



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
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Excellency,

I wish to inform you that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, during its 97th session, considered the follow-up report submitted by the Government of the Republic of Moldova, pursuant to Article 9 (1) of the Convention, and Rule 65 (1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee.

The Committee welcomes the submission of the report, in response to its request to receive information within one year of the implementation of the recommendations contained in paragraphs 19 and 23 of the Concluding Observations (CERD/C/MDA/CO/10-11), adopted following the consideration of the State party's combined 10th and 11th periodic reports, at its 92nd session held on May 2017.

The Committee appreciates the opportunity provided to continue its dialogue with the State party, and would like to draw the State party's attention to the observations mentioned below. The Committee requests that comments and responses on actions taken by the State party on these issues be included in its combined 12th to 14th periodic reports, to be submitted in a single document by 20 February 2020.

Paragraph 19 of the Concluding Observations: The Committee thanks the State party for the extensive information provided on the linguistic rights of ethnic minorities, including on measures to improve access of persons belonging to ethnic minorities to the study of their mother tongue as well as the official language. It also notes that the State party recognises that shortcomings still exist, particularly in the Autonomous Territorial Unit of Gagauzia and in the district of Taraclia.

The Committee recommends the State party continue developing educational materials and training teachers, with a view to fully ensuring mother-tongue education for children/students belonging to ethnic minorities, including in the Autonomous Territorial Unit of Gagauzia and in the district of Taraclia. The Committee also encourages the State

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party to address shortcomings that prevent minorities to access quality instruction in the State language, including by continuing to promote multilingual education. The Committee calls on the State party to report in its next periodic report, on the impact of these measures.

Paragraph 23 of the Concluding Observations: The Committee takes note of the legislative amendments made by the State party with a view to guaranteeing access to education, housing, health care and employment by refugees, and to ensuring procedural guarantees for applicants of international protection, in particular minors and unaccompanied minors. However, the Committee requests the State party take measures to ensure that non-citizens are given access to education, housing, health care and employment, without discrimination, including on the grounds of their migration status. The Committee calls on the State party to provide further information in its next periodic report on the access by non-citizens to education, housing, health care and employment, and how they are protected from discrimination in enjoying their rights under the Convention.

Rest assured, Excellency, that the Committee looks forward to continuing its constructive dialogue with the Government of the Republic of Moldova, with a view to providing it with assistance in its efforts to ensure the effective implementation of the Convention.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,



Nouredine Amir
Chair

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination