

# Database for the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages

## GALICIAN TRANSLATION OF THE CHARTER

### European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages<sup>1</sup>

#### Preamble

The member States of the Council of Europe signatory hereto,

Considering that the aim of the Council of Europe is to achieve a greater unity between its members, particularly for the purpose of safeguarding and realising the ideals and principles which are their common heritage;

Considering that the protection of the historical regional or minority languages of Europe, some of which are in danger of eventual extinction, contributes to the maintenance and development of Europe's cultural wealth and traditions;

Considering that the right to use a regional or minority language in private and public life is an inalienable right conforming to the principles embodied in the United Nations International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and according to the spirit of the Council of Europe Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms;

Having regard to the work carried out within the CSCE and in particular to the Helsinki Final Act of 1975 and the document of the Copenhagen Meeting of 1990;

Stressing the value of interculturalism and multilingualism and considering that the protection and encouragement of regional or minority languages should not be to the detriment of the official languages and the need to learn them;

Realising that the protection and promotion of regional or minority languages in the different countries and regions of Europe represent an important contribution to the building of a Europe based on the principles of democracy and cultural diversity within the framework of national sovereignty and territorial integrity;

Taking into consideration the specific conditions and historical traditions in the different regions of the European States,

Have agreed as follows:

### Carta Europea das Linguas Rexionais ou Minoritarias<sup>1</sup>

#### Preámbulo

Os Estados membros do Consello de Europa, signatarios desta Carta,

Considerando que a finalidade do Consello de Europa é conseguir unha unión máis estreita entre os seus membros, en particular para salvagardar e promover os ideais e principios que son o seu patrimonio común;

Considerando que a protección das linguas rexionais ou minoritarias históricas de Europa, algunhas das cales corren o risco de desaparecer co tempo, contribúe a manter e a desenvolver as tradicións e a riqueza culturais de Europa;

Considerando que o dereito a utilizar unha lingua rexional ou minoritaria na vida privada e pública constitúe un dereito imprescritible, de conformidade cos principios contidos no Pacto Internacional de Dereitos Cívís e Políticos das Nacións Unidas, e de acordo co espírito do Convenio do Consello de Europa para a Protección dos Dereitos Humanos e das Liberdades Fundamentais;

Tendo en conta o traballo realizado no marco da CSCE, e en particular a Acta Final de Helsinqui de 1975 e o documento da reunión de Copenhague de 1990;

Salientando o valor do intercultural e do plurilingüismo e considerando que a protección e o fomento das linguas rexionais ou minoritarias non se deberían facer en detrimento das linguas oficiais e da necesidade de as aprender;

Conscientes do feito de que a protección e o fomento das linguas rexionais ou minoritarias nos distintos países e rexións de Europa representan unha contribución importante á construción dunha Europa baseada nos principios da democracia e da diversidade cultural, no ámbito da soberanía nacional e da integridade territorial;

Tendo en conta as condicións específicas e tradicións históricas propias de cada rexión dos países de Europa,

Conviron no seguinte:

<sup>1</sup> CETS no. 148. The convention was adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on 25 June 1992 and opened for signature on 5 November 1992 in Strasbourg. It entered into force on 1 March 1998, according to article 19. Authentic texts: English and French. See also *United Nations Treaty Series* vol. 2044, p. 575, reg. no. 35358.

<sup>1</sup> Official translation. From the site of the Xunta de Galicia (Government of Galicia). See: [http://www.xunta.es/arquivos/linguagalega/Carta-Europea-das-Linguas\\_version-galegaST.doc](http://www.xunta.es/arquivos/linguagalega/Carta-Europea-das-Linguas_version-galegaST.doc)

**PART I  
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

*Article 1 – Definitions*

For the purposes of this Charter:

- a “regional or minority languages” means languages that are:
  - i traditionally used within a given territory of a State by nationals of that State who form a group numerically smaller than the rest of the State’s population; and
  - ii different from the official language(s) of that State;it does not include either dialects of the official language(s) of the State or the languages of migrants;
- b “territory in which the regional or minority language is used” means the geographical area in which the said language is the mode of expression of a number of people justifying the adoption of the various protective and promotional measures provided for in this Charter;
- c “non-territorial languages” means languages used by nationals of the State which differ from the language or languages used by the rest of the State’s population but which, although traditionally used within the territory of the State, cannot be identified with a particular area thereof.

*Article 2 – Undertakings*

- 1 Each Party undertakes to apply the provisions of Part II to all the regional or minority languages spoken within its territory and which comply with the definition in Article 1.
- 2 In respect of each language specified at the time of ratification, acceptance or approval, in accordance with Article 3, each Party undertakes to apply a minimum of thirty-five paragraphs or sub-paragraphs chosen from among the provisions of Part III of the Charter, including at least three chosen from each of the Articles 8 and 12 and one from each of the Articles 9, 10, 11 and 13.

*Article 3 – Practical arrangements*

- 1 Each Contracting State shall specify in its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval, each regional or minority language, or official language which is less widely used on the whole or part of its territory, to which the paragraphs chosen in accordance with Article 2, paragraph 2, shall apply.
- 2 Any Party may, at any subsequent time, notify the Secretary General that it accepts the obligations arising out of the provisions of any other paragraph of the Charter not already specified in its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval, or that it will apply paragraph 1 of the present article to other regional or minority languages, or to other official languages which are less widely used on the whole or part of its territory.

**PARTE I.  
DISPOSICIÓN XERAIS**

*Artigo 1. Definicións*

Para os fins desta Carta:

- a pola expresión “linguas rexionais ou minoritarias” entenderanse as linguas:
  - i faladas tradicionalmente nun territorio dun Estado por nacionais dese Estado que constitúen un grupo numericamente inferior ao resto da poboación do Estado, e
  - ii diferentes da(s) lingua(s) oficial(is) do Estado;non inclúe os dialectos da(s) lingua(s) oficial(is) do Estado nin as linguas dos inmigrantes;
- b por “territorio en que se fala unha lingua rexional ou minoritaria” entenderase a área xeográfica na cal esta lingua é o modo de expresión dun número de persoas que xustifica a adopción das diferentes medidas de protección e fomento previstas nesta Carta;
- c por “linguas sen territorio” entenderanse as linguas faladas por nacionais do Estado que son diferentes da(s) lingua(s) empregada(s) polo resto da poboación do Estado, pero que, a pesar de se empregaren tradicionalmente no territorio do Estado, non se poden circunscribir a unha área xeográfica concreta del.

*Artigo 2. Compromisos*

- 1 Cada parte comprométese a aplicar as disposicións da parte II ao conxunto das linguas rexionais ou minoritarias faladas no seu territorio, que respondan ás definicións do artigo 1.
- 2 Polo que se refire a toda lingua indicada no momento da ratificación, aceptación ou aprobación, de conformidade co artigo 3, cada unha das partes comprométese a aplicar un mínimo de trinta e cinco parágrafos ou puntos elixidos entre as disposicións da parte III desta Carta, dos cales, polo menos, tres deberán ser elixidos de cada un dos artigos 8 e 12 e un de cada un dos artigos 9, 10, 11 e 13.

*Artigo 3. Modalidades*

- 1 Cada Estado contratante deberá especificar no seu instrumento de ratificación, aceptación ou aprobación cada lingua rexional ou minoritaria ou cada lingua oficial menos difundida no conxunto ou nunha parte do seu territorio á cal se deberán aplicar os parágrafos elixidos de conformidade co parágrafo 2 do artigo 2.
- 2 Toda parte, en calquera momento posterior, poderá notificar ao secretario xeral que acepta as obrigas que derivan das disposicións de calquera outro parágrafo da Carta que non fose especificado no seu instrumento de ratificación, aceptación ou aprobación, ou que aplicará o parágrafo 1 deste artigo a outras linguas rexionais ou minoritarias, ou a outras linguas oficiais menos difundidas no conxunto ou nunha parte do seu territorio.

- 3 The undertakings referred to in the foregoing paragraph shall be deemed to form an integral part of the ratification, acceptance or approval and will have the same effect as from their date of notification.

*Article 4 – Existing regimes of protection*

- 1 Nothing in this Charter shall be construed as limiting or derogating from any of the rights guaranteed by the European Convention on Human Rights.
- 2 The provisions of this Charter shall not affect any more favourable provisions concerning the status of regional or minority languages, or the legal regime of persons belonging to minorities which may exist in a Party or are provided for by relevant bilateral or multilateral international agreements.

*Article 5 – Existing obligations*

Nothing in this Charter may be interpreted as implying any right to engage in any activity or perform any action in contravention of the purposes of the Charter of the United Nations or other obligations under international law, including the principle of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States.

*Article 6 – Information*

The Parties undertake to see to it that the authorities, organisations and persons concerned are informed of the rights and duties established by this Charter.

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

*Article 7 – Objectives and principles*

- 1 In respect of regional or minority languages, within the territories in which such languages are used and according to the situation of each language, the Parties shall base their policies, legislation and practice on the following objectives and principles:
- a the recognition of the regional or minority languages as an expression of cultural wealth;
  - b the respect of the geographical area of each regional or minority language in order to ensure that existing or new administrative divisions do not constitute an obstacle to the promotion of the regional or minority language in question;
  - c the need for resolute action to promote regional or minority languages in order to safeguard them;
  - d the facilitation and/or encouragement of the use of regional or minority languages, in speech and writing, in public and private life;
  - e the maintenance and development of links, in the fields covered by this Charter, between

- 3 Os compromisos previstos no número precedente consideraranse parte integrante da ratificación, aceptación ou aprobación e terán os mesmos efectos a partir da data da súa notificación.

*Artigo 4. Réximes de protección existentes*

- 1 Ningunha das disposicións desta Carta se poderá interpretar no sentido de que limita ou derroga os dereitos garantidos polo Convenio Europeo de Dereitos Humanos.
- 2 As disposicións desta Carta non afectarán as disposicións máis favorables que rexan a situación das linguas rexionais ou minoritarias nin o réxime xurídico das persoas que pertencen a minorías que existan xa nunha parte ou que estean previstas por acordos internacionais bilaterais ou multilaterais pertinentes.

*Artigo 5. Obrigas existentes*

Nada nesta Carta poderá ser interpretado no sentido de que leve consigo o dereito de emprender calquera actividade ou de realizar calquera acción que contradigan os fins da Carta das Nacións Unidas ou outras obrigas do dereito internacional, incluído o principio de soberanía e de integridade territorial dos Estados.

*Artigo 6. Información*

As partes comprométense a velar por que as autoridades, organizacións e persoas ás cales afecta esta Carta sexan informadas dos dereitos e deberes establecidos por ela.

**PARTE II.  
OBJECTIVOS E PRINCIPIOS  
PERSEGUIDOS DE CONFORMIDADE CO  
PARÁGRAFO 1 DO ARTIGO 2**

*Artigo 7. Obxectivos e principios*

- 1 En materia de linguas rexionais ou minoritarias, nos territorios en que se falen as citadas linguas e segundo a situación de cada unha delas, as partes basearán a súa política, a súa lexislación e a súa práctica nos obxectivos e principios seguintes:
- a o recoñecemento das linguas rexionais ou minoritarias como expresión da riqueza cultural;
  - b o respecto da área xeográfica de cada lingua rexional ou minoritaria, actuando de tal maneira que as divisións administrativas xa existentes ou novas non sexan un obstáculo para o fomento da devandita lingua rexional ou minoritaria;
  - c a necesidade dunha acción resolta de fomento das linguas rexionais ou minoritarias, co fin de as salvagardar;
  - d a facilitación e/ou o fomento do emprego oral e escrito das linguas rexionais ou minoritarias na vida pública e na vida privada;
  - e o mantemento e o desenvolvemento de relacións, nos ámbitos que abrangue esta

groups using a regional or minority language 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 regional or minority languages at all appropriate stages;
  - g the provision of facilities enabling non-speakers of a regional or minority language living in the area where it is used to learn it if they so desire;
  - h the promotion of study and research on regional or minority languages at universities or equivalent institutions;
  - i the promotion of appropriate types of transnational exchanges, in the fields covered by this Charter, for regional or minority languages used in identical or similar form in two or more States.
- 2 The Parties undertake to eliminate, if they have not yet done so, any unjustified distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference relating to the use of a regional or minority language and intended to discourage or endanger the maintenance or development of it. The adoption of special measures in favour of regional or minority languages aimed at promoting equality between the users of these languages 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 Parties undertake 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 regional or minority languages among the objectives of education and training provided within their countries and encouragement of the mass media to pursue the same objective.
  - 4 In determining their policy with regard to regional or minority languages, the Parties shall take into consideration the needs and wishes expressed by the groups which use such languages. They are encouraged to establish bodies, if necessary, for the purpose of advising the authorities on all matters pertaining to regional or minority languages.
  - 5 The Parties undertake to apply, *mutatis mutandis*, the principles listed in paragraphs 1 to 4 above to non-territorial languages. However, as far as these languages are 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 the languages concerned.

