

RESOLUTION 2023-07

Union Generela di Ladins dla Dolomites

The Delegates of the Member Organisations of the Federal Union of European Nationalities (FUEN) adopted the following resolution at their Assembly of Delegates in Pécs • Fünfkirchen • Pečuh, Hungary on 9 September 2023:

Enhance of the written use of minority languages

“Language is the most direct expression of culture; it is what makes us human and gives each of us a sense of identity. The existence side by side of many different languages has been a constant feature of our European continent”, pointed out the European Commissioner for Multilingualism Leonard Orban already in 2009.¹

In support of the European value of multilingualism, we state that:

- Linguistic and cultural diversity is wealth, which Europe shall preserve, nurture, and strengthen in its own interest.
- Europe shall cherish the cultural and linguistic diversity as an added value – they are not a burden.
- Apart from the state languages of the continent, there are least 69 stateless languages. The use of these autochthonous languages by the autochthonous minorities is at the core of the language diversity in Europe.
- The cultural diversity and the linguistic diversity are interconnected.
- Language is a cultural carrier and an identity marker. A language-based culture would cease to exist if the language is no longer in use. Without their own language a cultural community will vanish.
- To preserve the cultural diversity, active language competences in the European minority languages shall be promoted at regional, national, and European levels.
- To ensure the stable and sustainable preservation and future development the rich cultural linguistic environment in Europe, fostering of the written competences in the European minority languages shall become an integral part of the cultural and the educational policies on the continent.

The FUEN Assembly of Delegates calls on the regions, the EU member states, and the European Institutions to:

- Promote and support the elaboration of written standards for minority languages, where such are lacking;
- Promote the dissemination and use of the existing written standards for minority languages.

¹ Leonard Orban European Commissioner for Multilingualism „The benefits and challenges of linguistic diversity in Europe” The launch of the civil society platform Brussels, 23/10/2009, https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/SPEECH_09_495