

PRESS RELEASE CAMPAIGN EUROPEAN INTEGRATION IS A LIE.

The Foundation European Language Rights launched its campaign “European Integration is a Lie” The purpose of this campaign is to inform the public about the fact that the **European Union is not capable to defend European Values such as Rule of Law, Freedom and Democracy including the protection of Rights of Autonomous Minorities.**

Right after the ethnic failure of **Yugoslavia** the legal building blocks for European Integration have been enshrined in treaties ⁽¹⁾, which clearly protect the rights of geopolitical minorities. In contrary to the founding members of the European Union **Former-Yugoslavia, Romania and Ukraine** have large geopolitical language minorities, due to changed borders. ⁽²⁾

Romania - member of the EU - since 2007, has insufficiently complied with those treaties, since it treats its own non-Romanian speaking citizens as second rang citizens. These **violations of European Citizenship rights** have been reported in our report Treason to Law. ⁽³⁾

Based on this report the foundation campaigned against the Ukrainian association agreement, during the Dutch referendum in April

2016. Despite a 62 % no vote, the European Union ratified this treaty **against the Democratic will** of the Dutch people. ⁽⁴⁾

Right after ratification of this association agreement Ukraine make a law banning education in autonomous minority languages and on top of that it passed a law in parliament on 25-04-2019, which will punish the public use of the Hungarian, Romanian and Russian language. ⁽⁵⁾ Denying language rights is not only a violation of basic human rights ⁽⁶⁾ but also a blatant violation of European Values, ⁽⁷⁾ besides this Ethnic oppression in an overcentralised state is often used to disguise corruption.

Unfortunately Romania has failed to show an example for European Integration of Ukraine, since it has failed to promote European core values such as ethnic diversity and multilingualism, and to fight corruption satisfactory. Romania deprives the EU of its credibility, since this country lost a part of its European soul and identity ⁽⁸⁾ by destroying two of its autonomous ethnic communities.

As long as the European Union is not capable to defend the rights of its own European Citizens⁽⁸⁾, European Integration will be a lie.

1. Ukraine and Romania ratified the Strasbourg Treaty for the protection of national minorities, the European Charter of regional language and a bilateral friendship agreements, all these treaties protect the regional language, besides the Ukrainian constitution guarantees the free use of minority languages, The European Human Rights treaty forbids discrimination based on ethnicity or language. In fact language rights for indigenous people are basic human rights. The Netherlands ratified these treaties for its Frisian Minority. Other well know examples are Welsh in England, Germans in South-Tirol, Basks in Spain, Swedes in Finland amongst others.

2. Eastern Europe has a history which is different from the founding member states of the European Union. There is a well know joke about a Ukrainian couple, who never left their village, but lived in 7 different countries. (1-Austria-Hungary till 1921, 2-Czechoslovakia till 1938, 3-Hungary till 1947, 4-Soviet –Union till 1990 , 5-Czechoslovak Socialist Republic till 1990, 6-Ukraine and 7-Slovakia till present day) Ethnic Hungarian, Romanians and Russians live in geographical areas where they form the majority.

3. In our Report Treason to law, the Foundation documented the violations of Language Rights in Romania. This report shows that there is no rule of law in Romania and that Romanian even violations European citizenship rights.

4. Our campaign consisted of posters, ads in public transport and flyers which were delived at home, press articles , a Google campaign and a lot of publications in Dutch media. Most people we spoke were convinced that Ukraine should not be EU member. On the election of 6 April a higher participation could be observed as with a prior European election. Despite a Fear Uncertainty and Doubt campaign, and being ignored by the mainstream media, 61 % of the Dutch population said no, the European Union simply ignored the Democratic Will of the Dutch people.

5. Ukraine tried to ban autonomous minority languages, in fact this was the reason for the conflict with Russia. After the EU ratified the Association agreement, Ukraine simply made a law, which bans the education of minority languages, which is a violation of several treaties. Without waiting for the Venice Committee the Ukrainian parliament voted for a language law, which would punish the free use of the regional languages.

6. Language Rights are basic Human rights, so Ukraine is not only violating the treaties under 1, but general Human rights as laid down the following declarations. One should also keep in account that the current language law will imply other human right violations, since there is no freedom of press and no freedom of speech, if a newspaper can only appear, if it has been translated in Ukrainian. Implementing the language law, would imply collective punishment and might be a violation of the anti-genocide convention.

7. European Values. The living together of various autonomous language communities based on mutual respect and equality is a core European value, since the European Union is a multilingual organization as well. No European would accept an European state, to enforce mono-lingualism in local government services (Example : European Police only speaking French only) However Ukraine is doing the same.

8. Romania was a North -Korean style dictatorship till 1990. Although ethnic Hungarian have an autonomous Hungarian province till 1960, between 1960 and 1990 there had been a open ethnic cleansing of ethnic Hungarians, Ethnic Jews had been sold for money to Israel and ethnic Germans had been sold to western Germany. In 1990 before the first ethnic deaths occurred in Targu-Mures / Marosvásárhely. The role of the securitate in provoking this pogrom has never been cleared.

Unfortunately the German and Jewish communities have been destroyed, this is tragic since Romania lost part of its European soul. The Romanian state never apologized itself for these ethnic cleansing.