Carta, entre os grupos que empreguen unha lingua rexional ou minoritaria e outros grupos do mesmo Estado que falen unha lingua utilizada de maneira idéntica ou parecida, así como o establecemento de relacións culturais con outros grupos do Estado que utilicen linguas diferentes;

- f a provisión de formas e medios adecuados para o ensino e o estudo das linguas rexionais ou minoritarias en todos os niveis apropiados;
  - g a provisión de medios que lles permitan aprender unha lingua rexional ou minoritaria aos non-falantes que residan na área en que se emprega esa lingua, de así o desexaren;
  - h a promoción de estudos e investigación sobre as linguas rexionais ou minoritarias nas universidades ou centros equivalentes;
  - i a promoción de formas apropiadas de intercambios transnacionais, nos ámbitos cubertos por esta Carta, para as linguas rexionais ou minoritarias utilizadas de maneira idéntica ou semellante en dous ou máis Estados.
- 2 As partes comprométense a eliminar, se aínda non o fixeron, toda distinción, exclusión, restrición ou preferencia inxustificadas con respecto á utilización dunha lingua rexional ou minoritaria cuxo obxectivo sexa desalentar ou pór en perigo o seu mantemento ou o seu desenvolvemento. A adopción de medidas especiais en favor das linguas rexionais ou minoritarias, destinadas a promover unha igualdade entre os falantes destas linguas e o resto da poboación e orientadas a ter en conta as súas situacións peculiares, non se considerará un acto de discriminación cos falantes das linguas máis estendidas.
  - 3 As partes comprométense a fomentar, por medio de medidas apropiadas, a comprensión mutua entre todos os grupos lingüísticos do país, actuando concretamente de maneira que o respecto, a comprensión e a tolerancia cara ás linguas rexionais ou minoritarias figuren entre os obxectivos da educación e da formación impartida no país, e estimulando os medios de comunicación social a perseguir o mesmo obxectivo.
  - 4 Ao definir a súa política con respecto ás linguas rexionais ou minoritarias, as partes comprométense a ter en consideración as necesidades e os desexos expresados polos grupos que empreguen as devanditas linguas. Serán convidadas a crear, se for necesario, órganos encargados de asesorar as autoridades acerca de todas as cuestións que se refiran ás linguas rexionais ou minoritarias.
  - 5 As partes comprométense a aplicar, *mutatis mutandi*, os principios enumerados nos parágrafos 1 a 4 que anteceden ás linguas sen territorio. Non obstante, no caso destas linguas, a natureza e o alcance das medidas que se deberán tomar para a aplicación desta Carta determinaranse de maneira flexible, tendo en conta as necesidades e os desexos, e respectando as tradicións e características dos grupos que falan as linguas de que se trate.

**PART III  
MEASURES TO PROMOTE THE USE  
OF REGIONAL OR MINORITY LANGUAGES  
IN PUBLIC LIFE IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
THE UNDERTAKINGS ENTERED INTO  
UNDER ARTICLE 2, PARAGRAPH 2**

*Article 8 – Education*

- 1 With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:
    - a i to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or
    - ii to make available a substantial part of pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or
    - iii to apply one of the measures provided for under i and ii above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient; or
    - iv if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of pre-school education, to favour and/or encourage the application of the measures referred to under i to iii above;
  - b i to make available primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or
  - ii to make available a substantial part of primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or
  - iii to provide, within primary education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or
  - iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient;
- c i to make available secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or
  - ii to make available a substantial part of secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or
  - iii to provide, within secondary education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or
  - iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;
- d i to make available technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or
  - ii to make available a substantial part of technical and vocational education in the

**PARTE III.  
MEDIDAS QUE, PARA FOMENTAR O  
EMPREGO DAS LINGUAS REXIONAIS OU  
MINORITARIAS NA VIDA PÚBLICA, SE  
DEBERÁN ADOPTAR DE CONFORMIDADE  
COS COMPROMISOS CONTRAÍDOS EN  
VIRTUDE DO PARÁGRAFO 2 DO ARTIGO 2**

*Artigo 8. Ensino*

- 1 En materia de ensino e, polo que se refire ao territorio en que se falan as ditas linguas e segundo sexa a situación de cada unha delas, sen prexuízo do ensino da(s) lingua(s) oficial(is) do Estado, as partes comprométense a:
    - a i prever unha educación preescolar garantida nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias correspondentes; ou
    - ii prever que unha parte substancial da educación preescolar se faga nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias correspondentes; ou
    - iii aplicar unha das medidas a que se refiren os puntos i) e ii) anteriores, polo menos, para os alumnos cuxas familias o desexen e cuxo número se considere suficiente; ou
    - iv se os poderes públicos non teñen competencia directa en materia de educación preescolar, favorecer e/ou fomentar a aplicación das medidas a que se refiren os puntos i) a iii) anteriores;
  - b i prever un ensino primario garantido nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias correspondentes; ou
  - ii prever que unha parte substancial do ensino primario se faga nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias correspondentes; ou
  - iii prever, no marco da educación primaria, que o ensino das linguas rexionais ou minoritarias correspondentes forme parte integrante do plan de estudos; ou
  - iv aplicar unha das medidas a que se refiren os puntos i) a iii) anteriores, polo menos os alumnos cuxas familias o desexen e cuxo número se considere suficiente;
- c i prever un ensino secundario garantido nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias correspondentes; ou
  - ii prever que unha parte substancial do ensino secundario se faga nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias; ou
  - iii prever, no marco da educación secundaria, o ensino das linguas rexionais ou minoritarias como parte integrante do plan de estudos; ou
  - iv aplicar unha das medidas a que se refiren os puntos i) a iii) anteriores, polo menos, para os alumnos que o desexen –ou, de ser o caso, cuxas familias o desexen–, en número considerado suficiente;
- d i prever un ensino técnico e profesional garantido nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias correspondentes; ou
  - ii prever que unha parte substancial do ensino técnico e profesional se faga nas linguas

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>relevant regional or minority languages; or</p> <p>iii to provide, within technical and vocational education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or</p> <p>iv to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;</p> <p>e i to make available university and other higher education in regional or minority languages; or</p> <p>ii to provide facilities for the study of these languages as university and higher education subjects; or</p> <p>iii if, by reason of the role of the State in relation to higher education institutions, sub-paragraphs i and ii cannot be applied, to encourage and/or allow the provision of university or other forms of higher education in regional or minority languages or of facilities for the study of these languages as university or higher education subjects;</p> <p>f i to arrange for the provision of adult and continuing education courses which are taught mainly or wholly in the regional or minority languages; or</p> <p>ii to offer such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education; or</p> <p>iii if the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of adult education, to favour and/or encourage the offering of such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education;</p> <p>g to make arrangements to ensure the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the regional or minority language;</p> <p>h to provide the basic and further training of the teachers required to implement those of paragraphs a to g accepted by the Party;</p> <p>i to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.</p> <p>2 With regard to education and in respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all the appropriate stages of education.</p> | <p>rexionais ou minoritarias correspondentes; ou</p> <p>iii prever, no marco da educación técnica e profesional, o ensino das linguas rexionais ou minoritarias correspondentes como parte integrante do plan de estudos; ou</p> <p>iv aplicar unha das medidas a que se refiren os puntos i) a iii) anteriores, polo menos, para os alumnos que o desexen ou, de ser o caso, cuxas familias o desexen en número considerado suficiente;</p> <p>e i prever un ensino universitario e outras formas de ensino superior nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias, ou</p> <p>ii prever o estudo desas linguas como materias do ensino universitario e superior; ou</p> <p>iii se, en razón do papel do Estado con respecto aos centros de ensino superior, os puntos i) e ii) non se puidesen aplicar, fomentar e/ou autorizar o establecemento dun ensino universitario ou outras formas de ensino superior nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias, ou de medios que permitan estudar esas linguas na universidade ou noutros centros de ensino superior;</p> <p>f i tomar disposicións para que se impartan cursos de ensino para adultos ou de educación permanente principal ou totalmente nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias; ou</p> <p>ii propor estas linguas como materias no ensino de adultos e na educación permanente ; ou</p> <p>iii se os poderes públicos non teñen competencias directas en materia de educación para adultos, favorecer e/ou fomentar o ensino desas linguas no marco do ensino para adultos e da educación permanente;</p> <p>g tomar medidas para asegurar o ensino da historia e a cultura das cales é expresión a lingua rexional ou minoritaria;</p> <p>h garantir a formación inicial e permanente do profesorado necesario para aplicar os parágrafos de a) a g) que aceptase a parte;</p> <p>i crear un ou varios órganos de control encargados do seguimento das medidas adoptadas e dos progresos realizados no establecemento ou desenvolvemento do ensino das linguas rexionais ou minoritarias, e redactar ao respecto informes periódicos que se farán públicos.</p> <p>2 En materia de ensino e polo que se refire a territorios distintos daqueles en que se falan tradicionalmente as linguas rexionais ou minoritarias, as partes comprométense a autorizar, fomentar ou establecer, se o número de falantes dunha lingua rexional ou minoritaria o xustifica, o ensino da lingua rexional ou minoritaria ou nela, nos niveis que se consideren oportunos.</p> |
|--|---|

*Article 9 – Judicial authorities*

- 1 The Parties undertake, in respect of those judicial districts in which the number of residents using the regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below, according to the situation of each of these languages and on condition that the use of the facilities afforded by the present paragraph is not considered by the judge to hamper the proper administration of justice:
  - a in criminal proceedings:
    - i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or
    - ii to guarantee the accused the right to use his/her regional or minority language; and/or
    - iii to provide that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, shall not be considered inadmissible solely because they are formulated in a regional or minority language; and/or
    - iv to produce, on request, documents connected with legal proceedings in the relevant regional or minority language,  
  
if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations involving no extra expense for the persons concerned;
  - b in civil proceedings:
    - i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or
    - ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or
    - iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,  
  
if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;
  - c in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:
    - i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or
    - ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or
    - iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,  
  
if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;
  - d to take steps to ensure that the application of sub-paragraphs i and iii of paragraphs b and c

*Artigo 9. Xustiza*

- 1 As partes comprométese, polo que se refire ás circunscricións das autoridades xudiciais en que o número de persoas que alí residan e falen as linguas rexionais ou minoritarias xustifique as medidas específicas seguintes, segundo sexa a situación de cada unha desas linguas e a condición de que o xuíz non considere que a utilización das posibilidades ofrecidas por este parágrafo constitúe un obstáculo para a boa administración da xustiza:
  - a nos procedementos penais:
    - i asegurar que os órganos xurisdicionais, por solicitude dunha das partes, leven o procedemento nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias; e/ou
    - ii garantirlle ao acusado o dereito de se expresar na súa lingua rexional ou minoritaria; e/ou
    - iii asegurar que as demandas e as probas, escritas ou orais, non se consideren desestimables polo único motivo de estaren redactadas nunha lingua rexional ou minoritaria; e/ou
    - iv redactar nesas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias, logo de solicitude, os documentos que atinxan a un procedemento xudicial, recorrendo,  
  
se for necesario, a intérpretes e a traducións sen gastos adicionais para os interesados;
  - b nos procedementos civís:
    - i asegurar que os órganos xurisdicionais, por solicitude dunha das partes, leven o procedemento nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias; e/ou
    - ii permitir, cando unha parte en litixio deba comparecer persoalmente perante un tribunal, que se exprese na súa lingua rexional ou minoritaria sen incurrir por iso en gastos adicionais; e/ou
    - iii permitir a presentación de documentos e de probas nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias,  
  
se for necesario recorrendo a intérpretes e a traducións.
  - c nos procedementos perante as xurisdicións competentes en materia administrativa:
    - i asegurar que os órganos xurisdicionais, por solicitude dunha das partes, leven o procedemento nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias; e/ou
    - ii permitir, cando unha parte nun litixio deba comparecer persoalmente perante un tribunal, que se exprese na súa lingua rexional ou minoritaria sen incurrir por iso en gastos adicionais; e/ou
    - iii permitir a presentación de documentos e de probas nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias,  
  
se for necesario recorrendo a intérpretes e a traducións;
  - d adoptar medidas para que a aplicación dos puntos i) e iii) das alíneas b) e c) anteriores e o

above and any necessary use of interpreters and translations does not involve extra expense for the persons concerned.

- 2 The Parties undertake:
  - a not to deny the validity of legal documents drawn up within the State solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language; or
  - b not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language, and to provide that they can be invoked against interested third parties who are not users of these languages on condition that the contents of the document are made known to them by the person(s) who invoke(s) it; or
  - c not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language.
- 3 The Parties undertake to make available in the regional or minority languages the most important national statutory texts and those relating particularly to users of these languages, unless they are otherwise provided.

#### *Article 10 – Administrative authorities and public services*

- 1 Within the administrative districts of the State in which the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below and according to the situation of each language, the Parties undertake, as far as this is reasonably possible:
  - a
    - i to ensure that the administrative authorities use the regional or minority languages; or
    - ii to ensure that such of their officers as are in contact with the public use the regional or minority languages in their relations with persons applying to them in these languages; or
    - iii to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications and receive a reply in these languages; or
    - iv to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications in these languages; or
    - v to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may validly submit a document in these languages;
  - b to make available widely used administrative texts and forms for the population in the regional or minority languages or in bilingual versions;
  - c to allow the administrative authorities to draft documents in a regional or minority language.

emprego, dado o caso, de intérpretes e de traducións non comporten gastos adicionais para os interesados.

- 2 As partes comprométense a:
  - a non rexeitar a validez dos documentos xurídicos elaborados dentro do ámbito do Estado polo único feito de estaren redactados nunha lingua rexional ou minoritaria; ou
  - b non rexeitar a validez, entre as partes, dos documentos xurídicos elaborados dentro do ámbito do Estado polo único feito de estaren redactados nunha lingua rexional ou minoritaria, e a asegurar que poderán ser invocados fronte a terceiros interesados non falantes desas linguas, a condición de que o contido do documento se poña en coñecemento deles por quen o faga valer; ou
  - c non rexeitar a validez, entre as partes, dos documentos xurídicos elaborados dentro do ámbito do Estado polo único feito de estaren redactados nunha lingua rexional ou minoritaria.
- 3 As partes comprométense a facer accesibles, nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias, os textos lexislativos nacionais máis importantes e aqueles que se refiren en particular aos falantes das devanditas linguas, a menos que xa se dispoña de tales textos doutro modo.

#### *Artigo 10. Autoridades administrativas e servizos públicos*

- 1 Nas circunscricións das autoridades administrativas do Estado nas cales resida un número de falantes de linguas rexionais ou minoritarias que xustifique as medidas que figuran a continuación, e segundo a situación de cada lingua, as partes, na medida en que sexa razoablemente posible, comprométense a:
  - a
    - i velar por que as devanditas autoridades administrativas empreguen as linguas rexionais ou minoritarias; ou
    - ii velar por que aqueles axentes seus que estean en contacto co público empreguen as linguas rexionais ou minoritarias nas súas relacións coas persoas que se dirixan a eles nesas linguas; ou
    - iii velar por que os falantes de linguas rexionais ou minoritarias poidan presentar solicitudes orais ou escritas e recibir unha resposta nesas linguas; ou
    - iv velar por que os falantes de linguas rexionais ou minoritarias poidan presentar solicitudes orais ou escritas nas citadas linguas; ou
    - v velar por que os falantes de linguas rexionais ou minoritarias poidan presentar validamente un documento redactado nas devanditas linguas.
  - b pór á disposición da poboación formularios e textos administrativos de uso frecuente nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias, ou en versións bilingües;
  - c permitir ás autoridades administrativas redactar documentos nunha lingua rexional ou minoritaria.



- 2 In respect of the local and regional authorities on whose territory the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages is such as to justify the measures specified below, the Parties undertake to allow and/or encourage:
    - a the use of regional or minority languages within the framework of the regional or local authority;
    - b the possibility for users of regional or minority languages to submit oral or written applications in these languages;
    - c the publication by regional authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;
    - d the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;
    - e the use by regional authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;
    - f the use by local authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;
    - g the use or adoption, if necessary in conjunction with the name in the official language(s), of traditional and correct forms of place-names in regional or minority languages.
  - 3 With regard to public services provided by the administrative authorities or other persons acting on their behalf, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which regional or minority languages are used, in accordance with the situation of each language and as far as this is reasonably possible:
    - a to ensure that the regional or minority languages are used in the provision of the service; or
    - b to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request and receive a reply in these languages; or
    - c to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request in these languages.
  - 4 With a view to putting into effect those provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 accepted by them, the Parties undertake to take one or more of the following measures:
    - a translation or interpretation as may be required;
    - b recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required;
    - c compliance as far as possible with requests from public service employees having a knowledge of a regional or minority language to be appointed in the territory in which that language is used.
  - 5 The Parties undertake to allow the use or
- 2 No que se refire ás autoridades locais e rexionais no territorio das cales resida un número de falantes de linguas rexionais ou minoritarias que xustifique as medidas que figuran a continuación, as partes comprométense a permitir e/ou fomentar:
    - a o emprego das linguas rexionais ou minoritarias no marco da administración rexional ou local;
    - b a posibilidade para os falantes de linguas rexionais ou minoritarias de presentaren solicitudes orais ou escritas nas devanditas linguas;
    - c a publicación polas colectividades rexionais dos seus textos oficiais tamén nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias;
    - d a publicación polas autoridades locais dos seus textos oficiais tamén nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias;
    - e o emprego polas colectividades rexionais de linguas rexionais ou minoritarias nos debates das súas asembleas, sen excluír, non obstante, o uso da(s) lingua(s) oficial(is) do Estado;
    - f o emprego polas colectividades locais de linguas rexionais ou minoritarias nos debates das súas asembleas, sen excluír, non obstante, o emprego da(s) lingua(s) oficial(is) do Estado;
    - g o emprego ou a adopción e, no caso de que proceda, conxuntamente coa denominación na(s) lingua(s) oficial(is), das formas tradicionais e correctas dos topónimos nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias.
  - 3 Polo que se refire aos servizos públicos garantidos polas autoridades administrativas ou por outras persoas que actúen por conta daquelas, as partes contratantes, nos territorios en que se falen as linguas rexionais ou minoritarias e en función da situación de cada lingua e na medida en que iso sexa razoablemente posible, comprométense a:
    - a velar por que as linguas rexionais ou minoritarias se empreguen ao prestarse un servizo; ou
    - b permitirles aos falantes das linguas rexionais ou minoritarias presentar solicitudes e recibir respostas nas citadas linguas; ou
    - c permitirles aos falantes de linguas rexionais ou minoritarias presentar solicitudes nas devanditas linguas.
  - 4 Co fin de aplicar as disposicións dos parágrafos 1, 2 e 3 que aceptasen, as partes comprométense a adoptar unha ou varias das seguintes medidas:
    - a a tradución ou a interpretación eventualmente solicitadas;
    - b o recrutamento e, se é o caso, a formación de funcionarios e outros empregados públicos en número suficiente;
    - c a aceptación, na medida do posible, das solicitudes dos empregados públicos que coñezan unha lingua rexional ou minoritaria para seren destinados ao territorio en que se fala a citada lingua.
  - 5 As partes comprométense a permitir, por

adoption of family names in the regional or minority languages, at the request of those concerned.

#### Article 11 – Media

- 1 The Parties undertake, for the users of the regional or minority languages within the territories in which those languages are spoken, according to the situation of each language, to the extent that the public authorities, directly or indirectly, are competent, have power or play a role in this field, and respecting the principle of the independence and autonomy of the media:
  - a to the extent that radio and television carry out a public service mission:
    - i to ensure the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or
    - ii to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or
    - iii to make adequate provision so that broadcasters offer programmes in the regional or minority languages;
  - b i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station in the regional or minority languages; or
  - ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of radio programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;
  - c i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or
  - ii to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of television programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;
  - d to encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audiovisual works in the regional or minority languages;
  - e i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages; or
  - ii to encourage and/or facilitate the publication of newspaper articles in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;
  - f i to cover the additional costs of those media which use regional or minority languages, wherever the law provides for financial assistance in general for the media; or
  - ii to apply existing measures for financial assistance also to audiovisual productions in the regional or minority languages;
  - g to support the training of journalists and other staff for media using regional or minority languages.
- 2 The Parties undertake to guarantee freedom of

solicitude dos interesados, o emprego ou a adopción de patronímicos nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias.

#### Artigo 11. Medios de comunicación

- 1 Para os falantes de linguas rexionais ou minoritarias, nos territorios en que se falen as devanditas linguas, segundo sexa a situación de cada unha delas e na medida en que as autoridades públicas, de maneira directa ou indirecta, teñan competencias, atribucións ou un papel que representar nese ámbito, respectando ao propio tempo os principios de independencia e de autonomía dos medios de comunicación, as partes comprométense:
  - a na medida en que a radio e a televisión teñan unha misión de servizo público, a:
    - i garantir a creación de, polo menos, unha emisora de radio e unha canle de televisión nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias; ou
    - ii fomentar e/ou facilitar a creación de, polo menos, unha emisora de radio e unha canle de televisión nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias; ou
    - iii adoptar as medidas adecuadas para que os medios de difusión programen emisións nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias;
  - b i fomentar e/ou facilitar a creación de, polo menos, unha emisora de radio nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias; ou
  - ii fomentar e/ou facilitar a emisión de programas de radio nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias, de maneira regular;
  - c i fomentar e/ou facilitar a creación de, polo menos, unha canle de televisión nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias; ou
  - ii fomentar e/ou facilitar a difusión de programas de televisión nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias, de maneira regular;
  - d fomentar e/ou facilitar a produción e a difusión de obras de audición e audiovisión nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias;
  - e i fomentar e/ou facilitar a creación e/ou mantemento de, polo menos, un órgano de prensa nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias; ou
  - ii fomentar e/ou facilitar a publicación de artigos de prensa nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias, de maneira regular;
  - f i cubrir os custos adicionais dos medios de comunicación que utilicen linguas rexionais ou minoritarias, cando a lei prevexa unha asistencia financeira, en xeral, para os medios de comunicación; ou
  - ii ampliar as medidas existentes de asistencia financeira ás producións audiovisuais en linguas rexionais ou minoritarias ;
  - g apoiar a formación de xornalistas e demais persoal para os medios de comunicación que empreguen as linguas rexionais ou minoritarias.
- 2 As partes comprométense a garantir a liberdade

direct reception of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language, and not to oppose the retransmission of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in such a language. They further undertake to ensure that no restrictions will be placed on the freedom of expression and free circulation of information in the written press in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language. The exercise of the above-mentioned freedoms, since it carries with it duties and responsibilities, may be subject to such formalities, conditions, restrictions or penalties as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputation or rights of others, for preventing disclosure of information received in confidence, or for maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary.

- 3 The Parties undertake to ensure that the interests of the users of regional or minority languages are represented or taken into account within such bodies as may be established in accordance with the law with responsibility for guaranteeing the freedom and pluralism of the media.

#### *Article 12 – Cultural activities and facilities*

- 1 With regard to cultural activities and facilities – especially libraries, video libraries, cultural centres, museums, archives, academies, theatres and cinemas, as well as literary work and film production, vernacular forms of cultural expression, festivals and the culture industries, including inter alia the use of new technologies – the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used and to the extent that the public authorities are competent, have power or play a role in this field:
  - a to encourage types of expression and initiative specific to regional or minority languages and foster the different means of access to works produced in these languages;
  - b to foster the different means of access in other languages to works produced in regional or minority languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;
  - c to foster access in regional or minority languages to works produced in other languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;
  - d to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities of various kinds make appropriate allowance for incorporating the knowledge and use of regional or minority languages and cultures in

de recepción directa das emisións de radio e de televisión dos países veciños nunha lingua falada de maneira idéntica ou parecida a unha lingua rexional ou minoritaria, e a non se opor á retransmisión de emisións de radio e de televisión dos países veciños na citada lingua. Comprométense, ademais, a velar por que non se lle imponha á prensa escrita ningunha restrición á liberdade de expresión e á libre circulación de información nunha lingua falada de maneira idéntica ou parecida a unha lingua rexional ou minoritaria. O exercicio das liberdades mencionadas anteriormente, que entraña deberes e responsabilidades, pode ser sometido a certos trámites, condicións, restricións ou sancións previstos pola lei, que constitúan medidas necesarias, nunha sociedade democrática, para a seguranza nacional, a integridade territorial ou a seguranza pública, a defensa da orde e a prevención da delincuencia, a protección da saúde ou da moral, a protección da reputación ou dos dereitos alleos, para impedir a divulgación de informacións confidenciais ou para garantir a autoridade e a imparcialidade do poder xudicial.

- 3 As partes comprométense a velar por que os intereses dos falantes de linguas rexionais ou minoritarias estean representados ou sexan tomados en consideración no marco das estruturas que se crearen de conformidade coa lei, con obxecto de garantir a liberdade e a pluralidade dos medios de comunicación.

#### *Artigo 12. Actividades e servizos culturais*

- 1 En materia de actividades e de servizos culturais –en particular de bibliotecas, videotecas, centros culturais, museos, arquivos, academias, teatros e cines, así como traballos literarios e produción cinematográfica, expresión cultural popular, festivais, industrias culturais, incluíndo en particular a utilización de tecnoloxías novas–, as partes, no que se refire ao territorio en que se falan as devanditas linguas e na medida en que as autoridades públicas teñan competencias, atribucións ou un papel que representar nese ámbito, comprométense a:
  - a fomentar a expresión e as iniciativas propias das linguas rexionais ou minoritarias, e a favorecer os diferentes medios de acceso ás obras producidas nesas linguas;
  - b favorecer os diferentes medios de acceso noutras linguas ás obras producidas nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias, axudando e desenvolvendo as actividades de tradución, dobraxe, postsincronización e subtitulación;
  - c favorecer o acceso en linguas rexionais ou minoritarias a obras producidas noutras linguas, axudando e desenvolvendo as actividades de tradución, dobraxe, postsincronización e subtitulado;
  - d velar por que os organismos encargados de organizar ou apoiar diversas formas de actividades culturais integren de maneira adecuada o coñecemento e a práctica das linguas e das culturas rexionais ou

- the undertakings which they initiate or for which they provide backing;
- e to promote measures to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities have at their disposal staff who have a full command of the regional or minority language concerned, as well as of the language(s) of the rest of the population;
  - f to encourage direct participation by representatives of the users of a given regional or minority language in providing facilities and planning cultural activities;
  - g to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of a body or bodies responsible for collecting, keeping a copy of and presenting or publishing works produced in the regional or minority languages;
  - h if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.
- 2 In respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage and/or provide appropriate cultural activities and facilities in accordance with the preceding paragraph.
  - 3 The Parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect.

#### *Article 13 – Economic and social life*

- 1 With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, within the whole country:
  - a to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of regional or minority languages in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations;
  - b to prohibit the insertion in internal regulations of companies and private documents of any clauses excluding or restricting the use of regional or minority languages, at least between users of the same language;
  - c to oppose practices designed to discourage the use of regional or minority languages in connection with economic or social activities;
  - d to facilitate and/or encourage the use of regional or minority languages by means other than those specified in the above subparagraphs.
- 2 With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, in so far as the public

- minoritarias nas actividades cuxa iniciativa depende deles ou ás cales presten o seu apoio;
- e favorecer a dotación dos organismos encargados de organizar ou apoiar actividades culturais cun persoal que domine a lingua rexional ou minoritaria, ademais da(s) lingua(s) do resto da poboación;
  - f favorecer a participación directa, no que se refire aos servizos e aos programas de actividades culturais, de representantes de falantes da lingua rexional ou minoritaria;
  - g fomentar e/ou facilitar a creación dun ou varios organismos encargados de recoller, recibir en depósito e presentar ou publicar as obras producidas en linguas rexionais ou minoritarias;
  - h se é o caso, a crear e/ou promover e financiar servizos de tradución e de investigación terminolóxica con vistas, en especial, a manter e desenvolver en cada lingua rexional ou minoritaria unha terminoloxía administrativa, mercantil, económica, social, tecnolóxica ou xurídica apropiadas.
- 2 No que se refire aos territorios distintos daqueles en que se empreguen tradicionalmente as linguas rexionais ou minoritarias, as partes comprométense a autorizar, fomentar e/ou prever, se o número de falantes dunha lingua rexional ou minoritaria así o xustifica, actividades ou servizos culturais apropiados, de conformidade co parágrafo precedente.
  - 3 As partes comprométense, na súa política cultural no estranxeiro, a dar un lugar apropiado ás linguas rexionais ou minoritarias e á cultura que elas expresen.

