

**THE EUROPEAN CHARTER
FOR REGIONAL OR MINORITY LANGUAGES¹**

– Applied to Limburger in the Netherlands –

[...]

PART II

**OBJECTIVES AND PRINCIPLES
PURSUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 2, PARAGRAPH 1**

Article 7 – Objectives and principles

- 1 In respect of Limburger, within the territories in which Limburger is used and according to the situation of Limburger, the Netherlands shall base its policies, legislation and practice on the following objectives and principles:
 - a the recognition of Limburger as an expression of cultural wealth;
 - b the respect of the geographical area of Limburger in order to ensure that existing or new administrative divisions do not constitute an obstacle to the promotion of Limburger;
 - c the need for resolute action to promote Limburger in order to safeguard it;
 - d the facilitation and/or encouragement of the use of Limburger, in speech and writing, in public and private life;
 - e the maintenance and development of links, in the fields covered by this Charter, between groups using Limburger and other groups in the State employing a language used in identical or similar form, as well as the establishment of cultural relations with other groups in the State using different languages;
 - f the provision of appropriate forms and means for the teaching and study of Limburger at all appropriate stages;
 - g the provision of facilities enabling non-speakers of Limburger living in the area where it is used to learn it if they so desire;
 - h the promotion of study and research on Limburger at universities or equivalent institutions;
 - i the promotion of appropriate types of transnational exchanges, in the fields covered by this Charter, for Limburger used in identical or similar form in two or more States.
- 2 The Netherlands undertakes to eliminate, if it has not yet done so, any unjustified distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference relating to the use of Limburger and intended to discourage or endanger the maintenance or development of it. The adoption of special measures in favour of Limburger aimed at promoting equality between the users of Limburger and the rest of the population or which take due account of their specific conditions is not considered to be an act of discrimination against the users of more widely-used languages.
- 3 The Netherlands undertakes to promote, by appropriate measures, mutual understanding between all the linguistic groups of the country and in particular the inclusion of respect, understanding and tolerance in relation to Limburger among the objectives of education and training provided within the country and encouragement of the mass media to pursue the same objective.
- 4 In determining its policy with regard to Limburger, the Netherlands shall take into consideration the needs and wishes expressed by the groups which use Limburger. It is encouraged to establish bodies, if necessary, for the purpose of advising the authorities on all matters pertaining to Limburger.
- 5 The Netherlands undertakes to apply, *mutatis mutandis*, the principles listed in paragraphs 1 to 4 above to Limburger as a non-territorial language. However, as far as Limburger is concerned, the nature and scope of the measures to be taken to give effect to this Charter shall be determined in a flexible manner, bearing in mind the needs and wishes, and respecting the traditions and characteristics, of the groups which use Limburger.

[...]

¹ CETS no. 148. The Charter was adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg on 5 November 1992. Entry into force for the Netherlands: 1 March 1998. The provisions of the Charter adopted by the Netherlands for Limburger as a non-territorial language are applicable without territorial restrictions.