

# Media Advisory

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"The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"  
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28.10.2009

## European Minority Song Contest in the Netherlands

**Date:** 31 October 2009

**Location:** Leeuwarden (The Netherlands)

**Organisation:** *Liet International Festival*, under the patronage of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe.

**Description:** The European Minority Song Contest *Liet International* will celebrate its 6<sup>th</sup> edition promoting contemporary new songs in minority languages. Bands performing in Asturian, Sami, Frisian, Irish, Karelian, Latgalian, Occitan, Gaelic, Low German, Friulian and Sardinian will compete for a Prize sponsored by the [Council of Europe Charter for Regional or Minority Languages](#).

**Public award:** Following the "Eurovision" format, the organisers have envisaged an on-line vote on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October after the show: [www.liet.nl](http://www.liet.nl)

**Focus:** Council of Europe acts as co-organiser of the [Partnership for Diversity Conference](#), which will take place on the eve of the Festival, under the theme "The challenging relationship between transmission of cultures and transmission of languages"

**Curiosity:** CNN International will broadcast the Festival on the CNN website

**Quote for the media:** Alexey Kozhemyakov, Head of the Secretariat of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages: "As it has done in the previous years, the Council of Europe welcomes this initiative that offers an international stage to artists singing in minority and regional languages. The Festival gives an excellent opportunity to keep these languages alive in a creative and interesting way. It is also an original window for the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages: a unique instrument in the world seeking to safeguard regional or minority languages at international level".

[Video kit](#)

**For more information:**

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