

Media Advisory

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Strasbourg, 23.04.2009

National minorities in Kosovo: evaluation visit of the Advisory Committee

Date: 27-30 April 2009

Location: Kosovo¹

Organised by the Council of Europe Advisory Committee – an expert body set up under the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.

Description: The aim of the visit is to evaluate the progress made in protecting national minorities in Kosovo.

The Committee will specifically look at the implementation of existing legislation, the measures taken to increase minority communities' participation in public life and the promotion of interaction between pupils from different communities in the education system. It will assess the follow-up which has been given to its recommendations contained in its 2005 Opinion.

The Advisory Committee will hold meetings with minority communities, including the Ashkali, Bosniacs, Gorani, Egyptians, Montenegrins, Roma, Serbs and Turks as well as NGOs. It will discuss the situation of these communities with representatives of international organisations and local authorities.

This second visit is carried out under the [specific agreement concluded between the Council of Europe and UNMIK](#) (United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo) in 2004. It follows the progress report submitted by UNMIK in July 2008.

Following the visit, the Advisory Committee will draw up an Opinion in which specific recommendations will be highlighted.

More information:

- [Advisory Committee Opinion on Kosovo \(2005\)](#)
- [UNMIK Progress Report \(2008\)](#) (English only)

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¹ « All reference to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo ».