



GIVING REGIONAL AND MINORITY LANGUAGES A SAY!

**European Charter
for Regional or Minority Languages**

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KEEPING
QUIET BELONGS
TO THE PAST.
**IT'S TIME TO
SPEAK UP!**

European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages

- ▶ For a long time minority languages could only be spoken in the family.
- ▶ Today, the Charter obliges the authorities to ensure that our language is used everywhere in public again.
- ▶ You too can use our language, with the authorities, in shops, in hospitals, for family and place names, etc.
- ▶ **Have your say!**

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**SPEAKING
OUR LANGUAGE:
THAT'S WHAT
WE'VE ALWAYS
DONE HERE.**

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- ▶ In many families, regional or minority languages have been spoken for generations.
- ▶ It is therefore natural that we speak our language with our relatives and friends.
- ▶ Don't be the first not to pass on the language to your children after so many centuries!
- ▶ **Keep on talking!**



**WE DO IT
FREELY AND
FOR EVERYONE
TO HEAR.**

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- ▶ Speaking a regional or minority language in public isn't embarrassing, impolite or forbidden.
- ▶ It's our right and it's completely normal.
- ▶ **Speak up everywhere and every day!**

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LET'S GO GET
OUR LANGUAGE!

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- ▶ The Charter allows us to ask, in our own language, for oral and written information or services in this language.
- ▶ Even if you don't get a reply in our language at first, insist on its use every day. Don't feel like you're being a nuisance – you're helping to keep our language alive!
- ▶ **Don't let them brush you off!**



**I'M NOT
A TOURIST.
THIS IS
MY HOME!**

European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages

- ▶ A regional or minority language is not a foreign language.
- ▶ It has been spoken by people from this region for centuries.
- ▶ Nobody should be surprised when we speak our own language in public, even though we can also speak the majority language.
- ▶ **Keep speaking** it, even if you are mistaken for a tourist!

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