

**Resolution CM/ResCMN(2010)9
on the implementation of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
by Liechtenstein**

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 30 June 2010
at the 1089th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Articles 24 to 26 of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (hereinafter referred to as “the Framework Convention”);

Having regard to Resolution (97) 10 of 17 September 1997 setting out rules adopted by the Committee of Ministers on the monitoring arrangements under Articles 24 to 26 of the Framework Convention;

Having regard to the voting rule adopted in the context of adopting Resolution (97) 10;¹

Having regard to the instrument of ratification submitted by Liechtenstein on 18 November 1997;

Recalling that the Government of Liechtenstein transmitted its state report in respect of the third monitoring cycle under the Framework Convention on 18 March 2009;

Having examined the Advisory Committee's third opinion on Liechtenstein, adopted on 26 June 2009, and the written comments of the Government of Liechtenstein, submitted on 31 March 2010;

Having also taken note of comments by other governments,

1. Adopts the following conclusions in respect of Liechtenstein:

a) Positive developments

The authorities have made increased efforts to improve integration of immigrants and prevent racism and discrimination against them. New steps have been taken to strengthen the legal and institutional framework pertaining to the protection against discrimination and racism.

Increased attention has been paid to the collection of data with respect to discrimination in various areas and in respect of different groups.

A number of supportive measures have been adopted, in particular in terms of language teaching, religious education, counselling and information, for persons with different ethnic, linguistic and religious backgrounds.

In addition, new information and awareness-raising activities about non-discrimination, respect for human rights and diversity have been organised by the authorities and civil society. Such activities have involved schools and teachers but also the public at large and specific sectors concerned, such as the public administration and the police.

b) Issues of concern

The legal framework pertaining to the fight against discrimination still needs to be improved, including through the development of a comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation.

¹ In the context of adopting Resolution (97) 10 on 17 September 1997, the Committee of Ministers also adopted the following rule: “Decisions pursuant to Articles 24.1 and 25.2 of the Framework Convention shall be considered to be adopted if two-thirds of the representatives of the Contracting Parties casting a vote, including a majority of the representatives of the Contracting Parties entitled to sit on the Committee of Ministers, vote in favour”.

In practice, further efforts are needed to combat difficulties faced by foreign nationals in certain sectors, including housing and employment and, in particular, to ensure equal opportunities in access to quality education for all children. There is also a need to pursue and develop further the supportive measures taken in the field of language teaching, with adequate financial support by the state.

Instances of xenophobia and intolerance against persons of different ethnic origin and religion, notably against Muslims and persons of Turkish origin, are still reported. Worrying trends have been noted in recent years in this regard, in particular among the youth, that require urgent action by the authorities.

The successful integration and participation of persons of different ethnic, language or religious background remains a challenge for the authorities and requires increased efforts.

2. Adopts the following recommendations in respect of Liechtenstein:

In addition to the measures to be taken to implement the detailed recommendations contained in Sections I and II of the Advisory Committee's opinion, the authorities are invited to take the following measures to improve further the implementation of the Framework Convention:

- take further steps to improve the integration of persons belonging to different groups and adopt a comprehensive policy to ensure effective implementation of the principles of equality and non-discrimination in respect of all;
- pursue and develop efforts to ensure full implementation of the national action plan against racism and take more resolute measures to prevent, combat and monitor any manifestations of intolerance and xenophobia.

3. Invites the Government of Liechtenstein, in accordance with Resolution (97) 10:

- a. to continue the dialogue in progress with the Advisory Committee;
- b. to keep the Advisory Committee regularly informed of the measures it has taken in response to the conclusions and recommendations set out in sections 1 and 2 above.