such a declaration, to note down that the person questioned has not declared himself/herself on the point of his/her national affiliation. The answer to the question of national affiliation in case of children questioned (up to the age of 15) is provided by a parent, foster parent or a guardian of the minor. Likewise, on the point of native language “the census-taker is not allowed to exert any influence or pressure upon the person interviewed”.

Personal data are legally protected in the Republic of Serbia. The Law on Protection of Personal Data (Article 6, paragraph 2) envisages that the collection of personal data as well as any part of that collection or individual data might be used to the scientific, educational and similar purposes only in a form which would make any identification of the citizens impossible.

¹⁶ ACFC/OP/I(2003)08 dated 27th November 2003

Pursuant to Article 11 of the Law on Protection of Personal Data, the citizens are entitled to know which collection of personal data contains the data pertinent to themselves, which of their personal data are processed, who is in charge of their personal data processing, to what purposes they are processed and on what grounds, who the beneficiaries of their personal data are and on what grounds. In this respect, particularly important is the provision of Article 18 of the Law on Protection of Personal Data which specifies that any data on the racial origin, national affiliation and religious and other convictions might be taken, processed and submitted to utilization only with the citizen's written consent.

Paragraph 2

3.2. Ways of Exercising the Rights and Enjoying the Freedoms

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, under Article 75, paragraph 1, envisages that persons belonging to national minorities shall have, among other rights that are guaranteed under the Constitution to all citizens, *additional, individual or collective rights*.

Individual and collective rights of national minorities are acknowledged and stipulated in the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities. In Article 1, paragraph 1 of this Law it is clearly stated that the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities "stipulates the ways in which the *individual and collective* rights that are guaranteed to all persons belonging to national minorities under the Constitution or international treaties can be exercised. Collective rights are specified in Article 1, paragraph 2 of the Law, under which *national minorities* are protected against any form of discrimination in the realisation of their rights and freedoms and by virtue of therein established instruments the specific rights of *national minorities* to self-government in the fields of education, use of native language, media and culture are enabled and protected as well as the establishment of certain institutions that should facilitate the minorities' participation in the administration and governance.

3.2.1. Individual Rights

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, under Article 75, paragraph 1, envisages that the individual additional minority rights are realised individually in conformity with the Constitution, Law and international treaties. Individual rights additionally guaranteed under the Constitution, among other civil rights guaranteed to persons belonging to national minorities, include the right to prohibition of assimilation, the right of expression of national specificity, the use of language and script, the use of their personal names and surnames, etc.

3.2.2. Collective Rights

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, under Article 75, paragraph 1, envisages that persons belonging to national minorities realise their collective rights in community with others, in conformity with the Constitution, Law and international treaties. Pursuant to

Article 75, paragraph 2 of the Constitution, persons belonging to national minorities, by virtue of their collective rights, directly or through their representatives, take part in decision-making or independently decide on certain issues regarding their culture, education, media and the official use of their language and script, in conformity with the Law. Collective rights are guaranteed in the Constitution as rights to self-government in the fields of culture, education, media and the official use of language and script. In order to realize the self-government, national minorities, in accordance with the provisions of Article 75, paragraph 3 of the Constitution, may establish their national councils. The constitutional rights that are realised within community and depend on the number of people in the community may also include the constitutional solutions that envisage the possibility of equal use of minority language in official communication, particularly in administrative and court procedure by and in the government bodies, public authorities, the bodies of autonomous provinces and local government units, in the territories in which minorities constitute a significant part of the population. Pursuant to the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, in the territories in which minorities constitute a significant part of the population, the traditional local names, names of the streets, settlements and toponyms shall also be displayed in the language of the respective national minority.

Article 4

- 1. The Parties undertake to guarantee to persons belonging to national minorities the right of equality before the law and of equal protection of the law. In this respect, any discrimination based on belonging to a national minority shall be prohibited.**
- 2. The Parties undertake to adopt, where necessary, adequate measures in order to promote, in all areas of economic, social, political and cultural life, full and effective equality between persons belonging to a national minority and those belonging to the majority. In this respect, they shall take due account of the specific conditions of the persons belonging to national minorities.**
- 3. The measures adopted in accordance with paragraph 2 shall not be considered to be an act of discrimination.**

Paragraph 1

4.1. Equality, Legal Protection and Prohibition of Discrimination

4.1.1. Equality

Legal system of the Republic of Serbia, in the Preamble of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, provides for the equality of all citizens and ethnic communities in Serbia. Moreover, under provisions of Article 14 of the Constitution it is stipulated that the Republic of Serbia protects the rights of national minorities and guarantees special protection to national minorities in order to realize full equality and preserve the identity of national minorities. Equality before the Law and Constitution is regulated in Article 21, paragraph 1 that stipulates that all are equal before the Law and Constitution. In addition to this general provision, the Constitution in Article 76, paragraph 1 explicitly guarantees equality before the Law and equal legal protection to persons belonging to national minorities.

4.1.2. Equal Legal Protection

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, under Article 21, paragraph 2, envisages equal legal protection for everybody, without discrimination. The right to court protection is specified in Article 22, paragraph 1 of the Constitution, and stipulates that any citizen whose human or minority right guaranteed by the Constitution has been violated or denied is entitled to court protection and has the right to elimination of consequences brought about by such violation. In addition to this right to court protection, the Constitution, in paragraph 2 of the same Article, provides for the right of the citizens to address international institutions in order to protect their freedoms and rights guaranteed by the Constitution. The right to equal court protection is additionally determined for persons belonging to national minorities to whom equality before the Law and equal legal

protection are guaranteed under Article 76, paragraph 1. The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia envisages more efficient constitutional-court protection vis-à-vis the 1990 Constitution, due to the institution of constitutional appeal. Under Article 170, the constitutional appeal may be filed against individual acts or actions performed by the government bodies or organisations having public authority, which violate or deny the human or minority rights or freedoms as guaranteed in the Constitution, in the event that all other legal expedients for their protection have been used or do not exist. Implementation of this institution before the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Serbia is to be regulated by the Law on the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Serbia which, at the moment of producing this Report, undergoes the National Assembly procedure.

Since the submission of the First Report on Implementation of the Framework Convention the Ombudsman has been established in Serbia. Pursuant to Article 1 of the Ombudsman Law, the Ombudsman is an independent government body that protects the rights of the citizens and supervises the work of administration authorities, of the authorized body for legal protection of property rights and interests of the Republic of Serbia, and other bodies and organisations, enterprises and institutions having public authority. Special importance is attached in the Ombudsman Law to the protection of the rights of persons belonging to national minorities by virtue of Article 6, paragraphs 1 and 2 envisaging four deputies to the Ombudsman who shall provide assistance in tasks defined under this Law, within the terms of reference delegated to them by the Ombudsman. In his delegation of powers, the Ombudsman shall particularly ensure the expertise required for performing the tasks which are within his scope of reference, specifically on the subject of the protection of the rights of persons belonging to national minorities.

4.1.3. Prohibition of Discrimination on grounds of Affiliation with National Minority

4.1.3.1. General Measures

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, under Article 21, paragraph 3, prohibits any form of discrimination, direct or indirect, on any grounds, *inter alia*, in particular on the grounds of race, national affiliation, religion, conviction, culture, language, etc. The prohibition of discrimination is additionally determined for persons belonging to national minorities under provision of Article 76, paragraph 2 of the Constitution, which prohibits any form of discrimination on the grounds of belonging to national minority. Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, under Article 3, paragraph 1, explicitly specifies that any form of discrimination on the grounds of ethnic or national affiliation, race and language, against persons belonging to national minorities is prohibited. The provision of paragraph 2 of the same Article specifies that bodies of the federation, republic, autonomous province, town or municipality are not entitled to enact any pieces of legislation or undertake any legal acts which would stand in contradiction to paragraph 1 of the same Article.

4.1.3.2. Penalizing for Discrimination

In the legal system of the Republic of Serbia, discrimination is, under Criminal Code, subject to penalizing. Article 128 thereof envisages a sentence between a three-month and a five-year term of imprisonment for persons who, *inter alia*, for the reason of ethnic or national belonging, race or religion, or for the reason of the absence of such belonging or different conviction, language, education, social standing, etc., deny or limit, to other person(s), human or civil rights that are stipulated by the Constitution, laws and other regulations, or general legislation, or ratified international treaties, or, on the other hand, provide other person(s) with benefits or privileges on grounds of the said differences.

4.1.3.3. Prohibition of Discrimination in the Field of Education

Law on Basic Principles of the Educational System (Article 46) prohibits all activities that threaten and/or disrespect groups or individuals on the grounds of racial, ethnic, linguistic or religious affiliation, as well as any kind of promotion of such activities. The Law envisages a fine for persons who threaten or disparage groups or individuals on grounds of their racial, ethnic, linguistic, religious or gender affiliation.

4.1.3.4. Prohibition of Discrimination in the Field of Labour Relations

Discrimination in the field of labour relations is prohibited. Pursuant to Article 18 of the Labour Law, discrimination is prohibited, and neither job seekers nor the employee(s) shall be put at a disadvantage on grounds of their birth, language, religion, race, national affiliation, etc.

4.1.3.5. Prohibition of Discrimination in the Field of Information

Discrimination in the field of media is prohibited. Pursuant to Article 3, item 6 of the Broadcasting Law, the relations in the field of broadcasting are based, *inter alia*, on the principles of objectivity, prohibition of discrimination and transparency of the process of issuing licenses for broadcasting. The prohibition of discrimination is more thoroughly regulated further on in the Law by virtue of a series of other provisions. Pursuant to Article 38, paragraph 2 of the Broadcasting Law, the issuance of licenses for radio and TV broadcasting must be realized on equal footing. Article 77, paragraph 3 of the Law stipulates that the fulfilment of general interest in the field of broadcasting service is realized by ensuring the diversity and inter-synchronization of contents that promote the democratic values of modern society and specifically, respect for human rights and cultural, national, ethnic and political pluralism, to programmes that are produced and broadcast within the framework of public broadcasting service. With the aim of fulfilment of general interest in the field of public broadcasting service, Article 78 of the Broadcasting Law specifies that the exponents of broadcasting service are, *inter alia*, obliged to produce and broadcast programmes intended for all segments of society, without discrimination, taking particular account of specific social groups such as children and young people, minority and ethnic groups, disabled people, socially and medically disadvantaged, etc.

Pursuant to Article 2, paragraph 3 of the Public Information Law, no one shall be allowed to, directly or indirectly, limit the freedom of public media, in particular by virtue of abusing the official or private authorisations, or by virtue of abusing the rights, influence or control over the means of printing and distribution of the press, or over the broadcasting equipment or radio frequency, or in any other way that could serve the purpose of restricting the flow of ideas, information or opinions. In Article 16, the Law prohibits discrimination in distribution of the press, specifying that the person whose line of business is distribution of the press must not refuse to distribute anyone's press without justifiable commercial reasons, and must not attach such conditions that would stand in opposition to the market principles. Pursuant to Article 38 of the Public Information Law, any promotion of discrimination in ideas, information and opinions is prohibited.

4.1.3.6. Prohibition of Discrimination in the Field of Health Care

One of the basic principles of the Law on Health Care, laid down in Article 20 of the Law, is the principle of impartiality in health care which is regulated through the prohibition of discrimination, *inter alia*, on the grounds of race, national affiliation, religion, culture or language, when providing the health care.

Paragraph 2

4.2. Measures Promoting Full and Effective Equality

4.2.1. General Constitutional-legal and Legislative Bases for Undertaking Measures and Promoting Full and Effective Equality

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, under Article 21, paragraph 4, stipulates that such measures that might be imposed by the Republic of Serbia in order to accomplish full equality of persons or group of persons who in essence are in an unequal position as against to other citizens, shall not be considered to be discriminatory. A similar solution, regarding the persons belonging to national minorities, is provided for in the provision of Article 76, paragraph 3. Namely, the Constitution stipulates, under that provision, that such regulations and temporary measures that might be imposed by the Republic of Serbia in the economic, social, cultural and political life, in order to accomplish full equality between the persons belonging to national minority and citizens belonging to the majority, shall not be considered to be discriminatory provided that they are imposed with the aim of elimination of extremely unfavourable living conditions that particularly affect persons belonging to the national minority.

The measures aimed at ensuring equality are also provided for in the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities. Pursuant to Article 4 thereof, the authorities are entitled, in conformity with the Constitution and the Law, to enact regulations, individual pieces of legislation and to take measures aimed at ensuring full and effective equality between the persons belonging to national minority and the citizens belonging to a majority nation. In accordance with the paragraph 2 of the same Article, the authorities must enact legislation acts and undertake measures in order to improve the

position of persons belonging to the Roma minority. The regulations, individual pieces of legislation and measures taken to that end, in accordance with paragraph 3 of the same Article, shall not be considered to be an act of discrimination.

4.2.2. Measures aimed at Promoting Full and Effective Equality in the Field of Economic and Social Life and Employment

4.2.2.1. General Measures

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, under Article 77, paragraph 2, stipulates that the ethnic structure of population and appropriate representation of members of national minorities is taken into consideration when taking up employment in state bodies, public services, bodies of autonomous province and local self-government units.

The Law on Employment and Insurance in the Case of Unemployment, under Article 31, stipulates that the Government i.e. the authorized body of the territorial autonomy and local self-government, is entitled to launch a programme of active employment policy that regulates the priorities, means and competence for its realization and in particular for ensuring the employment for refugees and displaced persons, persons belonging to national minorities with a high unemployment rate, etc. Article 34 of the same Law, stipulates that the employer who recruits first-time job seekers, or long-term unemployed persons, or persons older than 50, or refugee or displaced persons, persons belonging to national minorities featured by high unemployment rate, disabled persons or persons with impaired working abilities, etc., is entitled to a subsidy, ensured by the National Employment Service of the Republic of Serbia, for the contributions intended for retirement and disability pension insurance, medical insurance and unemployment insurance.

With regard to the measures of affirmative action it should be underlined that certain measures are provided for in the by-laws enacted at different levels of the organisation of public administration. The Government of the Republic of Serbia has adopted the Resolution on the Measures Aimed at Increasing the Participation of Persons belonging to National Minorities in the Public Administration Bodies. Pursuant to Point 9 of this Resolution, the administrative bodies for which it is planned that more than 1/3 of the total number of the systematized employees should work in regional units formed for the territory in which, in accordance with the decisions of the authorities of local self-government units, the language of one or more national minorities is in equal official use, shall take measures to envisage in the Rules on Internal Organisation and Job Systematization a relevant number of jobs that stipulate the knowledge of at least one minority language and script of those minority languages and scripts that are officially used in the territory for which the local self-government unit from that territory is formed. Pursuant to item 10 of this Resolution, when the selection procedure for filling the publicly announced vacant positions, in regional units referred to in item 9 of the Resolution, entails testing of the candidates' knowledge and skills, in writing, the candidates shall be presented with tests and other likewise material in the corresponding minority language. The most consequential aspect of the affirmative measures provided

for in this Resolution is contained in Point 11, which specifies that at shortlisting and selecting the successful candidate, upon the publicly announced vacancy, the Personnel Committee and/or the head of the administrative body are obliged, within the implementation of professionalism principle that implies the candidate's possession of adequate professional qualifications, knowledge and skills, to give particular consideration to the issue of actual presence of persons belonging to national minorities in the total composition of personnel in that body, as the basic selection criterion when choosing between the equally eligible candidates.

The Office of Human and Minority Rights and the Office of Human Resources Management, within the Government of the Republic of Serbia, have undertaken concrete measures aimed at effective implementation of the stated Resolution solutions. In this respect, it has been agreed that all public announcements for vacant positions shall be submitted to national councils for translation, whereupon they are publicly announced in minority languages in the media as selected by the national councils of national minorities, at the budget expense.

At the establishment of the Coordinating Body for Bujanovac, Preševo and Medveđa, significant consideration was given to the ethnic composition of the Body and actual presence of persons belonging to national minorities. Accordingly, the core structure of the Coordinating Body is composed, *inter alia*, of the Presidents of the municipalities of Bujanovac, Preševo and Medveđa, whilst Deputy Presidents of Bujanovac, Preševo and Medveđa are included in its expanded composition. By virtue of a project realized between the Ministry of the Interior and OSCE, persons belonging to national minorities are enabled to find employment with the Police, which best puts into effect the concept of multiethnic participation in public services. The Ministry of the Interior has also taken serious steps on realization of the "Police in Local Community" Project. It should also be noted that public announcements for vacant positions in the Police Force have also been announced in the media in minority languages.

By-laws containing the measures of affirmative action have also been adopted by the local bodies. Some of the local self-government units (e.g. Stara Pazova) have adopted the statutes that contain provisions which stipulate that municipality administration and public enterprises founded by the municipality must take into account their national composition i.e. must specify, in their Acts on Systematization, a minimum number of employees that are members of national minorities.

4.2.2.2. Measures aimed at Promoting Full and Effective Equality for the Roma in the Field of Economic and Social Life and Employment

In accordance with the Strategy for the Integration and Empowerment of Roma, the Reducing Poverty Strategy, and other relevant national and international documents, a set of action plans (AP) has been elaborated in the Republic of Serbia, first in the fields of education, employment, housing and health care, as a stipulation for joining the "Decade of Roma Integration 2005-2015", and then in other fields such as social security, media and information, culture and anti-discrimination, as well as action plans for personal identification documents and action plans related to the specific position of women,

returnees from EU countries (on the basis of the Agreement on Readmission) and IDP's from Kosovo and Metohija. In 2006, the Roma National Strategy Secretariat, within the Office of Human and Minority Rights of the Republic of Serbia, initiated the establishment of task forces for AP within the relevant Ministries. These task forces were assigned to set the priorities, assess budgets and schedule programs as well as to monitor the realization of activities. The task forces are headed by Deputy Ministers, and their members are the representatives of the Roma National Strategy Secretariat, the representatives of international organisations, the Roma NGOs, research assistants from relevant Ministries and other experts. The Secretariat proactively takes part in the process of initiation, definition and coordination of all the stated activities of the relevant Ministries. In 2006, the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Policy was provided with RSD 120 million from the Budget of the Republic of Serbia for the implementation of the Action Plan for employment of Roma. The funds are being used through the implementation of affirmative action measure at the realization of priority measures from the general employment policy. The National Employment Service conducted an open competition for awarding the subsidies for self-employment of unemployed persons, which resulted in 90 contracts concluded with persons belonging to the Roma national minority. In addition to this, a training programme for active job seeking for unskilled labour force has been launched. One of the priorities of the Public Procurement of Public Works was the development of the Roma settlements, which at the same time presented itself as a good opportunity for correlating the implementation of action plans for housing and employment. Unfortunately, only a few Projects satisfied the set criteria. For that reason, the Roma National Strategy Secretariat, within the Office of Human and Minority Rights of the Republic of Serbia, in cooperation with the relevant employment institutions, held a fact-finding meeting on the 2007 Public Procurement, and organised a training programme on how to prepare a project proposal, targeted at the Roma NGOs and the coordinators from the local self-governments. The evaluation procedure regarding the 2007 Open Competition is currently in progress.

The Ministry of Capital Investment shall specify the upgrading of housing for the Roma within the framework of the National Housing Policy, which is at the moment in preparation as a specific segment of informal and social housing. In 2006, the Ministry of Capital Investment had no budget funds at its disposal for the realization of the action plan in the field of housing, but the Ministry produced the Guidelines for Upgrading and Legalization of the Roma Settlement. At the moment, the implementation of Goal 3 (regulating the property-rights status of the housing developments in the Roma settlements) of the action plan in the field of housing for the Roma is in progress, on the basis of funds from the budget for 2007. In this respect, it is envisaged that the zoning and design documentation for about 20 Roma settlements shall be produced.

In 2006, the Office of Human and Minority Rights of the Republic of Serbia, in cooperation with the OSCE Mission and with support of the European Agency for Reconstruction, implemented the "Integration of the Roma in the Local Self-government" Project in 19 municipalities in Serbia. The basic components of the Project are to engage the Roma coordinator within the the local self-government, to produce the local action plans and provide the budget and other funds for their implementation. This initiative is

continued in 2007, in cooperation with United Nations Development Programme, in 10 other municipalities.

At the establishment of the Coordinating Body for Bujanovac, Preševo and Medveđa, significant consideration was given to the ethnic composition of the Body and actual presence of persons belonging to the Roma national minority. Accordingly, the representative of the Roma national minority, nominated by the National Council of the Roma National Minority, is member of the expanded composition of the Coordinating Body for Bujanovac, Preševo and Medveđa.

4.2.3. Measures aimed at Promoting Full and Effective Equality in the Field of Educational and Cultural Life

4.2.3.1. General Measures

Most of the measures aimed at promoting the full and effective equality are pertinent to the field of educational and cultural life. The Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities stipulates that a minimum number of pupils/students may be prescribed, where the number may be less than the minimum number as prescribed by the law, in order to exercise the right of pupils/students belonging to national minorities to education in their respective minority languages. The Laws on Primary Schools and Secondary Schools of the Republic of Serbia envisages that primary and secondary schools must realize the tuition of educational curriculum for persons belonging to national minorities if the number of pupils/students enrolled is minimum 15, which is less than the number prescribed for the tuition of educational curriculum in Serbian language (up to 30 pupils/students). The tuition of educational curriculum in minority language may also be realized for a smaller number of pupils/students provided that the Minister of Education gives his consent. The stated example is not the only example of legally defined basis for undertaking measures aimed at improving the equality in the field of education and culture. Pursuant to Article 14, paragraph 4 of the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, the State will improve the international cooperation, aiming at enabling the persons belonging to national minority to study abroad in their mother tongue and the recognition of such diplomas in accordance with the law. Pursuant to Article 5, paragraph 3 of this Law, the State shall ensure the deduction or exemption from taxes for any financial or other donation granted by a national or international organisation for the needs of education in minority languages. Under Article 17, paragraph 2 of the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, it is specified that the State shall provide cultural contents in the languages of national minorities in the programmes of the public radio and TV service.

4.2.3.2. Measures aimed at Promoting Full and Effective Equality for the Roma in the Field of Educational and Cultural Life

Action plan for the improvement of education of the Roma, among other measures, envisages the preparation of regulations that will regulate the criteria and procedures of the affirmative action measures. On the basis of this action plan, the Strategy for the

Integration and Empowerment of Roma, the Reducing Poverty Strategy that also envisages the affirmative action measures for the Roma, and Article 4 of the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Serbia in academic year of 2005/2006 adopted the criteria for enrolment of students belonging to the Roma national minority in secondary schools. In accordance with the adopted criteria, the students of Roma ethnicity shall be assigned to a certain educational profile if the total sum of the points earned on all bases is not lower by 30 points than the average value of the points that are required for that profile at the targeted school. Under the criteria, only one Roma student who enrolled for the sake of implementation of affirmative action at the school can be admitted per educational profile per school. In the event that there are more Roma students applying for the same educational profile within a single school, the student with the highest total score takes precedence over the others. The stated affirmative action measures were applied by the Ministry on such occasions on which Roma students passed the qualifying entrance exam but failed to enroll at the secondary school. A similar approach, based on the fulfillment of minimum conditions, was/is applied on the enrolment of Roma applicants at the targeted faculties and colleges: the Roma applicants are admitted to the targeted faculties and colleges founded by the Republic of Serbia, as students whose studies are financed from the Budget of the Republic of Serbia, if they score the required (at least) minimum number of points in the qualifying exam i.e. if they pass the entrance exam.

In academic year of 2006/2007, the Ministry of Education in cooperation with the Office of Human and Minority Rights of the Republic of Serbia and the National Council of the Roma National Minority realized the affirmative action measures of the enrolment of students at secondary schools, colleges and faculties. On the basis of these measures, 138 students financed from the Budget of the Republic of Serbia were enrolled at secondary schools and 104 such students were enrolled at colleges and faculties in 2006/2007.

The Ministry of Education in cooperation with the National Council of the Roma National Minority has launched the “Better Access to Pre-school Education for the Roma Children” Project. In total 25 educational institutions take part in implementation of this Project, as well as 30 Roma coordinators that have been engaged so that better coordination could be established between the Roma parents and institutions. The Ministry and the Institute for Pedagogy and Andragogy have launched the “Functional Primary Education” Project, in which there are 11 local Roma coordinators included. Both Projects are financially supported by the Roma Educational Fund.

In cooperation with OSCE Mission and with the support of the European Agency for Reconstruction, the Ministry of Education is implementing a project for introducing teaching assistants that would provide support to the education of the Roma in pre-school institutions and primary schools.

All the stated measures and projects have continued to be implemented in the academic year of 2007/2008, as well. As a result of the realization of the affirmative action measure for enrolment, 188 students enrolled at secondary schools in academic year of 2007/2008 and 98 students at colleges and faculties established by the Republic of Serbia.

4.2.4. Measures aimed at Promoting Full and Effective Equality in the Field of Political Life

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, under Article 100, paragraph 2, stipulates that the equality and representation of different genders and members of national minorities is provided in the National Assembly, in accordance with the law. Furthermore, the representation of persons belonging to national minorities in the representative bodies is also envisaged at the provincial level, namely, pursuant to Article 180, paragraph 4 of the Constitution, a proportional representation of national minorities in the representative bodies must be provided in the autonomous provinces and local self-government units with the population of mixed nationalities, in accordance with the law.

The Law on Election of Deputies provides for the affirmative action measure in Article 81, paragraph 2. The Law stipulates that the prescribed legal threshold of 5% of the total number of votes cast is not valid in distribution of deputies' mandates for the political parties and coalitions of political parties of national minorities, i.e. the political parties and coalitions of political parties of national minorities participate in distribution of mandates regardless of whether or not they succeed in reaching the stated threshold of 5% of the total number of votes cast. Under provision of paragraph 3 of the same Article, the Law specifies that all parties of national minorities whose basic aim is to represent and stand for the interests of an ethnic minority and the protection and improvement of the rights of persons belonging to national minorities in accordance with the international standards are considered political parties of national minorities. Under provision of paragraph 4 of the same Article the Law specifies that the decision on whether or not the submitter of electoral list has got the status of political party/coalition of political parties of national minorities is reached by the Republic Electoral Commission at the proclamation of the electoral list, at the request of the submitter of electoral list.

The Decision on Election of Deputies in the Assembly of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, in Article 74, paragraph 4, stipulates that the political parties of national minorities and the coalitions of political parties of national minorities participate in the distribution of mandates in the elections in the part where the elections are conducted on proportional basis even if they win less than 5% of the total number of votes cast. Under paragraph 5 of the same Article, the Decision specifies that all parties of national minorities whose basic aim is to represent and stand for the interest of a national minority and the protection and promotion of the rights of persons belonging to national minority in accordance with the national and international standards are considered to be political parties of national minorities. Under provision of paragraph 6 of the same Article, the Decision specifies that the decision on whether or not the submitter of electoral list has got the status of political party/coalition of political parties of national minorities is reached by the Provincial Electoral Commission at the proclamation of the electoral list, at the request of the submitter of the electoral list.

Paragraph 3

4.3.1. Non-discriminatory Character of the Measures aimed at Promoting Full and Effective Equality

The Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, in Article 4, paragraph 3, explicitly specifies that regulations, individual pieces of legislation and measures adopted and undertaken with the aim of ensuring full and effective equality between persons belonging to national minorities and persons belonging to the majority nation, cannot be considered an act of discrimination.

4.3.2. Disputes regarding the Measures aimed at Promoting Full and Effective Equality

In practice, there have been cases of court proceedings instituted before the Constitutional Court of Serbia with regard to the issue of implementation of the stated measures. In a case brought before the Constitutional Court in 2003, the constitutionality of Article 13 of the Statute of the Municipality of Stara Pazova was contested by virtue of initiative. The stated Article stipulates that it is binding on the municipality administration, public institutions and public enterprises founded by the Municipality of Stara Pazova to, at recruiting procedure, give consideration to national composition and adequate representation of persons belonging to national minorities and to the knowledge of the languages used in the territory of that municipality, as well as that it is binding on these institutions to determine in their Rules on Job Systematization a relevant number of employees of minority national affiliation, which must not be lower than the established proportion of the members of certain national minority vs. the number of total population and the same proportion vs. the total number of employed persons, with the obligation of priority employment of persons belonging to national minorities until the stated proportion is reached, provided that the candidate for the job meets the set stipulations. The Initiator of the ruling on constitutionality of Article 13 considered that the stated affirmative action measures, which in effect reduce to preferential treatment at employment until the participation quota of national minority candidates becomes equal to the exact proportion of participation of that national minority in the total population, were not in conformity to Article 35 of the then valid Constitution of the Republic of Serbia that, *inter alia*, stipulated, in paragraph 2, that “Everyone shall have equal access to jobs and functions”. Identical provision is envisaged in the new Constitution of 2006, namely, in Article 60, paragraph 3, it is specified that all jobs are available to everyone under the same conditions. The Initiator furthermore held the view that the affirmative action measures specified in the Statute of the Municipality of Stara Pazova did not reflect the protection of national minorities as prescribed in Article 21 of the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities. Namely, Article 21 stipulates that, at the recruiting procedure for employment in public services, including in the Police Force, it is mandatory to give particular consideration to the national composition of the population, adequate representation of national minorities and knowledge of the language used in the given territory. The Constitutional Court in its decision on that initiative held the view that the stated provision in Article 13 of the Statute of the

Municipality was in conformity with the provision in Article 21 of the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities. In the Court's view, "The Initiator's statement, to the effect that the regulation of the issue of employment of persons belonging to national minorities through Article 13 of the contested Statute resulted in such normative precision that fails to reflect the protection of persons belonging to national minorities as prescribed under Article 21 of the Law because the stipulation of a minimum number of employees belonging to national minorities vs. the total number of citizens of the municipality, and the same proportion vs. the total number of employed citizens, is an issue dependent on the policy of the municipality, and liable to choice and assessment of functionality that may be found by the very body which enacted the Statute i.e. Municipality Assembly – does not apply." The Court, furthermore, held the view that "...neither is grounded the Initiator's statement that the contested Statute provision does not correspond to the provision of Article 35, paragraph 2 of the Constitution, because the contested provision of the Statute only elaborates the provision of Article 21 of the Law, and it refers only to the citizens who fulfil the statutory requirements and regulations for a certain job. The stated approach of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Serbia in effect means that the Court has permitted the preferential treatment at employment, as an elaboration of the legal provision that stipulates that particular consideration should be given, at the recruiting procedure for employment in public services, including in the Police Force, to the national composition of the population, adequate representation of national minorities and knowledge of the language used in the territory in which the given body or unit is located.

Article 5

- 1. The Parties undertake to promote the conditions necessary for persons belonging to national minorities to maintain and develop their culture, and to preserve the essential elements of their identity, namely their religion, language, traditions and cultural heritage.**
- 2. Without prejudice to measures taken in pursuance of their general integration policy, the Parties shall refrain from policies or practices aimed at assimilation of persons belonging to national minorities against their will and shall protect these persons from any action aimed at such assimilation.**

Paragraph 1

5.1. Conditions for Maintaining and Developing the Culture and Preserving the Essential Elements of Identity

5.1.1. Legal Bases for Creating Conditions for Maintaining and Developing the Culture of National Minorities

Legal bases for creating conditions necessary for persons belonging to national minorities to maintain and develop their culture and preserve the essential elements of their identity in the Republic of Serbia, are provided for in the Constitution and provisions of certain laws.

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, in Article 48, envisages that the State through measures applied in culture promotes understanding, recognition and respect of diversity arising from specific ethnic, cultural, linguistic or religious identity of its citizens, whilst in Article 75, it stipulates that persons belonging to national minorities are guaranteed special individual or collective rights in addition to the rights guaranteed to all citizens by the Constitution. Individual rights are exercised individually and collective rights in community with others, in accordance with the Constitution, law and international treaties. Paragraph 2 of the same Article specifies that, through their collective rights, persons belonging to national minorities take part in decision-making or decide independently on certain issues related to, *inter alia*, their culture, whilst paragraph 3 specifies that in order to exercise the right to self-governance in the field of culture, they may elect their national councils. In Article 79, the Constitution provides for the right of persons belonging to national minorities to expression, preservation, fostering, developing and public expression of their national, ethnic, cultural, religious specificity.

Conditions that are necessary for persons belonging to national minorities to maintain and develop their culture and preserve the essential elements of their identity are more specifically regulated by a set of relevant regulations. The most significant is, undoubtedly, the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities that, under provision of Article 12, paragraph 1, explicitly stipulates that the expression,

preservation, cultivation, promotion, inheritance and public demonstration of the national, ethnic, cultural, religious and linguistic specificity as the part of the tradition of citizens, national minorities and their members, is their inalienable individual and collective right. In paragraph 2 of the same Article, it is specified that, for the purpose of protection and promotion of their national specificity, persons belonging to national minorities have the right to establish specific cultural, artistic and scientific institutions, societies and associations in all areas of cultural and artistic life. Under provision of paragraph 2 of the same Article, these institutions, societies and associations are independent in their activities whilst the Republic of Serbia participates in financial support of those societies and associations according to its financial capabilities. In Article 12, paragraph 4 of the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities it is envisaged that separate foundations can be established for the purpose of promoting and supporting these institutions, societies and associations. The Law, in Article 12, paragraph 5, explicitly specifies that museums, archives and institutions for the preservation of cultural monuments will secure the presentation and protection of the cultural and historical heritage of national minorities in their territory, whilst the representatives of National Councils will participate in decision-making regarding the way of presenting the cultural and historical heritage of their community. In addition to the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, there are a number of other Laws regulating the protection and development of the culture of national minorities and the preservation of their tradition and cultural heritage. The Law on Activities of the Public Interest in the Field of Culture specifies that the programmes in the field of national minority culture and pursuit of national minority cultural heritage are general interests in the field of culture (Article 20, item 2). By way of illustration it should be mentioned that, under provision of Article 10, item 2 of the Law on Librarianship of the Republic of Serbia, it is specified that general interest in this field is the preparation of current retrospective and other bibliography of Serbian people and national minorities that live in the Republic of Serbia.

The Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia is responsible, among other things, for the exercise of the right to linguistic and cultural specificity of national minorities in the territory of the Republic of Serbia, in accordance with the Law on Activities of the Public Interest in the Field of Culture, and in support of these activities provides funds from the Budget. The funds have been allocated by the Ministry since 2003, on the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development of culture and arts of national minorities. The Ministry co-finances the projects, and the national councils of national minorities proactively take part, by establishing their priority lists, in the decision-making on subsidizing, in any of the competition procedures.

In the Republic of Serbia, in addition the bodies named above, there are other institutions in charge of the interests of minority population in the field of arts and culture, such as the minorities' national societies¹⁷, communities¹⁸ and associations¹⁹ that create

¹⁷ National societies are public organisations whose primary tasks are the expression, fostering and preservation of national identity and collective interests of persons belonging to corresponding national minority.

programmes and conduct activities aimed at preservation and promotion of their language, literature, art and folklore. Protection of cultural heritage and promotion of cultural identity of minority communities are most prominent in Vojvodina, where the rich tradition of cultural creative endeavours of minorities is either institutionalized or is realized through the work of amateur societies.

Upon the enactment of the Law on the Establishment of Specific Competences of AP Vojvodina (in 2002), a part of competences in the field of culture, pertinent to the programmes of national minorities that live in that territory, has been delegated to the provincial administrative structures. Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture, by virtue of regular competitions, promotes all areas of cultural and artistic pursuits of national minorities in the Province of Vojvodina and co-finances the programmes, projects, festivals and field days of professional and amateur institutions, non-governmental organisations, unions, informal groups and freelance artists, which are of the significance for the preservation of national identity, development of folk cultural and artistic endeavours as well as professional, contemporary artistic pursuits in the areas of literature, theatrical, musical, musical-dramatic and the fine arts of national minorities in the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina. Since 2003, the national councils of national minorities established in the territory of Vojvodina have been proposing, in accordance with their own cultural policies, the projects and programmes to be co-financed by the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture, according to its budget capabilities, over the following year.

Provincial Secretariat for Regulations, Administration and National Minorities of AP Vojvodina provides financial support to the organisations and other associations of persons belonging to national minority and to their projects. Through competitions organised twice a year, the Secretariat, among other things, co-finances the expenses of such organisations and associations' regular operation and their procurement of equipment, as programmes and projects that are aimed at creating conditions for the development of culture, science and arts, fostering and promoting folk art, presenting cultural artifacts of exceptional significance, preserving and maintaining language, customs and old crafts, protecting and presenting folk heritage and developing and promoting amateur creative endeavors.

Persons belonging to national minorities in the Republic of Serbia enjoy the freedom of any kind of cultural and artistic expression. They cooperate with the State in view of cultural activities aimed at improving the conditions that are required for preservation and development of their culture and identity.

¹⁸ Communities are social and cultural organisations which all citizens may join irrespective of their national, religious or social affiliation, but whose primary tasks are the fostering and preservation of national identity of certain national minority in the territory of the Republic of Serbia.

¹⁹ Associations for language, literature and culture of persons belonging to national minorities in the Republic of Serbia are non-partisan, non-political social organisations which, on the basis of full freedom and civil rights, enable the fostering and affirmation of national values in the fields of language, culture, arts, media and education.

The below comments on the implementation of this Article of the Framework Convention refer to endeavors exerted by the State, Provincial and local self-government bodies, aimed at creating conditions for preserving and developing the culture of persons belonging to national minorities.

Preservation of religion, as an essential element of the identity of persons belonging to national minorities, is elaborated in the comment on implementation of Article 8 of the Framework Convention.

5.1.2. Preservation of Essential Elements of Identity

5.1.2.1. Preservation and Promotion of Language

The preservation and promotion of the language, as an element of the identity of persons belonging to national minorities, is partly explained in the section of this Report which refers to implementation of Article 9 and Article 10 of the Framework Convention.

5.1.2.1.1. Publishing

Statistics on publishing sector, book-publishing and brochure-publishing are represented in the Table below.

**Books and Brochures by Language of Printing,
in 2006, in the Republic of Serbia**

Language	Total Number of Books
Serbian	13886
Serbian Cyrillic	7084
Serbian Latin	6802
Albanian	11
Hungarian	187
Bulgarian	6
Bosniac/Bosnian	18
Greek	2
English	364
Italian	12
Macedonian	14
German	29
Romany	13
Romanian	52
Russian	16
Slovak	48

Croatian	37
Slovenian	2
Turkish	1
Ruthenian	34
French	24
Dutch	1
Czech	2
Multilingual	5
Other Languages	21
Total	14785

Periodical Publications by Type and Language²⁰

Type of Publication	Language	Total
	Total Number of Periodical Publications	1425
Magazines		842
	Albanian	1
	Bosniac/Bosnian	3
	Bulgarian	1
	English	62
	French	1
	Hungarian	10
	Multilingual	59
	Romany	1
	Romanian	5
	Ruthenian	3
	Russian	1
	Slovak	8
	Serbian	685
Turkish	1	
Croatian	1	
Newspapers		421
	Albanian	1
	Bosniac/Bosnian	1
	Bulgarian	2
	English	2
	Hungarian	9
	Multilingual	7
	Romany	1
	Romanian	6
	Ruthenian	3
	Slovak	3
	Serbian	384
	Ukrainian	1
	Croatian	1

²⁰ Exclusive of local periodical publications.

Other Periodical Publications		162
	English	4
	Hungarian	4
	Multilingual	13
	Romanian	1
	Slovak	2
	Serbian	138

Periodical Publications by Script and Language

Language	Type of publication						Total
	Magazines		Newspapers		Other Periodical Publications		
	Cyrillic	Latin	Cyrillic	Latin	Cyrillic	Latin	
Albanian		1		1			2
Bosniac/Bosnian		3		1			4
Bulgarian	1		2				3
English		62		2		4	70
French		1					1
Hungarian		10		9		4	23
Romany		1		1			2
Romanian		5		6		1	12
Ruthenian	2	1	3				6
Russian	1						1
Slovak		8		3		2	13
Serbian	299	386	232	152	81	57	1207
Turkish		1					1
Ukrainian			1				1
Croatian		1		1			2
Multilingual	15	44	4	3	8	5	79
Total	318	524	242	179	89	73	
	842		421		162		1425

Publishing in Ashkali language, for the needs of **Ashkali** national minority, comes within the competences of The Ashkali Society, which is the central organisation for fostering and affirmation of cultural values and cultural heritage of this minority. Although the scope of publishing activities of Ashkali national minority is not extensive, the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture supports it financially, too. The Secretariat thus co-financed the publishing of the first editions of books with RSD 90,000.00 in 2005 and 2006, and co-financed the publishing of the book titled “Folk stories of the Ashkaila”, published by the Ashkailan Society, with RSD 30,000.00 in 2007. The Ministry of Culture, on the basis of a competition for programmes and projects aimed at developing and presentation of culture awarded the “Encounters of Ashkali, Roma and other Writers” literary event with RSD 50,000.00 in 2007.

In the region of Sandžak, persons belonging to **Bosniac** national minority are organised in several artistic and scientific associations, such as “Preporod” Cultural Association, The Sandžak’s Intellectual Circle or The Bosniac Society, which are all seeking to

revitalize the indigenous values and identities of the Bosniac population. In the field of arts, there is a number of artistic events that promote the artistic pursuit of Bosniac population. One of these, “The Sandžak’s Literary Encounters” literary event, was co-financed in 2007 by the Ministry of Culture, with RSD 350,000.00.

Books in Bosniac/Bosnian language are published by Centre for Bosniac Studies, in Tutin. Six series of books, which have been published by the Centre for Bosniac Studies, are: “Bosniac Language with Elements of National Culture”, “Cultural Heritage of the Bosniac”, “Special Editions”, “Reading”, “DVD Editions” and “Bosniac Literature”.

Some of the libraries are also involved in the publishing business. Thus, the National Library “Dr Ejup Musovic”, of Tutin, for instance, published 2 collections of poems.

Publishing and press institution “Bratstvo”, established by the National Council of **Bulgarian** minority, publishes editions in Bulgarian language. In 2002 - one book was published, in 2003 – also one, in 2004 – two, in 2005 – three and in 2006 – there were four books published in Bulgarian language, including the selected works of renowned author Detko Petrov in 3 volumes.

Some of the libraries are also involved in the publishing business. Thus, the National Library “Hristo Botev”, of Bosilegrad, for instance, published an anthology of Bulgarian poetry, whilst the National Library “Detko Petrov”, of Dimitrovgrad published 3 publications and 2 bilingual publications (in Bulgarian and Serbian languages). The latter was, in 2007, awarded a fund of RSD 120,000.00 by the Ministry of Culture for publishing a book entitled “Dimitrovgrad Museum Collection”, on the basis of the competition for co-financing of the programmes and projects aimed at developing and presentation of national minorities’ cultures.

The Bunjevci Society, along with the National Council of Bunjevci minority, is an organisation engaged in preservation, fostering and expression of the national identity of **Bunjevci** minority.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture supports the Bunjevci publishing sector financially. In 2005, the first editions of books were co-financed by means of RSD 80,000.00, whilst in 2007 the Secretariat participated in funding the publishing of “The Truth is What I Seek” by The Bunjevci Society, with RSD 40,000.00.

In addition to the National Council of Hungarian minority, there are several other organisations in Serbia in pursuance of promotion of the culture of **Hungarian** national minority. One of such organisations is the Association for Hungarian Culture which, as an association of writers, scientists, journalists, arts and science experts, translators and other intellectuals, contributes to the development of Hungarian culture. Some of the notable projects carried out by this Association are: research work in the field of literary heritage and authentic folk music of Vojvodina’s Hungarians, fostering the culture of their mother tongue, organisation of art exhibitions, music events and linguistic and folkloristic seminars, etc. The most important cultural events of Hungarian national

minority in the field of literature are: “The Days of Mihalj Majtenji”, “Senteleki’s Days”, memorials “Ferenc Feher”, “Karolj Sirmai”, “Sabo B. Đerđ and “The Days of Poetry”, which are supported by the State through different ways of co-financing. The Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture co-finances the first editions of books in Hungarian language. From 2003-2007 the first editions of books were co-financed with RSD 2,380,000.00. In 2007, the Ministry of Culture, on the basis of the competition for co-financing the programmes and projects aimed at developing and presentation of national minorities’ arts and cultures, awarded to “Kis Lajos” Ethnological Association of Subotica funds of RSD 100,000.00 for publishing the book marking the 80th Anniversary of the death of the distinguished ethnographer Jovan Cvijić, in Hungarian language, entitled “The Balkan Peninsula and South-Slavic Countries”.

The following publishers specialize in publishing books and journals in Hungarian language:

■ Public Company “Forum – Publishing House” of Novi Sad, published 110 titles between 2002-2006 in Hungarian language in the total print run of 53,850 copies (15 poems collections, 15 novels, 11 publicist books, 38 studies and essays, 8 books for children, 1 art monograph, 6 books in the field of ethnography and folklore studies, and several monographs, bibliographies and lexicons).

“Forum –Publishing House” of Novi Sad, won the following awards for its editions:

- In 2002 – Awards for literature: “Hid”, “ Sirmai Karolj” and “Beautiful Book 2002”, as well as the Award for translation “Božur”,
- In 2003 – Awards for literature: “Sinko Ervn” and “Marai Sandor”, as well as the Award of the Association of Writers of Vojvodina “Konc Istvan”,
- In 2004 – Awards for literature: “Hid”, the award of “Paladium” Foundation and “Beautiful Book” Award,
- In 2005 – Awards for literature: “Hid” and “Beautiful Book”, as well as the Award of the Association of Writers of Vojvodina “Konc Istvan”,
- In 2006 – Award for literature “Sirmai Karolj”

■ Magyar Szó Ltd, a publishing and newspapers Agency founded by the National Council of Hungarian minority, published in 2003 – three books, in 2004 – three editions (the Orthographic text-book being one of them), in 2005 – two (Serbian – Hungarian Dictionary on the Use of Law Terms being one of them), in 2006 – three books.

■ “Agape”, a publishing and press Company privately owned, publishes books in Hungarian language, in the main, (though it also periodically publishes books and other publications in Croatian, Slovenian and Ruthenian languages). The total number of published publications was in: 2002 – twenty titles, 2003 – eighteen titles, 2004 – sixteen titles, 2005 – twelve titles, and in 2006 – fifteen titles.

Cultural Centres are also engaged in publishing in Hungarian language, thus, Cultural-Educational Centre “Turzo Lajos” in Senta published 14 books in Hungarian language and released 2 bilingual CDs, from 2002-2006. Four editions were awarded in the Competition “Beautiful Vojvodina-Hungarian Book”.

The Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina provides financial support and co-finances the procurement of equipment that is needed for the operation of publishers in Hungarian language. Funds granted in the period of 2005-2007 are represented in the Table below”

Publisher	Purpose	Amount
Public Company “Forum – Publishing House”	Co-financing of publishing in Hungarian language	18,147,078.00
Magyar Szó	Procurement and installation of printing presses	3,500,000.00

In 2005 and 2006, the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina provided funds for the projects in the field of publishing in Hungarian language that were realized by other publishers, as follows:

Place	Institution	Purpose	Amount
Novi Sad	Scientific Association of Vojvodina’s Hungarians	Publication of publications	200,000.00
Novi Sad	Scientific Association of Vojvodina’s Hungarians	Publication of book by Guljas Gizela	80,000.00
Novi Sad	Society of Hungarian Culture in Yugoslavia	Publication of 4 separate books	160,000.00
Senta	Citizens Association Zetna	Publication of book “Istvan Konc”	40,000.00
Subotica	Scientific Association for Hungarian Studies	Co-financing the publication of a book entitled “Layers and Use of Hungarian Language”	40,000.00
Subotica	Ethnological Society “Kis Lajos”	Preparation of an edition entitled “Vojvodina’s Ethnological Bibliography”	60,000.00
Subotica	Ethnological Society “Kis Lajos”	Publication of “Vojvodina’s Ethnological Bibliography”	90,000.00
Subotica	Ethnological Society “Kis Lajos”	Preparation of an edition entitled “Vojvodina-Hungarian Fairy Tales”	60,000.00
Subotica	Ethnological Society “Kis Lajos”	Wireless Network Connection	20,000.00
Subotica	Christian Youth of Vojvodina	Publication of a book by Rudolf Njeis	20,000.00
Subotica	Open University	Publication of a book entitled “The Diary of Geza Csats from 1903 – 1905”.	20,000.00
Temerin	Hungarian Culture-Educational Society “Sirmai Karolj”	Publication of a collection of children poetry	40,000.00
Torda	Tordians’ Club	Publication of a monograph of artist Fejes Istvan	

			80,000.00
Feketić	Culture-Educational Society “Feketić”	Publication of a book entitled “Family in a Whirlpool of Drugs”	248,000.00

Some of the libraries are also involved in the publishing business which is financially supported by the State. In the period of 2005-2007, the Republic of Serbia co-financed the projects represented in the Table below:

Institution	Library	Purpose	Amount
Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina	Subotica City Library	Publication of a book by Kosztolanyi Dezso	40,000.00
Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia	Subotica City Library	Publication of anthology of papers of field conference “Days of Dezso Kosztolanyi”	50,000.00

Works from the field of publishing sector are made accessible to general reading public also due to translation activities that are promoted by the State. In 2005 and 2006, the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina financed the projects represented in the Table below:

Place	Institution	Purpose	Amount
Zrenjanin	“Agora” Publishing House	Translation of a book entitled “The Red Lion” from Hungarian into Serbian	40.000,00
Senta	Citizens Association Zetna	Translation of a book by Bosko Krstic entitled “Quest for Horse Chestnut Street”, from Serbian into Hungarian	40.000,00
Subotica	Ethnological Society “Kis Lajos”	Translation of a book by Jovan Cvijic entitled “The Balkan Peninsula and South Slav Countries”, from Serbian into Hungarian	200.000,00

Courtesy of the assistance provided by the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina and the Ministry of Culture, in 2006, the National Council of **Macedonian** national minority established a publishing and press institution named “Macedonian Information and Publishing Centre”.

In 2006, there were 14 books published in Macedonian language. The first editions in Macedonian language in 2007 were co-financed by the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina with RSD 85,000.00.

Persons belonging to **German** national minority have founded about dozen associations, among which the Association for German Language, Literature and Culture plays an important role, in particular in fostering German language and creative pursuits in German language.

In the Republic of Serbia 29 books were published in German language, in 2006. The Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina co-financed the publication of the first editions of books in German language with RSD 120,000.00 in 2002, and RSD 30,000.00 in 2007.

Romany language and the culture of the **Roma** national minority are preserved and fostered, in addition to the National Council of Roma minority, by a number of associations and organisations, such as Vojvodina’s Society for the Literature, Culture and Language of Roma, The Roma Society, etc. The said associations and organisations are all engaged in the publishing of books and publications.

■ “Otkrovenje” Publishing House, in 2005, in Belgrade, published “Romany Grammar” by Rajko Đurić PhD, in both Romany and Serbian language. The book incorporates the phonetics, morphology, syntax and grammar of Romany language, and is intended for pupils and students, teachers and linguists, and for anybody interested in learning Romany language.

■ “Politika” Publishing House, in 2006, published a book entitled “History of the Roma, before and after Auschwitz” by Rajko Djuric PhD. The book was in the same year exhibited at the Book Fair where it attracted so much public attention that its first printing run was sold out almost entirely on the spot. This sociological and historical study came as a result of a 30-year research work of the author.

In 2007, the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina, in cooperation with the Association of Romany Language Teachers and Society for Romany Language, Literature and Culture “Deronje”, co-financed the publication of books in Romany language with RSD 200,000.00 – allocating RSD 120,000.00 for the first editions, and RSD 80,000.00 to three bilingual books (in Romany and Serbian).

In 2005 and 2006, the Provincial Secretariat also funded the projects of other publishers in the field of publishing in Romany language, which is represented in the Table below:

Place	Institution	Purpose	Amount
Vršac	Roma Association “Rromane jakha”	Publication of a book entitled “Poems for Children” by Dragica Kaldaras	30,000.00
Deronje	Association of Romany Teachers	Publication of a book entitled “I’d like to be” by Rajko-Ranko Jovanovic	30,000.00
Novi Sad	Publishing House “THEM”	Financing the publishing sector	125,000.00

Works from the field of publishing business are made accessible to general reading public also due to translation activities that are promoted by the State. In 2005 and 2006, the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina financed the projects represented in the Table below:

Place	Institution	Purpose	Amount
Deronje	Association of Romany Teachers	Translation of a book by Miroslav Antic entitled "Selected Poems", from Serbian into Romany	30,000.00
Deronje	Culture-Educational Society "Romano suno"	Translation of "The Life of St. Petka", from Serbian into Romany	15,000.00

The Association for Romanian Language and the Artistic and Literary Association "Tibiskus" along with the National Council are the most influential professional organisations that foster and promote Romanian language and literature of the **Romanian** national minority.

In the period of 2003-2007, the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina co-financed the publication of first editions of books in Romanian Language with RSD 1,830,000.00.

Publishing and press institution "Libertatea" of Pančevo, founded by the National Council of the Romanian national minority, specializes in publishing books in Romanian Language. In 2002, there were seventeen books published (including one translation from Serbian language), in 2003 – twenty two (including an anthology of Romanian poetry, by authors from Serbia), in 2004 – eighteen, in 2005 – eleven and in 2006 – sixteen books.

The Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina co-financed the publication of books in Romanian language by professional publishing houses. In the period of 2005 – 2007, the Secretariat provided financial support for the projects represented in the Table below:

Publishing House	Purpose	Amount
Publishing and Press Institution "Libertatea"	Publication of books in Romanian language	1,590,000.00
Publishing and Press Institution "Libertatea"	"One Publishing Year in One Day" Project (2005 and 2006)	55,000.00
Publishing and Press Institution "Libertatea"	Publication of 9 different books	390,000.00

In 2005 and 2006, the Provincial Secretariat also funded the projects of other publishers in the field of publishing in Romanian language, which is represented in the Table below:

Place	Institution	Purpose	Amount
Vršac	Literary Municipality Vršac	Publication of a book by Eudjen Cinc entitled "Romanian Musical Works in 20 th Century"	80,000.00

Novi Sad	Romanian Association of Ethnography and Folklore	Co-financing the publication of a book entitled "Encyclopaedia of the Romanians in Vojvodina"	183,000.00
Novi Sad	Publishing House "Prometej"	Publication of a book entitled "Harmonia Caelestis"	100,000.00
Novi Sad	Matica Srpska Society	Monograph: Uzdin Settlements	50,000.00
Pančevo	Romanian Artistic and Literary Association "Andrei Saguna"	Publication of 3 books: "The Romanians on Pančevo's Soil", "Vistas in Venetian Colours", and a Monograph on Cultural Life of Romanians in Pančevo	90,000.00
Uzdin	Artistic and Literary Association "Tibiskus"	Publication of 7 different books	265,000.00

Works from the field of publishing business are made accessible to general reading public also due to translation activities that are promoted by the State. The Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina financed the translation projects in the field of publishing, and one of many such projects was the translation of the book "Patriotic People" from Romanian into Serbian language for which the Secretariat allocated RSD 60,000.00 to the Literary Municipality Vršac.

The most influential professional organisations of the **Ruthenian** national minority, which foster Ruthenian language, tradition, culture and arts, are the Association for Ruthenian Language, The Ruthenian Society and the National Council of Ruthenian national minority.

The most significant events in the field of the Ruthenian literature, which are traditionally staged in Serbia, are: "Kosteljnjkova Jesen" (a number of towns in Vojvodina host this event that includes the encounters with writers at schools, scientific platforms on language and literature, promotions of new books, presentation of literature, concerts of choral and classical music, art exhibitions, etc.) and "The Days of Mikoli M. Kocis" – a linguistic event (includes the encounters in Novi Sad devoted to a writer, linguist and pedagogue, Mikoli M. Kocis, whilst every fifth year there is a scientific conference upon which the writings and works are published as proceedings of conference in the anthology entitled "Studia Ruthenika").

The Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina, in the period of 2002-2007, co-financed the publication of the first editions of books in Ruthenian language with RSD 1,540,600.00.

Publishing and press institution "Ruske Slovo" of Novi Sad, founded by the National Council of the Ruthenian national minority, specializes in publishing books in Ruthenian language. "Ruske Slovo" annually publishes about a dozen titles, mostly fiction, historiography or publicist writing. At the Novi Sad Book Fair of 2003 this publisher was granted an award for the project entitled "Selected Works of Academician Julian Tamas".

The Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina co-financed the publication of books in Ruthenian language by professional publishing houses. In the

period of 2005 – 2007, the Secretariat provided financial support for the projects represented in the Table below:

Publishing House	Purpose	Amount
Publishing and Press Institution “Ruske Slovo”	Publication of books in Ruthenian language	1,750,000.00
Publishing and Press Institution “Ruske Slovo”	Publication of 3 different books	80,000.00

In 2005 and 2006, the Provincial Secretariat also funded the projects of other publishers in the field of publishing in Ruthenian language, which is represented in the Table below:

Place	Institution	Purpose	Amount
Novi Sad	Matica Srpska Library	Publication of a book entitled “Monograph of the Ruthenians in Yugoslavia 1918 - 1980”	200,000.00
Novi Sad	Association for Ruthenian Language, Literature and Culture	Issuing the publication “The Ruthenians in Novo Orahovo”	15,000.00
Novi Sad	Association for Ruthenian Language, Literature and Culture	Anthology of works “Studia Ruthenika, no.10 and 11”	60,000.00
Novi Sad	Association for Ruthenian Language, Literature and Culture	Anthology of writings for children “Swallows” no. 2	15,000.00
Ruski Krstur	The Ruthenian Society	Publication of a book “12 Monodramas”	40,000.00

Works from the field of publishing business are made accessible to general reading public also due to translation activities that are promoted by the State. The Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina financed the projects represented in the Table below:

Place	Institution	Purpose	Amount
Novi Sad	Publishing House “Prometej”	Translation of a book by Mihailo Fejes entitled “Ruthenians”, from Ruthenian into Serbian	160,000.00
Ruski Krstur	Apostolic Exarchate of Greco-Catholics	Co-financed translation of the New Testament	24,500.00

In addition to the National Council, the most influential organisations of the **Slovak** national minority which are engaged in maintenance and development of Slovak language, literature, culture-educational and scientific activities are The Slovak Society

and the Association of Slovakists, as a professional organisation that includes all areas of Slovak studies (the language, literature, education, cultural history and ethnology).

The first editions of books in Slovak language were co-financed, in the period of 2003-2007, by the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina with RSD 1,545,500.00.

Printing House “Kultura” Ltd. of Bački Petrovac, publishes books in Slovak language. In the period of 2002-2006, the Printery published 75 books in Slovak language, 8 books by Slovak authors were translated into Serbian language and 1 book by a Slovak author was translated into English language

The Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina co-financed the publication of books in Slovak language by professional publishing houses. In the period of 2005 – 2007, the Secretariat provided financial support for the projects represented in the Table below:

Publishing House	Purpose	Amount
Printery “Kultura” Ltd	Publication of books in Slovak language	1,750,000.00
Printery “Kultura” Ltd	Publication of 5 different books	160,000.00

In 2005 and 2006, the Provincial Secretariat also funded the projects of other publishers in the field of publishing in Slovak language, which is represented in the Table below:

Place	Institution	Purpose	Amount
Bački Petrovac	The Slovak Society	Publication of a book entitled “Atlas of the Folk Culture of Slovak”	40,000.00
Bački Petrovac	The Slovak Society	Publication of a book by Pal Bakos	
Gložan	The Slovak Society Subdistrict	Publication of a book entitled “Gložan 1756-2006”	100,000.00
Pađina	House of Culture “Mihail Babinka”	Publication of a book by Pavleo Povolni	10,000.00

Works from the field of publishing business are made accessible to general reading public also due to translation activities that are promoted by the State. The Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina financed the projects represented in the Table below:

Place	Institution	Purpose	Amount
--------------	--------------------	----------------	---------------

Zrenjanin	Publishing House “Agora”	Translation of a book by Jan Hrusovsky entitled “Man with an Artificial Leg”, from Slovak into Serbian	50,000.00
Novi Sad	Forum of the Slovak FORS	Translation of a book “Short Serbian Eschatology”, from Serbian into Slovak	50,000.00

Association for Ukrainian Language, Literature and Culture “Prosvita” is, along with the National Council of the Ukrainian national minority, the most influential organisation of the **Ukrainian** national minority, established with the aim of renewing, preserving and fostering the national identity of the Ukrainians and with the aim of presenting the Ukrainian national and cultural heritage. “Prosvita” also publishes books in Ukrainian language.

In the period of 2002-2007, the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina co-financed the publication of the first editions of books in Slovak language with RSD 329,700.00. The Secretariat provided funds to the amount of RSD 65,000.00 for the publication of two books (in Ukrainian and Serbian) in 2007.

In addition to the National Council, The Croatian Society is one of the most influential organisations engaged in the preservation of cultural identity of the **Croatian** national minority. The Society’s activities include all areas of artistic, scientific, educational and intellectual and spiritual pursuits of the Croats in Serbia. The Society is also engaged in publishing business.

Publishing and press institution “Hrvatska Rijec” of Subotica, founded by the National Council of the Croatian national minority, specializes in publishing business in Croatian language. This institution publishes annually about dozen books by the Croatian authors living in the Republic of Serbia, mostly novels, short stories, poetry collections or monographs.

The Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina co-financed the publication of books in Croatian language by professional publishing houses. In the period of 2005 – 2007, the Secretariat provided financial support for the projects represented in the Table below:

Publishing House	Purpose	Amount
Publishing and Press Institution “Hrvatska Rijec”	Co-financing of publishing business	1,125,000.00
Publishing and Press Institution “Hrvatska Rijec”	Publication of Monograph	30,000.00

In 2005, the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights of Serbia and Montenegro provided funds to the amount of RSD 200,000.00 to the publishing and press institution “Hrvatska Rijec”.

Some of the libraries are also engaged in publishing activities. In the period of 2002-2006, the Croatian Library of Subotica published a wide range of editions of history, theory of literature and poetry as well as children's books series "Picture books".

In 2005 and 2006, the Provincial Secretariat also funded the projects of other publishers in the field of publishing in Croatian language, which is represented in the Table below:

Place	Institution	Purpose	Amount
Subotica	The Croatian Society	Co-financing the publication of a book entitled "Winged Guy"	50,000.00
Subotica	Croatian Library	Publication of a book on the cultural history of the Croats	100,000.00

The two most influential organisations of the **Czech** national minority which are engaged, among other things, in publishing activities are The Czech Society, founded with the aim of protection and promotion of the culture of Czech population in Serbia and is active in fostering the Czech language and script, and CEA "The Czechs of Southern Banat", founded with the aim of preservation and affirmation of Czech culture.

The Czech Society published a monograph entitled "The Colonization of Czechs in Banat", whilst the presentation of the monograph, in 2007, was co-financed by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia with RSD 50,000.00.

In 2002, the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina co-financed the publication of the first editions of books in Czech language with RSD 50,000.00.

5.1.2.1.2. Library Sector

Libraries and library collections which are available to persons belonging to national minorities play very important role in the maintenance of their language and culture in general. In the Republic of Serbia, the libraries are mainly public, but the legislation also provides for the establishment of privately-owned libraries in accordance with the law.

Pursuant to Article 2, paragraph 2 of the Law on Librarianship, librarianship includes: collecting, managing, keeping and using books, magazines and newspapers, documents, works of music, prints of paintings and drawings, cartographic publications of plans and designs of settlements, phonodocuments (CDs, tapes, etc.), reprographic materials, posters, advertisements, video and film recordings and other materials copiable, manuscripts and memorized documents, as well as collecting, managing and informing on the listed library materials. Pursuant to Article 10, item 2 of the Law on Librarianship, the public interest in the field of librarianship is, *inter alia*, the production of current, retrospective and other bibliography of Serbian nation and other national minorities living in the territory of the Republic of Serbia.

Under provision of Article 10, paragraph 1, item 2 of the Law on Activities of the Public Interest in the Field of Culture, with reference to, Article 18, paragraph 1, items 14 and 15 of the Law on Local Self-government, the operation of libraries founded by the municipality are funded from the Municipal Budget. The Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia and the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina co-finance the acquisition of the books in minority languages for the needs of libraries in multilingual municipalities.

Statistics on the library holdings in minority languages in the Republic of Serbia are listed below.

The operation of the following libraries, which have the holdings in **Albanian language** and engage Albanian staff, is financed by municipalities:

- Library “14th November” in Bujanovac: 20,000 books (out of the total number of 57,000 books), 7 Albanian staff (out of the total number of 12 staff);
- Municipal Library “Petar Petrovic Njegos” in Medveđa: 2,895 books (out of the total number of 35,684 books);
- City Library, Preševo: 6,000 books (out of the total number of 19,000 books), 7 staff belonging to the Albanian national minority.

In 2005 and 2006, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia co-financed the acquisition of the books in Albanian language for the needs of the libraries listed in the Table below:

Place	Library	Purpose	Amount
Bujanovac	Library “14th Novemeber”	Purchase of books in Albanian language	239,000.00
Medveđa	Municipal Library “Petar Petrović Njegos”	Purchase of books in Albanian language	50,000.00

The operation of the following libraries which have the holdings in **Bosniac/Bosnian language** is financed by municipalities:

- Library “Dositej Obradović” in Novi Pazar: 705 books;
- Library “Muhamed Abdagić” in Sjenica: 100 books;
- National Library “Dr Ejup Musović” in Tutin: 320 books.

In 2005, the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights of Serbia and Montenegro provided funds to the amount of RSD 200,000.00 to the “Dositej Obradovic” Library of Novi Pazar.

The operation of the following libraries, which have the holdings in **Bulgarian language** and engage Bulgarian staff, is financed by municipalities:

- National Library “Hristo Botev” in Bosilegrad: 9,777 books;

- National Library “Detko Petrov” in Dimitrovgrad: 8,240 books, 5 employees out of 6 are Bulgarian language native speakers;
- Library “Gligoriije Vozarević” in Sremska Mitrovica: 9 books.

In Vojvodina’s 28 municipalities, libraries give access to over half a million books in Hungarian language, which accounts for 15.65% of the total number of books within the librarian network in Vojvodina. The operation of the following libraries which have the holdings in **Hungarian language** is financed by municipalities:

- Library “Sarvas Gabor” in Ada: 27,015 books;
- National Library in Apatin: 10,298 books (15% of the total number of books in the library’s holdings is in Hungarian language);
- National Library “Vuk Karadžić” in Bač: 220 books;
- National Library “Veljko Petrovic” in Bačka Palanka: 6,072 books;
- National Library in Bačka Topola: acquisition of 6,216 new books, 9 out of 13 staff belong to the Hungarian national minority;
- National Library in Bečej: 39,887 books (out of total 98,010), 1,466 out of 3,298 members belong to the Hungarian national minority, 11 out of 18 staff belong to the Hungarian national minority;
 - National Library “Danilo Kiš” in Vrbas: 8,061 books (7.61%);
 - City Library, Vršac: 5,338 books;
 - Library “Branko Radičević” in Žitište: 9,709 books, acquisition of 1,838 new books in the period of 2002-2006;
 - City National Library in Zrenjanin: 15,320 books;
 - National Library “Dr Đorđe Natošević” in Inđija: 1,138 books;
 - Serbian Library in Irig: 179 books;
 - Library “Jozef Atila” in Kanjiža: 37,326 books (out of the total number of 56,265);
 - National Library “Jovan Popović”, in Kikinda: 33,212 books (18.1%), 4 out of 18 expert staff belong to Hungarian national minority;
 - Municipal Library in Kovačica: 3,331 books;
 - Library “Vuk Karadžić” in Kovin: 7,624 books;
 - National Library in Kula: 5,558 books in Hungarian language, 2 native speakers of Hungarian are employed as librarians;
 - National Library in Mali Iđos: 18,667 books (out of the total number of 29,396);
 - National Library in Novi Bečej: 12,405 books (21% out of the entire library holdings);
 - National Library “Branislav Nušić” in Novi Kneževac: 13,072 books;
 - City Library in Novi Sad: 17,600 books, acquisition of 2.146 new books in the period of 2002-2006;

- National Library “Branko Radičević” in Odžaci: 1,200 books;
- National Library in Plandište: 41 books;
- City Library in Senta: 40,734 books (85% out of the entire library holdings);
- City Library “Karlo Bijelicki” in Sombor: 62,774 books (18.7%), acquisition of 200 new books in 2004, 371 new books in 2005, 504 new books in 2006;
- Library “Gligorije Vozarević” in Sremska Mitrovica: 8 books;
- National Library in Srbobran: 8,267 books and 62 books in the County Collection;
- City Library in Subotica: 93,516 books (out of the total number of 271,332);
- Library “Sirmai Karolj” in Temerin: 17,000 books;
- National Library “Stojan Trumić” in Titel: 219 books;
- Culture and Educational Centre “Čoka”: 7,187 books (out of the total number of 20,245);

The Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina co-finances the acquisition of the books in Hungarian language for the needs of libraries in multilingual municipalities. Thus, in 2005 and 2006, the Secretariat provided financial support to the Municipal Library in Kovačica, to the amount of RSD 252,000.00, for the acquisition of books, *inter alia*, in Hungarian language.

The Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina also co-finances the organisation of various librarian events. Thus, in 2005 the Secretariat provided financial support to the City Library in Subotica to the amount of RSD 40,000.00, and in 2007 to the amount of RSD 65,000.00 for the organisation of the event “Days of Dezso Kosztolanyi”.

Within an organisation of persons belonging to the German national minority in Subotica, named German National Union, a library with its library holdings of 4,000 books, magazines and newspapers in **German language** is also operational.

The operation of the following libraries which have the holdings in **Romany language** is financed by municipalities:

- Library “14th November” in Bujanovac: 10 books (out of the total number of 57,000);
- City Library in Novi Sad: 42 books, acquisition of 42 books in the period of 2002-2006;
- National Library “Branko Radičević” in Odžaci: 10 books;
- Library “Gligorije Vozarević” in Sremska Mitrovica: 3 books.

Rather low number of books in Romany language in the libraries established by local self-governments results from the fact that there have not been many books published in Romany language.

The operation of the following libraries, which have the holdings in **Romanian language**, is financed by municipalities:

- Municipal Library “Vuk Karadžić” in Alibunar: 9,640 books;
- City Library in Vršac: 3,085 books;
- Library “Branko Radičević” in Žitište: 4,792 books, acquisition of 151 new books in the period of 2002-2006;
- City National Library in Zrenjanin: 78 books;
- Municipal Library in Kovacnica: 2,893 books;
- Library “Vuk Karadžić” in Kovin: 3,168 books;
- City Library in Novi Sad: 3,357 books, acquisition of 3,099 new books in the period of 2002-2006;
- National Library in Plandište: 114 books.

The Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina co-finances the acquisition of the books in Romanian language for the needs of libraries, and thus in 2005 and 2006, provided financial support to the Municipal Library in Kovačica, to the amount of 252,000.00 for the acquisition of books, *inter alia*, in Romanian language.

The operation of the following libraries, which have the holdings in **Ruthenian language** and engage Ruthenian staff, is financed by municipalities:

- National Library in Bačka Topola: acquisition of 75 new books;
- National Library “Danilo Kis” in Vrbas: 2,847 books (2.68%);
- National Library in Kula: 4,489 books, one employed librarian is a native speaker of Ruthenian language;
- City Library in Novi Sad: 340 books, acquisition of 9 new books in the period of 2002-2006;
- Library “Gligorije Vozarević” in Sremska Mitrovica: 62 books;
- National Library “Simeon Piscevic” in Šid: 392 books.

The operation of the following libraries, which have the holdings in **Slovak language**, is financed by municipalities:

- Municipal Library “Vuk Karadžić” in Alibunar: 1,152 books;
- National Library “Vuk Karadžić” in Bač: 800 books;
- Library “Stefan Homola” in Bački Petrovac: 60% of the entire library holdings, and acquisition of 901 new books in Slovak language in 2001, 559 new books in 2003, 500 new books in 2004, 1,031 new books in 2005 and 584 new books in 2006;
- National Library “Veljko Petrovic” in Bačka Palanka: 4,912 books;
- Library “Jovan Grcic Milenko” in Beočin: 1,660 books;
- National Library “Danilo Kis” in Vrbas: 49 books (0.04%);

- City National Library in Zrenjanin: 41 books;
- Municipal Library in Kovačica: 11,361 books;
- City Library in Novi Sad: 7,642 books, acquisition of 578 new books in the period of 2002-2006;
- National Library “Branko Radičević” in Odžaci: 2,200 books;
- National Library “Dositej Obradovic” in Stara Pazova: 7,016 books;
- National Library “Simeon Piscevic” in Šid: 431 books.

Library “Stefan Homola” in Bački Petrovac, being the first public library of Vojvodina’s Slovaks and one of the oldest public libraries in Vojvodina (established in 1842), operates with the holdings of over 40,000 books, and includes the Vojvodina-Slovaks’ County Collection with the holdings of over 5,000 books and periodical publications in Slovak language as well as the Collection of Old and Rare Books that contains more than 2.000 books (the oldest one dating back to 1690).

In 2005 and 2006, the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina co-financed the acquisition of the books in Slovak language for the needs of libraries in multilingual municipalities, as represented in the Table below:

Place	Library	Purpose	Amount
Kovačica	Municipal Library	Acquisition of books in, <i>inter alia</i> , Slovak language	252,000.00
Bački Petrovac	Library “Stefan Homola”	Acquisition of books	38,300.00

The operation of the following library, which has the holdings in **Croatian language**, is financed by the municipality:

- City Library in Subotica: 242 books (out of the total number of 271,332).

In 2005 and 2006, the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina co-financed the acquisition of the books in Croatian language, with RSD 32,000.00, for the needs of Croatian Library of Subotica.

The operation of the following library, which has the holdings in **Czech language**, is financed by the municipality:

- Library in Bela Crkva: several hundreds of books.

5.1.2.1.3. Theatre and Film

Both professional and amateur theatrical and cinematic enterprises play an important role in the promotion and development of cultures of national minorities. Therefore, such artistic pursuits are supported financially from the Budget of the Republic of Serbia, the

Budget of AP Vojvodina, municipal budgets (for the theatres founded by municipalities) and by the funds that are allocated in competitions for theatrical and cinematic projects and activities in minority languages. The regular operation of theatrical societies that hold the status of amateur theatres is financed by municipalities.

Statistics on professional and amateur theatres presenting plays in minority languages are represented in the Tables below.

Professional theatres staging plays in minority languages in the Republic of Serbia

2003 and 2004		2004 and 2005	
Language	Number of Theatres	Language	Number of Theatres
Serbian/Hungarian	1	Serbian/ Hungarian	1
Serbian/Romanian	1	Serbian/ Romanian	1
Serbian/Romany	1	Serbian/ Romany	1
Serbian/Other languages	1	Hungarian	3
Hungarian	3		

Amateur theatrical societies²¹ staging plays in minority languages in the Republic of Serbia

2003 and 2004		2004 and 2005	
Language	Number of Theatres	Language	Number of Theatres
Serbian/Bulgarian	1	Serbian/Bulgarian	1
Serbian/Hungarian	1	Serbian/Hungarian	1
Serbian/Ruthenian	1	Hungarian	1
Serbian/Slovak	1	Ruthenian	1
Romanian	1	Slovak	4

Examples of theatrical and cinematic activities and information on financial support provided by governmental and provincial bodies for the development of such activities, including the support provided to theatrical activities of amateur Culture-Artistic Societies, are contained in the comments below.

Plays in **Albanian language** are staged by the amateur theatrical society that operates within the Culture-Artistic Society “Abdula Krasnica” of Preševo. This amateur theatre annually stages 5 plays for children and adults. The town of Preševo also hosts a theatre festival in Albanian language named “Days of Albanian Comedy”. On the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development of culture and

²¹ Only the registered amateur theatrical societies; their actual number is far higher

arts of national minorities, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia in 2006 allocated funds to the Culture-Artistic Society “Abdula Krasnica” of Preševo for the acquisition of equipment and choreography to the amount of RSD 200,000.00, whilst in 2007, the Ministry allocated funds to the amount of RSD 80,000.00 to the Culture-Artistic Society “Jehona” of Bujanovac for staging dramas.

The State also supports the theatrical festivals, events and encounters of theatres staging plays in Albanian language. Thus, the funds allocated for the “Days of Albanian Comedy” event, by the governmental bodies, in 2006 amounted to RSD 300,000.00, and in 2007 - amounted to RSD 200,000.00.

In Novi Pazar, the Regional Theatre operates within the Culture-Artistic Society “Oslobodjenje”. The Regional Theatre has so far staged two premieres in **Bosniac/Bosnian language**.

On the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia in 2007 allocated funds to the Regional Theatre of Novi Pazar for the theatrical project “Yellow Quinces and Lemons” to the amount of RSD 240,000.00, and to the Amateur Theatre of Sjenica to the amount of RSD 150,000.00 for the play “Ramiza” written by Muhamed Abdagic.

Theatre “Hristo Botev” of Dimitrovgrad stages plays in **Bulgarian language**. The theatre stages one premiere a year in Bulgarian language (in 2002 it was: “Balkan-Syndrome”, in 2003: “Old Village at the End of the World”, in 2004: “Target” and in 2005: “Hamlet in the Donja Paskasija Village”). Juvenile Stage staged a premiere of the play entitled “Tangle Café” in Bulgarian language in 2005. Six theatres were guest artists on the Dimitrovgrad’s stage with plays in Bulgarian language. In 2005 and 2006, Dimitrovgrad hosted international theater festival “Balkan Theatre Fest”. Out of 25 plays performed in the festival, 13 were in Bulgarian language.

On the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia in 2007 allocated RSD 70,000.00 to the Centre of Culture, of Dimitrovgrad, for the play “The Adventures of Prattler Chatterbox”.

Theatre plays in **Hungarian language** are staged in 4 professional and 30 amateur theatres in AP Vojvodina.

Professional theatres are:

- Novi Sad Theatre - Ujvidéki Színház of Novi Sad, which develops theatre art, fosters the purity of Hungarian language and literary expression; realized numerous performances in the country and abroad.
- Within the National Theatre - Népszínház of Subotica operates the Drama in Hungarian language that stages 4 premieres a year.

- Children’s Theatre - Gyermekszínház of Subotica includes a theatre company that performs in Hungarian language and stages 2 premieres a year.
- Puppet stage within the National Theatre – Tosa Jovanovic of Zrenjanin, includes a theatre company that performs in Hungarian language and stages 2 premieres a year.

The Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina finances a drama performed in Hungarian language by the National Theatre - Népszínház of Subotica, and to that end, in 2007, the Secretariat allocated funds to the amount of RSD 12,712,433.00. The Secretariat also co-finances the plays in Hungarian language by the “Salasarsko Pozoriste” Theatre, of Bačka Topola, and to that end, in 2007, allocated funds to the amount of RSD 800,000.00.

In addition, funds are awarded individually on the basis of competitions for staging plays in Hungarian language. Funds awarded by the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina on the basis of these competitions, in the period of 2005-2007, are represented in the Table below:

Place	Institution	Purpose	Amount
Bačka Topola	Amateur Theatrical Society “Mara”	2 Theatre plays – staging, 2 Theatre productions – preparation	65,000.00
Zrenjanin	Amateur Theatrical Society “Madach”	Opera stage: “We, Artistic Souls”	145,000.00
Kanjiza	Artistic Workshop “Kanjski Krug”	Music-stage play: “Last Landscape”, directed by Jozef Nadj	100,000.00
Kikinda	Culture-Artistic Society “Edjeseq”	Multimedial play: “Madame Butterfly”	40,000.00
Kruschic	Culture-Artistic Society “Kossuth Lajos”	Theatre play	10,000.00
Novi Sad	“Salasarsko Pozoriste” Theatre	2 Premieres	700,000.00
Novi Sad	Novi Sad’s Theatre	4 Plays	430,000.00
Novi Sad	Parents’ Forum	Establishment of Children’s Puppet Theatre	50,000.00
Senta	CEC “Thurzo Lajos”	Operation of Senta’s Theatre Stage	60,000.00
Sombor	Berta Ferenc Pocket Theatre	Theatre play	50,000.00
Subotica	National Theatre	Plays: Emma; Moliere/ Kepmutatok cselszove; Erintetlen; Ibusur	2,308,343.00

Subotica	National Theatre	Plays: Alom Lako; Murlin murlo; Zazora; Szulamit Zoltan Tibora	2,094,200.00
Subotica	“Dezso Kosztolanyi” Theatre	Plays: “The Taming of the Shrew” and “Waiting for Godot”	350,000.00
Subotica	Children’s Theatre	Play: Children’s comedy Beszedes Istvan – Verebes Erne	140,000.00
Šid	Culture-Educational Society “Djura Kis“	Play: “The Battle of Stalingrad”	40,000.00

The most important event of cultural pursuits in the field of theatre is the Festival of Amateur Theatrical Societies of Vojvodina’s Hungarians, which takes place every year in a different Hungarian-majority town in Vojvodina.

The State also supports the theatrical festivals, events and encounters of professional and amateur theatres staging plays in minority languages. The funds allocated for the theatrical events in Hungarian language by the governmental and the provincial bodies, in 2005 and 2006, are represented in the Table below:

Body	Institution	Purpose	Amount
Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina	Children’s Theatre, of Subotica	Theatre Festival in Eger	50,000.00
Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina	Novi Sad’s Theatre	Competition of Vojvodina’s Hungarian Playwrights	100,000.00
Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina	Culture-Artistic Society “Feketić”, of Feketić	Rally of Amateur Theatrical Societies of Vojvodina’s Hungarians	200,00.00
Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina	Culture-Artistic Society ”Edjeseg”, of Kikinda	Vojvodina’s Festival of Amateur Theatrical Societies	160,000.00
Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina	Cultural Union of Vojvodina’s Hungarians	Vojvodina’s Festival of Amateur Theatrical Societies	80,000.00
Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina	Hungarian Culture-Artistic Society “Petefi Sandor”, of Novi Sad	Rally of Children’s Theatres	30,000.00
Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina	Association of Vojvodina’s Hungarians Reciters, of Subotica	Provincial Qualifying Competition in Reciting	80,000.00

Examples of theatrical events in Hungarian language co-financed on the basis of the competition announced in 2007 by the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina are represented in the Table below:

Place	Institution	Purpose	Amount
Novi Sad	Novi Sad Theatre	Celebration of the Day of Theatre	75,000.00
Novi Sad	Workshop “Sorakainus”	Creative children and creative parents – production of puppets for puppet show	35,000.00
Subotica	Cultural Union of Vojvodina’s Hungarians	12 th Encounters of Amateur Theatrical Companies of Vojvodina’s Hungarians	80,000.00

The State stimulates and supports, within its limited financial resources for the film production in the country, filming and other audiovisual works in Hungarian language. Thus, in 2005, for instance, the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina co-financed the Projects that are represented in the Table below:

Place	Institution	Purpose	Amount
Kanjiza	Film Workshop “Sinema”	Filming a documentary entitled “Geography”, in Hungarian language	300,000.00
Novi Sad	Culture-Artistic Society “Megakorp”	Filming a documentary entitled “Arac”, in Hungarian language	100,000.00
Novi Sad	Culture-Artistic Society “Megakorp”	Filming a documentary entitled “Hunjadi Janos”, in Hungarian language	100,000.00
Novi Sad	Promo Art	Co-financing the making of short films in Hungarian language	30,000.00
Novi Sad	Novi Sad’s Theatre	Recording the repertoire of Mezei Szilard for the CD release	30,000.00
Subotica	Children’s Theatre “Gyermekszinhasz”	CD - recording (from theatre plays over the last 10 years)	100,000.00

The State also provides financial support for the participation in or organisation of various film festivals. The examples of the film festivals which were participated or organised by the Hungarian associations and co-financed by the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina in 2007, are represented in the Table below:

Place	Institution	Purpose	Amount
Subotica	Vojvodina’s Youth	Festival: Days of Hungarian Film	550,000.00
Subotica	City Library	Days of Vojvodina-Hungarians’ Cinematography	60,000.00
Subotica	Subotica Film	Festival: Days of Hungarian Film 2005	250,000.00

Plays in **Romany language** are staged by 3 amateur theatres.

