

## **RESOLUTION 2023-10**

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### **Verband der deutschen sozio-kulturellen Gesellschaften in Polen VdG [Association of German Socio-Cultural Societies in Poland]**

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:

#### **Resolution on the role of FUEN and especially in challenges of member organisations.**

The Federal Union of European Nationalities (FUEN) is concerned about the situation of national and ethnic minorities in many states of Europe. The lack of common standards regarding minority rights in Europe means that rights that are taken for granted in one EU state are not regulated at all in another. In addition, there are situations, as is currently the case in Poland, where a minority is treated differently from other minorities living in Poland for political reasons. At the same time, there should be common rules on how minorities should be treated, especially at the European level, where human rights policy and minority policy are admission criteria for EU accession. The basis for a common standard can be the conventions of the Council of Europe with the European Language Charter and with the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities as well as the FUEN Charter of Autochthonous National Minorities / Ethnic Groups in Europe (Bautzen/Budyšin of 2006). Due to their size and the available resources, the organisations of the respective minorities in the various countries are often overwhelmed in their search for solutions in difficult situations.

#### **Therefore, FUEN calls on the institutions of the European Union to:**

- a. take action to defend the European values that are violated by regulations in the field of minorities;
- b. send a strong political message to countries that violate minority rights and thereby human rights;
- c. take measures to improve the knowledge of the obligations of member states with regard to human rights and rights of minorities in the EU;
- d. take measures to protect the endangered minority languages in the EU;
- e. recruit a Commissioner for Minority Rights or another senior official of the EU Commission for Minority Rights;

#### **FUEN calls on the Council of Europe to:**

- a. increase the pressure on the countries that have ratified the Council of Europe documents on the protection of minorities to fully comply with the obligations arising from the ratified Framework Convention and the Language Charter;
- b. take measures to improve knowledge of the obligations of the Framework Convention and the Language Charter in the respective government administrations of the countries and the local authorities;

**The FUEM is committed to:**

- a. focus on its core objectives as defined in its statutes and to strengthen member organisations in the defense of minority rights with a clear and strong common voice.
- b. actively accompany and support the member organizations of FUEM in the search for solutions to pending problems
- c. look for possibilities and support to make possible the preservation of the minority languages in the different countries of the EU.
- d. support in difficult situations, especially when not only the legislation of the respective country, but also the legislation on the European level should be taken into account.