



**Recommendation CM/RecChL(2009)7
of the Committee of Ministers
on the application of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages by the Czech
Republic**

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 9 December 2009
at the 1073rd meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers,

In accordance with Article 16 of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages;

Having regard to the ratification instrument submitted by the Czech Republic on 15 November 2006;

Having taken note of the evaluation made by the Committee of Experts on the Charter with respect to the application of the Charter by the Czech Republic;

Bearing in mind that this evaluation is based on information submitted by the Czech Republic in its first national report, supplementary information provided by the Czech authorities, information submitted by bodies and associations legally established in the Czech Republic and information obtained by the Committee of Experts during its on-the-spot visit;

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

Recommends that the authorities of the Czech Republic take account of all the observations and recommendations of the Committee of Experts and, as a matter of priority:

1. take practical steps to promote awareness and tolerance vis-à-vis the regional or minority languages and the cultures they represent as an integral part of the cultural heritage of the Czech Republic, both in the general curriculum at all stages of education and in the media;
2. adopt a structured policy for the protection and promotion of Romani and German, and create favourable conditions for their use in public life;
3. improve legislation concerning the composition and powers of committees for national minorities, so that these rules do not present barriers to the implementation of the Charter, including:
 - the creation of regional or minority language schools; and
 - the use of Polish place names in topographical signs;
4. take measures to make available teaching in or of Slovak, Romani and German, in co-operation with the speakers;
5. ensure that speaking Romani at school is not prohibited or discouraged.