On the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia in 2005 allocated to Roma association “Pravale” of Belgrade RSD 450,000.00 for the realization of the “Roma Rota Theatre” Project, whilst in 2007, the Ministry allocated to the Multimedia Centre of the Roma in Serbia, of Trstenik, RSD 300,000.00 for the establishment of “Rom-drom” Theatre.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina co-finances with RSD 800,000.00 the plays in Romany language staged by the “Teatar Suno e Rromengo” Theatre, of Novi Karlovci.

Funds individually awarded by the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina, on the basis of competitions for staging plays in Romany language in the period of 2005-2007, are represented in the Table below:

Place	Institution	Purpose	Amount
Beočin	Union of the Roma	Theatre play “Bell”	60,000.00
Mokrin	Union of the Roma	Stage performance “Kulaj”	5,000.00
Novi Karlovci	“Teatar Suno e Rromengo” Theatre	Play: “It is not all as it seems”	500,000.00
Novi Sad	Roma Student Union	Play: “Happier Childhood”	15,000.00

The State also supports the theatrical festivals, events and encounters of professional and amateur theatres staging plays in Romany language. The funds allocated by the governmental and the provincial bodies for the theatrical events in Romany language are represented in the Table below:

Body	Institution	Purpose	Amount
Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia	National Council of the Roma national minority	Rally of Amateur Theatrical Accomplishments of the Roma	270,000.00
Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia	National Council of the Roma national minority	Children’s Festival	100,000.00

In the territory of AP Vojvodina, theatre plays in **Romanian language** are staged in 1 professional and 12 amateur theatres. The Stage (of professional theatre) in Romanian language within the “Sterija” Theatre of Vršac successfully stages plays in the country and abroad.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina co-financed the operation of the National Theatre “Sterija” – Stage in Romanian language, namely, in

2005 and 2006 the Secretariat provided financial support to the amount of RSD 2,700,000.00 for the platform activities and preparation of 2 premieres, whilst in 2007 the Secretariat provided funds to the amount of RSD 2,500,000.00 for staging 4 premieres and 20 repeated performances in Romanian language.

The most important amateur theatres event is the event named “Theatrical Days of Vojvodina’s Romanians”, which takes place every year in a different Romanian-majority town in Vojvodina.

The Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina also provides support to the theatrical events in Romanian language. Thus, in 2006 the Secretariat allocated RSD 355,000.00 to the Union of Amateur Theatres of Romanians in AP Vojvodina, of Alibunar, for the rally “Theatrical Days of Romanians”, and RSD 350,000.00 in 2007.

On the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, the Union of Amateur Theatres of Romanians in AP Vojvodina, of Alibunar, was allocated RSD 150,000.00 for this-year’s 35th rally “Theatrical Days of Romanians” by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia.

The State also provides financial support for the organisation of various film festivals in Romanian language. In 2005 and 2006, the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina co-financed the participation of the Romanian Association for Ethnography and Folklore, of Novi Sad, in 4th International Festival of Ethno-folk Documentary Films, in Tork, with RSD 74,000.00.

In the territory of AP Vojvodina, theatre plays in **Ruthenian language** are staged in 1 professional and 15 amateur theatres. Professional theatre “Đađa”, of Ruski Krstur, has featured, since its establishment, more than 130 premieres, from both domestic and world drama authors and playwrights. Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina in 2007 co-financed 4 premieres and 20 repeated performances in Ruthenian language with RSD 2,500,000.00.

Funds individually awarded by the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina, on the basis of competitions for staging plays in Ruthenian language in the period of 2005-2007, are represented in the Table below:

Place	Institution	Purpose	Amount
Vrbas	Culture-Educational Society “Carpathians”	Children’s play “Little Yellow Riding Hood”	110,000.00
Vrbas	Culture-Educational Society “Carpathians”	Children’s drama	30,000.00
Novi Sad	Ruthenian Culture-Educational Society	Theatre play by “Dramski Studio”	50,000.00

Ruski Krstur	Ruthenian National Theatre	5 Premieres: "First Lady", "Far is the Star", "Illusions", "Big Bird"	5,080,000.00
Ruski Krstur	House of Culture "Ruski Krstur"	Plays: "Baron Munchausen" and "Orwell's 1984"	90,000.00
Šid	Culture-Educational Society "Djura Kis"	Play: "The Battle of Stalingrad"	40,000.00

The most renowned theatrical event of the Ruthenian national minority is Dramatic Memorial "Petar Riznic – Djadja", which is financially supported by the State. On the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, the House of Culture "Ruski Krstur", of Ruski Krstur, was in 2007 allocated RSD 100,000.00 by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia and RSD 200,000.00 by the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina.

The State also supports the theatrical festivals, events and encounters of professional and amateur theatres staging plays in Ruthenian language. Thus, the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina supported the theatrical event "Festival of Monodrama", by awarding RSD 70,000.00 to The Ruthenian Society, of Ruski Krstur, in 2006, and RSD 50,000.00 to the City Board of The Ruthenian Society in 2007.

In the territory of AP Vojvodina, theatre plays in **Slovak language** are staged in 1 professional and 20 amateur theatres. The first play in Slovak language was staged in 1866 in Bački Petrovac. Successful and long tradition is now carried on by the Slovak National Theatre in Bački Petrovac that appears on the stages across the country and abroad. The operation of this Theatre was co-financed by the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina in 2007. The Secretariat provided RSD 2,500,000.00 for the staging of 4 premieres and 20 repeat performances.

Funds individually awarded by the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina, on the basis of competitions for staging plays in Slovak language in the period of 2005-2007, are represented in the Table below:

Place	Institution	Purpose	Amount
Bački Petrovac	Slovak Vojvodina's Theatre	Premieres: "Fly", "Bilora Comedy of Erudites", "Pirates", "Arabian Night", "Guilt"	5,000,000.00
Bački Petrovac	VXV Theatre	Play "Little Miss Strange"	50,000.00
Bački Petrovac	VXV Theatre	Movement Theatre: Myths and Legends	60,000.00
Vojlovica	Local Organisation of The Slovak Society	Play "Janosik"	50,000.00

Erdevik	Slovak Culture-Educational Society "Erdevik"	Play "Emilio Carballido"	50,000.00
Erdevik	Slovak Culture-Educational Society "Erdevik"	Amateur stage performance	40,000.00
Kovačnica	House of Culture "3 rd October"	Premieres and the play "Cherry Orchard"	160,000.00
Selenča	Culture-Educational Society "Jan Kolar"	Play	40,000.00

The most significant theatrical events are: the Rally of Slovak Theatres of Vojvodina, staged every year in Bački Petrovac with min. 15 theatrical plays in Slovak language, and the Festival of Dramatic Staging by Domestic Authors – Festival, staged every year in Pivnice with plays from contemporary dramas by the Slovak authors coming from this region.

The State also supports a great number of theatrical festivals, events and encounters of professional and amateur theatres staging plays in Slovak language. The funds allocated by the provincial bodies for the theatrical events in Slovak language, in the period of 2005-2007, are represented in the Table below:

Body	Institution	Purpose	Amount
Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina	Amateur Theatre "Janko Ceman"	Theatre Festival	100,000.00
Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina	House of Culture "Mihail Babinka", of Padina	Rally of Slovak Amateur Theatres	150,000.00
Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina	VXV Theatre, of Bački Petrovac	Rally of Slovak Amateur Theatres	150,000.00
Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina	Slovak Vojvodina's Theatre, of Bački Petrovac	"The Theatre Belongs to Children"	80,000.00
Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina	Slovak Culture-Artistic Society "Janko Cmelik", of Stara Pazova	Rally of children's dramatic art	50,000.00
Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina	Slovak Culture-Artistic Society "Janko Cmelik", of Stara Pazova	Rally of Slovak Amateur Theatres	150,000.00

In addition, the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina co-financed the project "Studying Acting" of the Slovak Vojvodina's Theatre, of Bački Petrovac.

In the territory of AP Vojvodina, theatre plays in **Ukrainian language** are staged in 1 amateur theatre.

On the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina in 2006 awarded RSD 40,000.00 for the play “Sbatanja na Honcarivici” in Ukrainian language.

In the territory of AP Vojvodina, theatre plays in **Croatian language** are staged in 1 amateur theatre.

On the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina in 2007 awarded RSD 40,000.00 for the children’s play “The Sun, the Bridesman and the Neva, Dear Neva” to the Croatian Cultural Centre “Bunjevacko Kolo”, of Subotica.

5.1.2.2. Preservation and Development of Culture

5.1.2.2.1. Fine Arts and Fine Arts Events

The State provides financial support to a number of fine arts events that promote and represent the artistic and creative pursuits of persons belonging to national minorities and their contribution to this genre of art.

Examples of fine arts activities and events as well as information on financial support provided by governmental and provincial bodies for the promotion of such activities, are contained in the comments below.

The creative pursuits of persons belonging to the **Bulgarian** national minority in the field of fine arts were in 2007 co-financed by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia on the basis of annual Competition for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, namely, the Ministry allocated RSD 96,000.00 to the Centre of Culture – City Gallery, of Dimitrovgrad, for Ceramic Workshop.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina in 2007 awarded RSD 20,000.00, on the basis of annual Competition for cultural events of national minorities in Vojvodina, to the Association for Bulgarian Language, Literature and Culture, of Novi Sad, for the exhibition by artist Marija Dmitric MA.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina, on the basis of annual Competition for cultural events of national minorities in Vojvodina, awarded to the Bunjevci Centre of Culture, of Subotica, RSD 20,000.00 in 2006 and RSD 55,000.00 in 2007, for the participation in the **Bunjevci** national minority’s fine arts event – Colony of Straw Technique, “Klas”.

The funds allocated in 2006 and 2007 by the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina, on the basis of annual Competitions for cultural events of national minorities in Vojvodina, to the **Hungarian** minority's events in the field of fine arts, are represented in the Table below:

Place	Beneficiary	Purpose	Amount
Stara Moravica	Culture-Artistic Association "Ady Endre" - Art Colony 9+3	Traditional Spring Meetings of Vojvodina's Hungarian Artists	40,000.00
Subotica	Association of Applied Fine Arts Artists And Designers	Applied Arts Exhibition	30,000.00
Subotica	Association of Applied Fine Arts Artists And Designers	Exhibition of Theatre Posters	20,000.00

Statistics on the **Roma** fine arts events that were co-financed by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia in the period of 2004-2007, are represented in the Table below:

Place	Beneficiary	Purpose	Amount
Djurdjevo	Roma Citizens Association "Napredak"	Art Colony: "Gipsy and his dream"	95,000.00
Obrenovac	Development Centre "Rom" of Obrenovac	Art Colony: "Starry Carriage"	25,000.00
Trstenik	Association of the Roma Fine Artists of Serbia	Art Colony of the Association of the Roma Fine Artists of Serbia	28,000.00
Trstenik	Association of the Roma Fine Artists of Serbia	International Art Camp 2007	200,000.00

Statistics on the fine arts events of the **Romanian** minority which were co-financed by the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina on the basis of annual Competitions for cultural events of national minorities in Vojvodina, in the period of 2005-2007, are represented in the Table below:

Place	Beneficiary	Purpose	Amount
Novi Sad	Vojvodina's Association of Applied Fine Arts Artists And Designers	Art Exhibition by Doru Bosiok (one-man show)	27,000.00
Opovo	National Library	Art Exhibition by Pal Decev	20,000.00
Uzdin	House of Culture "Diona"	International Art Colony Uzdin 2007	15,000.00

Statistics on the fine arts events of **Ruthenian** minority which were co-financed by the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina on the basis of annual Competitions for cultural events of national minorities in Vojvodina, in the period of 2005-2007, are represented in the Table below:

Place	Institution	Purpose	Amount
Vrbas	Art Colony "Njaradi"	Days of Fine Arts in Ruski Krstur	50,000.00
Novi Sad	Association for Ruthenian Language, Literature and Culture	Operation of the Club of Fine Artists and the Art Colony "Stevan Bodnarov"	15,000.00
Novi Sad	Association for Ruthenian Language, Literature and Culture	3 rd Art Colony "Meetings at Bodnarov's"	20,000.00

Statistics on the fine arts events of **Slovak** minority which were co-financed by the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina on the basis of annual Competitions for cultural events of national minorities in Vojvodina, in the period of 2005-2007, are represented in the Table below:

Place	Institution	Purpose	Amount
Bački Petrovac	Slovak Vojvodina's Theatre, of Bački Petrovac – "Zuzka Medvedjova" Gallery	8 th Biennale of Slovak Fine Artists in Serbia	65,000.00
Bački Petrovac	Slovak Vojvodina's Theatre, of Bački Petrovac – "Zuzka Medvedjova" Gallery	9 th Biennale of Slovak Fine Artists in Serbia	140,000.00
Gložan	Culture-Educational Society "Jednota"	2 nd Biennale of Fine Arts Young Artists	45,000.00

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina, on the basis of annual competition for cultural events of national minorities in Vojvodina, awarded RSD 20,000.00 in 2007 to the **Ukrainian** Culture-Artistic Society "Kobzar" of Novi Sad, as support for their participation in Art Colony Kobzar.

On the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia awarded RSD 100.000,00 in 2007 to the **Croatian** Culture-Artistic Society "Matija Gubec" of Tavankut, as support for their participation in 21st Naive Art Colony of Straw Technique.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina, on the basis of annual Competition for cultural events of national minorities in Vojvodina, awarded RSD

80,000.00 in 2007 to the Croatian Culture-Artistic Society “Matija Gubec” of Tavankut, as support for their participation in 22nd Naive Art Colony of Straw Technique.

5.1.2.2.2. Activities of Minority Unions and Culture-Artistic Associations

Unions and Culture-Artistic Associations form the Bačkbone of successful preservation of tradition, maintenance of language and representation of national minority cultures. The operation of Unions and Culture-Artistic Associations of national minorities is funded by their respective municipalities from the municipal budgets. The operation of such unions and associations might also be funded from the budget assets or donations of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina and the Republic of Serbia.

The examples of activities undertaken by Unions and Culture-Artistic Associations as well as the information on financial support provided by governmental and provincial bodies for the promotion of such activities, are contained in the comments below.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina in 2007 co-financed the Project of **Ashkali** Citizens Association “Woman and Culture”, of Novi Sad, entitled: “Woman and Culture”.

Provincial Secretariat of Regulations, Administration and National Minorities, in the first half of 2007, co-financed the activities of the Ashkali Citizens Association “Woman and Culture” and The Ashkali Society, both of Novi Sad, with the funds totaling to RSD 50,000.00.

Office of Human and Minority Rights of the Republic of Serbia supported in 2007 the operation of the Centre of **Bosniac** Studies with RSD 200,000.00.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina in 2006 and 2007 co-financed the activities of the following Unions and Culture-Artistic Associations of **Bunjevci** national minority:

- Culture-Artistic Association “Lemes”, of Svetozar Miletic, for participation in “Duzionica”;
- Culture-Artistic Association “Bunjevacko Kolo”, of Sombor, for participation in the Festival of Children’s Folklore “With All Our Heart” (in 2006 and 2007), “Duzionica 2006” and “Duzionica 2007”;
- Culture-Artistic Association “Bunjevka”, of Subotica, for participation in the 7th and 8th Easter Exhibition of Folk Handicrafts, and in the 8th and 9th International Festival of Bunjevci Folk Arts.

On the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia, in 2007, co-financed the following Unions and Culture-Artistic Associations which assemble the persons belonging to Bunjevci national minority:

- Culture-Artistic Association “Bunjevacko Kolo”, of Sombor, for participation in “Duzionica 2007”;
- Culture-Artistic Association “Bunjevka”, of Subotica, for participation in the 8th Easter Exhibition of Folk Handicrafts, and in the 9th International Festival of Bunjevci Folk Arts.
- Culture-Artistic Association “Aleksandrovo”, of Subotica, for participation in the 7th Festival “Vijvodina through Song and Dance”, and for the representation of “The History of Bunjevci Attire”.

In the first half of 2007, the Provincial Secretariat of Regulations, Administration and National Minorities co-financed the activities of five organisations of the Bunjevci national minority, by awarding funds totaling to RSD 220,000.00.

On the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia, in 2007, co-financed an association of the **Bulgarian** national minority, the “Carska Bara” Foundation, of Belo Blato, for participation in “Bugarijada – Days of Bulgarian Culture in Central Banat”.

Provincial Secretariat of Regulations, Administration and National Minorities, in the first half of 2007, co-financed the activities of the Bulgarian Cultural Association “Trandafer”, of Belo Blato, and the Association for Bulgarian Language, Literature and Culture, of Novi Sad, by awarding funds totaling to RSD 80,000.00.

Cultural life of the **Vlach** national minority is realized through the operation of a number of folklore associations that preserve and pass down the Vlachs’ picturesque tradition, and their most renowned traditional yearly events are “Slatinski Sabor”, “Homoljski Motivi” and a rally of culture-artistic associations entitled “From May – To May”.

Office of Human and Minority Rights of the Republic of Serbia supported in 2007 the operation of the “Forum for Vlach Culture” with RSD 60,000.00.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina in 2007 supported the **Egyptian** national minority i.e. provided funds for the participation of the National Community of Vojvodina’s Egyptians - “Pyramid”, of Novi Sad, in the event marking their national holiday.

Provincial Secretariat of Regulations, Administration and National Minorities, in the first half of 2007, co-financed the activities of the National Community of Vojvodina’s Egyptians - “Pyramid”, of Novi Sad, by awarding funds totaling to RSD 30,000.00.

The cultural, educational and humanitarian activities of persons belonging to the **Jewish** minority in Serbia are realized through the Jewish Municipalities.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina in the period of 2006-2007 financially supported the following activities of the Jewish Municipality of Novi Sad:

- Exhibition: “ Vojvodina’s Jews in Archives of Vojvodina”;
- Exhibition on the occasion of “European Day of Jewish Culture” organised by the Art Club of the Jewish Municipality;
- Event: “European Days of Jewish Culture”;
- Guest performance of the Choir “Hasira” of Novi Sad, in Bijeljina and in Sarajevo.

On the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia, in 2007, awarded funds to Jewish Municipality Belgrade for the participation of the Choir “Braca Baruh” of Belgrade in the Festival of Choirs “Zimriya”.

Provincial Secretariat of Regulations, Administration and National Minorities, in the first half of 2007, co-financed the activities of the Jewish Municipality of Novi Sad by awarding funds totaling to RSD 80,000.00.

In AP Vojvodina, there are 140 Unions and Culture-Artistic Associations which foster Hungarian language and tradition and promote cultural pursuits of the **Hungarian** national minority.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina in the period of 2005-2007 co-financed the activities of the following Unions and Culture-Artistic Associations and various events that promote the language and culture of the Hungarian national minority:

- Co-financing the work and regular operation of the following Culture-Artistic Associations (hereinafter: CAA): CAA “Vecera Sandor” of Bačka Palanka, CAA “Petefi Sandor” of Budisava, CAA “Petefi Sandor” of Dobrodol, HCAA “Aranj Janos” of Irig, CAA “Petefi Sandor” of Kac, CAA “Petefi Sandor” of Maradik, CAA “Petefi Sandor” of Nikinci, CAA “Hunjadi Sandor” of Ruma, CAA “Srem” of Sremska Mitrovica, CAA “Tiski Cvet” of Titel, CAA “Mora Ferenc” of Čoka, CAA “Petefi Sandor” of Satrinac;
- Participation of the Association of Vojvodina’s Hungarians Reciters of Subotica in the Provincial Qualifying Competition in Reciting and the establishment of a Reciting Workshop;
- Participation of Culture-Artistic Association “Petefi Sandor” of Nikinci in the Srem’s Rally of Hungarian Folk Art;
- Celebration of 60th jubilee of the Culture-Artistic Association “Petefi” of Zrenjanin;
- Event: “Week of Hungarian Language in Vojvodina”, organised by the Association for Hungarian Language of Vojvodina, of Novi Sad;

- Project: “Days of Hungarian culture” organised by the Culture-Artistic Association “Feher Fernc”, of Rumenka;
- Participation of the Vojvodina’s Hungarian Youth, of Subotica, in “The Days of Tradition Maintenance” Event;
- Participation of the Cultural Union of Vojvodina’s Hungarians, of Subotica, in “Days of Vojvodina-Hungarians’ Culture”;
- Participation of the Culture-Artistic Association “Petefi Sandor”, of Novi Sad, in the Camp of Authentic Artistic Production”;
- Subsidizing the Srem’s Rally of Culture-Artistic Associations organised by the Union of Hungarian Civil Organisations of Southern Bačka and Srem;
- Competition in Reciting and Narrating organised by Culture-Artistic Association “Petefi Sandor” of Budisava;
- Participation of the Culture-Artistic Association “Petefi Sandor” of Torda in the 6th Torda’s Days of Culture;
- Participation of the Union of Vojvodina-Hungarian Nursery-school Teachers, of Mali Idjos, in the Gatherings of Hungarian Nursery-schools;
- Participation of the Hungarian Culture-Artistic Association “Petefi Sandor”, of Bečej, in the events: 31st Durindo, 44th Djendjesbokret – Rally of Ethno Music and Folklore in Vojvodina, and in the workshops of traditional handicrafts and folklore;
- Participation of the Culture-Artistic Association “Petefi Sandor” of Budisava in 3rd Encounter of Recitors from Diaspora “Baragolo”;
- Participation of the Hungarian Culture-Artistic Association “Petefi Sandor”, of Novi Sad, in 5th Regional Gatherings of Hungarian Culture-Artistic Associations of Southern Bačka and Srem;
- Participation of the Culture-Artistic Association “Petefi”, of Zrenjanin, in 18th “Days of B. Sabo Djerdj”;

On the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia, in 2007, financially supported the following Unions and Culture-Artistic Associations of the Hungarian national minority:

- Participation of the Hungarian Culture-Artistic Association “Petefi Sandor”, of Bečej, in the folklore rally 44th Djendjesbokret and choir and orchestra rally 31st Durindo;
- Participation of the Vojvodina-Hungarian Teachers, of Novi Sad, in folk music “Szolj, sip, szolj” Competition and in folk dance and children’s folk dance “Koketanc” Competition;
- Participation of the Hungarian Culture-Artistic Association “Petefi Sandor”, of Dobricevo, in the Gatherings of Hungarian Culture-Artistic Associations of Southern Banat;
- Participation of the Citizens Association “Abbazia”, of Palic, in 2nd Carpathian Rally of Hungarian Choirs.

Provincial Secretariat of Regulations, Administration and National Minorities, in the first half of 2007, co-financed the activities of 34 organisations of the Hungarian minority by awarding funds totaling to RSD 2,200,000.00.

Persons belonging to the **Macedonian** national minority foster their cultural heritage in AP Vojvodina through a number of Unions and Associations which are financially supported by the State. In addition to the Association for Macedonian language, there are other Associations assembling the members of Macedonian minority, such as the Association of Citizens of the Macedonian National Minority of Southern-Banat County “Kiril i Metodije”, of Novi Sad, the Association of Citizens of Macedonian National Minority of Southern-Banat County “Vardar”, of Pančevo, the Citizen Association of the Macedonians “Sv. Kliment Ohridski”, of Zrenjanin.

Provincial Secretariat of Regulations, Administration and National Minorities, in the first half of 2007, co-financed the activities of 7 organisations of the Macedonian minority by awarding funds totaling to RSD 100,000.00.

There are 11 associations of the **German** national minority in AP Vojvodina. The most active ones are the German National Union, of Subotica, and the German Association “Donay”, the establishment of which has revived the cultural activity of the German population in Vojvodina. In order to preserve their identity, the Germans organise various courses of German language, language camps, pretzballs, choirs, drama clubs, etc.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina in 2006 and 2007 supported the activities of the following Unions and Associations as well as various events that promote the language and culture of the German national minority:

- Participation of the German Association for Good-neighborly Relations “Karlowitz”, of Sremski Karlovci, in the events: “The Influence of German Culture on the Culture of Vojvodina” Round Table, the Kuglof Festival, the Gatherings of Publicists;
- Production of radio programmes regarding the maintenance and dissemination of German culture, organised by the German Cultural Centre Banat, of Zrenjanin.

Provincial Secretariat of Regulations, Administration and National Minorities, in the first half of 2007, co-financed the activities of 11 Vojvodina’s organisations of the German minority by awarding funds totaling to RSD 200,000.00, whilst the Office of Human and Minority Rights of the Republic of Serbia, in 2006 and 2007, supported 2 German Associations by awarding funds totaling to RSD 240,000.00.

There are 30 **Roma** national minority’s Unions and Culture-Artistic Associations that foster the Romany language and culture in AP Vojvodina.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina in the period of 2005-2007 co-financed the activities of the following Unions and Culture-Artistic Associations and various events that promote the language and culture of the Roma national minority:

- Co-financing the work and regular operation of the Citizen Association of the Roma, of Sivac, the Culture-Educational Association “Romano suno”, of Deronje;
- Celebration of 10th anniversary of Cultural Centre of the Roma “Beli Golub”, of Apatin;
- Multimedia event of the Roma culture by the Culture-Educational Association “Sunce”;
- Cultural event of the Roma “Gipsy Fires” by the Culture-Artistic Association “Rom”;
- Participation of the Roma Network of Novi Sad in the Cultural Gatherings of Vojvodina’s Roma;
- Participation of the Association of the Roma Teachers, of Deronje, in the Festival of the Roma Recitors of Vojvodina.

On the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia, in 2007, financially supported the following Unions and Culture-Artistic Associations of the Roma national minority:

- Participation of the Association of Citizens “Pharlipa”, of Novi Sad, in the Mini Cultural Rally of the Youth;
- Participation of the Association for Democratization and Education, of Kragujevac, in the event “Days of Doctor Sava Stojanovic”;
- Participation of the Association of Citizens “Polis Fest”, of Subotica, in International Festival of the Roma Culture – ROMART.

Provincial Secretariat of Regulations, Administration and National Minorities, in the first half of 2007, co-financed the activities of 19 organisations of the Roma minority by awarding funds totaling to RSD 400,000.00, whilst the Office of Human and Minority Rights of the Republic of Serbia supported 2 Roma Associations (Association for Education, Culture and Social Issues “Rom”, of Vladičin Han, and Association “Rom”, of Kovin) by awarding funds totaling to RSD 90,000.00.

There are 35 active Unions and Culture-Artistic Associations that assemble persons belonging to the **Romanian** national minority in AP Vojvodina.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina in the period of 2005-2007 co-financed the activities of the following Unions and Culture-Artistic Associations and various events that promote the language and culture of the Romanian national minority:

- Participation of Culture-Artistic Association “Tibiskus” in the International Festival of Poetry “Putevi Klasja”, Festival of Literature “Todor Krecu” and in the Encounters of writers in Banat’s dialect of Romanian language, within the International Symposium “Distinguished Banatians”;

- Surevy conducted in the field by the Romanian Association for Ethnography and Folklore, of Novi Sad, on “Conditions and status of traditional culture of Vojvodina’s Romanians”;
- Scientific Gathering “Banat – Historical and Cultural Past” organised by the Romanian Association for Ethnography and Folklore, of Novi Sad;
- Festival of Satire and Humour organised by the Cultural Association “Vikentije Petrovic – Bokaluc”, of Tork.

Provincial Secretariat of Regulations, Administration and National Minorities, in the first half of 2007, co-financed the activities of 12 organisations of the Romanian minority by awarding funds totalling to RSD 470,000.00.

Office of Human and Minority Rights of the Republic of Serbia supported Democratic Union of the Romanians, of Vršac, with RSD 60,000.00.

There are 15 active Cultural Institutions, Unions and Culture-Artistic Associations that assemble persons belonging to the **Ruthenian** national minority in AP Vojvodina.

The Governmental bodies assist and financially support the operation of such institutions as well as the various events that promote the language and culture of the Ruthenian national minority. Thus, the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights of Serbia and Montenegro, for instance, in 2005 awarded RSD 200,000.00 to The Ruthenian Society.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina in the period of 2005-2007 co-financed the activities of the following Unions and Culture-Artistic Associations and various events that promote the language and culture of the Ruthenian national minority:

- Participation of Culture-Artistic Association “Zetva”, of Kucur, in the event promoting the native folk tradition of the Ruthenians and other ethnic communities of Vojvodina, and in the Festival of Native Arts “Harvest in Kucur”;
- Participation of The Ruthenian Society in the 9th World Congress of the Ruthenians, in Romania, and the 5th Camp of the Young Ruthenians;
- Participation of Culture-Artistic Association “Taras Shevchenko”, of Djurdjevo, in the 5th Festival of Traditional Folk Singing “Not To Be Forgotten”;
- Participation of the Association of Citizens “ Pact Ruthenorum”, of Ruski Krstur, in the Multimedia Festival “Dnjevka”;
- Participation of the Culture-Educational Association “Carpathians”, of Vrbas, in the Rally of Choral Singing”;
- Participation of the Culture-Educational Association of Novi Sad in the 6th Festival of Children Arts “Veselinka”.

Provincial Secretariat of Regulations, Administration and National Minorities, in the first half of 2007, co-financed the activities of 11 organisations of the Ruthenian minority by awarding funds totalling to RSD 345,000.00.

There are 20 **Slovak** national minority's Unions and Culture-Artistic Associations that foster the Slovak language and culture in AP Vojvodina.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina in 2006 and 2007 co-financed the activities of the following Unions and Culture-Artistic Associations and various events that promote the language and culture of the Slovak national minority:

- “Padina’s Days of Culture”, House of Culture “Mihail Babinka”, of Padina;
- The International Mother Tongue Day organised by the International Ethno Centre and “Babka” Gallery of Kovačica;
- Event: Slovak Traditional Festivities, organised by The Slovak Society, of Bački Petrovac;
- A Concert organised by the Slovak Culture-Artistic Association “Pavel Jozef Safarik”, of Novi Sad;
- 27th Festival of Slovak Music “Golden Key” organised by the Culture-Artistic Association “Jan Kolar”, of Selenča;
- Festival of New Slovak Lyric Poetry organised by the Culture-Artistic Association “Zvolen”, of Kulpin;
- 42nd International Festival of Singers Soloists “Meeting at the Pivnice’s Field” organised by the Slovak Culture-Artistic Association “Pivnice”, of Pivnice;
- Festival of Folklore “Tancuj, Tancuj” organised by the Slovak Culture-Artistic Association “Heraj Janko Cemak”, of Stara Pazova.

On the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia, in 2007, financially supported the following Unions, Culture-Artistic Associations and events of the Slovak national minority:

- Slovak Culture-Artistic Association “Heraj Janko Cemak”, of Stara Pazova, (for the organisation of Folklore Festival “Tancuj, Tancuj”);
- Culture-Artistic Association “Jan Kolar”, of Selenča (for the organisation of 27th Festival of Slovak Music “Golden Key”);
- Slovak Culture-Artistic Association “Pivnice”, of Pivnice (for the organisation of 42nd International Festival of Singers Soloists “Meeting at the Pivnice’s Field”).

Provincial Secretariat of Regulations, Administration and National Minorities, in the first half of 2007, co-financed the activities of 11 organisations of the Slovak minority by awarding funds totaling to RSD 520,000.00, whilst the Office of Human and Minority Rights of the Republic of Serbia supported the work of the International Ethnocentre “Babka”, of Kovacniaca, by awarding funds totaling to RSD 250,000.00.

Several Unions and Culture-Artistic Associations form the backbone of cultural life of the **Ukrainian** national minority. The governmental and provincial bodies support the operation of these Unions and Culture-Artistic Associations by providing them with the funds that are required for participation in various events promoting the Ukrainian culture.

Thus, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia, on the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, in 2007, financially supported the Culture-Artistic Association “Ivan Senjuk”, of Kula, for the organisation of the Concert entitled “The Easter Bell”.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina in 2007 co-financed the activities of the following Culture-Artistic Associations and events that promote the culture of the Ukrainian national minority:

- Realization of the “Following In Our Predecessors’ Footsteps” Project carried out by the Ukrainian Culture-Artistic Association “Kobzar”, of Novi Sad;
- Participation of the Culture-Artistic Association “Ivan Senjuk”, of Kula, in the event “Days of Taras Shevchenko”.

Provincial Secretariat of Regulations, Administration and National Minorities, in the first half of 2007, co-financed the activities of 5 organisations of the Ukrainian minority by awarding funds totalling to RSD 160,000.00.

There are 26 Unions and Culture-Artistic Associations of the **Croatian** national minority in AP Vojvodina. The State assists their operation, organisation of participation in various events that promote Croatian culture. Thus, the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights of Serbia and Montenegro and the Office of Human and Minority Rights of the Republic of Serbia, for instance, in 2005 and 2006, awarded RSD 160,000.00 to the Croatian Culture-Artistic Association “Matija Gubec” and RSD 250,000.00 to the Community of Croatsians.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina in the period of 2005-2007 supported the activities of the following Culture-Artistic Associations and events that promote the culture of the Croatian national minority:

- Encounters of Poets “Lira Naiva”, organised by the Croatian Library, of Subotica;
- Celebration of the Days of the Croatian Society, in Subotica;
- Participation of the Croatian Culture-Artistic Association “Dukat”, of Vajska - Bodjani, in the events: Carnival – Shrovetide, and Shokci’s Spinning-bee in Vajska;
- Participation of the Croatian Culture-Educational Association “Silvije Strahimir Kranjčević”, of Bački Breg, in the Shokci’s Spinning-bee;
- Participation of the Croatian Culture-Artistic Association “Vladimir Nazor”, of Sombor, in the Traditional Festivity “Duzionica”.

In 2007, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia, on the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities financially supported the following Culture-Artistic Associations:

- Croatian Culture-Artistic Association “Vladimir Nazor”, of Sombor (for the organisation of two events in 2007: Harvest Festivity “Duzionica” in Sombor, and Bunjevci-Shokci’s Spinning bee in Sombor);
- Croatian Culture-Artistic Association “Ljutovo”, of Ljutovo (for their participation in the event “The Month of Culture”);
- Croatian Art Club “Lajco Budaovic”, of Mala Bosna (for their participation in the folklore event “The Youth are Dancing”).

Provincial Secretariat of Regulations, Administration and National Minorities, in the first half of 2007, co-financed the activities of 16 organisations of the Croatian minority by awarding funds totalling to RSD 470,000.00.

The cultural life of the **Czech** national minority is realized through a number of organisations, The Czech Society and the Culture-Educational Association “The Czechs of Southern Banat”. Their participation/organisation of cultural events is assisted by the State.

In the period of 2006-2007, the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina supported the activities of the Culture-Educational Association “The Czechs of Southern Banat”, of Bela Crkva, in their activities of:

- Organisation of the event “Days of Czech Culture”;
- Organisation of the Exhibition of old photographs from the period of colonization of the Czechs in the region of Vojvodina, entitled “From the Past to the Present”;
- Participation in the Multinational Camp.

The Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia, on the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, in 2007, financially supported the participation of “Czech Narration”, of Kruščica, in the Folklore Rally – Bohemia in Serbia.

Provincial Secretariat of Regulations, Administration and National Minorities, in the first half of 2007, co-financed the activities of 4 organisations of the Czech minority by awarding funds totalling to RSD 80,000.00.

5.1.2.2.3. Cultural Events

The most important cultural events of the **Albanian** minority, apart from the Drama Festival “Days of Albanian Comedy”, are the Festival of Reciting and the “Night with Stars” Rock Festival. The Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia, co-financed

some of the cultural events realized by persons belonging to Albanian national minority. Examples of events that were supported by the Ministry in the period of 2004-2007 are represented in the Table below:

Place	Beneficiary	Purpose	Amount
Bujanovac	Culture-Artistic Association "Kolo"	International Festival of Folklore and Young Fine Artists	250,000.00
Medveđa	Association of Citizens Cultural Centre	"New Hopes" Project	150,000.00
Medveđa	Association of Citizens Cultural Centre	Dancing to the Stars	200,000.00

On the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia, in 2007 awarded the total amount of RSD 480,000.00.

The most important cultural events of the **Ashkali** minority are the Days of Ashkali Culture and Traditional Encounters of the Ashkali and Roma Writers. These and many other culture-artistic events are organised by The Ashkali Society.

On the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia, in 2007 awarded the total amount of RSD 50,000.00 to the Ashkali events.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina on the basis of annual competitions awarded RSD 100,000.00 in 2006 and RSD 60,000.00 in 2007 for the events promoting the preservation of national identity and the development of culture-artistic pursuits of the Ashkali minority.

The most important cultural events of the **Bosniac** minority are: the Sandžak's Literary Encounters, Bayram's Concert of Ilahije and Kaside, Rally of Bosniac Traditional Dances – SBONI, Art Colony "Sandžak – Artists' Inspiration", Festival of Sandžak's Sevdalinka FESS", Event "Sopot's Vistas", the October's Encounters of Writers in Novi Pazar.

On the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia awarded in 2007 the total amount of RSD 2,000,000.00.

The most important cultural events of the **Bulgarian** minority are: International Theatre Festival "Balkan Fest", International Art Colony "Poganovki Manastir", "Bugarijada – Days of Bulgarian Culture in Central Banat".

On the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia awarded in 2007 the total amount of RSD 498,200.00.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina on the basis of annual competitions awarded: RSD 30,000.00 in 2003, RSD 150,000.00 in 2005, RSD 150,000.00 in 2006 and RSD 100,000.00 in 2007, for the events promoting the preservation of national identity and the development of culture-artistic pursuits of the Bulgarian minority.

The most important cultural events of the **Bunjevci** minority are: Duzijanca, Festival of Bunjevci Traditional Arts and the Colony of Straw Technique - "Klas".

On the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia awarded in 2007 the total amount of RSD 350,000.00.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina on the basis of annual competitions awarded: RSD 105,000.00 in 2003, RSD 500,000.00 in 2004, RSD 500,000.00 in 2005, RSD 560,000.00 in 2006 and RSD 750,000.00 in 2007, for the events promoting the preservation of national identity and the development of culture-artistic pursuits of the Bunjevci minority.

On the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia awarded the total amount of RSD 50,000.00 for the cultural events of the **Egyptian** minority in 2007.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina on the basis of annual competition awarded in 2007 funds to the total amount of RSD 18,000.00 for the events promoting the preservation of national identity and the development of culture-artistic pursuits of the Egyptian minority in Vojvodina.

"European Days of Jewish Culture" is the most important cultural event of the **Jewish** Community.

On the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, in 2007, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia awarded financial support to the amount of RSD 200,000.00, and the Office of Human and Minority Rights of the Republic of Serbia awarded funds to the same amount as a support to the operation of the Union of Jewish Municipalities.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina on the basis of annual competitions awarded: RSD 33,190.00 in 2003, RSD 30,000.00 in 2005, RSD 120,000.00 in 2006 and RSD 120,000.00 in 2007, for the events promoting the preservation of

national identity and the development of culture-artistic pursuits of the Jewish Community in Vojvodina.

The most important cultural events of the **Hungarian** national community are: Durindo and Djendjesbokret – Rally of Ethno Music and Folklore, Festival of Children’s Folk Dance “Koketanc”, Children’s Festival of Folk Music “Szolj, sip, szolj”, Linguistic Days “Sarvas Gabor”, Festival of Songs Sung in Senta, Ethno-narrative Competition “Kalman Lajos”, Days of Culture of Vojvodina’s Hungarians, Gatherings of Amateur Theatrical Societies of Vojvodina’s Hungarians, Days of Hungarian Cinematography, Days of Dezso Kosztolanyi, Encounter of Folklorians and Fair of Traditional Handicrafts “Vajdasagi Tanchaztalalkozo es Kirakodovasar”, Folklore Stage – International Competition “Neptancosok Orszagos Bemutato Szinpada” and “VIVE” – Festival of Hungarian Parlour Songs and Czardas.

On the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, in 2007, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia awarded financial support to the total amount of RSD 1,000,000.00.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina on the basis of annual competitions awarded: RSD 2,990,000.00 in 2003, RSD 3,743,000.00 in 2004, RSD 3,650,000.00 in 2005, RSD 4,020,000.00 in 2006 and RSD 6,440,000.00 in 2007, for the events promoting the preservation of national identity and the development of culture-artistic pursuits of the Hungarian minority in Vojvodina.

The Macedonian Arts` Days “A Call upon Ourselves” is the most important cultural event of the **Macedonian** minority.

On the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, in 2007, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia awarded financial support to the total amount of RSD 150,000.00.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina on the basis of annual competitions awarded: RSD 50,000.00 in 2003, RSD 80,000.00 in 2004, RSD 80,000.00 in 2005, RSD 100,000.00 in 2006 and RSD 160,000.00 in 2007, for the events promoting the preservation of national identity and the development of culture-artistic pursuits of the Macedonian minority in Vojvodina.

In support of the events that promote the preservation of national identity and the development of culture-artistic pursuits of the **German** minority in Vojvodina, the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina on the basis of annual competitions awarded: RSD 168,000.00 in 2006 and RSD 168,000.00 in 2007.

Data on some of the cultural events of the **Roma** minority which were co-financed by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia in the period of 2004-2006, are represented in the Table below:

Place	Beneficiary	Purpose	Amount
Belgrade	Humanitarian Association "Romsko Srce"	Children's Art Camp "World on a Child-Size"	70,000.00
Kraljevo	The Roma NGO "Plavi Cvet"	Rally of Cultural Accomplishments of the Kraljevo's Roma	200,000.00
Medveđa	The Roma Centre Medveđa	Music-Cultural Art of the Roma	213,000.00
Niš	National Council of the Roma National Minority	Rally of Cultural Accomplishments of the Roma	100,000.00
Niš	National Council of the Roma National Minority	Central Celebration of the International Day of the Roma	170,000.00
Niš	National Council of the Roma National Minority	Rally of Music of the Roma Young Talents	110,000.00
Niš	National Council of the Roma National Minority	Rally of the Folk-Accomplishments of the Roma in Serbia	975,000.00
Novi Sad	Citizens Association "Phralipe – Novi Sad"	Cultural Encounters of the Young Roma of Serbia	100,000.00
Novi Sad	Citizens Association "Phralipe – Novi Sad"	Event: "The Young For The Young"	100,000.00
Novi Sad	Association of the Roma "Novi Horizonti"	Cultural Event: "Hyacinths"	615,000.00

In 2006, the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights of Serbia and Montenegro and the Office of Human and Minority Rights of the Republic of Serbia provided funds to the total amount of RSD 651,000.00 to the cultural associations, activities and events of importance to the Roma national minority. Information about such activities and events, supported by the State, are represented in the Table below:

Place	Purpose	Amount
Belgrade	"Holocaust of the Roma of Serbia and Montenegro"	260,000.00
Belgrade	International Day of the Roma	113,000.00
Belgrade	International Congress of the Roma	30,000.00
Vladičin Han	The Roma Ball	55,000.00

On the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, in 2007, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia awarded financial support to the total amount of RSD 1,530,000.00.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina on the basis of annual competitions awarded: RSD 120,000.00 in 2003, RSD 500,000.00 in 2004, RSD 500,000.00 in 2005, RSD 560,000.00 in 2006 and RSD 600,000.00 in 2007, for the events promoting the preservation of national identity and the development of culture-artistic pursuits of the Roma minority in Vojvodina.

The most important cultural events of the **Romanian** national community are: International Festival of Poetry “Putevi Klasja”, International Symposium “Distinguished Banatians”, Theatrical Days of the Romanians, Pop Music Festival “Mladost Peva”, Festival of Romanian Music and Dance from Vojvodina”.

On the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, in 2007, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia awarded financial support to the total amount of RSD 550,000.00.

In support of the events that promote the preservation of national identity and the development of culture-artistic pursuits of the Romanian minority in Vojvodina, the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina on the basis of annual competitions awarded: RSD 1,565,000.00 in 2003, RSD 1,700,000.00 in 2004, RSD 1,650,000.00 in 2005, RSD 1,650,000.00 in 2006 and RSD 1,650,000.00 in 2007.

The **Ruthenian** minority stages 12 traditional events of in the field of culture. The most important are: Festival of Ruthenian Culture “Crvena Ruža”, “Kosteljnikova Jesen”, Dramatic Memorial “Petar Riznica – Đađa”, Festival of Ruthenian Native Arts “Harvest in Kucur”, Festival of Children Arts “Veselinka”.

On the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, in 2007, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia awarded financial support to the total amount of RSD 300,000.00.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina, on the basis of annual competitions, awarded: RSD 1,080,000.00 in 2003, RSD 1,300,800.00 in 2004, RSD 1,250,000.00 in 2005, RSD 1,250,000.00 in 2006 and RSD 1,400,000.00 in 2007, for the events promoting the preservation of national identity and the development of culture-artistic pursuits of the Ruthenian minority in Vojvodina.

The most important cultural events of the **Slovak** national community are: Festival of Folklore “Tancuj, Tancuj”, Children Folklore Festival “Zlata Brana”, “Susreti Pod Lipama”, Slovak Music Festival “Golden Key”, International Festival of Singers Soloists “Meeting at the Pivnice’s Field”, Padina’s Days of Culture, Biennale of Slovak Fine Artists in Serbia.

On the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, in 2007, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia awarded financial support to the total amount of RSD 600,000.00.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina on the basis of annual competitions awarded: RSD 1,480,000.00 in 2003, RSD 1,760,000.00 in 2004, RSD 1,300,000.00 in 2005, RSD 1,750,000.00 in 2006 and RSD 2,100,000.00 in 2007, for the

events promoting the preservation of national identity and the development of culture-artistic pursuits of the Slovak minority in Vojvodina.

The cultural events of public interest for the **Ukrainian** national minority are the traditional “Days of Taras Shevchenko” and the Festival of the Ukrainian Culture “Kalina”. The Ukrainians also organise many other cultural events, such as: “Days of Ivan Franko”, Commemoration of the Fallen Soldiers of the Third Ukrainian Front in Sombor and Bezdan, Commemoration of the Famine Victims in Ukraine, Rally of Children’s Arts, 17th May – The Day of the Ukrainian National Community in Serbia, 14th October - The Day of the Ukrainian Heroes.

The “Days of Taras Shevchenko” Event, of Kula, is included in the programme of the local community’s activities that are financed on regular basis as an event of special national importance for the municipality.

On the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, in 2007, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia awarded financial support to the total amount of RSD 200,000.00.

In support of the events that promote the preservation of national identity and the development of culture-artistic pursuits of Ukrainian minority in Vojvodina, the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina, on the basis of annual competitions, awarded: RSD 80,000.00 in 2003, RSD 170,000.00 in 2004, RSD 140,000.00 in 2005, RSD 40,000.00 in 2006 and RSD 500,000.00 in 2007.

The most important cultural events of the **Croatian** national minority are: Colony of Straw Technique, Days of The Croatian Society, Encounters of Poets “Lira Naiva”, Days of Balint Vujkov, Duzijanca.

On the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, in 2007, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia awarded financial support to the total amount of RSD 650,000.00.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina, on the basis of annual competitions, awarded: RSD 315,000.00 in 2003, RSD 500,000.00 in 2004, RSD 500,000.00 in 2005, RSD 560,000.00 in 2006 and RSD 1,100,000.00 in 2007, for the events promoting the preservation of national identity and the development of culture-artistic pursuits of the Croatian minority in Vojvodina.

The “Days of Czech Culture” is the most important cultural event of the **Czech** minority in Serbia.

On the basis of annual competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, in 2007, the

Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia awarded financial support to the total amount of RSD 100,000.00.

In support of the events that promote the preservation of national identity and the development of culture-artistic pursuits of the Czech minority in Vojvodina, the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina, on the basis of annual competitions, awarded: RSD 50,000.00 in 2003, RSD 150,000.00 in 2004, RSD 150,000.00 in 2005, RSD 168,000.00 in 2006 and RSD 168,000.00 in 2007.

5.1.2.2.4. Houses of Culture and Centres of Culture

■ The State supports the operation of cultural institutions (such as: Houses of Culture, Centres of Culture, Cultural Agencies) which foster, develop and represent the cultural pursuits of national minorities. The examples of such support are contained in the comments below.

Public Authorities support the operation of cultural institutions that foster, develop and represent the cultural pursuits of the **Bosniac** national minority. Thus, the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights of Serbia and Montenegro in 2005 financially supported the operation of the House of Culture, of Novi Pazar, with RSD 472,000.00 and the operation of the Bosniac Centre of Culture with RSD 60,000.00. The Ministry of Human and Minority Rights of Serbia and Montenegro and the Office of Human and Minority Rights of the Republic of Serbia, in 2006, provided RSD 150,000.00 to the Muslim Centre of Culture, of Subotica, and RSD 200,000.00 to the Centre for Bosniac Studies.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina supports on regular basis the programme operation of the Agency of Culture of the Vojvodina's Hungarians in Senta. In 2007, the Secretariat allocated RSD 2,000,000.00 for this purpose.

■ In order to ensure physical conditions for fostering and development of the culture of national minorities, the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina co-finances the construction, reconstruction and adaptation of the very buildings of the main cultural institutions that present the multilingual cultural contents. The Secretariat also co-finances other construction works that may be required in these buildings, such as repair works, maintenance and fit out works, in the multilingual regions and in the underdeveloped or less developed municipalities. The examples of such support are contained in the comments below.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina, in order to ensure the physical conditions for the realization of cultural activities of persons belonging to the **Hungarian** minority, in the period of 2005-2006, provided a financial support, as is represented in the Table below:

Place	Beneficiary	Purpose	Amount
Kanjiža	Education-Cultural Institution CNESA	Production of the Design documentation for the Regional Creative Centre "Jozef Nadj"	1,000,000.00
Kula	Hungarian Educational Association "Senteleki", of Sivac	Repair works	500,000.00
Subotica	Hungarian Folklore Centre	Co-financing the acquisition of a building (the Centre's seat)	300,000.00
Torda	Torda Sub-district Žitište Municipality	Repair works on the building and acquisition of audio equipment for the Hall of the House of Culture	800,000.00
Feketić	Feketić Sub-district	Repair works on the House of Culture	2,300,000.00

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina, in order to ensure the physical conditions for the realization of cultural activities of persons belonging to the **Romanian** minority, co-financed the Municipality of Vršac with RSD 2,500,000.00 for the restoration of the House of Culture of Straza, in the period of 2005-2006.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina, in the period of 2005-2006, provided financial support in ensuring the physical conditions for the realization of cultural activities of persons belonging to the **Slovak** minority, as is represented in the Table below:

Place	Beneficiary	Purpose	Amount
Bačka Palanka	Bačka Palanka Municipality	Culture-Artistic Association "Pivnice" – Adaptation works	300,000.00
Kovačica	Kovačica Municipality	(Slovak) House of Culture "3 rd October" – Repair works	330,000.00
Kovačica	Kovačica Municipality	Maintenance and materials for the operation of the House of Culture "3 rd October"	365,000.00
Pivnice	National Council of the Slovak National Minority	Culture-Artistic Association "Pivnice" – Adaptation works	378,000.00
Stara Pazova	Stara Pazova Sub-district	Slovak House – Adaptation works	500,000.00
Šid	Šid Municipality	Slovak Culture-Educational Association "Erdevik" – Repair works	620,810.00

5.1.2.3. Preservation and Development of Tradition and Culture

5.1.2.3.1. Galleries and Museums

Governmental and provincial bodies support the operation of galleries and museums exhibiting cultural heritage and arts of persons belonging to national minorities. The Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia co-finances the operation of one gallery, while the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina participates in funding of 15 galleries and 12 museums in the territory of Vojvodina. The examples of this are contained in the comments below.

The City Gallery of Dimitrovgrad is the organiser of the International Art Colony “Poganovski Manastir” that predominantly gathers **Bulgarian** fine artists. It closely cooperates with cultural institutions from Bulgaria, such as the Association of Fine Artists of Bulgaria, the Sofia City Library, etc.

The Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia co-finances the operation of the City Gallery of Dimitrovgrad.

Some of the museums care for, conserve and exhibit the objects of historical and artistic importance to the cultural heritage of persons belonging to the **Hungarian** minority.

- In the period of 2002-2006, the Bečej City Museum acquired the following artefacts: for its archeological collection - 15 pieces of Hungarian coins, 159 pieces of Austro-Hungarian coins and 10 pieces of wartime Hungarian coins; for its historical collection – a documentary on the preparator Antal Laslo in Hungarian language, a hand-painted reproduction of The Martyrs of Arad painting, 15 ID cards issued in Austro-Hungaria; for its ethnological collection – 51 objects for which it is safe to say to have been used by the Hungarian population; for its artistic collection – a number of artworks by Hungarian artists, as well as a number of portraits of Hungarian men and women, citizens of Bečej.

- The Theatre Museum of Vojvodina, of Novi Sad, stores, in the category of printing materials in Hungarian language, 41 books and catalogues, as well as the following artistic collections: Legacy of the actor Jene Ferencije (posters, photographs, personal documents and decorations); Legacy of the puppeteer Sandor Hartig (puppets, sketches, puppet busts and patterns); other people’s individual gifts (30 posters in Hungarian language); historical documents from premieres staged in professional theatres of Vojvodina (posters, programmes, monographs); texts included in the Theatre Almanac of Vojvodina (texts in minority languages are translated into Serbian language), titles of the plays, names of authors and actors in Hungarian language.

- The collections of the Subotica City Museum, in respect to their contents, mainly belong to the Hungarian cultural heritage. Namely, 70% of the archived objects and 50% of the press stored in the Museum’s historical department is in Hungarian language and German language. Most of the objects stored in the ethnological department also belong to the Hungarian national culture. Within the artistic holdings, there is a Gallery of Hungarian Artists of Vojvodina in the period of 1830-1930. The

archaeological and natural sciences collections are predominantly in Hungarian language, too.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina, on the basis of competitions in 2005 and 2006, financially supported such museum activities which are aimed at preservation of cultural heritage of Hungarian minority, as is represented in the Table below:

Place	Institution	Purpose	Amount
Bačaka Topola	House of Culture	Co-financing the issuance of catalogues of the Blacksmith and Cart-wright's Museum	75,000.00
Subotica	City Museum	Interactive Exhibition marking the 120 th anniversary of the birth of Dezso Kosztolanyi	60,000.00

Some of the galleries and museums care for, conserve and exhibit the objects of historical and artistic importance to the cultural heritage of persons belonging to the **Romanian** minority.

- The Naive Art Gallery of Uzdin has the holdings of about 100 canvases painted by the Uzdin's artists, which makes it the largest collection of Uzdin's naive art.

In accordance with the support programme aimed at less developed municipalities, the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina co-finances regular operation of the Naive Art Gallery of Uzdin.

- The Theatre Museum of Vojvodina, of Novi Sad, stores 16 books and catalogues in the category of printing materials in Romanian language. In addition, the Museum owns the following artistic collections: historical documents from premieres staged in professional theatres of Vojvodina (posters, programmes, monographs); texts included in the Theatre Almanac of Vojvodina (texts in minority languages are translated into Serbian language), titles of the plays, names of their authors and actors in Romanian language.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina, on the basis of competitions in 2005 and 2006, financially supported the museum and gallery activities, as is represented in the Table below:

Place	Beneficiary	Purpose	Amount
Novi Sad	Romanian Association for Ethnography and Folklore	Conservation and restoration of the Ethnographic Museum of Vojvodina's Romanians	140,000.00
Uzdin	House of Culture "Doina" and Naive Art Gallery	Fixed expenditures, Art Colony and The week of Culture	190,000.00

Uzdin	Culture-Artistic Association "Tibiskus"	Replenishment of County Collection of Uzdin	15,000.00
-------	---	---	-----------

The Theatre Museum of Vojvodina, of Novi Sad stores 1 book in **Ruthenian** language in the category of printing materials in minority languages. In addition, the Museum owns the following artistic collections: historical documents from premieres staged in professional theatres of Vojvodina (posters, programmes, monographs); texts included in the Theatre Almanac of Vojvodina (texts in minority languages are translated into Serbian language), titles of the plays, names of their authors and actors in Ruthenian language.

Some of the galleries and museums care for, conserve and exhibit the objects of historical and artistic importance to the cultural heritage of persons belonging to the **Slovak** minority.

- The Naive Art Gallery of Kovačica collects and exhibits the works of naive artists who belong to the **Slovak** population. The Gallery houses every year the event known as "Kovačica's Days", and occasionally other events, such as biennial or triennial gatherings of naive artists, are also organised within the Gallery.

In accordance with the support programme aimed at less developed municipalities, the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina co-finances regular operation of the Naive Art Gallery of Kovačica.

- Gallery Babka of Kovačica, operating within the Ethno-Centre Babka, is declared by the UNESCO as an international centre of publishing on naive painting.

- The Theatre Museum of Vojvodina, of Novi Sad, stores 17 books and catalogues in the category of printing materials in Slovak language. In addition, the Museum owns the following artistic collections: historical documents from premieres staged in professional theatres of Vojvodina (posters, programmes, monographs); texts included in the Theatre Almanac of Vojvodina (texts in minority languages are translated into Serbian language), titles of the plays, names of their authors and actors in Romanian language. Within its activities in the field of international cooperation, the Theatre Museum of Vojvodina signed in Bratislava (Slovakia) an agreement on cooperation with the Theatrical Institute and the National Museum of Bratislava, entitled *Life of Slovaks Outside the Parent Slovakia*.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina, on the basis of competitions in 2005 and 2006, financially supported the museum and gallery activities of the Slovak minority, as is represented in the Table below:

Place	Institution	Purpose	Amount
Bački Petrovac	Slovak Theatre of Vojvodina	Co-financing the conservation of collection objects from the Theatre Museum of Vojvodina	50,000.00

Kovačica	Art Gallery Babka	Catalogue for the exhibition “Pannonian Miniature”	130,000.00
Kovačica	House of Culture “3 rd October”	Fixed expenditures and subsidizing the October’s Salon in the Naive Art Gallery	845,000.00

Among the collections housed at the Subotica City Museum there are such collections which, in respect to their contents, belong to the Croatian cultural heritage. Namely, 30% of the archived objects and 50% of the press stored in the Museum’s historical department is in Serbian and Croatian language.

5.1.2.3.2. Archives

The activities of the State in the field of managing the archives, through financing and co-financing the intermunicipal archives’ programme operations, are oriented to collecting, processing, safeguarding, representing and ensuring the accessibility of archival materials, with the aim of maintaining the culture and tradition of national minorities. Central institutions for the preservation of archival materials are the Archives of Serbia, in Belgrade, in the territory of the Republic of Serbia, and the Archives of Vojvodina, in Novi Sad, in the territory of AP Vojvodina. The State bodies co-finance activities such as digitalization of archival materials, archives networking, publication of archival materials and communication media on archival materials (guides) and the exhibitions representing the most valuable archival materials.

The text below provides some of the examples of preserving the archival materials in minority languages at individual archives.

Examples of the archival materials in **Hungarian** language kept in individual archives in Serbia are represented in the Table below:

Archives	Archival Materials
Historical Archives, of Zrenjanin	Archival holdings up to 1918 mostly in Hungarian language (60 archival holdings)
Archives of Vojvodina, of Novi Sad	A considerable part of the materials produced in the period of 1861-1918; All the materials produced in the period of 1941-1945
Historical Archives, of Senta	33% of the overall archival materials at the Archives
Historical Archives, of Sombor	86 holdings out of the total of 551 holdings
Historical Archives “Srem”, of Sremska Mitrovica	Parts of the archival holdings “Magistrat Trgovista – Ruma” (1771-1918); “Squire estates of Šid – Šid”(1777-1895)
Historical Archives, of Subotica	Approx. 10% of the overall archival materials

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina participates in providing funds for some of the publications and events realized by these Archives. Thus, in 2005, for instance, the Secretariat co-financed the publishing of a publication entitled “Ex Pannonia”, whilst in 2006, the Secretariat co-financed the event “Archive Days” and

a Scientific Convention on the occasion of 500th anniversary of Senta which were both organised by the Historical Archives of Senta.

Examples of the archival materials in **Slovak** language kept in individual archives in Serbia are represented in the Table below:

Archives	Archival Materials
Historical Archives “Srem”, of Sremska Mitrovica	„The Municipality of Slovak Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession – Stara Pazova” (1795-1899)

Examples of the archival materials in **Croatian** language kept in individual archives in Serbia are represented in the Table below:

Archives	Archival Materials
Historical Archives “Srem”, of Sremska Mitrovica	“Old Four-year Primary Roman-Catholic School – Maradik”(1880-1914); “Croatian Cooperative for Savings and Advance Payments – Sremska Mitrovica” (1882-1947); “Croatian Falcon – Ruma” (1906-1929)
Historical Archives, of Subotica	Approx. 10% of the overall archival materials

5.1.2.3.3. Monuments of Culture

Cultural Heritage Preservation Institutes are in charge of protection of immovable cultural heritage in the Republic of Serbia. These Institutes are financed from the public funds. Cultural assets in the Republic of Serbia are classified by their significance, in three categories: cultural assets, cultural assets of great importance and cultural assets of exceptional importance. In addition, there is also the category of immovable cultural assets under previous protection i.e. unclassified cultural heritage in the process of giving the landmark status. The text below provides some of the examples of preserving the cultural assets of national minorities.

■ The following monuments of cultural heritage of the **Hungarian** minority are included on the list of the Regional Inter-municipal Institute for Protection of Cultural Monuments of Subotica covering 9 municipalities on the northern part of Vojvodina:

- Roman Catholic Church - The Ascension of Blessed Virgin Mary, of Bačka Topola - cultural monument of great importance;
- Chapel in the Catholic graveyard in Pacir - cultural monument;
- Reformed Church and Parish House in Pacir - cultural monument;
- Hungarian Reformed Church in Stara Moravica - cultural monument;
- Roman Catholic Church St. George in Novi Knezevac - cultural monument;
- Site of the Battle at Senta, in Senta - significant sight of exceptional importance;
- The Holy Trinity, of Bajmok - cultural monument;

- Tomb of Bela Farkas in Palic - significant sight;
- The Memorial Fountain in Palic - cultural monument;
- The Holy Well dedicated to the Assumption of Virgin Mary, Catholic Chapel in Subotica - cultural monument;
- Chapels in the Bajsko graveyard in Subotica - cultural monument;
- Tomb of Istvan Ivany in Subotica - significant sight of great importance;
- Tomb of Ferenc Gal in Subotica - significant sight of great importance;
- Tomb of Erno Lanyi in Subotica - significant sight of great importance;
- Gravestone of Dr Babijan Malagurski in Subotica - significant sight of great importance;
- National Theatre, of Subotica - cultural monument of great importance;
- Jewish graveyard in Subotica - cultural monument;
- Roman Catholic Church St. Theresa of Avila, in Subotica - cultural monument of great importance;
- Fallen Soldiers and Victims of Fascism Monument, in Subotica - cultural monument;
- Synagogue in Subotica - cultural monument of exceptional importance;
- City House, in Subotica - cultural monument of exceptional importance;
- Franciscan Friary in Subotica - cultural monument of great importance;
- Yellow House in Subotica - cultural monument of great importance;
- Roman Catholic Church in Sanad - cultural monument;
- Roman Catholic Church of The Holy Trinity, in Čoka - cultural monument of exceptional importance;

■ The following monuments of cultural heritage of the Hungarian minority are included on the list of the Pančevo Institute for Protection of Cultural Monuments:

- The Minorite Monastery in Pančevo - cultural asset of great importance;
- St. Anna Church, Vajfert's Chapel in Pančevo, of Pančevo Municipality - cultural asset under previous protection (yet to be categorized);
- Roman Catholic Church of St. Gerhard De Sangredo in Vršac, of Vršac Municipality - cultural asset under previous protection;
- Roman Catholic Church St. Theresa of Avila in Kovin, of Kovin Municipality - cultural asset under previous protection.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina co-finances the projects that are aimed at preservation, representation, promotion and registration of the cultural heritage of the Hungarian minority, as well as the conservation and restoration of the immovable cultural assets. Some of the examples of such co-financing are represented in the Table below:

Place	Beneficiary	Purpose	Amount
Kupusina	Culture-Artistic Society "Petefi Sandor"	Unveiling of the Petefi Sandor's memorial bust	30,000.00
Subotica	Regional Inter-municipal Institute for Protection of Cultural Monuments	Publication of a magazine entitled "Zastitar"	230,000.00
Subotica	Regional Inter-municipal Institute for Protection of Cultural Monuments	Co-financing the activity of installing the memorial tablet to Imre Harkai on his house in Bačka Topola	15,000.00
Subotica	Regional Inter-municipal Institute for Protection of Cultural Monuments	Publishing a publication entitled "Development of Urban-planning and Architecture in the period of 1918-1941"	300,000.00
Subotica	Public organisation "Arac"	Installing the memorial tablet to Vojvodina's actor Pataka Laslo	30,000.00

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina co-finances the projects that are aimed at preservation, representation, promotion and registration of the cultural heritage of the **Roma** minority, as well as the conservation and restoration of the immovable cultural assets. Thus, the Secretariat participated with RSD 200,000.00 in funding the installation of the memorial of renowned romologist and writer Trifun Dimic, organised by the Vojvodina's Institute of Culture of Novi Sad.

The following monuments of cultural heritage of the **Romanian** minority are included on the list of the Pančevo Institute for Protection of Cultural Monuments:

- Romanian Orthodox Church in Uzdin, of Kovačica Municipality - cultural asset of exceptional importance;
- Romanian Orthodox Church in Banatsko Novo Selo, of Pančevo Municipality - cultural asset of great importance;
- Romanian Orthodox Church of St. Theodore Tiron in Kustilj, of Vršac Municipality - cultural asset of great importance;
- Romanian Orthodox Church of St. Nicolas in Ritisevo, of Vršac Municipality - cultural asset of great importance;
- Romanian Orthodox Church of the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ in Grebenac, of Bela Crkva Municipality - cultural asset of great importance;
- Romanian Orthodox Church of St. Elijah the Prophet in Kovin, of Kovin Municipality - cultural asset under previous protection;
- The Holy Well dedicated to the Exaltation of the Holy Cross in Uzdin, of Kovačica Municipality - cultural asset under previous protection.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina co-finances the projects that are aimed at preservation, representation, promotion and registration of the cultural heritage of the Romanian minority, as well as the conservation and restoration of the immovable cultural assets. Thus, the Secretariat provided RSD 300,000.00 to the

Regional Inter-municipal Institute for Protection of Cultural Monuments, of Subotica, for the purpose of publishing a brochure entitled “Development of Urban-planning and Architecture in the period of 1918-1941”, in Romanian language, too.

The monument of cultural heritage of the **Slovak** minority, included on the list of the Pančevo Institute for Protection of Cultural Monuments, is the Slovak Evangelical Church in Kovačica - cultural asset under previous protection.

The following monuments of cultural heritage of the **Croatian** minority are included on the list of the Regional Inter-municipal Institute for Protection of Cultural Monuments of Subotica covering 9 municipalities on the northern part of Vojvodina:

- Roman Catholic Church - The Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary, of Bačka Topola - cultural monument of great importance;
- The Memorial Fountain in Palic - cultural monument;
- The Holy Well dedicated to the Ascension of Virgin Mary, Catholic Chapel in Subotica - cultural monument;
- Chapels in the Bajsko graveyard in Subotica - cultural monument;
- Roman Catholic Church St. Theresa of Avila, in Subotica - cultural monument of great importance;
- City House, in Subotica - cultural monument of exceptional importance;
- Franciscan Friary in Subotica - cultural monument of great importance.

5.1.2.3.4. National Symbols and Holidays

National symbols and holidays as a specific aspect of the tradition and cultural heritage of national minorities are protected by law in the Republic of Serbia. Building from the fact that the freedom to express the national symbols contributes not only to the preservation of national identity but also to a feeling of true freedom and equality, the Constitution, under Article 79, envisages, *inter alia*, that Serbia recognizes and guarantees the right of national minorities to use their national symbols.

The use of national symbols is more precisely regulated by the federal Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities that stipulates, under Article 16, that persons belonging to national minority have the right to choose and use their national symbols. Article 16, paragraph 2 of the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities prescribes that national symbols must not be identical to the symbols of any other country. The intention of the legislation is obviously to find such symbols that represent the national minorities as entities rather than some other states. This solution allows the use of traditional symbols that may be similar to the symbols of other states, but it does not allow any use of such symbols that may be fully identical to the symbols of other states. The Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities provides for a specific procedure for determination of national symbols and holidays. The symbols and holidays of national minorities should firstly be proposed by their respective national councils and then acknowledged by the Minority Council of the

Republic of Serbia. This Law contains a very liberal solution regarding the use of national symbols. Namely, the Law envisages that national symbols of the respective national minority can be officially used during the state holidays and the holidays of the respective national minority on buildings and on the premises of local authorities and institutions on the territory where the language of the national minority is in official use; however, the symbols of national minorities must be displayed together with the symbols of the Republic of Serbia.

So far, the Minority Council of the Republic of Serbia has acknowledged the symbols and holidays of the Bosniac, Bunjevci, Hungarian and Croatian national minorities.

The Minority Council of the Republic of Serbia officially approved on 23rd December 2005, at the proposal of the National Council of the Bosniac minority, the symbols and holidays of the **Bosniac** national minority. As determined, the national symbol of the Bosniac national minority is a coat of arms. This coat of arms is shaped like a European shield and is diagonally divided with a white banner (starting from the upper left to the lower right). In the left diagonal half, on blue background below the lower edge of the banner there are three golden-yellow lilies identical in size and evenly distributed, whilst in the right diagonal half, there are three crescents open to the right-hand side, on green background and distributed in a form of equilateral triangle. The Bosniac flag is a white flag with a coat of arms of the Bosniac minority in the middle. The determined holidays of the Bosniac minority are: 11th May – the Day of the Bosniac National Flag; the first day of Ramadan Bayram; the first day of Kurban Bayram; 20th November - the Day of ZAVNOS.

The Minority Council of the Republic of Serbia officially approved on 23rd December 2005, at the proposal of the National Council of the Bunjevci minority, the symbols and holidays of the **Bunjevci** national minority in the Republic of Serbia. As determined, the national symbol of the Bunjevci national minority is a coat of arms. This coat of arms is shaped like a simple baroque shield and is vertically divided into two parts, the left part being sky blue and the right – silver (metal) though in print it is either white or light grey. In the right part there is a rampant lion standing on his hind legs with a drawn sabre in his right hand, with his face turned to the right and having a doubled tail thrown on his back (a tergo). In the left part there are three golden ears tied in a sheaf with three golden five-pointed stars on top of the ears. Above the shield there is a beaked helm (Stechhelm) drawn from directly in front (en face), with a chain around the base of the neck and a ruby, as a sign of special attention paid by the sovereign. The furs are blue on both sides, the right fur is silver in the background, whilst the left one is yellow i.e./or (gold). Above is Corona Muralis (the wall crown). The determined Bunjevci minority's flag is a gonfalon with three tassels at the end of the square field. It is trimmed with golden borders along the upper and the lower edges, having golden tassels in three fields. It is vertically divided into two parts. The right part is white with the coat of arms in its centre, and in the left part there are three yellow five-pointed stars distributed in a form of equilateral triangle. The determined holidays of the Bunjevci minority are: 2nd February - the Day of Big Spinning-bee; 23rd February - the Day of the Election of 1st National Council; 15th August - the Day of Duzijanca; 25th November - the Day on which in 1918

in Novi Sad the Great National Assembly of Serbs, Bunjevci and other Slavs convened for the first time.

The Minority Council of the Republic of Serbia officially approved on 23rd December 2005, at the proposal of the National Council of the Hungarian minority, the symbols and holidays of the **Hungarian** national minority in the Republic of Serbia. As determined, the national symbol of the Hungarian national minority is a flag. This flag is divided into horizontal fields which are (from top to bottom) red, white and green. Across these fields there is a pointed helm with seven alternate red and silver stripes in its first left field, the right field has the background of red, whilst there are three green hills with a golden crown resting on the central hill and a silver patriarchal cross issuing from the middle of the crown. On top of the shield rests the Hungarian Holy Crown. Scale of the symbols is 3:2. The determined holidays of the Hungarian minority are: 15th March - the Day of the Revolution and Liberation Combats of 1848/49; 20th August - St. Stephen's Day; 23rd October – the Inception of the Revolution and Liberation Combats of 1956.

The Minority Council of the Republic of Serbia officially approved on 23rd December 2005, at the proposal of the National Council of the Croatian minority, the symbols and holidays of the **Croatian** national minority in the Republic of Serbia. As determined, the national symbol of the Croatian national minority is a flag. This flag is horizontally divided into red, white and blue fields (from top to bottom) of identical heights. In the middle (on the white and partly on the blue field) there is a historical Croatian coat of arms – a shield with 25 alternate red and white squares, starting with a red-coloured square. The proportion of the flag's length vs. flag's height is 2:1.

Paragraph 2

5.2. Refraining from the Assimilation of Persons Belonging to National Minorities and Protection of these Persons from Assimilation

The Republic of Serbia is faithfully devoted to development of a multicultural society. There is no official state culture or official state religion in the country. A series of legal and political acts taken, to a certain extent already stated in this paper, are aimed not only at maintaining but also at further developing the national identity of national minorities. Therefore, it comes as no surprise that there are not any complaints that national minorities have been subjected to assimilation against their will.

Legal system of the Republic of Serbia incorporates a set of regulations which explicitly prohibit i.e. provide against any kind of measures or activities that are not based on free will and have as a goal the assimilation of minorities. Pursuant to Article 78, paragraph 1 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, any forced assimilation of members of national minorities is strictly prohibited. Under paragraph 3 of the same Article, the Constitution additionally prohibits taking any measures which would cause artificial changes in ethnic structure of population in areas where members of national minorities live traditionally and in large numbers. Under paragraph 2 of the same Article, the

Constitution stipulates that protection of members of national minorities from all activities directed towards their forced assimilation is regulated by Law.

Pursuant to Article 5, paragraph 1 of the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, any measure and/or action aimed at forced assimilation of members of national minorities is strictly prohibited. By virtue of this provision, the Law prohibits any measure aimed at forced assimilation of national minorities irrespective of the identity of the agent undertaking such measure (state bodies or other entities). There are other provisions of the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities which also provide against assimilation. Article 8 of the Law regulates the protection of rights acquired upon legal norms that were in force until the adoption of this Law, whilst Article 22 prohibits any measures which change the proportion of the population in areas inhabited by national minorities and which hamper enjoyment and exercise of the rights of national minorities.

It should be underlined that the legislation in the Republic of Serbia provides for a series of penalty provisions against such situations that could or would lead to a forced assimilation of minorities. The Criminal Code of the Republic of Serbia (Article 61) specifies that the denial and restriction of the right of national minorities to use their native languages and scripts is considered in the eye of the law to be criminal offence, and, accordingly, the Criminal Code envisages corresponding penalty measures including imprisonment. In view of the fact that denying the free use of native language is the fastest track to assimilation, the significance of the stated regulations is apparent.

Article 6

- 1. The Parties shall encourage a spirit of tolerance and intercultural dialogue and take effective measures to promote mutual respect and understanding and co-operation among all persons living on their territory, irrespective of those persons' ethnic, cultural, linguistic or religious identity, in particular in the fields of education, culture and the media.**
- 2. The Parties undertake to take appropriate measures to protect persons who may be subject to threats or acts of discrimination, hostility or violence as a result of their ethnic, cultural, linguistic or religious identity.**

Paragraph 1

6.1. Tolerance and Promotion of Mutual Respect and Understanding

6.1.1. Encouraging and Fostering a Spirit of Tolerance and Intercultural Dialogue

Encouraging and fostering a spirit of tolerance and intercultural dialogue is invaluable in a multiethnic society such as the society of the Republic of Serbia. The mutual respect, understanding and cooperation between people with different national, linguistic and religious affiliation are some of the principal objectives of minority policy in the Republic of Serbia. Still, establishment of a society in which the spirit of tolerance and intercultural dialogue is fully developed has required enormous efforts in a country that had in its surroundings such international conflicts which forced hundreds of thousands of refugees to flee.

Promotion of respect is a separate goal, under the new Constitution of the Republic of Serbia. Namely, pursuant to Article 48 of the Constitution, the Republic of Serbia promotes understanding, recognition and respect of diversity arising from specific ethnic, cultural, linguistic or religious identity of its citizens through measures applied in education, culture and public information.

6.1.2. Measures aimed at Promotion of Mutual Respect and Understanding

6.1.2.1. General and Regional

Some of the projects that are mutually realized by the governmental bodies, NGO-s and international institutions, feature as their main subject matter the issue of fostering a spirit of tolerance and intercultural dialogue. There are also many round tables, conferences and seminars organised on the topic of tolerance, as well as a number of various multiethnic sporting events in multiethnic regions. The examples of such events are contained in the comments below.

In 2004, a Regional Conference entitled "Tolerance and Understanding, First and Foremost", organised by the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights of Serbia and

Montenegro, OSCE Mission and the Centre of Regionalism of Novi Sad, took place in Belgrade. The Conference was only the finale of a campaign launched to create new cooperation triangles in the region of Southeast Europe on the basis of the Agreement on Multiethnic Tolerance and Cooperation, which resulted in agreements signed by more than 50 representatives of the towns and NGOs of Serbia and Montenegro, Croatia, Macedonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Albania, Bulgaria, Romania and Hungary, as well as in provided support to the establishment of the Association of Multiethnic Towns of Southeast Europe, as an organisation through which the provisions of the stated document would be realized. The Agreement signed by the delegations of local self-governments obliges them to observe the aims and principles, such as suppression of the hatred speech, xenophobia, prejudices, bigotry and all other forms of ethnic and religious intolerance. One of the goals of the Agreement is the establishment of the social framework for operation of local self-government bodies, regional and public institutions, NGOs and citizens of multicultural towns in Southeast Europe, in all social, cultural and educational spheres towards the development of a liberal democracy, ethnic and religious tolerance and protection of human rights.

The Ministry of Human and Minority Rights of Serbia and Montenegro in cooperation with OSCE Mission at the end of 2003 organised a seminar that offered a training programme to journalists to take employment at editorial offices in minority languages. On this second seminar of its kind organised by the Ministry, the training was organised for 15 journalists from the Bosniac, Roma and Albanian media. The previous, first, seminar included the journalists from all media in minority languages. On a five-day intensive training the journalists were given the opportunity to learn more of the significance of media in minority languages, their role in multiethnic societies and the basics of modern journalism, whilst in the workshops, it was a know-how training in journalism that was offered to the journalists.

In the end of 2005 and the beginning of 2006, the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights of Serbia and Montenegro organised a Project entitled "Strengthening the Confidence in Preševo, Bujanovac and Medveđa: the Alphabet of Tolerance and Study of Vojvodina Case" with the aim of improving the interethnic relations in these municipalities. About 30 young leaders participated in this Project. The participant leaders undertook a study visit to Vojvodina in order to learn of other multiethnic municipalities and successful models of multiethnic life. There were also 180 secondary-school students and their teachers from 6 schools of Preševo, Bujanovac and Medveđa who participated in the elective course "Alphabet of Tolerance", which introduced the basic terms of tolerance.

In order to promote, encourage and improve the tolerance and multiculturalism, the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights of Serbia and Montenegro released several publications: *Tolerance – My Way*, containing the awarded literary and art works by primary- and secondary-school students who participated in the Competition announced by the Ministry, Antology of works *Tolerance – Meeting of Differences* (in Serbian, Albanian and English language), containing the possible explanation of this complex phenomenon from antropological, sociological, psychological, culturological, legal and

historical aspects; *Orthodox, Catholic, Islamic, Jewish and Protestant Glossary of Concepts*, with 1,100 concepts characteristic for the four religions practiced in this region – Orthodoxy, Catholicism, Islam and Judaism, including a special reference to Protestantism in Serbia; *Ethnic Mosaic*, on the basis of the 2002 Census in Serbia, representing the quantitative features of 29 ethnic groups (their population, age structure, number of persons belonging to national minority working/living abroad and statistics on their occupation/economic activity); *Protection of Minorities in International and Comparative Law*, by PhD Boris Krivokapic Prof. in 3 volumes: (1st volume) *Protection of Minorities: Historical Development and Protection within the UN*, focusing on the importance of protection in the present time, the protection of national minorities throughout the history, certain general and theoretical issues and protection of minorities within the United Nations, (2nd volume) *Protection of Minorities in Regional Frameworks by virtue of Bilateral Agreements*, referring to the protection of minorities within the European Council, OSCE, European Union and other regional organisations, and focusing on the place and role of bilateral agreements in this area, (3rd volume) *Protection of Minorities in Social National Order*, referring to the protection of minorities in national practices of a number of modern countries; *Handbook on human rights education of young people “Kompas”*, published by the Council of Europe, the Group “Hajde da” and the Office of Human and Minority Rights.

Some of the general and regional projects that are realized by the governmental bodies feature, as their main subject matter, the issue of fostering a spirit of tolerance and intercultural dialogue.

Provincial Secretariat of Regulations, Administration and National Minorities of AP Vojvodina coordinates the activities on the Project, launched by the Executive Council of AP Vojvodina and supported by the Government of the Republic of Serbia, entitled “Affirmation of Multiculturalism and Tolerance in Vojvodina”. The mission of this Project is fostering and promoting the value of multiethnic and multicultural principle and practices in accordance with the open democratic society, based on the rule of law. This Project is realized in cooperation with other provincial bodies and institutions, non-governmental and sports organisations, educational institutions and institutions of culture and partly in cooperation with some economic entities.

The Project comprises the following sub-projects:

- Museum exhibition “*Living Together*”, representing the topics and motifs of common history and the resulting cross-cutting issues and influences of the Serbian and Hungarian national communities in Vojvodina. It consists of three thematic wholes: “How We Became Neighbours” (describing historical events), “Our Common Life” (representing successful examples of co-habitation, cultural interpenetration and the results of tolerant interethnic relations) and, “Where We Are Today” (representing the life of numerous peoples in Vojvodina under conditions of liberalism and socio-revolutionary influences in the region of Vojvodina).

- Sporting events with additional contents “*Tolerance Cup*” which includes various sports competitions among the schools whose students belong to national minorities or the schools situated in the municipalities with a significant proportion of

persons belonging to national minorities. The additional contents are certain programmes with various culture-artistic contents which are organised to bring the students together and promote the feeling of friendliness among them.

- Quiz “How Much We Know Each Other” is a competition between the secondary-school students attending the schools (curriculum) in minority languages and secondary-school students attending the schools of multiethnic municipalities, in their knowledge about the history and culture of national minorities from the territory of Vojvodina.

