

OWN LANGUAGE IS A FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT

A fair trial is a fundamental human right. Registered interpreters guarantee the right of a suspect to be able to defend himself in his own language under emotional pressure. This fundamental right was recently violated in a criminal case in Frisia where the suspect was deprived of the right to defend herself in Frisian, since there was no registered interpreter at the hearing. The Minister of Justice now wants to expand the register of interpreters by admitting unqualified interpreters who do not meet the current admission requirements (Interpreters want recognition and money, 14/1). A democratic state governed by the rule of law cannot exist without the guarantee of fundamental rights.

Register interpreters therefore pull the emergency brake. Hopefully, the protest will lead to the minister taking fundamental rights seriously.

Drs. G. Landman

Author :	Drs. G.Landman
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