#### *Artigo 13. Vida económica e social*

- 1 No que se refire ás actividades económicas e sociais, e para o conxunto do país, as partes comprométense a:
  - a excluír da súa lexislación toda disposición que prohiba ou limite sen razóns xustificables o emprego de linguas rexionais ou minoritarias nos documentos relativos á vida económica ou social e, en particular, nos contratos de traballo e nos documentos técnicos, tales como os modos de emprego de produtos ou de servizos;
  - b prohibir a inserción, nos regulamentos internos das empresas e nos documentos privados, de cláusulas que exclúan ou limiten o uso de linguas rexionais ou minoritarias, polo menos, entre os falantes da mesma lingua;
  - c oporse ás prácticas encamiñadas a desalentar o emprego de linguas rexionais ou minoritarias dentro das actividades económicas ou sociais;
  - d facilitar e/ou fomentar, por outros medios distintos dos recollidos nos puntos anteriores, o emprego de linguas rexionais ou minoritarias.
- 2 En materia de actividades económicas e sociais e na medida en que as autoridades públicas teñan

authorities are competent, within the territory in which the regional or minority languages are used, and as far as this is reasonably possible:

- a to include in their financial and banking regulations provisions which allow, by means of procedures compatible with commercial practice, the use of regional or minority languages in drawing up payment orders (cheques, drafts, etc.) or other financial documents, or, where appropriate, to ensure the implementation of such provisions;
- b in the economic and social sectors directly under their control (public sector), to organise activities to promote the use of regional or minority languages;
- c to ensure that social care facilities such as hospitals, retirement homes and hostels offer the possibility of receiving and treating in their own language persons using a regional or minority language who are in need of care on grounds of ill-health, old age or for other reasons;
- d to ensure by appropriate means that safety instructions are also drawn up in regional or minority languages;
- e to arrange for information provided by the competent public authorities concerning the rights of consumers to be made available in regional or minority languages.

#### *Article 14 – Transfrontier exchanges*

The Parties undertake:

- a to apply existing bilateral and multilateral agreements which bind them with the States in which the same language is used in identical or similar form, or if necessary to seek to conclude such agreements, in such a way as to foster contacts between the users of the same language in the States concerned in the fields of culture, education, information, vocational training and permanent education;
- b for the benefit of regional or minority languages, to facilitate and/or promote co-operation across borders, in particular between regional or local authorities in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form.

### **PART IV APPLICATION OF THE CHARTER**

#### *Article 15 – Periodical reports*

- 1 The Parties shall present periodically to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, in a form to be prescribed by the Committee of Ministers, a report on their policy pursued in accordance with Part II of this Charter and on the measures taken in application of those provisions of Part III which they have accepted. The first

competencia, as partes, no territorio en que se falen as linguas rexionais ou minoritarias, e en canto sexa razoablemente posible, comprométense a:

- a definir, mediante as súas regulamentacións financeiras e bancarias, modalidades que permitan, en condicións compatibles cos usos comerciais, o emprego de linguas rexionais ou minoritarias na redacción de ordes de pagamento (cheques, letras de cambio, etc.), ou outros documentos financeiros ou, se é o caso, a procurar que se poña en práctica ese proceso;
- b nos sectores económicos e sociais que dependan directamente do seu control (sector público), realizar accións que fomenten o emprego das linguas rexionais ou minoritarias;
- c velar por que os servizos sociais como os hospitais, as residencias da terceira idade, os asilos ofrezan a posibilidade de recibir e atender na súa lingua os falantes dunha lingua rexional ou minoritaria que necesiten cuidados por razóns de saúde, idade ou por outros motivos;
- d velar, polos medios adecuados, por que as instrucións de seguranza estean tamén redactadas nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias;
- e facilitar nas linguas rexionais ou minoritarias a información proporcionada polas autoridades competentes sobre os dereitos dos consumidores.

#### *Artigo 14. Intercambios transfronteirizos*

As partes comprométense a:

- a aplicar os acordos bilaterais e multilaterais existentes que as vinculan cos Estados en que se fala a mesma lingua de maneira idéntica ou parecida, ou procurar concluílos se for necesario, de tal modo que poidan favorecer os contactos entre os falantes da mesma lingua nos Estados correspondentes, nos ámbitos da cultura, o ensino, a información, a formación profesional e a educación permanente;
- b en beneficio das linguas rexionais ou minoritarias, facilitar e/ou promover a cooperación a través das fronteiras, en particular entre colectividades rexionais ou locais nos territorios das cales se fale a mesma lingua de maneira idéntica ou parecida.

### **PARTE IV. APLICACIÓN DA CARTA**

#### *Artigo 15. Informes periódicos*

- 1 As partes presentaranlle periodicamente ao secretario xeral do Consello de Europa, na forma que determine o Comité de Ministros, un informe acerca da política seguida, de acordo coa parte II desta carta, e acerca das medidas tomadas en aplicación das disposicións da parte III que aceptasen. O primeiro informe deberá ser

report shall be presented within the year following the entry into force of the Charter with respect to the Party concerned, the other reports at three-yearly intervals after the first report.

- 2 The Parties shall make their reports public.

#### *Article 16 – Examination of the reports*

- 1 The reports presented to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe under Article 15 shall be examined by a committee of experts constituted in accordance with Article 17.
- 2 Bodies or associations legally established in a Party may draw the attention of the committee of experts to matters relating to the undertakings entered into by that Party under Part III of this Charter. After consulting the Party concerned, the committee of experts may take account of this information in the preparation of the report specified in paragraph 3 below. These bodies or associations can furthermore submit statements concerning the policy pursued by a Party in accordance with Part II.
- 3 On the basis of the reports specified in paragraph 1 and the information mentioned in paragraph 2, the committee of experts shall prepare a report for the Committee of Ministers. This report shall be accompanied by the comments which the Parties have been requested to make and may be made public by the Committee of Ministers.
- 4 The report specified in paragraph 3 shall contain in particular the proposals of the committee of experts to the Committee of Ministers for the preparation of such recommendations of the latter body to one or more of the Parties as may be required.
- 5 The Secretary General of the Council of Europe shall make a two-yearly detailed report to the Parliamentary Assembly on the application of the Charter.

#### *Article 17 – Committee of experts*

- 1 The committee of experts shall be composed of one member per Party, appointed by the Committee of Ministers from a list of individuals of the highest integrity and recognised competence in the matters dealt with in the Charter, who shall be nominated by the Party concerned.
- 2 Members of the committee shall be appointed for a period of six years and shall be eligible for reappointment. A member who is unable to complete a term of office shall be replaced in accordance with the procedure laid down in paragraph 1, and the replacing member shall complete his predecessor's term of office.
- 3 The committee of experts shall adopt rules of procedure. Its secretarial services shall be provided by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe.

presentado no ano seguinte á entrada en vigor da Carta con respecto á parte en cuestión; os seguintes informes, a intervalos de tres anos despois do primeiro informe.

- 2 As partes farán públicos os seus informes.

