

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

### **European Citizens' Initiative: "Minority Safepack"**

Organised by  
the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE)  
and the Committee on Culture and Education (CULT)

Associated committee:  
Committee on Petitions (PETI)

**15 October 2020, 9:00 - 13:00**  
**European Parliament, Brussels, JAN 4Q2**  
*(Remote participation)*

#### **DRAFT PROGRAMME**

- 9.00 - 9.15**     **Welcome and opening**  
Juan Fernando LÓPEZ AGUILAR, LIBE Chair  
Sabine VERHEYEN, CULT Chair  
Dolors MONTSERRAT, PETI Chair
- 9.15 - 9.20**     **Opening statement**  
Věra JOUROVÁ, Vice-President for Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality,  
European Commission
- 9.20 - 9.30**     **Presentation of the ECI**  
Hans Heinrich HANSEN, Representative of the Citizens' Committee  
Luis DURNWALDER, Member of the Citizens' Committee, former Governor of  
the Autonomous Region of Bozen South Tyrol
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- 9.30 - 11.00**   **Round 1 – EQUALITY AND SUPPORT TO MINORITY COMMUNITIES**  
Chaired by Juan Fernando LÓPEZ AGUILAR, LIBE Chair
- 9.30 - 9.45     Presentation of ECI objectives by:
- Karl Heinz LAMBERTZ, Member of the Citizens' Committee, President of the German speaking Community Parliament in Belgium, former CoR President
  - Angelika MLINAR, Vice-President of FUEN, former MEP
  - *Adapting the general rules applicable to Structural Funds so that account is taken of the protection of minorities and the promotion of cultural and linguistic diversity;*

- *Improving research on the added value that national minorities and cultural and linguistic diversity may bring to social and economic development in regions of the EU;*
- *Guaranteeing approximately equal treatment for stateless persons and citizens of the Union;*
- *Exempting projects promoting national minorities and their culture from the procedure provided for in Article 108(2).*

9.45 - 9.50 Statement by Gabriel N. TOGGENBURG, Policy Coordinator, European Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)

9.50 - 10.45 Question time with Members (incl. statements by the participating committees: REGI, ITRE, JURI and ECON)

10.45 -10.50 Reaction by Salla SAASTAMOINEN, Director-General DG Justice and Consumers, European Commission

10.50 - 10.55 Reaction by Gabriel N. TOGGENBURG, Policy Coordinator, European Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)

10.55 - 11.00 Reaction by ECI organiser

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11:00 - 11:30 Break

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**11.30 - 12.35 Round 2 – LANGUAGE, EDUCATION, CULTURE AND AUDIOVISUAL**  
Chaired by Sabine VERHEYEN, CULT Chair

11.30 - 11.45 Presentation of ECI objectives by:

- Valentin INZKO, Member of the Citizens' Committee, UN High Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Daniel ALFREIDER, Vice-President of FUEN. Regional minister of the Autonomous Region of Bozen South Tyrol
- Angelika MLINAR, Vice-President of FUEN, former MEP
- *EU Recommendation 'on the protection and promotion of cultural and linguistic diversity in the Union';*
- *Adapt funding programmes so that they become accessible for small regional and minority language communities;*
- *Create a centre for linguistic diversity;*
- *introduce a unitary copyright so that the whole EU can be considered an internal market in the field;*
- *Amend the AVMS Directive for ensuring the freedom to provide services and the reception of audiovisual content in regions where national minorities reside.*

11.45 - 11.50 Statement by Jarmo LAINIO, Vice-President of the Committee of Experts of ECRML, Council of Europe

- 11.50 - 12.20 Question time with Members (incl. statements by the participating committees: REGI, ITRE, JURI and ECON)
- 12.20 - 12.25 Reaction by Viviane HOFFMANN, Deputy Director-General DG Education and Culture, European Commission
- 12.25 - 12.30 Reaction by Jarmo LAINIO, Vice-President of the Committee of Experts of ECRML, Council of Europe
- 12.30 - 12.35 Reaction by ECI organisers

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**12.35 - 13.00 Closing session**

Chaired by Dolors MONTSERRAT, PETI Chair

- 12.35 - 12.40 Remarks by Yoomi RENSTRÖM, Member of Ovanåker Municipal Council (Sweden) and Member of the Committee of the Regions
- 12.40 - 12.45 Remarks by Kinga JOÓ, Member of the European Economic and Social Committee
- 12.45 - 12.50 Concluding remarks by Viviane HOFFMANN, Deputy Director-General DG Education and Culture, European Commission
- 12.50 - 12.55 Concluding remarks by Hunor KELEMEN, Deputy Representative of Citizens' Committee, President of the RMDSZ, former Deputy Prime Minister of Romania
- 12.55 - 13.00 Closing remarks by the LIBE and CULT Chairs