

# Breached Values



Evaluation of Ukraine's EU  
Candidature

## Table of Contents

Never War Again through the European Union .....	2
Autonomous minorities in the European Union .....	3
Romania's entry to the European Union was premature.....	5
Vote Against campaign against the Association Treaty between Ukraine and the EU .....	6
The Ukrainian language law is incompatible with European Values .....	7
The European Union does not Enforce European Values .....	10
Compliance First, before entry .....	11
Extra Information .....	13

Breached Values a Publication of:

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ISBN 9789083302331

## Never War Again through the European Union

As early as 1996, Dutch politicians warned that a lack of respect for autonomous ethnic minorities would hinder the rapid integration of Central Europe into the European Union (EU). Former Soviet satellite states, which belonged to the Eastern bloc and wanted to join the Union and NATO, had to comply with the European Union's obligations, the so-called *acquis Communautaire*, as formulated by the EU in Copenhagen in 1993. The horrors of the war in Yugoslavia proved the need for EU and NATO enlargement.

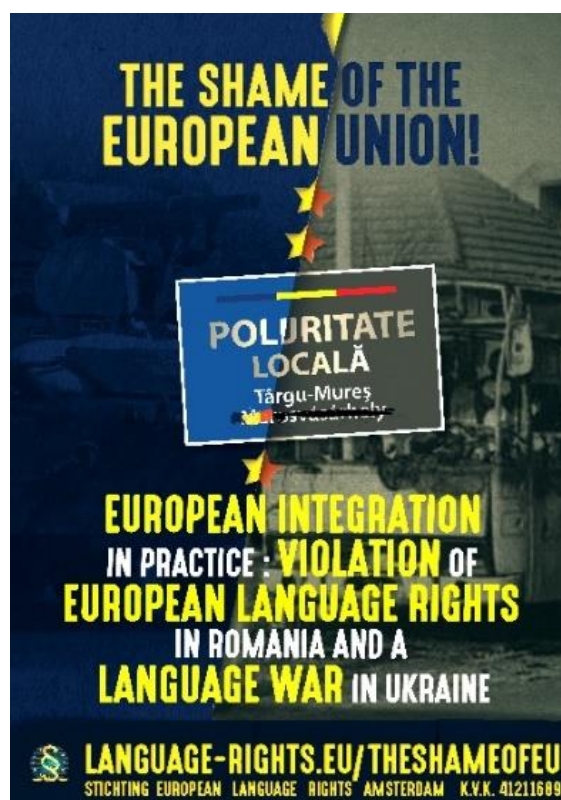
Artikel 2 of the treaty on the European Union states : The Union is founded on the values of respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities. These values are common to the Member States in a society in which pluralism, non-discrimination, tolerance, justice, solidarity and equality between women and men prevail.

European citizenship gives substance to the common future of Europe's shared past. The essence of European citizenship is that a European citizen is equal in all countries of the European Union and must not be discriminated against the citizens of that country. On the basis of European Citizenship, millions of Europeans from Central Europe work and live in the European Union. Each country and candidate countries in particular must meet these criteria.

2

### ***The Shame of The European Union***

*Campaign poster from 2018. Factually the European Union achieved the opposite from its mission for peace, justice and prosperity and has not been able to defend its own core values such as Democracy, Rule of Law, Respect for the Rights of Minorities, European Citizenship and European Integration*



## Autonomous minorities in the European Union

More than 10% of Europeans belong to an autonomous language minority. (*example Szeklers in Romania, Frisians in the Netherlands, Hungarians in Slovakia, Polish in Lithuania, Basques and Catalans in Spain, Catalans in France, Swedish speakers in Finland, German speakers in South Tyrol etc.*) The European Charter of Regional Languages clearly states that migrants cannot be counted among these minorities.

On paper, the European Union stands for their rights, as in the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities concluded in Strasbourg in 1996; the European Charter for Regional Languages; on the basis of bilateral friendship treaties; on the basis of historical treaties; on the basis of the prohibition of discrimination; on grounds of language and ethnicity as laid down in the European Convention on Human Rights; on the provisions of the Convention on Racial Discrimination and the Treaty of Lisbon.