- Media campaign “Multiculturalism in Vojvodina” – realization of short video clips and other video materials on the subject of tradition, culture and history of national and ethnic communities living in Vojvodina, and their broadcasting in the programmes of major TV stations in Vojvodina.

- “Comeback to Good Business Practices” – a subproject oriented towards the affirmation of multilingual practices in economic-business sphere and in business communication.

- Evaluation of the status of interethnic relations between young people in Vojvodina - research carried out through a professionally drawn up public opinion surveys with the aim of discovering the attitudes that young people have towards different cultures i.e. towards persons belonging to other national minorities.

- “Ethno Day”, presentation of cultural, folklore, gastronomic and all other specificities of national minorities at schools in Vojvodina (each minority has its own day).

- “A Book on Vojvodina’s History”, a book that would have the character of a textbook and could be used as an additional educational material, in history in the first place, and would cover historical events from the Vojvodina’s past with focus on the historical period from 1848 to the contemporary age.

- Publication on the European Union, entitled “Let’s Join”, a repeated issue of the publication of the non-governmental organisation “Belgrade Centre for Human Rights”. In an appropriate way, the publication tells the story of the origin, the institutions and the documents of EU, and is intended for the secondary-school students.

Other bodies and centres also invest efforts and contribute to the promotion of tolerance and multicultural dialogue. The Coordinating Body for Bujanovac, Preševo and Medveđa was re-organised in 2007 with the aim of creating the adequate conditions for directing their operation towards certain specific fields. Three task forces were established within the Coordinating Body. One of the task forces is in charge of social issues and issues of integrations.

The Coordinating Body, in cooperation with international institutions and non-governmental sector, implements projects that contribute to the inclusion of Albanians into the social life and development of a multiethnic society in the South of Serbia. Thus, the Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the Centre for Integrative Mediation (CSSP), seated in Berlin. The Memorandum features the mission and future activities. Primary goals are: the promotion of projects that will contribute to the process of dialogue and conflict resolution on the local level in the South of Serbia; enabling the local community to understand the values of diversity and peaceful conflict resolution; mediation if needed and creation of such an environment where the mediation would be

an acceptable solution; local capacity-building in mediation as well as the research of possibilities for developing the process of integrative mediation in the South of Serbia. The Coordinating Body, in cooperation with the non-governmental organisation “Centre for Non-violent Resistance”, is planning a mutual activity aimed at organisation of work with secondary-school students from Bujanovac and Preševo on the concepts of multiethnic society, identity, learning of other multiethnic regions in Serbia, etc.

6.1.2.2. Measures Taken in Certain Aspects of Social Life

The Republic of Serbia, as much as it can, endeavours to undertake efficient measures with the aim to improve and promote the respect, understanding and cooperation between the persons belonging to different national minorities. In addition to general and regional projects, these measures are also undertaken in various aspects of social life.

6.1.2.2.1. Education

The Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities envisages that the curricula in educational institutions with instructions in Serbian language must comprise teaching material on the history, culture and position of national minorities, as well as other contents which promote mutual tolerance and co-habitation. Moreover, with the aim of promoting the tolerance towards national minorities, Article 13, paragraph 7 of the Law, explicitly envisages that the curricula in educational institutions and schools with instructions in Serbian language in the territories where the language of the national minority is in official use, should also contain the possibility of learning the language of the national minorities (Ref. Comment on the implementation of Article 12 of the Convention).

Pursuant to the Law on Basic Principles of the Educational System, one of the educational goals is developing the curiosity and openness among the children and students towards the culture of traditional Churches and religious communities as well as ethnic and religious tolerance, strengthening the confidence among children and students and preventing such behaviour that may violate the right to diversity (Article 3, item 11).

The possibility of studying the language and literature of any of the national minorities in the Republic of Serbia is provided at philological and philosophical faculties within different universities in the Republic of Serbia.

In the field of education, serious measures are undertaken with a view to improvement of the mutual respect and understanding. The Office of Human and Minority Rights within the Government of the Republic of Serbia, upon its establishment in 2006, and marking 10th December – the Day of Human Rights, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Sports, announced a Competition of primary-school and secondary-school students’ works on the topic “What I Do To Understand Others”. The total award fund amounted to RSD 1,066,000.00, and all the students who participated in the Competition won some of the awards.

In 2006, the Ministry of Education and Sports launched a project entitled “Together towards the Equality” which was financially supported by the Government of the Kingdom of Norway. The primary goal of this Project was to promote interpersonal relations and ensure satisfactory education for the Roma children in Zajacar County, as well as to support and develop positive attitudes towards the Roma on the part of school administration, teachers, parents and students belonging to majority population.

6.1.2.2.2. Culture

In the field of culture, the Republic and provincial bodies co-finance the projects and programs aimed at the affirmation of multiculturalism and advancement of the spirit of tolerance. The text below provides some of the examples of the financial support provided.

On the basis of competitions for projects/programmes that contribute to the development and representation of culture and arts of national minorities, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia also awards funds for multicultural contents. Thus, in 2007 the Ministry co-financed with the total amount of RSD 700,000.00 the realization of three multicultural projects: “Music Speaks in Different Language”, “Festival of Danube-basin Folklore” and “Innovative Workshop for Production of Woolen Things”.

On the occasion of the Republic of Serbia’s presiding over the Council of Europe, the Ministry of Religion of the Republic of Serbia organised in Belgrade an event named “The Days of European Cultural Heritage”. The programme lasting several days represented the religious cultural heritage of traditional Churches and religious communities of Serbia. This cultural event also included the exhibition of photography, cinematic programme featuring around 15 films with religious cultural contents, concerts and platforms. Special attention was paid to programmes of multiconfessional cultural content – Multireligious music-stage appearance of the Jewish group Shira and singers of the Choir Ensemble of the Islamic Community of Serbia, and combined concert of the Orthodox, Catholic and Jewish Choir: “Sveti Despot Stefan Lazarević” Choir, “Parish Church of St. Cyril and St. Methodius” Choir and “Braća Baruh” Choir. Within the “The Days of European Cultural Heritage” Event, a contest of spiritual oratory entitled “All Different, All Equal” was held among the students of three divinity colleges: the Faculty of Orthodox Theology of the University of Belgrade, the Theological – Catechetic Institute of Subotica and the Faculty of Islamic Studies of Novi Pazar. The representatives of traditional Churches and religious communities participated in the spiritual panel (filming of the special programme “Agape”) and the questions were asked by the students of divinity colleges.

Serbian Broadcasting Corporation signed a contract with the representatives of traditional Churches and religious communities in the Republic of Serbia on production of programmes on religious and cultural heritage of these communities.

On 22nd September 2007, a round table was organised in Kovačica by the Office of Human and Minority Rights within the Government of the Republic of Serbia and

“Babka” Gallery of Kovačica. Representatives of the national councils of national minorities took active part in the round table. This round table was devoted to cultural pursuits of national minorities, and at the same time it was a preparatory meeting for another round table and exhibition on the same subject to be held in the European Parliament nearing the end of 2007. The entire organisation of the exhibition “Cultural Pursuits of National Minorities in Serbia” was supported with RSD 250,000.00 by the Office of Human and Minority Rights.

Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina provides financial support and co-finances projects/programmes that have multiethnic contents and promotes the spirit of tolerance. In 2006, the Secretariat co-financed with RSD 152,000.00 the following projects: “*Ethnic Tolerance as Permanent Commitment*”, 44th “International Folklore Rally – *Bajmok*”, “Ethno Festival – *Zlatna Jesen*” and “*Our Past, Present and Future* – collecting and publishing traditional sayings, songs, with inclusion of persons with disability”. In 2007, the Secretariat co-funded 9 multiethnic projects with the total amount of RSD 584,000.00. The Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina provided financial support for the realization of the following projects: “*Get to Know One Another*” – a series of interactive lectures on cultural heritage of the peoples that live in Novi Sad; “*The Wealth of the Past*”; “Ethno Festival – *Zlatna Jesen*”; “*Deca Su Ukraas Sveta*” - 12th children folklore festival; “*Ethnic Tolerance as Permanent Commitment*”; “Jubilee Concert marking the 50th anniversary of Culture-Educational Association *Jedinstvo* of *Bajmok*”; “45th International Folklore Rally – *Bajmok*”; “*Via Handicrafts to Tolerance*” - intercultural exhibition of handicrafts and intercultural ethno festival of Novi Sad; “Rally of Traditional Customs of the Serbs, Roma, Hungarians, Romanians, Czechs and Vlachs”.

Provincial Secretariat for Regulations, Administration and National Minorities of AP Vojvodina provides financial support to the organisations and other associations of persons belonging to national minority which have a registered seat in the territory of AP Vojvodina and whose operation is based on the preservation and maintenance of national identity and interethnic tolerance, as well as to their projects aimed at realization of the rights of national minorities and preservation and maintenance of interethnic tolerance. In the first half of 2007, the Provincial Secretariat of Regulations, Administration and National Minorities awarded funds to the amount of RSD 270,000.00 to the following organisations that promote multiculturalism: the Culture-Educational Association “Carpathians”, of Vrbas; the Serbian-Ukrainian Association, of Novi Sad; the Culture-Educational Association “Secanj”, of Secanj; the Association for fostering the tradition and handicrafts “ETNO”, of Bajsa; the Club for fostering the traditions and customs of all peoples and nationalities in Vojvodina, of Srbobran; the Euro-regional Centre for the Development of Society in Multiethnic Regions “In Medias Res” of Pančevo; Art Colony “Njardi”, of Vrbas; the Non-governmental Non-profit Organisation “Zeleni Prsten”, of Ruski Krstur; the Independent Youth Organisation “Active”, of Čoka.

6.1.2.2.3. Public Information

The efficient measures for the improvement of mutual respect, understanding and cooperation, in the field of media, rest on the legislation that governs the basic principles of radio and TV programmes broadcasting. The legislation specifies that providers of broadcasting service are obliged to ensure the respect and expression of cultural and linguistic identity of national minorities (Article 78, item 4 of the Broadcasting Law). Moreover, pursuant to Article 4, item 9 of the Broadcasting Law, a public broadcasting service must produce, acquire, process and broadcast the informative, educational, culture-artistic, children's, entertaining, sports and other television programmes which are of public interest for the citizens, with particular aim to realize their human and civic rights, exchange of ideas and opinions, to foster the political, gender, interethnic and religious tolerance and to preserve their national identity. Pursuant to Article 68 item 4, it is binding on all providers to, during broadcasting, contribute to upgrading the general cultural and cognitive level of the citizens. Special bodies of mixed composition are assigned to monitor whether or not the programmes broadcast by a public service are in compliance with the stated programme principles. In the Republic of Serbia, the Council of the Broadcasting Agency, which is responsible for all decision-making within the Agency's scope of reference, consists of 9 members. Two of the members are assigned by the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia at the proposal of Churches and religious associations and/or domestic non-governmental organisations and citizens' associations whose activities are primarily oriented towards the protection of freedom of speech, *protection of the rights of national minorities* and protection of children's rights, by virtue of common agreements (Article 23 of the Broadcasting Law).

In order to encourage and ensure respect of tolerance, intercultural dialogue and understanding in a multiethnic and multicultural society such as the society of the Republic of Serbia, the representatives of the Office of Human and Minority Rights, the national councils of national minorities and the Union of Jewish Municipalities, and the Public Broadcasting Service signed in 2007 the Agreement on Cooperation in Producing and Broadcasting of Programmes which pertains to national minorities that live in the Republic of Serbia. The programmes on national minorities will be made in cooperation with the national councils of national minorities i.e. their representatives, and they are to present the cultural, historical, customary, linguistic and other specificities of the Bosniac, Bulgarian, Bunjevci, Croatian, Egyptian, Greek, Hungarian, Jewish, Macedonian, Roma, Romanian, Ruthenian, Slovak, Ukrainian and Vlach national minorities. Production and broadcasting of the programmes about national minorities that have not registered their national council will be defined under a separate agreement.

Paragraph 2

6.2. Prohibition of Inequality, Hatred and Intolerance

The legal system of the Republic of Serbia protects the rights of national minorities and guarantees special protection to persons belonging to national minorities in order to ensure the realization of full equality and preservation of their identity, the development

and expression of their ethnic, cultural, linguistic, religious and other specificities and, by virtue of efficient measures, the legal system prevents any form of discrimination, threats, violence and intolerance that may be levelled against such persons by reason of their ethnic or other specificity.

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia prohibits any form of discrimination, direct or indirect, on any grounds, in particular on the grounds of the race, gender, national affiliation, social standing or origin, birth, religion, political or other opinion, property status, culture, language, age, mental or physical disability (Article 21). Pursuant to Article 49 of the Constitution, any inciting of racial, ethnic, religious or other inequality or hatred is prohibited and punishable. Under Article 22, the Constitution envisages that everyone has the right to judicial protection when any of their human or minority rights guaranteed by the Constitution have been violated or denied, and they also have the right to elimination of consequences arising from such violation.

The prohibition of inciting of racial, ethnic or religious hatred is further elaborated under some of the constitutional and legal provisions.

The Constitution, under provisions of Article 5, paragraphs 1 and 2, guarantees and acknowledges the role of political parties in the shaping of political will of citizens and permits the free establishment of political parties, whilst under provision of paragraph 3, the Constitution defines as unacceptable such an operation of a political party which might be oriented towards the violation of guaranteed human or minority rights or towards the inciting of racial, ethnic or religious hatred.

In the Republic of Serbia, as stipulated in Article 50, paragraph 3 of the Constitution, censorship is not applied. Still, the competent court is entitled to suppress the dissemination of information and ideas by mass media if that is necessary in the democratic society in order to suppress any advocating of the racial, ethnic or religious hatred which incite discrimination, hostility or violence.

The Constitution, under Article 55, guarantees the freedom of political, union and any other form of association, as well as the right to stay out of any association. Constitutional Court may ban such associations the activity of which is aimed at violent overthrow of the constitutional order, violation of guaranteed human or minority rights, or inciting of racial, national and religious hatred.

All citizens, including the persons belonging to national minorities, are entitled to criminal-legal protection against any form of discrimination, violence and threats under identical conditions. Under Article 128 of the *Criminal Code* enacted in 2005, it is envisaged that whoever denies or restricts the right of man and citizen guaranteed by the Constitution, laws or other legislation or general acts or ratified international treaties, on grounds of nationality or ethnicity, race or religion or due to absence of such affiliation or difference in political or other conviction, sex, language, education, social status, social origin, property or other personal characteristic, or pursuant to such difference grants another privileges or benefits, will be punished by imprisonment of up to three

years. If the act specified is committed by an official in discharge of duty, such a person will be punished by imprisonment of three months to five years.

Under Article 130 of the Criminal Code, it is specified that whoever prevents another to express his/her national or ethnic affiliation or culture, will be punished with fine or imprisonment of up to one year, whilst if such acts are committed by an official in discharge of duty, such person will be punished by imprisonment of up to three years.

Whoever prevents or restricts another's freedom of religion or practicing a religion, prevents or hinders another in performing religious services, coerces another to express his religious conviction will be, pursuant to Article 131, punished by imprisonment of up to one year. A more serious form of this offence is if the acts specified are committed by an official in discharge of duty. In that case, such a person will be punished by imprisonment of three months to five years.

Article 387 of the Criminal Code prohibits racial and any other discrimination. It specifies that whoever on grounds of race, colour, nationality, ethnic origin or other personal characteristic violates fundamental human rights and freedoms guaranteed by the universally accepted rules of international law and ratified international treaties will be punished by imprisonment of six months to five years. The same penalty will be imposed on whoever persecutes organisations or individuals due to their commitment to equality of people. The penalty of imprisonment of three months to three years is envisaged for dissemination of ideas of superiority of one race over another, or for propagation of racial intolerance or instigation of racial discrimination.

Appropriate measures for protection of disadvantaged persons are envisaged in a series of laws defining the offence and disciplinary liabilities of bodies, organisations and persons who commit or incite such actions.

Law on Basic Principles of Educational System (Article 145, paragraph 1, item 3) envisages penalty provisions, specifying the penalty fines from RSD 30,000 to RSD 500,000 for offence committed by institutions and includes threatening, disrespecting or discriminating, or incitement of threatening, disrespecting or discriminating of any group or individual on grounds of their racial, ethnic, gender, linguistic or religious affiliation, mental or physical constitution, social and cultural origin or political conviction (Article 46, paragraphs 1 - 3). Any expression of ethnic or religious intolerance on the part of employees in an institution is considered to be a rather serious violation of certain labour related obligations, for which, pursuant to Article 131, paragraph 1, item 4, a penalty fine is envisaged to the equivalent value of 20% to 35% of the salary paid for the month when the decision is passed, for the duration of 3-6 months. Article 96 of the Law on Basic Principles of Educational System stipulates that students are responsible for fulfilling their obligations. Pursuant to this Article, the students are not allowed, in exercising their rights, to endanger others in exercising their rights. The pronouncement of educational-disciplinary measure is envisaged for minor violations of student's obligations in accordance with the school statute, whilst some more serious violations are regulated in accordance with the relevant law.

The Law on Primary Schools envisages higher fines for schools (as compared to the first round of reporting) to the amount of RSD 30,000 - RSD 500,000 in the event that groups or individuals are threatened or disrespected within the school on the grounds of their racial, ethnic, gender, linguistic or religious affiliation or their political conviction, as well as in the event that the school incites such activities or fails to take measures for their prevention and suppression (Article 140). A Head-master's Reprimand or Severe Teaching-Staff's Reprimand can be issued to a pupil for a serious breach of the pupils' obligations, and expression of ethnic or religious intolerance is considered to be one.

One of the basic principles of the *Law on Health Care* is the principle of equality in health care, which is realized through prohibition of discrimination in the provision of health care, *inter alia*, on grounds of ethnic affiliation, religion, culture and language (Article 20). Any patient to whom the right to health care has been denied on any of the grounds specified above, or who is dissatisfied with the provided health care service and/or the activity of medical or other worker employed at that health care institution, is entitled to file a complaint to the medical worker who is in charge of the process of work or to a person/official who is employed in that institution and responsible for the protection of patients' rights – Ombudsman for patients' rights. Health care institutions are obliged to form an Ombudsman office and provide the Ombudsman services to patients. If they fail to do so, or if they deny the patients their right to file complaints to the medical worker who is in charge of the process of work or to the Ombudsman for patients' rights, or if they prevent or frustrate the independent work of the Ombudsman, they are punished with a fine between RSD 200,000 – RSD 1,000,000 (Article 39, paragraphs 1, 2 and 9). If the patients are dissatisfied with the findings on the issue of their complaint, they are entitled to address the Health Inspectorate.

The Labour Law, under Article 18, prohibits any direct or indirect discrimination of a person seeking employment as well as the employees, on grounds of their sex, birth, language, race, nationality, religion, marital status, family obligations, political and other beliefs, social descent, financial standing, membership in political organisations, membership in trade unions, or any other personal feature. The stated discrimination is also prohibited with respect to: terms of employment and selection of a candidate for certain job, working conditions and all the rights deriving from the labour relation, education, training and specialization, promotion in the company and termination of the labour contract (Article 20, paragraph 1). Pursuant to Article 273 of this Law, the employer having the capacity of a legal person will be punished with a fine between RSD 800,000 – RSD 1,000,000 for violation of the stated prohibition of discrimination (Article 273).

One of the basic principles of the *Law on Employment and Insurance in the Case of Unemployment* is the principle of accessibility, procedure and prohibition of discrimination in employment. Pursuant to Article 8, paragraph 1 thereof, any persons seeking employment must be provided with equal accessibility to jobs and equal procedure in the process of recruiting, regardless of race, colour, national affiliation, ethnic origin, language, religion or any other occurrence that might be the basis for discrimination and/or unequal approach towards different individuals whose differences

serve no purpose to actual executing the job tasks. Persons who consider themselves discriminated on these grounds are entitled to seek indemnity, by instituting legal proceedings for discrimination, from the employer who withdraws from establishing labour relation with them.

Pursuant to Article 38 of the *Public Information Law*, it is prohibited to publicize ideas, information and opinions that incite discrimination, hatred or violence against individuals or a group of individuals due to their belonging to certain race, religion, nation or ethnic group, or due to the absence of such belonging, irrespective of whether or not such publicizing implied the violation of the law. It is envisaged that any natural or legal person or organisation whose aim is to protect groups, is entitled to press charges against the author of the information or against the managing editor in the event that the ideas, information and opinions that incite discrimination, hatred or violence have been publicized (Article 39). If the information which, pursuant to this law, must not be publicized is nevertheless publicized - any person to whom such information may refer and who suffers damage because of it, is entitled to indemnity for tangible and intangible damage caused.

The Broadcasting Law, under Article 8, authorizes the Broadcasting Agency to undertake measures in the field of broadcasting with the aim of suppressing the broadcasting of programmes which contain such information that could incite discrimination, hatred or violence against individuals or a group of individuals due to their belonging to certain race, religion, nation, ethnic group or gender, or due to absence of such belonging.

Pursuant to the *Law on Suppression of Violence and Unfitting Behaviour at Sporting Events*, the organiser, in cooperation with the ministry competent for interior affairs, is obliged to ensure a safe progress of sporting event and to undertake measures aimed at preventing and suppressing an outburst of violence and unfitting behaviour on the part of spectators (Article 3, item 1). The terms “violence” and “unfitting behavior” are to be in the first place understood, within respect to this Law, as an incitement of hatred or intolerance which may lead to physical conflicts between the participants (Article 4, item 4). It is binding on the organiser to provide marshals or to hire a legal person or entrepreneur authorized to maintain the order at the sporting event and, among other things, to prevent bringing into the sport facility of such objects and symbols which could incite racial, religious, ethnic or other hatred and/or which have obscene or insulting contents, etc. (Article 8, item 5). In the event that any of the stated provisions is violated, the Law stipulates a fine between RSD 300,000 – RSD 500,000 for the corresponding sport union, sport association, sport organisation, club or other legal person. An organiser of sporting event, having the capacity of the natural person, will be punished with a fine between RSD 20,000 – RSD 30,000 or with imprisonment of up to sixty days.

6.2.1. Special Protection of Vulnerable Groups

A number of political documents, action plans and strategies, such as the Poverty Reduction Strategy, the National Strategy for Education of Roma, the Strategy for the Integration and Giving Additional Authorization to the Roma or the Strategy for

Refugees, have been adopted with the aim of improving the position of citizens in the Republic of Serbia, thus, of national minorities, too, especially the Roma population.

6.2.1.1. Roma

The Roma belong to some of the most affected social groups in the Republic of Serbia; accordingly, the integration and strengthening of the position of the Roma national minority are some of the priorities. The Republic of Serbia has joined the regional programme for the improvement of the position of Roma in the Central and Southeast Europe entitled “Decade of Roma Inclusion 2005-2015” and produced the Strategy for the Integration and Giving Additional Authorization to the Roma. The Strategy comprises the descriptions of problems, current initiatives and recommendations for further course of action in 13 areas: education, housing, employment, specific position of the internally displaced persons, the issue of returnees according to the Agreement on Readmission, ID documents, social welfare, health care, specific position of women, information, culture, political participation and representation, discrimination issues as well as recommendations for the implementation of the Strategy. The Strategy generated a number of action plans in the areas where the Roma are most affected: education, housing, employment and health care, whilst some of the measures stated in the part of this Report which refers to Article 4 are also based on these action plans. In addition to these action plans, some other, proposed action plans have also been produced for other areas of social life (social welfare, improvement of the position of women, internally displaced persons, antidiscrimination, culture, media and information and readmission).

6.2.1.2. Persons Belonging to National Minorities as Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons

The Republic of Serbia is still facing the issue of a significant number of refugees who exiled from the former Yugoslav republics. In the Republic of Serbia, 104,246 have retained the status of refugees. Out of that number, 73.43% came from the Republic of Croatia, 26.42% from Bosnia and Herzegovina. In accordance with the decisions made during the process of refugees’ registration, all these persons are entitled to new identity cards issued by the Ministry of the Interior at its regional administrative units (city and municipal). The appreciable reduction in the number of refugees on the preceding period has in the main resulted from the opportunity given to refugees to assume the citizenship of the Republic of Serbia, or to return to the country of their origin. It is estimated that approx. 200,000 refugees have obtained the citizenship of the Republic of Serbia.

The status, position and rights of the refugees from the territory of former Yugoslavia are governed by the special Law on Refugees and by the regulations stipulating the ways in which care of refugees and displaced persons should be effected. Pursuant to the Law, the refugee-status is acknowledged only to refugees from the territory of some of the republics of the former Yugoslavia.

In the Republic of Serbia, at present, there are 228,000 internally displaced persons from the Autonomous Province of Kosovo and Metohija (including 20,000 internally displaced

persons in the very Province). They belong to 31 ethnic groups (75% Serbs, 10.85% Roma, 2.5% Moslems, 1.5% Goranci and below 1% Albanians, Ashkalia, Egyptians, Hungarians, Macedonians, Turks, Croats etc.). The devastating truth is that only several thousands of people have returned to Kosovo and Metohija during the eight years of the international presence in the Province.

One of the priorities for the Government of the Republic of Serbia is to resolve the problem of the internally displaced persons. In this respect, the Government is ruled by the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement which stipulate, *inter alia*, that the internally displaced persons are entitled to choose freely on the place they want to live in i.e. to decide between return, local integration or moving into third countries.

6.2.1.3. Returnees

Within its international cooperation, the Republic of Serbia has so far signed 15 Bilateral Agreements on Readmission which cover the following 17 countries: Germany, Switzerland, Slovenia, Sweden, Slovakia, Bulgaria, Hungary, Italy, Denmark, Benelux countries (Belgium, Netherlands and Luxemburg), Croatia, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada and France. In 2007, Serbia signed a special Agreement on Readmission with the European Community that takes precedence over the provisions of any other Bilateral Agreement on Readmission concluded between Serbia and some of the Community's member countries. The Agreements with the Czech Republic and Norway are harmonized and initialled, and the process of concluding the Agreements on Readmission with 9 other countries is in progress. The Roma constitute the majority of returnees. In the field of readmission, three separate programmes have been realized: 1. the Office for Giving Shelter (in accordance with the Agreements on Readmission) at the Belgrade Airport which accepts everybody, particularly deported persons; 2. the Centre for Integration of Returnees (in accordance with the Agreements on Readmission), which is at the moment a part of the Programme for Assistance to the Roma, whilst, in organisational structure, it is a part of the Office of Human and Minority Rights within the Government of the Republic of Serbia, as the Centre enables legal assistance to returnees by dealing with individual cases, on the one hand, and analyzes and creates mechanisms for the integration of returnees in cooperation with the responsible institutions, on the other; 3. the Project of Raising the Readmission Awareness which is focused on raising awareness of the issue of readmission among the state bodies, bodies on the local level and among the returnees. This Project was launched in October 2006, in cooperation with UNDP, supported by the Dutch Government. Among other things, the Program is to provide training on better integration of returnees, in 10 municipalities across Serbia, and to ensure support to the measures aimed at better integration of children returnees. Under the auspices of the Office of Human and Minority Rights, a Reference Book instructing some methods of operation within the field of integration (intended for the staff) was issued in Serbian, Hungarian, Albanian and English languages, as well as a Manual (intended for returnees) that was issued in Serbian, Romany, German, Dutch and English languages.

Article 7

The Parties shall ensure respect for the right of every person belonging to a national minority to freedom of peaceful assembly, freedom of association, freedom of expression, and freedom of thought, conscience and religion.

7.1. Freedom of Peaceful Assembly

The Constitution, under Article 54, guarantees the right to peaceful assembly. Under the same Article, it is specified that assembly held indoors is not subject to permission or registering, whilst gathering, demonstrations and other forms of assembly held outdoors must be reported to the state body, in accordance with the law. The same constitutional provision specifies that the freedom of assembly may be restricted by the law only if necessary to protect public health, morality, rights of others or the security of the Republic of Serbia. Pursuant to Articles 9 and 10 of the Law on Citizens Assembling, the competent authority will temporarily ban any public assembly the activity of which is aimed at violent overthrow of the constitutional order, disrespect of the integrity of the territory and independence of the Republic of Serbia, violation of the guaranteed human or minority rights, or inciting of racial, national and religious hatred or intolerance. The competent authority is obligated to inform the organiser of the temporary ban in advance, at least 12 hours prior to the assembly's scheduled beginning. Pursuant to Article 9, paragraph 3 of the Law, the competent authority will submit the substantiated request for deciding on the ban (based on the stated reasons) of public assembly to the competent District Court. Pursuant to Article 10 of the Law, the District Court must within 24 hours from the receipt of the Request conduct the hearing, having informed and invited both the request submitter and the organiser, and issue the ruling on the issue. The District Court can in its ruling either reject the request and annul the temporary ban, or pronounce a ban on holding the public assembly.

7.2. Freedom of Association

Under Article 55, the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia guarantees the right to freedom of political, union and any other form of association, as well as the right to stay out of any association. Associations are formed without prior approval and entered in the register kept by a state body, in accordance with the law. Pursuant to Article 9 of the Law on Citizens Associations, Social Organisations and Political Organisations, it is possible to establish a political organisation with min. number of 100 citizens, whilst in order to establish a citizens association or social organisation the min. number of citizens is 10 (the citizens must have the right to vote).

Pursuant to Article 80 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, members of national minorities may found educational and cultural associations, which are funded voluntarily. Members of national minorities may as well found political organisations. In addition, the Constitution specifies that the Republic of Serbia acknowledges a specific role of educational and cultural associations of national minorities in their exercise of the rights of persons belonging to national minorities.

The Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities envisages that persons belonging to national minorities can elect national councils for the purpose of exercising their right to self-governance in the fields of the use of language and script, education, information and culture. Under Article 19 of the Law, it is specified that national councils represent national minorities in the fields of use of language, education, information in the language of the national minority and culture, participate in decision-making or decide on questions related to these fields and establish institutions that operate in these fields.

The rules and procedures for the election of national councils are regulated by a special Law yet to be passed. Until then, the electoral assemblies of national minorities will be in charge of the election of their national councils. The national councils of national minorities are formed according to the principles of free will, proportionality and democracy.

7.3. Freedom of Expression

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, under Article 46, paragraph 1, guarantees the right to freedom of thought and expression, as well as the freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through speech, writing, and arts or in some other manner. Under paragraph 2 of the same Article, the Constitution specifies that the guaranteed freedom of expression may be restricted by the law if necessary to protect rights and reputation of others, to uphold the authority and objectivity of the court and to protect public health, morals of a democratic society and national security of the Republic of Serbia.

7.4. Freedom of Thought, Conscience and Religion

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, under Article 43, guarantees the right to freedom of thought, conscience, beliefs and religion. Pursuant to the Constitution, anyone has the right to stand by one's belief or religion, or change them by choice.

7.5. Exercising the Freedom of Association in Practice

In practice, members of national minorities make a wide use of the freedom of association as guaranteed under the Constitution.

Persons belonging to the *Albanian* minority are associated in several cultural, educational and other associations. Albanian Cultural Association "Perspektiva" operates in the territory of Southern Serbia, where the Committee for Human Rights, Centre of Multicultural Education, Centre of Civic Initiatives and Activities "Vision" and others are active as well. The Albanians in the Republic of Serbia are organised in several political parties – Party for Democratic Action, Democratic Party of Albanians, Democratic Union of the Valley, etc.

Persons belonging to the *Ashkali* minority are associated in The Ashkali Society.

Persons belonging to the *Bosniac* minority in the Republic of Serbia are associated in several cultural associations – Bosniac Community of Sandžak Culture “Preporod”, “The Sandžak’s Intellectual Circle”, “Forum of Citizens”, Cultural Centre “Damad”, The Bosniac Society, “Helsinki Committee for Human Rights of Sandžak”, “The Sandžak’s Committee for Human Rights and Freedoms”, “Urban-in”, Citizens’ Association “Flores”, Centre of Civic Activity “Integra”, Women’s Initiatives, etc. Political activities of Bosniacs in Serbia are realized mostly through political parties which predominantly operate in the region of Sandžak. The most influential political parties are: the Party of Democratic Action and the Sandžak’s Democratic Party. In addition, there is also the Democratic Party of Sandžak, as well as the Socio–Liberal Party of Sandžak and some other minor political organisations.

Persons belonging to the *Bulgarian* minority in the Republic of Serbia are associated in several associations. The most important cultural organisations of the Bulgarians in the territory of Serbia Proper are: Culture-Information Centre of the Bulgarian minority “Caribrod”, the Municipal Committee for the Protection of Human Rights of Bulgarians of Dimitrovgrad and “Helsinki Committee for the Protection of Human Rights and Freedoms of Bulgarians. Organisations which are active in the territory of AP Vojvodina are: Bulgarian Cultural Association “Trandafer”, Culture-Artistic Association of Banatian Bulgarians - Palceni “Ivanovo 1868” and the Association for Bulgarian Language, Literature and Culture, of Novi Sad. The Bulgarians in the Republic of Serbia are organised in two political parties – the Democratic Party of Bulgarians and the Democratic Union of Bulgarians.

Persons belonging to the *Bunjevci* minority in the Republic of Serbia are associated in: the Bunjevci Cultural Centre, the Citizens’ Association “Bunjevacko Kolo”, The Bunjevci Society and a number of Culture-Artistic Associations, whilst their political activities are represented by the Bunjevci Party.

Persons belonging to the *Vlach* minority in the Republic of Serbia are associated in the political organisation Vlachs’ Democratic Party of Serbia. The most important cultural organisations of the Vlachs in the territory of Serbia are: “Forum for the Culture of Vlachs” and the Associations “Paulj Matejic” and “Ariadnae Filum”.

The most important association of the *Greeks* in the territory of Serbia is the Association “Riga od Fere”.

The most important associations of the *Egyptians* in the territory of Serbia are the National Community of Vojvodina’s Egyptians “The Pyramid” and the Association of Egyptians “Pharaohs”.

The Union of the *Jewish* Municipalities is an ethnic-religious non-political and non-profit community that represents the Jewish population in Serbia.

Persons belonging to the *Hungarian* minority in the Republic of Serbia are organised in a wide range of cultural, professional and interst associations. Some of them are: the Cultural Union of Vojvodina’s Hungarians, the Folklore Centre of Vojvodina’s

Hungarians, Association for the Vojvodina's Hungarian Language, Scientific Association for Hungarian Studies, Association for Hungarian Culture, Scout Union of Vojvodina's Hungarians, Union of the Vojvodina-Hungarian Teachers, Scientific Association of Vojvodina's Hungarians, Union of the Vojvodina-Hungarian Students, a great number of Culture-Artistic Associations, etc. Several political parties are active in the Serbian political scene, the most influential of which are: the Union of Vojvodina's Hungarians, Democratic Community of Vojvodina's Hungarians and Democratic Party of Vojvodina's Hungarians.

Persons belonging to the *Macedonian* minority in the Republic of Serbia are organised in the following associations: the Association of Citizens of the Macedonian National Minority of Southern-Banat County "Vardar", Association of Macedonians of Central-Banat County "Sveti Kliment Ohridski" and Yugoslavian-Macedonian Association "Sar Planina".

Persons belonging to the scarce *German* national minority in the Republic of Serbia are organised in the following associations: the German National Union of Subotica, German Association "Donau" of Novi Sad, German Association "Adam Berenc" of Apatin, Association "Karlovic" of Sremski Karlovci, Association of Germans of the Municipalities of Odžaci, Zrenjanin, Bela Crkva, Kikinda, Bačka Topola, as well as the German Association "Pancevacki Rit" of Padinska Skela, Umbrella Organisation of Serbia – the Union of German Associations of Novi Sad and Humanitarian Association of Germans "Gerhard" of Sombor.

Persons belonging to the *Roma* national minority in the Republic of Serbia are organised in a number of associations and organisations. The most important organisations of the Roma in the territory of Serbia are the Union of the Roma of Serbia and the Union of the Roma Associations of Serbia. The most influential Romany political organisations active in the Serbian political scene are the Roma Party and the Union of the Roma of Serbia".

Persons belonging to the *Romanian* national minority in the Republic of Serbia are organised in a number of mass socio-cultural organisations, such as the Community of Romanians of Serbia, Romanian Association (Foundation) for Ethnography and Folklore, Association for Romanian Language in Vojvodina and the Artistic and Literary Association "Tibiskus", Democratic Union of the Romanians and numerous Culture-Artistic Associations.

Persons belonging to the *Ruthenian* national minority in the Republic of Serbia are organised in several Culture-Educational Associations. The Ruthenian Society is the organisation of Ruthenians, founded with the aim of exercising the rights and interests in the field of maintaining, developing and popularization of Ruthenian language, science, literature, education, arts and culture. Specialized social organisations are the Association for the Ruthenian Language, Literature and Culture and the Union of Ruthenians and Ukrainians of Serbia, as well as a number of Culture-Educational and Culture-Artistic Associations. Some of the stated associations, as can be seen in their titles, also include

persons belonging to the *Ukrainian* minority. Recently, the first Ruthenian political party in the Republic of Serbia has been founded – the Ruthenian Democratic Party.

The most important umbrella and coordinating social organisation of *Slovaks* in Serbia is The Slovak Society. Other major associations of persons belonging to the Slovak national minority are the Association of the Slovakists of Vojvodina and the Association of Slovak Teachers, as well as a number of Culture-Educational and Culture-Artistic Associations. Upon presentation of the first Report on Implementation of the Framework Convention, a political party of Slovaks – the Slovak National Party was founded in Republic of Serbia.

In addition to common associations with persons belonging to the Ruthenian minority, the *Ukrainians* in the Republic of Serbia are also organised in the following Culture-Artistic Associations: “Ivan Senjuk”, “Carpathians”, Association for Fostering the Ukrainian Culture “Kolomejka” and Association for Ukrainian Language, Literature and Culture “Prosvita”.

Persons belonging to the *Croatian* national minority in the Republic of Serbia are organised in several cultural and political organisations. The cultural organisations of Croats are: the Croatian Culture-Educational Association “Matija Gubec”, Croatian Library, Croatian Information Centre, The Croatian Society, Croatian Academic Association, as well as a number of Culture-Artistic Associations. In addition to the listed organisations, two political parties of Croats are also active in the territory of Serbia: the Democratic Union of Croats in Vojvodina and Democratic Community of Croats.

Persons belonging to the *Czech* national minority in the Republic of Serbia are associated in three organisations: the Czechs of Southern Banat, Citizens’ Association “Ceske Besedy” and The Czech Society.

Article 8

The Parties undertake to recognise that every person belonging to a national minority has the right to manifest his or her religion or belief and to establish religious institutions, organisations and associations.

8.1. Freedom of Manifesting Religion

In the Republic of Serbia, pursuant to Article 11 of the Constitution, the Churches and religious communities are equal and separated from the state and no religion is stipulated as state or mandatory religion and accordingly, there is no “state” or “official”, or in any other way institutionalized “majority” religion or Church. Under Article 44, paragraph 2 of the Constitution, Churches and religious communities are also equal and free to perform their religious matters and religious rites.

The Constitution, under Article 43, guarantees the freedom of religion in the Republic of Serbia. Pursuant to paragraph 3 of the same Article, everyone has the freedom to manifest his/her religion or religious beliefs in worship, observance, practice and teaching, individually or in community with others, and to manifest religious beliefs in private or public, whilst (Article 43, paragraph 2 of the Constitution) no person has the obligation to declare his/her religious or other beliefs. Freedom of manifesting religion or beliefs may be restricted by law only if that is necessary in a democratic society to protect lives and health of people, morals of democratic society, freedoms and rights guaranteed by the Constitution, public safety and order, or to prevent inciting of religious, national, and racial hatred.

The Law on Churches and Religious Communities, under Article 3, stipulates that the freedom of creed or religious beliefs may be subjected only to the restrictions set forth in the Constitution, Law or ratified international documents with the aim of protection of public safety, order and morals, and protection of rights and freedoms of others. The freedom of religion must not be used in such a way that it may deny the right to life, the right to health, the rights of child, the right to personal and family integrity or the right to property. The freedom of religion can neither be used in such a way as to incite religious, national, and racial hatred.

Free manifestation of religious beliefs in the Republic of Serbia is also regulated by the Law provisions pursuant to which believers are entitled to days off during their most important religious holidays. Thus, under Article 4 of the Law on Statutory and Other Holidays, it is specified that Christian believers are entitled to a day off on Christmas day and over the Easter period that is celebrated according different calendars by different religious communities (Orthodox believers are also entitled to a day off on their Family Patron-Saint’s Day²²), Moslem believers are entitled to a day off on the first day of Ramadan Bayram and on the first day of Kurban Bayram, and members of Jewish Community – on the first day of Jom Kippur.

²² Specific religious holiday being one of the principal makings of the Orthodox Serbs, Montenegrins, Vlachs and the Roma.

Free manifestation of religious beliefs in the Republic of Serbia is also reflected in the fact that religious syllabus/courses are ensured at primary and secondary schools. Thus, the Law on Primary Schools and the Law on Secondary Schools, for the first time after World War II, provide for incorporation of religious syllabus at schools. The attendance of these religious courses is elective i.e. based on the free will of students/students' parents. The students who are not interested in the religious curriculum may instead take another subject – civics.

Pursuant to the adopted solutions, the syllabus/programme of religious tuition in the Republic of Serbia is determined by mutual agreement of the Minister of Education and the Minister of Religion, on the basis of a harmonized proposal of the following traditional churches and religious communities – Serbian Orthodox Church, Islamic Community, Catholic Church, Slovak Evangelical Church a.v., Jewish Community, Reformed Christian Church and Evangelical Christian Church a.v., in accordance with the Law (Article 20, paragraph 2 of the Law on Primary Schools and Article 24, paragraph 2 of the Law on Secondary Schools). The stated churches assemble the persons belonging to national minorities in the Republic of Serbia.

A Commission is set up by the Government of the Republic of Serbia to harmonize the proposals regarding the programmes of the religious syllabus of traditional churches and religious communities, the proposals regarding the textbooks and other teaching instruments, and to consult the Minister of Education on the issue of recruiting the educational counsellors and to monitor the organisation and implementation of the programmes of religious tuition (Article 20, paragraph 3 of the Law on Primary Schools and Article 24, paragraph 3 of the Law on Secondary Schools). The textbooks and other teaching instruments for religious tuition are approved by the Minister of Education on the basis of a harmonized proposal of traditional churches and religious communities in accordance with the Law (Article 23 of the Law on Primary Schools and Article 25 of the Law on Secondary Schools).

It should be emphasised that the educational profile of teachers of religious tuition at schools are prescribed by the Minister of Education, but exclusively on the basis of a mutual proposal of the Ministry of Religion and the traditional churches and religious communities (Article 110 of the Law on Basic Principles of the Educational System). The list of teachers of religious tuition are determined by the Minister of Education on the basis of a proposal of the traditional churches and religious communities. The traditional churches and religious communities, in accordance with the determined list, provide the teachers of religious tuition to schools for each academic year.

8.2. Churches, Religious Communities and Religious Organisations

The agents of freedom of religion, with respect to the Law on Churches and Religious Communities, are the traditional churches and religious communities, denominational communities and other religious organisations (Article 4).

Pursuant to Article 44, paragraph 2 of the Constitution, Churches and religious communities are equal and free to organise independently their internal structure, religious matters, to perform religious rites in public, to establish and manage religious schools, social and charity institutions, in accordance with the law. Pursuant to Article 44, paragraph 3 of the Constitution, the Constitutional Court may ban a religious community only if its activities infringe upon the right to life, the right to mental and physical health, the rights of child, the right to personal and family integrity, public safety and order, or if it incites religious, national or racial intolerance.

The Law on Churches and Religious Communities, under Article 10, specifies that the traditional churches and religious communities in Serbia are: Serbian Orthodox Church, Roman Catholic Church (including the Greco-Catholic Church), Slovak Evangelical Church a.v., Reformed Christian Church, Evangelical Christian Church a.v. Islamic Religious Community and Jewish Religious Community.

Pursuant to Article 18 of the Law, churches and religious communities, in order to be recorded into the Register of Churches and Religious Communities, submit the application containing: the name of the church or religious community, address of the seat of the church or religious community, the name, surname and capacity of the person authorized to represent the church or religious community. The procedure envisaged under Article 18 has been observed by all traditional churches and religious communities which gather the majority of believers belonging to national minorities, and thus completed their registration. Pursuant to Article 9 of the Law, the registered churches and religious communities have the capacity of the legal person.

In the Statutes on the Content and Method of Keeping the Register of Churches and Religious Communities, under Article 7, paragraph 6, it is specified that a religious community can proceed with its operation on the basis of its legalization obtained in accordance with the corresponding regulations that were in force prior to the adoption of the incumbent regulations, with no obligation to be recorded in the Register, provided that the restrictions set forth under Article 3 do not apply to its operation. Under Article 8 of the Statutes, it is envisaged that all religious organisations that have not submitted their applications or are not interested in becoming recorded in the Register, may exercise the freedom of religion in accordance with the Constitution and international conventions on human rights and freedoms of worship.

Churches and religious communities in the Republic of Serbia have the right to acquire movable and/or immovable property and to have such property at their sole and unrestricted disposal. Churches and religious communities organise their educational system according to their needs, whilst the syllabus and programmes, as well as the selection of educational staff, are passed and implemented by the competent church authorities. All publishing activities including the publication of religious newspapers and magazines are dependent on the means of the religious communities and their own management policies. Connections of the religious communities with their church headquarters abroad, if any, are free and in no way restricted or conditioned. Under Article 5 of the Law on Churches and Religious Communities, the citizens of the

Republic of Serbia have the right to association and assembly aimed at manifesting their religious beliefs, as well as the freedom of joining the churches and religious communities, in accordance with the Law.

8.2.1. Churches, Religious Communities and Religious Organisations of Persons Belonging to National Minorities

The Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities specifies in its definition of national minorities that creed might be one of the distinctive features upon which the groups of citizens of the Republic of Serbia constituting national minorities differ from the majority of population. Not only that creed can be a basis for affiliation with certain minority, but as well, in the Republic of Serbia there are cases of different creeds among persons belonging to the same national minority.

Persons belonging to national minorities in the Republic of Serbia fulfil their religious needs within the following churches and religious communities:

- Serbian Orthodox Church: Bulgarians (East Serbia), Vlachs, Roma;
- Islamic Religious Communities: Albanians, Ashkalians, Bosniacs, Goranci, Egyptians, Roma;
- Catholic Church including the Greco-Catholic Church: Bunjevci, Bulgarians (in Banat), Hungarians (major part of Hungarians), Germans, Slovaks (only one village), Croats, Czechs, Sokci, Ruthenians, Ukrainians;
- Slovak Evangelical Church a.v.: Slovaks;
- Reformed Christian Church: Hungarians (minor part of Hungarians);
- Jewish Religious Community: Jews;
- Vicary of Romanian Orthodox Church: Romanians (in Banat);
- Evangelical Christian Church a.v. : Hungarians
- Denominational communities: certain number of persons belonging to national minorities identifies in terms of religion with communities belonging to New Protestantism.

In the territory of the Republic of Serbia there are two independent Islamic Religious Communities: the Islamic Community in Serbia and the Islamic Community of Serbia.

■ The Islamic Community in Serbia was founded on the session of the Council in Novi Pazar on 27th March 2007. The seat of this Islamic Community is in Novi Pazar but the Constitution provides for it to optionally be seated in Belgrade. Its basic organisational unit is Dzemats that includes at least 100 households. Its senior organisational unit is Medzlis which includes at least 5 dzemats. Muftiat is a regional unit, and according to the Constitution, there are 4 Muftiats: the Sandžak's with its seat in Novi Pazar, the Preševo's with its seat in Preševo, the Belgrade's for Central Serbia with its seat in Belgrade and Novi Sad's for Vojvodina with its seat in Novi Sad. Mesihat composed of 14 members and presidents is the principal religious and administrative body of the

Islamic Community. Its members are elected by the Council at the proposal of the president of the Mesihat for a 5-year mandate. The Council is the highest representative and legislative body of the Islamic Community. There is one member of this Council per 10.000 Islamic believers. The Council is envisaged to have 3 presidents, 3 deputies and a secretary. The mandate of the Council lasts 4 years.

Educational system of the Islamic Community in Serbia comprises:

- Faculty of Islamic Studies, of Novi Pazar, which was founded in 2005 on the basis of the previous Islamic Pedagogical Academy founded on 12th May of 2001. A relatively low number of students enrol this Faculty. In addition to in-house staff, there are some professors and other teaching staff who are hired from other Faculties including some university institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

- “Gazi Isabegova” Medrese, the operation of which has been reinstated (in the territory of Sandžak it operated from XV century to 1946) and made fully independent from the Pristina’s Medrese since 1994. The new Statute was adopted on 9th May 2000, and the Medrese has since been managed by its Executive Board and Director. The Medrese takes pride in its best selection of students, which is enabled due to a strong interest that exists for enrollment in this educational institution. The tuition and educational staff are at a high level, which enables the alumni to continue their education at the most prestigious Islamic Faculties worldwide. There are more than 250 budget-financed students and 50 self-financed students, as well as 33 professors and 11 lecturers.

- Women’s Medrese was founded in 1996. The very building of this Medrese is modern and functional, and was constructed so as to meet all the requirements of such a specific educational institution. The Medrese’s Women Department started its operation in Rozaje (the Republic of Montenegro) in the academic year of 2002/2003.

■ The Islamic Community of Serbia was founded on the session of the Council on 19th February 2007. The seat of this Islamic Community is in Belgrade, and in accordance with Article 1 of its Constitution, its competence covers the entire territory of the Republic. Its basic organisational unit is Dzemat. Its senior organisational unit is Medzlis which is composed of a certain number of Dzematats that together constitute a whole. The main Imam is in charge of religious life in the territory of the corresponding Medzlis. Mesihat is the principal religious and administrative body in its territory, whilst a Muftiat is the principal religious body in the territory of a Mesihat. The exact territory of a Mesihat and its seat are determined by the Highest Council. According to the current division, there are three Mesihats: of Serbia Proper, of Sandžak and of Preševo, though the Constitution of the Islamic Community of Serbia provides for the option of inclusion of another - Kosovo’s Mesihat. The Council is the principal religious and legislative body in the territory of a Mesihat. The highest religious and administrative body of the Islamic Community of Serbia is Rijaset that is headed by a Reis-ul-Ulema. Reis-ul-Ulema is the supreme head and represents this Islamic Community in the country and abroad. Reis-ul-Ulema is elected by a special electoral body for a 5-year mandate with a possibility of renewing the mandate for one additional term. The Highest Council of the Islamic Community of Serbia is the highest representative and legislative body of the Islamic Community of Serbia. The Constitutional Court of the Islamic Community is the highest

regulatory body exerting control over the constitutionality and legality of operation of bodies and institutions of the Islamic Community of Serbia.

Educational system of the Islamic Community of Serbia includes a Medrese in Belgrade. This Medrese was founded in 2001, and two generations of students have finished their education at this educational institution since then. The capacity of the Medrese allows annual enrolment of approx. 10 students, accordingly, the total number of students is now approx. 40. This Medrese engages 17 professors of various professional profiles.

There are approximately 164 mosques in the region of operation of Islamic communities, out of which 120 belong to the region of Sandžak (33 in the town of Novi Pazar), 23 to Preševo, 18 to Bujanovac, 2 to Medveđa, 1 to Belgrade, 1 to Niš and 1 to Mali Zvornik, whilst there are 3 mesdzids (mosques without minarets) in Subotica, Novi Sad and Zrenjanin. All mosques have their respective Imams and the actual number of religious officials is much greater than the number of mosques because the Islamic religious community traditionally engages a part of its staff to do the administrative and secretary work. Professors and teachers (some of them also executing the duties of Imam) are not included in the stated number of religious officials.

The International Bishop's Conference of St. Cyril and St. Methodius was founded by the decision of the Holy See. The composition of this Conference includes: Archbishop's Diocese of Belgrade, Bishop's Diocese of Subotica, Bishop's Diocese of Zrenjanin, Vicariate of Srem, Apostolic Administrature – Prizren (includes the Albanians in Kosovo and Metohija; participates in activities of the International Bishop's Conference but in organisational terms it is directly subject to the sovereignty of Vatican), Apostolic Exarchate of Greco-Catholics in Serbia and Montenegro, Bishop's Diocese of Bar, Bishop's Diocese of Kotor, Bishop's Diocese of Skopje-Prizren and Apostolic Exarchate of Greco-Catholics in Macedonia.

The following religious bodies are active in the Republic of Serbia:

- Archbishop's Diocese of Belgrade that includes the region of Serbia Proper exclusive of Sandžak, and is divided into the following deaneries: Belgrade Deanery – 9 parishes and Niš Deanery – 6 parishes. The number of parishes coincides with the number of temples/churches. The Archbishop's Diocese of Belgrade engages 31 priests and friars.

- Bishop's Diocese of Subotica that includes the region of Bačka, and is divided into the following deaneries: Apatin Deanery, Bač Deanery, Bač-Topola Deanery, Bečej Deanery, Kanjiža Deanery, Kula Deanery, Novi Sad Deanery, Senta Deanery, Sombor Deanery and Subotica Deaneries (3 Deaneries: "Donji Grad" Deanery, "Novi Grad" Deanery and "Stari Grad" Deanery). There are 60 parishes and 124 temples/churches. The Bishop's Diocese of Subotica engages 100 priests and friars who lead the religious service in the Hungarian and Croatian languages.

- Bishop's Diocese of Zrenjanin that includes the region of Banat, and is divided into the following deaneries: Central Deanery – 10 parishes, Northern Deanery – 11 parishes, Eastern Deanery – 7 parishes and Southern Deanery – 12 parishes. The number

of priests is lower than the number of parishes and/or temples/churches. Dependent on the predominant composition of the congregation the service is held in the Hungarian, Croatian, Bulgarian, Czech or German language.

- Vicariate of Srem includes the region of Srem including the towns of New Belgrade and Zemun. In organisational terms it belongs to the Bishop's Diocese of Djakovica and Srem that has its seat in Djakovo, the Republic of Croatia. The Vicariate is divided into the following deaneries: Zemun Deanery, Srem-Mitrovica Deanery and Pertovaradin Deanery. There are approx. 30 temples/churches and 21 priests including the Bishop.

- Apostolic Exarchate of Greco-Catholics in Serbia and Montenegro was founded by the decision of the Holy See, on 28 August 2003 when it branched off from the Bishop's Diocese of Krizevac. The Temple of St. Nicolas of Ruski Krstur was determined to be the Cathedral Church. In accordance with the regulations of Catholic Church, the Apostolic Exarchate does not belong to any of the Bishop's Dioceses but is directly subject to the sovereignty of Vatican. It is divided into the following deaneries: Bač Deanery, Srem Deanery, Banat Deanery and Belgrade Deanery. The Congregation includes the Ruthenians, Ukrainians and a number of Romanians in Banat. There are 18 active priests – 16 diocesan priests and 2 friars. At the moment, the Divinity School is educating 10 university and 11 secondary-school students. There are 43 nuns in 5 buildings of the Blessed Virgin Mary Convent. According to the Vatican's statistics there are 22,698 believers of the Exarchate in the Republic of Serbia.

Educational system of the Catholic Church in Serbia comprises:

- Theological – Catechetical Institute of Bishop's Diocese of Subotica was founded by the decision of the Subotica's Bishop, in 1993. The tuition is in the Hungarian and Croatian languages. This Institute educates the students in the field of theology and pedagogy and prepares priests and workers for Catholic Churches and educational institutions. The number of full-time students totals to 135. Under plans, the Theological – Catechetical Institute of Subotica is to be developed into a Faculty and incorporated into the structure of the University of Novi Sad.

- Bishop's Classics Programme Grammar School "Paulinum", of Subotica, was founded in 1962. The tuition is bilingual. There are 16 teachers and over 80 students. Since February 2004, this Grammar School has been accredited and thus included in the educational system.

- "Augustinianum" Divinity, of Subotica, founded on the basis of Decision on Establishment that was made in 2003. At the moment, the construction works in a new building specified for the purposes of the operation of this educational institution are in progress.

Reformation Christian Church gathers a relatively small number of believers belonging to the Hungarian national minority in Vojvodina. Several church municipalities together constitute a Seniorat that is headed by the Senior – who is a priest and the President of the Seniorat – who is a layman. Synod is the main legislative body of the Church. The Church is divided into Bač Seniorat and Banat Seniorat. According to inconclusive data, the Bač Seniorat includes 18 church municipalities, 30 branch communities with 19

churches and other places of worship and 9 ministers. The Bač Seniorat includes 9 church municipalities, 12 branch communities with 14 churches and other places of worship and 5 ministers out of whom 3 are female. The seat of the Church depends upon the place of the Bishop's residence, and at the moment it is in Feketić. Ministry is educated abroad, at theological faculties in Budapest, Debrecen and Kluz (Romania). The Reformation Christian Church publishes a monthly review "Reformatus elet" in Hungarian language and the almanac "Reformatus evgoni".

Vicary of Romanian Orthodox Church, with a seat in Vršac, was founded in 1971. It consists of 3 archdeaneries with 39 parishes and branch communities. According to inconclusive data, the Vicary engages 23 priests. The Romanian priests are educated at high school in Karansebes in Romania and at Divinity University in Timisoara in Romania. The Vicary of Romanian Orthodox Church publishes the magazine "Sejac" and the almanac "Godisnjak".

Slovak Evangelical Church a.v. gathers the Slovaks of AP Vojvodina and a small number of persons belonging to other national groups who accepted the Evangelical faith. The Church is seated in Novi Sad. Pursuant to the Constitution of this Church, the basic organisational unit of the Church is the Church Municipality which is headed by a priest and a layman elected by the congregation. The Executive Board of the Church Municipality is the highest body of local churches. Synod, which consists of 96 members (representatives of church municipalities: priests and laymen) is the main legislative and administrative body of this Church. According to inconclusive data, the Church includes 26 church municipalities, 12 branch communities and 46 temples/chuches in the following municipalities: Bački Petrovac -7, Novi Sad -4, Bačka Palanka -4, Zrenjanin -3, Šid -3, Kovačica -2, Alibunar -1, Bač -1, Bačka Topola -1, Bečej -1, Vrbas -1, Žitište -1, Kikinda -1, Kula -1, Odžaci -1, Pecinci -1, Plandište -1, Sombor -1, Stara Pazova -1, Temerin -1, Titel -1 and Čoka -1. A building belonging to Evangelical Church of Zemun has been returned to the Belgrade Church Municipality that gathers a congregation of approx. 500 believers. This Church has engaged 19 priests. The two of the priests do the administrative work and, since the theological doctrine allows that possibility, there are also 3 female priests. The priests of the Slovak Evangelical Church are educated in Bratislava. The Slovak Evangelical Church publishes its almanac "Godisnjak", wall calendar, "Evangelicalic Herald" and books on religious service.

Evangelical Christian Church a.v. gathers believers – Lutherans, who belong to the Hungarian national minority of Subotica and the surrounding area. In addition to the Bishop, it also engages several priests.

Jewish Religious Office operates within the Union of Jewish Municipalities of Serbia. The Union includes 10 Municipalities: Belgrade Municipality, Novi Sad Municipality, Subotica Municipality, Pančevo Municipality, Zemun Municipality, Niš Municipality, Sombor Municipality, Zrenjanin Municipality, Kikinda Municipality and Senta Municipality. However, religious services and ceremonies are performed regularly and constantly only in Belgrade, and a rabbi has been engaged there. There is no specialized

religious magazine, but the “Newsletter” that is issued by the Union of Jewish Municipalities of Serbia, among other things, sometimes also includes religious topics.

Under Article 28 of the Law on Churches and Religious Communities, the State is entitled to financially support Churches and Religious Communities. This support is allocated through the Ministry of Religion of the Republic of Serbia and the Provincial Secretariat of Regulations, Administration and National Minorities of AP Vojvodina.

The Ministry of Religion allocates funds for religious education, boarding schools, scholarships for talented theology students, cultural programmes, publishing activities, for the contributions intended for retirement and disability pension insurance and medical insurance of priests and other religious officials, and above all for investment in sacred buildings. On the basis of competition, which is organised two times a year, the Provincial Secretariat of Regulations, Administration and National Minorities of AP Vojvodina awards funds to traditional churches and religious communities which operate in the territory of AP Vojvodina. The funds are allocated for the investment works on churches, temples and other sacred buildings as well as for the organisation of traditional church events and publishing and scientific activities of churches and religious communities.

8.3. State Support to Churches and Religious Communities

Examples of financial support provided by governmental and provincial bodies to the churches and religious communities are contained in the comments below.

The Ministry of Religion allocated to the Islamic Community in Serbia: RSD 5,850,000.00 in 2005; RSD 8,701,000.00 in 2006 and RSD 7,648,000.00 in 2007 (until and including August). Some of these funds were allocated for the construction of religious-educational development in Prijepolje.

The Ministry of Religion allocated to the Islamic Community of Serbia: RSD 5,237,000.00 in 2005; RSD 7,247,400.00 in 2006 and RSD 2,406,000.00 in 2007 (up to August inclusive). Some of these funds were allocated for the reconstruction of the buildings that house the Boards in Zrenjanin and Mali Zvornik, as well as for the legalization of the constructed buildings.

The Provincial Secretariat of Regulations, Administration and National Minorities allocated to the Islamic Community of Serbia RSD 200,000.00 in 2006.

The Ministry of Religion allocated to the Roman Catholic Church: RSD 9,979,000.00 in 2005; RSD 30,540,000.00 in 2006 and RSD 4,540,000.00 in 2007 (until and including August). More than a half of these funds were allocated for the construction of the Divinity “Augustinianum” (from the National Investment Fund – NIP), the reconstruction of the building of Archbishoprics in Belgrade, reconstruction of the Church in Skorenovac and reconstruction of the church tower on the Cathedral Temple in Zrenjanin.

The Provincial Secretariat of Regulations, Administration and National Minorities allocated RSD 9,942,480.00 to the Roman Catholic Church in 2006.

The Ministry of Religion allocated to the Exarchate of Greco-Catholics: RSD 240,000.00 in 2005; RSD 1,415,000.00 in 2006 and RSD 750,000.00 in 2007 (until and including August).

The Provincial Secretariat of Regulations, Administration and National Minorities allocated RSD 1,230,000.00 to the Greco-Catholic Church in 2006.

The Ministry of Religion allocated to the Reformation Christian Church: RSD 600,000.00 in 2005; RSD 3,272,000.00 in 2006 and RSD 354,000.00 in 2007 (up to August inclusive). The major share of the funds was allocated for the reconstruction of the Church in Zrenjanin (from NIP) and adaptation of the Church in Feketić.

The Provincial Secretariat of Regulations, Administration and National Minorities allocated RSD 1,460,000.00 to the Reformation Christian Church in 2006.

The Ministry of Religion allocated to the Vicary of Romanian Orthodox Church: RSD 410,000.00 in 2005; RSD 1,465,000.00 in 2006 and RSD 160,000.00 in 2007 (until and including August). Part of the funds was allocated for the renewal of the Church in Banatsko Novo Selo and remedy works on the temples (from NIP).

The Provincial Secretariat of Regulations, Administration and National Minorities allocated RSD 1,650,000.00 to the Vicary of Romanian Orthodox Church in 2006.

The Ministry of Religion allocated to the Slovak Evangelical Church a.v.: RSD 250,000.00 in 2005 and RSD 2,400,000.00 in 2006. The major share of the funds was allocated for the construction of the Church in Aradac (from NIP).

The Provincial Secretariat of Regulations, Administration and National Minorities allocated RSD 850,000.00 to the Slovak Evangelical Church a.v. in 2006.

The Ministry of Religion allocated to the Evangelical Christian Church a.v.: RSD 894,000.00 in 2005; RSD 1,818,000.00 in 2006 and RSD 1,644,000.00 in 2007 (up to August inclusive). Part of the funds was allocated for the reconstruction of the Bishop's building and renewal of the building in Subotica.

The Provincial Secretariat of Regulations, Administration and National Minorities allocated RSD 1,000,000.00 to the Evangelical Christian Church a.v. in 2006.

The Ministry of Religion allocated to the Jewish Community: RSD 681,000.00 in 2005; RSD 10,795,000.00 in 2006 and RSD 430,000.00 in 2007 (until and including August). The major share of the funds was allocated for the reconstruction of the Synagogue in Subotica (from NIP).

The Provincial Secretariat of Regulations, Administration and National Minorities allocated RSD 210,000.00 to the Jewish Community in 2006.

For a better overview, tabular representation of the above stated data on financial support allocated by the governmental and provincial bodies to the Churches and Religious Communities is provided below.

The Ministry of Religion allocated the funds represented in the Table below:

Religious Denomination	2005	2006	2007 (up to August inclusive)
Islamic Community in Serbia	5,850,000.00	8,701,000.00	7,648,000.00
Islamic Community of Serbia	5,237,000.00	7,247,400.00	2,406,000.00
Roman Catholic Church	9,979,000.00	30,540,000.00	4,540,000.00
Greco-Catholic Church	240,000.00	1,415,000.00	750,000.00
Reformation Christian Church	600,000.00	3,272,000.00	354,000.00
Vicary of Romanian Ortodox Church	410,000.00	1,460,000.00	160,000.00
Slovak Evangelical Church a.v.	250,000.00	2,400,000.00	-
Evangelical Christian Church a.v.	894,000.00	1,818,000.00	1,644,000.00
Jewish Community	681,000.00	10,795,000.00	430,000.00

The Provincial Secretariat of Regulations, Administration and National Minorities allocated in 2006 the funds represented in the Table below.

Religious Denomination	Islamic Community of Serbia	Roman Catholic Church	Greco-Catholic Church	Reformation Christian Church	Vicary of Romanian Ortodox Church	Slovak Evangelical Church a.v.	Evangelical Christian Church a.v.	Jewish Community
Total Funds	200,000.00	9,942,480.00	1,230,000.00	1,460,000.00	1,650,000.00	850,000.00	1,000,000.00	210,000.00

Article 9

- 1. The Parties undertake to recognise that the right to freedom of expression of every person belonging to a national minority includes freedom to hold opinions and to receive and impart information and ideas in the minority language, without interference by public authorities and regardless of frontiers. The Parties shall ensure, within the framework of their legal systems, that persons belonging to a national minority are not discriminated against in their access to the media.**
- 2. Paragraph 1 shall not prevent Parties from requiring the licensing, without discrimination and based on objective criteria, of sound radio and television broadcasting, or cinema enterprises.**
- 3. The Parties shall not hinder the creation and the use of printed media by persons belonging to national minorities. In the legal framework of sound radio and television broadcasting, they shall ensure, as far as possible, and taking into account the provisions of paragraph 1, that persons belonging to national minorities are granted the possibility of creating and using their own media.**
- 4. In the framework of their legal systems, the Parties shall adopt adequate measures in order to facilitate access to the media for persons belonging to national minorities and in order to promote tolerance and permit cultural pluralism.**

Paragraph 1

9.1. Freedom of Expression

9.1.1. Freedom of Opinion and Expression

Freedom of opinion and expression is in the Republic of Serbia broadly guaranteed by constitutional provisions. The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia in Article 46, paragraph 1 guarantees freedom of opinion and expression as well as freedom to seek, receive and disseminate information and ideas through speech, writing, images, or in any other way. In paragraph 2 of the same Article, the Constitution prescribes that freedom of expression can be limited by law if such a thing is necessary for the sake of protection of rights and respectability of other people, preservation of authority and impartiality of the court, and protection of public health, morals of a democratic society and national safety of the Republic of Serbia.

Article 1, paragraph 2 of the Public Information Law envisages that the right to public information includes in the first place freedom of expression of thoughts, freedom to collect, research, publish and disseminate ideas, information and opinions, freedom to

print and distribute newspapers and other public media, freedom to produce and broadcast the radio and television programme, freedom to receive ideas, information and opinions as well as freedom to establish legal entities that deal with public information.

9.1.2. Receiving and Imparting Information and Ideas in Minority Languages without Interference by Public Authorities and Regardless of Frontiers

Freedom of the media is guaranteed by Article 50 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, which stipulates in paragraph 1 that everyone is free to establish a paper or other public information media without a permit, in the manner prescribed by law, and in paragraph 2 that television and radio stations are established in accordance with the law. Paragraph 3 of the same Article of the Constitution prohibits censorship. A competent court can prevent the dissemination of information and ideas through the public information media only if this is deemed necessary in a democratic society for the sake of preventing calls for violent overthrow of the order established by the Constitution or the violation of the territorial integrity of the Republic of Serbia, preventing warmongering or inciting to direct violence, or for the purpose of preventing the advocacy of racial, national or religious hatred that stimulates discrimination, hostility or violence.

Under Article 11 of the Public Information Law, the public media comprise newspapers, radio broadcasts, television broadcasts, news agencies' services, the Internet and other electronic editions of the given public media as well as other public information media that present ideas, information and opinions designed for public distribution and an infinite number of users, by means of words, images or sounds.

Under the Broadcasting Law, broadcasting comprises the radio and the television as electronic media of mass communication, which is realised through analogue or digital transmission of the text, speech, sound, static and moving images in the form of programmes designed for the widest public through radio waves or cable systems to adequate receiving devices (Article 4, point 1 of the Law), while in Article 3 the Law envisages that regulation of relations in the field of broadcasting, *inter alia*, is based on the principle of prohibition of any form of censorship of and/or exercising influence on the work of public broadcasting media, whereby their independence, independence of the editorial staff and journalists is guaranteed (point 3).

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia in Article 79 envisages that persons belonging to national minorities have the right to full, timely and impartial information in their own language, including the right to express, receive, impart and exchange information and ideas.

The Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities regulates this field in Article 17 by stipulating that persons belonging to national minorities have the right to full and impartial information in their own language, including the right to express, receive, impart and exchange information and ideas in the press and other public information media, and that the government in programmes of the public service radio and television shall provide general, cultural and educational broadcasts in a national

minority language, i.e. that it can establish special radio and television stations that will broadcast the programme in languages of national minorities.

Article 5, paragraph 1 of the Public Information Law envisages that, in order for the national minorities and ethnic communities to exercise their right to information in their own language and maintain their own culture and identity, the Republic, the autonomous province, i.e. local self-government provides a portion of funds or other conditions required for the work of the public media in the languages of national minorities and ethnic communities.

Article 72, paragraph 1 of the Broadcasting Law prescribes that a broadcaster is obliged to produce and broadcast the programme in Serbian, or to ensure that programmes produced in foreign languages are broadcast with translation into Serbian, while paragraph 2 of the same Article stipulates that this obligation does not relate to broadcasting stations that produce and broadcast programmes designed for national minorities or to parts of the programme of the public broadcasting service that meet the needs of national minorities for information in their own languages.

Significant for the exercise of the right to receive and communicate information and ideas in languages of national minorities irrespective of frontiers is the provision of Article 80, paragraph 3 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, which envisages that persons belonging to national minorities have the right to undisturbed relations and cooperation with compatriots beyond the territory of the Republic of Serbia.

Another provision that is also significant for the exercise of the right to receive and communicate information and ideas in languages of national minorities without the interference of public authorities is Article 2, paragraph 3 of the Public Information Law, which envisages that no one, not even indirectly, is allowed to restrict the freedom of public information, especially by abusing the state or private powers, abusing rights, influence or control over facilities for the printing and distribution of the public media or over broadcasting devices and radio frequencies, nor in any other way convenient for the restriction of the free flow of ideas, information and opinions. Article 15 of the Law underlines that the distribution of national and foreign public media is free. Article 17 of the same Law envisages that a competent district court can, at the proposal of the public prosecutor, prohibit the distribution of information if it rules that such prohibition is necessary in a democratic society for the purpose of preventing: calls for violent overthrow of the constitutional order, violation of the territorial integrity of the Republic, warmongering, inciting direct violence and advocacy of racial, national or religious hatred that stimulates discrimination, hostility or violence, and if the release of information poses a direct threat, its consequences are irreparable and cannot be prevented in any other way. According to Article 21, paragraph 1 of the Broadcasting Law, the Republic Broadcasting Agency (RBA) ensures that programmes of broadcasters do not contain information that stimulate discrimination, hatred or violence against a person or a group of people because of their different political affiliation or because of the fact that they belong or do not belong to a particular race, religion, nation, ethnic group, sex or sexual orientation. According to paragraph 2 of the same Article of the

Law, behavior of a broadcaster in contravention of the prohibition in paragraph 1 of the said Article creates a basis for the enforcement of envisaged measures by the RBA²³, independently of other legal remedies that an injured party has at their disposal. According to Article 61, point 8 of the Broadcasting Law, a broadcasting licence ceases to be valid even before its expiry date if, *inter alia*, the RBA after having conducted proceedings in keeping with the law and with the regulations adopted pursuant to the law, adopts a measure of revoking the broadcasting licence because of the violation of a commitment on the part of the broadcaster or because of a failure to meet the conditions envisaged by the broadcasting licence.

Many national minorities in the Republic of Serbia enjoy the freedom of receiving information *irrespective of the borders*. All areas in Serbia inhabited by national minorities can receive the broadcast programmes from neighbouring countries. In addition, receiving and providing of information and ideas is realised through the re-broadcasting of the radio and TV programme. Freedom of re-broadcasting and direct receiving of the radio/TV programme is in keeping with commitments and rules of the European Convention on Cross-border Television and the Television without Frontiers Directive.

The data on the distribution of the print media and broadcasting/re-broadcasting of the radio and TV programmes produced in neighbouring countries, i.e. mother countries, are contained in the following examples:

- The print media from Hungary are available in the territory of municipalities of AP Vojvodina, their importers being Forum, Novi Sad and Elegance Poress, Subotica;
- Via a cable distributing system in the territory of some municipalities, TV programmes of the following broadcasting stations from Hungary are available: Madjar televizio 1 and 2 (24 hours a day), Duna televizio (24 hours a day), Televizia 2 (6-24 hours a day), RTL Klub program (6-24 hours a day), HIR televizio (6-24 hours a day), ATV televizio (6-24 hours a day), and Halozat televizio (6-24 hours a day);
- The re-broadcast TV programme of broadcasting stations from Albania is available via TV Preševo, Preševo, for 14.5 hours a day and TV Aldi, Preševo, for 9 hours a day;
- Radio and TV programmes of broadcasting stations from Slovakia are re-broadcast by Novi Sad Radio – programme in Slovakian, Novi Sad, for 1-1.5 hours a month; Naša TV, Bački Petrovac (via satellite) and Petrovac TV, Bački Petrovac;
- In the territory of the municipality of Bosilegrad, several TV programmes of broadcasting stations from Bulgaria are available via a cable distribution system, and in Dimitrovgrad programmes of BTV, K1, BBT, Folklore TV and TV 7, also from Bulgaria, are available;
- The programme of HTV is available in the territory of some municipalities via a cable distribution system.

²³ Republic Broadcasting Agency (translator's note)

9.1.3. Prohibition of Discrimination in the Access to Public Information Media

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia in Article 21, paragraph 3 prohibits any direct and indirect discrimination on any grounds, and in particular on the grounds of language. Article 3, point 6 of the Broadcasting Law envisages that all natural persons and legal entities are entitled to take part in public information under equal conditions, i.e. that regulation of relations in the field of broadcasting is based on the principle of prohibition of discrimination in the procedure for issuing broadcasting licences. From the adopted practices, it is clear that persons belonging to national minorities have access to public information media *without discrimination*.

Paragraph 2

9.2. Radio and TV Programme Broadcasting Licences

Article 4, point 8 of the Broadcasting Law defines a broadcasting organisation, i.e. a broadcaster as a natural person or legal entity registered for activities related to the production and broadcasting of the radio or television programme to whom/which, in accordance with the Law, a broadcasting licence has been issued. Article 38 of the Law envisages that any legal entity or natural person that meets the legal requirements is entitled to obtain the licence for the broadcasting of the radio and television programme under equal conditions. A broadcasting licence is issued by the Republic Broadcasting Agency in accordance with adopted criteria and prescribed requirements and standards for the programme production and broadcasting, and on the basis of the previously announced open competition. The permit refers only to special technical conditions regarding the use of frequencies and fulfillment of the minimum technical conditions for the radio or television broadcasting.

Paragraph 3

9.3. Creation and Use of the Information Media

9.3.1. Creation and Use of the Print Information Media

As it has already been stated, freedom of the media is guaranteed by Article 50 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia. According to this provision, everyone is free, without a permit and in the manner prescribed by law, to create papers and other public information media.

According to Article 14 of the Public Information Law, the founder of a legal entity that is the founder of the public media can be any domestic or foreign legal entity or natural person, in accordance with the law, but a founder of the public media cannot be, either indirectly or directly, the government or an autonomous territory or an institution, a company or other legal entity which is predominantly state-owned or which is entirely or predominantly funded from public revenues, unless this has been envisaged by a special law governing the field of broadcasting. Such a practice enables the creation of the print public information media in languages of national minorities.

The Republic, the autonomous province, or local self-government provides a part of funds or other conditions for the work of the public media in languages of national minorities in order for national minorities to exercise their right to information in their own languages and maintain their own culture and identity (Article 5 of the Public Information Law).

Information in languages of national minorities through the print media, irrespective of their ownership status, is supported by public authorities. Since 2003, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia has been announcing annual competitions for the co-financing of the public media and programmes in languages of national minorities. Since 2006, the project financing of the media in languages of national minorities has been systemically regulated. At the beginning of every year, a special competition is announced for the co-financing of the public media and programmes of electronic media in languages of national minorities. The Provincial Secretariat of Information of AP Vojvodina, through a public competition announced at least once a year, provides financial support for the technical and technological enhancement of the local (municipal) and regional media. The Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture of AP Vojvodina announces an annual competition for the co-financing of magazines on culture, literature and arts, youth magazines and children's magazines that are published in the printed and electronic form and in languages of national minorities that are of particular significance for the development of culture, literature and arts in AP Vojvodina.

Founders' rights to some public media once established by various levels of public authorities have been transferred to national councils of national minorities that are founders of legal entities considered as founders of the print media.

Based on the practices set forth in the Public Information Law, 11 print media in languages of national minorities whose founders are national councils of national minorities (except for the paper in Albanian) are financed on a regular basis from budgetary funds to the amount of 20-100% of the required funds. These are: "*Perspektiva*" (the Albanian language), "*Bošnjačka riječ*" (Bosniac/Bosnian), "*Bratstvo*" (*Brotherhood* - Bulgarian), "*Magyar Szó*" (Hungarian), "*Them*" and "*Romano Nevipe*" (Romany), "*Libertatea*" (Romanian), "*Ruske slovo*" (Ruthenian), "*Hlas L'udu*" (Slovakian), "*Piðne Slovo*" (Ukrainian) и "*Hrvatska riječ*" (*Croatian Word* - Croatian). These print media are published weekly, biweekly or monthly (except for the Hungarian paper which is published daily).

The following tables contain the data on the print media in languages of national minorities as well as on the financial support of the republic, provincial and local self-government bodies for their publishing.

The Albanian national minority

The magazine in Albanian, "*Perspektiva*", was launched by the NGO Cultural Society *Perspektiva*, Bujanovac in April 2006 with the assistance from the Ministry of Culture

that co-finances this weekly to the amount of 80% of the required funds. The table below contains data on the print media in the Albanian language and financial support to the media.

The print media	Content	Frequency of publication	Circulation	Financial support from public authorities
Private				
‘Perspektiva’, Bujanovac	general, culture, politics	Weekly	3,000	in 2006 co-financed by the Ministry of Culture with the sum of 4,300,000 dinars
‘Diellori’, Bujanovac	for children (as of 2007)	monthly, during the school year	5,000	in 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 900,000 dinars through a competition
‘Bilten’, Medveđa	(no longer published)			in 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 300,000 dinars through a competition
‘Hapi’, Vranje	information magazine	occasionally		-
Public				
‘Filloristi’, Preševo	school journal	during the school year		financed by Primary School ‘15.novembar’, Preševo
‘Cicerraku’, Crnotince	school journal	during the school year		financed by Primary School ‘22.decembar’, Crnotince

The Ashkali national minority

The table below contains data on the print media designed for persons belonging to the Ashkali national minority as well as on the financial support to the media.

The print media	Content	Frequency of publication	Circulation	Financial support from public authorities
Private – multilingual papers				
‘Horizonti Ashkali’, Novi Sad	magazine - culture, art, social issues	10 issues a year	3,000	In 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 50,000 dinars through a competition; In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 30,000 dinars through a competition
‘Flutura – Leptirko’, Novi Sad	magazine - for children	8 issues a year	2,000	in 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 30,000 dinars through a competition

The Bosniac national minority

Pursuant to the decision dated March 2006, a magazine on social affairs and the culture of the Bosniacs, “*Bošnjačka riječ*”, was launched, the founder of which was the National Council of the Bosniac National Minority. The Ministry of Culture co-finances this magazine to the amount of 60% of the required funds. The table below contains data on papers in the Bosniac/Bosnian language and financial support of government agencies for their publishing.

The print media	Content	Frequency of publication	Circulation	Financial support from public authorities
Private				
‘Kolibri’	for children	monthly	500-1,000	in 2005 the Ministry of Culture allocated 240,500 dinars through a competition.
‘Ser’	satirical paper	monthly	500	
‘Revija Sandžak’, Novi Pazar	culture, social issues	monthly	2,000-5,000	in 2005 the Ministry of Culture allocated 240,000 dinars through a competition
‘Glas islama’, Novi Pazar	religious	monthly	2,000	-
Public				
‘Bošnjačka Riječ’, Novi Pazar	science, culture, general	quarterly	1,000	in 2006 co-financed by the Ministry of Culture with the sum of 1,460,000 dinars

The Bulgarian national minority

The founding rights to the Paper Publishing Institution *Bratstvo* (Brotherhood), which publishes papers in Bulgarian listed in the following table and is financed 100% from the budget of the Republic of Serbia, were transferred from the Assembly of the Republic of Serbia to the National Council of the Bulgarian National Minority.

The print media	Content	Frequency of publication	Circulation	Financial support from public authorities
Public				
‘Bratstvo’, Nis	general	weekly	2,000	financed from the budget of the Republic, (in 2006 to PPI <i>Bratstvo</i> 30,000,000 dinars allocated)
‘Drugarce’	for children	monthly, during the school year	1,500	financed from the budget of the Republic
‘Most’	culture, arts, social issues	bimonthly	800	financed from the budget of the Republic

The Bunjevci national minority

The National Council of the Bunjevci National Minority formed the Paper Publishing Institution, *Bunjevci Information Centre*, which publishes “*Bunjevačke novine*” and “*Tandrčak*”. The table below contains data on the print media and financial support to the media.

The print media	Content	Frequency of publication	Circulation	Financial support from public authorities
Private				
'Ric matice', Subotica	magazine - literature	bimonthly	500	In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 60,000 dinars through a competition; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 80,000 dinars through a competition.
Public				
'Bunjevačke novine', Subotica	general	monthly	1,000	In 2005 the Ministry of Culture allocated 240,000 dinars for the establishment of a central editorial office for <i>Bunjevačke novine</i> and programmes in electronic media, through a competition. In 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 24,927 dinars for the media coverage of the Bunjevci customs events, through a competition
'Tandrčak', Subotica	children's supplement (as of September 2007)	monthly	1,000	In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 55,000 dinars through a competition.

The Jewish national minority

The table below contains data on the print media of the Jewish national minority published in Serbian as well as on the financial support to the print media.

The print media	Content	Frequency of publication	Circulation	Financial support from public authorities
Public				
‘Bilten’, Belgrade	general	monthly	1,500	In 2006 a grant received from the Ministry of Religion to the amount of 350,000 dinars. In 2007 the Agency for Human and Minority Rights allocated 200,000 dinars.
‘Osnovni pojmovi jevrejskih običaja i religije’ (Principal Terms of Jewish Customs and Religion), Novi Sad	thematic magazine	annually	500-800	In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 60,000 dinars through a competition.
‘Životne priče predsednika Jevrejske opštine Novi Sad od Drugog svetskog rata’ (Life Stories of Presidents of the Jewish Municipality Novi Sad since WWII), Novi Sad	thematic magazine	annually	200-250	In 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 80,000 dinars through a competition.

The Hungarian national minority

The National Council of the Hungarian National Minority took over from the Assembly of AP Vojvodina the founding rights to the limited liability company for paper publishing activities *Madjar So* (which publishes the only daily paper in Hungarian, ‘*Magyar Szó*’ and the children’s magazine ‘*Kepes Ifjusag*’), as well as the limited liability company for paper publishing activities *Het Nap* (which publishes an eponymous weekly). These papers receive regular grants from the budget of AP Vojvodina to the amount of 20% and 60% of the required funds, respectively. The table below contains data on the print media in Hungarian as well as on the financial support for their publishing.

The print media	Content	Frequency of publication	Circulation	Financial support from public authorities
Private – in Hungarian				
‘Igaz Szó’, Kovin	Supplement to the paper ‘Moj Kovin’	monthly	350-400	during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 130,000

				dinars ¹ for TTE
'Szo Beszed', Mali Idoš	general	monthly	700	-
'Csernyei Ujsag', Nova Crnja	general	quarterly	800	-
'Mezeskalacs', Novi Sad	magazine - for children	monthly	3,300	In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 68,900 dinars through a competition. In 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 100,000 dinars through a competition.
'Jo Pajtas', Novi Sad	magazine - for children	weekly	1,300	In 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 200,000 dinars through a competition. Over the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 200,000 dinars for TTE. In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 38,300 dinars through a competition. In 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 80,000 dinars through a competition
				During the period

¹ Abbreviations in the column 5:

REG.GR. – in the course of 2002 and 2003 RTV Novi Sad received regular grants.

EQP – in the course of 2003 and 2004 funds were provided for the equipment of RTV Novi Sad to have the audio and visual coverage of the work of the Executive Council and Assembly of AP Vojvodina, while regional electronic media were provided with the funds for the establishment and commencement of work.

TTE – since 2005 regional and municipal media have been granted funds on the basis of competitions for the technical and technological improvement of operations.

INF – contracts were concluded on the informing the public about activities of the Executive Council and Assembly of AP Vojvodina

PEN – since 2006 funds have been allocated for the programme enhancement

'Aracs', Novi Sad	culture			2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 150,000 dinars for TTE
'Csaladi Kor', Novi Sad	family	weekly	23,000- 25,000	-
DNS, Novi Sad	multimedia magazine	quarterly	400	In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 61,200 dinars through a competition. In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 100,000 dinars through a competition.
'Zetna' (in print), Senta	Internet literature magazine	monthly		In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 38,300 dinars through a competition.
'Dunataj', Sombor	general	weekly	500	-
'Symposion', Subotica	magazine - literature, arts, science	quarterly	500	In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 114,900 dinars through a competition. In 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 150,000 dinars through a competition.
'Uzenet', Subotica	magazine - literature, arts, culture, reviews	quarterly	400	In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 114,900 dinars through a competition. In 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 150,000

				dinars through a competition.
'Bacsorszag', Subotica	magazine - society	quarterly	1.000	In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 61,200 dinars through a competition. In 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 220,000 dinars through a competition.
'Uj Kep', Subotica	education	monthly, during the school year	1,500	-
'Temerini Ujsag', Temerin	general	weekly	1,100	In 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 116,160 dinars through a competition.
'Jo Gazda', Temerin	agriculture	monthly	2,000	-
'Tordai Ujsag', Torda, MA Žitište	general	bimonthly	750	In 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 50,000 dinars through a competition. Over the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 75,000 dinars for TTE.
'Uj Kanizai Ujsag', Totovo selo, MA Kanjiža	general	weekly	1,100	-
'Fecske', Feketić	general	monthly	350	In 2005 the Ministry of Culture allocated 11,790 dinars through a competition. In 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 50,000 dinars through a competition. Over the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat

				of Information allocated 50,000 dinars for TTE.
‘Reformatus Elet’, Feketić	religious	monthly	2,000	-
Private – multilingual papers				
‘Kozsegi Korkep« Municipal panorama, Ada	general	monthly	1,200	In 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 64,060 dinars for technical equipment through a competition. During the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 44,000 dinars for TTE.
‘Bečejski mozaik’, Bečej	general	weekly	1,700	In 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 100,000 dinars for TTE.
‘Zrenjaninske novine’, Zrenjanin	general, supplement in Hungarian	weekly	10,000	-
‘Muzslyai Ujsag’, ‘Muzljanske novine’, Muzlja, MA Zrenjanin	general	monthly	800-1,000	In 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 200,000 dinars through a competition. In 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 100,000 dinars through a competition.
‘Kisoroszi Hirmondo’, ‘Ruskoselski glasnik’, Rusko selo, MA Kikinda	general	quarterly	1,200	During the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 120,000 dinars for TTE.
‘Ogledalo – Oglinda’, Sečanj	magazine - literature	quarterly	500	In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 38,300 dinars through a competition. In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 60,000

				dinars through a competition.
Public – in Hungarian				
‘Magyar Szo’, Novi Sad	general	daily, except on Sundays	10,000	Over the period 2002/2006 subsidies of the Provincial Secretariat of Information to the amount of 168,289,700 dinars.
‘Kepes Ifjusag’, Novi Sad	youth	weekly	1,000	Over the period 2002/2006 subsidies of the Provincial Secretariat of Information to the amount of 19,050,530 dinars. In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 53,600 dinars through a competition. In 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 80,000 dinars through a competition.
‘Het Nap’, Subotica	family magazine	weekly	6,000-7,500	In 2005 the Ministry of Culture allocated 413,773 dinars for the development of computer infrastructure through a competition. In 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 85,820 dinars for the development of photographic equipment through a competition. Over the period 2002/2006 subsidies from the Provincial Secretariat of Information to the amount of 69,236,850 dinars received.

'Híd', Novi Sad	magazine - literature, arts	monthly		In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 137,750 dinars through a competition. In 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 210,000 dinars through a competition.
'Letunk', Novi Sad	magazine - society, science, culture	quarterly	500	In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 61,200 dinars through a competition. In 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 120,000 dinars through a competition.
'Hungarologiai Kozlemanyek', Novi Sad	magazine - literature	quarterly	200	In 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 100,000 dinars through a competition.
«Kozsegi Hirlap», Temerin	general	monthly	2,500	Financed from the budget of the Municipality of Bačka Topola
Public² – multilingual papers				
'Zrenjanin', Zrenjanin	general	weekly	12,000	Financed from the budget of the Municipality. Over the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 1,100,000 for TTE.
'Kovinske	general	monthly	1,500	Financed from the budget of the

² Local (municipal) and regional media are to be privatized.

novine', Kovin				Municipality. Over the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 160,000 for TTE.
'Kulska komuna', Kula	general	biweekly	2,000	Financed from the budget of the Municipality. In 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 102,480 for TTE.
'Novokneževačke novine' Novi Kneževac	general	biweekly	1,500	Financed from the budget of the Municipality. Over the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 177,000 for INF.
'Čokanska hronika', 'Csokai Kronika', Čoka	general	monthly	2,000	Financed from the budget of the Municipality. Over the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 270,000 for TTE.

The Macedonian national minority

Owing to the assistance of the Provincial Executive Council and the Ministry of Culture, the National Council of the Macedonian National Minority established the PPI *Macedonian Information and Publishing Centre*, which publishes the information magazine "*Makedonska videlina*". Data on the print media in Macedonian are presented in the table below.

The print media	Content	Frequency of publication	Circulation	Financial support from public authorities
Private				
'Makedonska videlina', Pančevo	general	monthly	1,000	Since 2007 subsidized by the Provincial Secretariat of Information
'Sunica', Novi Sad	magazine	bimonthly	1,000	In 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 55,000 dinars through a competition

The German national minority

Data on the print media in German as well as on the financial support for their publication are presented in the table below.

The print media	Content	Frequency of publication	Circulation	Financial support from public authorities
Private - multilingual papers				
‘Fenster’, Sremski Karlovci	magazine - culture, social issues	3 issues a year	500	In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 60,000 dinars through a competition; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 80,000 dinars through a competition

The Roma national minority

The Assembly of AP Vojvodina transferred to the National Council of the Roma National Minority the founding rights to the PPI *Them*, which publishes a general magazine “*Them*” and the children’s magazine “*Chavorrengo Them*”, subsidized by the Provincial Secretariat of Information of AP Vojvodina. In 2005 a monthly in the Romany language was launched, the founder of which is also the National Council of the Roma National Minority. The Ministry of Culture co-finances the paper to the amount of 100% of the required funds. Data on the print media in the Romany language as well as on the financial support for their publication are presented in the following table.

The print media	Content	Frequency of publication	Circulation	Financial support from public authorities
Private - multilingual papers				
‘Romologija’, Deronje	magazine – society, culture, arts	quarterly	500-700	In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 60,000 dinars through a competition; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 90,000 dinars through a competition
Public – in Romany				
‘Them’, Novi Sad	general	biweekly	1,500	During the period 2002/ 2006 subsidies received from the Provincial Secretariat of Information to the amount of 26,550,800 dinars

'Chavorrengo Them', Novi Sad	for children	monthly, during the school year	1,500	During the period 2002/ 2006 subsidies received from the Provincial Secretariat of Information to the amount of 2,860,000 dinars
Public – multilingual papers				
'Romano Nevipe', Belgrade	magazine, supplement for women and children	monthly	3,500	In 2006 co-financed by the Ministry of Culture with the sum of 5,614,600 dinars

The Romanian national minority

The founding rights to the PPI *Libertatea*, which publishes the weekly "*Libertatea*" and the magazines "*Lumina*", "*Tineretea*" and "*Bucuria Copilor*", all co-financed by the Provincial Secretariat of Information of AP Vojvodina, were transferred to the National Council of the Romanian National Minority. Data on the print media in Romanian as well as on the financial support for their publication are presented in the table below.

The print media	Content	Frequency of publication	Circulation	Financial support from public authorities
Private – in Romanian				
'Traditia', Novi Sad	magazine - ethnography, folklore	quarterly	320	In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 38,300 dinars through a competition; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 90,000 dinars through a competition
'Tezaur Romanesc', Pančevo	magazine - cultural heritage	quarterly	300	In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 38,300 dinars through a competition
'Tibiscus', Uzdin	magazine – culture, arts	monthly	1,200	In 2005 the Ministry of Culture allocated 108,000 dinars through a competition; in 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 50,000 dinars through a competition; in 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 50,000 dinars through a competition; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 95,000

				dinars for TTE; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 80,000 dinars through a competition
‘Graiu Banatanului’, Uzdin	magazine - literature	quarterly	200	In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 38,300 dinars through a competition
Private - multilingual papers				
‘Ogledalo – Oglinda’, Sečanj	magazine - literature	quarterly	500	In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 38,300 dinars through a competition; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 60,000 dinars through a competition
Public – in Romanian				
‘Libertatea’, Pančevo	general	weekly	3,000	In 2005 the Ministry of Culture allocated 350,350 dinars through a competition; in 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 380,000 dinars through a competition; in 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated, through a competition, to the PPI 250,000 dinars for the project ‘Multiculturalism Flows’; during the period 2002/2006 subsidies received from the Provincial Secretariat of Information to the amount of 70,201,570 dinars
‘Lumina’, Pančevo	magazine - literature, arts, culture	bimonthly	350	In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 114,900 dinars through a competition; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 210,000 dinars through a competition
				During the period 2002/ 2006 subsidies received from the Provincial Secretariat of

‘Tineretea’, Pančevo	youth magazine	monthly, during the school year	750	Information to the amount of 6,012,120 dinars; in 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 53,600 dinars through a competition; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 80,000 dinars through a competition
‘Bucuria Copilor’, Pančevo	magazine – for children	monthly, during the school year	1,250	During the period 2002/ 2006 subsidies received from the Provincial Secretariat of Information to the amount of 6,012,120 dinars; in 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 68,900 dinars through a competition; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 100,000 dinars through a competition
‘Floare de latinitate’, Novi Sad	magazine - general	bimonthly	300-400	In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 38,300 dinars through a competition
Public – multilingual papers				
‘Opštinske novosti’, Alibunar	general (not published since 2006)	monthly	1,200	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 102,741 dinars for TTE
‘Vršačka kula’, Vršac	general	biweekly	1,500	Financed from the budget of the Municipality
‘Zrenjanin’, Zrenjanin	general	weekly	12,000	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 1,100,000 dinars for TTE
‘Kovinske novine’, Kovin	general Serbian/Hungarian	monthly	1,500	Financed from the budget of the Municipality, during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 160,000

				dinars for TTE
--	--	--	--	----------------

The Ruthenian national minority

The Assembly of AP Vojvodina transferred founding rights to the PPI *Ruske slovo* to the National Council of the Ruthenian National Minority. This paper publishing institution publishes “*Ruske slovo*” and several specialist magazines such as “*Zahradtka*”, “*Mak*”, “*Svetlost*”, and “*Kalendar-Almanah*”, all co-financed by the Provincial Secretariat of Information of AP Vojvodina. The table below contains data on the print media in Ruthenian as well as on the financial support for these publications.

The print media	Content	Frequency of publication	Circulation	Financial support from public authorities
Private – in Ruthenian				
‘ <i>Studia Ruthenica</i> ’, Novi Sad	magazine - collection of papers	annual	500	In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 38,300 dinars through a competition; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 40,000 dinars through a competition
‘ <i>Rusin</i> ’, Ruski Krstur	general	quarterly		-
‘ <i>Dzvoni</i> ’, Ruski Krstur	religious	monthly	1,000	During the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 155,000 dinars for TTE
Private - multilingual papers				
‘ <i>Erato nad Kucurom/Kocurom</i> ’, Novi Sad	magazine – literature	annual	300	In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 38,300 dinars through a competition; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 40,000 dinars through a competition
‘ <i>Glas saveza</i> ’, Novi Sad	The mouthpiece of the Council of the	annual	300	-

	Ruthenians and the Ukrainians in Serbia and Montenegro			
Public – in Ruthenian				
‘Ruske slovo’, Novi Sad	general	weekly	2,400	During the period 2002/2006 subsidies received from the Provincial Secretariat of Information to the amount of 70,201,570 dinars
‘Zahradtka’, Novi Sad	magazine – for children	monthly	1,300	during the period 2002/2006 subsidies received from the Provincial Secretariat of Information to the amount of 6,012,120 dinars; in 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 68,900 dinars through a competition; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 100,000 dinars through a competition
‘Mak’, Novi Sad	youth magazine	monthly	400	During the period 2002/2006 subsidies received from the Provincial Secretariat of Information to the amount of 6,012,120 dinars; in 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 53,600 dinars through a competition; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 80,000 dinars through a competition
‘Svetlosc’, Novi Sad	magazine – literature, culture, arts	bimonthly	400	In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 114,900 dinars through a competition; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated

				210,000 dinars through a competition
'Kalendar - Almanah', Novi Sad		annual	2,500	-
Public – multilingual papers				
'Kulska komuna', Kula	general	biweekly	2,000	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 102,480 dinars for TTE

The Slovakian national minority

Founding rights to the PPI *Hlas L'udu*, which publishes "*Hlas L'udu*" and a youth magazine "*Vzlet*", were transferred to the National Council of the Slovakian National Minority. These publications are co-financed by the Provincial Secretariat of Information of AP Vojvodina. The table below contains data on the print media in Slovakian as well as on the financial support for their publishing.

The print media	Content	Frequency of publication	Circulation	Financial support from public authorities
Private – in Slovakian				
'Rovina', Bački Petrovac	family magazine	8 issues a year	1,000	In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 38,300 dinars through a competition; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 90,000 dinars through a competition
'Novy život', Bački Petrovac	magazine - literature, culture	quarterly	200	In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 114,900 dinars through a competition; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 210,000 dinars through a competition
				In 2007 the Provincial

'Zornicka', Bački Petrovac	magazine for children	bimonthly, during the school year	2,000	Secretariat of Information allocated 100,000 dinars for TTE; in 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 68,900 dinars through a competition; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 100,000 dinars through a competition
'Klasy', Kovačica	general	quarterly	300	-
'Slovakisticky Zbornik', Novi Sad	magazine - linguistic papers	annual	500	In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 38,300 dinars through a competition
'Evanjelicky Hlasnik', Novi Sad	religious	monthly		-
Public – in Slovakian				
'Hlas L'udu', Novi Sad	general	weekly	4,600	In 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 180,000 for the supplement 'Obzory' through a competition; during the period 2002/2006 subsidies received from the Provincial Secretariat of Information to the amount of 70,023,914 dinars
'Obzory', Novi Sad	supplement on culture, science, arts, literature	monthly	4,600	In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 38,300 dinars through a competition; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 80,000 dinars through a competition
				During the period 2002/ 2006 subsidies received

‘Vzlet’, Novi Sad	youth magazine	monthly	1,550	from the Provincial Secretariat of Information to the amount of 6,012,120 dinars; in 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 53,600 dinars through a competition; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 80,000 dinars through a competition
‘Liber’, Bački Petrovac	general	quarterly	250	In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 38,300 dinars through a competition
‘Petrovske noviny’, Bački Petrovac	general	biweekly	2,000	Financed from the budget of the Municipality
Public – multilingual papers				
‘Opštinske novosti’, Alibunar	general (not published since 2006)	monthly	1,200	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 102,741 dinars for TTE
‘Naša reč’, Bački Petrovac	general	monthly	4,500	Financed from the budget of the Municipality
‘Zrenjanin’, Zrenjanin	general Serbian/Hungarian	weekly	12,000	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 1,100,000 dinars for TTE

The Ukrainian national minority

The National Council of the Ukrainian National Minority founded in 2005 the PPI *Ridne Slovo* which publishes the paper “*Ridne slovo*”, whose publication is co-financed by the

Provincial Secretariat of Information of AP Vojvodina. The table below shows data on the print media in Ukrainian as well as on the financial support for their publication.

The print media	Content	Frequency of publication	Circulation	Financial support from public authorities
Private – in Ukrainian				
‘Ukrajinske slovo’, Novi Sad	magazine - society	quarterly	500	In 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 100,000 dinars through a competition; in 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 60,000 dinars through a competition; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 80,000 dinars through a competition
Private - multilingual papers				
‘Glas Saveza’, Novi Sad	The mouthpiece of the Council of Ruthenians and Ukrainians in Serbia and Montenegro Ruthenian/ Ukrainian 60/30/30	annual	300	-
Public – in Ukrainian				
‘Ridne Slovo’, Novi Sad	general	monthly		In 2005 the Ministry of Culture allocated 180,000 dinars for technical equipment through a competition; during the period 2002/2006 subsidies received from the Provincial Secretariat of Information to the amount of 2,400,000 dinars
‘Solovejko’, Novi Sad	magazine - for children	bimonthly	300	In 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 55,000 dinars through a competition

The Croatian national minority

The Assembly of AP Vojvodina transferred to the National Council of the Croatian National Minority the founding rights to the PPI *Hrvatska riječ* (Croatian Word). This institution publishes a weekly "*Hrvatska riječ*" ("Croatian Word") in Croatian and a magazine "*Hrcko*", subsidized by the Provincial Secretariat of Information. The data on the print media in Croatian and the financial support for their publication are presented in the following table.

The print media	Content	Frequency of publication	Circulation	Financial support from public authorities
Private				
'Miroljub', Sombor	society, culture	quarterly	900	-
'Glasnik pučke kasine 1878', Subotica	politics, culture, public affairs	monthly	300	-
'Klasije nasih ravni', Subotica	magazine - literature, book reviews	monthly	500	In 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 137,750 dinars through a competition; in 2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 137,750 dinars through a competition; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Education and Culture allocated 210,000 dinars through a competition
Public				
'Hrvatska riječ', Subotica	general	weekly	1,500	In 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated to the PPI 200,000 dinars for youth papers through a competition; during the period 2002/2006 subsidies received from the Provincial Secretariat of Information to the amount of 41,523,400 dinars
'Hrcko', Subotica	children's supplement	monthly, during the school year	1,500	In 2005 the Ministry of Culture allocated 476,100 dinars through a competition; during the period 2002/2006 subsidies received from the Provincial Secretariat of Information to the amount of 2,950,000 dinars

The Czech national minority

The table below contains data on the only print media in the Czech language.

The print media	Content	Frequency of publication	Circulation	Financial support from public authorities
Private				
'Bilten', Bela Crkva	general	quarterly	300	Assisted by local authorities through annual lump sum payments

9.3.2. Creation and Use of Electronic Information Media

9.3.2.1. Radio and TV Programme Broadcasters

Article 50 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia stipulates that television and radio stations are established in accordance with the law. Pursuant to the Broadcasting Law, as set forth in the comment to paragraph 2 of the Article, a licence issued by the Republic Broadcasting Agency is required in order to broadcast the radio and TV programme. Apart from requirements as to the use of a frequency and fulfillment of the minimum technical conditions, broadcasting of the radio and TV programme is subject to yet another condition – programme orientation of a radio or TV station must not rest on the hate speech (Article 21 of the Law).

The Broadcasting Law in Article 72 envisages that a broadcaster is obliged to produce and broadcast programme in Serbian, or to ensure that programmes produced in foreign languages are broadcast with translation into the Serbian language, which does not pertain to broadcasters that produce and broadcast the programme designed for national minorities nor to those parts of the programme of institutions of the public broadcasting service whereby needs of national minorities for information in the mother tongue are met. The stated provisions of the Law ensure that the radio and TV programme in languages of national minorities is broadcast also by broadcasters that do not belong to the public broadcasting service.

The tables below contain data on the broadcasting of the programmes in languages of national minorities in the electronic media.

Broadcast Radio Programmes by Broadcasting Language (in hours)

Broadcasting language	Year			
	2002	2003	2004	2005
REPUBLIC OF SERBIA				
Total	1,030,810	1,344,885	1,321,611	1,384,989

Serbian	970,050	1,262,168	1,264,032	1,330,066
Albanian	1,418	5,825	5,109	2,924
Bulgarian	468	499	716	1,521
Hungarian	25,843	33,727	36,962	28,419
Romanian	3,000	3,754	2,283	2,300
Ruthenian	1,883	48	1,972	1,925
Romany	7,432	23,813	4,611	4,331
Slovakian	6,660	8,643	3,300	4,234
Ukrainian	130	130	128	208
Languages of other minorities	943	546	1,960	666
Other languages	12,983	5,732	538	8,395
CENTRAL SERBIA				
Total	884,927	1,146,303	1,123,606	1,239,650
Serbian	867,109	1,111,960	1,112,405	1,223,917
Albanian	1,418	5,825	5,109	2,924
Bulgarian	468	499	612	1,521
Hungarian				
Romanian	730			
Ruthenian			40	40
Romany	6,222	22,287	3,488	3,349
Slovakian				
Ukrainian				
Languages of other minorities	223		1,440	250
Other languages	8,757	5,732	512	7,649
VOJVODINA				
Total	145,883	198,582	198,005	145,339
Serbian	102,941	150,208	151,627	106,149
Albanian				
Bulgarian			104	
Hungarian	25,843	33,727	36,962	28,419
Romanian	2,270	3,754	2,283	2,300
Ruthenian	1,883	48	1,932	1,885
Romany	1,210	1,526	1,123	982
Slovakian	6,660	8,643	3,300	4,234
Ukrainian	130	130	128	208
Languages of other minorities	720	546	520	416
Other languages	4,226		26	746

**Broadcast TV Programmes by Broadcasting Language
(in hours)**

Broadcasting language	Year			
	2002	2003	2004	2005
REPUBLIC OF SERBIA				
Total	395,139	428,322	425,604	550,281
Serbian	358,090	403,280	388,424	508,880
Albanian				
Bulgarian	26			
Hungarian	794	1,062	601	1,332
Romanian	1,246	935	303	814
Ruthenian	268	353	299	212
Romany	768	432	537	494
Slovakian	259	366	306	218
Ukrainian	27	24	15	13
Languages of other minorities	14	413	782	42
Other languages	33,647	21,457	34,337	38,276
CENTRAL SERBIA				
Total	370,497	394,205	388,602	494,041
Serbian	340,535	374,055	355,165	457,042
Albanian				
Bulgarian	26			
Hungarian				
Romanian	961	596	2	596
Ruthenian				
Romany	487	83	177	185
Slovakian				
Ukrainian				
Languages of other minorities		365	750	
Other languages	28,488	19,106	32,508	36,218
VOJVODINA				
Total	24,642	34,117	37,002	56,240
Serbian	17,555	29,225	33,259	51,838
Albanian				
Bulgarian				
Hungarian	794	1,062	601	1,332

Romanian	285	339	301	218
Ruthenian	268	353	299	212
Romany	281	349	360	302
Slovakian	259	366	306	218
Ukrainian	27	24	15	13
Languages of other minorities	14	48	32	42
Other languages	5,159	2,351	1,829	2,058

The tables below show data on electronic media³ that broadcast programmes in languages of national minorities as well as on the financial support from the republic, provincial and local self-government agencies for the broadcasting of such programmes.

The Albanian national minority

The table below contains data on the broadcasting of the **radio programme** in Albanian.

Broadcasting station	Duration of radio broadcasts	Financial support from public authorities
Private – in Albanian		
RTV Spektri Spektri Radio, Bujanovac	24 hours a day	-
RTV Aldi Aldi Radio, Preševo	24 hours a day	-
M Radio, Medveđa	24 hours a day	-
Public⁴- multilingual programme broadcasting		
RTV Bujanovac Bujanovac Radio, Bujanovac	6.5 hours a day	Financed from the budget of the Municipality (100%); in 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 325,935.60 dinars for the supply of equipment for the realisation of the project 'RTV Bujanovac – Multiethnic Media', through a competition; in 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 321,980 dinars for technical equipment through a competition
Medveđa Radio, Medveđa	2 hours a week and news once a day	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; in 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 80,000 dinars for the realisation of the serial 'Životne priče raseljenih sa obe strane linije' (Life Stories of the Displaced on Both Sides of the Line),

³ The process of issuing licences for the broadcasting of the programme of radio and television stations at the local level is underway.

⁴ Local (municipal) and regional electronic media are to be privatized.

		through a competition
RTV Preševo Preševo Radio, Preševo	12.5 hours a day	Financed from the budget of the Municipality (80%)

The table below contains data on the broadcasting of the **TV programme** in Albanian.

Broadcasting station	Duration of TV broadcasts	Financial support from public authorities
Private – in Albanian		
RTV Spektri Spektri TV, Bujanovac	24 hours a day	-
RTV Aldi Aldi TV, Preševo	15 hours a day	-
Public – in Albanian		
RTV Preševo Preševo TV, Preševo	9.5 hours a day	Financed from the budget of the Municipality (80%)
Public- multilingual programme broadcasting		
PTB Bujanovac Bujanovac TV, Bujanovac	3 hours a day	Financed from the budget of the Municipality (100%)

The Bosniac national minority

The table below contains data on the broadcasting of the **radio programme** in the Bosniac/Bosnian language.

Broadcasting station	Duration of radio broadcasts	Financial support from public authorities
Private - multilingual programme broadcasting		
Sto plus Radio, Novi Pazar	5 hours a day	-
Amaro Radio, Sjenica	12 hours a day	-
Public- multilingual programme broadcasting		
Regional RTV	30% out of 7.5	Financed from the budget of the Municipality

Novi Pazar Radio, Novi Pazar	hours a day	
---------------------------------	-------------	--

The table below contains data on the broadcasting of the **TV programme** in Bosniac/Bosnian and financial support to broadcasting stations for the programme realisation.

Broadcasting station	Duration of TV broadcasts	Financial support from public authorities
Public- multilingual programme broadcasting		
Regional RTV Novi Pazar TV, Novi Pazar	30% out of 17 hours a day	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; in 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 1,022,175 dinars for technical equipment through a competition
Tutin TV, Tutin	8 hours a day	Financed from the budget of the Municipality

The Bulgarian national minority

The table below contains data on the broadcasting of the **radio programme** in Bulgarian and on the financial support to broadcasting stations for the programme realisation.

Broadcasting station	Duration of radio broadcasts	Financial support from public authorities
Public- multilingual programme broadcasting		
Bosilegrad Radio, Bosilegrad	7.5 hours a day	Financed from the budget of the Municipality
RTV Caribrod Caribrod Radio, Dimitrovgrad	4-5 hours a day	Financed from the budget of the Municipality
Surdulica Radio, Surdulica	3 hours a day	Financed from the budget of the Municipality

The table below contains data on the broadcasting of the **TV programme** in Bulgarian as well as on the financial support to broadcasting stations for programme realisation.

Broadcasting station	Duration of TV broadcasts	Financial support from public authorities
Public companies Multilingual programme broadcasting		
RTV Caribrod Caribrod TV, Dimitrovgrad	1hour a day	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; in 2006 the Ministry of Culture 366,390 dinars for technical equipment through a competition allocated; in 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated

		525,000 dinars for technical equipment through a competition
--	--	--

The Bunjevci national minority

The *Bunjevci Information Centre*, Subotica also prepares the programme designed for the Bunjevci that is broadcast in the electronic media. The table below contains data on the broadcasting of the **radio programme** for persons belonging to the Bunjevci national minority as well as on the financial support for programme realisation.

Broadcasting station	Duration of radio broadcasts	Financial support from public authorities
Private - multilingual programme broadcasting		
103 Radio, Subotica	1 hour a week	In 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 257,000 dinars for a radio broadcast in the Bunjevci language 'Bunjevačka Rič' through a competition
Public- multilingual programme broadcasting		
Sombor Radio, Sombor	0.5 hours a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; in 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 289,800 dinars for a show 'Cross Culture' through a competition; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 410,000 dinars for TTE; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 250,000 dinars for TTE.

The table below contains data on the broadcasting of the **TV programme** as well as on the financial support for programme realisation.

Broadcasting station	Duration of TV broadcasts	Financial support from public authorities
Private - multilingual programme broadcasting		
RTV Patria – LTV K23, Subotica	(no longer broadcasts the programme)	In 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 236,000 dinars for a TV show 'Lipa rič' through a competition

The Vlach national minority

The table below contains data on the broadcasting of the **radio programme** in the Vlach language as well as on the financial support to broadcasting stations for programme realisation.

Broadcasting station	Duration of radio broadcasts	Financial support from public authorities
Public- multilingual programme broadcasting		
RTV Zaječar Zaječar Radio, Zaječar	daily news and 2 hours a month (broadcast until June 2007)	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; in 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 405,000 dinars for the setting up of an editorial office in the Vlach language 'Aici Radio-Zaiceri' through a competition

The table below contains data on the broadcasting of the **TV programme** in the Vlach language as well as on the financial support to the broadcasting station for the programme realisation.

Broadcasting station	Duration of TV broadcasts	Financial support from public authorities
Private - multilingual programme broadcasting		
STV Negotin, Negotin	news in Vlach	In 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 387,600 dinars for news in the Vlach language through a competition

The Gorani national minority

The data on the single **radio broadcasting station** in the Gorani language are contained in the table below.

Broadcasting station	Duration of radio broadcasts	Financial support from public authorities
Private - multilingual programme broadcasting		
Sto plus Radio, Novi Pazar	0.5 hours a week	-

The Hungarian national minority

The table below contains data on the broadcasting of the **radio programme** in the Hungarian language as well as on the financial support to broadcasting stations realizing the programme.

Broadcasting station	Duration of radio broadcasts	Financial support from public authorities
Private – in Hungarian		
Zeppelin Radio, Muzlja, MA Zrenjanin	24 hours a day	During the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 160,000 dinars for TTE ⁵

⁵ Abbreviations in column 3:

PM Radio, Totovo Selo, MA Kanjiža	24 hours a day	-
Private - multilingual programme broadcasting		
Ada Radio, Ada	88 hours a week	-
Bačka Topola Radio, Bačka Topola	12 hours a day	During the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 636,000 dinars for TTE and INF; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 250,000 dinars for TTE
Trend Radio, Bačka Topola	12 hours a day	During the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 159,000 dinars for TTE and INF; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 267,562 dinars for TTE
Sunce Radio – Glas južnog Banata, Bela Crkva	20 minutes a week	In 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 100,000 dinars for the project 'Multiculturalism 2007' through a competition; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 100,000 dinars for TTE
Bečej Radio, Bečej	4 hours a day	During the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 50,000 dinars for TTE
Vidra Radio, Bečej	3.5 hours a day	-
Patak Radio, Vršac	1.5 hours a week	A contract on business cooperation with the Municipality
Fedra Radio, Zrenjanin	daily news and 1 hour a week	In 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 96,000 dinars for 'Euroradio' multilingual radio – general programme, through a competition; in 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 96,000 dinars for 'Euroradio' multilingual radio through a competition
Panda Radio, Kanjiža	17 hours a day	During the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the

REG.GR. – in the course of 2002 and 2003 RTV Novi Sad received regular grants.

EQP – in the course of 2003 and 2004 funds were provided for the equipment of RTV Novi Sad to provide the audio and visual coverage of the work of the Executive Council and Assembly of AP Vojvodina, while regional electronic media were provided with the funds for the establishment and commencement of work.

TTE – since 2005 regional and municipal media have been granted funds on the basis of competitions for the technical and technological improvement of activities.

INF – contracts were concluded on informing the public about activities of the Executive Council and Assembly of AP Vojvodina

PEN – since 2006 funds have been allocated for programme enhancement

		amount of 100,000 dinars for TTE
Bus Radio, Kovin	1.5 hours a week	During the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 340,000 dinars for TTE; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 100,000 dinars for TTE
Fortuna Radio, Novi Kneževac	6 hours a week	In 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 98,987 dinars for TTE
Blue Radio, Odžaci	0.5 hours a week	In 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 300,000 dinars for TTE
City Radio, Subotica	6 hours a day	During the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 408,000 dinars for TTE
Paligo Radio (Palic Radio), Subotica	2 hours a week	-
City Folk Radio, Subotica	1 hour a day	-
RTV YU ECO YU ECO RADIO, Subotica	12 hours a day	In 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 130,000 dinars for TTE
90 Radio, Hajdukovo, MA Subotica	2-3 hours a day	During the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 50,000 dinars for TTE
Alfa Radio Mini Radio, Subotica	2-3 hours a day	-
Public – in Hungarian		
Subotica Radio - Editorial in Hungarian, Subotica	24 hours a day	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; in 2005 the Ministry of Culture allocated 144,000 dinars to the Hungarian editorial through a competition; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 2,107,000 dinars to the Subotica Radio for TTE and INF; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 350,000 dinars for TTE
Public- multilingual programme broadcasting		
Apatin Radio,	0.5 hours a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2005/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the

Apatin		amount of 450,000 dinars for TTE; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 100,000 dinars for TTE
RTV Radio BaP, Bačka Palanka	2 hours a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 300,000 dinars for TTE
Srednja Bačka Radio, Bačka Topola	12 hours a day	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; in 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 410,360 dinars for the programme in Hungarian and for launching broadcasting in Slovakian, through a competition; in 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 417,100 dinars through a competition; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 2,224,000 dinars for TTE and INF; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 250,000 dinars for TTE
Vrbas Radio, Vrbas	5 hours a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 4,300,000 dinars for TTE
Zrenjanin Radio, Zrenjanin	1 hour a day	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; in 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 432,000 dinars through a competition; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 670,000 dinars
RTV Inđija Inđija Radio, Inđija	1 hour a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality
RTV Kovačica Kovačica Radio, Kovačica	1.5 hours a day	Financed from the budget of the Municipality (70%)
Kovin Radio, Kovin	1 hour a day	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 100,000 dinars for TTE; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 110,000 dinars for TTE
Kula Radio, Kula	1 hour a day	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 1,563,000 dinars for TTE and INF; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 150,000 dinars for TTE

Novi Bečej Radio, Novi Bečej	25 hours a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 100,000 dinars for TTE
Odžaci Radio, Odžaci	2 hours a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 370,000 dinars for TTE
Sečanj Radio, Sečanj	1 hour a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; in 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 250,000 dinars for the programme in Hungarian and Romanian through a competition; in 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 160,500 dinars for broadcasting in Hungarian and Romanian through a competition; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 447,000 dinars for TTE and INF; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 130,000 dinars for TTE
Sombor Radio, Sombor	2 hours a day	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; in 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 289,800 dinars for the show 'Cross Culture' through a competition; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 410,000 dinars for TTE; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 250,000 dinars for TTE
Srbobran Radio, Srbobran	8 hours a day	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 772,600 dinars for TTE
Temerin Radio, Temerin	5 hours a day	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; in 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 288,000 dinars for the project 'Minority Rights, European Experiences and Serbian-Hungarian Relations through History', through a competition; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 450,000 dinars for TTE; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 102,480 dinars for TTE; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 146,800 dinars for TTE

The table below contains data on the broadcasting of the **TV programme** in Hungarian as well as on the financial support to broadcasting stations realizing the programme.

Broadcasting station	Duration of TV broadcasts	Financial support from public authorities
Private – in Hungarian		
Mozaik TV, Novi Sad	24 hours a day	In 2005 the Ministry of Culture allocated 300,000 dinars for a documentary serial through a competition; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 2,450,000 dinars for TTE; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 350,000 dinars for TTE
Private - multilingual programme broadcasting		
Cable TV, Ada	4-6 hours a week	-
Banat TV, Vršac	daily information broadcasts and programme 0.5 hours a week	A contract with the Municipality on business and technical cooperation
Santos TV, Zrenjanin	0.5 hours a day	In 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 200,000 dinars for the programme 'Mađarski magazin' (Hungarian Magazine) through a competition
Odžaci TV, Odžaci	0.5 hours a week	During the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 1,912,300 dinars for TTE and INF; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 450,000 dinars for TTE
Super TV, Subotica	2 hours a day, except on Sundays	During the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 6,440,000 dinars for TTE and INF; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 900,000 dinars for TTE
RTV YU ECO YU ECO TV, Subotica	35% of the programme broadcast 24 hours a day	During the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 15,534,000 dinars for TTE, INF and PEN; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 800,000 dinars for TTE
K23 TV, Subotica	2 hours a day	-
City TV, Subotica	2 hours a day	-

Public- multilingual programme broadcasting		
Express-channel Cable TV, Bačka Topola	1 hour a day	Financed from the budget of the Municipality
Bačka TV, Vrbas	accounts and stories in Hungarian, occasionally	Financed from the budget of the Municipality
Info TV, Kanjiza	1 hour a day	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 600,000 dinars for TTE; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 300,000 dinars for TTE
RTV Kovačica Kovačica TV, Kovačica	8 hours a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality (70%); in 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 360,000 dinars for broadcast subtitles in minority languages and in Serbian through a competition; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 4,310,785 dinars for TTE and INF; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 461,200 dinars for TTE
CINK Info Channel, Novi Kneževac	10 hours a day	financed from the budget of the Municipality (80%); during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 521,600 dinars for TTE and INF; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 200,000 dinars for TTE
Regional RTV Pančevo Pančevo TV, Pančevo	1 hour a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 2,830,000 dinars for TTE; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 470,000 dinars for TTE
KDS Info Channel, Cable television Subotica	2 hours a day	-

The Macedonian national minority

The table below contains data on the broadcasting of the **TV programme** in the Macedonian language.

Broadcasting station	Duration of TV broadcasts	Financial support from public authorities
Public- multilingual		

programme broadcasting		
Regional RTV Pančevo Pančevo TV, Pančevo	0.5 hours a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 2,830,000 dinars for TTE; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 470,000 dinars for TTE

The German national minority

The table below contains data on the broadcasting of the **radio programme** in the German language.

Broadcasting station	Duration of radio broadcasts	Financial support from public authorities
Private - multilingual programme broadcasting		
Fedra Radio, Zrenjanin	1 hour a week	In 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 96,000 dinars for the 'Euroradio' multilingual radio – information broadcasts through a competition; in 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 96,000 dinars for the 'Euroradio' multilingual radio through a competition
Public- multilingual programme broadcasting		
Odžaci Radio, Odžaci	2 hours a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 370,000 dinars for TTE
Subotica Radio - Subotica	0.5 hours a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated to Subotica Radio funds to the amount of 2,107,000 dinars for TTE and INF; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 350,000 dinars for TTE; in 2007 the Agency for Human and Minority Rights allocated 160,000 dinars for broadcasting the programme in German

The Roma national minority

The table below contains data on the broadcasting of the **radio programme** in the Romany language as well as on the financial support to broadcasters realizing the programme.

Broadcasting station	Duration of radio broadcasts	Financial support from public authorities
Private – in Romany		
Romano Vilo Radio, Bor	24 hours a day	-
Asunen Romalen Radio, Zrenjanin	24 hours a day	During the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 100,000 dinars for PEN
Romano Alav Radio, Kruševac	24 hours a day	In 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 300,000 dinars for the show 'Moj zavičaj, moja zemlja'(My Homeland, My Country) through a competition
Rom Radio, Obrenovac	24 hours a day	In 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 450,000 dinars through a competition
Private - multilingual programme broadcasting		
RTV Khrlo e Romengo Radio Khrlo e Romengo, Belgrade	10 hours a day	In 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 400,000 dinars for technical equipment through a competition
Srce Radio, Belgrade		In 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 300,000 dinars for the show 'I Beograd ima srce' (Belgrade Has a Heart Too) through a competition
Točak Radio, Valjevo	12 hours a day	-
Gipson Radio, Vranje	12 hours a day	-
OK Radio, Vranje	1 hour a week, only during 2006	In 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 300,000 dinars for the show 'Sunen e romen' through a competition
D-65 Radio, Deronje	2 hours a week	-
Amaro Radio, Zaječar	3.5 hours a day	-
RTV Belle Amie Belle Amie Radio, Niš	news twice a day	-
Blue Radio, Odžaci	0.5 hours a week	In 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 300,000 dinars for TTE
Romski Radio,	17 hours a day	-

Požarevac		
Leo Radio, Surdulica	12 hours a day	-
Gong Radio, Trgovište	no longer broadcasts the programme	In 2005 the Ministry of Culture allocated 600,000 dinars for the promotion and integration of the Roma community into the information system, through a competition
Public- multilingual programme broadcasting		
Bela Crkva Radio, Bela Crkva	1 hour, occasionally	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 216,730 dinars for TTE
RTV Bujanovac Bujanovac Radio, Bujanovac	1 hour a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality 100%; in 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 325,935.60 dinars for the supply of equipment for the realisation of the project 'RTV Bujanovac – Multiethnic Media', through a competition; in 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 321,980 dinars for technical equipment through a competition
RTV Inđija Inđija Radio, Inđija	1 hour a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality
Kovin Radio, Kovin	1 hour a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 100,000 dinars for TTE; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 110,000 dinars for TTE
Kruševac Radio, Kruševac	1 hour a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; in 2005 the Ministry of Culture allocated 250,000 dinars for the project titled 'Romano alav'
Novi Bečej Radio, Novi Bečej	1 hour a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 100,000 dinars for TTE
Odžaci Radio, Odžaci	2 hours a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 370,000 dinars for TTE
		Financed from the budget of the Municipality; in 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 289,800 dinars for the show 'Cross Culture'

Radio Sombor, Sombor	1.5 hours a week	through a competition; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 410,000 dinars for TTE; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 250,000 dinars for TTE
Radio Srbobran, Srbobran	1 hour a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 772,600 dinars for TTE
Surdulica Radio, Surdulica	3 hours a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality
RTV Trstenik Trstenik Radio, Trstenik	1 hour a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality 60%; in 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 380,000 dinars for the broadcasting of the show 'Lacho dje' through a competition

The table below contains data on the broadcasting of the **TV programme** in the Romany language as well as on the financial support to broadcasting stations realizing the programme.

Broadcasting station	Duration of TV broadcasts	Financial support from public authorities
Private - multilingual programme broadcasting		
RTV Khrlo e romengo Khrlo e romenego TV, Belgrade	40% of 11.5 hours a day	In 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 387,000 dinars through a competition
RTV Nišava Nišava TV, Niš	7 hours a day	In 2005 the Ministry of Culture allocated 600,000 dinars for the show 'Od A do S' (From A to S) through a competition and in 2006 440,000 dinars for the TV production costs
RTV Belle Amie Belle Amie TV, Niš	news twice a day	-
Pi Channel, Pilot	1 hour a month	In 2005 the Ministry of Culture allocated 450,000 dinars for the show 'Pralipe' through a competition
RTV YU ECO YU ECO TV, Subotica	2 hours a week	During the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 15,534,000 dinars for TTE, INF, PEN; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 800,000 dinars for TTE

Public- multilingual programme broadcasting		
RTV Bujanovac Bujanovac TV, Bujanovac	1 hour a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality (100%)
RTV Valjevo Valjevo TV, Valjevo	4 hours a month	In 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 360,000 dinars for the informing of the Roma, through a competition; in 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 360,000 dinars for the show 'Ej Romalen' through a competition
Regional RTV Pančevo Pančevo TV, Pančevo	1 hour a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 2,830,000 dinars for TTE; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 470,000 dinars for TTE
RTV Krajina, Krajina TV, Negotin	0.5 hours a week (since 2007)	In 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 200,000 dinars for 'Bibijaku djive' through a competition
RTV Trstenik Trstenik TV, Trstenik	1 hour a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; in 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 250,000 dinars for the broadcasting of the show 'Lacho dje' through a competition

The Romanian national minority

The table below shows data on the broadcasting of the **radio programme** in Romanian as well as on the financial support to broadcasting stations realizing the programme.

Broadcasting station	Duration of radio broadcasts	Financial support from public authorities
Private – in Romanian		
Viktorija Radio, Vršac	24 hours a day	A contract on business cooperation with the Municipality; in 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 60,000 dinars through a competition; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 200,000 dinars for TTE
Private - multilingual programme broadcasting		
Far Radio, Alibunar	4 hours a day	In 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 40,000 dinars for the show in Romanian titled 'Kulturni mozaik' (Cultural Mosaic), through a competition; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial

		Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 420,000 dinars for TTE
Sunce Radio – Glas Južnog Banata, Bela Crkva	1 hour a week	In 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 100,000 dinars for the project ‘Multiculturalism 2007’ through a competition; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 100,000 dinars for TTE
Patak Radio, Vršac	1.5 hours a week	A contract on business cooperation with the Municipality
Public- multilingual programme broadcasting		
Bela Crkva Radio, Bela Crkva	1 hour a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 216,730 dinars for TTE
Radio Zrenjanin, Zrenjanin	1.5 hours a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; in 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 432,000 dinars through a competition; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 670,000 dinars
RTV Kovačica Kovačica TV, Kovačica	1.5 hours a day	Financed from the budget of the Municipality (70%)
Kovin Radio, Kovin	2 hours a day	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 100,000 dinars for TTE; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 110,000 dinars for TTE
Radio Sečanj, Sečanj	1 hour a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; in 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 250,000 dinars for the broadcasting of the programme in Hungarian and Romanian through a competition; in 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 160,500 dinars for the programme broadcasting in Hungarian and Romanian through a competition; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 447,000 dinars for TTE and INF; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 130,000 dinars for TTE

The table below contains data on the broadcasting of the **TV programme** in the Romanian language as well as on the financial support to broadcasting stations realizing the programme.

Broadcasting station	Duration of TV broadcasts	Financial support from public authorities
Private - multilingual programme broadcasting		
Banat TV, Vršac	daily information broadcasts and programme 0.5 hours a week	A contract on business and technical cooperation with the Municipality
Public- multilingual programme broadcasting		
RTV Kovačica Kovačica TV, Kovačica	8 hours a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality (70%); in 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 360,000 dinars for broadcast subtitles in minority languages and in Serbian through a competition; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 4,310,785 dinars for TTE and INF; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 461,200 dinars for TTE
Regional RTV Pančevo Pančevo TV, Pančevo	1 hour a week	financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 2,830,000 dinars for TTE; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 470,000 dinars for TTE

The Ruthenian national minority

The table below contains data on the broadcasting of the **radio programme** in the Ruthenian language as well as on the financial support to broadcasting stations realizing the programme.

Broadcasting station	Duration of radio broadcasts	Financial support from public authorities
Private - multilingual programme broadcasting		
Multiradio, Novi Sad	0.5 hours a week	In 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 396,000 dinars for 'Students' Magazine' through a competition
Blue Radio, Odžaci	0.5 hours a week	In 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 300,000 dinars for TTE
Public- multilingual programme broadcasting		

Srednja Bačka Radio, Bačka Topola	0.5 hours a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; in 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 417,100 dinars through a competition; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 2,224,000 dinars for TTE and INF; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 250,000 dinars for TTE
Vrbas Radio, Vrbas	5 hours a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 4,300,000 dinars for TTE
Kula Radio, Kula	1 hour a day	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 1,563,000 dinars for TTE and INF; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 150,000 dinars for TTE
Radio Šid, Šid	1 hour a day	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 428,000 dinars for TTE and INF

The table below contains data on the broadcasting of the **TV programme** in the Ruthenian language as well as on the financial support to broadcasting stations realizing the programme.

Broadcasting station	Duration of TV broadcasts	Financial support from public authorities
Private - multilingual programme broadcasting		
Odžaci TV, Odžaci	0.5 hours a week	During the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 1,912,300 dinars for TTE and INF; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 450,000 dinars for TTE
Sremska TV, Šid	0.5 hours a week	During the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 13,920,000 dinars for TTE, INF and PEN
Public- multilingual programme broadcasting		
Bačka TV, Vrbas	Accounts and stories in Ruthenian	Financed from the budget of the Municipality

The Slovakian national minority

The table below contains data on the broadcasting of the **radio programme** in the Slovakian language as well as on the financial support to broadcasting stations realizing the programme.

Broadcasting station	Duration of radio broadcasts	Financial support from public authorities
Private – in Slovakian		
Slovensky Radio, Padina		-
Private - multilingual programme broadcasting		
Far Radio, Alibunar	2 hours a week	During the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 420,000 dinars for TTE
Sunce Radio – Glas južnog Banata, Bela Crkva	20 minutes a week	In 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 100,000 dinars for the project 'Multiculturalism 2007' through a competition; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 100,000 dinars for TTE
D-65 Radio, Deronje	3 hours a week	-
Fedra Radio, Zrenjanin	daily news bulletin, 1 hour a week	In 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 96,000 dinars for the 'Euroradio' multilingual radio – information programme through a competition; in 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 96,000 dinars for a 'Euroradio' multilingual radio through a competition
Blue Radio, Odžaci	0.5 hours a week	In 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 300,000 dinars for TTE
Public- multilingual programme broadcasting		
Bačka Radio, Bač	5 hours a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality (51%); during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 1,844,964.40 dinars for TTE; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 300,000 dinars for TTE
RTV Radio BaP, Bačka Palanka	2 hours a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 300,000 dinars for TTE
		Financed from the budget of the Municipality;

Srednja Bačka Radio, Bačka Topola	0.5 hours a week	in 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 410,360 dinars for the programme in Hungarian and launching the programme in Slovakian through a competition; in 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 417,100 dinars through a competition; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 2,224,000 dinars for TTE and INF; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 250,000 dinars for TTE
Bački Petrovac Radio, Bački Petrovac	24 hours a day	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; in 2005 the Ministry of Culture allocated 30,000 dinars in support to broadcasting information in Slovakian through a competition; in 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 100,000 dinars for broadcasts in Slovakian through a competition; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 738,000 dinars for TTE
Radio Zrenjanin, Zrenjanin	1.5 hours a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; in 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 432,000 dinars through a competition; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 670,000 dinars for TTE
RTV Inđija Inđija Radio, Inđija	1 hour a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality
RTV Kovačica Kovačica TV, Kovačica	5 hours a day	Financed from the budget of the Municipality (70%)
Kisac Radio, Novi Sad	33 hours a week	Financed from the City budget and LC Kisac; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 180,000 dinars for INF
Radio Odžaci, Odžaci	2 hours a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 370,000 dinars for TTE
Stara Pazova Radio, Stara Pazova	5 hours a day	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; in 2005 the Ministry of Culture allocated 30,000 dinars for a children's radio programme in Slovakian and 30,000 dinars for the show 'Zivimo zajedno' (Let's Live Together), through a competition;

		in 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 35,000 dinars through a competition
Šid Radio, Šid	1 hour a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 428,000 dinars for TTE

The table below contains data on the broadcasting of the **TV programme** in the Slovakian language as well as on the financial support to broadcasting stations realizing the programme.

Broadcasting station	Duration of TV broadcasts	Financial support from public authorities
Private – in Slovakian		
Petrovac TV, Bački Petrovac	24 hours a day	During the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 585,000 dinars for INF
Private - multilingual programme broadcasting		
Odžaci TV, Odžaci	0.5 hours a week	During the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 1,912,300 dinars for TTE and INF; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 450,000 dinars for TTE
Sremska TV, Šid	0.5 hours a week	In 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 200,000 for the show ‘Slovački magazin’ (Slovakian Magazine), through a competition; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 13,920,000 dinars for TTE, INF and PEN
Public- multilingual programme broadcasting		
RTV Kovačica Kovačica TV	24 hours a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality (70%); in 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 360,000 dinars for broadcast subtitles in minority languages and in Serbian through a competition; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 4,310,785 dinars for TTE and INF; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 461,200 dinars for TTE
Regional RTV Pančevo Pančevo TV, Pančevo	1 hour a week	financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 2,830,000 dinars for TTE; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information

		allocated 470,000 dinars for TTE
--	--	----------------------------------

The Ukrainian national minority

The table below contains data on the broadcasting of the **radio programme** in the Ukrainian language as well as on the financial support to broadcasting stations realizing the programme.

Broadcasting station	Duration of radio broadcasts	Financial support from public authorities
Private - multilingual programme broadcasting		
Royal Radio, Sremska Mitrovica	1 hour a week	-
Public- multilingual programme broadcasting		
Vrbas Radio, Vrbas	1 hour a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 4,300,000 dinars for TTE
RTV Indija Indija Radio, Indija	1 hour a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; in 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 200,000 dinars for the programme in Ukrainian 'Različitosti su naša vrednost' (Differences are Our Asset) through a competition
Kula Radio, Kula	1 hour a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 1,563,000 dinars for TTE and INF; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 150,000 dinars for TTE

The Croatian national minority

The table below contains data on the broadcasting of the **radio programme** in the Croatian language as well as on the financial support to broadcasting stations realizing the programme.

Broadcasting station	Duration of radio broadcasts	Financial support from public authorities
Public- multilingual programme broadcasting		
Bačka Radio, Bač	0.5 hours a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality (51%); during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 1,844,964.40 dinars for TTE;

		in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 300,000 dinars for TTE
RTV Inđija Inđija Radio, Inđija	1 hour a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality
Subotica Radio, Subotica	2 hours a day	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; in 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 500,000 dinars for a series of radio dramas in Croatian through a competition; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated to Radio Subotica funds to the amount of 2,107,000 dinars for TTE and INF; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 350,000 dinars for TTE

The table below contains data on the broadcasting of the **TV programme** in the Croatian language as well as on the financial support to broadcasting stations realizing the programme.

Broadcasting station	Duration of TV broadcasts	Financial support from public authorities
Multilingual private broadcasting stations		
RTV YU ECO YU ECO TV, Subotica	2 hours a week	In 2006 the Ministry of Culture allocated 127,774 dinars for technical equipment of the show titled 'TV tjednik' in Croatian through a competition; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 15,534,000 dinars for TTE, INF and PEN; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 800,000 dinars for TTE

The Czech national minority

The table below contains data on the broadcasting of the **radio programme** in the Czech language as well as on the financial support to broadcasting stations realizing the programme.

Broadcasting station	Duration of radio broadcasts	Financial support from public authorities
Private - multilingual programme broadcasting		
'Sunce Radio – Glas južnog Banata', Bela Crkva	1 hour a day	In 2005 the Ministry of Culture allocated 120,000 dinars for the programme in Czech through a competition; in 2007 the Ministry of Culture allocated 100,000 dinars for the project 'Multiculturalism

		2007' through a competition; in 2007 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated 100,000 dinars for TTE
Public- multilingual programme broadcasting		
Bela Crkva radio, Bela Crkva	1 hour a week	Financed from the budget of the Municipality; during the period 2002/2006 the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated funds to the amount of 216,730 dinars for TTE; Broadcasting in the Czech language was realised through co-financing by the South Morava Region from Czech Republic and Provincial Secretariat of Administration, Regulation and National Minorities of AP Vojvodina

9.3.3. Public Broadcasting Service

Article 76 of the Broadcasting Law envisages that mainstays of the public broadcasting service in the Republic of Serbia are the republic and provincial broadcasting institutions that deal with the production and broadcasting of the radio and television programme and have special commitments as to the fulfilment of general interest in the field of the public broadcasting service, determined by this Law.

The Broadcasting Law envisages in Article 78 the obligation of those responsible for the public broadcasting service for the purpose of meeting a general interest to, *inter alia*, produce and broadcast programmes designed for all segments of society, without discrimination, thus in particular taking into consideration specific social groups such as, amongst others, minority groups, and to take into consideration language and spoken standards both of the majority population and, to an adequate extent, of national minorities in the territory where the programme is broadcast and that through an opportunity for them to experience some broadcasts or programmes, in areas where they live and work, also in their mother tongue and script.

The Statute of the Public Broadcasting Service of Serbia, in Article 38 thereof, lays down the commitment of the Programme Board to consider opinions and recommendations of the national councils of national minorities when it comes to broadcasts in languages of national minorities. Representing the interests of national minorities as recipients of the radio and TV programme is envisaged also by the Broadcasting Law. Article 23 of the Law stipulates that members of the Council of the Republic Broadcasting Agency are elected by the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia, at the proposal of authorized movers, which also include domestic non-governmental organisations and civic associations involved in the field of protection of rights of national minorities.

The republic broadcasting institution of Serbia - **Republic Public Broadcasting Service** broadcasts the radio programme in languages of national minorities. The table below shows the duration of broadcasts in languages of national minorities.

Broadcasting languages of the radio programme	Broadcasting station	Duration of radio broadcasts
<i>Bulgarian</i>	Niš Radio – programme in Bulgarian, Niš	until 2005, 3 hours a week, since 2005, 15 minutes a day
<i>Romany</i>	Belgrade Radio – programme in Romany, Belgrade	0.5 hours a day

The provincial broadcasting institution of Vojvodina – **Provincial Public Broadcasting Service** broadcasts the radio and TV programme in languages of national minorities. During the period 2002-2006, the Provincial Secretariat of Information allocated to the Broadcasting Institution of Vojvodina funds to the total amount of 964,134,250 dinars, namely: during 2002 and 2003, a regular grant to RTV Novi Sad for operations; during 2003 and 2004, funds were provided for equipping RTV Novi Sad for the audio and visual coverage of the work of the Executive Council and Assembly of AP Vojvodina; since 2006, funds have been allocated for programme improvement and contracts have been concluded on the informing of the public regarding the work of the Executive Council and Assembly of AP Vojvodina.

The table below displays the duration of **radio broadcasts** of the Provincial Public Broadcasting Service in languages of national minorities:

Broadcasting languages of the radio programme	Broadcasting station	Duration of radio broadcasts
<i>Bunjevci</i>	Novi Sad Radio, Novi Sad	0.5 hours a day
<i>Hungarian</i>	Novi Sad Radio – programme in Hungarian, Novi Sad	24 hours a day
<i>Macedonian</i>	Novi Sad Radio – programme in Macedonian, Novi Sad	0.5 hours a week

<i>Romany</i>	Novi Sad Radio – programme in Romany, Novi Sad	2.5 hours a day
<i>Romanian</i>	Novi Sad Radio – programme in Romanian, Novi Sad	44 hours a week
<i>Ruthenian</i>	Novi Sad Radio – programme in Ruthenian, Novi Sad	5 hours and 25 minutes a day
<i>Slovakian</i>	Novi Sad Radio – programme in Slovakian, Novi Sad	until 2005 5.5 hours a day, since 2005 - 5 hours a day
<i>Ukrainian</i>	Novi Sad Radio – programme in Ukrainian, Novi Sad	6 hours a month

The table below shows the duration of **television broadcasts** of the Provincial Public Broadcasting Service in languages of national minorities:

Broadcasting languages of the TV programme	Broadcasting station	Duration of TV broadcasts
<i>Bunjevci</i>	RTV	1 hour a month
<i>Hungarian</i>	RTV – programme in Hungarian, Novi Sad	12 hours a day
<i>Macedonian</i>	RTV – programme in Macedonian, Novi Sad	1 hour a month

<i>Romany</i>	RTV – programme in Romany, Novi Sad	4 hours a week and 2 hours a month
<i>Romanian</i>	RTV – programme in Romanian, Novi Sad	5.5 hours a week
<i>Ruthenian</i>	RTV – programme in Ruthenian, Novi Sad	40 minutes a day
<i>Slovakian</i>	RTV – programme in Slovakian, Novi Sad	5.5 hours a week
<i>Ukrainian</i>	RTV – programme in Ukrainian, Novi Sad	1 hour a month
<i>Croatian</i>	RTV – programme in Croatian, Novi Sad	1 hour a month

Paragraph 4

9.4. Measures to Facilitate the Access to the Media with a View to Strengthening Tolerance and Cultural Pluralism

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia fosters appreciation of differences that exist due to distinct identities of its citizens. Article 48 of the Constitution stipulates that the Republic of Serbia, *inter alia*, stimulates understanding, appreciation and respect of differences that exist because of distinct ethnic, cultural, linguistic or religious identities of its citizens, through public information measures.

According to Article 4, point 9 of the Broadcasting Law, the public broadcasting service includes production, purchase, processing and broadcasting of information, education, cultural and artist, children's, entertainment, sport and other radio and television programmes that are of general interest for the citizens, and in particular with the aim of exercising their human and civil rights, exchanging ideas and opinions, nurturing political, gender, interethnic and religious tolerance as well as preserving the national identity, while Article 68, point 4 stipulates that all broadcasting stations are obliged to contribute through broadcasts to raising the general cultural and cognitive level of the population.

The Broadcasting Law obliges mainstays of the public broadcasting service, with a view to meeting the general interest, to produce and broadcast programmes designed for all social strata, without discrimination, thus in particular taking into consideration specific social groups such as, among others, minority and ethnic groups, and to take into

consideration language and spoken standards both of the majority population and, to an adequate extent, of national minorities, i.e. ethnic groups in the territory where the programme is broadcast, as well as to ensure that the needs of citizens for programmes that express the cultural identity both of the people and national minorities, i.e. ethnic groups, are met (Article 78 of the Law).

Article 10

- 1. The Parties undertake to recognise that every person belonging to a national minority has the right to use freely and without interference his or her minority language, in private and in public, orally and in writing.**
- 2. In areas inhabited by persons belonging to national minorities traditionally or in substantial numbers, if those persons so request and where such a request corresponds to a real need, the Parties shall endeavour to ensure, as far as possible, the conditions which would make it possible to use the minority language in relations between those persons and the administrative authorities.**
- 3. The Parties undertake to guarantee the right of every person belonging to a national minority to be informed promptly, in a language which he or she understands, of the reasons for his or her arrest, and of the nature and cause of any accusation against him or her, and to defend himself or herself in this language, if necessary with the free assistance of an interpreter.**

Paragraph 1

10.1. Freedom to Use Minority Languages

The right of persons belonging to national minorities to use their language freely, in private and in public, in speaking and in writing is regulated by the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, as well as other laws and regulations.

The use and protection of minority languages is regulated by virtue of Article 79 of the Constitution, which addresses the right of persons belonging to national minorities to preserve their distinctiveness. According to this article of the Constitution, persons belonging to national minorities, *inter alia*, have the right *to use their own language and script*.

The Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, in Article 10 thereof, prescribes the right of persons belonging to national minorities to use freely their language and script, in private and in public. Article 12 of the Law envisages that expression, preservation, fostering, development, imparting and public displaying of language distinctiveness as part of tradition of citizens, national minorities and persons belonging to them is an inalienable individual and collective right.

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia in Article 21, paragraph 2 prohibits discrimination on any grounds, setting forth that discrimination is especially prohibited

on some grounds (race, sex, nationality, social background, birth, religion, political and other beliefs, culture, etc.), here explicitly including language too. *Discrimination on the grounds of language*, according to Article 202, paragraph 2 of the Constitution, *is not permitted even in case of measures providing for derogation from human and minority rights* in the states of emergency or war.

As for the use of one's own language, persons belonging to national minorities enjoy the criminal law protection as well. Criminal Code, in its Article 128, which refers to the criminal offence of violation of equality, stipulates a sentence of up to three years of imprisonment for a person that denies or restricts another person's rights of man and citizen established by the Constitution, laws or other regulations or acts or confirmed international agreements, *inter alia*, on the grounds of national or ethnical, racial or religious affiliation or the absence of such affiliation, or on the grounds of differences with respect to political or other beliefs, sex, *language*, or education, or grants benefits or privileges to another person on the grounds of such differences. Paragraph 2 of the same article of the Criminal Code prescribes a more serious form of this criminal offence that exists if the offence delineated in paragraph 1 of the article is perpetrated by an official in discharge of duty, in which case the sentence of three months to five years of imprisonment is envisaged. Article 129 of the Criminal Code, which refers to the criminal offence of the violation of the right to use language and script, stipulates a pecuniary sentence or a sentence of up to one year of imprisonment for every person that hinders a citizen from exercising their rights or addressing authorities or organisations, or limits their the right to use their language or script, in contravention of regulations on the the use of languages and scripts of persons belonging to national minorities living in the Republic of Serbia.

By virtue of the said provisions of the Constitution and law, as well as other provisions related to the protection of rights of national minorities, in the Republic of Serbia free use of minority languages in speaking and in writing, in private and in public is guaranteed in the entire territory of the Republic of Serbia, and in particular in areas predominantly inhabited by persons belonging to national minorities, where in accordance with the law and needs of the population, especially of persons belonging to national minorities, the official use of languages and scripts of national minorities has been introduced as well.

Paragraph 2

10.2. Official Use of Languages of National Minorities

Persons belonging to national minorities are guaranteed the right to use their language and script also by virtue of a constitutional provision that regulates the issue of the official use of the language and script in the Republic of Serbia. Article 10 of the *Constitution* prescribes that in the Republic of Serbia *the Serbian language and Cyrillic script are in official use, while the official use of other languages and scripts is regulated by the law pursuant to the Constitution.*

10.2.1. The Concept of the Official Use of Languages of National Minorities

The Law on Official Use of Languages and Scripts in Article 2 stipulates that the official use of languages and scripts, as set down by this law, refers to the use of languages and scripts in the work of government agencies, agencies of autonomous provinces, cities and municipalities, institutions, enterprises and other organisations when exercising public powers, as well as to the use of languages and scripts in the work of public enterprises and public services, and in the work of other organisations when they conduct activities laid down by this law. As stipulated in Article 3 of this law, the official use of languages and scripts refers especially to the use of languages and scripts in oral and written communication between agencies and organisations, as well as in their communication with parties, that is citizens, in proceedings for the enforcement and protection of rights, obligations and responsibilities of citizens; in keeping prescribed records by municipal bodies and organisations exercising public powers in the territory of a municipality; in issuing official documents as well as other documents relevant for the exercise of the citizens' legal rights; and in exercising the rights, duties and responsibilities of employees deriving from labour or by right of labour. The official use of languages and scripts refers also to the use of languages and scripts related to inscriptions of place names and other geographical names, names of squares and streets, names of bodies, organisations and companies, announcement of open invitations, public notices and warnings, as well as to the writing of other public inscriptions.

As stipulated by Article 11, paragraph 4 of the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, the official use of minority languages refers especially to the use of languages of national minorities in an administrative procedure and judicial proceedings and to an administrative procedure and judicial proceedings in the language of a national minority; the use of the language of a national minority in communication between agencies vested with public powers and citizens; issuing official documents and keeping official records and bases of personal data and data in languages of national minorities, as well as the acceptance of the documents done in those languages as valid; the use of languages in ballot papers and voting material; and the use of languages in the work of representative bodies.

10.2.2. Manifestations of the Official Use of Languages of National Minorities

According to the national legislation, various manifestations of the official and public use of languages of national minorities in the Republic of Serbia, in various spheres of the social and public life, can refer to and be enforced in various territories and by various bodies – from the territory of a local community and a single place, the territory of a local self-government unit and its bodies, through the territory under the jurisdiction of first instance and second instance courts (municipal and district), to the territory of an autonomous province and its bodies and, in some cases, even to the entire state.

The Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities stipulates in Article 11 that *in the territory of a local self-government unit traditionally inhabited by persons belonging to national minorities* their language and script can be in equal official use.

Paragraph 2 of the same article prescribes that units of local self-government are obliged to introduce into equal official use the language and script of a national minority if persons belonging to that national minority account for 15% of the total population of the territory, according to the latest census. With the aim of protecting acquired rights, paragraph 3 of this Article stipulates that in a unit of local self-government where at the time of the adoption of this Law the language of a national minority was in official use, the language will remain in official use. This manifestation of the official use of languages and scripts of national minorities is related to the exercise of competences of a local self-government unit and to oral and written communication with parties, proceedings, and keeping records and issuing documents by bodies of a local self-government unit.

The Decision on More Specific Regulation of Certain Issues concerning Official Use of Languages and Scripts of National Minorities in the Territory of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina in Article 8, paragraph 3 prescribes that the language and script of a national minority will be introduced into official use *in a place or a local community of a local self-government unit where the language and the script are not in official use on the entire territory*, if the percentage share of persons belonging to a national minority, according to the last census, reaches 25% of the total population of the place or local community in question. This manifestation of the official use of languages and scripts of national minorities is related only to the writing of public inscriptions and names and performing of some administrative tasks by local offices in these local communities.

A larger area linked with the official use of languages of national minorities is the autonomous province that in its Statute sets forth languages that are in official use and some manifestations of the official use in the work of provincial bodies. This manifestation of the official use of languages and scripts of national minorities refers to the official use of minority languages in the work of the Assembly of AP Vojvodina as well as to the exercise of competences of administrative bodies of the autonomous province, i.e. oral and written communication between bodies and parties, proceedings, keeping of records and issuing of documents by those bodies.

Some manifestations of the official and public use of languages of national minorities are related to areas which are not in advance defined or definable by law. Official records in schools where teaching is realised in the language and script of a national minority are kept in the language and script in which the teaching is realised. Given that the teaching in languages of national minorities depends on parents', or pupils' decision, it is impossible to ascertain in advance in which areas the official school records will be kept in languages of national minorities. Some manifestations of the public use of languages of national minorities, with respect to which the entire territory of the state can, in a way, be considered a territory where these manifestations of the public and official use of minority languages and scripts are practiced, exist in the case when government bodies in areas where languages of national minorities are in official use are obliged to issue documents in minority languages valid on the entire territory of the Republic of Serbia (e.g. identity cards, the form for which is printed in minority languages, health cards, the form for which is printed in minority languages, graduation certificates, etc.), i.e. when government agencies are obliged to respond to petitions of citizens in languages of

national minorities, or when minority languages are officially used in the work of bodies of the central government, e.g. in the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia at the sessions of which, pursuant to Article 231, paragraph 2 of the Rules of Procedure, an MP has the right to speak and to submit written documents, envisaged by these Rules of Procedure, to the National Assembly in their mother tongue. According to paragraph 3 of the same article of the Rules of Procedure, an MP that in the work of the National Assembly intends to use their mother tongue in the light of paragraph 2 of the Article, at all times or on some occasions, is obliged to inform the Secretary of the National Assembly timely about his/her intentions so as to ensure the interpretation of his oral address or translation of documents he submitted into the Serbian language.

10.2.3. Territory and Languages in Official Use

Official Use of National Minority Languages in Units of Local Self-government in the territory of AP Vojvodina

No	Municipality	Serbian Cyrillic	Serbian Latin alphabet	Hungarian	Slovakian	Romanian	Ruthenian	Croatian	Czech
1	Ada	Serbian Cyrillic	Serbian Latin alphabet	Hungarian					
2	Alibunar	Serbian Cyrillic	Serbian Latin alphabet		Slovakian	Romanian			
3	Apatin	Serbian Cyrillic	Serbian Latin alphabet	Hungarian *				Croatian *	
4	Bač	Serbian Cyrillic	Serbian Latin alphabet	Hungarian	Slovakian				
5	Bački Petrovac	Serbian Cyrillic	Serbian Latin alphabet		Slovakian				
6	Bačka Palanka	Serbian Cyrillic			Slovakian				
7	Bačka Topola	Serbian Cyrillic	Serbian Latin alphabet	Hungarian	Slovakian *		Ruthenian *		
8	Bela Crkva	Serbian Cyrillic		Hungarian		Romanian			Czech

9	Beočin	Serbian Cyrillic			Slovakian *				
10	Bečej	Serbian Cyrillic	Serbian Latin alphabet	Hungarian					
11	Vrbas	Serbian Cyrillic	Serbian Latin alphabet	Hungarian			Ruthenian		
12	Vršac	Serbian Cyrillic		Hungarian *		Romanian *			
13	Žabalj	Serbian Cyrillic					Ruthenian		
14	Žitište	Serbian Cyrillic	Serbian Latin alphabet	Hungarian		Romanian			
15	Zrenjanin	Serbian Cyrillic		Hungarian	Slovakian	Romanian			
16	Indija	Serbian Cyrillic							
17	Irig	Serbian Cyrillic							
18	Kanjiža	Serbian Cyrillic	Serbian Latin alphabet	Hungarian					
19	Kikinda	Serbian Cyrillic		Hungarian *					
20	Kovačica	Serbian Cyrillic	Serbian Latin alphabet	Hungarian	Slovakian	Romanian			
21	Kovin	Serbian Cyrillic		Hungarian		Romanian			
22	Kula	Serbian Cyrillic		Hungarian			Ruthenian		
23	Mali Idos	Serbian Cyrillic	Serbian Latin alphabet	Hungarian					

24	Nova Crnja	Serbian Cyrillic	Serbian Latin alphabet	Hungarian					
25	Novi Bečej	Serbian Cyrillic		Hungarian					
26	Novi Kneževac	Serbian Cyrillic		Hungarian					
27	Novi Sad	Serbian Cyrillic		Hungarian	Slovakian		Ruthenian		
28	Opovo	Serbian Cyrillic							
29	Odžaci	Serbian Cyrillic	Serbian Latin alphabet	Hungarian	Slovakian				
30	Pančevo	Serbian Cyrillic							
31	Pećinci	Serbian Cyrillic	Serbian Latin alphabet						
32	Plandište	Serbian Cyrillic		Hungarian	Slovakian	Romanian			
33	Ruma	Serbian Cyrillic							
34	Senta	Serbian Cyrillic	Serbian Latin alphabet	Hungarian					
35	Sečanj	Serbian Cyrillic	Serbian Latin alphabet	Hungarian		Romanian			
36	Sombor	Serbian Cyrillic	Serbian Latin alphabet	Hungarian					
37	Sremska Mitrovica	Serbian Cyrillic						Croatian *	
38	Srbobran	Serbian Cyrillic		Hungarian					

39	Sremski Karlovci	Serbian Cyrillic	Serbian Latin alphabet						
40	Stara Pazova	Serbian Cyrillic			Slovakian *				
41	Subotica	Serbian Cyrillic		Hungarian				Croatian	
42	Temerin	Serbian Cyrillic		Hungarian					
43	Titel	Serbian Cyrillic	Serbian Latin alphabet	Hungarian					
44	Čoka	Serbian Cyrillic	Serbian Latin alphabet	Hungarian					
45	Šid	Serbian Cyrillic	Serbian Latin alphabet		Slovakian		Ruthenian		

* In the Municipality of Apatin the Hungarian language and script are in official use in the settlements of Kupusina and Svilojevo, whereas Croatian language and script are in official use in the settlement of Sonta.

* In the Municipality of Bačka Topola, the Slovakian language and script are in official use in the settlement of Bajsa and the Ruthenian language and script are in official use in the settlement of Novo Orahovo.

* In the Municipality of Beočin, the Slovakian language and script are in official use in the settlement of Lug.

* In the Municipality of Vršac, the Romanian language and script are in official use in the settlements of Vojvodinci, Markovac, Straža, Mali Zam, Malo Središte, Mesić, Jablanka, Sočica, Ritiševo, Orešac and Kustilj, and the Hungarian language and script are in official use in the settlements of Susara and Vatin.

* In the Municipality of Stara Pazova, the Slovakian language and script are in official use in the settlement of Stara Pazova.

* In the Municipality of Kikinda in inhabited places Banatska Topola, Kikinda, Rusko Selo and Sajan the Hungarian language and script are in official use.

* In the Municipality of Sremska Mitrovica, the Croatian language and script are in official use in the settlement of Stara Bingula.

In 38 municipalities and the city of Novi Sad, a language and script of persons belonging to national minorities are in official use. Of this number, in 31 municipalities and the city of Novi Sad, one or several languages of persons belonging to national minorities are laid down in the whole territory, and in 7 municipalities – only in some settlements.

The Statute of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, in Article 6 thereof, envisages that in the work of bodies of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina the Hungarian, Slovakian, Romanian, and Ruthenian languages and their respective scripts are in official use along with Serbian and Croatian, as prescribed by law. The statutes of local self-government units in the territory of AP Vojvodina lay down languages and scripts of national minorities that are in official use in the territory of a local self-government unit, as well as minority languages that are in official use in the territory of some settlements or local communities in its territory.

In the rest of the Republic of Serbia, minority languages are in official use in the following local self-government units:

Municipality	Minority languages in official use
1. Bujanovac	Albanian
2. Medveđa	Albanian
3. Preševo	Albanian
4. Novi Pazar	Bosniac/Bosnian
5. Sjenica	Bosniac/Bosnian
6. Tutin	Bosniac/Bosnian
7. Bosilegrad	Bulgarian
8. Dimitrovgrad	Bulgarian

10.2.4. Use of Minority Languages in Communication between Persons Belonging to National Minorities and Authorities

The use of languages of national minorities in communication between persons belonging to national minorities and authorities is widespread and the extent of such use depends on the type of relations between minorities and bodies, as well as on the very character of the body concerned.

10.2.4.1. Submission of Petitions and Proposals

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, in Article 56 thereof, guarantees to everyone the right to put forward petitions and other proposals, individually or together with others, to government bodies, organisations exercising public powers, and bodies of the autonomous province and local self-government units, and to receive upon request a resp from them. If this right is exercised by persons belonging to national minorities, who according to the latest census account for at least 2% of the total population, then according to Article 11, paragraph 7 of the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities they can address government bodies in their own language and have the right to receive a reply in that language.

10.2.4.2. Use of Minority Languages in Communication between Persons Belonging to National Minorities and Administrative Bodies

Activities and organisation of the public administration have been explained in Part One of the Report (Section 2.8).

Except for the submission of petitions and proposals, one of the special manifestations of persons belonging to national minorities addressing administrative bodies is oral and written communication through applications, requests and other types of submissions.

10.2.4.2.1. Use of Minority Languages in Submissions Addressed to Administrative Bodies

In the legal system of the Republic of Serbia, the written and oral address by persons belonging to national minorities to administrative authorities in their minority language is regulated by the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, laws and other regulations.

When it comes to oral and written addressing of parties through applications, requests and other submissions, Article 199 of the Constitution stipulates that everyone has the right to use their language in proceedings before the court, other public administration body or organisation exercising public powers, when their right or duty is being decided on. According to paragraph 2 of the same Article of the Constitution, unfamiliarity with the language of the proceedings, and in which their right and duty is being decided on may not be an impediment for the exercise and protection of human and minority rights

The Law on Official Use of Languages and Scripts in Article 3 lays down the official use of languages and scripts which, *inter alia*, refers to oral and written communication between bodies and organisations on the one hand, and parties, that is citizens, on the other. The abovementioned article of the Law on Official Use of Languages and Scripts actually sets forth the possibility of putting forward submissions in minority languages in proceedings in the minority languages that are not in official use. Moreover, the Law on Official Use of Languages and Scripts in Article 16 envisages that even in territories where minority languages are not in official use, bodies, i.e. entities conducting the proceedings are obliged to ensure the exercise of the right to submit applications, appeals, actions, proposals, petitions and other submissions in minority languages. The Law on General Administrative Procedure, in Article 54 thereof, sets forth that in administrative procedure the following are considered to be submissions: requests, formulations for automatic data processing, proposals, declarations, applications, appeals, objections and other communications that parties use to address bodies.

Pursuant to Article 2 of the Decision on More Specific Regulation of Certain Issues concerning Official Use of Languages and Scripts of National Minorities in the Territory of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, organisational units of public administration bodies in the territory of AP Vojvodina accept submissions from citizens composed in languages of national minorities that are in official use in the territory under the competence of that body as valid. According to paragraph 3 of the same article of the

Decision, submissions are translated into the Serbian language, if needed, at the expense of the body concerned and are enclosed to other acts. The Decision, in paragraph 4 of the same article, envisages that an adequate mark, signifying the language in which the document is written, will be put on received documents done in the language that is in official use, apart from the mark of a receipt stamp. In headings of documents produced in the work of bodies in some of the languages that are in official use, an adequate letter is put to mark the language in which the document is composed. A person belonging to a national minority has the right to be provided with an oral or written reply in the language in which they addressed the body.

10.2.4.2.2. Use of Minority Languages in Settling Administrative Matters in an Administrative Procedure

By virtue of Article 79 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, persons belonging to national minorities are guaranteed the right to have government agencies, organisations exercising public authority, bodies of autonomous provinces and units of local self-government conduct proceedings also in their language, in areas where they account for a substantial majority of the population.

The Law on General Administrative Procedure, in Article 16 thereof, prescribes that in areas where, in keeping with the law, the language of a national minority is also in official use, the administrative procedure is also conducted in the language and using the script of that national minority. If the administrative procedure is not conducted in the language of a party, that is other participants to the procedure, who are nationals, they will be provided with the interpretation of the procedure into their language through an interpreter as well as the delivery of summons and other letters in their language and script. In Articles 1 and 2 of the Law it is stipulated that state agencies deciding on the rights, duties or legal interests of a natural person, legal entity or other party in administrative matters, by directly enforcing regulations, are obliged to act in accordance with this Law, as well as when they perform other activities laid down by this Law; the same applies to enterprises and other organisations when, in exercising public powers delegated to them, they decide on the rights, duties or legal interests of a natural person, legal entity or other party, i.e. when they perform other activities laid down by this Law.

10.2.4.2.3. Issuing Official Documents and Keeping Official Records

The Law on Official Use of Languages and Scripts, in Article 3 thereof, sets forth that the official use, *inter alia*, refers to the issuing of official documents as well as other documents that are relevant for the exercise of legally defined rights of citizens. The Law on General Administrative Procedure, in Article 154, paragraph 1, defines an official document as a document that has been issued by the state body acting within its competences, i.e. an enterprise or other organisation acting within legally delegated public powers, which has the prescribed form and which serves as evidence of the fact that it confirms or determines. According to Article 161 of the Law on General Administrative Procedure, bodies issue certifications, i.e. other papers (certificates, confirmations, etc.) on facts of which they keep official records. Certifications and other

papers on facts of which official records are kept are issued to a party upon oral request, as a rule, on the same day when the party requested the issuing of the certification or other paper, and at the latest within 15 days as of the day the request was submitted, if not otherwise stipulated by the regulation establishing official records. In addition, the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities envisages in Article 11, paragraph 4 that the official use of languages of national minorities, *inter alia*, refers to the issuing of official documents and keeping of official records and bases of personal data in languages of national minorities and the acceptance of those documents as valid in those languages. The abovementioned provisions of the Law ensure that official and other documents relevant for the exercise of legal rights of citizens can be issued in languages of national minorities and that issuers of those documents can be state, provincial or local bodies as well as enterprises, institutions and organisations vested with public powers. The issuing of some forms of documents, i.e. papers in languages of national minorities is regulated by virtue of provisions of specific laws. The Law on Identity Card in Article 9, paragraph 2 envisages that the form of identity card, in addition to the Serbian language, is also printed in languages of national minorities. The Law on Primary School, in Article 133, paragraph 4 envisages that, when teaching in primary school is realised in a minority language, official documents issued by the school, which, according to Article 132 of the same Law, comprise the pupils' booklet, certificate on completed primary education or completed grade, transfer report and certification on foreign language exam, are issued also in the national minority language in which the teaching was realised. In accordance with Article 100 of the Law on Secondary School, if the teaching is realised in languages of national minorities, official documents issued by the school, which, according to the same Article of the Law, comprise the pupils' booklet, termination report, certification, certificate and graduation certificate, are also issued in the minority language in which the teaching was realised. Pursuant to Article 99, paragraph 2 of the Law on High Education, official documents issued by a university institution, which comprise students' booklet, certificate on university degree and supplement to the certificate, if the teaching is carried out in languages of national minorities, are issued on a form printed bilingually, in the Serbian language and Cyrillic script and in the minority language in which the teaching is carried out.

According to Article 32 of the Law on Registers, certificates and certifications issued on the basis of registers have a probative force of official documents. By virtue of the Decision on Multilingual Forms for Certificates of Births, Marriages and Deaths and on the Method of Making Entries in the Registers of Births, Marriages and Deaths, adopted by the Assembly of AP Vojvodina, it is envisaged in Article 2 thereof that forms of certificates and certifications are printed bilingually, in the Serbian language and in languages and scripts of national minorities whose languages are in official use in municipalities in the territory of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina. Article 3 envisages that in a municipality where a minority language is in official use, certificates and certifications are issued bilingually, in the Serbian language and the language of a national minority concerned, on request.

The Decision on More Specific Regulation of Certain Issues concerning Official Use of Languages and Scripts of National Minorities in the Territory of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina envisages that any legal entity and a responsible person in the legal entity will be subject to pecuniary penalty for the violation of provisions of this Decision that envisage the obligation to keep records in minority languages, issue official documents in minority languages and print forms of official documents in minority languages.²⁵ Pursuant to the same Decision, it is envisaged that any responsible person in a body will be subject to a pecuniary penalty for violating provisions of the Decision relating to the right to oral and written address of organs in a minority language and script that is in official use, as well as on the right to enter a personal name and personal names of children into registers in the original form, in the minority language and its script.

10.2.4.2.4. The Practice of Using Minority Languages in Communication between Persons Belonging to National Minorities and Administration Bodies

In practice, according to information obtained from local self-government bodies, the number of oral and written submissions of persons belonging to national minorities to local bodies is in correlation with their share in the total population of a given local self-government unit. Parties have the right to address bodies in speaking and in writing in their own language and, in practice, there are realistic possibilities for the exercise of this right, except for some incidental cases. Putting forward submissions in languages of national minorities to local bodies is facilitated through the requirement of the knowledge of the relevant adequate minority language in the job classifications in some municipalities in the territory of AP Vojvodina. Of the total number of municipalities where a minority language is in official use in the territory of AP Vojvodina, in most of them (19) the knowledge of the relevant minority language is stipulated as a requirement for employment for the appropriate number of staff in the document Internal Organisation and Classification by Job Descriptions. Even in those local self-government units where this is not the case (16), a number of staff dealing with parties or administrative procedures has the knowledge of the minority language which is in official use. Thus the very use of languages of national minorities is the most prominent in citizens' submissions to local bodies and all local self-government bodies place notices on their notice boards and in premises to the effect that parties may submit their requests and other submissions in the national minority language and script that is in official use, as well as request a reply in that language. In 2005, the Provincial Secretariat of Regulations, Administration and National Minorities of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina announced for the first time competitions for the allocation of transfer funds (5,000,000 dinars) to municipalities in which the language of a national minority is in official use, with the aim of promoting multilingualism and a more efficient exercise of the rights of citizens to officially use their languages. Funds were granted for printing bilingual forms used by administration bodies and designing adequate computer programmes for the work in a multilingual environment. In 2006, funds provided for

²⁵ As well as for the violation of provisions that envisage the obligation of an organ that renders and charges services in the field of electricity production, selling of natural gas, utilities, postal and telegraph services, to provide beneficiaries of their services and products with receipts, various confirmations and information as to their services in minority languages too.

these purposes were somewhat greater (5,650,000), but they still cannot fully meet all the needs.

Local bodies do not have aggregate data on the total number of submissions in languages of national minorities on different occasions. The data are kept by types of procedures or as part of activities of some local bodies. The stated reasons hinder a clearer picture. Having said that, in the municipality of Subotica, for instance, only in the Department of Citizen Civil Status, over the period 2002-2006 addressing the authority in languages of national minorities (Hungarian and Croatian) was registered in 45,117 cases; in the municipality of Nova Crnja citizens address local bodies in minority languages 25-30 times a day; in the municipality of Bečej around 50% of the daily submissions by citizens to local self-government are in languages of national minorities; and in the municipality of Preševo during 2006 there were 2,804 submissions to local authorities in the Albanian language. An insight into requests submitted to local bodies in languages of national minorities can be indirectly obtained through data on register certificates in languages of national minorities that are available to local self-government units in the territory of AP Vojvodina, as well as on administrative procedures for the change of personal name and other kinds of statistical data presented in the following sections of the Report.

According to available statistics, in 2003, 6,329 certificates were issued from registers in the territory of AP Vojvodina on multilingual forms, of which: 4,942 on the Serbian-Hungarian form, 541 on the Serbian-Slovakian, 18 on the Serbian-Romanian, 33 on the Serbian-Ruthenian, and 795 on the Serbian-Croatian form. Out of the total number of certificates issued on multilingual forms, 5,007 were issued in the seats of local self-government units and 1,322 in local offices. Most of the certificates in multilingual forms were issued from registers of births – 4,892, followed by registers of marriages – 952, and finally registers of deaths – 485. When it comes to certificates issued on multilingual forms, their number totaled 1,386, as follows: 139 on the Serbian-Hungarian form, 23 on the Serbian-Slovakian, 3 on the Serbian-Romanian, 4 on the Serbian-Ruthenian, and 1,217 on the Serbian-Croatian form. Most of the certificates were issued in the municipality of Subotica – 1,277.

In 2005, 8,008 certificates were issued in AP Vojvodina on multilingual forms, which exceeded the figure from 2004 by 1,400 certificates, as follows: 3,983 on the Serbian-Hungarian, 1,919 on the Serbian-Slovakian, 29 on the Serbian-Romanian, 18 on the Serbian-Ruthenian, and 2,059 on the Serbian-Croatian form. Most of the certificates on bilingual forms were issued in the municipality of Subotica – 2,711 (1,811 on the Serbian-Croatian and 830 on the Serbian-Hungarian form) and Bački Petrovac – 1,363 (on the Serbian-Slovakian form). In the same year, there were 2,133 certificates issued on multilingual forms (536 certificates more than the year before), as follows: 413 on the Serbian-Hungarian, 588 on the Serbian-Slovakian, 7 on the Serbian-Romanian, 4 on the Serbian-Ruthenian, and 1,395 on the Serbian-Croatian form. Most of the certificates were issued in the municipality of Bečej (201 on the Serbian-Hungarian form) and Subotica (35 on the Serbian-Hungarian, and 60 on the Serbian-Croatian form). Most of the nationals' register certificates were issued in the municipality of Subotica (1,029 on the Serbian-Croatian form and 36 on the Serbian-Hungarian) and in Bački Petrovac (580 on

the Serbian-Slovakian form). In 20 local self-government units where languages of national minorities are also in official use, certificates on multilingual forms were not issued. Available data on 2006²⁶ indicate the rise in the number of local self-government units in which certificates are issued in the territory of AP Vojvodina, so that:

- in the municipality of Zrenjanin, 136 certificates from RB²⁷ were issued, of which 109 in Hungarian, 2 in Romanian and 25 in Slovakian; from RM 33 certificates, of which 32 in Hungarian and 1 in Slovakian; from RD 18 certificates, of which 17 in Hungarian and 1 in Slovakian;
- in the municipality of Subotica, 1,253 certificates issued from RB on the Serbian-Hungarian form, 2,464 on the Serbian-Croatian form; from RM 253 certificates on the Serbian-Hungarian form, and 420 on the Serbian-Croatian form; from RD 287 certificates on the Serbian-Hungarian form, and 156 on the Serbian-Croatian form;
- in the municipality of Secanj 21 certificates from RB, 5 from RM, and 10 from RD, all in the Hungarian language;
- in the municipality of Bački Petrovac a total of 1,402 certificates were issued in the Slovakian language;
- in the municipality of Žitište 241 certificates were issued from RB, 51 from RM and 17 from RD, in minority languages;
- in the municipality of Bečež 931 certificates were issued in the Hungarian language;
- in the municipality of Senta 252 certificates were issued;
- in the municipality of Kovin 42 certificates were issued from RB, 9 from RM and 1 RD, all in the Hungarian language;
- in the municipality of Šid 5 certificates were issued in the Slovakian language;
- in the municipality of Srbobran 8 certificates were issued from RB, 1 from RM and 2 from RD;
- in the municipality of Kikinda 23 certificates were issued from RB and 6 from RM;
- in the municipality of Čoka 65 certificates were issued;
- in the municipality of Bačka Topola 282 certificates were issued from RB, 33 from RM and 10 from RD;
- in the municipality of Kula, in Hungarian and Ruthenian, 102 certificates were issued from RB, 58 from RM and 36 from RD;
- in the municipality of Vrbas 45 certificates were issued;
- in the municipality of Bačka Palanka 17 certificates were issued;
- in the municipality of Vršac 111 certificates were issued from RB and 1 from RD, all in Romanian;
- in the municipality of Sombor 211 certificates were issued from RB, 423 from RM, and 17 from RD, all in Hungarian;
- in the municipality of Novi Kneževac 29 certificates were issued;
- in the municipality of Stara Pazova a total of 12 certificates were issued, all in Slovakian;

²⁶ The available data refer to 32 units of local self-government. If the Committee requests so, the data on other units of local self-government could be presented afterwards.

²⁷ RB – register of births, RM – register of marriages, RD – register of deaths

- in the municipality of Nova Crnja 5 certificates were issued from RB;
- in the municipality of Kanjiža 319 certificates were issued from RB, 64 from RM and 18 from RD;
- in the municipality of Bač a total of 87 certificates were issued;
- in the municipality of Ada a total of 118 certificates were issued, all in the Hungarian language;
- in the municipality of Odžaci a total of 87 certificates were issued, in Hungarian and Slovakian;
- in the municipality of Kovačica 68 certificates were issued in Slovakian, 83 in Hungarian and 28 in Romanian;
- in Novi Sad a total of 370 certificates were issued;
- in the municipality of Novi Bečej a total of 62 certificates were issued;
- in the municipality of Apatin 19 certificates were issued from RB, 8 from RM and 3 from RD.

10.2.4.3. Official Use of Minority Languages in the Work of Courts

10.2.4.3.1. Official Use of Minority Languages in Court Proceedings

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, in Article 199 thereof, stipulates that everyone has the right to use their language in proceedings before the court when their right or duty is decided on, while their unfamiliarity with the language of the proceedings must not be an impediment to the exercise and protection of human and minority rights.

The Law on Official Use of Languages and Scripts contains provisions that precisely define occasions on which the official use of languages and scripts of national minorities will be practiced in the work of courts. Thus first instance court procedures for deciding on rights and duties of citizens are conducted in the Serbian language, but they can also be conducted in a minority language that is in official use in the court administering the procedure. If the court is established for the territory of several municipalities, the procedure can be conducted in languages of national minorities that are in official use in municipalities within the territory of the court's jurisdiction, and that in case of a party to the procedure whose residence is in the municipality in which a minority language is in official use. In case of a procedure in which only one party takes part, if they so request, the procedure will be conducted in a national minority language that is in official use in the court administering the procedure. When several parties whose languages are different take part in the procedure, the Law on Official Use of Languages and Scripts envisages that the procedure is conducted in one of the languages in official use in the court administering the procedure, and on which parties reach an agreement. If parties fail to reach an agreement on the language of the procedure, according to Article 12 of the Law, the language of the procedure will be determined by the court before which the procedure is conducted, except if one party requests for the procedure to be conducted in the Serbian language, in which case the procedure will indeed be conducted in Serbian. Fixing the language of the procedure is a preliminary question on which, in keeping with provisions of the Law, the person administering the procedure decides. The court before which the procedure is conducted is obliged to inform the party about languages that are

in official use in the territory of the court and to ask the part to decide in which language the procedure will be administered. As long as the language of the procedure is not determined, the procedure in the court will be conducted in Serbian. The way of fixing the language of the procedure and the fixed language of the procedure are registered in minutes, as envisaged by Article 13 of the Law on Official Use of Languages and Scripts. Minutes and decisions resulting from the first instance procedure and related to that procedure are composed, according to Article 14 of the Law, as authentic texts in the Serbian language and in the language of a national minority if the procedure was conducted in the minority language. As regards the exercise of the right to use the language of a national minority in courts in whose work their official use is not envisaged, the Law on Official Use of Languages and Scripts envisages that the court administering the procedure is obliged to ensure the use of languages of national minorities in the procedure, to submit applications, appeals, actions, proposals, petitions and other submissions, and, if requested, to deliver decisions, judgments and other acts settling rights and duties in the language of a national minority. According to Article 16 of the Law on Official Use of Languages and Scripts, it will be presumed that such a request exists if the submission is put forward in one of the languages of national minorities.

As regards the declarations of parties, witnesses, experts and other persons participating in the procedure before the court, in the work of which the official use of the language of a national minority is not envisaged, made in minority languages, they are entered into minutes in the Serbian language. Upon request of parties to the procedure, minutes or some parts thereof will be translated into their mother tongue. The same applies if declarations are made in Serbian, and a party to the procedure requests that they should be translated into the language of a national minority. If the official administering the procedure is not, or not sufficiently, familiar with the minority language of the procedure, the procedure will be conducted with the assistance of an interpreter. Costs of interpretation, according to Article 18 of the Law on Official Use of Languages and Scripts, will be borne by the court administering the procedure.

Laws on different types of court procedures prescribe the conducting of court procedures in languages of national minorities that are in official use.

The Criminal Procedure Code, by Article 8 thereof, referring to the official use of a language in criminal procedure and the right to use the language, stipulates that, in courts in the territories inhabited by persons belonging to national minorities, the languages and scripts of these are also in official use in the criminal procedure, in keeping with the law. Parties, witnesses and other persons participating in the procedure have the right to use their language in the procedure. Suits, complaints and other letters are addressed to the court in the language that is in official use in the court. The court sends summons, decisions and other letters in the language of the national minority that is also in official use in the court according to the law, and if the addressed person is not familiar with Serbian, summons, decisions and other letters are sent to them translated into the language they can understand, speak and read. If the procedure is conducted in the language of a party, witness or other persons participating in the procedure, they will be provided with

interpretation of what they, or others, are saying as well as translation of documents and other written evidence. The translation/interpretation is entrusted to a translator/interpreter. The person will be informed about the right to translation/interpretation, and they can renounce this right if they speak and understand the language of the procedure. It will be entered into the minutes that the precept has been given to and a statement taken from the party.

The Law on Litigation prescribes rules of procedure for providing court legal protection, by which the court acts and decides when settling civil-legal disputes in the field of personal, family, labour, trade, property-rights and other civil-legal relations, except for disputes for the settling of which other type of procedure is envisaged by a special law (Article 1). In areas where, in keeping with the law, the language of a national minority is in official use, the litigation is conducted also in the minority language. Parties and other participants in the procedure have the right to use their language and script, in accordance with provisions of the Law (Article 6).

According to Article 99 of the Law on Litigation, parties and other participants to the procedure submit to the court their actions, appeals and other submissions in the language that is in official use in the court as well as in the minority language that is not in official use in the court, if this is in accordance with the law (Article 99 of the Law on Litigation).

The court shall, in accordance with its legal obligation, always inform parties, witnesses and other persons belonging to national minorities of their right to use their language in the procedure.

10.2.4.3.2. Courts where the Official Use of Minority Languages is Practised

Languages of national minorities are in official use in the following municipal courts:

Court	Languages in official use
1. Ada	Hungarian
2. Alibunar	Slovakian, Romanian
3. Apatin	Hungarian, Croatian
4. Bačka Palanka	Slovakian, Hungarian
5. Bačka Topola	Hungarian
6. Bela Crkva	Hungarian, Romanian, Czech
7. Bečej	Hungarian
8. Bosilegrad	Bulgarian
9. Bujanovac	Albanian
10. Vrbas	Hungarian, Ruthenian
11. Vršac	Hungarian, Romanian, Slovakian
12. Dimitrovgrad	Bulgarian
13. Zrenjanin	Hungarian, Slovakian, Romanian
14. Kanjiža	Hungarian
15. Kikinda	Hungarian
16. Kovin	Hungarian, Romanian
17. Kovačica	Hungarian, Slovakian, Romanian
18. Kula	Hungarian, Ruthenian

19. Novi Bečej	Hungarian
20. Novi Sad	Hungarian, Slovakian, Ruthenian
21. Novi Kneževac	Hungarian
22. Odžaci	Hungarian, Slovakian
23. Preševo	Albanian
24. Senta	Hungarian
25. Sombor	Hungarian
26. Sremska Mitrovica	Croatian
27. Subotica	Hungarian, Croatian
28. Stara Pazova	Slovakian
29. Temerin	Hungarian
30. Titel	Hungarian
31. Tutin	Bosniac/Bosnian
32. Šid	Slovakian, Ruthenian

Minority languages are in official use in the following district courts:

Court	Minority languages in official use
1. Vranje	Albanian, Bulgarian
2. Pančevo	Romanian, Slovakian, Hungarian, Czech
3. Sombor	Hungarian, Ruthenian, Slovakian, Croatian
4. Subotica	Hungarian, Croatian
5. Novi Sad	Hungarian, Slovakian, Ruthenian
6. Sremska Mitrovica	Slovakian, Ruthenian, Croatian
7. Zrenjanin	Hungarian, Slovakian, Romanian
8. Pirot	Bulgarian

10.2.4.3.3. The Practice of Using Minority Languages in the Work of Courts

1. Data on the use of minority languages by persons belonging to national minorities in criminal proceedings over the period 2002-2006:

- the Hungarian /Romanian/Slovakian/Croatian/Ruthenian language

District Court in Subotica and municipal courts in the area of its territorial jurisdiction /Hungarian and Croatian/

- In a total of 617 criminal cases, the accused used one of the minority languages, namely: in 184 cases in the Municipal Court in Ada, in 58 cases in the Municipal Court in Bačka Topola, in 22 cases in the Municipal Court in Kanjiža, in 148 cases in the Municipal Court in Subotica and in 205 cases in the District Court in Subotica.
- A total of 112 procedures were conducted in one of the minority languages, namely: in 6 cases in the Municipal Court in Kanjiža, in 9 cases in the Municipal Court in Senta and in 97 cases in the Municipal Court in Subotica.

- In 301 procedures conducted in the Serbian language there were testimonies or written evidence in minority languages: 32 in the Municipal Court in Ada, 58 in the Municipal Court in Bačka Topola, 6 in the Municipal Court in Kanjiža, and 205 in the District Court in Subotica.
- In 423 procedures conducted in the Serbian language minority languages were used: in 151 procedures in the Municipal Court in Ada, in 256 procedures in the Municipal Court in Bačka Topola, and in 16 procedures in the Municipal Court in Kanjiža.

District Court in Novi Sad and municipal courts in the area of its territorial jurisdiction /Hungarian, Slovakian and Ruthenian/

- In 341 cases, the accused used the Hungarian language, of which: in 3 cases in the District Court in Novi Sad, in 320 cases in the Municipal Court in Bečej, and in 18 cases in the Municipal Court in Temerin.
- 7 criminal procedures were entirely conducted in the Hungarian language, namely: in 6 procedures in the Municipal Court in Bečej and in 1 procedure in Temerin.
- In 18 cases with the Municipal Court in Temerin, the participants to the procedure conducted in the Serbian language used minority languages.

Witnesses are heard in minority languages, but the District Court in Novi Sad or municipal courts in the area of its territorial jurisdiction do not keep precise records of this.

District Court in Zrenjanin and municipal courts in the area of its territorial jurisdiction /Hungarian/

- In 8 cases the accused used the minority language.
- A total of 6 procedures were entirely conducted in the Hungarian language.
- A total of 7 procedures were conducted in the Serbian language, while testimonies and written evidence were presented in a minority language.
- In 373 procedures conducted in the Serbian language, participants were entitled to use one of the minority languages and in those procedures the court borne the costs of interpretation to participants.

District Court in Pančevo and municipal courts in the area of its territorial jurisdiction /Hungarian, Slovakian, Romanian/

- In the District Court, in one criminal first instance case, the examination of witnesses was conducted in the Hungarian language and the interpreter did not request to be reimbursed the costs that would otherwise be reimbursed from the court funds.
- In the Municipal Court in Kovin, in one criminal case, the accused gave evidence in the Hungarian language with the assistance of an interpreter.
- In the Municipal Court in Bela Crkva, one criminal proceeding is entirely conducted in the Romanian language (the judge and the jury judges are persons belonging to national minorities). Also, before the same court, one criminal proceeding was conducted through a court interpreter for the Romanian language.
- In the Municipal Court in Kovačica, in two criminal cases, the accused used the Romanian language, and in one criminal case the accused used the Slovakian language.
- In the Municipal Court in Kovačica, in 831 criminal proceedings conducted in the Serbian language, other participants were entitled to use one of the minority languages that are in official use.

Attorneys in some cases did not request an interpreter for the language of a national minority to which they belong. There were procedures conducted in the Serbian language, in which there were testimonies or written evidence given in the minority language that is in official use, but witnesses were examined through an interpreter and written evidence was translated into the Serbian language at the expense of the court.

- the Albanian language

The District Court in Vranje and municipal courts in the area of its territorial jurisdiction /Albanian and Bulgarian/

- In 10 criminal proceedings, defences were presented in the Albanian language with the assistance of an authorized court interpreter. Verdicts returned in these cases were not translated into the Albanian language because such a request was not made by the accused or their defence counsels (the data relate only to 2006).

Municipal Court in Preševo and Bujanvac /Albanian/

In these municipal courts there were criminal cases for which the proceedings are entirely conducted in the Albanian language. There are testimonies and written evidence submitted in that minority language. Actions are accepted in that language and verdicts delivered to parties in the Albanian language. Powers of attorney done in Albanian are accepted. When parties request so, their requests to present defence or make declarations in their mother tongue are always granted, as it is accepted they should communicate with the court through submissions in their language.

- the Bulgarian language

Municipal Court in Bosilegrad /Bulgarian/

- In five criminal cases the proceedings were conducted in the Serbian language, and upon request of the defendant, the proceedings were interpreted and written evidence translated into the Bulgarian language by an interpreter/translator.

In cases conducted in the Serbian language, upon request of the accused, i.e. the plaintiff or the defendant, interpretation into their mother tongue, the Bulgarian language, was provided, and the costs of translation and interpretation were borne by the court. Also, there were no testimonies or written evidence given or submitted in the Bulgarian language, but interpretation by a court interpreter was provided.

Municipal Court in Dimitrovgrad /Bulgarian/

- In four criminal cases the accused used the Bulgarian language.
- the Romany language

District Court in Vranje and municipal courts in the area of its territorial jurisdiction

- In one case, the accused presented their defence in the Romany language. In this case a court interpreter was employed. The translation of court letters, and consequently of the verdict, into the Romany language was not requested by the accused or their counsel.

2. Data on the use of minority languages by persons belonging to national minorities in civil procedures during the period 2002-2006:

- the Hungarian /Romanian/Slovakian/Croatian/Ruthenian language

District Court in Subotica and municipal courts in the area of its territorial jurisdiction /the Hungarian and Croatian languages/

- In a total of 1,179 probate proceedings conducted in the Serbian language, there were documents composed in one of the minority languages in official use, namely: 197 in the Municipal Court in Ada, 40 in the Municipal Court in Bačka Topola, 224 in the Municipal Court in Kanjiža, 354 in the Municipal Court in Senta, and 364 in the Municipal Court in Subotica.
- A total of 181 powers of attorney were composed in one of the minority languages in official use: 78 in the Municipal Court in Ada, 5 in the Municipal Court in Bačka Topola, 41 in the Municipal Court in Kanjiža, and 57 in the Municipal Court in Senta.
- A total of 4,702 contracts done in one of the minority languages in official use were confirmed in the court: 1,784 in the Municipal Court in Ada, 1,208 in the Municipal Court in Bačka Topola, 48 in the Municipal Court in Kanjiža, 1,148 in the Municipal Court in Senta, and 514 in the Municipal Court in Subotica.
- A total of 82 litigations were conducted in one of the minority languages in official use: 7 in the Municipal Court in Ada, 3 in the Municipal Court in Bačka Topola, 11 in the Municipal Court in Kanjiža, 22 in the Municipal Court in Senta, and 39 in the Municipal Court in Subotica.
- A total of 120 extrajudicial procedures were conducted in one of the minority languages in official use: 6 in the Municipal Court in Ada and 114 in the Municipal Court in Senta.
- A total of 219 testimonies or written evidence were given in minority languages in litigations conducted in the Serbian language: 205 in the Municipal Court in Ada, 3 in the Municipal Court in Bačka Topola, and 11 in the Municipal Court in Kanjiža.
- A total of 476 testimonies or written evidence were given in minority languages in extrajudicial procedures conducted in the Serbian language, all in the Municipal Court in Ada.
- In 1,146 litigations conducted in the Serbian language a minority language was used, namely: 639 in the Municipal Court in Ada, 272 in the Municipal Court in Bačka Topola, and 235 in the Municipal Court in Kanjiža.
- In the total of 904 out-of-court procedures conducted in the Serbian language minority languages were used, all in the Municipal Court in Ada.

District Court in Novi Sad and municipal courts in the area of its territorial jurisdiction /Hungarian, Slovakian and Ruthenian/

- A total of 17 civil procedures were entirely conducted in the Hungarian language: 3 in the Municipal Court in Novi Sad, 10 in the Municipal Court in Bečej, and 4 in the Municipal Court in Temerin.
- In one civil (appeal) case, the procedure for which was conducted in the Serbian language, documents were in a minority language.
- In 35 civil cases in the Municipal Court in Temerin, participants to the procedure conducted in the Serbian language also used minority languages.
- In 627 probate proceedings conducted in the Serbian language there were documents compiled in minority languages, namely: in 600 cases in the Municipal Court in Bečej and in 27 cases in the Municipal Court in Temerin.
- In the Municipal Court in Temerin, in two cases conducted in the Serbian language, powers of attorney were done in minority languages.
- In municipal courts, 121 contracts in minority languages were confirmed, namely: 80 contracts in the Municipal Court in Bečej, and 41 contracts in the Municipal Court in Temerin.

Witnesses in civil proceedings are examined in minority languages, but courts for the time being do not keep minute records about it.

District Court in Zrenjanin and municipal courts in the area of its territorial jurisdiction /Hungarian/

- A total of 15 civil proceedings were entirely conducted in the Hungarian language.
- In 81 civil proceedings conducted in the Serbian language, testimonies or written evidence were presented in minority languages.
- In a total of 5,589 procedures conducted in the Serbian language, participants to the procedure used one of the minority languages.
- In a total of 5,589 procedures, the court borne the costs of interpretation for participants to the procedure.

- In 741 probate proceedings, there were documents composed in one of the minority languages.

District Court in Pančevo and municipal courts in the area of its territorial jurisdiction /Romanian, Slovakian, Hungarian/

- In a total of 8 litigations conducted in the Serbian language, witnesses were examined in minority languages. In the Municipal Court in Kovin, in three litigations witnesses were examined in the Hungarian and Romanian languages, and in the Municipal Court in Kovačica in five cases there were testimonies in the Romanian language. In the same court, in three cases written evidence was presented in the Hungarian language.
- In the Municipal Court in Pančevo, in procedures conducted in the Serbian language, in one litigation case the defendant, upon their request, made a declaration in the Hungarian language, while in one case upon the request of the plaintiff an interpreter for the Romanian language was provided.
- In the Municipal Court in Kovačica, in 1,191 litigations and in 9 extrajudicial procedures conducted in the Serbian language, participants to the procedure used minority languages.
- In 1,814 probate proceedings conducted in the Serbian language in the Municipal Court in Kovačica, participants to procedures used one of the minority languages.

Attorneys in some cases did not request an interpreter for the language of the national minority to which they belong. In the Municipal Court in Bela Crkva, though the Romanian language is not in official use, the costs of interpretation for participants to the procedure that spoke Romanian were borne by the court, as well as costs of interpretation on the occasions of the conclusion of contracts.

District Court in Sremska Mitrovica and municipal courts in the area of its territorial jurisdiction /Slovakian, Ruthenian and Croatian/

- Before the Municipal Court in Stara Pazova there were two civil procedures conducted entirely in a minority language.
- In the same court, in one case conducted in the Serbian language, a submission in a minority language was put forward. The costs of interpretation were entirely borne by the court.

- the Bulgarian language

District Court in Vranje and municipal courts in the area of its territorial jurisdiction /Albanian and Bulgarian/

- In the Municipal Court in Bosilegrad, in three civil proceedings conducted in the Serbian language, the procedure and documents were interpreted/translated into the Bulgarian language upon requests of parties and the costs incurred were borne by the court.

In the court, there were testimonies and written evidence given, that is submitted, in the Bulgarian language in the course of the procedure, and interpreted/ translated by a court interpreter, but the records of this are still not in order.

Municipal Court in Dimitrovgrad /Bulgarian/

- In one litigation case the accused used the Bulgarian language.
- 57 certifications and 20 powers of attorney were issued in the Bulgarian language.
- In 7 probate cases, petitions were sent to petitioned courts in the Republic of Bulgaria in the minority language.
- In one probate case, the legacy was composed in the Bulgarian language.

The costs of interpretation/translation into the language of a national minority in these cases were also borne by the court.

Paragraph 3

10.3. Special Manifestations of the Use of Minority Languages in Criminal Proceedings

10.3.1. Information in a Minority Language on Grounds for the Arrest and the Cause of the Charge

According to Article 27, paragraph 2 of the Constitution, any person deprived of freedom by a state body shall be informed promptly *in a language they understand* about the grounds for the arrest or detention, charges brought against them, and their rights, while according to Article 33, paragraph 1 of the Constitution, any person charged with a criminal offence has the right to be informed promptly, in accordance with the law, *in the language they understand* and in detail about the nature and cause of the accusation against them, as well as the evidence against them.

Related to the stated provision is also Article 32, paragraph 2 of the Constitution, which refers to the right to a fair trial, which guarantees everyone the right to a free assistance of an interpreter if the person does not speak or understand the language officially used in the court.

The new Criminal Procedure Code that entered into force on June 10, 2006 and has been implemented since June 1, 2007 stipulates, in Article 7 thereof, that a person deprived of freedom by a competent state body must be promptly informed, in their language or a language they understand, about the reasons for the arrest and all other charges against them.

10.3.2. Defence in a Minority Language

According to Article 199 of the Constitution, everyone has the right to use their language in proceedings before the court, other state body or organisation exercising public powers, when his/her right or duty is decided on. Unfamiliarity with the language of the proceedings may not be an impediment for the exercise and protection of human and minority rights. Related to the stated provision is also Article 32, paragraph 2 of the Constitution, which refers to the right to a fair trial, which guarantees everyone the right to a *free assistance of an interpreter* if the person does not speak or understand the language used officially in the court. The stated articles of the Constitution empower the accused in the criminal proceedings to present their defence in a minority language, if needed with the free assistance of an interpreter. The Code of Criminal Procedure in Article 7, *inter alia*, envisages that a person deprived of freedom by a competent state body must be promptly informed, in their language or a language they understand, that they are allowed to put forward (in oral or written form) submissions in their language if they are not familiar with the language in official use, and that they are not obliged to make any declarations because each of their declarations can be used as evidence against them; to engage a counsel at their choice; to communicate freely with the counsel, and that the counsel can attend their examination.

Violation of the right to use the language of a national minority in some court procedures is deemed a serious breach of procedure.

10.4. Legal Protection of the Private and Public Use of Minority Languages and the Right to the Use of Minority Languages in Procedures before State Bodies

Given that the right to use minority languages is guaranteed by the Constitution, in the constitutional and legal system of the Republic of Serbia it can be protected through a constitutional appeal lodged to the Constitutional Court of the Republic. According to Article 170 of the Constitution, a constitutional appeal may be lodged against individual acts or actions performed by state bodies or organisations exercising delegated public powers which violate or deny human or minority rights and freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution, if other legal remedies for their protection have already been either exhausted or are not envisaged.

The right to use minority languages enjoys criminal-law protection. The Criminal Code of the Republic of Serbia, in Article 129, envisages a criminal offence of the *violation of the right to use the language and script*, which stipulates a pecuniary sentence or sentence of up to one year of imprisonment for every person that, contrary to regulations on the use of the language and script of persons belonging to national minorities living in the Republic of Serbia, denies to a citizen the right to use their language or script in exercising their rights or addressing authorities or organisations, or restricts such right. The Criminal Code, in Article 128, envisages the criminal offence of *violation of equality*, i.e. stipulates a sentence of up to three years of imprisonment for a person that denies or restricts another person's rights of man and citizen established by the Constitution, laws or other regulations or acts or confirmed international agreements, *inter alia*, on the grounds of differences with respect to language. Paragraph 2 of the same Article prescribes a more serious form of this criminal offence in case when the offence from paragraph 1 of the Article is perpetrated by an official in discharge of duty, in which case the sentence of three months to five years of imprisonment is envisaged.

Violation of the right to use minority languages in some court procedures is treated as a serious breach of a procedure. *The Criminal Procedure Code*, in Article 392, envisages that a serious violation of provisions of criminal proceedings occurs if the defendant, defence attorney, injured party, prosecutor or a private plaintiff is, contrary to their request, denied the right to use their language in the principal process and to follow the course of the principal process in their language. Pursuant to the Criminal Procedure Code, serious violations of provisions of criminal procedure are the basis for lodging the appeal against the first instance verdict, but the court in the second instance must *ex officio* investigate whether there have been serious breaches of the procedure, irrespectively of whether they have been stated in the appeal. The second instance court in criminal proceedings will abolish the first instance verdict and reopen the criminal proceedings by accepting the appeal or *ex officio* through a decision, if it ascertains there has been a serious violation of provisions of criminal proceedings with respect to the use of languages and scripts.

The Law on Litigation in Article 361 also envisages that the violation of the right to the use of a language is a serious violation of provisions of the litigation procedure, and in Article 376 it prescribes that the second instance court will, in the procedure after the appeal, abolish the first instance verdict through a decision if it ascertains there has been a serious violation of provisions of the litigation procedure and will send the case back to the first instance court or assign it to the competent first instance court for a new principal process.

The Law on General Administrative Procedure in Article 16 envisages, as one of the basic principles of the procedure, the use of minority languages. The violation of major principles constitutes a serious violation of rules of general administrative procedure and can, in a procedure after the appeal, lead to the supplement to the procedure before the first instance or second instance court, i.e. also to the abolishment of the administrative act brought in the first instance. Moreover, the Law on General Administrative Procedure in Article 239, paragraph 11 envisages that the procedure completed with a decision

against which no regular remedy can be enforced will be repeated, if the person participating in the procedure was not given the opportunity, under conditions of Article 16 of the Law, to use their language and script.

The Decision on More Specific Regulation of Certain Issues concerning Official Use of Languages and Scripts of National Minorities in the Territory of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina envisages that any legal entity and the responsible person in in the legal entity will be subject to pecuniary penalty for the violation of provisions of this Decision that envisage the obligation to keep records in minority languages, issue official documents in minority languages and print forms of official documents in minority languages. Pursuant to the same Decision, it is envisaged that any responsible person in a body will be subject to a pecuniary penalty for violating provisions of the Decision on the right to oral and written addressing of organs in the minority language and script that is in official use.

Article 11

- 1. The Parties undertake to recognise that every person belonging to a national minority has the right to use his or her surname (patronym) and first names in the minority language and the right to official recognition of them, according to modalities provided for in their legal system.**
- 2. The Parties undertake to recognise that every person belonging to a national minority has the right to display in his or her minority language signs, inscriptions and other information of a private nature visible to the public.**
- 3. In areas traditionally inhabited by substantial numbers of persons belonging to a national minority, the Parties shall endeavour, in the framework of their legal system, including, where appropriate, agreements with other States, and taking into account their specific conditions, to display traditional local names, street names and other topographical indications intended for the public also in the minority language when there is a sufficient demand for such indications.**

Paragraph 1

11.1. Use of Name and Surname in Minority Language

11.1.1. The Right to Use the Name and Surname in a Minority Language

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, in Article 79, stipulates that persons belonging to national minorities have the right to use their name and surname in their own language. The Constitution envisages in Article 64 that every child has the right to a personal name and entry into the register of births, the right to learn about its descent, and the right to preserve its identity.

The Family Law in Article 344, which refers to the giving of a personal name to a child, sets forth that parents have the right to enter their child's name into the register of births also in the mother tongue and script of one or both parents.

Article 9, paragraph 1 of the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, which refers to the choice and use of a personal name, envisages that persons belonging to national minorities have the right to a free choice and use of personal names and surnames of their children as well as to the registering of these personal names in all official documents, official records and bases of personal data in the language and according to the orthography of persons belonging to national minorities; this right does not exclude a parallel entry of names in the Serbian script and according to the Serbian orthography as well.

According to Article 9, paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Law on Identity Card, data on the surname and name are entered into the identity card form in their original form, in the way they are registered in the birth certificate. Data on the surname and name of persons belonging to national minorities are written in parallel also in the Serbian orthography and script. Other data are written in the Serbian language, Cyrillic script, and in the language and script of national minorities in keeping with the law.

The Law on Principal Data for Registers stipulates in Article 1 that registers are official documents on personal circumstances of citizens. The register of births, register of marriages and register of deaths serve as records about personal circumstances of citizens. Articles 2, 3 and 4 of this Law and Article 6 of the Law on Registers of Births, Marriages and Deaths specify the mandatory data to be entered into these registers (in each case, the entry of the personal name and surname is mandatory). The law on Registers of Births, Marriages and Deaths governs the manner of keeping the registers, as well as the manner of entering the facts of birth, marriage and death and other facts and data, and their administering is regulated in a more specific and detailed way in the Instruction on Administration and Forms of Registers of Births, Marriages and Deaths. This very Instruction envisages in Article 117 that facts and data are entered into registers of births, marriages and deaths, their registers, certificates and certifications in the language of a national minority, in keeping with valid regulations.

Article 3 of the Decision on More Specific Regulation of Certain Issues concerning Official Use of Languages and Scripts of National Minorities in the Territory of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina stipulates that a person belonging to a national minority has the right to enter their personal name and names of their children into registers in their original form, in the script and according to the orthography of their own language. If the personal name of a person belonging to a national minority is entered in its original form into registers from paragraph 1 of this article, the personal name will in the same way be entered into official documents (identity documents, register certificates, etc.) issued to them, irrespective of the language and script of the official document form. This does not exclude the entry of the personal name also in the Serbian language and script beside the name in its original form.

The Decision on Multilingual Forms for Certificates of Births, Marriages and Deaths and on the Method of Making Entries in the Registers of Births, Marriages and Deaths states in Article 2 that forms of certificates and certifications are printed bilingually, in the Serbian language and languages and scripts of national minorities whose languages are in official use in municipalities in the territory of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, and that the text in languages and scripts of national minorities is written afterwards, below the text in the Serbian language, in the same form and letter size, which means that bilingual forms have parallel columns in Hungarian, Slovakian, Romanian, Ruthenian, Czech and Croatian and that, in addition to the Serbian language, personal data are entered into these columns also in the language and according to the orthography of a national minority. Article 6 states that in certificates and certifications, the entry of the personal name of a person belonging to a national minority is made in the language and script of a national minority, but the personal name is then written in brackets in the

Serbian language as well. Pursuant to this Decision, in municipalities where the languages of national minorities are also in official use, municipal administration issues upon request certificates on a bilingual form. A personal name is written in the form in which the original entry was made. The Law on Registers of Births, Marriages and Deaths envisages in Article 14 the possibility of subsequent entry of facts and data, so that, if a personal name is entered into the register only in the Serbian language, it is possible to have it also entered into the register in the language of a national minority, in keeping with the provisions of this Law.

The Decision on More Specific Regulation of Certain Issues concerning Official Use of Languages and Scripts of National Minorities in the Territory of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina envisages that any responsible person in an organ that violates provisions of the Decision referring to right to have a personal name and names of children entered into registers in their original form, in the minority language and according to its orthography, will be subject to a pecuniary sentence.

11.1.2. Enforcement of the Right of Persons Belonging to National Minorities to Use Their Name and Surname in the Minority Language

According to the data of the Provincial Secretariat of Regulations, Administration and National Minorities, in AP Vojvodina in 2003, out of the total of 1,243 first instance administrative procedures for the change of a personal name, 17 procedures were conducted in minority languages (Ada - 14, Bačka Topola - 1, and Kanjiža - 2). All procedures were conducted in the Hungarian language. Out of 229 procedures for the change of the entry of a personal name into the register of births, 97 were conducted in minority languages – 94 in the Hungarian language and 3 in Croatian. Municipalities in which these procedures were conducted in the Hungarian language were: Ada - 5, Kanjiža - 3, Kikinda - 1, Zrenjanin - 15, Žitište - 1, and Subotica - 69. In the municipality of Subotica, 3 procedures were conducted in the Croatian language as well. In 2005, for the purpose of changing a personal name, of the total of 1,290 procedures, 37 were conducted in a minority language (36 in Hungarian, 1 in Romanian). For the purpose of changing the entry of a personal name, of the total of 151 administrative procedures, 45 were conducted in minority languages (44 in Hungarian, 1 in Croatian).

According to available statistics, released by local administrative bodies in the territory of AP Vojvodina, the number of entries into registers in minority languages, with the use of family names in minority languages, in the course of 2006 was as follows:

In the municipality of Subotica, the numbers of entries into registers of births (RB) were as follows: 362 in Hungarian and 61 in Croatian; entries into registers of marriages (RM): 178 in Hungarian and 1 in Croatian; and entries into registers of deaths (RD): 197 in Hungarian. In the municipality of Kanjiža, entries were made into: RB – 10, RM – 47, and RD – 34, all in Hungarian. In the municipality of Ada, entries were made into: RB – 22, RM – 38, and RD – 80, all in Hungarian. In the municipality of Kula, entries were made into: RB – 1, RM – 8, and RD – 10, in the Hungarian and Ruthenian languages. In the municipality of Bačka Topola, entries were made into: RB – 136, RM – 41, and RD –

10, in the Hungarian, Slovakian and Ruthenian languages. In the municipality of Kikinda, there were 4 entries into RM in the Hungarian language. In the municipality of Zrenjanin, entries were made into: RB – 5 in Hungarian and 2 in Slovakian, RM – 1 in Hungarian, and RD – 2 in Hungarian. In the municipality of Novi Bečej, there were 2 entries into registers in the Hungarian language, and in the municipality of Srbobran – 1 in RB in the Ruthenian language. In the municipality of Vrbas, 28 entries were made into registers in the Hungarian and Ruthenian languages, and in the municipality of Bečej – 34 in the Hungarian language. In the municipality of Žitište, entries were made into: RB – 17, RM – 7, in the Hungarian and Romanian languages. In the municipality of Sombor, entries were made into: RB – 3 and RM – 4, all in the Hungarian language. In the municipality of Novi Kneževac, 5 entries were made into registers in the Hungarian language, and in the municipality of Sečanj – 1 into RB, also in Hungarian. In the municipality of Beočin, entries were made into: RB – 2, RM – 4, and RD – 7, in the Slovakian language. In the municipality of Stara Pazova, entries were made into: RB – 5 and RM – 2.

Paragraph 2

11.2. Posting Signs, Inscriptions and Information of Private Nature

The right of persons belonging to national minorities to post signs, inscriptions and other information of the private character written in minority languages in places visible to the public flows from the provisions of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia that guarantee freedom of the use of the language and script for all persons belonging to national minorities.

The Law on Official Use of Languages and Scripts sets out in Article 20, paragraph 1 that business names, that is signs of enterprises, institutions and other legal entities are written in the Serbian language and the language of a national minority which is in official use in the municipality in which the entity has its seat, or in the language of a national minority which is in official use in the place of operations of the entity irrespectively of its ownership status. In paragraph 2, it is stated that legal entities referred to in paragraph 1 of the Article are not obliged to write in the Serbian language, i.e. in the language of a national minority the business name, or a part thereof, that they use as a trademark, regardless of its linguistic origin. This refers also to shops, or other forms of the private business activity.

The Law on Official Use of Languages and Scripts in Articles 24 and 25 prescribes that any company, institution or other legal entity that posts, i.e. writes the business name contrary to provisions of the Law that envisages the writing of the business name in minority languages is subject to a fine, and so is the owner of a shop which is not a legal entity if they write, i.e. post the business name contrary to provisions of the law on inscription of the business name in minority languages.

Paragraph 3

11.3. Posting Traditional Local Names, Names of Streets and Topographic Signs

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia envisages in Article 79 that in areas where persons belonging to national minorities account for a significant majority of the population, traditional local names, names of streets, places and topographic names are also to be written in their minority language.

The Law on Official Use of Languages and Scripts sets out in Article 3 that the official use of languages and scripts refers also to the use of languages and scripts in writing names of places and other geographical names, as well as names of squares and streets. Article 19 sets forth that in areas where languages of national minorities are also in official use, names of places and other geographical names, names of streets and squares, names of bodies and organisations, traffic signs, information and public warnings, and other public inscriptions, are written also in languages of national minorities. Areas in which languages of national minorities are in official use are listed in the section of the Report relating to the implementation of Article 10, paragraph 2 of the Convention. The Law on Official Use of Languages and Scripts by virtue of Article 7 stipulates that geographical names and personal names embodied in public inscriptions cannot be replaced with other names, and are to be written in languages of national minorities according to the orthography of the language.

The Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities amends to some extent the practice contained in the Law on Official Use of Languages and Scripts, and it allows and encourages the use of traditional forms of names of places in languages of national minorities. Article 11, paragraph 5 sets forth that in the territory of a local self-government unit where the language of a national minority is in official use, names of bodies exercising public powers, names of units of local self-government, settlements, squares and streets as well as other toponyms are written also in languages of national minorities, according to their tradition and orthography. The stated practice is accepted by the new Constitution as well.

Article 6 of the Decision on More Specific Regulation of Certain Issues concerning Official Use of Languages and Scripts of National Minorities in the Territory of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina stipulates that in areas where languages of national minorities are in official use, names of places and other geographical names, names of streets and squares, names of bodies, traffic signs, information and public warnings, and other public inscriptions, are also written in the language and according to orthography of the language of a national minority and in accordance with its tradition. These names are written after the text in the Serbian language below or to the right of the text in the same form and the same letter size. Names of national councils, social organisations, associations of citizens and institutions of persons belonging to national minorities, in the territory where the language of the national minority is in official use, may exceptionally be written before the text in the Serbian language. Names are written in the language and script of a national minority also on a part of the territory of a local self-government unit,

i.e. the place or local community, in case that the language and script of a national minority are in official use only on its territory.

Article 7 of the Decision stipulates that the aforementioned traditional names of cities, municipalities and settlements in the language of a national minority are fixed and presented for the purpose of publication by the national council of a national minority. If the national council fails to fix the aforementioned traditional names, Article 7 of the Decision envisages that the Executive Council of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina is to fix them in cooperation with local self-government units, organisations of national minorities and experts in the language, history and geography of that national minority.

The Decree on Determining House Numbers, Building Numeration and Posting Names of Inhabited Places, Streets and Squares, adopted by the Government of the Republic of Serbia, stipulates that an organisational unit of the Republic Geodetic Authority in the municipality or city which, in keeping with the law, deals with marking out or inscribing the names of settlements, streets and squares, as well as the font, the size, and the way of posting letters and numbers, and also other details in relation to boards on which these names are written, is the Land Registry Office. Article 3, paragraph 1 of the Decree sets forth that names of settlements, streets and squares are written in accordance with the law that defines the official use of languages and scripts and the law governing protection of rights and freedoms of national minorities, more specifically – its part governing the official use of languages and scripts.

Traditional names of cities, municipalities and settlements in minority languages are established by national councils of the Hungarian, Romanian and Slovakian national minorities and published in the “Official Gazette of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina” (nos 12 and 13/2003). Given that the National Council of the Ruthenian National Minority did not establish traditional names of inhabited places in that language within the fixed deadline, the Executive Council adopted the Decision on Establishing Traditional Names of Municipalities and Inhabited Places in the Ruthenian language (“Official Gazette of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina”, no. 6/06).

In accordance with the Decision on Establishing Traditional Names of Inhabited Places in the Hungarian Language in Vojvodina, the list of traditional names of inhabited places in the *Hungarian language* on territories of local self-government units, where the Hungarian language is in official use, was created:

No.	Name of municipality in Serbian	Name of place in Serbian	Name of municipality in Hungarian	Name of place in Hungarian
1	Ada	Ada	Ada	Ada
	Ada	Mol	Ada	Mohol

	Ada	Obornjača	Ada	Völgypart
	Ada	Sterijino	Ada	Valkaisor
	Ada	Utrine	Ada	Törökfalu
2	Bač	Bač	Bács	Bács
	Bač	Bačko Novo Selo	Bács	Bácsújlak
	Bač	Bođani	Bács	Bogyán
	Bač	Vajska	Bács	Vajszka
	Bač	Plavna	Bács	Palona
	Bač	Selenca	Bács	Bácsújfalu
3	Bačka Topola	Bačka Topola	Topolya	Topolya
	Bačka Topola	Bajsa	Topolya	Bajsa
	Bačka Topola	Panonija	Topolya	Pannónia
	Bačka Topola	Srednji Salas	Topolya	Szurkos
	Bačka Topola	Mićunovo	Topolya	Karkatur
	Bačka Topola	Gornja Rogatica	Topolya	Falsóroglatica
	Bačka Topola	Bački Sokolac	Topolya	Cserepes
	Bačka Topola	Krivaja	Topolya	Krivaja
	Bačka Topola	Gunaroš	Topolya	Gunaras
	Bačka Topola	Bogaraš	Topolya	Bogaras
	Bačka Topola	Kavilo	Topolya	Kavilló
	Bačka Topola	Obornjača	Topolya	Völgypart
	Bačka Topola	Tomislavci	Topolya	
	Bačka Topola	Pobeda	Topolya	
	Bačka Topola	Bagremovo	Topolya	Brazília
	Bačka Topola	Mali Beograd	Topolya	Kisbelgrád
	Bačka Topola	Zobnatica	Topolya	Zobnatica
	Bačka Topola	Karadorđevo	Topolya	
	Bačka Topola	Novo Orahovo	Topolya	Zentagunaras

	Bačka Topola	Njegoševo	Topolya	
	Bačka Topola	Svetičevo	Topolya	
	Bačka Topola	Pacir	Topolya	Pacsér
	Bačka Topola	Stara Moravica	Topolya	Bácskossuthfalva
4	Bečej	Bečej	Óbecse	Óbecse
	Bečej	Bačko Gradiste	Óbecse	Bácsföldvár
	Bečej	Bačko Petrovo Selo	Óbecse	Péterréve
	Bečej	Mileševo	Óbecse	Drea
	Bečej	Radičević	Óbecse	
5	Bela Crkva	Bela Crkva	Fehértemplom	Fehértemplom
	Bela Crkva	Banatska Palanka	Fehértemplom	Palánk
	Bela Crkva	Banatska Subotica	Fehértemplom	Krassószombat
	Bela Crkva	Vračev Gaj	Fehértemplom	Varázsliget
	Bela Crkva	Grebenac	Fehértemplom	Gerebenc
	Bela Crkva	Dobrićevo	Fehértemplom	Udvarszállás
	Bela Crkva	Dupljaja	Fehértemplom	Temesváralja
	Bela Crkva	Jasenovo	Fehértemplom	Jaszenova
	Bela Crkva	Kajtasovo	Fehértemplom	Gajtás
	Bela Crkva	Kaluđerovo	Fehértemplom	Szőlőshegy
	Bela Crkva	Kruščica	Fehértemplom	Körtéd
	Bela Crkva	Kusić	Fehértemplom	Kusics
	Bela Crkva	Crvena Crkva	Fehértemplom	Vöröstemplom
	Bela Crkva	Češko Selo	Fehértemplom	Csehfalva
6	Čoka	Čoka	Csóka	Csóka
	Čoka	Vrbica	Csóka	Egyházaskér
	Čoka	Jazovo	Csóka	Hódegyháza
	Čoka	Ostojićevo	Csóka	Tiszaszentmiklós
	Čoka	Padej	Csóka	Padé
	Čoka	Sanad	Csóka	Szanád

	Čoka	Crna Bara	Csóka	Feketető
	Čoka	Banatski Monoštor	Csóka	Kanizsamonostor
7	Kanjiža	Kanjiža	Magyarkanizsa	Magyarkanizsa
	Kanjiža	Adorjan	Magyarkanizsa	Adorján
	Kanjiža	Velebit	Magyarkanizsa	
	Kanjiža	Vojvoda Zimonjić	Magyarkanizsa	
	Kanjiža	Male Pijace	Magyarkanizsa	Kispiac
	Kanjiža	Martonoš	Magyarkanizsa	Martonos
	Kanjiža	Mali Pesak	Magyarkanizsa	Kishomok
	Kanjiža	Orom	Magyarkanizsa	Orom
	Kanjiža	Doline	Magyarkanizsa	Völgyes
	Kanjiža	Novo Selo	Magyarkanizsa	Újfalu
	Kanjiža	Trešnjevac	Magyarkanizsa	Oromhegyes
	Kanjiža	Totovo Selo	Magyarkanizsa	Tóthfalu
	Kanjiža	Horgoš	Magyarkanizsa	Horgos
8	Kikinda	Kikinda	Nagykikinda	Nagykikinda
	Kikinda	Banatska Topola	Nagykikinda	Töröktopolya
	Kikinda	Banatsko Veliko Selo	Nagykikinda	Szenhubert
	Kikinda	Bašaid	Nagykikinda	Basahíd
	Kikinda	Idoš	Nagykikinda	Tiszahegyes
	Kikinda	Mokrin	Nagykikinda	Mokrin
	Kikinda	Nakovo	Nagykikinda	Nákófalva
	Kikinda	Novi Kozarci	Nagykikinda	Nagytószeg
	Kikinda	Rusko Selo	Nagykikinda	Kisorosz
	Kikinda	Sajan	Nagykikinda	Szaján
9	Kovačica	Kovačica	Antalfalva	Antalfalva
	Kovačica	Debeljača	Antalfalva	Torontálvásárhely
	Kovačica	Idvor	Antalfalva	Udvar

	Kovačica	Padina	Antalfalva	Nagylajosfalva
	Kovačica	Putnikovo	Antalfalva	
	Kovačica	Samoš	Antalfalva	Számos
	Kovačica	Uzdin	Antalfalva	Újozora
	Kovačica	Crepaja	Antalfalva	Cserépalja
10	Kovin	Kovin	Kevevéra	Kevevéra
	Kovin	Bavanište	Kevevéra	Homokbálványos
	Kovin	Gaj	Kevevéra	Gálya
	Kovin	Deliblato	Kevevéra	Deliblát
	Kovin	Dubovac	Kevevéra	Dunadombó
	Kovin	Šumarak	Kevevéra	Emánueltelep
	Kovin	Malo Bavanište	Kevevéra	Kisbálványos
	Kovin	Mramorak	Kevevéra	Homokos
	Kovin	Pločica	Kevevéra	Kevepallós
	Kovin	Skorenovac	Kevevéra	Székelykeve
11	Kula	Kula	Kúla	Kúla
	Kula	Kruščic	Kúla	Vepród
	Kula	Lipar	Kúla	Lipár
	Kula	Nova Crvenka	Kúla	
	Kula	Ruski Krstur	Kúla	Bácskeresztúr
	Kula	Sivac	Kúla	Szivác
	Kula	Crvenka	Kúla	Cservenka
12	Mali Idoš	Mali Idoš	Kishegyes	Kishegyes
	Mali Idoš	Lovćenac	Kishegyes	Szikics
	Mali Idoš	Feketić	Kishegyes	Bácsfeketehegy
13	Nova Crnja	Nova Crnja	Magyarcsernye	Magyarcsernye
	Nova Crnja	Aleksandrovo	Magyarcsernye	
	Nova Crnja	Vojvoda Stepa	Magyarcsernye	

	Nova Crnja	Radojevo	Magyarcsernye	Klári
	Nova Crnja	Srpska Crnja	Magyarcsernye	Szerbecserye
	Nova Crnja	Toba	Magyarcsernye	Tóba
14	Novi Bečej	Novi Bečej	Törökbecse	Törökbecse
	Novi Bečej	Bocar	Törökbecse	Bocsár
	Novi Bečej	Kumane	Törökbecse	Kumán
	Novi Bečej	Novo Miloševo	Törökbecse	Beodra
15	Novi Kneževac	Novi Kneževac	Törökkanizsa	Törökkanizsa
	Novi Kneževac	Banatsko Aranđelovo	Törökkanizsa	Oroszlámos
	Novi Kneževac	Đala	Törökkanizsa	Gyála
	Novi Kneževac	Majdan	Törökkanizsa	Majdány
	Novi Kneževac	Rabe	Törökkanizsa	Rábé
	Novi Kneževac	Filić	Törökkanizsa	Firigyháza
	Novi Kneževac	Podlokanj	Törökkanizsa	Podlokány
	Novi Kneževac	Siget	Törökkanizsa	Sziget
	Novi Kneževac	Srpski Krstur	Törökkanizsa	Szerbkeresztúr
16	Novi Sad	Novi Sad	Újvidék	Újvidék
	Novi Sad	Begec	Újvidék	Begecs
	Novi Sad	Budisava	Újvidék	Budiszava
	Novi Sad	Bukovac	Újvidék	Bukovác
	Novi Sad	Veternik	Újvidék	Veternik
	Novi Sad	Kač	Újvidék	Káty
	Novi Sad	Kisac	Újvidék	Kiszács
	Novi Sad	Kovilj	Újvidék	Kabol
	Novi Sad	Ledinci	Újvidék	Ledinci
	Novi Sad	Petrovaradin	Újvidék	Pétervárad
	Novi Sad	Rumenka	Újvidék	Piros
	Novi Sad	Sremska Kamenica	Újvidék	Kamenica
	Novi Sad	Stepanovićevo	Újvidék	

	Novi Sad	Futog	Újvidék	Futak
	Novi Sad	Čenej	Újvidék	Csenej
17	Odžaci	Odžaci	Hódság	Hódság
	Odžaci	Bački Brestovac	Hódság	Szyilberek
	Odžaci	Bački Gracac	Hódság	Szentfülöp
	Odžaci	Bogojevo	Hódság	Gombos
	Odžaci	Deronje	Hódság	Dernye
	Odžaci	Karavukovo	Hódság	Karavukova
	Odžaci	Lalić	Hódság	
	Odžaci	Ratkovo	Hódság	
	Odžaci	Srpski Miletić	Hódság	Militics
18	Plandište	Plandište	Zichyfalva	Zichyfalva
	Plandište	Banatski Sokolac	Zichyfalva	Biószeg
	Plandište	Barice	Zichyfalva	Szentjános
	Plandište	Velika Greda	Zichyfalva	Györgyháza
	Plandište	Veliki Gaj	Zichyfalva	Nagygáj
	Plandište	Dužine	Zichyfalva	Szécsenfalva
	Plandište	Jermenovci	Zichyfalva	Ürményháza
	Plandište	Kupinik	Zichyfalva	
	Plandište	Margita	Zichyfalva	Nagymargita
	Plandište	Laudonovac	Zichyfalva	Laudon
	Plandište	Markovićevo	Zichyfalva	Torontálújfalú
	Plandište	Miletićevo	Zichyfalva	Rárós
	Plandište	Stari Lec	Zichyfalva	Óléc
	Plandište	Hajdučica	Zichyfalva	Istvánvölgy
19	Senta	Senta	Zenta	Zenta
	Senta	Gornji Breg	Zenta	Felsőhegy
	Senta	Tornjoš	Zenta	Tornyos

	Senta	Bogaraš	Zenta	Bogaras
	Senta	Kevi	Zenta	Kevi
20	Sombor	Sombor	Zombor	Zombor
	Sombor	Aleksa Šantić	Zombor	Sári
	Sombor	Bački Breg	Zombor	Béreg
	Sombor	Bački Monoštor	Zombor	Monostorszeg
	Sombor	Bezdan	Zombor	Bezdan
	Sombor	Gakovo	Zombor	Gádor
	Sombor	Doroslovo	Zombor	Doroszló
	Sombor	Kljajićevo	Zombor	Kerény
	Sombor	Kolut	Zombor	Küllöd
	Sombor	Rastina	Zombor	
	Sombor	Riđica	Zombor	Regőce
	Sombor	Svetozar Miletić	Zombor	Nemesmilitics
	Sombor	Stanišić	Zombor	Őrszállás
	Sombor	Stapar	Zombor	Sztapár
	Sombor	Telecka	Zombor	Bácsgyulafalva
	Sombor	Conoplja	Zombor	Csonoplya
21	Srbobran	Srbobran	Szenttamás	Szenttamás
	Srbobran	Nadalj	Szenttamás	Nádálja
	Srbobran	Turija	Szenttamás	Turia
22	Subotica	Subotica	Szabadka	Szabadka
	Subotica	Bajmok	Szabadka	Bajmok
	Subotica	Mišićevo	Szabadka	
	Subotica	Bački Vinogradi	Szabadka	Királyhalom
	Subotica	Bikovo	Szabadka	Békova
	Subotica	Gornji Tavankút	Szabadka	Felsőtavankút
	Subotica	Donji Tavankút	Szabadka	Alsótavankút
	Subotica	Ljutovo	Szabadka	Mérges

	Subotica	Hajdukovo	Szabadka	Hajdújárás
	Subotica	Šupljak	Szabadka	Ludas
	Subotica	Đurđin	Szabadka	Györgyén
	Subotica	Kelebija	Szabadka	Kelebia
	Subotica	Mala Bosna	Szabadka	Kisbosznia
	Subotica	Novi Žednik	Szabadka	Ujzsednik
	Subotica	Stari Žednik	Szabadka	Nagyfény
	Subotica	Palić	Szabadka	Palics
	Subotica	Čantavir	Szabadka	Csantavér
	Subotica	Bačko Dušanovo	Szabadka	Dusanovó
	Subotica	Višnjevac	Szabadka	Visnyevác
23	Temerin	Temerin	Temerin	Temerin
	Temerin	Bački Jarak	Temerin	Járek
	Temerin	Sirig	Temerin	Szóreg
24	Titel	Titel	Titel	Titel
	Titel	Vilovo	Titel	Tündéres
	Titel	Gardinovci	Titel	Dunagárdony
	Titel	Lok	Titel	Sajkáslak
	Titel	Mošorin	Titel	Mozsor
	Titel	Šajkaš	Titel	Sajkásszentiván
25	Vrbas	Vrbas	Verbász	Verbász
	Vrbas	Bačko Dobro Polje	Verbász	Kiskér
	Vrbas	Zmajevo	Verbász	Ókér
	Vrbas	Kosančić	Verbász	
	Vrbas	Kucura	Verbász	Kucora
	Vrbas	Ravno Selo	Verbász	Újsóvé
	Vrbas	Savino Selo	Verbász	Torzsa
26	Vršac	Vršac	Versec	Versec

	Vršac	Vatin	Versec	Versecvat
	Vršac	Veliko Središte	Versec	Nagyszerezd
	Vršac	Vlajkovac	Versec	Temesvajkóc
	Vršac	Vojvodinci	Versec	Vajdalak
	Vršac	Vršački Ritovi	Versec	
	Vršac	Gudurica	Versec	Temeskutas
	Vršac	Zagajica	Versec	Fürjes
	Vršac	Izbište	Versec	Izbiste
	Vršac	Jablanka	Versec	Almád
	Vršac	Kustilj	Versec	Mélykastély
	Vršac	Mala Zam	Versec	Kiszsám
	Vršac	Malo Središte	Versec	Kisszerezd
	Vršac	Markovac	Versec	Márktelke
	Vršac	Mesić	Versec	Meszesfalu
	Vršac	Orešac	Versec	Homokdiód
	Vršac	Pavliš	Versec	Temespaulis
	Vršac	Parta	Versec	Párta
	Vršac	Potporanj	Versec	Porány
	Vršac	Ritiševo	Versec	Réthely
	Vršac	Sočica	Versec	Temesszőlós
	Vršac	Straža	Versec	Temesőr
	Vršac	Uljma	Versec	Homokszil
	Vršac	Sušara	Versec	Fejértelep
27	Zrenjanin	Zrenjanin	Nagybecskerek	Nagybecskerek
	Zrenjanin	Aradac	Nagybecskerek	Aradác
	Zrenjanin	Banatski Despotovac	Nagybecskerek	Ernőháza
	Zrenjanin	Belo Blato	Nagybecskerek	Erzsébetlak
	Zrenjanin	Botoš	Nagybecskerek	Botos
	Zrenjanin	Elemir	Nagybecskerek	Elemér

	Zrenjanin	Ečka	Nagybecskerek	Écska
	Zrenjanin	Jankov Most	Nagybecskerek	Jankahíd
	Zrenjanin	Klek	Nagybecskerek	Begafő
	Zrenjanin	Knićanin	Nagybecskerek	Rezsőháza
	Zrenjanin	Lazarevo	Nagybecskerek	Lázárföld
	Zrenjanin	Lukino Selo	Nagybecskerek	Lukácsfalva
	Zrenjanin	Lukićevo	Nagybecskerek	Zsigmondfalva
	Zrenjanin	Melenci	Nagybecskerek	Melence
	Zrenjanin	Mihajlovo	Nagybecskerek	Szentmihály
	Zrenjanin	Orlovat	Nagybecskerek	Orlód
	Zrenjanin	Perlez	Nagybecskerek	Perlasz
	Zrenjanin	Stajićevo	Nagybecskerek	Óécska
	Zrenjanin	Taraš	Nagybecskerek	Tiszatarrós
	Zrenjanin	Tomaševac	Nagybecskerek	Tamáslaka
	Zrenjanin	Farkaždin	Nagybecskerek	Farkasd
	Zrenjanin	Centa	Nagybecskerek	Csenta
28	Žitište	Žitište	Begaszentgyörgy	Begaszentgyörgy
	Žitište	Bantski Dvor	Begaszentgyörgy	Udvarnok
	Žitište	Banatsko Višnjicevo	Begaszentgyörgy	Vida
	Žitište	Banatsko Karađorđevo	Begaszentgyörgy	
	Žitište	Begejci	Begaszentgyörgy	Torák
	Žitište	Međa	Begaszentgyörgy	Párdány
	Žitište	Novi Itebej	Begaszentgyörgy	Magyarittabé
	Žitište	Ravni Topolovac	Begaszentgyörgy	Katalinfalva
	Žitište	Srpski Itebej	Begaszentgyörgy	Szerbittabé
	Žitište	Torda	Begaszentgyörgy	Torda
	Žitište	Hetin	Begaszentgyörgy	Tamásfalva
	Žitište	Čestereg	Begaszentgyörgy	Csősztelek

Pursuant to the Decision on Establishing Traditional Names of Cities, Municipalities and Settlements in the Romanian language in Vojvodina, the following traditional names of cities, municipalities and settlements in the *Romanian language* and according to the orthography of that language, are established:

1.	Alibunar	Alibunar
2.	Banatsko Novo Selo	Satu Nou
3.	Barice	Sân-Ianăș
4.	Torak	Torac
5.	Bela Crkva	Biserica Albă
6.	Deliblato	Deliblata
7.	Dolovo	Doloave
8.	Ečka	Ecica
9.	Glogonj	Glogoni
10.	Grebenac	Grebenat
11.	Jablanka	Jablanca
12.	Jabuka	Iabuca
13.	Jankov Most	Iancaid
14.	Klek	Clec
15.	Kovin	Cuvin
16.	Kistilj	Coștei
17.	Lokve	Sân-Mihai
18.	Mali Zam	Jamul Mic
19.	Malo Središte	Pârneaora
20.	Margita	Mărghita
21.	Markovac	Marcovăt
22.	Mesić	Mesici
23.	Mramorak	Maramorac
24.	Nikolinci	Nicolinț
25.	Omoljica	Omolița
26.	Orešac	Oreșaț
27.	Pančevo	Panciova
28.	Ritiševo	Râtișor
29.	Seleuš	Seleuș

30.	Sočica	Sălcița
31.	Straža	Straja
32.	Uzdin	Uzdin
33.	Sutjeska	Sărcia
34.	Vladimirovac	Petrovasâla
35.	Vlajkovac	Vlaicovăț
36.	Vojvodinci	Voivodinț
37.	Vršac	Vârșeț
38.	Zrenjanin	Zrenianin

Pursuant to the Decision on Establishing Traditional Names of Cities, Municipalities and Settlements in the Slovakian language, the following is established:

Name in Slovakian	Name in Serbian
Aradáč	Aradac
Báčska Palanka	Bačka Palanka
Báčsky Petrovec	Bački Petrovac
Bajša	Bajša
Begeč	Begeč
Biele Blato	Belo Blato
Bol'ovce	Boljevci
Čelarevo	Čelarevo
Dobanovce	Dobanovci
Erdevik	Erdevik
Hajdušica	Hajdučica
Hložany	Gložan
Jánošík	Janošik
Kovačica	Kovačica
Kulpín	Kulpin
Kysáč	Kišac
Lalit'	Lalić
Lug	Lug
L'uba	Ljuba
Nový Sad	Novi Sad

Ostojićevo	Ostojićevo
Padina	Padina
Pivnica	Pivnice
Selenča	Selenča
Silbaš	Silbaš
Slankamenské Vinohrady	Slankamenački Vinogradi
Stará Pazova	Stara Pazova
Šid	Šid
Vojlovica (Pančevo)	Vojlovica (Pančevo)
Zreňanin	Zrenjanin

Pursuant to the Decision on Establishing Traditional Names of Municipalities and Settlements in the *Ruthenian language*, the following traditional Ruthenian names of municipalities and settlements are established:

Serbian	Ruthenian
Bačka Topola	Бачка Тополя
Bački Petrovac	Бачки Петровец
Bela Crkva	Била Церква
Bikić Do	Бикич Дол
Vršac	Вершец
Vrbas	Вербас
Gospođinci	Господнци
Đurđevo	Дюрдьов
Žabalj	Жабель
Indija	Индія
Kucura	Коцур
Kukujevci	Куковци
Kruščić	Крущич
Lacarak	Латяк
Novo Orahovo	Нове Орахово
Odžaci	Оджак
Pivnice	Пиньвиц
Ruski Krstur	Руски Керестур

Sivac	Сивец
Sombor	Зомбор
Sremska Kamenica	Сримска Каменица
Sremska Mitrovica	Сримска Митровица
Sremski Karlovci	Сримски Карловци
Stara Bingula	Стара Бингула
Titel	Титель
Crvenka	Червинка
Čurug	Чурог

Traditional names in the territory of municipalities of Bujanovac, Preševo and Medveđa, where *the Albanian language* is in official use, are:

Veliki Trnovac - Tërrnoc
Mali Trnovac – Mal Tërrnoci
Medveđa – Medvegjë
Preševo – Preshevë

Traditional names in the territory of municipalities of Novi Pazar and Tutin, where *the Bosniac/Bosnian language* is in official use, are:

Novi Pazar – Novi Pazar
Tutin – Tutin

Boards with the names of local self-government bodies, organisations and public services, in areas where minority languages are also in official use, are in most cases written in those languages, and in addition seats of bodies or organisations and public services using the traditional name in the minority language are indicated. Owing to adequate assistance, territorial offices of republic bodies, organisations and institutions have also displayed new boards with their names written in minority languages, and with traditional names of places used as names of their seats. Posting the names of streets and other topographic signs is undisturbed in areas where minority languages are in official use.

According to the Law on Official Use of Languages and Scripts, pecuniary penalty is envisaged for an organisation or a responsible person within the organisation authorized to post up traffic signs and names of places if, contrary to provisions of the Law, it does not post up those signs in minority languages. The Law also envisages a pecuniary sentence for a responsible person within a body or organisation exercising public powers, if the name of the body or organisation is written contrary to provisions of the stated Law that envisage inscription of names in minority languages.

Article 12

- 1. The Parties shall, where appropriate, take measures in the fields of education and research to foster knowledge of the culture, history, language and religion of their national minorities and of the majority.**
- 2. In this context the Parties shall *inter alia* provide adequate opportunities for teacher training and access to textbooks, and facilitate contacts among students and teachers of different communities.**
- 3. The Parties undertake to promote equal opportunities for access to education at all levels for persons belonging to national minorities.**

Paragraph 1

12.1 Fostering Culture, Language and Religion in Education and Research

12.1.1 Measures in the Field of Education

Article 48 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia provides for the Republic of Serbia to, *inter alia*, foster understanding, appreciation and respect for the differences relating to the specific ethnic, cultural and linguistic or religious identity of its citizens through measures undertaken in education.

The most important measures in the field of education conducive to fostering the culture, history, languages and religions of national minorities are: teaching the curriculum in languages of national minorities, studying the mother tongue with elements of national culture as a subject and religious education.

Article 79 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia provides for *the representatives of the national minorities having the right of: expressing, maintaining, fostering, developing and publicly expressing national, ethnic, cultural and religious distinctions, in particular including education in their own languages provided in state institutions and institutions of the autonomous provinces.*

When it comes to the implementation of this Article of the Framework Convention, the provisions of the vital document in the area of minority rights should be underlined – the Law on the Protection of the Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities. Regulating the education of members of national minorities, Article 13, paras. 5 – 8 of the Law stipulate:

- that the curriculum intended for members of national minorities, in the section relating to national contents, shall contain subjects relating to the history, art and culture of the national minority to a substantial degree;

- that the presence of national councils of national minorities is mandatory in designing the education plan for teaching subjects which provide for the distinctions of national minorities in the language of national minorities, for bilingual education and teaching the language of national minorities with elements of national culture;
- that the curriculum of educational institutions and schools teaching in Serbian shall include contents on the history, culture and status of national minorities with the aim of advancing tolerance in terms of national minorities, as well as other contents advancing mutual tolerance and cohabitation and
- that the curriculum of educational institutions and schools teaching in Serbian shall provide for the option of studying the language of a national minority, in territories where the language of the national minority is in official use.

Legal measures in the field of education providing for teaching the overall curriculum in the minority languages are given in more detail in the section of the Report relating to Article 13 of the Convention. The measures in the field of education relating to fostering national minority religions are presented in the section of the Report relating to Article 8 of the Convention.

Measures in the field of education on fostering the culture, history and language of national minorities, which include the study of the minority language with elements of national culture, are regulated by the relevant provisions of the pertaining laws on education. Article 5, paragraph 5 of the Law on Primary Schools and Article 27, paragraph 6 of the Law on Secondary Schools, stipulate that students who are members of national minorities be enabled to follow the curriculum of their mother tongue with elements of national culture when classes are held in the Serbian language.

In communities where classes are held only in the Serbian language, students with the mother tongue other than Serbian are offered the optional subject Mother Tongue with Elements of National Culture.

12.1.2 Fostering Culture and Language in Educational Practice

12.1.2.1 Primary Schools

The following tables indicate the number of students studying the subject Mother Tongue with Elements of National Culture during the 2006/2007 school year in primary schools:

Bosniac/Bosnian Language with Elements of National Culture

MUNICIPALITY	NUMBER OF STUDENTS
Novi Pazar	3639
Prijepolje	33
Sjenica	1200

Tutin	1825
TOTAL:	6.697

Bulgarian Language with Elements of National Culture

MUNICIPALITY	NUMBER OF STUDENTS	NUMBER OF SCHOOLS
1. Bosilegrad	711	1
2. Dimitrovgrad	728	1
3. Pančevo	21	1
TOTAL:	1.460	3

Hungarian Language with Elements of National Culture

MUNICIPALITY	NUMBER OF STUDENTS	NUMBER OF SCHOOLS
1. Ada	37	1
2. Bačka Topola	193	1
3. Bečej	93	2
4. Vrbas	124	5
5. Vršac	41	2
6. Zrenjanin	104	3
7. Inđija	67	1
8. Kikinda	95	4
9. Kovačica	90	1
10. Kula	74	1
11. Novi Bečej	62	2
12. Novi Sad	287	11
13. Pančevo	82	2
14. Plandište	5	1
15. Sečanj	77	2
16. Senta	83	1
17. Sombor	143	6
18. Srbobran	20	1
19. Subotica	370	6
20. Temerin	26	1
21. Čoka	15	1
TOTAL:	2.088	55

Romany Language with Elements of National Culture

MUNICIPALITY	NUMBER OF STUDENTS	NUMBER OF SCHOOLS
1. Ada	39	1
2. Bač	8	1
3. Bačka Palanka	76	2
4. Žabalj	93	3
5. Zrenjanin	30	2
6. Kanjiža	78	1
7. Kikinda	49	3
8. Novi Bečej	46	2
9. Novi Sad	105	3

10. Odžaci	35	1
11. Sombor	35	4
12. Sremska Mitrovica	79	2
13. Subotica	38	1
14. Titel	12	1
TOTAL:	723	27

The non-government organization “Razvojni centar Rom“ of Obrenovac holds classes for eighty children aged seven to fifteen within the subject Romany Language with Elements of National Culture twice a week.

Romanian Language with Elements of National Culture

MUNICIPALITY	NUMBER OF STUDENTS	NUMBER OF SCHOOLS
1. Alibunar	212	1
2. Bač	40	1
3. Vršac	10	1
4. Zrenjanin	5	1
5. Kovačica	44	1
6. Kovin	106	2
7. Novi Sad	13	1
8. Pančevo	16	2
9. Plandište	8	1
10. Sečanj	15	1
TOTAL:	469	12

Ruthenian Language with Elements of National Culture

MUNICIPALITY	NUMBER OF STUDENTS	NUMBER OF SCHOOLS
1. Bačka Topola	48	2
2. Vrbas	87	5
3. Žabalj	6	1
4. Kula	24	2
5. Novi Sad	61	9
6. Sremska Mitrovica	7	1
7. Šid	45	2
8. Beograd	15	1
TOTAL:	293	23

Slovak Language with Elements of National Culture

MUNICIPALITY	NUMBER OF STUDENTS	NUMBER OF SCHOOLS
1. Bačka Palanka	113	5
2. Bačka Topola	7	1
3. Bački Petrovac	12	1
4. Beočin	57	1
5. Vrbas	10	1
6. Zrenjanin	33	2

7. Kovačica	45	1
8. Novi Sad	152	23
9. Pančevo	58	1
10. Plandište	40	1
11. Šid	95	3
12. Boljevac	39	1
TOTAL:	661	41

Ukrainian Language with Elements of National Culture

MUNICIPALITY	NUMBER OF STUDENTS	NUMBER OF SCHOOLS
1. Vrbas	35	3
2. Kula	47	2
3. Novi sad	19	2
4. Sremska mitrovica	17	1
Total:	118	8

Croatian Language with Elements of National Culture

MUNICIPALITY	NUMBER OF STUDENTS	NUMBER OF SCHOOLS
1. Apatin	48	1
2. Sombor	100	2
3. Subotica	214	7
TOTAL:	362	10

12.1.2.2. Secondary Schools

The following table indicates the number of students in secondary schools studying the subject Mother Tongue with Elements of National Culture during the 2006/2007 school year:

LANGUAGE	NUMBER OF SCHOOLS	NUMBER OF STUDENTS
Bulgarian Language with Elements of National Culture	2 gymnasiums	549
Hungarian Language with Elements of National Culture	1 school	12
Romanian Language with Elements of National Culture	2 schools	27
Optional classes in the Ruthenian language	1 school, interested students from the territory of Novi Sad attend	21
Slovak Language with Elements of National	5 schools	127

Culture		
---------	--	--

12.1.2.3. Intercultural Fostering of Culture and Language in Education Practice

Undertaking measures in the field of education in terms of fostering the culture, history and language of national minorities leads to the number of students studying minority languages being at odds with the national structure. Furthermore, there are cases where minority languages are studied by students of different mother tongues and/or by the students who do not speak these languages. The data for primary schools in the 2006/2007 school year within the territory of AP Vojvodina is provided in the following tables:

HUNGARIAN LANGUAGE WITH ELEMENTS OF NATIONAL CULTURE		
	The number of students other than Hungarian, yet studying Hungarian Language with Elements of National Culture	Total number of students studying Hungarian Language with Elements of National Culture
TOTAL	1327	2088

ROMANIAN LANGUAGE WITH ELEMENTS OF NATIONAL CULTURE		
	The number of students other than Romanian, yet studying Romanian Language with Elements of National Culture	Total number of students studying Romanian Language with Elements of National Culture
TOTAL	261	469

RUTHENIAN LANGUAGE WITH ELEMENTS OF NATIONAL CULTURE		
	The number of students other than Ruthenian, yet studying Ruthenian Language with Elements of National Culture	Total number of students studying Ruthenian Language with Elements of National Culture

TOTAL	134	278
--------------	------------	------------

SLOVAK LANGUAGE WITH ELEMENTS OF NATIONAL CULTURE		
	The number of students other than Slovak, yet studying Slovak Language with Elements of National Culture	Total number of students studying Slovak Language with Elements of National Culture
TOTAL	251	622

CROATIAN LANGUAGE WITH ELEMENTS OF NATIONAL CULTURE		
	The number of students other than Croats, yet studying Croatian Language with Elements of National Culture	Total number of students studying Croatian Language with Elements of National Culture
TOTAL	8	362

The reasons that the students (speakers of other languages) provided as motive for studying a minority language with elements of national culture in the 2006/2007 school year, according to a poll which was conducted, are given in the following tables:

BULGARIAN LANGUAGE WITH ELEMENTS OF NATIONAL CULTURE						
				Reasons for studying the language		
I class	Total number of students	Number of schools	Number of municipalities	Mixed marriage	Language of the community	Other reasons
2	21	1	1	0	0	0

HUNGARIAN LANGUAGE WITH ELEMENTS OF NATIONAL CULTURE						
				Reasons for studying the language		
I class	Total	Number of	Number of	Mixed	Language of	Other

	number of students	schools	municipalities	marriage	the community	reasons
306	2088	55	21	793	404	130

ROMANY LANGUAGE WITH ELEMENTS OF NATIONAL CULTURE						
				Reasons for studying the language		
I class	Total number of students	Number of schools	Number of municipalities	Mixed marriage	Language of the community	Other reasons
137	723	27	14	2	0	26

ROMANIAN LANGUAGE WITH ELEMENTS OF NATIONAL CULTURE						
				Reasons for studying the language		
I class	Total number of students	Number of schools	Number of municipalities	Mixed marriage	Language of the community	Other reasons
56	469	12	10	110	140	11

RUTHENIAN LANGUAGE WITH ELEMENTS OF NATIONAL CULTURE						
				Reasons for studying the language		
I class	Total number of students	Number of schools	Number of municipalities	Mixed marriage	Language of the community	Other reasons
31	278	22	7	106	4	24

SLOVAK LANGUAGE WITH ELEMENTS OF NATIONAL CULTURE						
				Reasons for studying the language		
I class	Total number of students	Number of schools	Number of municipalities	Mixed marriage	Language of the community	Other reasons
61	622	40	11	191	51	19

UKRAINIAN LANGUAGE WITH ELEMENTS OF NATIONAL CULTURE						
				Reasons for studying the language		
I class	Total number of students	Number of schools	Number of municipalities	Mixed marriage	Language of the community	Other reasons
4	118	8	4	35	5	0

CROATIAN LANGUAGE WITH ELEMENTS OF NATIONAL CULTURE						
				Reasons for studying the language		

I class	Total number of students	Number of schools	Number of municipalities	Mixed marriage	Language of the community	Other reasons
49	362	10	3	5	3	0

12.1.2.4. University Education and Scientific Research

The most effective measure for fostering the language, culture and history of national minorities undertaken by the state within the realm of university education and scientific research is the opening of special departments where minority languages and literature are studied.

