

Media Advisory

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Strasbourg, 03.02.2009

Seminar to assess the protection of national minorities in Sweden

Date: 5-6 February 2009

Place: Rotundan, Rosenbad 4, Stockholm

Organised by: The Council of Europe and the Ministry of Integration and Gender Equality of Sweden

Description: The aim of this seminar is to review the progress made by Sweden in the protection of national minorities, and in particular with regard to the recommendations contained in an [Opinion](#) published in 2007 by the Advisory Committee of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. The committee is a Council of Europe independent monitoring body in charge of supervising that states comply with the requirements of the convention.

Representatives of the Swedish government, minority associations, NGOs and experts will discuss the existing legal framework, minority participation in decision-making and minority education. Nyamko Sabuni, Minister of Integration and Gender Equality of Sweden, and Rainer Hofmann, 2nd Vice President of the Advisory Committee will open the seminar on 5 February at 13.00.

This 2007 Opinion, the second published on Sweden, is a report which acknowledges that minority protection is well developed, although it points out room for improvement in the availability of minority language teaching in the public education system and in bilingual education. It also states that although some first steps have been taken, the role of the Sami Parliament could be increased.

The meeting is open to the press. There are limited spaces. Journalists are kindly asked to register before Wednesday 4 February 5 pm. Contact: Johan Eriksson, Press Assistant, johan.eriksson@integration.ministry.se

Requests for interviews can be addressed to the contacts below.

[Programme](#)
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