### **European Legality**

*The Dutch government could positively contribute to European Legality, by exemplary respecting the rights of its own national minority the Frisians. Consequently, the foundation advises to use bilingual stamps as a symbol of ethnic equality in Frisia.*



Moreover, the Baltic States have not acted in the spirit of European unification and reconciliation by denying Russian-speaking inhabitants, including ethnic minorities such as Poles and Ingrians - who have received Russian-language education - citizenship and thus civil rights.

In short, an Estonian Ingrian who speaks Russian, English, German and French in addition to his Finnish mother tongue will not receive European civil rights. A monolingual Estonian, who speaks a language that almost no European understands (less than 0.2% European population) does get European citizens' rights. The fact that more people in the Baltic states have Russian as their mother tongue than there are speakers of the Estonian language but have far fewer rights is also incompatible with principles of non-discrimination.

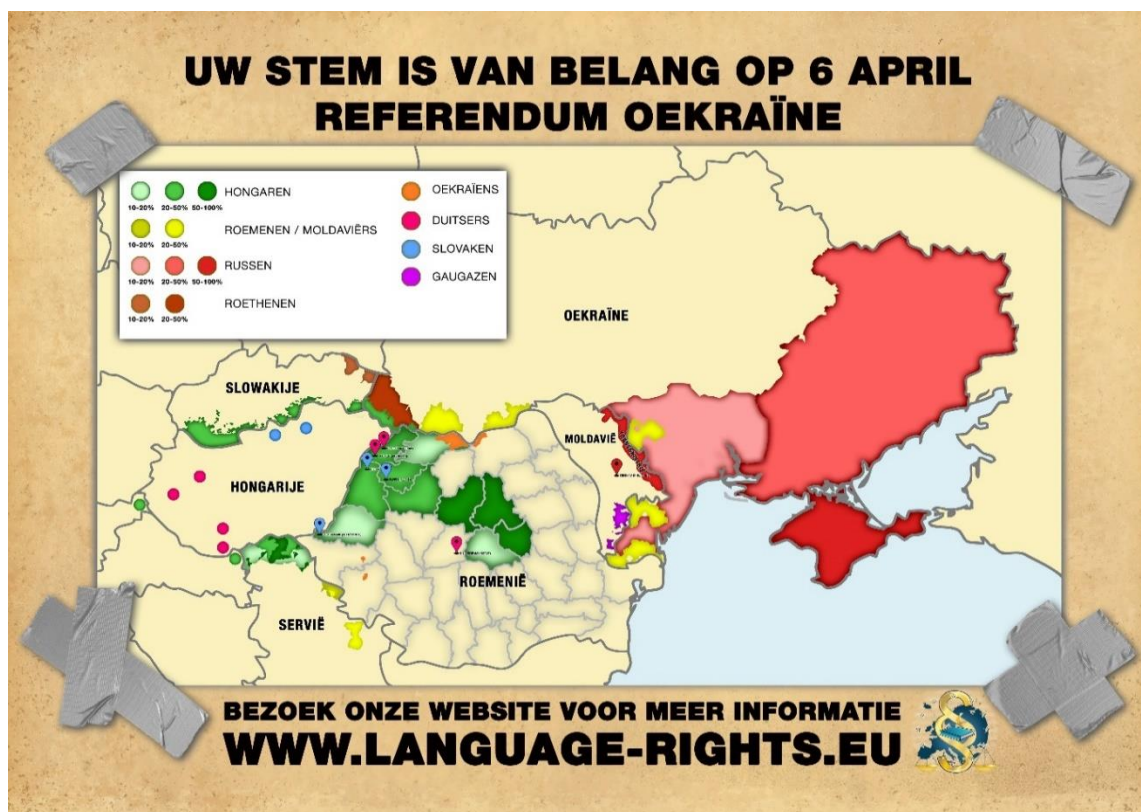


Map of European Languages. Languages and borders do not match source: eurominority.eu



Campaign poster of the Foundation during the Referendum on Ukraine in 2016.

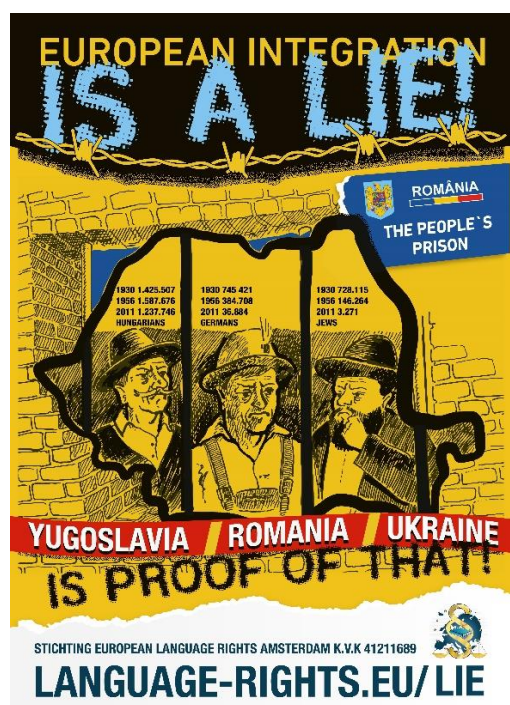
4



## Romania's entry to the European Union was premature

Romania was the country where, even before the Yugoslav civil war, the first deaths by ethnic violence occurred in the city of Marosvásárhely (*Romanian: Targu Mures*). On paper, Romania is now a country that protects the identity of its autonomous inhabitants through a generous and fair legal framework. The practice is different, the population of present-day Romania consists of almost 7 percent Hungarian speakers with more than 1.2 million soles in number larger than the smallest nations of the European Union such as Estonia or Malta.

Yet their language rights are systematically denied by the Romanian government. Hungarian-speaking Europeans in Romania are to this day second-class citizens in the country where the graves of their ancestors lie. They are underrepresented in the judiciary, the police and the civil service and subject to discrimination. Romanian courts often pass judgments on the rights of autonomous minorities, which cannot withstand professional review. The Court of Nagyvárad (*Romanian: Oradea*) has even ruled in 2015 it that European citizens do not have the rights of European citizenship in Romania regarding language rights. This is a crystal-clear act of discrimination. An infringement procedure is pending before the European Commission for this violation of Union law.



### Vulnerable historical communities guarantee the inclusive and Diverse nature of the European Union

*They are entitled to life on the bases of equality in freedom by being protected from forced assimilation and discrimination. Jews and Germans had been sold for money during the Ceașescu dictatorship to Israel and Germany. Unfortunately, their communities disappeared. The European Union fails to protect vulnerable historical minority communities. Campaign Poster 2019.*



## Vote Against campaign against the Association Treaty between Ukraine and the EU

The foundation ran a Vote NO ([stemtegen.eu](http://stemtegen.eu)) campaign, during the Ukraine referendum in 2016. More than four million Dutch people went to the polls for this referendum alone. After all, this referendum was not held at the same time as another election. Moreover, the turnout was higher than that of the European elections in 1999 and therefore well above the validity threshold. The result was therefore regarded as an advisory decision rejecting the approval law. On 6 April 2016, 61% of the Dutch voted no to express their democratic will against war and discrimination and for peace, prosperity and justice. The Dutch government missed a historic opportunity for peace by ratifying the association agreement with Ukraine against the democratic will of the Dutch people.

### Treason to law 2016

*In the report Betrayal of the Law, ten cases prove that EU member Romania also violates the Strasbourg Convention, as regards the language rights of the Hungarian minority in that country. The foundation points out that basic human rights must first be guaranteed as well as the rule of law and that only then is expansion possible. Romania's accession to the EU was premature.*



6



**Campaign Folder Vote No ([stemtegen.eu](http://stemtegen.eu)) Campaign**

*European integration is impossible as long as Europeans belonging to an autonomous population group and/or geopolitical minorities do not have equal (language) rights and are discriminated against. During conversations with people on the street, the will of the Dutch people always came out clearly: THE EU enlargement has gone too fast, first the EU must guarantee the rule of law, not war with Russia. An extraordinary amount of empathy was shown for combating racism and discrimination on the basis of language.*

## The Ukrainian language law is incompatible with European Values

A few days after ratifying the Association Agreement (2017), the Ukrainian Parliament passed a language law to promote the status of Ukrainian language and identity. Under the influence of nationalism, Ukraine wants to seek rapprochement with Europe by opposing its Russian-speaking Soviet past.

This undermined the very delicate balance between the rights of speakers of the majority language and those of minorities, the many Russian speakers, but also the smaller Polish, Romanian, Hungarian and Greek communities. After all, as a speaker of a minority language, you have the right to freely use the language in which you grew up and were educated. In your private life, healthcare, trade, culture and justice.

### ***Absurd Un-European Circumstances***

*In Ukraine it is forbidden to speak Russian in a shop (basic human right), it is forbidden to publish a Russian-language newspaper (freedom of the press) and to evangelize in Russian (religious freedom) on top of existing restrictions. Source CNE.*



The language law touches on basic human rights such as freedom of the press. Russian-language newspapers that do not also appear in a Ukrainian version are prohibited. In trade, a customer may only be addressed in Ukrainian. A working education system is also being dismantled. Compare the current situation with that of Belgium where suddenly any public use of the French and German minority languages would be banned.

A salient detail is that this language law is contrary to precisely those European values that were always appealed to by proponents of the association agreement during public debates in the run-up to the Ukraine referendum. The presence of vulnerable historical communities is seen by Ukrainian nationalism as a threat to the survival of their country. As a result, Ukraine has put European integration and the stability of the EU at risk. Countries wishing to join the EU must not undermine the core conditions for peace and stability. This is precisely where the problem lies.



The testimonies of ethnic Romanians from Ukraine about dismantling their language rights and education at a meeting of the Council of Europe late last year were shocking. Although this law is directed against the speakers of Russian, vulnerable historical minorities are simply crushed as collateral damage by Ukraine in the conflict with Russia.



**Protest Of Ethnic Romanians** Chernivtsi (Romanian :Cernauti) in 2017 „NU NE FURATI LIMBA NOASTRA CEA ROMÂNĂ! / НЕ КРАДІТЬ НАШУ РІДНУ РУМУНЬСКУ МОВУ! DO NOT STEAL OUR ROMANIAN LANGUAGE. A child suddenly has to learn physics, mathematics, chemistry, etc. in Ukrainian, whereas previously this was allowed in the mother tongue.

The paradox of Ukrainian nationalism is that it seeks to create a unitary state by imposing one language and an identity on the people of a country that is historically very diverse and inclusive. Because of its multilingual and multicultural character, Ukraine has a very European identity. The language law is counterproductive: you do not get national unity by humiliating people because of their identity, but by accepting diversity.

In the case of Ukraine's candidate membership, the European Commission has set conditions for membership, such as amending the law on national minorities and complying with the recommendations of the Venice Commission. To meet this requirement, Ukraine only needs to carry out one step, namely to restore to the situation before Maidan.

**The fact that Ukraine is not making any efforts to meet the Copenhagen criteria is thoroughly unworthy of an EU candidate country.**

## Ukrainian EU candidature

Slovakia but also Romania - both countries with large linguistic minorities - could never have joined the EU if they had shown contempt on such a scale for the basic human rights of their own people during their candidacy. As a condition of NATO membership in 2020, North Macedonia has recognized the language rights of its autonomous Albanian minority. Fortunately, Serbia, Montenegro and Kosovo do not follow the Ukrainian un-European language policy.

### Iron Wall through Szelmenc

*From 1946, an iron wall ran through the village of Szelmenc, which made it impossible for family to visit each other. A family in this village has lived in 7 countries within the period of a human life. Source: Wikipedia*



The Ukrainian language law therefore also threatens the inhabitants of the village of Szelmenc in Transcarpathia. The history of this village is a vivid illustration of the history of Ukraine, it belonged to Austria-Hungary until 1919, then Czechoslovakia, from 1938 to Hungary, and in 1945 suddenly a border was drawn through the village with part coming to the Soviet Union and the other part to Czechoslovakia. In the nineties, the inhabitants woke up in Ukraine and Slovakia. In contrast to the borders, the language that the villagers speak to each other has never changed.

This vulnerable historical community, which suffered from two world wars and survived the deportation of its male population to Siberian labor camps, is now threatened by the Ukrainian language law.

It is unpalatable that minorities are the playthings of nationalist and chauvinistic politics and are seen as scapegoats by the Ukrainian majority and insufficiently protected by the Ukrainian government. Autonomous minorities should not be seen as weeds among the grain to be destroyed, but as a beautiful flower from which a bouquet derives its beauty. They also have the right to happiness; their presence is an enrichment for Ukraine. They are allowed to cherish their identity freely.

## The European Union does not Enforce European Values

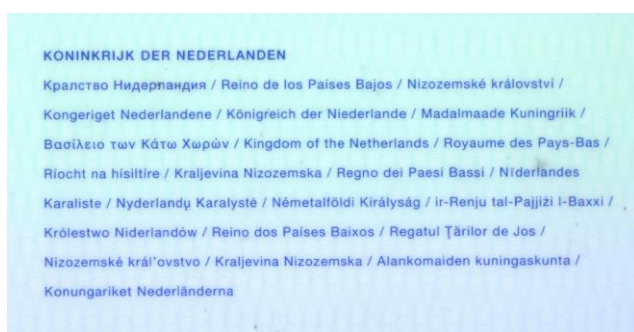
After more than 5 years and in light of the war in Ukraine, it is time to make an evaluation. Ukraine has been a candidate for membership of the EU for three months, and nevertheless refused to meet the requirements of the European Commission. Despite protests from Hungary, Romania and Poland, criticism from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), a complaint to NATO and an inter-state complaint from Russia to the European Convention on Human Rights, Ukraine has refused any substantive dialogue with its minorities.



### European Standards

*Great-Britain, which does indeed comply with European Standards, has left the EU. The EU bears responsibility for this, due to its reckless expansion in 2004 and 2007. In contrary to Transylvania, Sub Carpathia, Bucovina and Slovakia the identity and language of the autonomous minority is respected in Wales*

10



### Article 1 of the Dutch Constitution

*Kingdom in the Netherlands is written in Estonian in a Dutch Passport, which is language spoken by not more than 0,2 % of the population of the EU but not in the second official language of the Netherlands.*



## Compliance First, before entry

There has already been too much haggling with the admission criteria. A language situation for Russians, Gagauz, Romanians, Hungarians and small minorities, which is different from the linguistic situation of Germans in Belgium or Swedish speakers in Finland or different from the situation of the Baltic languages in the EU – which have far fewer speakers in number than the minority languages in Ukraine and Moldova – will structurally hamper European integration. In the context of EU accession, Moldova and Ukraine should therefore make serious efforts to respect language rights and basic human rights. EU member Romania, which wants to become a member of the Schengen Zone, must also immediately stop discrimination against its own autonomous population, by complying with the principle of ethnic proportional participation in public administration and exemplary observance of language rights.



***Meanwhile Disappeared bilingual sign Police in Tordaszentlászló 52% Hungarian (Romanian: Savadisla ). To this day, the Romanian police have not complied with the requirement of the ELR Foundation to observe language rights. Although Romania claims to respect language rights, it refuses to fill them even symbolically by using bilingual signs, bilingual police cars and bilingual uniforms.***



The EU should take serious action to respect language rights and basic human rights not out of a vague kind of idealism, but out of strategic importance for peace, security and reconciliation. **After all, a community of values that structurally and systematically cannot defend its own core values is no longer a community of values.**

### North Macedonia Youngest NATO Member

*North Macedonia only became a NATO member after it had fulfilled conditions for pacification by granting language rights for its autonomous Albanian minority. In all administrative regions of which 20% are Albanian, this language has a co-official status. After all, a country that does not have ethnic peace cannot join NATO. The recognition of Albanian Language Rights was a hard demand for North Macedonia's NATO membership.*



12

**After all, the future of the European Union is at stake.** The choice of admitting Ukraine and Moldova to the EU and admitting Romania to the Schengen area should only become a professional decision and not a political decision. Ukraine must comply with agreements for peace by - with immediate effect - suspending the discriminatory language law and respecting basic human rights of autonomous minorities in an exemplary manner.

