Basic information

2017/2937(RSP) RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects	Procedure completed
Protection and non-discrimination with regard to minorities in the EU Member States **Subject** 4.10.08 Equal treatment of persons, non-discrimination	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
PETI Petitions	WIKSTRÖM Cecilia (ALDE)	10/07/2017
	Shadow rapporteur CSÁKY Pál (PPE) PAPADAKIS Demetris (S&D) MARIAS Notis (ECR) TOOM Jana (ALDE) VALLINA Ángela (GUE/NGL) ŽDANOKA Tatjana (Verts/ALE) EVI Eleonora (EFDD)	

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Migration and Home Affairs	AVRAMOPOULOS Dimitris

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
07/02/2018	Decision by Parliament	T8-0032/2018	Summary
07/02/2018	Results of vote in Parliament		
07/02/2018	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2017/2937(RSP)
Procedure type	RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects
Procedure subtype	Resolution on statement
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 216_-p2-a2
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	PETI/8/11396

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Motion for a resolution		B8-0064/2018	07/02/2018	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T8-0032/2018	07/02/2018	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary	SP(2018)210	03/05/2018	

Protection and non-discrimination with regard to minorities in the EU Member States

2017/2937(RSP) - 07/02/2018 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution tabled by the Committee on Petitions on protection and non-discrimination with regard to minorities in the EU Member States. It noted that the Committee on Petitions has received several petitions raising concerns about various practices that discriminate against EU citizens belonging to minorities and has organised a hearing on the different issues raised.

Members deplored the fact that persons belonging to minorities still encounter obstacles in ensuring respect for their fundamental rights and remain victims of hate speech and hate crimes. They observed that **minority issues have not been high enough on the EU agenda** and called for an integrated approach to ensure that Member States deal appropriately with the diversity of people in their societies.

Combating discrimination against autochthonous, national and linguistic minorities: this is both a national and EU responsibility. Parliament considered it necessary to **improve the EU's legislative framework** to protect the rights of persons belonging to minorities in a comprehensive manner. The EU lacks effective tools to monitor respect for minority rights and the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights should carry out enhanced monitoring of discrimination against national minorities in Member States. Members recalled that the protection of national minorities and the prohibition of discrimination on grounds of language and membership of a national minority are enshrined in the Treaties and the Charter of Fundamental Rights.

EU legal framework on minorities: Member States were called upon to ensure that their legal systems guarantee that persons belonging to a minority are not discriminated against and to take targeted protection measures based on relevant international norms. Parliament condemned any discriminatory treatment by public officials of persons belonging to minorities.

Parliament called for the Racial Equality Directive and the Equal Treatment in Employment Directive to be revised. It deeply regretted that little progress has been made on the adoption of the proposal for an Equal Treatment Directive and called on the Commission and the Council to relaunch the relevant negotiations.

All Member States were asked to ratify the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities, Protocol No 12 to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages.

Protection of minority languages: stating linguistic rights must be respected in communities where there is more than one official language, Parliament encouraged Member States to ensure that the right to use a minority language is upheld in accordance with the EU Treaties. It also called on the Commission to strengthen the promotion of the teaching and use of regional and minority languages.

Rights of LGBTI persons: Parliament recommended the monitoring of LGBTI rights and providing clear information on the recognition of cross-border rights for LGBTI persons and their families in the EU. It called on the Commission to take action in order to ensure that LGBTI individuals and their families could exercise their right to free movement in accordance with both Article 21 of the TFEU and Article 21 of the Charter.