The Albanian Language

The Chair of the Albanian Language and Literature is a part of the Faculty of Philology in Belgrade, comprising the Department of the Albanian Language and Literature.

School year	Expected number of students at the first year of studies	Number of students enrolled
2002/2003	20	19
2003/2004	20	19
2004/2005	20	14
2005/2006	20	20
2006/2007	20	12

The Bosniac/Bosnian Language

A department for the *Serbian/Bosniac Language and Literature* is a part of the Department of Philology at the International faculty in Novi Pazar.

The Bulgarian Language

The Bulgarian language is studied at the Chair of the Serbian Language with South-Slavic Languages, within the Department of the Bulgarian Language and Literature of the Faculty of Philology in Belgrade.

School year	Expected number of students at the first year of studies	Number of students enrolled
2002/2003	20	23
2003/2004	20	14
2004/2005	20	18
2005/2006	20	16
2006/2007	20	8

The Hungarian Language

The Hungarian language is studied at the Faculty of Philosophy of Novi Sad – the Chair of the Hungarian Language and Literature, i.e. the Department of the Hungarian

Language and Literature, as well as at the Faculty of Philology of Belgrade – the Chair of the Hungarian Language and Literature, i.e. the Department of Hungarian Language and Literature.

The Faculty of Philosophy of Novi Sad

School year	Expected number of students at the first year of studies	Number of students enrolled
2002/2003	30	26
2003/2004	30	30
2004/2005	31	32
2005/2006	30	27
2006/2007	30	26

The Faculty of Philology in Belgrade

School year	Expected number of students at the first year of studies	Number of students enrolled
2002/2003	20	15
2003/2004	20	17
2004/2005	20	11
2005/2006	20	15
2006/2007	20	14

The Romany Language

The School of the Romany Language and Culture has been operating for the past three years as part of the ACIMSI university studies of the Center for Gender Studies (Women’s studies and Research) at the Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad.

The School of the Romany Language and Culture consists of four modules, with a total of 32 lessons: language, literature, history, culture, and it is being performed by teachers from various universities from Serbia and abroad.

48 students were enrolled in the School of the Romany Language and Culture and 36 of them graduated in course of the 2004-2005 school year.

25 students were enrolled in the School of the Romany Language and Culture and 16 of them graduated in the course of the 2005-2006 school year.

Introduction to the Romany Language and Culture was an optional subject during the 2006-2007 school year, in the winter semester, at the Department for Media Studies. The classes were attended by a total of 50 students, while 46 students opted for the course.

The Romanian Language

The Romanian language may be studied at the Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad – the Chair of Roman Languages, the Department of the Romanian Language and Literature as

well as the Faculty of Philology in Belgrade – the Chair of Roman Languages, i.e. the Department of the Romanian Language and Literature.

The Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad

School year	Expected number of students at the first year of studies	Number of students enrolled
2002/2003	15	7
2003/2004	30	13
2004/2005	31	4
2005/2006	30	3
2006/2007	30	5

The Faculty of Philology in Belgrade

School year	Expected number of students at the first year of studies	Number of students enrolled
2002/2003	20	20
2003/2004	20	19
2004/2005	20	12
2005/2006	20	17
2006/2007	20	18

The Ruthenian Language

The Ruthenian language is studied at the Chair of the Ruthenian Language and Literature, i.e. the Department of the Ruthenian Language and Literature of the Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad.

School year	Expected number of students at the first year of studies	Number of students enrolled
2002/2003	15	4
2003/2004	15	4
2004/2005	15	7
2005/2006	15	6
2006/2007	15	6

The Slovak Language

The Slovak language is studied at the Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad – the Chair of the Slovak Language and Literature, i.e. the Department of the Slovak Language and Literature, as well as the Faculty of Philology in Belgrade, the Chair of Slavic Languages, i.e. the Department of the Slovak Language and Literature.

The Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad

School year	Expected number of students at the first year of studies	Number of students enrolled
2002/2003	15	3
2003/2004	15	7

2004/2005	15	6
2005/2006	15	9
2006/2007	15	1

The Faculty of Philology in Belgrade

School year	Expected number of students at the first year of studies	Number of students enrolled
2002/2003	20	16
2003/2004	20	13
2004/2005	20	14
2005/2006	20	15
2006/2007	20	10

The Ukrainian Language

The Ukrainian language is studied at the Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad, at the Department of the Ruthenian Language and Literature, as well as a mandatory two-semester subject at the second year of studies for all students of the department. Eight students attended lectures in the 2006/2007 school year.

The Department of the Ukrainian Language and Literature is a part of the Faculty of Philology in Belgrade, i.e. the Chair of Slavic Languages.

School year	Expected number of students at the first year of studies	Number of students enrolled
2002/2003	10	6
2003/2004	20	11
2004/2005	20	15
2005/2006	20	15
2006/2007	20	16

The Croatian Language

At the moment, no faculty in Serbia contains a study group for the Croatian language. However, the Croatian language is studied at the Chair of South-Slavic Philology of the Faculty of Philology in Belgrade at the second, third and fourth year of studies within the subject *Contemporary Serbian and Croatian language*.

Likewise, the Czech language and literature are studied at the Faculty of Philology in Belgrade, at the Chair of Slavic Languages. The German language and literature are studied at the Department of Germanic languages. The Turkish language and literature are studied at the Department of Oriental Languages.

The Chair of Germanic Languages, where the Department of the German Language and Literature is located, is a part of the Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad.

There is also the Chair of the German Language at the Faculty of Philology and Art in Kragujevac.

The departments for Turkish and German languages are located at the International University in Novi Pazar, at the Department of Philology.

12.1.3 Other Forms of Scientific Research

Certain research activities are institutionalized. The Interdepartmental Committee for the Study of Minorities and Human Rights and the Institute of Ethnography operate within the Serbian Academy of Science and Art (*Srpska akademija nauka i umetnosti – SANU*). The Institute of Ethnography is a basic scientific establishment involved with studying all segments of the culture of the Serbian people and national minorities in Serbia. The Institute of Ethnography and the Interdepartmental Committee have held several scientific conferences dedicated to national minorities (the international conference entitled "The Position of Minorities in FRY" is particularly important). As part of international scientific cooperation, the Interdepartmental Committee and the Institute of Ethnography of SANU have cooperated with the Bulgarian, Hungarian, Romanian and Slovak science academies. This cooperation included scientific research of the culture and customs of Hungarians, Slovaks, Ruthenians and other minorities. It should be underlined that SANU, in cooperation with certain minority organizations and national councils, organized several scientific conferences that may be considered to represent special measures in the field of research in terms of fostering the culture, history and languages of certain national minorities. SANU has thus, for example, along with the National Council of the Bunjevci National Minority in Subotica, organized a scientific gathering on the Bunjevci in Subotica between December 7-9, 2006.

Paragraph 2

12.2. Teacher Training and the Availability of Teaching Tools

12.2.1. Teacher Training

In terms of education in the language of national minorities, Article 14 of the Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities stipulates that departments and faculties shall be organized at the level of colleges and universities where educators, teachers and professors of national minority languages are to be educated in the languages of national minorities, or bilingually.

A provision in paragraph 2 of the Article thereof of the Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities stipulates that, in addition to the college and university education already mentioned, faculties shall organize an instructorship in national minority languages, where student members of national minorities shall be able to master technical terminology in the language of the national minority.

Provisions in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Article thereof stipulate additional obligations of the State in this field, by defining that it shall facilitate the expert and terminology training of teachers for teaching in the languages of national minorities, i.e. that it shall improve international cooperation with the aim of enabling the members of national

minorities to study abroad in their mother tongue and have the diplomas thus gained recognized in accordance with the law.

Education of staff for working in minority languages in preschool and nursing institutions takes place in special pedagogical schools teaching in minority languages as well. Institutions for teachers with classes in languages of national minorities are: the Nursing Teachers Training College of Novi Sad (classes in Serbian and Hungarian), the Nursing Teachers Training College of Subotica (classes in Serbian and Hungarian) and the Nursing Teachers Training College of Vršac (classes in Serbian and Romanian).

The following table shows the number of students enrolled attending classes in minority languages at pedagogical faculties during the 2006/2007 school year.

Nursing Teachers Training College – Novi Sad	The Hungarian language	28
Nursing Teachers Training College – Subotica	The Hungarian language	114
Nursing Teachers Training College – Vršac	The Romanian language	64

The Department of the Faculty of Pedagogy of Sombor located in Bački Petrovac, training the staff for teaching in Slovakian, provides curriculum for teachers teaching in minority languages in lower primary grades (I-IV grades of primary school). The Department of the Belgrade Teachers' Training Faculty located in Vršac trains students for teaching in Romanian. The Teachers' Training Faculty of Subotica has been operational as of the 2006/2007 school year, training teachers for teaching in Hungarian.

The following table shows the number of students enrolled attending classes in minority languages at teaching (pedagogical) faculties during the 2006/2007 school year.

The Faculty of Pedagogy of Sombor – Department of Bački Petrovac	The Slovak language	37
Teachers' Training College – Department of Vršac	The Romanian language	55
Teachers' Training College of Subotica	The Hungarian language	174

Education of professors for teaching higher grades is conducted at the level of faculties. In addition to departments and instructorship for studying languages and literature, it is important to indicate that minority members in Serbia are given the opportunity to study other sciences in their mother tongue, enabling them to obtain professional qualifications for performing lectures in minority languages in higher grades of primary and high schools. The opportunity for national minorities to study in their languages is explained in more detail in Article 14 of the Framework Convention for Protection of National Minorities. Students that are members of national minorities who graduate from natural or social studies in Serbian may teach as professors in high schools where lectures are conducted in their mother tongue.

Teacher training opportunities are envisaged by the programs of cooperation between the Republic of Serbia and Governments of mother countries of specific national minorities living in Serbia, in the field of education, culture, youth and sports. The program of cooperation with the Government of the Republic of Slovakia envisages that the Republic of Slovakia hosts 30 teachers from kindergartens, primary and high schools with *Slovakian* curriculum on an annual basis, providing them with two-week courses. The cooperation program in the field of education, science and culture between the Federal Government of SR Yugoslavia and the Government of Romania envisages that the two parties shall host professors of the *Romanian* language and other subjects taught in Romanian in Serbia and/or the Serbian language and other subjects taught in Serbian in Romania, in order to provide them with training in another country and facilitate the exchange of experiences in education institution. The two parties host educators, teachers and professors of the Romanian and/or Serbian language who are to hold classes in education institutions for national minorities of the respective countries. The program of cooperation between the Federal Government of SR Yugoslavia and the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria on cooperation in the field of education, science and culture envisages that the Bulgarian party shall provide the opportunity of training in *Bulgarian* language, literature and other disciplines for teachers holding classes for students of Bulgarian national minority in schools teaching the Bulgarian language. The Bulgarian party has expressed the desire of the Bulgarian language, literature, history and music and other disciplines for schools teaching the Bulgarian language in Serbia.

Assistants supporting the education of Roma children have been engaged as of the second term of the 2006/2007 school year, within the Decade of Roma 2005/2015 activities. The role of the “Roma assistant” is to communicate with pupils, their parents and the school, to provide support for children of Roma nationality with the curriculum, to overcome problems in communication with educators, teachers and other children and to stimulate students to continue their education. Fifty assistants speaking Roma have been selected and have the necessary education and experience with the Roma children and the implementation of education projects. The Ministry of Education and Sports, OSCE and the Center for Interactive Pedagogy, with support of the European Agency for Reconstruction and Development have organized a set of additional trainings and seminars for assistants, having twenty assistants and eight mentors enter twenty schools in the territory of Serbia.

The Provincial Secretariat for Education and Culture conducted a comprehensive survey in the 2005/2006 school year among the teachers of primary and secondary schools in AP Vojvodina which, *inter alia*, contained questions on the language in which the teachers taught and the language that the school plan and program had envisaged for the classes. The survey included all the teachers who were working in the schools at the moment, including the staff employed on account of the service contract, teachers working on a part-time basis and the teachers who were on a leave, and some of the teachers did not declare on specific question.

The following table indicates the number of teachers holding lectures in minority languages in primary schools in Vojvodina according to the results of the abovementioned poll.

LANGUAGE IN WHICH LECTURES ARE PERFORMED	NUMBER OF TEACHERS
Hungarian	1917
Roma	23
Romanian	247
Ruthenian	76
Slovakian	349
Ukrainian	4
Croatian	35

The following table indicates the number of teachers holding lectures in minority languages in secondary schools in Vojvodina according to the results of the abovementioned poll.

LANGUAGE IN WHICH LECTURES ARE PERFORMED	NUMBER OF TEACHERS
Hungarian	931
Romanian	38
Ruthenian	16
Slovakian	41
Croatian	4

12.2.2. Availability of Teaching Tools

The availability of textbooks is regulated by specific regulations. Article 4, paragraph 3 of the Law on Textbooks and Other Teaching Aids of the Republic of Serbia stipulates that textbooks be printed in languages of national minorities for students in case of the education process conducted in the language of the national minority as well. The decree of the Minister of Education approving of the wording of a textbook for the purpose of publishing contains a decision on the language and script in which the textbook is to be published (Article 17 of the Law on Textbooks and Other Teaching Aids of the Republic of Serbia).

Official primary and secondary textbooks in Serbia are published by the competent institute, the Institute for Textbooks, as well as other private publishers. The Institute for Textbooks of the Republic of Serbia has a branch situated in Novi Sad dealing with preparing and publishing school books in languages of national minorities living in AP Vojvodina (Hungarian, Slovakian, Romanian, Ruthenian and Roma). The department of the Institute situated in Belgrade prepares and publishes textbooks in Albanian and Bulgarian. The Institute for Textbooks has so far published a large number of publications in minority languages which largely satisfy the education needs in languages of national minorities in terms of primary and secondary education. School books and teaching aids in Roma represent a specific problem.

In addition to textbooks, the publishing activities of the Institute include publishing the compulsory reading and important works of literature in minority languages.

The Institute for Textbooks has published the following textbooks, compulsory reading and important works of literature in languages of national minorities in the period between 2002 through 2007:

THE ALBANIAN LANGUAGE

PUBLISHING PLAN IN 2003

PRIMARY SCHOOL			
No.	Catalogue number	Title	Circulation
FIRST GRADE			
1.	46105	THINKING BOOK – Workbook for the World around Us	2000

PUBLISHING PLAN IN 2004

PRIMARY SCHOOL			
No.	Catalogue number	Title	Circulation
FIRST GRADE			
1.	46102	MATHEMATICS	2000
2.	46103	MATHEMATICS WORKBOOK	2000

PUBLISHING PLAN IN 2006

PRIMARY SCHOOL			
No.	Catalogue number	Title	Circulation
SECOND GRADE			
1.	46202	MATHEMATICS	1000
2.	46203	MATHEMATICS WORKBOOK	1000
3.	46204	THE WORLD AROUND US	1000
4.	46205	EXPLORATION BOOK – Workbook for the World around Us	1000

PUBLISHING PLAN IN 2007

PRIMARY SCHOOL			
No.	Catalogue number	Title	Circulation
FIRST GRADE			
1.	46101	MY FIRST READER	1000
THIRD GRADE			
2.	46302	MATHEMATICS	1000
3.	46303	MATHEMATICS WORKBOOK	1000

The textbook for the subject The World Around Us for the first grade of primary school has been taken out of circulation, because the textbook in Serbian for the subject has undergone substantial changes, wherefore the textbook in Albanian shall be adapted.

Textbooks in Albanian currently under way:

1. Primer
2. Reader, for the second grade of primary school
3. Reader, for the third grade of primary school
4. Mathematics and Mathematics Workbook, for the fourth grade of primary school
5. Nature and Society and Nature and Society Workbook, for the fourth grade of primary school

THE BULGARIAN LANGUAGE

PUBLISHING PLAN IN 2002

PRIMARY SCHOOL			
No.	Catalogue number	Title	Circulation
FIRST GRADE			
1.	45101	READER	500

PUBLISHING PLAN IN 2003

PRIMARY SCHOOL			
No.	Catalogue number	Title	Circulation
FIFTH GRADE			
1.	45502	BULGARIAN LANGUAGE GRAMMAR	1000
SIXTH GRADE			
1.	45601	BULGARIAN LANGUAGE GRAMMAR	1000
EIGHTH GRADE			
1.	45800	CHRESTOMATHY	1000

PUBLISHING PLAN IN 2004

PRIMARY SCHOOL			
No.	Catalogue number	Title	Circulation
FIRST GRADE			
1.	45104	PRIMER WORKBOOK	1000
SECOND GRADE			
1.	45204	BULGARIAN LANGUAGE WORKBOOK	1000
THIRD GRADE			
1.	45301	BULGARIAN LANGUAGE WORKBOOK	1000
FOURTH GRADE			
1.	45402	BULGARIAN LANGUAGE WORKBOOK	1000

SECONDARY SCHOOL			
No.	Catalogue number	Title	Circulation
FIRST GRADE			
1.	45914	ЛИТЕРАТУРОЗНАНИЕ	1000

PUBLISHING PLAN IN 2005

PRIMARY SCHOOL			
No.	Catalogue number	Title	Circulation
SECOND GRADE			
1.	45200	READER	1000
FIFTH GRADE			
1.	45505	BULGARIAN LANGUAGE WORKBOOK	1000
SIXTH GRADE			
1.	45602	BULGARIAN LANGUAGE WORKBOOK	1000
SEVENTH GRADE			
1.	45702	BULGARIAN LANGUAGE WORKBOOK	1000
EIGHTH GRADE			
1.	45802	BULGARIAN LANGUAGE WORKBOOK	1000

PUBLISHING PLAN IN 2006

PRIMARY SCHOOL			
No.	Catalogue number	Title	Circulation
THIRD GRADE			
1.	45300	READER	1000
2.	45304	LITERATURE WORKBOOK	1000
FOURTH GRADE			
1.	45400	READER	1000
2.	45403	LITERATURE WORKBOOK	1000

IMPORTANT WORKS OF LITERATURE

No.	Catalogue number	Title	Circulation
1.	45003	BULGARIAN-SERBIAN HOMONYMOUS DICTIONARY	1000

PUBLISHING PLAN IN 2007

PRIMARY SCHOOL			
No.	Catalogue number	Title	Circulation
SECOND GRADE			
1.	45211	BULGARIAN LANGUAGE	1000
THIRD GRADE			
1.	45303	BULGARIAN LANGUAGE	1000
FOURTH GRADE			
1.	45401	BULGARIAN LANGUAGE	1000
FIFTH GRADE			
1.	45500	READER	1000

IMPORTANT WORKS OF LITERATURE

No.	Catalogue number	Title	Circulation
1.	45002	SERBIAN-BULGARIAN HOMONYMOUS DICTIONARY	1000

Titles in Bulgarian currently under way:

1. Primer
2. Bulgarian Language, for seventh grade of primary school, Grammar

THE HUNGARIAN LANGUAGE

PUBLISHING PLAN IN 2002

PRIMARY SCHOOL			
FIRST GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	41100	Primer	2400
2.	41102	The Letterbook	1300
3.	41104	Reader	3300
4.	41105	Mathematics	5000
5.	41106	Mathematics Workbook	
6.	41107	Nature and Society	4000
7.	41108	Thinking Book	3900
8.	41110	Instructions with Nature and Society	200
9.	41112	Instructions with the Mathematics Textbook 1	500
SECOND GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	41200	Reader	2800
2.	41201	Hungarian Language – Grammar Workbook	3400
3.	41202	Mathematics	3800
4.	41203	Mathematics Workbook	3600
5.	41207	Instructions with the textbook set for the subject Nature and Society	250
COMPULSORY READING 2			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	41251	Thumbelina	1000
2.	41252	The Colorful Story	1000
THIRD GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	41301	Hungarian Language – Grammar Workbook	3100
2.	41302	Mathematics	4200
3.	41304	Nature and Society	4200
4.	41305	Nature and Society Workbook	4200
COMPULSORY READING 3			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	41352	Colorful Butterfly	400
2.	41353	Alice in Wonderland	600
3.	41351	The Golden Bird	1000
FOURTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	41401	Grammar Workbook	3500
2.	41403	Mathematics	2800
3.	41406	Nature Workbook	1100

4.	41407	Nature	4200
5.	41408	Society Workbook	4200

COMPULSORY READING 4

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	41452	The Boy with the Kite	800
2.	41455	Robinson	500
3.	41454	The White Mane	800

FIFTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	41502	Mathematics	500
2.	41503	Mathematics Exercises	550
3.	41504	History	200
4.	41505	Geography	4700
5.	41507	Herbarium	3000
6.	41511	Geography Workbook	4700
7.	41512	Geography Reader	2500
8.	41506	Biology	2000
9.	41509	Music 5–6	900

COMPULSORY READING 5

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	41553	The Little Prince	1000

SIXTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	41600	Reader	200
2.	41602	Mathematics	1500
3.	41603	Mathematics Exercises	1600
4.	41604	History	1800
5.	41606	Geography	400
6.	41608	Physics	300
7.	41609	Physics Exercises	200

SEVENTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	41700	Reader	2500
2.	41703	Mathematics Exercises	2400
3.	41704	History	150
4.	41709	Physics Exercises	1300

EIGHTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	41805	History	4000
2.	41807	Geography	2150

SECONDARY SCHOOL

FIRST GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
------------	-----------------	--------------	--------------------

1.	41906	Biology	800
2.	41913	Music	550
3.	41918	Anatomy and Physiology	220
SECOND GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	41927	Pharmacology	200
THIRD GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	41930	Reader	900
2.	41939	Geography	1300
FOURTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	41940	Reader	650

PUBLISHING PLAN IN 2003

PRIMARY SCHOOL			
FIRST GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
10.	41100	Primer	5000
11.	41104	Reader	5000
12.	41101	Let's Learn to Read	5000
13.	41103	Let's Learn to Write	5000
14.	41111	Fostering Mother Tongue 1	1000
15.	41102	Letterbook	600
16.	41109	Written and Oral Expression Workbook	1700
SECOND GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
6.	41201	Hungarian Language – Grammar Workbook	2700
7.	41202	Mathematics	2200
8.	41203	Mathematics Workbook	2200
9.	4105	Nature and Society	4400
10.	41206	Nature and Society Workbook	4400
COMPULSORY READING 2			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
3.	41253	The Devil and the Miller	1500
4.	41255	My First Stories	550
THIRD GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
5.	41300	Reader	3900
6.	41303	Mathematics Workbook	4200
7.	41302	Mathematics	5000
8.	41304	Nature and Society	2500
9.	41305	Nature and Society Workbook	4800
10.	41306	Music 3-4	3800

COMPULSORY READING 3

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
4.	41315	The Colorful Butterfly	1500
5.	41254	The Fairytale of the Fisherman and the Fish	300
6.	41355	The Stone Goat of Sen	1500

FOURTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
6.	41400	Reader	3600
7.	41403	Mathematics	4800
8.	41404	Mathematics Workbook	4000
9.	41405	Nature	5400
10.	41406	Nature Workbook	5600
11.	41407	Society	5700
12.	41408	Society Workbook	5700

COMPULSORY READING 4

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
4.	41451	The Murmur of Forests	1500

FIFTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
2.	41500	Reader	3300
3.	41501	Grammar Workbook	4000
4.	41502	Mathematics	3500
5.	41503	Mathematics Exercises	3400
6.	41504	History	3500
7.	41508	Technical Education	3000
8.	41509	Music 5–6	3600
9.	41510	Fine Arts 5–6	2600

SIXTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
10.	41600	Reader	3200
11.	41601	Grammar Workbook	3800
12.	41602	Mathematics	550
13.	41604	History	4600
14.	41606	Geography	5000
15.	41613	Geography Workbook	4000
16.	41614	Geography Reader	2500
17.	41607	Biology	5000
18.	41608	Physics	4800
19.	41609	Physics Exercises	1600
20.	41610	Technical Education	4400

SEVENTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
21.	41701	Grammar Workbook	3900
22.	41702	Mathematics	2500
23.	41704	History	1500
24.	41706	Geography	1400

25.	41707	Biology	3000
26.	41708	Physics	2500
27.	41709	Physics Exercises	3000
28.	41710	Chemistry	3000
29.	41711	Chemistry Exercises	2500
30.	41712	Technical Education	2400
31.	41713	Music 7–8	2700
32.	41715	Fine Arts 7–8	2500

EIGHTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
33.	41800	Reader	2800
34.	41801	Grammar Workbook	3700
35.	41803	Mathematics	2700
36.	41804	Mathematics Exercises	2500
37.	41806	History Workbook	2000
38.	41809	Biology	3000
39.	41811	Physics	2600
40.	41812	Physics Exercises	2800
41.	41813	Chemistry	2300
42.	41814	Chemistry Exercises	2700
43.	41815	Technical Education	2400

SECONDARY SCHOOL

FIRST GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
44.	41900	Reader	1200
45.	41902	Hungarian Language 1–4	1400
46.	41904	History of Literature 1–2	700
47.	41906	Biology	900
48.	41911	Physics	500
49.	41914	General Chemistry	1000
50.	41918	Anatomy and Physiology	250
51.	41919	Health Care 1	450
52.	41917	Basics of Electrical Engineering	450

THIRD GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
53.	41935	Constitution and Civil Rights	650
54.	41939	Geography	1300

FOURTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
55.	41940	Reader	250
56.	41949	Philosophy	1500

PUBLISHING PLAN 2004

PRIMARY SCHOOL			
FIRST GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
17.	41102	Individual Letterbook	5000
18.	41105	Mathematics	5000
19.	41106	Mathematics Workbook	5000
20.	41107	The World around Us	5000
21.	41108	The World around Us Workbook	5000
22.	41113	The Alphabet of Traffic 1-4	5000
COMPULSORY READING 1			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	41255	My First Stories	1500
SECOND GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
11.	41200	Reader	4000
12.	41208	Reader Workbook	4000
13.	41201	Grammar Workbook	4000
14.	41202	Mathematics	4000
15.	41203	Mathematics Workbook	4000
16.	41205	The World Around Us	5000
17.	41206	The World around Us Workbook	5000
18.	12414	Friends of Jesus – Catholic Theology	
COMPULSORY READING 2			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
5.	41251	The Emperor's New Suit	1500
6.	41252	The Magic Cap	1500
7.	41250	If You Wish... (An Anthology of Child Poetry)	1000
THIRD GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
11.	41301	Grammar Workbook	2500
12.	41302	Mathematics	5000
13.	41305	Nature and Society Workbook	4800
COMPULSORY READING 3			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
7.	41254	The Fairytale of the Fisherman and the Fish	1500
8.	41359	The Blue Light	1500
9.	41353	Alice in Wonderland	1500
10.	41350	The Wind's Lullaby	1000
11.	41356	Tavas Janoska is on His Way	1000
FOURTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
13.	41401	Grammar Workbook	4500
14.	41403	Mathematics	4800
COMPULSORY READING 4			

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
5.	41452	Two Magic Calves	1500
6.	41453	A Raincoat Looking for Treasure	1500
7.	41455	Robinson	1500
8.	41450	The Train in Snow	1000
9.	41454	The White Mane	1000
FIFTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
57.	41500	Reader	3800
58.	41502	Mathematics	3000
59.	41503	Mathematics Exercises	3000
60.	41504	History	4000
61.	41505	Geography	3100
62.	41515	History Workbook	2500
63.	41506	Biology	4000
64.	41507	Herbarium	4000
65.	415008	Technical Education	3800
COMPULSORY READING 5			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
66.	41551	Tom Sawyer	1500
67.	41554	Cranes Fly High	1500
68.	41555	Once Upon a Time...	1500
SIXTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
69.	41600	Reader	3700
70.	41602	Mathematics	5000
71.	41603	Mathematics Exercises	5000
72.	41609	Physics Exercises	4000
73.	41605	History Workbook	2500
COMPULSORY READING 6			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
74.	41556	Dew Fell from the Lilly	1500
75.	41655	20000 Leagues Under the Sea	1500
SEVENTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
76.	41700	Reader	1700
77.	41701	Grammar Workbook	5000
78.	41703	Mathematics Exercises	1500
79.	41708	Physics	1600
80.	41706	Geography	1600
EIGHTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
81.	41803	Mathematics	3200
82.	41804	Mathematics Exercises	3200
83.	41805	History	4000
84.	41807	Geography	3000

85.	41815	Technical Education	3400
COMPULSORY READING 8			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
86.	41850	Quarreling with the World	1500

SECONDARY SCHOOL			
FIRST GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
87.	41900	Reader	1500
88.	41905	Mathematics	1200
89.	41913	Music	800
90.	41915	Fine Arts	3000
91.	41958	Computers and Computer Science	2000
SECOND GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
92.	41920	Reader	1000
93.	41922	Inorganic Chemistry	1000
94.	41923	Psychology	1000
95.	41924	Biology	1500
96.	41925	Mathematics	1000
97.	41927	Pharmacology	600
THIRD GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
98.	41930	Reader	1200
99.	41938	History	1000

IMPORTANT WORKS OF LITERATURE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
100	41026	Janos Herceg: Collected Works, Volume 3	500

PUBLISHING PLAN 2005

PRIMARY SCHOOL			
FIRST GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
23.	41100	Primer	4400
24.	41101	Primer Workbook	4000
25.	41103	Writing Beginner Workbook	4200
26.	41104	Reader	4200
27.	41114	Instructions with the Mother Tongue Textbook Set	500
28.	41115	Music	4000
29.	41116	Fine Arts	4000
30.	41117	Instructions for Music Teachers	300

COMPULSORY READING 1

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
2.	41152	A Child and a Butterfly	1500
3.	41151	In the Forest	1500

SECOND GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
19.	41215	Music	4000
20.	41216	Fine Arts	4000

THIRD GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
14.	41301	Grammar Workbook	1200
15.	41303	Mathematics Workbook	1800
16.	41304	Nature and Society	7000
17.	41306	Music 3–4	1800
18.	41308	Reader Workbook	7000

FOURTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
15.	41400	Reader	1400
16.	41402	Reader Workbook	4200
17.	41404	Mathematics Workbook	3000
18.	41405	Nature	3000
19.	41406	Nature Workbook	2400
20.	41407	Society	2600

FIFTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
101	41501	Grammar Workbook	3700
102	41509	Music 5–6	3700
103	41510	Fine Arts	3400
104	41512	Geography Reader	2600

COMPULSORY READING 5

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
105	41553	The Little Prince	2000

SIXTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
106	41601	Grammar Workbook	3800
107	41602	Mathematics	5200
108	41603	Mathematics Workbook	5200
109	41604	History	4800
110	41605	History Workbook	3400
111	41606	Geography	4200
112	41607	Biology	4400
113	41608	Physics	4600
114	41610	Technical Education	3900

SEVENTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
-----	----------	-------	-------------

115	41700	Reader	1700
116	41701	Hungarian Language – Grammar Workbook	4000
117	41702	Mathematics	3500
118	41703	Mathematics Exercises	3500
119	41704	History	3600
120	41708	Physics	3500
121	41709	Physics Exercises	3500
122	41710	Chemistry	3500
123	41711	Chemistry Exercises	3500
124	41713	Music 7–8	3700
125	41706	Geography	3500
126	41716	History Textbook and the Workbook	3600
127	41717	Geography Workbook	3500

EIGHTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
128	41800	Reader	3400
129	41801	Grammar Workbook	5300
130	41806	History Workbook	5300
131	41809	Biology	5000
132	41811	Physics	3200
133	41812	Physics Exercises	3200
134	41813	Chemistry	3300
135	41814	Chemistry Exercises	3200

COMPULSORY READING 8

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
136	41852	Niki	1500
137	41855	You Can Say It to Zofika	1000

SECONDARY SCHOOL

FIRST GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
138	41902	Hungarian Language 1–4	2200
139	21804	Catholic Theology for the 1 st Grade Primary School	
140	41908	History	1000
141	41911	Physics	900
142	41916	Mechanics 1	300

SECOND GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
143	41926	Physics	350

THIRD GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
144	41931	Mathematics	500
145	41951	Chemistry	600
146	41935	Constitution and Civil Rights	650

PUBLISHING PLAN 2006

PRIMARY SCHOOL			
FIRST GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
31.	41135	My First Mathematics	1500
32.	41136	My First Mathematics Workbook	1500
33.	41109	Oral and Written Expression Workbook	1800
34.	41120	From a Toy to a Computer	1500
35.	41121	1 st and 2 nd Grade Workbook for the subject From a Toy to a Computer	1500
SECOND GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
21.	41200	Reader	5200
22.	41201	Grammar Workbook	4000
23.	41208	Reader Workbook	5300
24.	41209	Instructions for the Mother Tongue Textbook Set	300
25.	41220	From a Toy to a Computer	1500
THIRD GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
19.	41300	Reader	5500
20.	41302	Mathematics	4000
21.	41303	Mathematics Workbook	4000
22.	41307	Checkingbook	4000
23.	41315	Music	4500
24.	41316	Fine Arts	2200
FOURTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
21.	41400	Reader	6000
22.	41401	Grammar Workbook	6000
23.	41402	Reader Workbook	6000
24.	41403	Mathematics	5400
25.	41404	Mathematics Workbook	5400
26.	41410	Nature and Society	5400
27.	41411	Nature and Society Workbook	5400
28.	41416	Music	5500
COMPULSORY READING 4			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
10.	41451	The Murmur of Forests	1500
FIFTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
147	41502	Mathematics	1200
148	41503	Mathematics Exercises	1200
149	41505	Geography	3000
150	41506	Biology	4000
151	41511	Geography Workbook	1800
152	41515	History Workbook	1100

COMPULSORY READING 5

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
153	41350	The Devil and the Wind	1500
154	41557	Janos the Knight	1500

SIXTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
155	41613	Geography Workbook	3600
156	41609	Physics Exercises	2000

SEVENTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
157	41700	Reader	5000
158	41705	Reader Workbook	5000
159	41707	Biology	4000
160	41712	Technical Education	4200
161	41715	Fine Arts 7-8	3800
162	41718	Basics of Computers and Computer Science	3000

EIGHTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
163	41805	History	5000
164	41807	Geography	4200
165	41815	Technical Education	5500
166	41818	Basics of Computers and Computer Science	3000

SECONDARY SCHOOL

FIRST GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
167	41914	General Chemistry	900
168	41957	Chemistry Exercises	900
169	41912	Computers and Computer Science	1500

SECOND GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
170	41920	Reader	1400
171	41960	Mechanics 2	150

THIRD GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
172	41939	Geography	1000

FOURTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
173	41940	Reader	800

PUBLISHING PLAN 2007

PRESCHOOL PREPARATORY PROGRAM

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	41090	Hungarian Language – Book for Preschool Program Pupils	4000
2.	41094	Mathematics	4000
3.	41095	Mathematics – Workbook	4000
4.	41097	The World around Us	3000
5.	41098	The World around Us – Workbook	3000

PRIMARY SCHOOL

FIRST GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
36.	41107	The World around Us	4500
37.	11414	Let the Children Come to Me – Catholic Theology	

SECOND GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
26.	41205	The World around Us	4700
27.	41206	The Researchbook	3400
28.	41211	Fostering the Language 2	2000
29.	41215	Music 2	4000

THIRD GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
25.	41320	From a Toy to a Computer	1500
26.	41340	Instructions for the Music Textbook Set for the 3 rd and 4 th Grade	300

COMPULSORY READING 3

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
12.	41359	The Blue Light	2000
13.	41352	The Colorful Butterfly	2000

FOURTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
29.	41420	From a Toy to a Computer	1500
30.	41415	I Imagine and Create	2200
31.	41412	The Checkingbook	4000

COMPULSORY READING 4

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
11.	41454	The White Mane	1500

FIFTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
174	41500	Reader	6500
175	41501	Hungarian Language – Grammar Workbook	6500
176	41521	Reader Workbook	5500
177	41502	Mathematics	6500
178	41503	Mathematics Exercises	6500
179	41504	History	6500

180	41507	Illustrated Herbarium	6000
181	41508	Technical Education	6500
182	41509	Music 5-6	1700
183	41510	Fine Arts	6500
184	41515	History Reader and Workbook	6500
185	41519	Technical Education – Workbook	6500

SIXTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
186	41600	Reader	1300
187	41601	Grammar Workbook	1800
188	41606	Geography	3100
189	41614	Geography Reader	1100
190	41615	Biology Workbook	2400

SEVENTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
191	41701	Hungarian Language – Grammar Workbook	3900
192	41740	Instructions with the Mother Tongue Textbook Set	300
193	41702	Mathematics	3000
194	41703	Mathematics Exercises	3000
195	41704	History	2800
196	41706	Geography	3000
197	41719	Biology Workbook	4000
198	41708	Physics	2900
199	41709	Physics Exercises	3200
200	41710	Chemistry	3000
201	41711	Chemistry Exercises	2300
202	41713	Music 7-8	2800

EIGHTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
203	41800	Reader	5500
204	41803	Mathematics	4500
205	41408	Mathematics Exercises	4200
206	41811	Physics	5500
207	41812	Physics Exercises	5500
208	41813	Chemistry	4600
209	41814	Chemistry Exercises	4600
210	41817	Biology Workbook	5400

SECONDARY SCHOOL

FIRST GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
211	41900	Reader for Gymnasiums and High Schools	1200
212	41906	Biology for Gymnasiums and Agriculture Schools	800
213	41913	Music for Gymnasiums	800

THIRD GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
214	41930	Reader for Gymnasiums and High Schools	1300
215	41937	Sociology	500
216	41938	History	1000
FOURTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
217	41943	Basics of Electrical Engineering	250
218	41934	Biology	700

THE ROMANY LANGUAGE

PUBLISHING PLAN 2002

PRIMARY SCHOOL			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
FIRST GRADE			
1.	64044	WALL-MOUNTED LETTERBOOK – Cyrillic	500
2.	64045	WALL-MOUNTED LETTERBOOK – Latin	500
3.	11418	CHURCH LETTERBOOK – Orthodox Catechizes	1000
COMPULSORY READING			
1.	39150	FABLES – Aesop – Compulsory reading	1000
2.	39002	LET'S LIVE TOGETHER – Picture book (in three languages)	3000

THE ROMANIAN LANGUAGE

PUBLISHING PLAN 2002

PRIMARY SCHOOL			
FIRST GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43103	Mathematics	400
2.	43104	Mathematics Workbook	400
3.	43112	Instructions with the Mathematics Textbook	100
SECOND GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43201	Romanian Language Workbook	270
THIRD GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43303	Mathematics Workbook	240
2.	43304	Nature and Society	400
3.	43305	Nature and Society Workbook	400
COMPULSORY READING			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43354	On the School Stage	100
2.	43351	A Thousand Stars	150
3.	43353	Morning Fruits	150

4.	43356	The Magic Saddlebag	150
FOURTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43403	Mathematics Workbook	320
2.	43404	Nature	200
3.	43405	Nature Workbook	200
4.	43406	Society	100
5.	43407	Society Workbook	120
FIFTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43505	Geography	400
2.	43510	Geography Workbook	400
3.	43511	Geography Reader	200
4.	43507	Technical Education	150
5.	43509	Fine Arts	200
COMPULSORY READING			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43554	Let Me Tell You a Story	100
SIXTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43608	Physics	60
2.	43609	Technical Education	210
3.	43610	Physics Exercises	30
4.	43607	Biology	400
5.	43604	History	400
6.	43601	Romanian Language and the Culture of Expression	250
COMPULSORY READING			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43656	Fables	150
SEVENTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43700	Reader	180
2.	43701	Romanian Language and the Culture of Expression	210
3.	43702	Mathematics	120
4.	43703	Mathematics Exercises	170
5.	43710	Physics Exercises	150
6.	43713	Technical Education	400
7.	43715	Music 7 and 8	200
COMPULSORY READING			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43750	The Blue Lock	100
2.	43752	Deep Roots	100
EIGHTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43801	Romanian Language and the Culture of Expression	130
2.	43804	History	300

3.	43806	Geography	120
4.	43808	Biology	100

IMPORTANT WORKS OF LITERATURE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43012	Instructions for Developing and Fostering the Mother Tongue and Non-Mother Tongue and Multiculturalism with Preschool Children in Romanian	100

PUBLISHING PLAN 2003

PRIMARY SCHOOL

FIRST GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43100	Primer	450
2.	43101	Romanian Language Workbook	300
3.	43102	Reader	330

COMPULSORY READING

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43150	The Little Book for 1 st Grade	50

SECOND GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43200	Reader	300
2.	43206	Instructions with the Nature and Society Textbook Set	30

COMPULSORY READING

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43251	Thumbelina	150

THIRD GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43300	Reader	550
2.	43301	Romanian Language Workbook	550
3.	43302	Mathematics	350
4.	43303	Mathematics Workbook	350
5.	43306	Music 3 and 4	400

COMPULSORY READING

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43358	On the Wings of Dreams	150

FOURTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43400	Reader	550
2.	43401	Romanian Language Workbook	500
3.	43402	Mathematics	500
4.	43406	Society	550
5.	43407	Society Workbook	550

COMPULSORY READING

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
------------	-----------------	--------------	--------------------

1.	43355	Alice in Wonderland	150
2.	43452	The Sunny Plain	150
3.	43456	Poems	150
4.	43458	Florica from the Hill	200

FIFTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43500	Reader	500
2.	43501	Romanian Language and the Culture of Expression	500
3.	43502	Mathematics	350
4.	43503	Mathematics Exercises	350
5.	43504	History	300
6.	43506	Biology	250
7.	43508	Music	200

SIXTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43602	Mathematics	100
2.	43603	Mathematics Exercises	150
3.	43604	History	500
4.	43606	Geography	500
5.	43613	Geography Workbook	450
6.	43614	Geography Reader	350
7.	43607	Biology	500
8.	43608	Physics	500
9.	43610	Physics Exercises	150

SEVENTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43704	History	200
2.	43708	Biology	250
3.	43709	Physics	200
4.	43711	Chemistry	200
5.	43712	Chemistry Exercises	200

EIGHTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43800	Reader	120
2.	43801	Romanian Language and the Culture of Expression	120
3.	43802	Mathematics	150
4.	43810	Physics	150
5.	43812	Chemistry Exercises	150
6.	43805	History Workbook	400

SECONDARY SCHOOL

FIRST GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43909	Mathematics	60

FOURTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43941	Elements of the Theory on Literature – Anthology of the Works of Literature – Dictionary of Poetry	300

PUBLISHING PLAN 2004

PRIMARY SCHOOL

FIRST GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43103	Mathematics	650
2.	43104	Mathematics Workbook	650
3.	43105	The World around Us	650
4.	43106	The World around Us - Workbook	650
5.	43108	The Alphabet of Traffic	450
6.	43109	The Colorful World - Tolerance	450

COMPULSORY READING

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43155	The Little Book for the 1 st Grade	600

SECOND GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43202	Mathematics	650
2.	43203	Mathematics Workbook	650
3.	43204	The World around Us	650
4.	43205	The World around Us - Workbook	650

THIRD GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43304	Nature and Society	350
2.	43305	Nature and Society Workbook	300

COMPULSORY READING

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43357	The Wind's Lullaby	200

FOURTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43403	Mathematics Workbook	500
2.	43404	Nature	500
3.	43405	Nature Workbook	500

COMPULSORY READING

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43451	The Omnipotent Eye	200
2.	43454	The Precursors of Spring	150
3.	43455	Jovan the Lilac	300

FIFTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43507	Technical Education	500
2.	43509	Fine Arts	300

COMPULSORY READING

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43551	Who Do I Take After	200
2.	43553	Poems on Mother	200
3.	43554	Let Me Tell You a Story	300
4.	43458	Fairy-tales	200

SIXTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43600	Reader	150
2.	43601	Romanian Language and the Culture of Expression	150
3.	43609	Technical Education	500
4.	43610	Physics Exercises	600
5.	43611	Music	500
6.	43605	History Workbook	300
7.	43615	Biology Workbook	300

COMPULSORY READING

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43654	Father's Son	200
2.	43655	Sketches, Novelettes, Stories	200
3.	43657	The Star above Stars	200

SEVENTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43716	Fine Arts	320

COMPULSORY READING

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43757	Childhood Memories	200

EIGHTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43808	Biology	200
2.	43809	Physics Collection with Laboratory Tests	150
3.	43811	Chemistry	200
4.	43813	Technical Education	150

SECONDARY SCHOOL

FIRST GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43909	Computers and Computer Science	100
2.	43901	Romanian Language and the Culture of Expression	200

FOURTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43947	Physics	100
2.	43948	Biology	100

IMPORTANT WORKS OF LITERATURE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43004	Development of Romanian Literature from the First Written Monuments to Postmodernism	500

PUBLISHING PLAN 2005

PRIMARY SCHOOL

FIRST GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43100	Primer	700
2.	43101	Romanian Language Workbook	700
3.	43102	Reader	700
4.	43111	Reader Workbook	700
5.	43115	Music	700
6.	43116	I See and Create	700

COMPULSORY READING

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43150	What a Wonderful World	200
2.	43153	The Bag with Two Coins	200

SECOND GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43200	Reader	600
2.	43201	Romanian Language Workbook	700
3.	43204	The World around Us	600
4.	43205	The World around Us - Workbook	600
5.	43216	I Imagine and Create	600

COMPULSORY READING

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43251	Thumbelina	200

THIRD GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43302	Mathematics	350
2.	43303	Mathematics Workbook	220

COMPULSORY READING

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43352	Selection of Romanian Poetry and Prose	300
2.	43354	Fairytales	300
3.	43356	Romanian Fairytales	300

FOURTH GRADE

COMPULSORY READING

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43456	Poetry	200

FIFTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
------------	-----------------	--------------	--------------------

1.	43502	Mathematics	350
2.	43503	Mathematics Exercises	350
3.	43504	History	400
4.	43515	History Workbook	420
5.	43506	Biology	300
6.	43508	Music	420
COMPULSORY READING			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43552	Once Upon a Time	150
SIXTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43600	Reader	500
2.	43601	Romanian Language and the Culture of Expression	500
3.	43602	Mathematics	420
4.	43603	Mathematics Exercises	420
SEVENTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43700	Reader	400
2.	43701	Romanian Language and the Culture of Expression	400
3.	43702	Mathematics	600
4.	43703	Mathematics Exercises	420
5.	43704	History	400
6.	43706	Geography	400
7.	43707	Geography Workbook	400
8.	43708	Biology	330
9.	43709	Physics	750
10.	43710	Physics Exercises	400
11.	43711	Chemistry	300
12.	43712	Chemistry Exercises	300
13.	43715	Music	600
COMPULSORY READING			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43758	Theatre Plays	200
EIGHTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43800	Reader	400
2.	43801	Romanian Language and the Culture of Expression	350
3.	43802	Mathematics	250
4.	43804	History	300
5.	43806	Geography	330
6.	43810	Physics	150
7.	43809	Physics Exercises	150 IIII
8.	43812	Chemistry Exercises	150
9.	43813	Technical Education	300

SECONDARY SCHOOL

FIRST GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43908	Physics	100

PUBLISHING PLAN 2006

PRIMARY SCHOOL

FIRST GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43133	Mathematics	250
2.	43134	Mathematics Workbook	250
3.	43120	From a Toy to a Computer	250
4.	43121	Workbook - From a Toy to a Computer for 1 st and 2 nd Grade	250

SECOND GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43215	Music	550
2.	43220	From a Toy to a Computer	250

COMPULSORY READING

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43255	Fairytales of the World	200
2.	43256	Friendship	200
3.	43257	The Rainbow Colors of Childhood	200

THIRD GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43300	Reader	500
2.	43301	Romanian Language Workbook	500
3.	43304	Nature and Society	500
4.	43305	Homelandbook	500
5.	43307	The Checkingbook	400
6.	43316	I Learn and Create	150

FOURTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43402	Mathematics	550
2.	43403	Mathematics Workbook	550
3.	43410	Nature and Society	550
4.	43411	Nature and Society Workbook	550

COMPULSORY READING

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43459	Alice in Wonderland	200

FIFTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43505	Geography	250
2.	43510	Geography Workbook	220
3.	43511	Geography Reader	250
4.	43506	Biology	300

COMPULSORY READING

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43556	Stories	200
2.	43557	At the Top of the Christmas Tree	200

SIXTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43607	Biology	270
2.	43608	Physics	270
3.	43601	Romanian Language and the Culture of Expression	350

COMPULSORY READING

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43656	Fables	200

SEVENTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43713	Technical Education	300
2.	43705	History Reader	300
3.	43714	Geography Reader	300
4.	43718	Basics of Computers and Computer Science	300

COMPULSORY READING

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43750	The Blue Lock	150

EIGHTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43808	Biology	420
2.	43811	Chemistry	440
3.	43815	Music	350
4.	43803	Mathematics Exercises	350
5.	43804	History	300

COMPULSORY READING

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43858	The Axe	150

SECONDARY SCHOOL

FIRST GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43908	Physics	100

PUBLISHING PLAN 2007

For pre-school pupils

43090 Romanian Language with the Workbook for Pre-school Pupils 600 (2008)
 43094 Mathematics 600
 43095 Mathematics - Workbook 600
 43097 The World around Us 600

PRIMARY SCHOOL			
FIRST GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43133	My First Mathematics	200
2.	43114	Instructions for the Romanian Language Teachers	100
3.	43106	Thinking Book	300
SECOND GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43202	Mathematics	1111
THIRD GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43315	Music	550
2.	43320	From a Toy to a Computer	250
3.	43316	I Learn and Create	350
COMPULSORY READING			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43357	The Wind's Lullaby	200
FOURTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43400	Reader	550
2.	43401	Grammar Workbook	550
3.	43412	The Checkingbook	400
4.	43416	I Imagine and Create	300
5.	43420	From a Toy to a Computer	250
COMPULSORY READING			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43463	Theatre Plays for Children	250
FIFTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43500	Reader	450
2.	43501	Romanian Language and the Culture of Expression	450
3.	43509	Fine Arts	350
COMPULSORY READING			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43555	The Beautiful Grove	250
SIXTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43604	History	200
2.	43605	History Workbook	200
3.	43606	Geography	200
4.	43615	Biology Workbook	200
SEVENTH GRADE			

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43700	Reader	350
2.	43701	Romanian Language and the Culture of Expression	150
3.	43711	Chemistry	250
4.	43712	Chemistry Exercises	250
5.	43717	Biology Workbook	350
6.	43716	Fine Arts 7 and 8	250

EIGHTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43802	Mathematics	350
2.	43805	History Workbook	350
3.	43806	Geography	350
4.	43810	Physics	350
5.	43809	Physics Exercises	350
6.	43817	Biology Workbook	300
7.	43812	Chemistry Exercises With Laboratory Tests	300
8.	43818	Basics of Computers and Computer Science	300

SECONDARY SCHOOL

FIRST GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43900	Reader	100
2.	43902	Mathematics	100
3.	43903	Biology	100
4.	43904	Geography	100

SECOND GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43920	Reader	100
2.	43926	History	100
3.	43924	Computers and Computer Science	100

THIRD GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43933	Mathematics	100

FOURTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	43946	History	100

THE RUTHENIAN LANGUAGE

PUBLISHING PLAN 2002

PRIMARY SCHOOL

FIRST GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44100	Starter – Primer	160
2.	44101	Starter – Workbook	150

3.	44102	Reader	150
4.	44103	Mathematics	250
5.	44104	Mathematics Workbook	250
6.	44112	Instructions with the Mathematics Textbook	100
SECOND GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44206	Instructions with the Nature and Society Textbook	100
THIRD GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44300	Reader	90
2.	44302	Mathematics	150
3.	44303	Mathematics Workbook	160
4.	44304	Nature and Society	250
5.	43305	Nature and Society Workbook	250
FOURTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44401	Ruthenian Language and the Culture of Expression	110
2.	44404	Mathematics Workbook	170
3.	44407	Society	90
FIFTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44505	Geography	250
2.	44510	Geography Workbook	250
3.	44511	Geography Reader	150
4.	44507	Technical Education	100
SEVENTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44709	Technical Education	80
EIGHTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44801	Ruthenian Language and the Culture of Expression	100
2.	44803	History	250

SECONDARY SCHOOL

FIRST GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44901	Grammar I-IV	150

PUBLISHING PLAN 2003

PRIMARY SCHOOL

FIRST GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44105	Nature and Society	50

2.	44106	Nature and Society Workbook	50
SECOND GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44200	Reader	200
2.	44201	Ruthenian Language Workbook	200
3.	44202	Mathematics	100
4.	44203	Mathematics Workbook	100
5.	44204	Nature and Society	150
6.	44205	Nature and Society Workbook	200
THIRD GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44301	Ruthenian Language Workbook	250
2.	44303	Mathematics Workbook	200
COMPULSORY READING			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44358	Hidden Treasure	100
FOURTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44400	Reader	300
2.	44403	Mathematics	220
3.	44405	Nature	300
4.	44406	Nature Workbook	300
5.	44407	Society	300
6.	44408	Society Workbook	300
FIFTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44501	Ruthenian Language and the Culture of Expression	160
2.	44502	Mathematics	400
3.	44503	Mathematics Exercises	400
4.	44504	History	400
SIXTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44601	Ruthenian Language and the Culture of Expression	200
2.	44602	Mathematics	150
3.	44603	History	300
4.	44605	Geography	300
5.	44613	Geography Workbook	250
6.	44614	Geography Reader	250
7.	44606	Biology	300
8.	44607	Physics	300
9.	44609	Physics Exercises with Laboratory Tests	100
10.	44608	Technical Education	200
SEVENTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44700	Reader	200
2.	44701	Ruthenian Language and the Culture of Expression	200
3.	44702	Mathematics	200

4.	44706	Biology	200
5.	44711	Music	150
COMPULSORY READING			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44753	The Little Prince	300
EIGHTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44800	Reader	150
2.	44804	History Workbook	200

SECONDARY SCHOOL			
FOURTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44901	Grammar I-IV	150
2.	44949	Philosophy	100

PUBLISHING PLAN 2004

PRIMARY SCHOOL			
FIRST GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44100	Primer	300
2.	44101	Let's Learn to Read – Primer Workbook	300
3.	44108	Let's Learn to Write – Primer Workbook	300
4.	44102	Reader	300
5.	44103	Mathematics	300
6.	44104	Mathematics Workbook	300
7.	44105	The World around Us	280
8.	44106	The World around Us Workbook	280
9.	44109	The Alphabet of Traffic	300
SECOND GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44202	Mathematics	280
2.	44203	Mathematics Workbook	280
COMPULSORY READING			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44253	The Blue Ball	300
2.	44254	The Most Beautiful Grains	300
THIRD GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44300	Reader	300
2.	44302	Mathematics	200
3.	44304	Nature and Society	200
4.	44306	Music for 3 rd and 4 th grade	200

COMPULSORY READING			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44351	The Skylark's Morning Song	200
FOURTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44401	Ruthenian Language and the Culture of Expression	300
2.	44404	Mathematics Workbook	250
COMPULSORY READING			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44451	Morning on the Moon	300
2.	44457	Mouth Full of Praise	300
FIFTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44500	Reader	300
2.	44506	Biology	200
3.	44507	Technical Education	300
4.	44508	Music	200
5.	44509	Fine Arts for 5 th and 6 th grade	200
6.	44511	Geography Reader	300
SIXTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44600	Reader	200
2.	44610	Music	200
EIGHTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44801	Ruthenian Language and the Culture of Expression	200
2.	44808	Physics	160
COMPULSORY READING			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44757	The Blue Lock	300

PUBLISHING PLAN 2005

PRIMARY SCHOOL			
FIRST GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44115	Music	270
2.	44116	Fine Arts	270
3.	44110	Letterbook	300
SECOND GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44201	Ruthenian Language Workbook	270
2.	44204	The World around Us	270
3.	44205	The World around Us Workbook	270
4.	44215	Music	270

5.	44216	Fine Arts	270
THIRD GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44305	Nature and Society Workbook	140
FOURTH GRADE			
COMPULSORY READING			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44456	The Farewell Bouquet	200
FIFTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44501	Ruthenian Language and the Culture of Expression	260
2.	44510	Geography Workbook	200
SIXTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44602	Mathematics	250
2.	44612	Mathematics Exercises	250
3.	44609	Physics Exercises with Laboratory Tests	220
SEVENTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44703	History	200
2.	44704	History Reader with the Workbook	200
3.	44705	Geography	200
4.	44713	Geography Workbook	200
5.	44707	Physics	200
6.	44715	Physics Exercises	200
7.	44709	Technical Education	120
8.	44712	Fine Arts	200
9.	44716	Fostering the Ruthenian Language for 7 th and 8 th grade	200
EIGHTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44802	Mathematics	200

PUBLISHING PLAN 2006

PRIMARY SCHOOL			
FIRST GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44133	Mathematics	100
2.	44134	Mathematics Workbook	100
3.	44120	From a Toy to a Computer	80
4.	44121	Practicebook – From a Toy to a Computer	80
SECOND GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44200	Reader	220
2.	44220	From a Toy to a Computer	80

THIRD GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44301	Ruthenian Language Workbook	210
2.	44302	Mathematics	240
3.	44303	Mathematics Workbook	240
4.	44304	Nature and Society	240
5.	44305	Homelandbook	240
6.	44307	The Checkingbook	200
7.	44316	Fine Arts	240
FOURTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44400	Reader	180
2.	44403	Mathematics	240
3.	44404	Mathematics Workbook	240
4.	44410	Nature and Society	240
5.	44411	Nature and Society Workbook	240
FIFTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44505	Geography	100
SIXTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44601	Ruthenian Language and the Culture of Expression	220
COMPULSORY READING			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44656	The End of the World	200
2.	44657	Home Sweet Home	200
3.	44658	The Furrow as Destiny	200
SEVENTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44701	Ruthenian Language and the Culture of Expression	180
2.	44710	Chemistry Exercises	150
3.	44714	Geography Reader	150
4.	44718	Basics of Computers and Computer Science	150
EIGHTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44800	Reader	170
2.	44803	History	220
3.	44810	Technical Education	120
4.	44817	Mathematics Exercises	200

SECONDARY SCHOOL			
FIRST GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44901	Grammar I-IV	150
2.	44911	History	50

PUBLISHING PLAN 2007

PREPARATORY PRESCHOOL PROGRAM			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44094	Mathematics	300
2.	44095	Mathematics Workbook	300
3.	44097	The World around Us	300
4.	44098	The World around Us Workbook	300
PRIMARY SCHOOL			
FIRST GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44100	Primer	300
2.	44102	Reader	200
3.	44108	Let's Learn to Write –Primer Workbook	250
4.	44133	Mathematics	260
SECOND GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44202	Mathematics	250
THIRD GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44300	Reader	240
2.	44315	Music	300
3.	44320	From a Toy to a Computer	100
COMPULSORY READING			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44355	How Shall I Play	200
2.	44356	Children's World	200
FOURTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44412	The Checkingbook	250
2.	44416	I Imagine and Create	240
3.	44420	From a Toy to a Computer	100
FIFTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44501	Ruthenian Language and the Culture of Expression	200
SIXTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44613	Geography Workbook	200
2.	44614	Geography Reader	200
3.	44615	Biology Workbook	200
4.	44608	Technical Education	200
SEVENTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44708	Chemistry	200

2.	44717	Biology Workbook	250
EIGHTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	44807	Biology	250
2.	44819	Biology Workbook	250
3.	44809	Chemistry	200
4.	44812	Chemistry Exercises	200
5.	44804	History Workbook	250
6.	44805	Geography	250
7.	44811	Music	250
8.	44818	Basics of Computers and Computer Science	150

THE SLOVAK LANGUAGE

PUBLISHING PLAN 2002

PRIMARY SCHOOL			
FIRST GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42100	Primer	650
2.	42100	Our Word – Slovak Language Workbook	750
3.	42102	Reader	450
4.	42103	Mathematics	900
5.	42104	Mathematics Workbook	900
6.	42105	Nature and Society	600
7.	42106	Nature and Society Workbook	750
SECOND GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42202	Mathematics	400
2.	42206	Instructions with the Nature and Society Textbook Set	150
THIRD GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42300	Reader	600
2.	42301	Our Word – Slovak Language Workbook	850
3.	42304	Nature and Society	900
4.	42305	Nature and Society Workbook	900
5.	42306	Music for 3 rd and 4 th grade	340
FOURTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42400	Reader	750
2.	42405	Society	300
3.	42406	Society Workbook	400
4.	42407	Nature Workbook	400
FIFTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42500	Reader	500
2.	42501	Slovak Language and the Culture of Expression	800

3.	42504	History	170
4.	42506	Geography	800
5.	42505	Geography Workbook	800
6.	42507	Geography Reader	400
7.	42509	Technical Education	440
8.	42511	Fine Arts	100

SIXTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42601	Slovak Language and the Culture of Expression	600
2.	42604	History	800
3.	42608	Biology	800
4.	42609	Physics	800

SEVENTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42700	Reader	650
2.	42702	Mathematics	270
3.	42714	Fine Arts for the 7-8. grade	150

EIGHTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42800	Reader	350
2.	42801	Slovak Language and the Culture of Expression	300
3.	42804	History	800
4.	42806	Geography	230
6.	42812	Chemistry Exercises with Laboratory Tests	80

SECONDARY SCHOOL

FOURTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42942	Philosophy	200

PUBLISHING PLAN 2003

PRIMARY SCHOOL

FIRST GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42011	My Dear Slovak Language – Textbook for Fostering the Slovak Language for grades 1-3	300
2.	42102	Reader	1000
3.	42107	Letterbook	500

SECOND GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42200	Reader	900
2.	42201	Our Word – Slovak Language Workbook	900
3.	42202	Mathematics	300
4.	42203	Mathematics Workbook	400
5.	42204	Nature and Society	800

6.	42205	The Researchbook	800
THIRD GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42302	Mathematics	800
2.	42303	Mathematics Workbook	900
3.	42306	Music	800
FOURTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42401	Slovak Language and the Culture of Expression	1300
2.	42402	Mathematics	1200
3.	42403	Mathematics Workbook	1300
4.	42404	Nature	900
5.	42405	Society	900
6.	42406	Society Workbook	900
7.	42407	Nature Workbook	900
FIFTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42502	Mathematics	600
2.	42503	Mathematics Exercises	600
3.	42504	History	700
4.	42508	Biology	600
5.	42510	Music	600
SIXTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42600	Reader	900
2.	42601	Slovak Language and the Culture of Expression	900
3.	42602	Mathematics	200
4.	42603	Mathematics Exercises	250
5.	42604	History	900
6.	42606	Geography	900
7.	42608	Biology	900
8.	42609	Physics	900
9.	42610	Technical Education	600
10.	42612	Music	500
11.	42913	Geography Workbook	900
12.	42614	Geography Reader	600
COMPULSORY READING			
	42752	The Little Prince	300
SEVENTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42701	Slovak Language and the Culture of Expression	650
2.	42703	Mathematics Exercises	350
3.	42704	History	400
4.	42706	Geography	150
5.	42708	Biology	600
6.	42709	Physics	200
7.	42712	Physics Exercises with Laboratory Tests	200
8.	42713	Music	300

9.	42714	Fine Arts for 7 th and 8 th grade	400
10.	42716	Chemistry Exercises with Laboratory Tests	500
EIGHTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42801	Slovak Language and the Culture of Expression	450
2.	42802	Mathematics	350
3.	42805	History Workbook	700
4.	42808	Biology	500
5.	42811	Chemistry	400
6.	42812	Chemistry Exercises with Laboratory Tests	400
7.	42813	Technical Education	350
8.	42815	Music	350

PUBLISHING PLAN 2004

PRIMARY SCHOOL			
FIRST GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42100	Primer	1500
2.	42101	Reader Workbook	1500
3.	42103	Mathematics	900
4.	42104	Mathematics Workbook	900
5.	42105	The World around Us	1350
6.	42106	The World around Us Workbook	1350
7.	42109	The Alphabet of Traffic for grades 1-4	900
8.	42110	The Colorful World	500
SECOND GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42202	Mathematics	1350
2.	42203	Mathematics Workbook	1350
THIRD GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42300	Reader	800
2.	42301	Our Word – Grammar Workbook	900
3.	42304	Nature and Society	900
4.	42305	The Homelandbook	800
FOURTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42400	Reader	1300
2.	42408	I Am not Afraid of Grammar – Grammar for Fostering the Slovak Language	300
3.	42409	My Dear Slovak Language 4 – 6 grade – Reader for Fostering the Slovak Language	600
FIFTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42500	Reader	1200
2.	42501	Slovak Language and the Culture of Expression	1200
3.	42502	Mathematics	500
4.	42506	Geography	500

5.	42507	Geography Reader	400
6.	42509	Technical Education	900
7.	42511	Fine Arts	750

SIXTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42602	Mathematics	700
2.	42603	Mathematics Exercises	700
3.	42611	Physics Exercises	900

EIGHTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42802	Mathematics	400
2.	42803	Mathematics Exercises	300
3.	42804	History	450
4.	42810	Physics	400
5.	42811	Chemistry	400
6.	42814	Physics Exercises	400

SECONDARY SCHOOL

FIRST GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42911	History	300

SECOND GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42922	History	300
2.	42923	Biology	300
3.	42924	Geography	200
4.	42926	Computer Science	300

PUBLISHING PLAN 2005

PRIMARY SCHOOL

FIRST GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42102	Reader	1350
2.	42107	Letterbook	1400
3.	42112	Instructions for the Mathematics Textbook	200
4.	42115	Music	1400
5.	42116	Fine Arts	1400

SECOND GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42200	Reader	1400
2.	42201	Slovak Language	1400
3.	42204	The World around Us	1400

4.	42205	The Researchbook	1400
5.	42207	Instructions with the Slovak Language Textbook Set	200
6.	42215	Music	1400
7.	42216	Fine Arts	1400
THIRD GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42302	Mathematics	1400
2.	42303	Mathematics Workbook	1400
3.	42306	Music	700
COMPULSORY READING			
1.	42352	In the Land of Fairytales – Selection from Slovak Literature	500
2.	42353	Finger-licking compulsory reading –Selection from contemporary Slovak Literature for children	500
FOURTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42404	Nature	900
2.	42405	Society	900
3.	42406	Society Workbook	900
4.	42407	Nature Workbook	900
COMPULSORY READING			
1.	42450	There Was a Curious Boy – Selection from contemporary Slovak Poetry for Children	500
2.	42454	Here We are Flying	300
FIFTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42503	Mathematics Exercises	1000
2.	42504	History	1100
3.	42505	Geography Workbook	1000
4.	42508	Biology	1000
5.	42510	Music	1000
SIXTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42600	Reader	1200
2.	42601	Slovak Language and the Culture of Expression	1000
3.	42602	Mathematics	1200
4.	42603	Mathematics Exercises	1200
5.	42604	History	750
6.	42606	Geography	900
7.	42608	Biology	800

8.	42610	Technical Education	950
9.	42612	Music	900

SEVENTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42700	Reader	1200
2.	42701	Slovak Language and the Culture of Expression	1200
3.	42702	Mathematics	900
4.	42703	Mathematics Exercises	1500
5.	42706	Geography	1500
6.	42708	Biology	1000
7.	42709	Physics	1000
8.	42710	Chemistry	1000
9.	42711	Technical Education	900
10.	42712	Physics Exercises	900
11.	42713	Music	900
12.	42714	Fine Arts	600
13.	42716	Chemistry Exercises	1000

EIGHTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42800	Reader	700
2.	42801	Slovak Language and the Culture of Expression	700
3.	42805	History Workbook	700
4.	42806	Geography	700
5.	42808	Biology	900
6.	42810	Physics	380
7.	42812	Chemistry Exercises	600
8.	42815	Music	600

SECONDARY SCHOOL

FIRST GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42901	Slovak Language and the Culture of Expression	500

SECOND GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42925	Psychology	300
2.	42927	Inorganic Chemistry	300
3.	42928	Physics	300

THIRD GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
------------	-----------------	--------------	--------------------

1.	42938	Geography	300
MAJOR WORKS OF LITERATURE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42012	Development of Slovak Child Prose in Vojvodina	300

PUBLISHING PLAN 2006

PRIMARY SCHOOL			
FIRST GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42011	My Dear Slovak Language	300
2.	42133	My First Mathematics	500
3.	42134	My First Mathematics Workbook	500
5.	42120	From a Toy to a Computer	350
6.	42121	Practicebook – From a Toy to a Computer for 1 st and 2 nd grade	350
COMPULSORY READING			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42154	When Children are Growing – Selection from contemporary Slovak literature of Vojvodina authors	500
SECOND GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
2.	42220	From a Toy to a Computer	350
COMPULSORY READING			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42254	The Courageous Rabbit	500
2.	42255	The Sun on a String	300
THIRD GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42300	Reader	1350
2.	42301	Grammar	1350
3.	42304	Nature and Society	1350
4.	42305	Nature and Society Workbook	1350
5.	42307	The Checkingbook	1000
6.	42316	Fine Arts	750
COMPULSORY READING			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42356	All the Children of the World – Selection from Literature for Children	200
FOURTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42401	Grammar	1750
2.	42402	Mathematics	1350
3.	42403	Mathematics Workbook	1350
4.	42408	I am not Afraid of Grammar – Grammar for Fostering the Slovak Language	300
5.	42410	Nature and Society	1350

6.	42411	Nature and Society Workbook	1350
COMPULSORY READING			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42450	There was a Curious Boy – Selection from contemporary Slovak poetry for children	500
FIFTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42502	Mathematics	600
2.	42506	Geography	450
3.	42511	Fine Arts	300
SIXTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42609	Physics	700
2.	42613	Geography Workbook	400
3.	42614	Geography Reader	500
SEVENTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42704	History	1000
2.	42715	Basics of Computers and Computer Science	600
EIGHTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42802	Mathematics	650
2.	42803	Mathematics Exercises	600
3.	42804	History	900
4.	42811	Chemistry	700
5.	42813	Technical Education	500
6.	42814	Physics Exercises	200
COMPULSORY READING			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42852	The Only One	300

SECONDARY SCHOOL			
FIRST GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42900	Reader	200
2.	42903	Biology	150
3.	42908	Physics	150
4.	42914	Chemistry Exercises	150
SECOND GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42961	Slovak Language and the Culture of Expression	500
THIRD GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42935	Computer Science	150

FOURTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42940	Reader	200

PUBLISHING PLAN 2007

PRIMARY SCHOOL

FIRST GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42100	Primer	900
2.	42101	Primer Workbook	900
3.	42105	The World around Us	1000
4.	42106	Thinking Book	1000
5.	42133	My First Mathematics	600
6.	42134	My First Mathematics Workbook	600
7.	42190	CD Music	1800

SECOND GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42207	Instructions for the Slovak Language Teachers	200
2.	42290	CD Music	1800

COMPULSORY READING

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42251	Thumbelina	200

THIRD GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42315	Music	1200
2.	42320	From a Toy to a Computer	300
3.	42340	Instructions for the Slovak Language Teachers	200

COMPULSORY READING

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42358	Monkeys from Our Shelf	300

FOURTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42400	Reader	1200
2.	42412	The Checkingbook	1200
3.	42416	I Imagine and Create	1200
4.	42420	From a Toy to a Computer	300
5.	42440	Instructions for the Slovak Language Teachers	200

COMPULSORY READING

1.	42451	Why Should Stories be Told	200
----	-------	----------------------------	-----

FIFTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42500	Reader	300
2.	42501	Slovak Language and the Culture of Expression	1300

3.	42509	Technical Education	1300
4.	42519	Technical Education Workbook	1300
5.	42511	Fine Arts	1300

COMPULSORY READING

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42555	Sunny Horse- Selection from National Fairytales	200

SIXTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42606	Geography	500
2.	42611	Physics Exercises with Laboratory Tests	400
3.	42615	Biology Workbook	900

COMPULSORY READING

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42752	The Little Prince	200

SEVENTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42705	History Reader	800
2.	42713	Music	700
3.	42714	Fine Arts	1000
4.	42717	Biology Workbook	1000
5.	42730	My Dear Slovak Language	500

EIGHTH GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42800	Reader	1100
2.	42801	Slovak Language and the Culture of Expression	1100
3.	42806	Geography	1100
4.	42810	Physics	1100
5.	42812	Chemistry Exercises	1100
6.	42814	Physics Exercises	1100
7.	42815	Music	800
8.	42817	Biology Workbook	1100
9.	42818	Basics of Computers and Computer Science	600

SECONDARY SCHOOL

FIRST GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42906	General Chemistry	150

SECOND GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42921	Mathematics	150

THIRD GRADE

No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42930	Reader	150
2.	42932	Chemistry	150

3.	42936	Sociology	150
FOURTH GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	42971	Slovak Language and the Culture of Expression 3-4	200

THE CROATIAN LANGUAGE

PUBLISHING PLAN 2003

PRIMARY SCHOOL			
FIRST GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	40105	MATHEMATICS	50
2.	40106	MATHEMATICS WORKBOOK	50
3.	40107	NATURE AND SOCIETY	50
4.	40108	THE THINKING BOOK – Nature and Society Workbook	50
SECOND GRADE			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
1.	40202	MATHEMATICS	85
2.	40203	MATHEMATICS WORKBOOK	85
3.	40205	NATURE AND SOCIETY	85
4.	40206	THE RESEARCHBOOK – Nature and Society Workbook	85

PUBLISHING PLAN 2005

PRIMARY SCHOOL			
No.	Cat. nr.	Title	Circulation
FIRST GRADE			
1.	40305	NATURE AND SOCIETY	100
2.	40306	HOMELANDBOOK – Nature and Society Workbook	100

The *Kreativni centar* publishing house of Belgrade published the math textbook and workbooks for the 2006/2007 school year, as well as the textbook for the subject The World around Us for pupils between 1st and 4th grade of primary school who take classes in Hungarian and Slovak, and textbooks for the same subject in Albanian for pupils of 1st and 2nd grade of primary school.

The *Klet* publishing house of Belgrade prepares math textbooks for 2nd and 3rd grade of primary school in Hungarian, Romanian and Slovakian for the 2008/2009 school year.

The National Council of Bosniac National Minority and the Center for Bosniac Studies have published a textbook for the subject Bosniac Language with National Culture Elements for pupils of lower primary school grades.

National minority members may use textbooks from their parent countries in education, on the basis of the Minister's decree, pursuant to Article 94, paragraph 4 of the Law on the Basics of the Education System.

The Council of the Republic of Serbia for National Minorities has developed recommendations at its sessions for the Minister on approving and/or import textbooks in minority languages. This results in a renewed import of textbooks used in the previous school year. It is vital to emphasize that the Council recommended, at its first constitutional session on October 8, 2004, an import from the Republic of Croatia of deficit textbooks for the first three grades of primary school for pupils taking classes in Croatian. The Council recommended the import of technical textbooks in Hungarian, as well as theology textbooks in Slovakian. The import of primary school textbooks from Bulgaria was approved for the members of the Bulgarian national minority.

Programs of culture-educational cooperation with individual countries contain specific measures of importance for the availability of textbooks. The program of cooperation with the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria envisages that the Bulgarian parties put at disposal additional literature and fiction in Bulgarian to school libraries in schools teaching the Bulgarian language, as well as provide assistance to writing textbooks in Bulgarian for these schools, in line with the established school programs by Serbian institutions, for the training of Bulgarian national minority children in SR Yugoslavia. The program of cooperation in the field of education, science and culture between the Federal Government of SR Yugoslavia and the Government of Romania envisages that cooperation in the field of education shall be achieved *inter alia* by means of exchange of school and university textbooks, books and magazines.

Paragraph 3

12.3. Equal Education Opportunities

Article 71, paragraph 1 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia stipulates *that everyone is entitled to education*. Paragraph 2 thereof underlines that *primary education is mandatory and free, and secondary education is free*, while paragraph 3 thereof stipulates that *all citizens have, under equal conditions, access to high education*.

Article 79 of the Constitution of Serbia stipulates that members of national minorities are entitled to *education in their language in public institutions and institutions of autonomous provinces and the establishment of private education institutions*.

Article 4, paragraph 1 of the Law on the Basics of the Education System stipulates that everyone is entitled to education, whereas paragraph 2 thereof stipulates that citizens of the Republic of Serbia are equal in terms of exercising their right to education, irrespective of their gender, race, national, religious and language affiliation, age, physical and mental constitution, social and cultural background, income, political affiliation and other personal characteristics.

These issues are regulated in more detail by pertaining education laws (on primary and secondary school and high education).

12.3.1. Equal Education Opportunities at the Level of Primary and Secondary Schools

The tables below indicate the number of pupils who are members of national minorities and who took classes in primary schools in Vojvodina in the course of 2006/2007 school year, pursuant to the language of classes.

	Number of schools	Total Hungarian pupils	The number of Hungarian pupils who attend classes in:						Total number of pupils attending classes in Hungarian	Number of pupils attending classes in Hungarian and have not declared themselves as Hungarians
			Hungarian	Serbian	Slovakian	Romanian	Ruthenian	Croatian		
TOTAL	277	20770	16442	4301	0	8	13	6	17128	686

	Number of schools	Total Romanian pupils	The number of Romanian pupils who attend classes in:				Total number of pupils attending classes in Romanian	Number of pupils attending classes in Romanian and have not declared themselves as Romanians
			Romanian	Serbian	Slovakian	Ruthenian		
TOTAL	103	2379	1234	1141	4	0	1444	210

	Number of schools	Total Ruthenian pupils	The number of Ruthenian pupils who attend classes in:	Total number of pupils attending classes in	Number of pupils attending classes in Ruthenian

			Ruthenian	Serbian	Hungarian	Slovakian		
TOTAL	73	1132	539	589	2	2	607	68

	Number of schools	Total Slovakian pupils	The number of Slovakian pupils who attend classes in:				Total number of pupils attending classes in Slovakian	Number of pupils attending classes in Slovakian and have not declared themselves as Slovaks
			Slovakian	Serbian	Hungarian	Ruthenian		
TOTAL	145	4426	3147	1270	8	1	3275	128

	Number of schools	Total Croatian pupils	The number of Croat pupils who attend classes in:					Total number of pupils attending classes in Croatian	Number of pupils attending classes in Croatian and have not declared themselves as Croats
			Croatian	Serbian	Hungarian	Slovakian	Ruthenian		
TOTAL	189	3646	181	3425	31	5	4	197	16

The tables below indicate the number of pupils who are members of national minorities and who took classes in secondary schools in Vojvodina in the course of 2006/2007 school year, pursuant to the language of classes.

	Number of schools	Total Hungarian pupils	The number of Hungarian pupils who attend classes in:						Total number of pupils attending classes in Hungarian	Number of pupils attending classes in Hungarian and have not declared themselves as Hungarians
			Hungarian	Serbian	Slovakian	Romanian	Ruthenian	Croatian		
TOTAL	35	9.220	6.487	2.733	0	0	0	0	6.648	161

	Number of schools	Total Romanian pupils	The number of Romanian pupils who attend classes in:				Total number of pupils attending classes in Romanian	Number of pupils attending classes in Romanian and have not declared themselves as Romanians
			Romanian	Serbian	Slovakian	Hungarian		
TOTAL	2	705	200	505	0	0	200	0

	Number of schools	Total Ruthenian pupils	The number of Ruthenian pupils who attend classes in:				Total number of pupils attending classes in Ruthenian	Number of pupils attending classes in Ruthenian and have not declared themselves as Ruthenians
			Ruthenian	Serbian	Hungarian	Slovakian		
TOTAL	1	551	69	479	2	1	75	6

	Number of schools	Total Slovakian pupils	The number of Slovakian pupils who attend classes in:				Total number of pupils attending classes in Slovakian	Number of pupils attending classes in Slovakian and have not declared themselves as Slovaks
			Slovakian	Serbian	Hungarian	Ruthenian		
TOTAL	2	1.778	369	1.409	0	0	379	10

The total of 166,267 pupils attended primary schools situated in Autonomous Province of Vojvodina in the 2006/2007 school year, which is 6,203 pupils and/or 3.6% fewer pupils in comparison to the previous year. 32,353 pupils (19.45%) accounted for members of national minorities, namely: 20,770 (12.49% Hungarian), 4,426 (2.66%) Slovakian, 2,379 (1.43%) Romanian, 1,132 (0.68%) Ruthenian and 3,646 (2.19%) Croatian pupils.

Out of the number thereof, education in mother tongue in primary schools included 79.16% Hungarian pupils (1.51% fewer than previous year), 71.10% Slovakian pupils (2.03% fewer than previous year), 47.61% Ruthenian pupils (the same as previous year) and 4.18% Croatian pupils (the same as previous year).

The number of pupils who attended classes in national minority languages in high schools of AP Vojvodina (Hungarian, Slovakian, Romanian and Ruthenian) accounted for 7,302 (9.78% of high school students) and is lower in comparison to the previous school year by 46 pupils.

The total of 9,220 Hungarians, 1,778 Slovaks, 705 Romanians and 551 Ruthenians attended high schools in AP Vojvodina in the course of the 2006/2007 school year. Education in Serbian was attended by 2,733 Hungarians, 1,409 Slovaks, 6505 Romanians and 479 Ruthenians. Pupils who attended primary school in some of national minority languages, opted differently for continued schooling in their mother tongues: 93.76% pupils who finished primary school in Hungarian opted for continued schooling in Hungarian in the 2006/2007 school year, 23.72% pupils in Slovakian, 42.04% in Romanian and 21.78% pupils in Ruthenian.