**Violation of Union Law** *the Romanian authorities deny that right to Europeans (example: interpreter/translator) under which millions of Romanians (example: truck driver) live and work in the EU. Although the European Commission has acknowledged that there is a breach of Union law, it has not yet received a reply from the Romanian authorities. This example proves that the EU cannot enforce the pillar of the EU, namely freedom of movement of people and goods, in its own Member State.*



[Extra Information](#)

[Website Foundation European Language Rights](#)

[Thema site Vote Against stemtegen.eu Campaign on Ukraine Referendum](#)

[Report Treason to Law](#)

[2013 ND Europeans are second Rang citizens in Romania](#) (HU) (RO)

[2013 ND Free Entry of Romanians violates Legal Order](#)

[2014 NRC Prety Serious if Russians are not Allowed to speak Russian](#) (GB) (FR) (HU) (RO)

[2014 Linguaan Free Movement of Services in Europe for Romanians only](#)

[2015 Volkskrant Europe needs a Strong and Stable Ukraine](#)

[2015 NRC not Only Russia, but Romania is Causing Trouble.](#)

[2016 ND Prime Minister Rutte's Ukraine Deal violates European Values](#)

[2017 ND Ukraine has Nothing with European Values](#)

[2018 LC Principle of Equality is Also Applicable for Frisians](#) (FY)

[2018 Linguaan Free Movement of services also Applies to Interpreters](#)

[2019 Letter of the European Commission stating that Europeans have the Same Rights As Romanians have](#) (GB) (RO) (HU)

[2020 Case Marosvásárhely -Targu Mures ELR.](#) (GB,HU,NL,RO)

[2021 Transindex After a Struggle of Seven Years the Language Activist won his battle against the police of Marosvásárhely.](#) (HU)

[2021 ND Public life in Ukraine is only Allowed in one Language](#) (HU)

[2022 Trouw Ukraine Humiliates Ethnic Minorities](#) (HU)

[2022 Nij Frisia There is nothing to Celebrate for Frisians 70 years after kneppelfreed](#) (FY)

[2022 ND Support for Ukraine should be coupled with Requirements](#) (HU)

[2022 ND Forbidden to Speak Hungarian](#)

[2022 Reformatorisch Dagblad Tough Ukrainian Language law is Unworthy for EU](#) (HU) (GB)

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[2021 RD Europe should follow its own Course regarding Ukraine.](#)

[2018 Volkskrant Language battle in Ukraine Russian Speakers are not Served.](#)

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[2022 Macedonia Government issues a decree on bilingual markings on police uniforms](#)

[Polish Institute of National remembrance on Volhynia Massacre](#) (Wolyn)

[Yad Vashem The world Holocaust Remembrance Center](#)      [Human Rights Watch](#)  
[Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe](#)  
[Council of Europe](#)   [Radio Free Europe](#)  
[Warsaw Institute on Lithuania](#)      [Warsaw Institute on Ukraine](#)  
[NIOD Dutch institute for war, holocaust and genocide studies on Srebrenica](#)  
[Social Organization the Cultural Alliance of Hungarians in Sub-Carpathia](#)  
[Romanian Organization in Bucovina](#)  
[Federal Union of European Nationalities](#)  
[Jongfryske Mienskip Organization for Equality of the Frisian Language, Culture & Identity](#)  
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[Treaty of Trianon. \( Relevant because of TransCarpathia \)](#)



Foundation of the European Union.

*Discrimination, Collective Guilt, Racism and Apartheid are incompatible with the Foundation of the European Union, which should stand for peace and Justice. This multilingual sign at the European Parliament iconizes those values. **Peace is Cheaper as War.** The cost of Bilingual Signs as well as complying with language law is cheaper as war. The rules for NATO and EU integration are crystal clear. Monolingual Sign in Mariupol. 2014 (44 % ethnic Russian)*

ISBN 9789083302331