The coverage of Hungarian pupils by classes in their mother tongue in high schools is 70.35% (0.94% less than previous year), 20.75% in case of Slovaks (1.26% less than the previous year), 12.53% in case of Ruthenians (1.26% less than previous year) and 28.37% in case of Romanians (2.93% higher than previous year).

12.3.2. Equal Education Opportunities at the Level of High Education

STUDENTS IN THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA BY THEIR NATIONAL AFFILIATION IN THE SCHOOL 2006/2007 YEAR

School year	Total	According to national affiliation																			
		Serbian	Montenegrin	Yugoslav	Albanian	Bulgarian	Bunjevci*	Vlach	Greek*	Hungarian	Macedonian	Muslim	Roma	Romanian	Ruthenian	Slovak	Slovenian	Turk	Croat	Sokci*	Other
2002/03	197322	181658	4070	2853	63	111	178	25	13	2967	438	1196	57	235	319	691	62	19	579	2	1786
2003/04	203909	188028	4168	993	79	125	155	48	17	3230	480	1813	81	257	348	664	75	26	673	5	2644
2004/05	218508	201735	3838	754	88	101	198	18	10	3365	483	1831	108	274	353	727	91	4	758	5	3767
2005/06	229355	209775	3450	648	84	114	175	63	11	3532	474	594	129	286	318	696	79	8	957	2	7960
2006/07	238710	221276	3281	271	71	130	157	16	13	3453	468	638	149	260	319	671	74	3	914	6	6540

STUDENTS OF THE NOVI SAD UNIVERSITY BY NATIONAL COMPOSITION IN THE 2006/2007 SCHOOL YEAR																
	AGRICULTURE	PHYLOSOPHY	TECHNOLOGY	LAW	MEDICAL SCIENCES	TECHNICAL SCIENCES	ECONOMY	NATURAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS	ACADEMY OF ARTS	FACULTY OF TECH. SCIENCES "HAJLO PUPIN"	CIVIL ENGINEERING	SPORTS AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION	PEDAGOGY	TEACHER'S FACULTY	TOTAL IN NSU	
Serbian	2735	3280	928	4394	2625	7068	4812	3529	586	2523	362	1063	537	0	34442	
Montenegrin	118	280	57	174	120	214	260	86	16	25	11	51	24	0	1436	
Hungarian	140	166	38	180	156	291	533	261	85	129	139	37	20	171	2346	
Slovak	51	16	23	28	44	80	41	58	3	14	4	7	48	0	417	
Romanian	6	42	4	22	5	20	13	12	1	24	0	0	1	0	150	
Ruthenian	19	16	6	12	31	12	23	44	4	3	3	4	2	0	179	
Croat	67	111	19	28	29	79	118	63	3	11	29	10	24	0	591	
Yugoslav	136	13	31	123	89	26	190	104	9	33	40	9	4	1	808	
Bunjevci	8	9	6	7	3	3	29	4	2	0	15	4	4	0	94	
Sokci	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Roma	0	5	0	9	2	3	3	4	3	1	0	1	1	2	34	
Albanian	1	0	0	0	0	13	1	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	18	
Ukrainian	11	0	2	3	6	15	7	5	0	0	1	1	0	0	51	
Macedonian	11	4	3	17	8	57	17	6	2	8	2	0	1	0	136	
Slovenian	6	0	1	1	4	5	3	1	1	2	2	1	0	0	27	
German	6	1	3	3	2	12	4	4	1	0	0	2	0	0	38	

Czech	1	0	2	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Jewish	1	3	1	3	1	4	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	17
Bosniac/Muslim	3	20	0	6	16	7	13	6	1	34	4	1	7	0	118
Undeclared	13	94	40	58	19	237	66	156	4	53	4	5	22	0	771
Undecided	2	0	4	6	0	6	86	0	49	0	2	1	0	0	156
Other	5	0	1	4	31	34	6	6	0	2	7	3	3	0	102
TOTAL	3340	4060	1169	5079	3192	8186	6227	4351	772	2862	628	1201	698	174	41939

STUDENTS OF THE FIRST YEAR OF THE NOVI SAD UNIVERSITY BY NATIONAL COMPOSITION IN THE 2006/2007 SCHOOL YEAR															
	AGRICULTURE	PHYLOSOPHY	TECHNOLOGY	LAW	MEDICAL SCIENCES	TECHNICAL SCIENCES	ECONOMY	NATURAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS	ACADEMY OF ARTS	FACULTY OF TECH. SCIENCES "HAJLO PUPIN"	CIVIL ENGINEERING	SPORTS AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION	PEDAGOGY	TEACHER'S FACULTY	TOTAL IN NSU
Serbian	809	781	220	1117	549	1530	990	919	130	67	532	326	138	0	8108
Montenegrin	30	87	8	23	11	22	32	13	5	1	0	12	6	0	250
Hungarian	43	45	13	44	25	51	77	81	20	43	11	13	8	34	508
Slovak	18	3	7	4	9	9	9	13	0	1	4	3	14	0	94
Romanian	1	7	2	4	1	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	22
Ruthenian	3	4	1	3	4	6	5	10	0	0	0	2	0	0	38
Croat	24	33	5	10	7	14	22	20	0	8	1	4	9	0	157
Yugoslav	11	0	3	1	5	6	6	7	0	4	0	0	3	0	46
Bunjevci	2	1	0	0	0	3	2	0	0	5	0	2	2	0	17
Sokci	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Roma	0	3	0	5	1	3	1	2	0	0	1	0	1	2	19
Albanian	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
Ukrainian	6	0	0	0	1	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
Macedonian	3	2	0	1	3	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	17
Slovenian	2	0	1	0	1	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	8
German	3	1	1	1	0	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	13

Czech	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Jewish	1	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Bosniac/Muslim	3	7	0	2	1	4	1	1	0	0	4	0	0	0	23
Undeclared	5	45	7	13	3	66	9	11	0	0	12	3	4	0	178
Undecided	0	0	1	2	0	2	0	0	32	1	0	0	0	0	38
Other	1	0	1	1	4	4	3	2	0	1	0	1	2	0	20
TOTAL	967	1020	271	1234	625	1733	1167	1086	187	133	565	366	189	36	9579

STUDENTS IN COLLEGES IN VOJVODINA BY NATIONAL COMPOSITION IN THE 2006/2007 SCHOOL YEAR											
NATIONAL COMPOSITION	TECH. COLLEGE NOVI SAD	TECH. COLLEGE SUBOTICA	TECH. COLLEGE ZRENJANIN	BUSINESS SCHOOL	COLLEGE NOVI SAD	COLLEGE KIKINDA	COLLEGE SR.MITROVICA	COLLEGE SUBOTICA	COLLEGE VRŠAC	TOTAL	
Serbian	956	244	872	3300	428	300	560	242	368	7270	
Montenegrin	10	19	38	102	17	1	1	32	0	220	
Hungarian	83	613	148	100	53	15	4	153	10	1179	
Slovak	29	4	9	48	7	2	8	1	2	110	
Romanian	3	2	46	4	1	1	0	0	64	121	
Ruthenian	10	14	6	22	6	1	5	8	0	72	
Croat	65	39	1	35	8	2	7	36	0	193	
Yugoslav	32	20	0	17	0	1	0	8	0	78	
Bunjevci	0	23	1	4	0	0	0	12	0	40	
Sokci	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	
Roma	0	0	0	7	9	1	0	1	0	18	
Albanian	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	3	
Ukrainian	0	1	0	4	2	1	1	1	0	10	
Macedonian	0	0	1	6	1	0	0	1	8	17	
Slovenian	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	
German	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	
Czech	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	3	
Jewish	0	6	0	3	1	1	0	2	1	14	
Bosniac/Muslim	43	33	9	0	0	0	0	11	1	97	
Undeclared	13	8	1	0	4	8	0	28	0	62	
Undecided	47	6	0	88	0	3	3	0	0	147	
Other	1291	1042	1132	3742	539	337	590	537	455	9665	

**STUDENTS OF THE FIRST YEAR OF COLLEGES IN VOJVODINA BY NATIONAL COMPOSITION
IN THE 2006/2007 SCHOOL YEAR**

	TECH. COLLEGE NOVI SAD	TECH. COLLEGE SUBOTICA	TECH. COLLEGE ZRENJANIN	BUSINESS SCHOOL	COLLEGE NOVI SAD	COLLEGE KIKINDA	COLLEGE SR.MITROVI CA	COLLEGE SUBOTICA	COLLEGE VRŠAC	TOTAL
Serbian	461	96	311	1115	194	127	147	103	111	2665
Montenegrin	3	6	6	42	3	0	0	14	0	74
Hungarian	28	228	48	38	24	8	1	44	3	422
Slovak	12	1	2	14	4	0	3	0	0	36
Romanian	0	1	18	1	0	0	0	0	21	41
Ruthenian	5	4	2	9	4	0	2	4	0	30
Croat	21	16	0	13	2	1	1	12	0	66
Yugoslav	14	7	0	3	0	0	0	5	0	29
Bunjevci	0	14	0	2	0	0	0	4	0	20
Sokci	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Roma	0	0	0	7	8	1	0	1	0	17
Albanian	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Ukrainian	0	1	0	3	1	1	0	0	0	6
Macedonian	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	3	5
Slovenian	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
German	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Czech	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jewish	0	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	5
Bosniac/Muslim	17	8	2	0	0	0	0	11	1	39
Undeclared	4	6	0	0	2	6	0	1	0	19
Undecided	19	0	0	33	0	3	1	0	0	56
Other	584	394	389	1284	243	147	155	200	139	3535

Article 13

- 1. Within the framework of their education systems, the Parties shall recognize that persons belonging to a national minority have the right to set up and to manage their own private educational and training establishments.**
- 2. The exercise of this right shall not entail any financial obligation for the Parties.**

Paragraph 1

13.1. Right of Members of National Minorities to Establish Private Education Institutions

Article 79 of the Constitution of Serbia stipulates that members of national minorities are endowed with the right *to establish private education institutions*.

Rights of members of national minorities to establish and manage own private education and training institutions are envisaged in Article 15 of the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities. Article thereof stipulates that members of national minorities have the right to establish and manage private education institutions, schools or university, where teaching is organized in national minority languages or bilingually, pursuant to Law.

Article 31, paragraph 1 of the Law on the Foundations of the Education System stipulates that *an education institution may be established by the Republic, autonomous province, a local government unit, another legal entity or a natural person*.

Article 40, paragraph 1 of the Law on High Education stipulates that *an independent high education institution may be established by the Republic, legal entity or a natural person, pursuant to Law*.

Paragraph 2

13.2. Financing Private Education Institutions

The Framework Convention envisages that exercising the right of national minority members to establish and manage independent private education and training institutions does not impose any financial liabilities on the country. The Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities envisages that national and foreign organizations, foundations and natural persons may take part in financing teaching in national minority languages pursuant to the Law, stipulating that *the country shall provide full or partial tax exemption* in case of financial or other types of grants.

Article 14

- 1. The Parties undertake to recognize that every person belonging to a national minority has the right to learn his or her minority language.**
- 2. In areas inhabited by persons belonging to national minorities traditionally or in substantial numbers, if there is sufficient demand, the Parties shall endeavor to ensure, as far as possible and within the framework of their education systems, that persons belonging to those minorities have adequate opportunities for being taught the minority language or for receiving instruction in this language.**
- 3. Paragraph 2 of this article shall be implemented without prejudice to the learning of the official language or the teaching in this language.**

Paragraph 1

14.1. Right to Learn the Native Language

According to Article 79 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, persons belonging to a national minority have the right to education in their own mother tongue.

Article 13, Paragraph 1 of the Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities stipulates the right of members of a national minority to education in their native language in pre-school, elementary and high school education institutions.

The provision contained in Article 13, Paragraph 2 of the Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities bears special importance in regard to the right of persons belonging to a national minority to learn and attend classes in their mother tongue. The provision stipulates the obligation of the state to provide for conditions of organizing classes in a national minority language, unless classes in the respective national minority language within a public educational system already existed at the moment of the enactment of the law in question. The state is obliged to provide bilingual teaching or studying of the national minority's language with elements of national history and culture for persons belonging to a national minority. The abovementioned clause of the Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities provides for the organization of teaching in the native language for national minorities who have not had this opportunity so far.

Article 13, Paragraph 3 of the Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities defines that a minimum number of pupils necessary to exercise the right to education in minority languages may be determined, with a possibility that the number is lower than the number prescribed by the law in terms of providing a form of teaching and education. In other words, the Law prescribes that the minority teaching may be organized even if the number of pupils is lower than the number required for organizing regular teaching in the majority language.

Other provisions of the Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities in this segment (the minority education curriculum, with consideration for national contents, i.e. history, art and national minority culture; preparation of the curriculum with the mandatory participation of national councils of national minorities, etc.) were previously mentioned in the comment regarding the implementation of Article 12 of the Framework Convention.

Paragraph 2

14.2. Possibility of Education in Minority Languages

According to the Law on Elementary School of the Republic of Serbia, teaching in national minority languages or bilingual teaching is organized in environments with the minimum of 15 pupils enrolled in the first grade. Pursuant to a provision of Article 5, paragraph 2, teaching may be organized for smaller groups of pupils with an approval of the Minister of Education.

The methods of realization of a bilingual curriculum in elementary schools in the Republic of Serbia are determined by the Minister of Education.

Article 12 of the Law on Determining Specific Responsibilities of the Autonomous Province, *inter alia*, envisages that the approval for realization of the curriculum in national minority languages for fewer than 15 pupils in the territory of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina shall be issued by provincial authorities.

The comprehensive elementary education in *the Albanian language* is conducted in three municipalities in Southern Serbia.

Teaching in the Bujanovac municipality in the course of the 2006-2007 school year was conducted in six elementary schools:

SCHOOL	NUMBER OF PUPILS
ES «Naim Frašeri»	543
ES «Sami Frašeri»	560
ES «Muharem Kadriu»	1179
ES «Desanka Maksimović»	549
ES «Miđeni »	292
ES «Ali Bektaši»	484
TOTAL:	3,607

Teaching in the Preševo municipality in the course of the 2006-2007 school year was conducted in seven elementary schools:

SCHOOL	NUMBER OF PUPILS
ES « November 15th» Preševo	2452
ES «A. Krasnica» Miratovac	688
ES «S.Halači » Oraovica	757

ES. «Z. Hajdini» Rainci	352
ES. «Ditura » Crnotinac	492
ES «Miđeni» Cerevajka	114
ES «May 09» Reljan	619
TOTAL:	5,474

Teaching in the Albanian language in the Medveđa municipality in the course of the 2006-2007 school year was conducted in three elementary schools:

GRADE	NUMBER OF PUPILS
First	12
Second	7
Third	9
Fourth	12
Fifth	13
Sixth	17
Seventh	14
Eighth	8
TOTAL:	92

The total number of elementary school pupils who attended classes in Albanian was **9,173**.

A class of **11 pupils** who attended all classes in **Bulgarian** was established in the “Georgi Dimitrov” elementary school in Bosilegrad in the course of the 2006-2007 school year.

The comprehensive education was held in **Hungarian** in 79 elementary schools in 27 municipalities in the course of the 2006-2007 school year.

MUNICIPALITY - SCHOOL	GRADE									Number of schools
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	TOTAL	
1) ADA										
“Čeh Karolj”	94	100	116	99	114	107	97	83	810	1
“N. Radonjić”	28	35	35	46	44	42	28	38	296	1
TOTAL	122	135	151	145	158	149	125	121	1106	2
2) APATIN										
“J. Atila”	12	14	16	18	17	13	19	20	129	1
“K. Ferenc”	5	6	4	7	9	6	7	3	47	1
TOTAL	17	20	20	25	26	19	26	23	176	2
3) BAČKA TOPOLA										
“Bratstvo - jedinstvo”	20	15	26	22	23	19	17	18	160	1
*“D. Đerd”	21	19	22	28	17	19	20	23	169	1
“C. Lajoš”	41	58	58	66	67	69	51	46	456	1
“M. Pijade”	16	14	20	15	18	24	17	11	135	1
“N. Tesla”	26	24	38	39	24	36	29	32	248	1
*“S. K. Đula”	38	40	54	48	39	41	34	35	329	1

*"October 18th"	14	17	20	26	22	19	14	15	147	1
TOTAL	176	187	238	244	210	227	182	180	1644	7
4) BELA CRKVA										
"Đ. Maletić"	1		4	1					6	1
TOTAL	1	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	6	1
5) BEČEJ										
"S. Mihalj"	57	54	58	62	64	58	50	50	453	1
"P. Šandor"	34	34	52	42	38	35	44	25	304	1
"S. Đurkić"	17	8	9	10	12	8	15	11	90	1
"Z. Glozanski"	11	14	15	13	25	18	19	16	131	1
"S. Marković"	28	19	35	27	32	30	21	23	215	1
"S. Mihalj" BPS	44	60	52	46	64	50	48	37	401	1
TOTAL	191	189	221	200	235	199	197	162	1594	6
6) ŽITISTE										
"Sv. Sava"	3		3						6	1
"M. Crnjanski"	8	12	13	13	18	14	9	15	102	1
"N. Tesla"	20	18	20	27	23	19	23	23	173	1
TOTAL	31	30	36	40	41	33	32	38	281	3
7) ZRENJANIN										
"Bratstvo - jedinstvo"	4		5	3					12	1
"S. Marinković"	25	27	32	22	27	29	25	28	215	1
"S. Mihalj"	39	46	71	55	41	51	54	38	395	1
TOTAL	68	73	108	80	68	80	79	66	622	3
8) KANJIŽA										
"October 10th"	86	89	87	86	82	74	73	81	658	1
"J. J. Zmaj"	97	97	111	147	143	133	104	92	924	1
*"K. Ferenc"	37	47	57	49	53	56	47	61	407	1
TOTAL	220	233	255	282	278	263	224	234	1989	3
9) KIKINDA										
"G. Popov"	8	10	10	6	17	10	13	12	86	1
*"M. Karolj"	5	12	12	14	9	18	16	14	100	1
"Sv. Sava"	11	7	9	14	14	15	11	13	94	1
"F. Klara"	13	11	6	9	8	9	11	8	75	1
TOTAL	37	40	37	43	48	52	51	47	355	4
10) KOVAČICA										
"M. Pijade"	23	27	14	22	27	15	18	21	167	1
TOTAL	23	27	14	22	27	15	18	21	167	1
11) KOVIN										
*"Z. Zrenjanin"	13	27	19	30	35	26	33	31	214	1
TOTAL	13	27	19	30	35	26	33	31	214	1
12) KULA										
"Veljko Vlahović"		1	1						2	1
"Petefi brigada"	14	9	15	12	14	18	14	17	113	1
TOTAL	14	10	16	12	14	18	14	17	115	2
13) MALI IBOŠ										
"N. Đurković"	20	18	32	35	22	30	25	33	215	1
"A. Endre"	50	44	62	57	49	41	52	54	409	1
TOTAL	70	62	94	92	71	71	77	87	624	2

14) NOVA CRNJA										
"P. Šandor"	14	21	20	24	19	20	37	18	173	1
TOTAL	14	21	20	24	19	20	37	18	173	1
15) NOVI BEČEJ										
"Đ. Jovanović"	5	1	10	8					24	1
"M. Čiplić"	22	25	32	29	31	31	34	24	228	1
TOTAL	27	26	42	37	31	31	34	24	252	2
16) NOVI KNEŽEVAC										
"J. J. Zmaj"	19	24	30	24	28	22	30	29	206	1
TOTAL	19	24	30	24	28	22	30	29	206	1
17) NOVI SAD										
"N. Tesla"	7	3	8	7	6	7	11	7	56	1
"P. Šandor"	7	9	6	5	9	7	7	12	62	1
"S. Marinković"	4	11	7	14	7	7	8	8	66	1
"J. Arila"	12	10	12	13	13	19	13	13	105	1
"I. Andrić"	8	9	9	10	15	6	9	15	81	1
"Sv. Sava"	6	3	2	6	7	4	6	3	37	1
TOTAL	44	45	44	55	57	50	54	58	407	6
18) ODŽACI										
"J. Arila"	7	10	6	12	5	7	11	5	63	1
TOTAL	7	10	6	12	5	7	11	5	63	1
19) PANČEVO										
"Bratstvo - jedinstvo"		1	7	2			8		18	1
TOTAL	0	1	7	2	0	0	8	0	18	1
20) PLANDIŠTE										
"Dositaj Obradović"	7	7	5	6	10	9	11	5	60	1
TOTAL	7	7	5	6	10	9	11	5	60	1
21) SENTA										
"Stevan Sremac"	167	178	247	234	261	231	224	212	1754	1
TOTAL	167	178	247	234	261	231	224	212	1754	1
22) SEČANJ										
"B. Stefanović"		4		8					12	1
TOTAL	0	4	0	8	0	0	0	0	12	1
23) SOMBOR										
"Bratstvo - jedinstvo" Sombor	11	6	5	11	6	8	12	10	69	1
"Bratstvo - jedinstvo" SM	9	10	7	8	18	9	8	12	81	1
"K. Ferenc"	18	10	17	10	15	18	4	20	112	1
"Bratstvo - jedinstvo" Bezdan	17	20	18	15	15	21	21	13	140	1
"P. Šandor"	12	5	8	6	3	5	4	3	46	1
TOTAL	67	51	55	50	57	61	49	58	448	5
24) SRBOBRAN										
"J. J. Zmaj"	29	30	30	35	33	33	42	18	250	1
TOTAL	29	30	30	35	33	33	42	18	250	1
25) SUBOTICA										
"M. Antić"	46	56	59	67	68	62	50	58	466	1
"M. Crnjanski"	8	9	9	10	7	16	15	15	89	1
"V. Karadžić"	7	26	18	19	18	17	12	15	132	1
"Đ. Salaj"	10	7	4	10	14	8	6	14	73	1

"I. G. Kovačić"	16	12	13	13	23	22	23	16	138	1
"S. Ištvan"	62	76	70	86	72	67	55	63	551	1
"J. J. Zmaj"	18	22	23	14	14	24	16	19	150	1
"J. Mikić"	21	12	24	18	18	23	15	11	142	1
"K. Ištvan"	21	18	23	25	20	21	26	21	175	1
"M. Vuković"		2	7						9	1
"S. Marinković"		5	11	9	11	6	5	7	54	1
"October 10th"	7	11	8	9	9	7	8	12	71	1
"Majšanski put"	45	54	49	49	44	48	47	40	376	1
"Sv. Sava"		3	4	2				6	15	1
***Petefi Šandor**	28	47	45	42	42	44	46	37	331	1
"Narodni heroji"	80	50	82	102	103	93	101	88	699	1
TOTAL	369	410	449	475	463	458	425	422	3471	16
26) TEMERIN										
***Kokan Imre**	54	46	61	59	81	58	57	54	470	1
"P. Kočić"	13	12	23	22	25	19	27	15	156	1
TOTAL	67	58	84	81	106	77	84	69	626	2
27) ČOKA										
"Dr. Tihomir Ostojić"	13	11	16	11	16	14	13	14	108	1
"J. Popović"	30	24	45	35	33	32	32	30	261	1
"S. Mihalj"	12	12	12	12	14	25	19	20	126	1
TOTAL	55	47	73	58	63	71	64	64	495	3
TOTAL	1855	1945	2305	2317	2344	2222	2131	2009	17128	79

In the course of the 2006-2007 school year in Surdulica, a total number of 244 pupils of the first through fourth grades and two out-of-town classes attended bilingual classes – lessons were held in Serbian, while the Roma assistant helped pupils cope with assignments in *the Romany language*.

The comprehensive education in *the Romanian language* was held in 18 elementary schools in nine municipalities in the course of the 2006-2007 school year.

MUNICIPALITY - SCHOOL	GRADE								TOTAL	Number of schools
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII		
1) ALIBUNAR										
"Bratstvo-jedinstvo"	11	7	3	15	12	13	13	13	87	1
***October 2nd**	17	12	11	15	12	11	8	11	97	1
"May 01"	13	21	15	20	16	14	16	12	127	1
***October 03**	20	21	17	33	20	24	22	14	171	1
TOTAL	61	61	46	83	60	62	59	50	482	4
2) BELA CRKVA										
***M. Sadovenau**	13	5	16	11	7	9	5	12	78	1
TOTAL	13	5	16	11	7	9	5	12	78	1
3) VRŠAC										
"Branko Radičević" Uljma	15	10	13	6					44	1
"Branko Radičević"	1	3		4					8	1
***Kornolan Doban**	16	12	8	13	13	19	17	15	113	1

"Olga Petrov Radišić"	16	23	19	20	26	34	31	35	204	1
"Moša Pijade"	4	1	4	2					11	1
TOTAL	52	49	44	45	39	53	48	50	380	5
4) ŽITIŠTE										
"Sveti Sava"	9	11	14	26	24	12	13	14	123	1
TOTAL	9	11	14	26	24	12	13	14	123	1
5) ZRENJANIN										
"Dr Aleksandar Sabovljević"	9	7	6	9	7	6	7	5	56	1
"Đ. Jakšić"	1	1	2	3					7	1
TOTAL	10	8	8	12	7	6	7	5	63	2
6) KOVAČICA										
"Sveti Georgije"	23	21	24	12	16	13	19	13	141	1
TOTAL	23	21	24	12	16	13	19	13	141	1
7) PANČEVO										
"Aksentije Maksimović"	7	2	4	8					21	1
"Žarko Zrenjanin" BNS	13	10	9	14	15	8	14	14	97	1
TOTAL	20	12	13	22	15	8	14	14	118	2
8) PLANDIŠTE										
"Dositej Obradović"	5	5	5	7	5	7	8	12	54	1
TOTAL	5	5	5	7	5	7	8	12	54	1
9) SEČANJ										
"Ivo Lola Ribar"			3	2					5	1
TOTAL	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	5	1
TOTAL	193	172	173	220	173	170	173	170	1444	18

The comprehensive education in *the Ruthenian language* was held in three elementary schools in three municipalities in the course of the 2006-2007 school year.

MUNICIPALITY-SCHOOL	GRADE								TOTAL
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	
VRBAS									
"Bratstvo - jedinstvo" Kucura	12	18	11	13	16	20	22	15	127
TOTAL	12	18	11	13	16	20	22	15	127
ŽABALJ									
"J.J.Zmaj Đurđevo	9	11	6	9	12	10	11	8	76
TOTAL	9	11	6	9	12	10	11	8	76
KULA									
*"Petro Kuzmjak" Ruski Krstur	41	38	58	46	55	63	52	51	404
TOTAL	41	38	58	46	55	63	52	51	404
TOTAL	62	67	75	68	83	93	85	74	607

The comprehensive education in *the Slovak language* was held in 17 elementary schools in 12 municipalities in the course of the 2006-2007 school year.

MUNICIPALITY- SCHOOL	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	TOTAL	
1) ALIBUNAR										
*"T. G. Masarik"	11	10	11	16	6	12	11	14	91	1
TOTAL	11	10		16	6	12	11	14	91	1
2) BAČ										
*"J. Kolar"	31	33	43	36	42	34	33	39	291	1
TOTAL	31	33	43	36	42	34	33	39	291	1
3) BAČKA PALANKA										
"October 15th"	21	22	31	25	29	27	22	34	211	1
"Braća Novakov"	7	2	8	7					24	1
TOTAL	28	24	39	32	29	27	22	34	235	2
4) BAČKI PETROVAC										
"J. Čajak"	68	42	62	55	59	57	78	61	482	1
"J. A. Komenski"	20	26	20	19	24	21	21	21	172	1
*"J. Marčok"	17	15	30	22	18	30	20	15	167	1
TOTAL	105	83	112	96	101	108	119	97	821	3
5) BEOČIN										
"J. Popović"	9	15	5	9					38	1
TOTAL	9	15	5	9	0	0	0	0	38	1
6) ZRENJANIN										
"Bratstvo"	5	8	12	6	10	11	6	7	65	1
"Bratstvo - jedinstvo"			5	4					9	1
TOTAL	5	8	17	10	10	11	6	7	74	2
7) KOVAČICA										
*"M. Tito"	78	68	95	73	70	73	74	72	603	1
"Mlada pokolenja"	50	41	60	46	47	50	44	64	402	1
TOTAL	128	109	155	119	117	123	118	136	1005	2
8) INĐIJA										
"July 22"		5	2						7	1
TOTAL	0	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	7	1
9) NOVI SAD										
"Ljudovit Štur"	33	41	53	54	46	41	50	28	346	1
TOTAL	33	41	53	54	46	41	50	28	346	1
10) ODŽACI										
"Nestor Žučni"	6		5	3					14	1
TOTAL	6	0	5	3	0	0	0	0	14	1
11) STARA PAZOVA										
*"Heroj Janko Čmelik"	41	40	39	31	39	52	42	51	335	1
TOTAL	41	40	39	31	39	52	42	51	335	1
12) ŠID										
"Sava Šumanović"	6	3	3	6					18	1

TOTAL	6	3	3	6	0	0	0	0	18	1
TOTAL	403	371	473	412	390	408	401	406	3275	17

The comprehensive education in *the Croatian language* was held in five elementary schools in one municipality in the course of the 2006-2007 school year.

MUNICIPALITY - SCHOOL	GRADE								
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	TOTAL
SUBOTICA									
"V. Nazor"	2	4		1	13				20
"I. Milutinović"	13	8	16	6	11				54
"M. Gubec"	9		7		14				30
"Sveti Sava"		7	5						12
"M. Vuković"	22	9	19	10	21				81
TOTAL	46	28	47	17	59	0	0	0	197

Education in minority languages in high school institutions in the Republic of Serbia is regulated by the Law on Secondary Education, prescribing that the minimum of 15 pupils in first grade classes of grammar schools, vocational and art schools (Article 5, Paragraph 1) is required to conduct the curriculum in national minority languages²⁸. The Minister of Education's approval is necessary to hold classes in minority languages for smaller groups of pupils. The provisions thereof of the Law as a requisite to exercise the right to high school education in minority languages stipulate that 15 pupils in already formed classes need to apply to attend these classes. Taking into consideration that it is difficult to obtain that 15 pupils require classes to be held in a minority language in already formed mixed-nationality classes, high schools conduct surveys on pupils' views with regard to classes held in minority languages upon the enrollment.

The provisions contained in Article 5 of the Law on Secondary Education of the Republic of Serbia compel high schools to provide for conditions necessary for conducting the curriculum in the Serbian language in environments in which classes are held only in minority languages.

Article 12 of the Law on Establishing Specific Responsibilities of the Autonomous Province, *inter alia*, envisages that the approval for the realization of the curriculum in national minority languages for fewer than 15 pupils in the territory of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina shall be issued by provincial authorities.

The following tables indicate the number of high school pupils who attended all classes in a minority language during school year 2006-2007.

²⁸ Education in these schools, depending on the high school, lasts between 3 and 4 years.

THE ALBANIAN LANGUAGE	
SCHOOL	NUMBER OF PUPILS
Technical High School «Sezai Suroi», Bujanovac	986
Technical School Medveđa	18
Technical High School «Preševo»	827
Grammar School «Skenderbeg», Preševo	1.041
	2,872

THE HUNGARIAN LANGUAGE		
Grammar schools		
MUNICIPALITY-SCHOOL	Number of classes	Number of pupils
NOVI KNEŽEVAC		
1. Grammar School	4	43
SENTA		
2. Grammar School	12	303
3. Grammar School for Gifted Pupils of Natural Science with a Pupil Residence	4	71
ZRENJANIN		
4. Zrenjanin Grammar School	4	101
SUBOTICA		
5. Grammar School «Svetozar Marković»	12	270
6. Language Grammar School «Deže Kostolanji »	7	122
SOMBOR		
7. Grammar School «Veljko Petrović»	3	30
BEČEJ		
8. Grammar School	4	103
NOVI SAD		
9. Grammar School «Svetozar Marković»	4	76
TOTAL:		
	54	1,119

THE HUNGARIAN LANGUAGE		
Vocational high schools		
MUNICIPALITY-HIGH SCHOOL	Number of classes	Number of pupils
ADA		
1. Technical School	22	433
KANJIŽA		
2. Agricultural-Technical High School Center «Besedeš Jožef»	28	538
NOVI KNEŽEVAC		
3. High School «Dositej Obradović »	6	96
SENTA		

4. High School of Economics and Commerce	11	314
5. Medical High School	9	290
ČOKA		
6. High School of Chemistry and Food Industry	10	185
ZRENJANIN		
7. Medical School	4	115
8. Agricultural High School	2	24
9. School of Electrical and Civil Engineering «Nikola Tesla »	5	107
BAČKA TOPOLA		
10. Agricultural School	21	313
11. Technical School «Šinkovič Jožef »	10	179
SUBOTICA		
12. High School of Economics «Bosa Miličević »	11	315
13. Medical High School	10	246
14. Polytechnic School	15	313
15. High School of Chemistry and Technology «Lazar Nešić »	16	305
16. Technical School	26	627
SOMBOR		
17. Medical High School «Dr Ružica Rip»	4	89
18. Medical High School	6	75
BEČEJ		
19. School of Economics and Commerce	10	238
20. Technical School	7	148
NOVI SAD		
21. Medical School «April 07 »	4	114
22. Agricultural School with a Pupil Residence	2	18
23. School of Electrical Engineering « Mihajlo Pupin »	4	74
TEMERIN		
24. Technical School	6	70
TOTAL:	249	5,226

THE HUNGARIAN LANGUAGE		
Other schools		
MUNICIPALITY-SCHOOL	Number of classes	Number of pupils
BAČKA TOPOLA		
1. Grammar School and School of Economics «Dositej Obradović »	8	185
SUBOTICA		
2. Music School	4	73

TOTAL:	12	258
---------------	-----------	------------

THE ROMANIAN LANGUAGE		
Grammar schools		
MUNICIPALITY-SCHOOL	Number of classes	Number of pupils
VRŠAC		
1. Grammar School «Borislav Petrov - Braca »	4	93
TOTAL:	4	93

THE ROMANIAN LANGUAGE		
Vocational high schools		
MUNICIPALITY – SCHOOL	Number of classes	Number of pupils
ALIBUNAR		
1. School of Trade and Economics «Dositej Obradović »	4	107
TOTAL:	4	107

THE RUTHENIAN LANGUAGE		
Grammar schools		
MUNICIPALITY – SCHOOL	Number of classes	Number of pupils
KULA		
1. Grammar School «Petro Kuzmjak» in Ruski Krstur	4	75
TOTAL:	4	75

THE SLOVAK LANGUAGE		
Grammar schools		
MUNICIPALITY– SCHOOL	Number of classes	Number of pupils
KOVAČICA		
1. Grammar School «Mihajlo Pupin »	4	121
BAČKI PETROVAC		
2. Grammar School «Jan Kolar » with a pupil residence	10	258
TOTAL:	14	379

According to Article 80, Paragraph 2, of the Law on High Education, *high education institutions may organize and conduct studies and/or specific segments of studies, and*

organize preparation and defense of PhD dissertation, both in a national minority language and in a foreign language.

STUDENTS OF THE NOVI SAD UNIVERSITY ACCORDING TO THE LANGUAGE OF TEACHING IN THE SCHOOL YEAR 2006-2007						
	LANGUAGE OF TEACHING					Total
	Serbian	Hungarian	Romanian	Slovak	Ruthenian	
FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE	3340	0	0	0	0	3340
FACULTY OF PHILOSOPHY	3852	124	43	21	20	4060
FACULTY OF TECHNOLOGY	1169	0	0	0	0	1169
FACULTY OF LAW	5079	0	0	0	0	5079
FACULTY OF MEDICINE	3192	0	0	0	0	3192
FACULTY OF TECHNICAL SCIENCES	8186	0	0	0	0	8186
FACULTY OF ECONOMICS	6095	132	0	0	0	6227
FACULTY OF NATURAL SCIENCES	4335	16	0	0	0	4351
ACADEMY OF ARTS	756	16	0	0	0	772
FACULTY OF CIVIL ENGINEERING	559	69	0	0	0	628
TECHNICAL FACULTY "MIHAJLO PUPIN"	2862	0	0	0	0	2862
FACULTY OF SPORTS AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION	1201	0	0	0	0	1201
FACULTY OF PEDAGOGY	661	0	0	37	0	698
TEACHERS' TRAINING FACULTY in Hungarian	0	174	0	0	0	174
TOTAL	41.287	531	43	58	20	41,939

ADMISSION TESTS AT UNIVERSITY OF NOVI SAD IN NATIONAL MINORITY LANGUAGES IN THE SCHOOL YEAR 2006-2007						
	LANGUAGE OF TEACHING					Total
	Hungarian	Romanian	Slovak	Ruthenian	Croatian	
FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE	2	0	0	0	0	2
FACULTY OF PHILOSOPHY	33	5	1	5	0	44
FACULTY OF TECHNOLOGY	2	1	0	0	0	3
FACULTY OF LAW	22	0	2	1	0	25
FACULTY OF MEDICINE	12	0	0	0	0	12
FACULTY OF TECHNICAL SCIENCES	20	0	0	0	0	20
FACULTY OF ECONOMICS	56	0	0	0	0	56
FACULTY OF NATURAL SCIENCES	19	0	0	0	0	19
ACADEMY OF ARTS	0	0	0	0	0	0
FACULTY OF CIVIL ENGINEERING	36	0	0	0	0	36
TECHNICAL FACULTY "MIHAJLO PUPIN"	0	0	0	0	0	0
FACULTY OF SPORTS AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION	0	0	0	0	0	0
FACULTY OF PEDAGOGY	1	0	11	0	0	12
TEACHERS' TRAINING FACULTY in Hungarian	81	0	0	0	0	81

TOTAL	284	6	14	6	0	310
--------------	------------	----------	-----------	----------	----------	------------

STUDENTS OF COLLEGES IN VOJVODINA ACCORDING TO THE LANGUAGE OF TEACHING IN THE SCHOOL YEAR 2006-2007				
COLLEGE TITLE	LANGUAGE OF TEACHING			
	Serbian	Hungarian	Romanian	Total
Technical College in Novi Sad	1291	0	0	1291
Technical College in Subotica	547	495	0	1042
Technical College in Zrenjanin	1132	0	0	1132
Business College in Novi Sad	3742	0	0	3742
Nursery Teacher Training College in Novi Sad	511	28	0	539
Nursery Teacher Training College in Kikinda	337	0	0	337
Nursery Teacher Training College in Sr. Mitrovica	590	0	0	590
Nursery Teacher Training College in Subotica	423	114	0	537
Nursery Teacher Training College in Vršac	391	0	64	455
TOTAL	8964	637	64	9,665

ADMISSION TESTS AT COLLEGES IN VOJVODINA IN THE SCHOOL YEAR 2006-2007						
COLLEGE TITLE	LANGUAGE OF TEACHING					
	Hungarian	Slovak	Romanian	Ruthenian	Croatian	Total
Technical College in Novi Sad	0	0	0	0	0	0
Technical College in Subotica	160	0	0	0	0	160
Technical College in Zrenjanin	0	0	0	0	0	0
Business College in	9	0	0	0	0	9

Novi Sad						
Nursery Teacher Training College in Novi Sad	11	0	0	0	0	11
Nursery Teacher Training College in Kikinda	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nursery Teacher Training College in Sr. Mitrovica	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nursery Teacher Training College in Subotica	34	0	0	0	0	34
Nursery Teacher Training College in Vršac	0	0	21	0	0	21
TOTAL	214	0	21	0	0	235

Paragraph 3

14.3. Studying the Serbian Language

Affirming the right of members of a national minority to study in their own language, i.e. to learn that language as a separate subject, Serbian legislation mandates the studying of the Serbian language as the official language of the country and a means of communication between different ethnic groups.

The provision of Article 13, Paragraph 4 of the Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities stipulating that education in a minority language does not exclude mandatory learning of the Serbian language is enough to support this notion.

Article 15

The Parties shall create the conditions necessary for the effective participation of persons belonging to national minorities in cultural, social and economic life and in public affairs, in particular those affecting them.

15. 1. Constitutional Provisions

Effective participation of persons belonging to national minorities in the cultural, social and economic life and public affairs in the Republic of Serbia is guaranteed by the provisions of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia. The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, which was, according to the Preamble thereof, adopted considering the state tradition of the Serbian people and equality of all citizens and ethnic communities in Serbia, defines the Republic of Serbia as the state of Serbian people and all citizens living in it, based on the rule of law and social justice, the principles of civil democracy, human and minority rights and freedoms and commitment to European principles and values. Pursuant to Article 2, paragraph 1 of the Constitution, sovereignty is vested in citizens who exercise it through referendums, people's initiative and freely elected representatives. The participation of citizens, and therefore also of the representatives of national minorities, in the political life of the country and in the shaping of the political will, is guaranteed by the constitutional provisions on the electoral right and the freedom of association. Pursuant to Article 52, paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, every citizen of the Republic of Serbia, of age and civil capacity has the right to vote and be elected. Suffrage is universal and equal for all, the elections are free and direct and voting is carried out by secret ballot in person.

In addition to the provision regarding the holders of sovereignty, which also includes the representatives of minorities as the citizens of the Republic of Serbia, in Article 77, paragraph 1, the new Constitution has explicitly envisaged the right of the persons belonging to national minorities to participate in administering public affairs and assume public positions, under the same conditions as other citizens. Moreover, paragraph 2 of the same Article of the Constitution stipulates that in the course of taking up employment in state bodies, public services, bodies of autonomous province and local self-government units, the ethnic structure of population and appropriate representation of members of national minorities must be taken into consideration. Apart from the general provisions, the Constitution also includes special solutions, which create conditions for effective participation of persons belonging to national minorities in particular aspects of social life and public affairs.

15.2. Creation of Conditions for the Participation of Persons Belonging to National Minorities in the Representative Bodies

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia includes special provisions that create the legislative framework for the participation of persons belonging to national minorities in the representative bodies on all levels of the public administration. Pursuant to Article 100, paragraph 2 of the Constitution, equality and representation of persons belonging to national minorities are provided in the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia, as

the supreme representative body and the holder of the constitutional and legislative power. In Article 180, paragraph 4, the Constitution stipulates that in the autonomous provinces and local self-government units with the population of mixed nationalities, proportionate representation of the national minorities in the assemblies must be provided for, in accordance with the law. Furthermore, legal provisions, provincial decisions and practical measures have created the conditions for effective participation of the persons belonging to national minorities in the representative bodies on different levels of the public administration in the Republic of Serbia.

The Law on the Election of Deputies for the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia stipulates that only the electoral lists that won the votes of at least 5% of the total number of votes cast in the particular electoral district take part in the apportioning of seats. Political parties of national minorities and the coalitions of political parties of national minorities, according to Article 81, paragraph 2 of the Law, participate in the distribution of seats even when receiving less than 5% of the total number of votes cast. In paragraph 3 of the same Article, the Law on the Election of Deputies stipulates that political parties of national minorities are all those parties whose main objective is to represent and advocate interests of national minorities and to protect and promote the rights of persons belonging to national minorities, in keeping with international legal standards, whereas paragraph 4 of the same Article stipulates that the decision whether the submitter of the electoral list should be considered a political party of a national minority, or a coalition of national minority parties, is to be made by the Republic Electoral Commission at the proclamation of the electoral list, at the request of the submitter of the list. The solutions provided for by the election law are considerably more favourable in comparison with the previous period, and they are affirmative for the members of national minorities as they facilitate the entry of their representatives into the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia.

In the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, the identical solution regarding the distribution of seats is integrated into the Decision on Election of Councillors for the Assembly of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina. In Article 74, paragraph 4 thereof, it is stipulated that the political parties of national minorities and the coalitions of political parties of national minorities participate in the distribution of seats for the Assembly of AP Vojvodina in elections where the elections are conducted according to the proportional system, even if they have won less than 5% of the total number of votes cast. Pursuant to paragraph 5 of the same Article of the Decision, political parties of national minorities are all political parties whose fundamental objective is to represent and advocate the interest of a national minority and protection and promotion of the rights of the persons belonging to that national minority, in accordance with the national and international standards. In paragraph 6 of the same Article, the Decision stipulates that it is the competence of the Provincial Electoral Commission to decide, at the proclamation of the electoral list, whether a submitter of the electoral list is to be considered a political party of a national minority, or a coalition of political parties of a national minority, at the request of the submitter of the list.

Pursuant to Article 8, paragraphs 1 and 2 of the current Law on Local Elections, which is to be harmonized with the new Constitution, the election of councillors is conducted in a municipality as the electoral unit, and the councillor seats are distributed between the electoral lists in proportion to the number of votes won by each electoral list. Such a solution facilitates the participation of persons belonging to national minorities in the representative bodies on the local level.

15.3. Cultural Autonomy of the National Minorities

National councils of national minorities are a form of cultural autonomy of national minorities and functional decentralization, instituted into the legal system in 2002, under the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities.

Pursuant to Article 19, paragraph 1 thereof, *the persons belonging to national minorities may elect national councils with the purpose of exercising rights of self-government regarding the official use of language and script, education, information and culture.*

The national council of a national minority is a legal entity and, pursuant to paragraph 7 of the same Article of the Law, *it represents the national minority in respect of official use of language, education, information in the language of the minority and culture, participates in decision-making processes or decides on the issues related to these fields, as well as establishes institutions in these fields.*

The Law provides for different forms of participation of the national councils in the decision-making process. Firstly, in paragraph 8 of the same Article, the Law stipulates *the obligation of the state authorities, territorial autonomies or the local self-government units to request the opinion of the councils in deciding on the issues in the field of official use of the language, education, information in the language of national minorities and culture.* National councils may address the public authorities on all levels with respect to all issues affecting the rights and status of national minorities. Furthermore, *public authorities can be delegated to the councils in the field of official use of language and script, education, culture and information in the languages of national minorities, and the state is to provide the funds necessary for the exercise of these competences.* Funding of the national councils is provided from the budget on different levels of public authorities and from donations. National councils are funded by the Republic of Serbia and AP Vojvodina, as well as by some of the local self-governments, from their own budgets. The implementation of the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities has so far enabled the participation of the representatives of national councils in certain bodies relevant for protection and promotion of the status of minorities (e.g. Council for National Minorities of the Republic of Serbia), in international cooperation (e.g. mixed commissions for protection of national minorities), as well as direct participation in making decisions regarding certain issues of relevance for exercising minority rights (e.g. reviewing education curricula and syllabi, decisions on traditional toponyms, etc.).

The right to elect national councils of national minorities has been constitutionalised. Article 75 of the new Constitution of the Republic of Serbia from 2006 guarantees

collective minority rights, through which persons belonging to national minorities, directly or through their representatives, participate in decision-making processes or decide independently on certain issues related to their culture, education, information and official use of languages and script, in accordance with the law. Paragraph 3 thereof envisages that the persons belonging to national minorities may elect their national councils in order to exercise the right to self-governance in the field of culture, education, information and official use of the language and script, in accordance with the law.

By the time the Second State Report on the Implementation of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities was drafted, the national councils had been elected by members of Bosniac, Bulgarian, Bunjevci, Croatian, Egyptian, Greek, Hungarian, Macedonian, Roma, Romanian, Ruthenian, Slovak, Ukrainian and Vlach national minorities.

15.4. Creation of Conditions for the Participation of Persons Belonging to National Minorities in the Protection and Promotion of the Status of Minorities and in International Bilateral Co-operation

The Government of the Republic of Serbia has issued the Decree on the Establishment of the Council for National Minorities of the Republic of Serbia, as a body tasked with the work on preservation, promotion and protection of the national, ethnic, religious, linguistic and cultural specific features of persons belonging to national minorities in the Republic of Serbia. The competence of the Council has been expounded in the part of the Report that holds the answers to the additional questions of the Advisory Committee. Members of the Council are: the Prime Minister, Minister for Public Administration and Local Self-Government, Minister of Culture, Minister of Education, Minister of Religion, Minister of Justice and Minister of Interior Affairs as representatives of the Government, the chairpersons of the national councils, established in accordance with the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities and the chairperson of the Union of Jewish Municipalities, whose position corresponds to that of a chairperson of a national council. The Council is chaired by the Prime Minister. The Council makes decisions by majority of votes of all representatives of the Government and majority of votes of all chairpersons of the national councils. At the request made by chairpersons of two thirds of all the national councils, the chairperson of the Council is obliged to summon the session of the Council. By the time the report was drafted, six sessions of the National Council had been held and many issues related to promotion and protection of the national minority rights were considered at these sessions.

The Executive Council of AP Vojvodina issued the Decision on the Establishment of the Provincial Council of National Communities, as a task force of the Executive Council, which meets on an as-needed basis to work on preservation, promotion and protection of the national, ethnic, religious, linguistic and cultural special features of persons belonging to national minorities in the territory of AP Vojvodina. The Provincial Council has its chairperson, deputy chairperson and 17 members. The chairperson, deputy chairperson and eight council members are representatives of the Executive Council, appointed by a

special resolution, while nine members are representatives of the national councils of national minorities seated in the territory of the Province and the chairperson of the Council for Integration of Roma, which is a body of the Executive Council. At the request made by two thirds of all the chairpersons of the national councils of national minorities, the chairperson is obliged to summon the session of the Provincial Council.

Pursuant to the provisions of Article 63 of the Law on Local Self-Government, establishment of the council for interethnic relations has been envisaged in the nationally mixed municipalities, consisting of the representatives of all national and ethnic communities. For the purposes of this law, the status of nationally diverse municipality is acknowledged to the municipalities wherein one national minority accounts for more than 5% of the total number of inhabitants, or all minorities account for more than 10%, according to the latest population census. Communities with more than 1% share in the total population of the municipality are entitled to representation in the council for interethnic relations. According to the Law, the council considers the issues regarding exercise, protection and promotion of ethnic equality, in accordance with the law and the statute. The council informs the municipal assembly about its positions and proposals, and the municipal assembly is obliged to declare its position on them at its first subsequent session, and within 30 days at the latest. Before any decisions regarding the rights of the national and ethnic communities are made, the municipal assembly is obliged to inform and consult the council for interethnic relations about proposed decisions. The council for interethnic relations is entitled to initiate the proceedings for assessment of compliance of the decision, or any other statutory instrument passed by the municipal assembly, with the Constitution and the Law before the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Serbia, if it believes that the rights of the national and ethnic communities represented by the council for interethnic relations are directly violated by those decisions and/or statutory instruments. Under the same conditions, the council is entitled to initiate the proceedings for assessment of compliance of a decision, or another statutory instrument of the municipal assembly, with the statute of the municipality before the Administrative Court. The purview, composition and manner of work of the council for interethnic relations are determined by the municipal assembly decision. Information on implementation of the Law on Local Self-Government, more specifically – its provisions related to the work of the council for interethnic relations can be found in the part of the Report that holds the answers to the additional questions of the Advisory Committee.

The Republic of Serbia, as the successor, implements and respects the formerly concluded bilateral agreements on the protection of rights of national minorities, which ensure the preservation and development of the national, linguistic, cultural and religious identity of the national minorities, according to the principles and provisions contained in the documents of UN, CSCE/OSCE and the Council of Europe. These agreements are as follows:

- Agreement between Serbia and Montenegro and the Republic of Macedonia regarding the protection of Serbian and Montenegrin national minorities in the Republic of Macedonia and the Macedonian national minority in Serbia and Montenegro

Article 14 of the above agreement envisages establishment of a special Intergovernmental Mixed Commission to monitor implementation of the Agreement. According to the Agreement, the parties delegate the same number of representatives in the commission, with mandatory representation of the minorities. The commission adopts the conclusions based on consensus of both parties, and is authorized to give recommendations regarding compliance with the Agreement to the governments of both countries. The commission envisaged by this agreement has not yet been established.

- Agreement between Serbia and Montenegro and the Republic of Hungary regarding the protection of the rights of the Hungarian national minority resident in Serbia and Montenegro and the Serbian national minority resident in the Republic of Hungary

Article 16 of the above Agreement establishes a special intergovernmental mixed commission for national minorities to monitor implementation of the Agreement. It is important to emphasise that the parties delegate the same number of members of the commission, with mandatory representation of the minorities. Members of the commission who are representatives of the Hungarian national minority within the delegation of the Republic of Serbia are appointed at the proposal of the National Council of the Hungarian national minority. The commission adopts decisions based on consensus of both parties and is authorised to give recommendations regarding compliance with the agreement to the governments of both countries. Two sessions of the Intergovernmental Mixed Commission have been held so far, namely on 13th December 2004 in Budapest and on 10th November 2005 in Subotica.

- Agreement between the Federal Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Romanian Government on cooperation in the field of protection of national minorities

Article 11 of the above Agreement establishes a special Intergovernmental Mixed Commission to monitor implementation of the Agreement. The parties to the Agreement delegate the same number of members of the commission, with mandatory representation of the minorities. It is envisaged that the commission makes decisions based on consensus of both parties, and it is authorised to give recommendations regarding compliance with the Agreement to the governments of both countries. The commission envisaged by this Agreement has not yet been established.

- Agreement between Serbia and Montenegro and the Republic of Croatia on protection of the rights of the Serbian and Montenegrin minorities in the Republic of Croatia and the Croatian minority in Serbia and Montenegro

Article 16 of the above Agreement establishes a special Intergovernmental Mixed Board to monitor implementation of the Agreement. The parties to the Agreement delegate the same number of representatives in the board, with mandatory representation of the minorities. Members of the board who are representatives of the minorities are appointed at the proposal of umbrella coordination bodies of the national minorities. The board

makes decisions based on consensus of both parties, and is authorised to give recommendations regarding compliance with the Agreement to the governments of both countries. The commission envisaged by this Agreement has been established.

15.5. Participation of Persons Belonging to National Minorities in the Executive Power and Administrative Bodies

Having regard to the fact that the Republic of Serbia has a parliamentary system of power, participation of persons belonging to national minorities in executive power is facilitated by amendments to the electoral legislation, which increased the possibility of participation of the parties of national minorities in the legislative power. It is also worth mentioning that Article 20 of the Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities stipulates that in respect of employment in public services, including the police, attention must be paid to the national composition of the population, proportionate representation and the languages spoken in the territory of the body or agency concerned.

Information regarding the activities undertaken by the state with a view to increasing the participation of the representatives of national minorities in the executive bodies can be found in the part of the Report that holds the answers to the additional questions of the Advisory Committee. Special emphasis should be placed on the fact that, on 12th May 2006, the Government of the Republic of Serbia issued the Resolution on the Measures Aimed at Increasing the Participation of Persons Belonging to National Minorities in the Public Administration Bodies, which stipulates that the Government shall, directly and through its competent bodies and agencies, continually undertake the measures aimed at increasing the participation of the representatives of national minorities in public administration. In coordination with the Human Resources Management Agency, the Agency for Human and Minority Rights has set the plan of activities for implementation of the Government of Serbia's Resolution on the Measures Aimed at Increasing the Participation of Persons Belonging to National Minorities in the Public Administration Bodies and undertaken concrete measures with a view to its fulfilment.

In the Republic of Serbia, special measures are undertaken with the purpose of increasing the effective participation of the members of national minorities in certain state authorities of particular import for the national minorities.

In August 2007, the Government of the Republic of Serbia issued the Decree on Establishment of the Coordinating Body of the Republic of Serbia for the Municipalities of Preševo, Bujanovac and Medveđa, tasked, *inter alia*, with ensuring the promotion of the status of national minorities in those municipalities, especially the integration of the Albanian national minority in the social life of the Republic of Serbia. The Coordination Body has its president, deputy president and six vice-presidents, and the presidents of the municipalities of Presevo, Bujanovac and Medvedja are vice-presidents by virtue of their positions. The expanded composition of the Coordination Body includes the representatives of the Ministries and the Agency for Human and Minority Rights and they are appointed by the Government; by virtue of their positions, the expanded composition also includes the presidents and deputy presidents of the municipality

assemblies of Presevo, Bujanovac and Medvedja, deputy presidents of the municipalities of Presevo and Bujanovac, as well as the representative of the Roma national minority appointed by the National Council of the Roma national minority.

On 2nd March 2005, the Executive Council of AP Vojvodina issued the Decision on Establishment of the Council for Integration of Roma in AP Vojvodina, as an ad-hoc body tasked with monitoring, considering and reviewing the measures and activities undertaken by the Executive Council and the provincial administration bodies in the process of Roma integration in AP Vojvodina and cooperating with the National Council of the Roma national minority. In the council session held in September 2007 in the Executive Council of AP Vojvodina, a commission was established for implementation of a project of the Provincial Secretariat for Labour, Employment and Gender Equality aimed at Roma employment promotion in AP Vojvodina.

One of the priorities of the Government of the Republic of Serbia is to integrate and empower the Roma national minority. In February 2005, the Republic of Serbia joined the regional initiative “Decade of Roma Inclusion”. Based on the relevant national and international documents, action plans have been developed in the field of education, employment, housing, health, social protection, information, culture and media, as well as action plans related to personal identity documents and the specific position of women. In the 2006 Budget, the Government of the Republic of Serbia allocated funds for implementation of the action plans. The Roma National Strategy Secretariat, within the Agency for Human and Minority Rights, which also includes the representatives of the Roma national minority, initiated the establishment of task forces for action plans within the Ministries, with the basic tasks to plan the priorities, budget, programmes and monitor implementation.

15.6. Participation of Persons Belonging to National Minorities in the Judicial Power

Participation of the members of national minorities in the judicial power has been facilitated through official use of the languages and scripts of national minorities in the work of courts. Job classifications in some courts contain requirements in terms of knowledge of minority languages which are in official use in the territory of the court jurisdiction.

15.7. Participation of Persons Belonging to National Minorities in Public Offices in Practice

Participation of the members of national minorities in the representative bodies, executive and judicial power has been achieved in practice.

15.7.1. Participation of Persons Belonging to National Minorities in Representative Bodies

Participation of the members of national minorities in the representative bodies has been achieved in practice, both on the level of the Republic and the level of the local self-government.

Out of the 250 deputies in the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia, which is the number stipulated in the Constitution, 10 deputies are members of the national minorities and/or members of the political parties that predominantly consist of members of national minorities – 3 deputies are members of the Federation of Vojvodina Hungarians, 3 deputies are members of the Sandzak Democratic Party, the Union of Serbian Roma and the Roma Party have one deputy each, as well as the Democratic Association of Croats in Vojvodina, Bosniac Democratic Party of Sandzak and the Party for Democratic Action, which mostly consists of the members of the Albanian national minority. Some of the above parties won their seats through implementation of affirmative action laid down by the Law on the Election of Deputies, whereas some of the parties won their deputy seats in coalition with other parties. In addition to the deputies who are members of the political parties consisting of persons belonging to national minorities, there are also deputies - members of national minorities in the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia who are members of non-minority political parties; therefore, the number of persons belonging to certain national minorities in the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia is larger than the number of deputies of the national minority parties – e.g. there are 7 Hungarian deputies, 6 deputies are Bosniacs, 3 are Slovaks, 1 is Romanian, etc. It is important to underline that a special parliamentary group of persons belonging to national minorities has been established within the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia, consisting of deputies of the Federation of Vojvodina Hungarians, Bosniac Democratic Party of Sandzak, Party for Democratic Action and the Union of Serbian Roma. Persons belonging to national minorities are members of the Committees of the Serbian National Assembly. The Committee for Interethnic Relations is chaired by a member of the Slovak national minority, whereas a person belonging to the Bosniac national minority chairs the Committee for Labour, Veterans and Social Affairs. The sub-committee for reviewing the implementation of the regional project “Decade of Roma Inclusion” has been established within the Committee for Inte-ethnic Relations. Persons belonging to national minorities are also members of the permanent delegations of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia in international parliamentary institutions. Furthermore, one of the vice-chairpersons of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia belongs to the Bosniac national minority.

Out of the total number of 120 deputies in the Assembly of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, 24 deputies belong to the Hungarian national minority, 2 deputies are members of the Slovak national minority, 1 deputy is a person belonging to the Bunjevci national minority, etc. Moreover, one of the vice-chairs of the Assembly of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina belongs to the Hungarian national minority, and another is a member of the Slovak national minority. The Assembly of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina has established 20 committees, one of them being the Committee

for Interethnic Relations, which gives opinions on the bills and other issues related to the conduct of interethnic relations and exercise of the rights to education, culture, information of the members of national minorities, and the chairperson of the Committee belongs to the Hungarian national minority.

According to the results of the local elections in the Republic of Serbia held in 2004, 698 persons belonging to national minorities were elected councillors in the representative bodies of the local self-government, which accounts for 11.5% of the total number of councillors in the Republic of Serbia.

Participation of persons belonging to national minorities in the representative bodies of local self-government (2004)

NATIONAL MINORITY	NUMBER OF COUNCILLORS Republic of Serbia	Percentage participation in the total number of councillors (which is equal to 6,634)
Albanians	66	0.99
Macedonians	6	0.09
Romanians	25	0.38
Vlachs	22	0.33
Moslems	3	0.05
Czechs	4	0.06
Bosniacs	148	2.2
Ruthenians	14	0.21
Bulgarians	66	0.99
Hungarians	234	3.53
Roma	20	0.30
Slovaks	68	1.02
Croats	22	0.33
TOTAL	698	11.5

The table shows the data on the members of national minorities who were elected councillors in the representative bodies of the local self-governments in the local elections held in 2004.²⁹

15.7.2. Participation of Persons Belonging to National Minorities in the Executive Power and Administrative Bodies

Participation of the persons belonging to national minorities in executive power and administrative bodies has been achieved in practice.

One of the Ministers in the Government of the Republic of Serbia is a member of the Bosniac national minority, and also a certain number of state secretaries belong to national minorities.

²⁹ Note: the table does not include data for the municipalities where an extraordinary round of elections was subsequently held.

An anonymous survey regarding, *inter alia*, nationalities has been conducted in the public administration bodies for the purposes of keeping staff registers, yet a large number of public administration officers have not declared their national affiliation. However, in the same survey the officers provided information about their mother tongue and knowledge of other languages, which can be significant for understanding the participation of persons belonging to minorities and speakers of minority languages in the public administration bodies.

The data on the speakers and the knowledge of minority languages in the public administration bodies and agencies of the Government of the Republic of Serbia (2006):

Number of staff in bodies of executive power with the knowledge of minority languages			
No.	Institution	Minority language	Total number of staff with the knowledge of this language
1	Ministry of Health		
	Total number of staff		353
		Albanian	1
		Bulgarian	1
		German	5
2	Ministry of Finance		
	Total number of staff		214
		Bulgarian	1
		Hungarian	1
		Macedonian	2
		German	27
		Slovak	1
		Croatian	1
3	Ministry of Capital Investments³⁰		
	Total number of staff		301
		Albanian	3
		Bulgarian	4
		Hungarian	5
		Macedonian	6
		German	39
		Romanian	5
		Slovak	1
		Croatian	2
4	Ministry of Agriculture		
	Total number of staff		1000

³⁰ The Ministry of Capital Investments was in existence at the time when the survey was conducted. Most of the staff thereof is now employed in the Ministry of Infrastructure.

		Albanian	9
		Bulgarian	10
		Hungarian	26
		Macedonian	16
		German	89
		Romanian	10
		Slovak	3
5	Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Policy		
	Total number of staff		548
		Albanian	4
		Bulgarian	3
		Hungarian	4
		Macedonian	8
		German	68
		Romanian	2
		Ruthenian	1
		Slovak	2
		Ukrainian	2
		Czech	1
6	Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Services		
	Total number of staff		797
		Albanian	4
		Bulgarian	8
		Hungarian	10
		Macedonian	7
		German	64
		Romanian	5
		Slovak	1
		Ukrainian	1
		Croatian	1
7	Ministry of Mining and Energy		
	Total number of staff		55
		Albanian	1
		German	14
8	Ministry of Religion		
	Total number of staff		6
		German	1
9	Ministry of Public Administration and Local		

	Self-Government		
	Total number of staff		67
		German	8
10	Ministry of International Economic Relations		
	Total number of staff		108
		Hungarian	1
		German	7
11	Ministry of Culture		
	Total number of staff		58
		German	7
		Czech	1
12	Ministry for Diaspora		
	Total number of staff		38
		Albanian	2
		Hungarian	1
		German	5
13	Administration for Common Affairs of the Republic Bodies		
	Total number of staff		1014
		Albanian	2
		Bulgarian	2
		Hungarian	1
		Macedonian	5
		German	46
		Romanian	2
		Slovak	2
		Czech	1

The staff of the Agency for Human and Minority Rights was given the options in the survey to declare their knowledge of the Bosniac/Bosnian and Croatian languages separately; therefore the number of officers with the knowledge of these languages is much larger than in the other authorities.

14	Agency for Human and Minority Rights		
	Total number of permanent staff and contract associates		55
		Albanian	3
		Bosniac/Bosnian	55
		Bulgarian	4
		Vlach	1
		Macedonian	15

		German	5
		Roma	6
		Slovak	2
		Ukrainian	3
		Croatian	55
		Czech	2

The data on the participation of persons belonging to national minorities in the Ministry of Interior Affairs of the Republic of Serbia are provided in the answers to the additional questions submitted by the Council of Ministers of FRY to the Advisory Committee during the first reporting cycle. The table below presents the data on the changes in participation of the members of national minorities in the police administration units in the territory of AP Vojvodina.

MINISTRY OF INTERIOR AFFAIRS

The aggregated data for seven police administration units in the territory of AP Vojvodina (Novi Sad, Sremska Mitrovica, Pančevo, Kikinda, Zrenjanin, Subotica, Sombor) of the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Serbia, with the total of 7,251 employees.

National affiliation	2005		2006		% in the national structure of the APV population
Serbs	6143	78.38%	5554	76.6%	65.05
Yugoslavs	545	6.99%	492	6.76%	2.45
Hungarians	453	5.81%	361	4.98%	14.28
Montenegrins	235	3.02%	196	2.7%	1.75
Slovaks	111	1.42%	95	1.31%	2.79
Croats	80	1.03%	69	0.95%	2.78
Macedonians	47	0.6%	31	0.43%	0.58
Romanians	43	0.55%	35	0.48%	1.5
Ruthenians	41	0.53%	24	0.33	0.77

REPUBLIC GEODETIC AUTHORITY

The data from the Land Registry Offices in the territory of AP Vojvodina. The number of employees totals 343.

Nationality	Number of employees	2006
Serbs	208	65.8%
Hungarians	35	11.1%
Yugoslavs	7	2.2%
Vojvodinians	9	2.8%
Montenegrins	12	3.8%
Slovaks	10	3.2%
Croats	4	1.3%
Ruthenians	6	1.9%

**MINISTRY OF FINANCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA – CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATION
(Customs Houses and Customs Offices in the territory of AP Vojvodina)**

According to the data obtained from the Customs Administration, the total number of staff in the customs houses and customs offices in the territory of AP Vojvodina is 818.

Nationality	Number of staff	2006
Serbs	663	18.1
Hungarians	43	5.3
Yugoslavs	37	4.5
Vojvodinians	3	0.4
Montenegrins	31	3.8
Slovaks	4	0.5
Croats	15	1,8
Romanians	4	0.5

REPUBLIC HEALTH INSURANCE BUREAU

There is a total of 493 staff in the Republic Health Insurance Bureau – Provincial Bureau in Novi Sad

Nationality	Number of staff	2006
Serbs	369	74.8
Hungarians	38	7.7
Yugoslavs	13	2.6
Vojvodinians	11	2.2
Montenegrins	17	3.4
Slovaks	10	2.0
Croats	11	2.2
Ruthenians	5	1.0
Undecided	6	1.2

**REPUBLIC FUND FOR PENSION AND DISABILITY INSURANCE OF EMPLOYED PERSONS
– BRANCH OFFICE NOVI SAD**

Nationality	Number of staff	2006
Serbs	78	61.9
Hungarians	2	1.6
Yugoslavs	2	1.6
Vojvodinians	5	4.0
Montenegrins	10	7.9
Slovaks	1	0.8
Croats	2	1.6
Undecided	7	5.6

**REPUBLIC FUND FOR PENSION AND DISABILITY INSURANCE OF SELF-EMPLOYED
PERSONS**

The total number of staff in the Republic Fund for Pension and Disability Insurance of Self-Employed Persons, branch office for the territory of AP Vojvodina, is 47.

Nationality	Number of staff	2006
Serbian	33	70.2
Hungarians	1	2.1
Vojvodinians	7	14.9
Montenegrins	3	6.4
Croats	1	2.1
Undecided	2	4.3

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA
(County prisons and penitentiaries in the territory of APV)

In the county prisons in Subotica, Novi Sad, Zrenjanin and Pancevo and the penitentiaries in Sombor and Sremska Mitrovica, according to the Administration for the Enforcement of Penal Sanctions within the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Serbia, there are 910 employees in total.

Nationality	Number of employees	2006
Serbs	842	92.5
Hungarians	16	1.8
Yugoslavs	9	1.0
Vojvodinians	9	1.0
Montenegrins	4	0.4
Slovaks	4	0.4
Croats	1	0.1
Ruthenians	7	0.8
Undecided	11	1.2

NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

In the branch offices of the National Employment Service of the Republic of Serbia, in Subotica, Novi Sad, Zrenjanin, Pančevo, Sombor, Kikinda and Sremska Mitrovica, there are 456 employees in total.

Nationality	Number of employees	2006
Serbs	362	79.4
Hungarians	26	5.7
Romanians	7	1.5
Yugoslavs	7	1.5
Vojvodinians	10	2.2
Montenegrins	7	1.5
Slovaks	11	2.4
Croats	11	2.4
Ruthenians	4	0.9
Undecided	5	1.1

Out of the 18 members of the Executive Council of AP Vojvodina, 4 persons belong to the Hungarian national minority and occupy the posts of secretaries of the Secretariat for Regulations, Administration and National Minorities, the Secretariat for Education and Culture, the Secretariat for Privatisation, Entrepreneurship, Small and Medium Enterprises and the Secretariat for Environmental Protection and Sustainable

Development. Moreover, two out of four vice-chairs of the Executive Council are persons belonging to the Hungarian national minority.

The data on the national structure of the persons employed in the provincial administration bodies is given in the table below.

NAME OF AUTHORITY	Unknown nationality	Bunjevci	Croats	Hungarians	Macedonians	Moslems	Germans	Roma	Romanians	Ruthenians	Slovaks	Ukrainians	Total
PS for Architecture, Civil Engineering and Construction	6												19
PS for Demography, Family and Child Protection	1		1	2									15
PS for Energy and Mineral Raw Materials	10			2									23
PS for Finance	24			1					1		1		84
PS for Information	14			2									28
PS for Local Self-government and Co-operation of Municipalities	11		1								1		22
PS for Science and Technological Development	6												13
PS for Education and Culture	29		1	13					1		1		82
PS for Agriculture, Water Resources and Forestry	11		1	1									29
PS for Privatisation, Entrepreneurship, Small and Medium Enterprises	3			1									7
PS for Economy	10			2									33
PS for Regulations, Administration and National Minorities	15		3	10				1	5	4	7		62
PS for Labour, Employment and Gender Equality	7			2									19
PS for Sports and Youth	7												19
PS for Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development	20			1								1	33
PS for Health and Social Policy	13	2	3	2		1				1			110
Secretariat of the APV Executive Council	14			1			1						34
Secretariat for Regional and International Co-operation	7									1			12
Agency for General and Common Affairs of the Provincial Bodies	46	1	5	12	1		1		2	1	3		311
Agency for the Implementation of Economic Development Programme of AP Vojvodina	2												4
Directorate for Commodity Reserves of AP Vojvodina	11												13
Total	267	3	15	52	1	1	2	1	9	7	13	1	972
Percentage	27.47	0.31	1.54	5.35	0.10	0.10	0.21	0.10	0.93	0.72	1.34	0.10	

**Breakdown of the persons employed in the provincial authorities by their
knowledge of minority languages, in January 2006**

No.	AUTHORITY	PASSIVE	%	ACTIVE	%	NONE	%	UNKNOWN	%	TOTAL
1.	PS for Architecture, Civil Engineering and Construction					19	100.00			19
2.	PS for Demography, Family and Child Protection	1	6.67	3	20.00	11	73.33			15
3.	PS for Energy and Mineral Raw Materials			2	8.70	20	86.96	1	4.35	23
4.	PS for Finance			6	7.14	75	89.29	3	3.57	84
5.	PS for Information			5	17.86	23	82.14			28
6.	PS for Local Self-government and Co-operation of Municipalities			3	13.64	18	81.82	1	4.55	22
7.	PS for Science and Technological Development	1	7.69			12	92.31			13
8.	PS for Education and Culture	1	1.22	17	20.73	63	76.83	1	1.22	82
9.	PS for Agriculture, Water Resources and Forestry			5	17.24	24	82.76			29
10.	PS for Privatisation, Entrepreneurship, Small and Medium Enterprises			2	28.57	5	71.43			7
11.	PS for Economy	1	3.03	4	12.12	28	84.85			33
12.	PS for Regulation, Administration and National Minorities			33	53.23	29	46.77			62
13.	PS for Labour, Employment and Gender Equality			2	10.53	17	89.47			19
14.	PS for Sports and Youth			1	5.26	16	84.21	2	10.53	19
15.	PS for Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development	4	12.12	1	3.03	26	78.79	2	6.06	33

16.	PS for Health and Social Policy	4	3.64	10	9.09	94	85.45	2	1.82	110
17.	Secretariat of the APV Executive Council	1	2.94	5	14.71	27	79.41	1	2.94	34
18.	Secretariat for Regional and International Co-operation			4	33.33	8	66.67			12
19.	Agency for General and Common Affairs of the Provincial Bodies	10	3.22	22	7.07	275	88.42	4	1.29	311
20.	Agency for the Implementation of Economic Development Programme of AP Vojvodina					4	100.00			4
21.	Directorate for Commodity Reserves of AP Vojvodina					10	76.92	3	23.08	13
	TOTAL	23	2.37	125	12.86	804	82.72	20	2.06	972

Persons belonging to national minorities, in particular Hungarians (Bačka Topola, Bački Petrovac, Mali Idos, Subotica, Ada, Kanjiža, Senta), Bosniacs (Novi Pazar, Tutin, Sjenica, Prijepolje) and Albanians (Bujanovac, Preševo), participate in the executive power on the level of local self-governments, and they also occupy the positions of presidents of municipalities.

Data on the speakers and the knowledge of minority languages in the local self-government bodies are available only for the territory of AP Vojvodina. The data is from December 2004.

Breakdown of employees by their mother tongue in the local self-government units in the territory of AP Vojvodina

MUNICIPALITY	Bulgarian	Croatian	Croatian-Serbian	Hungarian and Croatian	Hungarian and German	Hungarian and Serbian	Hungarian	Macedonian	German	No data	Other	Roma	Romanian and Serbian	Romanian	Ruthenian	Slovak and Serbian	Slovak	Serbo-Croatian	Ukrainian	TOTAL
City of Novi Sad							28			1	1	1			3		8	3		673
Municipality of Ada							41													50
Municipality of Alibunar	1						2							31			2			94
Municipality of Apatin							7													70
Municipality of Bač							1										5			47
Municipality of Bačka Palanka							1										5			135

Municipality of Bačka Topola								54														80
Municipality of Bački Petrovac																		33				43
Municipality of Bečež								41											2			90
Municipality of Bela Crkva					1				1					1								39
Municipality of Beočin		1																2				63
Municipality of Čoka								40														60
Municipality of Indija						1	1											1				101
Municipality of Irig							5															49
Municipality of Kanjiža						1	71															74
Municipality of Kikinda						1	7			1									1			136
Municipality of Kovačica							8							9				37				82
Municipality of Kovin						1	8							5								110
Municipality of Kula							8			1							15			2		92
Municipality of Mali Iđos						1	20															30
Municipality of Nova Crnja							7															34
Municipality of Novi Bečež							11		1													61
Municipality of Novi Kneževac							1															23
Municipality of Odzaci						1	5										2		4			78
Municipality of Opatovo																						13
Municipality of Pančevo							9	4		1			1	2				6				298
Municipality of Pečinci										2												66
Municipality of Plandište							5	1						2	1			2				50
Municipality of Ruma							1			1												119
Municipality of Sečanj							4															72
Municipality of Senta							77															87
Municipality of Sombor							20	1						1					1			117
Municipality of Srbobran							2	6														46
Municipality of Sremska Mitrovica		2							1											1		180
Municipality of Sremski Karlovci																						37
Municipality of Stara Pazova									1		1								15	1		130
Municipality of Subotica		10	1	1			6	13			1						1		2	11		275
Municipality of Temerin							1	21										1				68
Municipality of Titel								1														51
Municipality of Vrbas								8									10					104
Municipality of Vršac							2	7	3		1			2	0							174
Municipality of Zabalj																		1				64
Municipality of Žitište		1					1	7			1				5							89
Municipality of Zrenjanin								45			7				1							322
TOTAL	1	14	1	1	1	18	716	13	1	17	1	1	3	91	33	1	136	19	2	4676		

15.7.3. Participation of Persons Belonging to National Minorities in the Judicial Power

Participation of the persons belonging to national minorities in the judicial power has been achieved in practice. Having regard to the fact that the minority languages are officially used in the work of courts, surveys have been conducted in courts regarding the mother tongue of judges, which to some extent provides insight into the national structure, i.e. the participation of the persons belonging to national minorities in the judicial power.

Data on the mother tongue of the judges (who opted for some of the languages offered in the survey) in the municipal courts is presented in the table below.

Name of Authority	Number of judges	Mother Tongue							
		Serbian	Hungarian	Slovak	Romanian	Ruthenian	Croatian	Albanian	Bulgarian
Municipal Court of Ada	3		3						
Municipal Court of Alibunar	6	2		1	2				
Municipal Court of Apatin	5	5							
Municipal Court of Bačka Palanka	14	13	1						
Municipal Court of Bačka Topola	9	6	3						
Municipal Court of Bečež	8	6	2						
Municipal Court of Bela Crkva	6	6							
Municipal Court of Inđija	10	10							
Municipal Court of Kanjiža	5	1	4						
Municipal Court of Kikinda	14	14							
Municipal Court of Kovin	7	7							
Municipal Court of Kovacica	6	1		3	2				
Municipal Court of Kula	6								
Municipal Court of Novi Bečež	6	6							
Municipal Court of Novi Kneževac	5	4	1						
Municipal Court of Novi	87	67	1	1	1				

Sad									
Municipal Court of Odžaci	5	4		1					
Municipal Court of Pančevo	30	26	1	2	1				
Municipal Court of Ruma	18	18							
Municipal Court of Senta	7	3	4						
Municipal Court of Šid	7	7							
Municipal Court of Sombor	22	10	1			1			
Municipal Court of Sremska Mitrovica	18	18							
Municipal Court of Stara Pazova	8	8							
Municipal Court of Subotica	34	24	5						
Municipal Court of Temerin	4	3	1						
Municipal Court of Titel	4	3	1						
Municipal Court of Vršac	14	13			1				
Municipal Court of Vrbas	10	9	1						
Municipal Court of Zrenjanin	33	28	5						
Municipal Court of Bosilegrad	5	-							5
Municipal Court of Bujanovac	9	8						1	
Municipal Court of Dimitrovgrad	4	1							3
Municipal Court of Preševo	5	2						3	
TOTAL	434	333	34	8	7	1	0	4	8

The national structure of the persons holding judicial positions in the district courts in the territory of AP Vojvodina, according to data obtained in August 2006, is presented in the table below.

No	NAME OF AUTHORITY	Number of persons holding judicial positions	National structure												
			Serbs	Montenegrins	Hungarians	Slovaks	Romanians	Ruthenians	Croats	Bunjevci	Vojvodinians	Yugoslavs	Undecided	Unwilling to state their nationality	Other nationalities
1	District Court of Novi Sad	27	19	1	1			1			2	2	1		
2	District Court of Pančevo	13	12												1
3	District Court of Sombor	9	6												
4	District Court of Sremska Mitrovica	15	15												
5	District Court of Subotica	12	4		3									5	
6	District Court of Zrenjanin	13	12												
	Total	89	68	1	4	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	1	5	1
	%		76.4	1.1	4.5	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0	2.2	2.2	1.1	5.6	1.1

The national structure of judges in the district courts in AP Vojvodina is given in the table below.

No	NAME OF AUTHORITY	Number of judges	NATIONAL STRUCTURE													
			Serbs	Montenegrins	Hungarians	Slovaks	Romanians	Ruthenians	Croats	Bunjevci	Vojvodinians	Yugoslavs	Undecided	Unwilling to state their nationality	Other nationalities	
1	Municipal Court of Ada	3			3											
2	Municipal Court of Alibunar	6	2			1	2									1
3	Municipal Court of Apatin	5	3	1								1				
4	Municipal Court of Bačka Palanka	14	12		1											1
5	Municipal Court of Backa Topola	9	6		3											
6	Municipal Court of Bečež	8	5		2								1			
7	Municipal Court of Bela Crkva	6	6													
8	Municipal Court of Inđija	10	10													
9	Municipal Court of Kanjiža	5	1		4											
10	Municipal Court of Kikinda	14	13		1											
11	Municipal Court of Kovin	7	6												1	
12	Municipal Court of Kovačica	6	1			3	2									
13	Municipal Court of Kula	6	3	2											1	
14	Municipal Court of Novi Bečež	6	2		2							1	1			
15	Municipal Court of Novi Kneževac	5	4		1											
16	Municipal Court of Novi Sad	87	59	1	1	1	1		1				4	17	2	
17	Municipal Court of Odžaci	5	4			1										
18	Municipal Court of Pančevo	30	22		1	2	2					1		1	1	
19	Municipal Court of Ruma	18	18													
20	Municipal Court of Senta	7	2		4											
21	Municipal Court of Šid	7	7													
22	Municipal Court of Sombor	22	8	3	1				1							
23	Municipal Court of Sremska Mitrovica	18	18													
24	Municipal Court of Stara Pazova	8	7													1
25	Municipal Court of Subotica	34	16	2	5				5		1	1	1	2	1	
26	Municipal Court of Temerin	4	2		1											1
27	Municipal Court of Titel	4	3		1											

28	Municipal Court of Vršac	14	11				1				1	1			
29	Municipal Court of Vrbas	10	4	5	1										
30	Municipal Court of Zrenjanin	33	27		5						1				
	TOTAL	411	282	14	37	8	8	1	6	0	3	5	7	22	8
	%		68.6	3.4	9.0	1.9	1.9	0.2	1.5	0.0	0.7	1.2	1.7	5.4	1.9

Data on the national structure of judges in the commercial courts in the territory of AP Vojvodina is given in the table below.

No	NAME OF AUTHORITY	Number of persons holding judicial positions	National structure												
			Serbs	Montenegrins	Hungarians	Slovaks	Romanians	Ruthenians	Croats	Bunjevci	Vojvodinians	Yugoslavs	Undecided	Unwilling to state their nationality	Other nationalities
1	Commercial Court in Novi Sad	17	16									1			
2	Commercial Court in Pancevo	7	5			1								1	
3	Commercial Court in Sombor	6	4		1								1		
4	Commercial Court in Sremska Mitrovica	8	6	1								1			
5	Commercial Court in Subotica	8	1		3	1						1	1	1	
6	Commercial Court in Zrenjanin	10	8		1							1			
	Total	56	40	1	5	1	1	0	0	0	0	4	2	2	0
	%		71.4	1.8	8.9	1.8	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.1	3.6	3.6	0.0

Article 16

The Parties shall refrain from measures which alter the proportions of the population in areas inhabited by persons belonging to national minorities and are aimed at restricting the rights and freedoms flowing from the principles enshrined in the present framework Convention.

16.1. Prevention of the Measures Which Alter the Proportions of the Population

Article 78 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, which relates to prohibition of forced assimilation, prohibits undertaking of any measures that would cause artificial changes in the ethnic structure of the population in areas where members of national minorities live traditionally and in considerable numbers.

The Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, in particular Article 22 thereof, prohibits the measures that change the proportion of population in territories inhabited by national minorities, as well as those impeding enjoyment and exercise of the rights of persons belonging to national minorities. In contrast to Article 16 of the Framework Convention, which imposes the obligation to the parties to *refrain* from measures which alter the proportions of the population in areas inhabited by persons belonging to national minorities, the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia and the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities *prohibit* such measures.

Interpretation of the provisions of Article 78 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia and Article 22 of the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities lead to the conclusion that, in accordance with Article 16 of the Framework Convention, *not all the measures* which cause or may cause changes in the proportion of the population are prohibited (sometimes such measures are simply unavoidable), *but only those which cause artificial, unnatural changes in the ethnic structure of the population and/or originate from the public authorities, as well as those impeding enjoyment and exercise of the rights of persons belonging to national minorities.*

Pursuant to the provisions of the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, in order for the measures that alter the proportion of population in areas inhabited by persons belonging to national minorities to be prohibited, *it is not necessary to have the element of intention envisaged by Article 16 of the Framework Convention, i.e. it is not necessary that such measures are undertaken with the purpose to achieve limitation of the rights and freedoms of the persons belonging to national minorities. For prohibition of measures which alter the proportion of the population in areas inhabited by persons belonging to national minorities, it is sufficient to identify objective risk of impeding enjoyment or exercise of their rights through implementation of such measures.*

In the legal system of the Republic of Serbia, there are very few minority rights the enjoyment and exercise of which is subject to the number of members of national minorities and their share in the total population of the Republic of Serbia, or in the population of the area where this right is exercised. The share of minorities in the total

population of the Republic of Serbia or of local self-government units is relevant with respect to the right for addressing the state authorities in one's mother tongue and the right to receive responses to applications, motions and petitions in one's mother tongue (2% share in the total population) and official use of the language and script (15% share in the population of the local self-government unit). Particular measures, which would be implemented by public authorities, and which would alter the proportion of population in certain circumstances, could not objectively hinder the exercise of minority rights, all the more so because enjoyment and exercise of some of those rights which remained effective by virtue of the legal institute of acquired rights cannot be restricted if they were gained under the regulations which were applicable before the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities entered into force. As a result, the official use of minority languages, which was applicable when the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities was passed, remained effective irrespective of the percentage share of the persons belonging to a national minority in the population of a local self-government unit. Set against that background, no alteration with respect to the population numbers in local self-government units could affect the official use of language and script which existed when the Law was passed, even if the number of persons belonging to the national minority whose language is in official use was below 15% or has decreased below this level over time, regardless of the causes which brought about the decrease of the share of persons belonging to the national minority in the total population in that particular area.

Furthermore, the new Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, in Article 20, paragraph 2 thereof, also adopts the principle according to which the attained level of minority rights may not be restricted when restricting human and minority rights. Territorial organisation of the areas inhabited by national minorities has not changed since the 1960's. After the changes in 2000, elections on all levels were conducted according to the proportional system in one electoral district, resulting in no ethnically motivated, discriminating gerrymandering. It should be underlined that certain solutions have been changed in the election laws with a view to facilitating participation of the persons belonging to national minorities in the representative bodies (See comments regarding Article 15).

There have been, and there still are examples of population migration, which results in certain changes of the ethnical proportion of the population in areas inhabited by persons belonging to national minorities. Such measures do not affect the rights of minority communities and their members. This included settlement of refugees and internally displaced persons, who settled in the territory of Yugoslavia from the former republics of SFR Yugoslavia (now sovereign states), or from the territory of AP Kosovo & Metohija, due to warfare campaigns. Special emphasis should be placed on the fact that the returnees on account of the signed readmission agreements most often return to the places of their former residence, or settle in the economically more developed areas. The state did not plan or conduct relocation of persons belonging to that category with the purpose of restricting the rights and freedoms of national minorities.

Article 17

- 1. The Parties undertake not to interfere with the right of persons belonging to national minorities to establish and maintain free and peaceful contacts across frontiers with persons lawfully staying in other States, in particular those with whom they share an ethnic, cultural, linguistic or religious identity, or a common cultural heritage.**
- 2. The Parties undertake not to interfere with the right of persons belonging to national minorities to participate in the activities of non-governmental organisations, both at the national and international levels.**

Paragraph 1

17.1. The Right to Maintain Free and Peaceful Contacts across Frontiers

The right of the persons belonging to national minorities to establish and maintain free and peaceful contacts across frontiers with persons lawfully staying in other states, in particular those with whom they share an ethnic, cultural, linguistic or religious identity or a common cultural heritage is guaranteed, above all, by the Constitution.

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, in its Article 80, guarantees the right to persons belonging to national minorities to undisturbed relations and cooperation with their compatriots outside the territory of the Republic of Serbia.

Article 6 of the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities also lays down that the persons belonging to national minorities are entitled to freely establish and maintain peaceful relations within the Republic of Serbia and outside of its borders with persons legally residing in other countries, particularly those with whom they share a common ethnic, cultural, linguistic and religious identity, or common cultural heritage. The provision stated in paragraph 2 of the same Article establishes that the State may envisage facilitation measures for the purpose of exercising this right.

Cooperation of the persons belonging to national minorities with the persons legally residing in other countries, with whom they share a common, ethnic, cultural, linguistic or religious identity, is also achieved through cultural-educational associations of the members of minorities. The national councils of national minorities and heritage societies of national minorities maintain numerous contacts and cooperation with their compatriots worldwide.

It was exactly for the purpose of maintaining these contacts and in the framework of international cooperation that the practice of including the representatives of the national councils of national minorities in the official delegation of the Government of the

Republic of Serbia for visits to the parent countries of the respective national minorities was introduced.

Paragraph 2

17.2. The Right to Establish and Participate in the Activities of Non-Governmental Organisations

The right of the persons belonging to national minorities to establish non-governmental organisations and to participate in the activities of such organisations flows from the rules governing the establishment and operations of civic associations, which apply under the same conditions to all citizens, and therefore also to the persons belonging to national minorities. Furthermore, their right to establish special cultural, artistic and scientific institutions, societies and associations is additionally provided for, which has been discussed in the comments regarding the implementation of Article 5 of the Framework Convention. It is understood that this right also includes participation in activities of non-governmental organisations in the international context.

Article 18

- 1. The Parties shall endeavour to conclude, where necessary, bilateral and multilateral agreements with other States, in particular neighbouring States, in order to ensure the protection of persons belonging to the national minorities concerned.**
- 2. Where relevant, the Parties shall take measures to encourage transfrontier co-operation.**

18.1. Bilateral Agreements

The Republic of Serbia is a party to bilateral agreements on the protection of national minorities with Hungary, Romania, Macedonia and Croatia. The agreements envisage establishment of intergovernmental mixed commissions, which have so far been established with Hungary and Croatia. Negotiations regarding the establishment of mixed commissions with Macedonia and Romania are currently in progress. The bilateral agreements on cultural and educational cooperation, which have so far been concluded by the Republic of Serbia, contribute to advancement and promotion of the neighbour and friendly relations between the respective countries (see Article 1 of the Report).

Article 19

The Parties undertake to respect and implement the principles enshrined in the present framework Convention making, where necessary, only those limitations, restrictions or derogations which are provided for in international legal instruments, in particular the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, in so far as they are relevant to the rights and freedoms flowing from the said principles.

19.1. Restrictions of Rights

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, in Article 20, paragraph 1 thereof, stipulates that human and minority rights guaranteed by the Constitution *may be restricted by the law* if the Constitution permits such restriction and for the purpose allowed by the Constitution, to the extent necessary to meet the constitutional purpose of the restriction in a democratic society and without encroaching upon the substance of the relevant guaranteed right. Article 20, paragraph 2 states that the attained level of human and minority rights may not be lowered, whereas paragraph 3 of the same Article stipulates the obligation of all state bodies, particularly the courts, to consider the substance of the restricted right, pertinence of restriction, nature and extent of restriction, relation of restriction and its purpose, and the possibility to achieve the purpose of the restriction with less restrictive means when restricting human and minority rights.

In addition to restrictions of human and minority rights, the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, in Articles 200 and 201 thereof, provides for the possibility of derogation from human and minority rights *during the state of emergency and the state of war*. The measures of derogation from the human and minority rights during the state of emergency and the state of war are prescribed by the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia. If the National Assembly is not in a position to convene during the state of emergency, the measures of derogation from human and minority rights are prescribed by the Government of the Republic of Serbia, in a decree, with the President of the Republic as a co-signatory, while during the state of war the measures of derogation are jointly prescribed by the President of the Republic, the President of the National Assembly and the Prime Minister. Article 202 of the Constitution lays down that this derogation is to be permitted only to the extent deemed necessary and that the derogation measures are not permitted in relation to the guaranteed constitutional rights to freedom of thought, religion, conscientious objection, freedom of expressing national affiliation, prohibition of inciting racial, ethnic and religious hatred, prohibition of forced assimilation, etc.

The expounded solutions that enable restriction of and derogation from certain rights comply with the relevant international legal documents. The provision of Article 18, paragraph 3 of the Constitution bears particular significance with respect to implementation of this Article, stipulating that constitutional provisions are to be interpreted to the benefit of promoting values of a democratic society, pursuant to valid international standards in human and minority rights, as well as the practice of international institutions which supervise their implementation.

Article 20

In the exercise of the rights and freedoms flowing from the principles enshrined in the present framework Convention, any person belonging to a national minority shall respect the national legislation and the rights of others, in particular those of persons belonging to the majority or to other national minorities.

20.1. Respecting the National Legislation and the Rights of Others

The Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, in Article 7, paragraph 1 thereof, envisages the prohibition of every misuse of the rights provided under this Law, directed at violent subversion of the constitutional order, violation of the territorial integrity of the Republic of Serbia, violation of the guaranteed freedoms and rights of man and citizen and instigation of national, racial and religious intolerance and hatred. Paragraph 2 of the same Article stipulates that the rights provided under this Law may not be used to further goals which are in contravention of the principles of international law, or which are directed against public safety, morals or health of people. Article 7, paragraph 3 of the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities specifies that the exercise of rights guaranteed by this Law may not affect the duties and responsibilities deriving from citizenship.

In the Republic of Serbia, there have not been any cases where the exercise of the rights enjoyed by the persons belonging to national minorities, independently or in community with others, violated the rights of persons belonging to the majority nation, other national minorities or foreign citizens resident in Serbia.

Article 21

Nothing in the present framework Convention shall be interpreted as implying any right to engage in any activity or perform any act contrary to the fundamental principles of international law and in particular of the sovereign equality, territorial integrity and political independence of States.

Article 22

Nothing in the present framework Convention shall be construed as limiting or derogating from any of the human rights and fundamental freedoms which may be ensured under the laws of any Contracting Party or under any other agreement to which it is a Party.

Article 23

The rights and freedoms flowing from the principles enshrined in the present framework Convention, in so far as they are the subject of a corresponding provision in the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms or in the Protocols thereto, shall be understood so as to conform to the latter provisions.

There have been no changes in the Constitutional and legal solutions related to implementation of Articles 21, 22 and 23 of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities vis-à-vis the First Report.

Article 30

- 1. Any State may at the time of signature or when depositing its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, specify the territory or territories for whose international relations it is responsible to which this framework Convention shall apply.**
- 2. Any State may at any later date, by a declaration addressed to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, extend the application of this framework Convention to any other territory specified in the declaration. In respect of such territory the framework Convention shall enter into force on the first day of the month following the expiration of a period of three months after the date of receipt of such declaration by the Secretary General.**
- 3. Any declaration made under the two preceding paragraphs may, in respect of any territory specified in such declaration, be withdrawn by a notification addressed to the Secretary General. The withdrawal shall become effective on the first day of the month following the expiration of a period of three months after the date of receipt of such notification by the Secretary General.**

30.1. Territorial Application

In the First Report on the Implementation of the Framework Convention submitted by FR Yugoslavia in 2002, it was stressed that when depositing the instruments of ratification no territory was specified for application of the Framework Convention and that, in this respect, the Framework Convention was to be applied in the entire territory of FR Yugoslavia. The Report explicitly states that since the KFOR troops were stationed in Kosovo & Metohija pursuant to the UN Security Council Resolution 1244, this province of the Republic of Serbia has not *de facto* been under control of domestic authorities and that, in this respect, authorities in the Republic of Serbia have not been implementing the provisions of the Framework Convention in the territory of AP Kosovo & Metohija.

After the submission of the First Report on the Implementation of the Framework Convention in FR Yugoslavia, the Council of Europe and UNMIK concluded the Agreement on Technical Arrangements Related to the Framework Convention. The Agreement explicitly states that “UNMIK affirms on behalf of itself and the Provisional Institutions of Self-Government that their respective responsibilities will be exercised in compliance with the principles contained in the Framework Convention”. Furthermore, the Agreement envisages the identical reporting system as for other Parties in the Framework Convention. With due respect for the role of UNMIK administration in Kosovo & Metohija under the Resolution 1244, and with high appreciation of the protection of national minorities in compliance with the principles laid down in the Framework Convention, as well as of the role of the Advisory Committee and the Committee of Ministers in monitoring the implementation of the Convention, emphasis

should, however, be placed on the fact that protection and promotion of minority rights, which is needed in Kosovo & Metohija and the beneficiary of which should be the persons belonging to national minorities traditionally resident in Kosovo & Metohija (Turks, Gorani, Roma, etc.), should not have prejudice to the sovereign rights of the Republic of Serbia in Kosovo & Metohija, which have been temporarily suspended by Resolution 1244; nor should the legitimate interest in the difficult position of Serbs in Kosovo and Metohija on the part of the international community and the international organisations, under whose auspices the most important international agreements on protection of human and minority rights were adopted, imply that Serbs in Kosovo & Metohija are a national minority in the Republic of Serbia, of which Kosovo & Metohija constitute an integral part.³¹

³¹ As appears in the Report on the Implementation of the Convention submitted by UNMIK administration – page 43 thereof

PART III

III. ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE FRAMEWORK CONVENTION

1. INFORMATION ON THE COMPOSITION, NOMINATION PROCEDURES, FUNCTION AND MANDATE OF THE AGENCY FOR HUMAN AND MINORITY RIGHTS

The Agency for Human and Minority Rights of the Government of the Republic of Serbia was established on 8th June 2006. The Agency was established by the Government of the Republic of Serbia by its Decree. According to Article 2 of the Decree on the Establishment of the Agency for Human and Minority Rights, the Agency conducts professional and technical affairs pertaining to: protection and promotion of human and minority rights; participation in drafting regulations on human and minority rights; monitoring the compliance of national regulations with international treaties and other international human and minority rights instruments, as well as initiating amendments to national regulations; representing the Republic of Serbia before the European Court of Human Rights; submitting reports on the implementation of international treaties on human and minority rights if this is envisaged by these treaties; responding to individual applications to international bodies whose competence has been recognised by the Republic of Serbia; status of the national minorities living in the territory of the Republic of Serbia and exercise of minority rights; establishing ties of the national minorities with the respective mother countries; status and exercise of competences of the national councils of national minorities; submitting proposals to the Ministry of Finance to approve the budget funds required for the ongoing operational costs of the national councils of national minorities, as well as funds required for the implementation of projects of the national councils of national minorities. Under paragraph 2 of the same Article of the Decree, the Agency drafts, for the Government, statutory instruments for supervising, directing and harmonising the work of ministries and special administrative organisations that harmonise national regulations with international treaties and other international human and minority rights instruments, while, under paragraph 3 of the same Decree, the Agency provides professional and technical support to the Council for National Minorities of the Republic of Serbia and conducts affairs for the purposes of the Fund for National Minorities envisaged by regulations governing the activities of the Fund. The Agency may also conduct other affairs pertaining to human and minority rights delegated to it by the Government. In Article 3 of the Decree on the Establishment of the Agency for Human and Minority Rights, it is envisaged that the Agency is managed by the Agency Director, appointed by the Government for a five-year term at the proposal of the Prime Minister. Under Article 3 - paragraph 2 of the Decree, the Agency Director answers to the Government and the Prime Minister, while, under paragraph 4 of the same Article, the Agency Director is by position the Secretary of the Council for National Minorities of the Republic of Serbia. Article 4 of the Decree stipulates that the Agency Director has a deputy, appointed by the Government for a five-year term at the Director's proposal. The Deputy Agency Director, under Article 4 – paragraph 2 of the Decree, assists the Agency Director within the mandate set by him/her, and acts on behalf of the Director if he/she is absent or not available. The Deputy Agency Director is by position the representative of the Republic of Serbia before the European

Court of Human Rights. Article 5 of the Decree on the Establishment of the Agency for Human and Minority Rights envisages that the Agency Director has Assistant Directors, appointed by the Government for a five-year term at the Director's proposal. According to the Rules on the Internal Organisation and Job Classification, the Agency comprises three departments, one division and one unit, namely: Department for Legal and General Affairs; Department for International Cooperation; Department for National Minorities, Drafting Legislation and Reports on the Implementation of Conventions; Division for Missing Persons and Unit for Affairs Pertaining to Representation of the Republic of Serbia Before the European Court of Human Rights. The following internal organisational units have been established within the Department for Legal and General Affairs: Division for Legal, Professional and Administrative Affairs and Unit for Financial and Resource Management Affairs, whereas in the Department for National Minorities, Drafting Legislation and Reports on the Implementation of Conventions the following have been established: Division for Promotion of Human and Minority Rights and Implementation of Conventions and Division for National Minorities. On taking over the affairs of the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights, the Agency also took over the affairs of the Roma National Strategy Secretariat, which, as an internal organisational unit of the Agency, participates in the conduct of affairs within the purview of the Agency pertaining to the Roma national minority and persons belonging to it. The office at Bujanovac, established as part of the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights, continues to operate as an internal unit of the Agency, in accordance with the purview and the Rules of the Agency.

2. INFORMATION ON THE COMPOSITION, NOMINATION PROCEDURES, FUNCTION AND MANDATE OF THE COUNCIL FOR NATIONAL MINORITIES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

Under Article 2 of the Decree on the Establishment of the Council for National Minorities of the Republic of Serbia, the Council: 1. endorses the national symbols and holidays of national minorities, at the proposal of the national councils of national minorities (hereinafter: national councils); 2. reviews draft laws and other regulations of importance for the exercise of national minorities and submits opinions on these to the Government; 3. monitors and reviews the situation with respect to the exercise of national minority rights in the Republic of Serbia and the situation of interethnic relations in the Republic of Serbia; 4. proposes measures for the promotion of full and effective equality of persons belonging to national minorities and reviews measures proposed by other bodies and organisations to that end; 5. monitors the progress of cooperation of national councils with the competent bodies of the Republic of Serbia, autonomous provinces, municipalities, cities and the City of Belgrade; 6. reviews the conditions for the work of national councils; 7. reviews the fulfilment of international obligations in terms of exercise of rights of persons belonging to national minorities in the Republic of Serbia and international cooperation of national councils, and 8. conducts other affairs stipulated by law. According to Article 3 of the Decree on the Establishment of the Council for National Minorities of the Republic of Serbia, the Council members are the Prime Minister, minister for public administration and local self-government, minister of culture, minister of education, minister of religion, minister of justice and the minister of

interior affairs, as well as representatives of the Government, chairpersons of national councils established pursuant to the Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, and the president of the Union of Jewish Municipalities in Serbia, whose position corresponds to that of a national council chairperson. Under paragraph 2 of the same Article, the Council is chaired by the Prime Minister. Under Article 4 of the Decree, when the Council adopts decisions in its work, the decision is adopted by the majority of votes of all Government Representatives and the majority of votes of all national council chairpersons.

3. HAS THE ABSENCE OF A MINISTRY RESPONSIBLE FOR MINORITY RIGHTS AFFECTED THE TREATMENT OF THESE MATTERS AT THE STATE POLICY LEVEL?

Under Article 123 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, the Government of the Republic of Serbia establishes and pursues policy. According to Article 136, paragraph 1 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, public administration affairs are conducted by ministries and other public administration bodies as stipulated by law, while under paragraph 2 of the same Article of the Constitution, public administration affairs and the number of ministries are regulated by law. The Law on Public Administration stipulates that public administration affairs comprise: participation in the formulation of Government policy, monitoring the situation, enforcement of laws, other regulations and statutory instruments, inspection audits, attending to public procurements, development affairs and other professional and technical affairs. In the organisational sense, ministries and public administration bodies within them primarily conduct executive and related professional and technical affairs, while agencies, including the Agency for Human and Minority Rights, conduct professional and technical affairs of importance to several ministries. According to Article 31, paragraph 1 of the Law on the Government of the Republic of Serbia, the Government, by virtue of its decrees, establishes agencies for professional or technical affairs for its purposes or for affairs common to all or several public administration bodies, and stipulates their organisation and purview. Considering that, under the Decree on the Establishment of the Agency for Human and Minority Rights, the Agency is, *inter alia*, competent to participate in the preparation of regulations governing human and minority rights and to draft, for the Government, statutory instruments for supervising, directing and harmonising the work of ministries and special administrative organisations that harmonise national regulations with international treaties and other international human and minority rights instruments, it is clear that the absence of a ministry responsible for minority rights has not affected the treatment of these matters at the state policy level. The presented conclusion is even clearer if it is taken into consideration that, according to the Decree on the Establishment of the Council for National Minorities of the Republic of Serbia, the Council, whose membership includes chairpersons of the national councils of national minorities, participates in the creation of Government policy, *inter alia*, by virtue of its mandate to review draft laws and other regulations of importance for the exercise of rights of national minorities and to submit opinions on these to the Government, to monitor and review the situation with respect to the exercise of national minority rights in the Republic of Serbia and the situation of interethnic relations in the Republic of Serbia, as

well as to propose measures for the promotion of full and effective equality of persons belonging to national minorities and to review measures proposed by other bodies and organisations to that end. That the absence of a ministry responsible for minority rights does not affect the treatment of these matters at the state policy level is best witnessed by the comparative overview of competences in the sphere of minority rights and improvement of the status of national minorities of the former Ministry of Human and Minority Rights of Serbia and Montenegro in relation to the competences of the Agency for Human and Minority Rights of the Government of the Republic of Serbia and the Council for National Minorities of the Republic of Serbia, presented in the table below.

Competences of the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights of Serbia and Montenegro	Competences of the Agency for Human and Minority Rights of the Government of the Republic of Serbia	Competences of the Council for National Minorities of the Republic of Serbia
1. Affairs pertaining to the exercise of national minority rights guaranteed by the Constitutional Charter of the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro, Charter on Human and Minority Rights and Civil Liberties, international treaties and laws.	1. Professional tasks pertaining to the protection and promotion of human and minority rights; professional tasks pertaining to the status of national minorities living in the territory of the Republic of Serbia and exercise of minority rights.	1. Monitoring and reviewing the situation with respect to the exercise of national minority rights in the Republic of Serbia and the situation of interethnic relations in the Republic of Serbia.
2. Affairs pertaining to monitoring the situation and proposing measures for the improvement of the legal system in the sphere of national minority rights in conformity with the international legal instruments in this sphere and work coordination with the bodies of the member states working on the implementation of and compliance with international conventions on the protection of human and minority rights.	2. Professional tasks pertaining to participation in drafting regulations governing human and minority rights; monitoring the harmonisation of national regulations with international treaties and other international minority rights instruments and initiating amendments to national regulations; drafting, for the Government, statutory instruments for supervising, directing and harmonising the work of ministries and special administrative organisations that harmonise national regulations with international treaties and other international human and minority rights instruments.	2. Proposing measures for the promotion of full and effective equality of persons belonging to national minorities and reviews measures proposed by other bodies and organisations to that end; reviews the fulfilment of international obligations in terms of exercise of rights of persons belonging to national minorities in the Republic of Serbia.
3. Submitting reports on the implementation of international treaties on human and minority rights where this is envisaged by provisions of international treaties.	3. Submitting reports on the implementation of international treaties on human and minority rights if this is envisaged by these treaties.	3. Reviews the fulfilment of international obligations in terms of exercise of rights of persons belonging to national minorities in the Republic of Serbia.
4. Affairs pertaining to establishing ties of the national minorities with the respective mother countries.	4. Professional tasks pertaining to establishing ties of the national minorities with the respective mother countries.	4. Reviewing international cooperation of national councils.
	5. Professional tasks pertaining to the status and exercise of	5. Monitors the progress of cooperation of national councils

	competences of the national councils of national minorities; submitting proposals to the Ministry of Finance to approve the budget funds required for the ongoing operational costs of the national councils of national minorities, as well as funds required for the implementation of projects of the national councils of national minorities.	with the competent bodies of the Republic of Serbia, autonomous provinces, municipalities, cities and the City of Belgrade; reviews conditions for the work of national councils.
5. Other affairs stipulated by laws, ratified treaties and other legal instruments in the sphere of human and minority rights.	6. Conducts other affairs pertaining to minority rights entrusted to it by the Government.	6. Conducts other affairs stipulated by law.

The only difference between the competences of the former Ministry of Human and Minority Rights of Serbia and Montenegro, on the one hand, and the Agency for Human and Minority Rights of the Government of the Republic of Serbia and the Council for National Minorities of the Republic of Serbia, on the other, is the maintenance of register of national councils of national minorities. Since maintenance of register and entry of national councils in the Register of National Councils is a task that, by its legal nature, falls under enforcement of law, the Agency and the Council for National Minorities could not have competence for tasks of this type. Since the establishment of the Government of the Republic of Serbia and the passage of the new Law on Ministries in May 2007, it has been envisaged that the Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-Government should conduct public administration affairs pertaining to maintenance of the Register of National Councils of National Minorities.

4. THE PRESENT LEGAL STATUS OF THE CHARTER ON HUMAN AND MINORITY RIGHTS

The Charter on Human and Minority Rights and Civil Liberties was one of the constitutional instruments of the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro. The Charter was adopted by the Federal Assembly of FR Yugoslavia at the session of the Council of Citizens held on 28th February 2003 and the session of the Council of Republics held on 28th February 2003. Since the state union ceased to exist owing to the secession of the Republic of Montenegro from the state union, the Republic of Serbia became an independent country in which the Constitution promulgated in 1990 was still in force. In October 2006, the citizens of the Republic of Serbia endorsed the new Constitution of the Republic of Serbia in a referendum. The new Constitution, in most of the provisions pertaining to minority rights, contains solutions identical to those contained in the Charter on Human and Minority Rights and Civil Liberties of Serbia and Montenegro, with the provision in Article 20, paragraph 2 that the attained level of minority rights may not be restricted. Furthermore, the new Constitution comprises important new solutions in the area of minority rights that were not present in the Charter on Human and Minority Rights and Civil Liberties of Serbia and Montenegro. In that respect, it should be stressed that the level of minority rights guaranteed by the Charter on Human and Minority Rights and Civil Liberties of Serbia and Montenegro has been preserved and improved, although

the Charter formally and legally ceased to be in force with the dissolution of the country of which it was a constitutional instrument. That the level of minority rights guaranteed by the Charter on Human and Minority Rights and Civil Liberties of Serbia and Montenegro has been preserved and improved by the provisions of the new Constitution of the Republic of Serbia can be seen from a comparative overview of the provisions of the Charter and of the new Constitution, presented in the table below.

Charter on Human and Minority Rights and Civil Liberties of Serbia and Montenegro	Constitution of the Republic of Serbia
<p><u>Article 47, paragraph 2</u></p> <p>Members of national minorities shall have individual and collective rights, rights that are exercised individually or together with others, in conformity with law and up to international standards.</p>	<p><u>Article 75, paragraph 1</u></p> <p>Persons belonging to national minorities shall be guaranteed special individual or collective rights in addition to the rights guaranteed to all citizens by the Constitution. Individual rights shall be exercised individually and collective rights in community with others, in accordance with the Constitution, law and international treaties.</p>
<p><u>Article 47, paragraph 3</u></p> <p>Collective rights shall imply that members of national minorities may take part, directly or through their elected representatives, in the decision-making process or decide on issues related to their culture, education, information and the use of language and script, in accordance with law.</p>	<p><u>Article 75, paragraph 2</u></p> <p>Persons belonging to national minorities shall take part in decision-making or decide independently, directly or through their deputies, on certain issues related to their culture, education, information and official use of languages and script through their collective rights in accordance with the law.</p>
<p><u>Article 47, paragraph 4</u></p> <p>For the purpose of exercising their right to self-governance in the fields of culture, education, information and official use of language and script, members of national minorities may elect their national councils, in accordance with law.</p>	<p><u>Article 75, paragraph 3</u></p> <p>Persons belonging to national minorities may elect their national councils in order to exercise the right to self-governance in the field of culture, education, information and official use of their language and script, in accordance with the law.</p>
<p><u>Article 48</u></p> <p>The freedom to express national affiliation shall be guaranteed.</p>	<p><u>Article 47</u></p> <p>National affiliation may be expressed freely.</p>

No one shall be bound to declare his/her national affiliation.	No person shall be obliged to declare his national affiliation.
<u>Article 49, paragraph 1</u> Members of national minorities shall be guaranteed equality before the law and equal legal protection.	<u>Article 76, paragraph 1</u> Persons belonging to national minorities shall be guaranteed equality before the law and equal legal protection.
<u>Article 49, paragraph 2</u> Any discrimination based on affiliation to a national minority shall be prohibited.	<u>Article 76, paragraph 2</u> Any discrimination on the grounds of affiliation to a national minority shall be prohibited.
<u>Article 49, paragraph 3</u> Such regulations, measures and actions as are aimed at securing the rights of members of national minorities, when they are in a position of inequality, allowing them to enjoy rights fully on equal terms, shall not be deemed discriminatory.	<u>Article 76, paragraph 3</u> Specific regulations and provisional measures which the Republic of Serbia may introduce in economic, social, cultural and political life for the purpose of achieving full equality among members of a national minority and citizens who belong to the majority, shall not be considered discrimination if they are aimed at eliminating extremely unfavourable living conditions which particularly affect them.
<u>Article 50</u> Forcible assimilation of members of national minorities shall be prohibited. The Member States and the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro shall protect members of national minorities from any action aimed at such assimilation.	<u>Article 78, paragraphs 1 and 2</u> Forced assimilation of members of national minorities shall be strictly prohibited. Protection of members of national minorities from all activities directed towards their forced assimilation shall be regulated by the Law.
<u>Article 51</u> Any instigation of and incitement to ethnic, racial, religious and other inequality, as well as instigation and incitement of national, ethnic, racial, religious and other hatred and intolerance, shall be prohibited and punishable.	<u>Article 49</u> Any instigation of racial, ethnic, religious or other inequality, hatred or intolerance shall be prohibited and punishable.
<u>Article 52, paragraph 1, indent 1</u>	<u>Article 79</u>

Members of national minorities shall have the right to express, preserve, foster, develop and publicly manifest their national and ethnic, cultural and religious identity.	Members of national minorities shall have a right to: expression, preservation, fostering, developing and public expression of national, ethnic, cultural and religious specificity.
<u>Article 52, paragraph 1, indent 2</u> Members of national minorities shall have the right to use their symbols at public places.	<u>Article 79</u> Members of national minorities shall have a right to the use of their symbols in public places.
<u>Article 52, paragraph 1, indent 3</u> Members of national minorities shall have the right to freely use their language and script.	<u>Article 79</u> Members of national minorities shall have a right to the use of their language and script.
<u>Article 52, paragraph 1, indent 4</u> Members of national minorities shall have the right to have proceedings conducted by the authorities in the communities having a considerable minority population also in the language of the minority population concerned.	<u>Article 79</u> Members of national minorities shall have a right to have proceedings also conducted in their languages before state bodies, organisations with delegated public powers, bodies of autonomous provinces and local self-government units, in areas where they constitute a significant majority of population.
<u>Article 52, paragraph 1, indent 5</u> Members of national minorities shall have the right to receive education in their language in state institutions.	<u>Article 79</u> Members of national minorities shall have a right to education in their languages in public institutions and institutions of autonomous provinces.
<u>Article 52, paragraph 1, indent 6</u> Members of national minorities shall have the right to establish private educational institutions at all levels.	<u>Article 79</u> Members of national minorities shall have a right to found private educational institutions.
<u>Article 52, paragraph 1, indent 7</u> Members of national minorities shall have the right to use their own name and surname in their own language.	<u>Article 79</u> Members of national minorities shall have a right to the use of their name and family name in their language.

<p><u>Article 52, paragraph 1, indent 8</u></p> <p>Members of national minorities shall have the right to have the traditional local names, names of streets and settlements, as well as topographic signs written also in the minority language.</p>	<p><u>Article 79</u></p> <p>Members of national minorities shall have a right to have traditional local names, names of streets, settlements and topographic names also written in their languages, in areas where they constitute a significant majority of population.</p>
<p><u>Article 52, paragraph 1, indent 11</u></p> <p>Members of national minorities shall have the right to be fully and impartially informed in their own language, including the right to express, receive, send and exchange information and ideas.</p>	<p><u>Article 79</u></p> <p>Members of national minorities shall have a right to complete, timely and unbiased information in their language, including the right to expression, receiving, sending and exchange of information and ideas.</p>
<p><u>Article 52, paragraph 1, indent 12</u></p> <p>Members of national minorities shall have the right to establish their own public media.</p>	<p><u>Article 79</u></p> <p>Members of national minorities shall have a right to establish their own mass media.</p>
<p><u>Article 53</u></p> <p>Members of national minorities shall have the right to establish educational and cultural organisations and associations, which are funded voluntarily.</p> <p>Organisations and associations of members of national minorities shall be recognised as having a special role in the exercise of rights of members of national minorities.</p>	<p><u>Article 80, paragraphs 1 and 2</u></p> <p>Members of national minorities may found educational and cultural associations, which are funded voluntarily.</p> <p>The Republic of Serbia shall acknowledge a specific role of educational and cultural associations of national minorities in the exercise of rights of members of national minorities.</p>
<p><u>Article 54</u></p> <p>Members of national minorities shall have the right to establish undisturbed relations and to cooperate with their compatriots living outside the territory of the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro.</p>	<p><u>Article 80, paragraph 3</u></p> <p>Members of national minorities shall have a right to undisturbed relations and cooperation with their compatriots outside the territory of the Republic of Serbia.</p>
<p><u>Article 55, paragraphs 1 and 2</u></p> <p>The Member States shall adopt,</p>	<p><u>Article 76, paragraph 3</u></p> <p>Specific regulations and</p>

<p>wherever necessary, appropriate measures towards advancing full and effective equality between members of national minorities and members of the majority, in all spheres of economic, social, political and cultural life.</p> <p>When necessary, the measures referred to in the previous paragraph shall be geared to the elimination of strikingly unfavourable living conditions, particularly affecting members of a national minority.</p>	<p>provisional measures which the Republic of Serbia may introduce in economic, social, cultural and political life for the purpose of achieving full equality among members of a national minority and citizens who belong to the majority, shall not be considered discrimination if they are aimed at eliminating extremely unfavourable living conditions which particularly affect them.</p>
<p><u>Article 55, paragraph 3</u></p> <p>The State Union of Serbia and Montenegro, acting within the competencies determined by the Constitutional Charter, and the Member States, shall guarantee to members of national minorities the right to manage public affairs, including the right to vote and be nominated for holders of public offices, on equal footing with other citizens.</p>	<p><u>Article 77, paragraph 1</u></p> <p>Members of national minorities shall have the right to participate in administering public affairs and assume public positions, under the same conditions as other citizens.</p>
<p><u>Article 56</u></p> <p>The State Union of Serbia and Montenegro and the Member States shall encourage a spirit of tolerance and multicultural dialogue in the fields of education, culture and the media, and apply efficacious measures towards upgrading mutual respect and understanding and co-operation among all people living in its territory, irrespective of their ethnic, cultural, linguistic or religious identity.</p>	<p><u>Article 81</u></p> <p>In the field of education, culture and information, Serbia shall foster the spirit of tolerance and intercultural dialogue and undertake efficient measures for enhancement of mutual respect, understanding and cooperation among all people living on its territory, regardless of their ethnic, cultural, linguistic or religious identity.</p>
<p><u>Article 52, paragraph 1, indent 9</u></p> <p>Members of national minorities shall have the right to a certain number of seats in the Assembly of the Member State concerned and in the Assembly of the State Union, based on the principle of direct representation, in accordance with the laws of the Member States.</p>	<p><u>Article 100, paragraph 2</u></p> <p>In the National Assembly, equality and representation of national minorities shall be ensured, in accordance with Law.</p>
<p><u>Article 52, paragraph 1, indent 10</u></p>	<p><u>Article 180, paragraph 4</u></p>

<p>Members of national minorities shall have the right to be adequately represented in public services, state authorities and local self-government authorities.</p>	<p>In those autonomous provinces and local self-government units with the population of mixed nationalities, proportional representation of national minorities in assemblies shall be provided for, in accordance with the Law.</p> <p><u>Article 77, paragraph 2</u></p> <p>In recruitment in state bodies, public services, bodies of autonomous provinces and local self-government units, the ethnic structure of population and appropriate representation of members of national minorities shall be taken into consideration.</p>
<p>_____</p>	<p><u>Article 78, paragraph 3</u></p> <p>It shall be strictly prohibited to undertake measures which would cause artificial changes in ethnic structure of population in areas where members of national minorities live traditionally and in considerable numbers.</p>

5. INFORMATION ON SIGNIFICANT CHANGES REGARDING CONSTITUTIONAL PROTECTION OF NATIONAL MINORITIES FOLLOWING THE PROMULGATION OF THE NEW CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

A detailed examination of the above table will lead to the conclusion that the new constitutional solutions regarding minority rights are based partly on the provisions and/or principles of the “Small Charter”³² (e.g. the explicit guarantee of the freedom of association to the persons belonging to national minorities, right to cooperation with compatriots abroad, right to use symbols, prohibition of forced assimilation, official use of language and script, etc.); therefore, in the sphere of minority rights, the promulgation of the new Constitution of the Republic of Serbia represents both the maintenance of the level of rights attained after the democratic changes and further development, since the new Constitution also contains provisions that were not present in the Charter on Human and Minority Rights and Civil Liberties (e.g. prohibition of artificial changes in the ethnic structure of the population in areas where members of national minorities live

³² Charter on Human and Minority Rights and Civil Liberties (translator’s note)

traditionally and in considerable numbers, providing proportional representation of national minorities in the assemblies of autonomous provinces and local self-government units with the population of mixed nationalities, etc.). In the Conclusion of its Opinion on the Constitution of Serbia, the European Commission for Democracy through Law (the Venice Commission) stresses that “the Constitution contains numerous positive elements, including... a detailed list of fundamental rights“.³³ The new Constitution lays down a more effective system of human rights protection by constitutional court through the institute of constitutional appeal, which was not envisaged under the previous Constitution of the Republic of Serbia from 1990, and which, during the existence of the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro, was not an effective legal means before the Court of Serbia and Montenegro. Article 170 of the new Constitution stipulates that a constitutional appeal may be filed against individual statutory instruments or actions of state bodies or organisations with delegated public powers whereby human or minority rights guaranteed by the Constitution are violated or denied, if other legal means of protection of these rights are exhausted or not provided for.

6. WERE REPRESENTATIVES OF NATIONAL MINORITIES INVOLVED IN THE PROCESS OF DRAFTING THE CONSTITUTION AND IN WHAT WAY?

The Constitution of the Republic of Serbia was endorsed in 2006, when the previous Constitution had been in force for sixteen years. While the previous Constitution was in force, there were frequent discussions and panels held in the expert and political public circles on the need to amend certain solutions contained in this Constitution, i.e. on the need to adopt a wholly new Constitution. Experts belonging to national minorities, as well as political parties whose membership comprised persons belonging to national minorities, also took part in these discussions and debates. The adoption of the Charter on Human and Minority Rights and Civil Liberties of Serbia and Montenegro marked, in a certain way, the departure from solutions contained in the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia of 1990, especially in the sphere of minority rights and their protection, and was widely accepted among the political representatives of national minorities. In the sphere of minority rights, the new Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, as has been pointed out, maintains the level of rights attained after democratic changes, but also takes them a step further since it also contains provisions that were not present in the Charter on Human and Minority Rights and Civil Liberties. In the period preceding the endorsement of the Constitution, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Serbia in the capacity of the Chairperson of the Council for National Minorities of the Republic of Serbia, presented to chairpersons of national councils the justification of the solutions in the sphere of minority rights contained in the new Constitution. In the referendum campaign for the endorsement of the new Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, some national councils of national minorities explicitly invited the people belonging to the minorities they represented to endorse the new Constitution in their capacity as citizens, i.e. to vote in favour of the endorsement of the new Constitution at the referendum.

³³ See Opinion no. 405/2006 dated 19th March 2007 – CDL-AD(2007)004

7. THE PRESENT LEGAL STATUS OF THE LAW ON THE PROTECTION OF RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS OF NATIONAL MINORITIES

Following the dissolution of the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro, the Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities became a law of the Republic of Serbia. Moreover, while the state union was still in existence, certain provisions of the Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities were enforced as legal norms of the Republic of Serbia and by bodies of the Republic of Serbia, pursuant to the provision of Article 64, paragraph 2 of the Constitutional Charter, which stipulated that the laws of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia outside the scope of work of Serbia and Montenegro would be applicable as laws of member states until the adoption of new regulations by the states, except for those laws that were not enforced by decision of the assembly of the state in question. In this respect, it should be emphasised that on 16th September 2004, while the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro was in existence, the Government of the Republic of Serbia adopted the Decree on the Establishment of the Council for National Minorities of the Republic of Serbia pursuant to Article 18 of the Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities.

8. RECENT LEGAL SOLUTIONS AND DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING COUNCILS OF NATIONAL MINORITIES AND PLANS REGARDING NEW LAWS

Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities does not precisely lay down the competences of national councils of national minorities in the fields of education, culture, information and official use of languages and scripts. Specific laws and bylaws that have been adopted since the passage of the Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities and that govern specific areas of social life of importance to national minorities lay down, to a certain extent, the competences of the national councils of national minorities (e.g. Law on Basic Principles of the Educational System, Decision on More Specific Regulation of Certain Issues concerning Official Use of Languages and Scripts in the Territory of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, etc.). Yet, such legislative regulation is not sufficient and it is beyond doubt that there is a need to regulate legally the field of competences of national councils of national minorities in a precise and codified manner, especially since the endorsement of the new Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, which constitutionally recognises the right of persons belonging to national minorities to elect national councils, through which the national minorities exercise their self-governance in the fields of education, culture, information and official use of languages and scripts. The presented view *a fortiori* pertains to the matters of election of national councils, which, according to the applicable solutions contained in the transitional and final provisions of the Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, are elected in conformity with the bylaw governing only the initial and, if applicable, extraordinary elections for national councils of national minorities.

Following the endorsement of the new Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, in November 2006, pursuant to its mandate, the Agency for Human and Minority Rights of the Government of the Republic of Serbia produced a working version of the law on

election and mandate of national councils of national minorities and submitted it for review to a coordination body of national councils. The Agency for Human and Minority Rights also submitted the working version of the law for review to the experts of the Council of Europe through the Council of Europe Office in Belgrade. On 24th May 2007, the Agency for Human and Minority Rights and the Council of Europe Office in Belgrade organised a Round Table in Belgrade to discuss the proposed solutions, and the Council of Europe's expert Mr Hoffman, amongst others, presented his expert review of the working version of the law. After the new Government of the Republic of Serbia was formed, the affairs relating to drafting the law on election and mandate of national councils were taken over by the Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-Government, which, in October 2007, established a special working group comprising Ministry representatives as well as independent experts and representatives of the Secretariat for Legislative Affairs of the Republic of Serbia and the Agency for Human and Minority Rights of the Government of the Republic of Serbia. The principal task of the working group is to draft a text to be submitted for review to the national councils, starting from the existing working versions offered to the professional and political public.

9. STATISTICAL DATA ON INVESTIGATIONS, PROSECUTIONS AND JUDGMENTS RELATING TO ETHNICALLY MOTIVATED CRIMINAL OFFENCES, CLASSIFIED BY YEARS, REGIONS AND NATIONAL MINORITIES

In the legal order of the Republic of Serbia, according to the Criminal Code, ethnically motivated criminal offences can be considered to comprise instigating racial, ethnic and religious hatred and intolerance (Article 317), violation of citizens' equality (Article 128), violation of the freedom to express one's national or ethnical affiliation and culture (Article 130), racial discrimination (Article 387). Apart from criminal offences, some ethnically motivated actions may have the nature of an infraction, if they do not fulfil the essential elements of criminal offences under the Criminal Code. In the Republic of Serbia, records are maintained on an ongoing basis of all incidents involving persons belonging to different ethnical communities, or directed against persons belonging to national minorities, i.e. incidents that, in the broadest sense, may give rise to suspicion of ethnic motives, even if later, in further investigation or criminal proceedings, they prove not to have been ethnically motivated.

**Overview
of recorded incidents instigated in the territory of the Republic of Serbia
in 2006, that, in the broadest sense, give rise to suspicion of ethnical motives**

	total	OF WHICH <u>IN VOJVODINA</u>	IN SERBIA <u>EXCLUDING VOJVODINA</u>
All recorded events	276	162	114

Assaults	20	5, directed against: 4 Hungarians (2 by Serbs, 1 by Roma and 1 by an unknown person); 1 Roma (by an unknown person).	15, directed against: 1 Gorani (by an unknown person); 10 Roma (6 by Serbs, 4 by unknown persons); 2 Serbs (1 by Roma, 1 by Albanians); 1 Catholic nuns (by unknown persons); 1 Israeli citizen (by a Serb and an American).
Brawls	7	1 fight between Serbian and Hungarian persons.	6, between: 2 Albanians and Serbs; 2 Roma and Serbs; 2 Moslems and Serbs.
Verbal conflicts	36	23, directed against: 5 Hungarians (4 by Serbs, 1 by a Croatian); 6 Serbs (3 by Hungarians, 3 by Croatsians); 4 Albanians (3 by Serbs, 1 by an unknown person); 2 Roma (by Serbs); 3 Croatsians (by Serbs); 1 Moslem (by a Yugoslav); 1 Turk (by a Serb); 1 Slovak (by a Serb).	13, directed against: 6 Serbs (by 3 Albanians, 2 Moslems, 1 unknown person); 3 Roma (by 1 Serb and 2 unknown persons); 3 Moslems (by 2 Serbs, 1 unknown person); 1 person of the dark-skinned race.
Anonymous threats	4	4, directed against: 2 Croatsians (by unknown persons); 1 Serb (by an unknown person); 1 Jew (by an unknown person).	/
Defilement of graves and the like	17	16, of which: 7 in a Catholic cemetery; 6 in an Orthodox cemetery; 2 in a mixed-faith cemetery; 1 in an Evangelical cemetery.	1, of which: 1 in a Catholic cemetery.
Desecration of religious facilities	25	14, directed against: 6 small religious communities; 6 – Roman Catholic Church; 1 – Serbian Orthodox Church; 1 – Slovakian Evangelical Church.	11, directed against: 6 small religious communities; 1 – Roman Catholic Church; 2 – Serbian Orthodox Church; 1 – Islamic religious community; 1 Jewish synagogue.
Damaging Albanian facilities	22	22	/
Damaging Roma facilities	4	/	4
Damaging other facilities	3	2	1
Painting over place-name signs	5	5	/

Slogans, symbols and the like	130	67 cases directed against: 7 Albanians; 3 Moslems; 1 Bulgarian; 4 Hungarians; 8 Roma; 10 Croatians; 2 Jews; 3 Serbs; 1 Turk; 1 Roma and Albanians; 1 Jews and Hungarians. 18 Nazi signs; 2 racist signs; 1 sign of the Independent State of Croatia; 5 other.	63 cases directed against: 5 Albanians; 6 Moslems; 4 Serbs; 2 Romanians; 5 Croatians; 4 Jews; 9 Roma; 1 Vlach; 1 Jew and Roma. 14 Nazi signs; 4 racist signs; 6 other; 2 directed against religious freedoms.
Other cases of intolerance	3	3	/

State bodies were actively engaged in resolving the above cases. The table below contains an overview of actions taken in response to the incidents listed above.

**Overview
of actions instituted and enforced in connection with the incidents
in the Republic of Serbia in 2006**

Actions taken	total	OF WHICH <u>IN VOJVODINA</u>	IN SERBIA <u>EXCLUDING VOJVODINA</u>
Crime reports filed	93	68 crime reports filed	25 crime reports filed
Breakdown of criminal offences	/	19 cases of destroying or damaging another's asset from Criminal Code Article 212; 27 cases of instigating national, racial and religious hatred from CC Article 317; 1 case of conspiracy to engage in unconstitutional activity from CC Article 319; 2 cases of light injury from CC Article 122; 2 cases of reaching for a weapon in brawl or quarrel from CC Article 124; 1 case of hindering an authorised person in discharge of duty from Article 23 of the Law on Public Peace and Order; 1 case of preventing an official in discharge of duty from CC Article 322 (4); 1 case of endangering the safety of another	2 cases of destroying or damaging another's asset from Criminal Code Article 212; 16 cases of instigating national, racial and religious hatred from CC Article 317; 1 case of conspiracy to engage in unconstitutional activity from CC Article 319; 1 case of public ridicule of nations and ethnic groups of SaM from CC Article 174; 2 cases of light injury from CC Article 122; 1 case of serious injury from CC Article 121; 1 case of causing general danger from CC Article 278;

		from CC Article 138; 1 case of false report from CC Article 334; 13 cases of damaging graves from CC Article 354.	1 case of violent behaviour from CC Article 344.
Criminal offences resolved	45	27, namely: 7 cases of destroying or damaging another's asset (CC Art. 212); 13 cases of instigating national, racial and religious hatred (CC Art. 317); 1 case of conspiracy to engage in unconstitutional activity (CC Art. 319); 1 case of light injury (CC Art. 122); 2 cases of reaching for a weapon in brawl or quarrel (CC Art. 124); 1 case of preventing an official in discharge of duty (CC Art. 322 (4)); 1 case of hindering an authorised person in discharge of duty (Law on Public Peace and Order Art. 23); 1 case of false report (CC Art. 334).	18, namely: 12 cases of instigating national, racial and religious hatred (CC Art. 317); 1 case of public ridicule of nations and ethnic groups of SaM (CC Art. 174); 1 case of serious injury (CC Art. 121); 2 cases of light injury (CC Art. 122); 1 case of violent behaviour (CC Art. 344); 1 case of damaging a grave (CC Art. 354). (NOTE: This case relates to Vojvodina, but the Ministry of Interior Affairs has shown it in the records for the territory excluding the province.)
Persons apprehended	33	9	24
Persons detained	16	1	15
Persons arrested	9	1	8
No. of persons reported	80	42	38

National affiliation of perpetrators of criminal offences		<p>32 Serbs; 4 Hungarians; 2 Romanians; 1 Croat; 3 persons who did not declare their national affiliation.</p> <p>In addition to the above, 25 criminal reports were filed in auxiliary records (24 reports of unknown persons and one of known perpetrator), for 26 criminal offences for which <u>private action</u> was instituted, namely: 25 cases of destroying or damaging another's asset 1 case of petty theft, embezzlement and fraud.</p> <p>Of these, one criminal offence committed by a Serb in October 2006, directed against a person of Albanian origin, was resolved.</p>	<p>28 Serbs; 5 Moslems; 2 Roma persons; 2 Albanians; 1 citizen of the United States of America.</p>
Infraction reports	41	15 reports	26 reports
National affiliation of perpetrators of infractions		<p>16 Serbs 4 Hungarians 6 Croats 1 Yugoslav</p> <p>27 IN TOTAL</p>	<p>36 Serbs 12 Roma persons 13 Moslems 9 Albanians</p> <p>70 IN TOTAL</p>

The Agency for Human and Minority Rights of the Government of the Republic of Serbia has prepared a comparative overview of such incidents and events in 2006 and the first four months of 2007. A separate table has been prepared based on this:

Overview of the number of incidents	Year 2006			January - April 2007			index 2006/2007 (first four months)		
	Vojvodina	out of Vojvodina	total	Vojvodina	out of Vojvodina	total	Vojvodina	out of Vojvodina	total
	(162 cases)	(114 cases)	(276)	(71 cases)	(58 cases)	(129)	45 %	<u>51 %</u>	48 %
Assaults	5	15	20	2	15	17	20%	100%	85%
Brawls	1	6	7	1	4	5	100%	65%	70%
Anonymous threats	4	/	4	1	/	1	25%	/	25%
Verbal conflicts	23	13	36	8	7	15	35%	55%	45%

Defilement of graves	16	1	17	5	2	7	32%	150%	40 %
Defilement of religious places	14	11	25	16	7	23	115%	65%	90%
Damaging Albanian facilities	22	/	22	4	/	4	17%	/	17%
Damaging Roma facilities	/	4	4	/	3	3	/	75%	75%
Damaging other facilities	2	1	3	1	1	2	50%	100%	65%
Slogans, symbols	64	66	130	30	17	47	45%	27%	52%
Painting over signs	5	/	5	/	/	/	0	/	0
Other cases	3	/	3	3	2	5	100%	200%	165%
Actions taken									
Criminal reports	68 93	25		44	13	57	62%	55%	57%
	In addition, another 25 criminal reports were filed by private action. One criminal offence was resolved.			In addition, another 7 criminal reports were filed by private action. Furthermore, disciplinary procedure was instituted against two officials of the police in Belgrade, and also against one official in Vrbas, with a criminal report filed.					
Criminal offences resolved			45			34			75%
Persons apprehended			33			8			23%
Persons detained			16			5			33%
Persons arrested			9			5			55%
Number of persons reported	80			36					45%
	<u>national affiliation of perpetrators of criminal offences:</u> Serbs (60) Moslems (5) Roma (2) Albanians (2) Hungarians (4) Romanians (2) Croats (1) Americans (1)			<u>national affiliation of perpetrators of criminal offences:</u> Serbs (25) Slovaks (3) Moslems (1) Hungarians (4) Roma (2) Turks (1)					

Infraction reports filed	15	26	41	10	14	24	<u>65%</u>	<u>55%</u>	<u>60%</u>
	<u>national affiliation of perpetrators of infractions:</u>			<u>national affiliation of perpetrators of infractions:</u>					
	Serbs (52)			Serbs (38)					
	Roma (12)			Albanians (2)					
	Moslems (13)			Moslems (2)					
	Albanians (9)			Roma (30)					
	Croats (6)			Hungarians (1)					
	Hungarians (4)								
	Yugoslavs (1)								

10. ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF PROMOTING THE PRESENCE OF NATIONAL MINORITY REPRESENTATIVES IN EXECUTIVE BODIES

In the period since submitting the First State Report on the Implementation of the Framework Convention in FR Yugoslavia, the authorities of the Republic of Serbia have taken important steps towards promotion of the presence of national minority representatives in public bodies. In this respect, it should be emphasised that in January 2004 amendments to the Law on the Election of Deputies were adopted, whereby the election threshold was discontinued for parties gathering persons belonging to national minorities, thus facilitating the participation of persons belonging to national minorities in the legislative authority and improving the conditions for participation of persons belonging to national minorities in bodies holding the executive power. Moreover, particular sectors of the executive power wherein the number of persons belonging to national minorities was not satisfactory undertook actions aimed at increasing it. Thus the Ministry of Interior Affairs, in addition to establishing and maintaining a multiethnic police force in the south of Serbia, which was notified to the Committee in the First State Report on the Implementation of the Convention, also started advertising for employment in some national minority media, provided recruitment tests in minority languages, and – in cooperation with OSCE and other organisations – launched many projects aimed, *inter alia*, at increasing the participation of persons belonging to national minorities in the police forces, e.g. “Police in a Multiethnic Environment”, “Police and the Roma Community”, “Police Work with Marginalised, Minority and Socially Vulnerable Groups”, etc. In accordance with the Resolution of the Committee of Ministers of Council of Europe on the Implementation of the Framework Convention by Serbia and Montenegro,³⁴ in May 2006 the Government of the Republic of Serbia adopted the Resolution on the Measures Aimed at Increasing the Participation of Persons Belonging to National Minorities in the Public Administration Bodies. In Clause 1 of the Conclusion, it is stressed that the Government will, directly and through its competent bodies and agencies, undertake continued measures aimed at increasing the participation of persons belonging to national minorities in public administration bodies in the capacity of civil servants and appointees, with a view to pursuing its policy in the area of creating conditions for improvement of active involvement of persons belonging to national minorities in the work of public administration bodies. Clause 8 of the Resolution envisages that, in filling vacancies by open competition, the Human Resources Management Agency will also announce the open competition in the languages of

³⁴ See Resolution ResCMN(2004)12 no. 1, indent 5

national minorities, especially in case of a competition to fill a vacancy in a branch office of a public administration body established for the territory inhabited predominantly and traditionally by persons belonging to national minorities. In Clause 9 of the Resolution, it is stipulated that public administration bodies in which it is envisaged that more than one-third of the total number of staff as per job classification work in branch offices established for a territory in which, pursuant to decisions of competent local self-government bodies, the language(s) of one or several national minorities is/are also in official use, will undertake measures to include in the Rules on Internal Organisation and Job Classification a number of jobs for which one of the requirements for performing job tasks for some staff members is the knowledge of at least one of the national minority languages and scripts in official use in the territory for which the respective branch office has been established, according to decisions of the local self-government units from these territories. The Government will pay special attention to this when issuing approvals for rules on the internal organisation and job classification. A special measure aimed at increasing the participation of persons belonging to national minorities in public administration bodies is envisaged in Clause 10 of the Resolution, which stipulates that, when the selection procedure in the open competition for filling a vacancy in branch offices referred to in Clause 9 of the Resolution requires a written test of candidates' competence, knowledge and skills, the examination papers or other forms of written testing will also be made available to candidates in the relevant national minority language. Clause 11 of the Resolution envisages that, when preparing the ranking list and selecting the candidate in the open competition, the selection committee and/or the head of the public administration body are obliged to ensure that, in the framework of implementation of the professionalisation principle, which lays down the candidates' professional competence, knowledge and skills for conducting public administration affairs as the principal selection criteria, when deciding between equally competent candidates, the participation of persons belonging to national minorities in the overall employee structure of the respective body is particularly taken into account. The Agency for Human and Minority Rights and the Human Resources Management Agency of the Government of the Republic of Serbia have taken specific measures to implement the presented solutions contained in the Resolution. In this respect, it has been agreed that all open competitions for filling vacancies will be forwarded to national councils of national minorities for translation, and also that they will be published in minority languages in media selected by national councils of national minorities, the costs of which will be borne by the state budget.

11. EFFECTS OF THE PROCESS OF BUILDING STRUCTURES LEGALISATION ON THE ROMA IN SERBIA AND THE RELEVANT STATISTICS ON COURT ENFORCEMENTS

With a view to improving the status of the Roma, within the regional programme "Roma Inclusion Decade 2005-2015", the Government of the Republic of Serbia has adopted the Roma Housing Action Plan³⁵, prepared on the basis of the draft strategy for Roma integration and empowerment and the research "Romany Settlements, Living C and

³⁵ Roma Housing Action Plan was adopted by the Government Resolution 05 no. 90-451/2005-001, dated 28th January 2005.

Possibilities of Integration of Roma in Serbia”, according to which a total of 593 Roma settlements were recorded in Serbia in 2002.

In August 2006, the Roma National Strategy Secretariat within the Agency for Human and Minority Rights initiated the establishment of a Working Group in the Ministry of Capital Investments (now Ministry of Infrastructure). The Working Group was established in order to implement and monitor the activities from the Roma Housing Action Plan, with a view to improving the efficiency of implementation at the level of local self-government units³⁶ and creating the right conditions for ensuring the continuity in the implementation of planned activities. The Working Group is chaired by the responsible assistant minister in the line ministry.

The Agency for Human and Minority Rights and the Ministry of Capital Investments, in collaboration with the OSCE Mission to Serbia, Council of Europe and OSCE – Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, organised the Conference “Consolidation and Legalisation of Roma Settlements and Housing”, held in Belgrade on 20th-21st November 2006. Participants at the Conference included local self-government representatives, Roma non-governmental organisations, and international organisations.

The following conclusions were reached at the Conference:

1. For the purpose of drafting the Guidelines for the Improvement and Legalisation of Informal Roma Settlements, the Ministry of Capital Investments (MCI) would establish a separate expert group within the Working Group for the Roma Housing Action Plan, to work closely on drafting the Guidelines and produce the final document by 24th December 2006. The Guidelines for the Improvement and Legalisation of Informal Roma Settlements would become a bylaw – directive for taking measures aimed at improvement and legalisation of Roma settlements, to be signed by the minister of capital investments. The expert group will draft this document on the basis of the proposed guidelines presented at the Conference and suggestions and remarks given on the same occasion.
2. The Government of the Republic of Serbia will approve the budget line to MCI for the implementation of measures and activities envisaged by the Roma Housing Action Plan in conformity with the proposal prepared by the Roma Housing Action Plan Working Group.
3. In line with the proposed MCI budget for 2007, municipalities would prepare 20 urban plans for Roma settlements under Objective no. 3 of the Roma Housing Action Plan – regulate the ownership and legal status of housing facilities in Roma settlements.
4. In line with the proposed MCI budget for 2007, the measure of building the infrastructure and road network for 10 settlements would be implemented, as envisaged under Objective no. 2 of the Roma Housing Action Plan –

³⁶ Local self-government is competent for the preparation and implementation of land development programme for residential building, as well as for the preparation of the required urban planning documents for residential building and improvement of slums. Local self-government is also competent for resolving the social housing matters (needs) in its territory; therefore, it would largely be competent for the implementation of the activities from the Roma Housing Action Plan.

- comprehensive and sustainable reconstruction and improvement of living conditions in Roma settlements, to be funded by MCI and implemented by municipalities.
5. In line with the proposed MCI budget for 2007, municipalities and other competent bodies would implement other envisaged measures aimed at improvement of Roma settlements, in accordance with the proposal prepared by the Roma Housing Action Plan Working Group.

The Working Group of the Ministry of Capital Investments established the expert group, which drafted the Guidelines for the Improvement and Legalisation of Informal Roma Settlements; the Guidelines were approved by the Ministry of Capital Investments in January 2007. The Guidelines for Improvement and Legalisation of Informal Roma Settlements (hereinafter: the Guidelines) represent instructions concerning the manner of implementation of activities from the Roma Housing Action Plan in the field of improvement of slums and poor settlements, with a view to ensuring conditions for both legal regulation and integration into the existing urban environment, where possible. The Guidelines are at the same time a framework for the implementation of specific programmes and projects in this domain.

The legal and strategic framework for producing the Guidelines comprises: the Law on the Spatial Plan of the Republic of Serbia (*RS Official Gazette* no. 13/96)³⁷, Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities (*FRY Official Journal* nos. 11/02, 57/02), Roma Integration and Empowerment Action Plan for: education, health, housing and employment, Poverty Reduction Strategy, as well as the relevant international documents, of which the following are worth a separate mention: the Declaration of the Decade of Roma Inclusion 2005-2015 and the Vienna Declaration on Informal Settlements.

The Working Group prepared a proposed budget required for the implementation of activities defined at the Conference, which was then submitted to the Ministry of Finance for the purposes of planning the budget funds required for this purpose during 2007.

The following activities from the Roma Housing Action Plan are planned for the year 2007:

Within Objective no. 3 in the Roma Housing Action Plan – regulate the ownership and legal status of housing facilities in Roma settlements, the proposed activities for 2007 include the implementation of the planned measure of producing the relevant urban planning documents for about 20 settlements. The cost estimate for the implementation of this activity was based on average sizes of Roma settlements and average costs of producing an urban plan in the extra-metropolitan area of Belgrade, which yielded the result of € 350,000 for the implementation of this activity.

³⁷ The Law on the Spatial Plan of the Republic of Serbia, Part VII – Application and Implementation of Spatial Plans, under Clause 4 – Guidelines for the Implementation of the Spatial Plan in Other Spatial and Urban Plans, encompasses measure 4.10. – the measure of improvement and renewal of housing stock in poor settlements and slums.

Within Objective no. 2 in the Roma Housing Action Plan – comprehensive and sustainable reconstruction and improvement of living conditions in Roma settlements, the proposed activities for 2007 include the implementation of the measure of building the infrastructure network for about 10 settlements covered with relevant planning documents. The cost estimate was also based on average sizes of settlements, sizes of buildings and the cost of infrastructure works for the construction of water supply, sewage, street and electric power networks, totalling € 2,685,000 for the implementation of this activity.

The Agency for Human and Minority Rights and the Ministry of Infrastructure have informed all municipalities in Serbia of the possibility to apply for support in preparing the planning documentation for Roma settlements. To participate in the implementation of this activity, municipalities should apply to the Roma National Strategy Secretariat within the Agency for Human and Minority Rights and to the Ministry of Infrastructure by 30th October 2007.

From the project implemented in cooperation with the UN Development Programme with the support of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), the Agency for Human and Minority Rights has earmarked funds for additional training of local self-government units and Roma non-governmental organisations in the implementation of Guidelines and realisation of the abovementioned measure, since this is for most municipalities the first encounter with the activities in question.

The data on court enforcements and the data on legalisation are not systematised in a way that would permit segregating only the data pertaining to the Roma. In general, the legalisation process is not fully implemented in Serbia, and the this situation is mainly attributed to standards/requirements for legalisation, lack of suitable staff in municipalities, as well as the fact that many citizens find the process expensive.³⁸

12. EXPLANATION OF THE NEW PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN THE NEW LAW ON CHURCHES AND RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES REGARDING THE IMPACT OF THE SAID LAW ON THE STATUS AND ACTIVITIES OF MINORITY RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS IN SCHOOLS, AS WELL AS IN OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES

In addition to the new features contained in the Law on Churches and Religious Communities explained in the part of the Report relating to the implementation of Article 8 of the Convention, it should be pointed out that in Article 1, paragraph 2 of the new Law on Churches and Religious Communities, passed in 2006, it is stipulated that freedom of religion comprises, *inter alia*, the freedom to manifest one's religion or faith individually or in community with others, in public or in private, by teaching or instruction, and that Article 40 guarantees the right to religious education in state or private primary and secondary schools, in conformity with law. The delivery of religious

³⁸ As regards the impacts of the legalisation process on the Roma population, there is only the presentation "Informal Roma and Non Roma Settlements in a Comparative Framework", prepared by Zlata Vuksanović, UN-HABITAT, for the Third Regional Vienna Declaration Review Meeting, held in Tirana on 4th-5th May 2006.

education in primary and secondary schools is regulated by “education laws”– the Law on Primary Schools, Law on Secondary Schools and Law on Basic Principles of the Educational System. These laws stipulate that one of the official elective subjects is religious education, for the realisation of which traditional churches and religious communities second teachers from the list set for each year to primary and secondary schools.

Traditional churches and religious communities (Serbian Orthodox Church, Islamic Religious Community, Roman Catholic Church, Slovakian Evangelical Church a.v., Jewish Religious Community, Christian Reformed Church and Evangelical Christian Church a.v.) are designated in the abovementioned education laws as institutions proposing the syllabi for religious education in primary and secondary schools in the Republic of Serbia. The Law on Churches and Religious Communities, on the basis of the historical legal continuity and legal continuity acquired pursuant to special laws, establishes a list of religious institutions that have the status of traditional churches and religious communities. Article 10 of the said Law designates the Serbian Orthodox Church, Roman Catholic Church, Slovakian Evangelical Church a.v., Christian Reformed Church and Evangelical Christian Church a.v. as traditional churches, and the Islamic Religious Community and Jewish Religious Community as traditional religious communities. The said churches and religious communities also gather persons belonging to national minorities in the Republic of Serbia (see the part of the Report relating to the implementation of Article 8 of the Convention).

As stipulated by Law, the Government of the Republic of Serbia has established the Commission for Religious Education in Primary and Secondary Schools, comprising the representatives of the following churches and religious communities: Serbian Orthodox Church, Roman Catholic Church, Islamic Religious Community of Serbia, Slovakian Evangelical Church a.v., Christian Reformed Church, Evangelical Christian Church a.v., Jewish Religious Community, as well as three representatives of the Ministry of Education and three from the Ministry of Religion. The competences of the Commission comprise: harmonising the proposed religious education syllabi adopted by joint decision of the ministers of education and religion; proposing textbooks and other teaching aids for religious education, approved by the minister of education; proposing (jointly with the Ministry of Religion) the educational profile requirements for religious education teachers, adopted by the minister of education; proposing the list of religious education teachers, adopted by the minister of education; monitoring the organisation and delivery of religious education syllabi.

Since 2002, religious education has been organised in primary and secondary schools for students belonging to national minorities who are members of traditional churches and religious communities. Religious education for students belonging to the Bulgarian, Vlach and Roma national minorities is delivered by the Serbian Orthodox Church. In line with the agreement between the Banat Eparchy of the Serbian Orthodox Church and the Vicariate of the Romanian Orthodox Church, religious education for students belonging to the Romanian national minority in Banat is delivered in the Romanian language by the Vicariate of the Romanian Orthodox Church. The Roman Catholic Church delivers

religious education in the Hungarian and Croatian languages for students belonging to the national minorities who are of the Roman Catholic denomination. In addition to the Roman Catholic Church, religious education in the Hungarian language for students belonging to the Hungarian national minority is also delivered by Christian Reformed Church and Evangelical Christian Church a.v. For students belonging to the Ruthenian national minority, religious education in the Ruthenian language is delivered by the Greek Catholic Church, which is represented in the Government of Serbia's Commission for Religious Education in Primary and Secondary Schools by the Roman Catholic Church. The two Islamic religious communities active in the Republic of Serbia deliver religious education in the Bosniak/Bosnian, Albanian and Serbian languages for students belonging to national minorities who are members of the Islamic religion. The Slovakian Evangelical Church a.v. delivers religious education for members of the Slovak national minority. The Jewish Religious Community delivers religious education in the Serbian language for students belonging to the Jewish national minority. In the school year 2007, there were no primary or secondary school students belonging to the Jewish national minority; religious education was therefore not delivered.

13. INFORMATION ON CURRENT DEVELOPMENT MEASURES IN ECONOMICALLY UNDERDEVELOPED AREAS WITH COMPACT MINORITY POPULATIONS

The Government of the Republic of Serbia has undertaken significant activities in the south of Serbia, in the municipalities of Preševo and Bujanovac, inhabited by members of the Albanian and Roma national minorities. At its session held on 11th January 2007, the Government of the Republic of Serbia adopted the Strategy for Long-Term Economic Development of Southern Serbia – Municipalities of Preševo, Bujanovac and Medveđa, drafted by the Economic Team for Kosovo and Metohija and Southern Serbia, which operates as part of the Coordinating Body of the Republic of Serbia for the Municipalities of Preševo, Bujanovac and Medveđa. This is the first strategic document adopted by the Government relating to the three municipalities inhabited by Serbs, Albanians and the Roma. The Strategy's priority is economic development, which is to be achieved through several programmes, the most important of which are road infrastructure development programmes, business infrastructure development programme, education and institution building.

- The Development Fund of the Republic of Serbia has included the municipalities of Preševo, Bujanovac and Medveđa, as the least developed Serbian municipalities, in the Program for Allocation and Utilisation of Funds for Enterprise and Entrepreneurship Development in the Least Developed Municipalities in the Republic of Serbia. The funds earmarked for the implementation of this programme amount to RSD 1,300,000.00.
- The Republic Agency for Small and Medium Enterprises and Entrepreneurship Development has provided start-up loans of € 5,000 to 15,000 for entrepreneurship development in the municipalities of Southern Serbia, under which virtually all risk is borne by the state, in order to encourage start-up businesses.

- In its 2007 programme, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management designated the Municipality of Preševo as a devastated municipality and awarded to it special conditions and benefits for the rural development incentives programme based on investments in agricultural equipment, rural development incentives programme based on investments in rural tourism and rural development incentives programme based on investing in livestock units and fattening feeds.
- The Municipality of Preševo has been designated as a devastated area by a Government decision.

From December 2000 to 2007, Serbia, together with international donors, invested over three and a half billion dinars, or over €45 million, in the development of these three municipalities. So far, the primary focus of the investments has been infrastructure development, and next year's budget should also cover economic development and employment projects. The proposed budget of the Coordinating Body is mainly established on the basis of requests submitted by local self-governments, i.e. mayors of these three municipalities.

The Coordinating Body for the Municipalities of Preševo, Bujanovac and Medveđa was reorganised in 2007 in order to provide the prerequisites for focusing on specific areas. Three working groups, one of which is in charge of integration and social affairs, were established within the Coordinating Body.

In cooperation with international organisations and the non-governmental sector, the Coordinating Body implements projects aimed at contributing to the inclusion of the Albanian population in the social life and to the development of a multiethnic society in Southern Serbia. Thus, a Memorandum of Understanding, defining the objectives and upcoming activities, has been signed with the CSSP for Integrative Mediation of Berlin. The principal objectives are: promoting projects contributing to dialogue and conflict resolution at the local level in Southern Serbia; supporting the local community in Southern Serbia in understanding the values of diversity and peaceful resolution of problems; mediation on an as-needed basis and building an environment in which mediation would be acceptable; developing local mediation capacities, as well as exploring the possibilities of developing the integrative mediation process in Southern Serbia.

14. IMPACTS OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE REGION ON CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION AND OTHER ELEMENTS PERTAINING TO PROTECTION OF MINORITIES. IMPACTS OF MONTENEGRIN DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE ON THE EXERCISE OF MINORITY RIGHTS IN THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

The most significant events in the region in the period 2002-2007 relate to accession of some countries in the region to the EU. EU accession of some countries in the region that represent mother countries of some national minorities in the Republic of Serbia did not have any direct impact on the protection of national minorities in the Republic of Serbia in line with the national legislation and the spirit of the Council of Europe's Framework

Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. The accession of these countries to the EU has had some indirect impact on maintaining contacts between persons belonging to national minorities in Serbia with their compatriots in the countries that have become EU members and introduced visa regimes for all citizens of the Republic of Serbia. Yet, considering that visas can be obtained in a quick procedure, it can be concluded that the developments in the region have had no significant negative impacts on the protection of national minorities in the Republic of Serbia.

Montenegrin independence has created the possibility to consider persons of Montenegrin national affiliation members of a separate national minority in the Republic of Serbia. Considering that, according to the definition of national minorities laid down in the Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, citizenship is one of the principal criteria of belonging to a national minority in the Republic of Serbia (see the part of the Report relating to Article 3 of the convention), it can be pointed out that the independence of the Republic of Montenegro left open the issue of citizenship of persons of Montenegrin national affiliation who lived in the Republic of Serbia and held citizenship of Serbia and Montenegro. Pursuant to Article 17, paragraph 3, of the Law Amending the Law on Citizenship of the Republic of Serbia, passed in September 2007, a Montenegrin citizen who had permanent residence in the territory of the Republic of Serbia on 3rd June 2006 is considered a citizen of the Republic of Serbia, if he/she provides a written statement that he/she considers himself/herself a citizen of the Republic of Serbia and files an application for entry into the register of citizens of the Republic of Serbia. In this way, legal prerequisites have been provided for persons of Montenegrin national affiliation holding citizenship of Serbia and Montenegro and living in the Republic of Serbia to choose, as citizens of the Republic of Serbia, to be treated by the Republic of Serbia as persons belonging to a national minority in various spheres of social life, in the spirit of Article 3 of the Framework Convention. Yet, in the reality of social life, persons of Montenegrin national affiliation holding citizenship of the Republic of Serbia have not expressed an interest to foster their common identity in community, including culture, tradition, language or religion, which is, under the Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, considered a condition for the existence of a national minority in the Republic of Serbia, and which is manifested, in the case of other groups of citizens with the status of national minorities, in the national council election process and the establishment of political parties and civil associations gathering persons belonging to minorities, filing applications for exercise of rights in the field of education, etc. Considering that there is no visa regime between the Republic of Serbia and the Republic of Montenegro, the declaration of independence by the Republic of Montenegro has had no impact on cross-border cooperation.

15. REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LAW ON LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT PASSED IN 2002, SPECIFICALLY THE PART PERTAINING TO PROTECTION OF MINORITIES, INCLUDING THE WORK OF THE COUNCILS FOR INTERETHNIC RELATIONS

The Law on Local Self-Government includes specific solutions of importance for the protection of national minorities. The part of the Law on Local Self-Government relating

directly to protection of minorities is contained in Article 18 – clauses 28 and 29 and in Article 63. Article 18 – clauses 28 and 29 prescribe that the municipality is responsible, *inter alia*, to ensure the protection and exercise of personal and collective rights of national minorities through its bodies, in conformity with the Constitution and law and to determine the languages and scripts of national minorities in official use in the territory of the municipality. According to Article 63 – paragraph 1 of the Law on Local Self-Government, in nationally diverse municipalities a council for interethnic relations is established, comprising representatives of all national and ethnical communities. For the purposes of this Law, nationally diverse municipalities are considered to be municipalities in which one national minority accounts for more than 5% of the total population, or in which all national minorities combined account for more than 10% of the total population, according to the most recent population census in the Republic of Serbia. Under Article 63, paragraph 3 of the Law, national minorities whose share in the total population of the municipality exceeds 1% may have representatives in the council for interethnic relations. Under paragraph 4 of the same Article of the Law, the council reviews the issues of exercise, protection and promotion of ethnic equality, in conformity with the law and the statute. The council notifies the municipal council of its views and proposals, and the municipal council is obliged to respond to these at the first subsequent session, and at the latest within 30 days. Under paragraph 6 of the same Article of the Law, the municipal council is obliged to submit the proposals for all decisions concerning the rights of national minorities for prior review to the council for interethnic relations. The council for interethnic relations, according to Article 63 – paragraph 7 of the Law on Local Self-Government, has the right to institute proceedings before the Constitutional Court for the assessment of constitutionality and legality of a decision or other statutory instrument of the municipal council if it considers that these directly violate the rights of national minorities represented in the council for interethnic relations, as well as the right, under the same conditions, to institute proceedings before the Administrative Court for the assessment of conformity of a decision or other statutory instrument of the municipal council with the municipal statute. The Law envisages that the purview, composition and manner of work of the council for interethnic relations are regulated by a decision of the municipal council, in conformity with its statute.

The report on the implementation of the Law on Local Self-Government, more specifically – its provisions relating to the responsibility of local self-government units for ensuring protection and exercise of individual and collective rights of national minorities and for enforcing official use of languages and scripts is presented in the part of the Report relating to the implementation of Articles 10 and 11 of the Convention. According to the criteria referred to Article 63 of the Law on Local Self-Government, there are 68 multiethnic municipalities in Serbia, of which 41 are in Vojvodina and 27 in central Serbia.

Municipalities in the Republic of Serbia which, under the Law on Local Self-Government, Meet the Requirements for the Establishment of Councils for Interethnic Relations

MUNICIPALITIES	TOTAL POPULATION	TOTAL PERSONS BELONGING TO NATIONAL MINORITIES	%
Ada	18,994	15,297	80.54
Alibunar	22,954	8,711	37.95
Apatin	32,813	10,384	31.65
Babušnica	15,734	1,219	7.75
Bač	16,268	7,743	47.60
Bačka Palanka	60,966	10,703	17.56
Bačka Topola	38,245	24,912	65.14
Bački Petrovac	14,681	10,412	70.92
Bela Palanka	14,381	1,272	8.85
Bečej	40,987	22,423	54.71
Bela Crkva	20,367	3,652	17.93
Beočin	16,086	4,230	26.30
Bojnik	13,118	1,391	10.60
Boljevac	15,849	4,663	29.42
Bor	55,817	12,758	22.86
Bosilegrad	9,931	7,378	74.29
Bujanovac	43,302	27,656	63.87
Vranje	87,288	5,436	6.23
Vrbas	45,852	10,025	21.86
Vršac	54,369	12,337	22.69
Golubac	9,913	1,051	10.60
Dimitrovgrad	11,748	6,433	54.76
Doljevac	19,561	1,106	5.65
Žabalj	27,513	3,153	11.46
Žagubica	14,823	3,378	22.79
Žitište	20,399	7,038	34.50
Žitorađa	18,207	1,171	6.43
Zrenjanin	132,051	26,168	19.82
Indija	49,609	5,211	10.50
Irig	12,329	1,670	13.55
Kanjiža	27,510	24,964	90.75
Kikinda	67,002	12,792	19.09
Kovačica	27,890	17,775	63.73
Kovin	36,802	7,098	19.29
Koceljeva	15,636	875	5.60
Kula	48,353	13,325	27.61
Kučevo	18,808	5,476	29.12
Majdanpek	23,703	3,145	13.27
Mali Idoš	13,494	8,008	59.34
Medveđa	10,760	2,951	27.43
Negotin	43,418	3,877	8.93
Nova Varoš	19,982	1,680	8.41
Nova Crnja	12,705	3,478	27.38
Novi Bečej	26,924	7,119	26.44
Novi Kneževac	12,975	4,884	37.64

Novi Pazar	85,996	67,612	78.62
Novi Sad	299,294	48,366	16.16
Odžaci	35,582	4,455	12.52
Pančevo	127,162	22,279	17.52
Petrovac	34,511	4,324	12.53
Plandište	13,377	5,406	40.41
Preševo	34,904	31,487	90.21
Priboj	30,377	7,187	23.66
Prijepolje	41,188	17,221	41.81
Senta	25,568	21,895	85.63
Sečanj	16,377	4,050	24.73
Sjenica	27,970	21,232	75.91
Sombor	97,263	30,140	30.99
Srbobran	17,855	5,127	28.71
Sremski Karlovci	8,839	1,422	16.09
Stara Pazova	67,576	10,075	14.91
Subotica	148,401	102,330	68.96
Surdulica	22,190	3,306	14.90
Temerin	28,275	9,284	32.83
Titel	17,050	1,883	11.04
Tutin	30,054	28,605	95.18
Čoka	13,832	8,091	58.49
Šid	38,973	7,210	18.50

The process of establishing the councils for interethnic relations has been completed in some municipalities.

Municipalities in which Councils for Interethnic Relations have been Established

Ada
Apatin
Bačka Palanka
Bačka Topola
Bela Crkva
Beočin
Bečež
Bor
Vrbas
Vršac
Žabalj
Žitište
Zrenjanin
Kanjiža
Kovačica
Kovin
Novi Bečež
Novi Sad
Nova Crnja
Odžaci
Plandište
Priboj
Prijepolje

Persons of Bunjevci, Macedonian, Hungarian, Romanian, Roma, Slovak, Montenegrin, Croat and Serbian national affiliation participate in the work of established municipal councils for interethnic relations in the Republic of Serbia.

The municipalities of Bač, Bujanovac, Bosilegrad, Dimitrovgrad, Irig, Kula, Malo Crniće, Nova Varoš, Pančevo, Senta, Srbobran, Sremska Mitrovica, Sremski Karlovci and Titel have envisaged establishing councils for interethnic relations in their statutes, but so far they have not adopted decisions on their establishment or resolutions on nomination or election of council members.

APPENDIX
National Minorities in the Republic of Serbia –
General Information
(separate document)