#### *Artigo 16. Exame dos informes*

- 1 Os informes presentados ao secretario xeral do Consello de Europa en aplicación do artigo 15 serán examinados por un comité de expertos constituído de conformidade co artigo 17.
- 2 Os organismos ou as asociacións legalmente establecidos nunha parte poderán chamar a atención do comité de expertos sobre cuestións relativas aos compromisos adoptados pola citada parte en virtude da parte III desta carta. Após consultar coa parte interesada, o comité de expertos poderá ter en conta esa información na preparación do informe a que se refire o número 3 deste artigo. Estes organismos ou asociacións poderán así mesmo presentar declaracións referentes á política seguida por unha parte, de conformidade coa parte II.
- 3 Sobre a base dos informes a que se refire o número 1 da información recollida no número 2, o comité de expertos preparará un informe para o Comité de Ministros. Este informe irá acompañado das observacións que se invitase a facer ás partes e o Comité de Ministros poderao facer público.
- 4 O informe a que se refire o número 3 incluírá, en particular, as propostas do comité de expertos ao Comité de Ministros para a preparación, se for o caso, de calquera recomendación que este último poida facer a unha ou varias partes.
- 5 O secretario xeral do Consello de Europa fará un informe bienal detallado á Asemblea Parlamentaria, acerca da aplicación da Carta.

#### *Artigo 17. Comité de expertos*

- 1 O comité de expertos comporase dun membro por cada parte, designado polo Comité de Ministros entre unha lista de persoas da maior integridade e de recoñecida competencia nas materias tratadas pola Carta, que propoña a parte correspondente.
- 2 Os membros do comité serán nomeados por un período de seis anos e o seu mandato será renovable. Se algún membro non pode completar o seu mandato será substituído de conformidade co procedemento previsto no número 1, e o membro nomeado no seu lugar completará o período de mandato do seu predecesor.
- 3 O comité de expertos adoptará o seu regulamento interno. A súa secretaría será asegurada polo secretario xeral do Consello de Europa.

**PART V  
FINAL PROVISIONS**

*Article 18*

This Charter shall be open for signature by the member States of the Council of Europe. It is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval. Instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval shall be deposited with the Secretary General of the Council of Europe.

*Article 19*

- 1 This Charter shall enter into force on the first day of the month following the expiration of a period of three months after the date on which five member States of the Council of Europe have expressed their consent to be bound by the Charter in accordance with the provisions of Article 18.
- 2 In respect of any member State which subsequently expresses its consent to be bound by it, the Charter shall enter into force on the first day of the month following the expiration of a period of three months after the date of the deposit of the instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval.

*Article 20*

- 1 After the entry into force of this Charter, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe may invite any State not a member of the Council of Europe to accede to this Charter.
- 2 In respect of any acceding State, the Charter shall enter into force on the first day of the month following the expiration of a period of three months after the date of deposit of the instrument of accession with the Secretary General of the Council of Europe.

*Article 21*

- 1 Any State may, at the time of signature or when depositing its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, make one or more reservations to paragraphs 2 to 5 of Article 7 of this Charter. No other reservation may be made.
- 2 Any Contracting State which has made a reservation under the preceding paragraph may wholly or partly withdraw it by means of a notification addressed to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe. The withdrawal shall take effect on the date of receipt of such notification by the Secretary General.

*Article 22*

- 1 Any Party may at any time denounce this Charter by means of a notification addressed to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe.
- 2 Such denunciation shall become effective on the first day of the month following the expiration of a period of six months after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary General.

**PARTE V.  
DISPOSICIÓNS DERRADEIRAS**

*Artigo 18.*

Esta Carta queda aberta á sinatura dos Estados membros do Consello de Europa. Será sometida a ratificación, aceptación ou aprobación. Os instrumentos de ratificación, aceptación ou aprobación quedarán depositados ante o secretario xeral do Consello de Europa.

*Artigo 19.*

- 1 Esta Carta entrará en vigor o primeiro día do mes seguinte á expiración dun período de tres meses despois da data en que cinco Estados membros do Consello de Europa expresasen o seu consentimento en quedar vinculados pola Carta, de conformidade co disposto no artigo 18.
- 2 Para todo Estado membro que exprese posteriormente o seu consentimento en quedar vinculado pola Carta, esta entrará en vigor o primeiro día do mes seguinte á expiración dun período de tres meses despois da data do depósito do instrumento de ratificación, aceptación ou aprobación.

*Artigo 20.*

- 1 Despois da entrada en vigor desta Carta, o Comité de Ministros do Consello de Europa poderá convidar a todo Estado non membro do Consello de Europa a adherirse á Carta.
- 2 Para todo Estado que se adhira á Carta, esta entrará en vigor o primeiro día do mes seguinte á expiración dun período de tres meses despois da data do depósito do instrumento de adhesión ante o secretario xeral do Consello de Europa.

*Artigo 21.*

- 1 Todo Estado poderá, no momento do asinamento ou no momento do depósito do seu instrumento de ratificación, aceptación, aprobación ou adhesión, formular unha ou varias reservas aos parágrafos 2 a 5 do artigo 7 desta Carta. Non se admitirá ningunha outra reserva.
- 2 Todo Estado contratante que formulase unha reserva en virtude do parágrafo precedente poderá retirala total ou parcialmente dirixindo unha notificación ao secretario xeral do Consello de Europa. A retirada terá efecto na data de recepción da notificación polo secretario xeral.

*Artigo 22.*

- 1 Toda parte poderá, en calquera momento, denunciar esta Carta dirixindo unha notificación ao secretario xeral do Consello de Europa.
- 2 A denuncia terá efecto o primeiro día do mes seguinte á expiración dun período de seis meses despois da data de recepción da notificación polo secretario xeral.

*Article 23*

The Secretary General of the Council of Europe shall notify the member States of the Council and any State which has acceded to this Charter of:

- a any signature;
- b the deposit of any instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession;
- c any date of entry into force of this Charter in accordance with Articles 19 and 20;
- d any notification received in application of the provisions of Article 3, paragraph 2;
- e any other act, notification or communication relating to this Charter.

In witness whereof the undersigned, being duly authorised thereto, have signed this Charter.

Done at Strasbourg, this 5th day of November 1992, in English and French, both texts being equally authentic, in a single copy which shall be deposited in the archives of the Council of Europe. The Secretary General of the Council of Europe shall transmit certified copies to each member State of the Council of Europe and to any State invited to accede to this Charter.

*Artigo 23.*

O secretario xeral do Consello de Europa notificaralles aos Estados membros do Consello e a todo Estado que se adherise a esta Carta:

- a toda sinatura;
- b o depósito de todo instrumento de ratificación, aceptación, aprobación ou adhesión;
- c toda data de entrada en vigor desta Carta, de conformidade con seus artigos 19 e 20;
- d toda notificación recibida en aplicación das disposicións do artigo 3, parágrafo 2;
- e calquera outro documento, notificación ou comunicación relacionados con esta Carta.

En fe do cal, as persoas que asinan abaixo, debidamente autorizadas para tal efecto, asinan esta Carta.

Feito en Estrasburgo, o 5 de novembro de 1992, en francés e en inglés, ambos os textos facendo igualmente fe, nun só exemplar que quedará depositado nos arquivos do Consello de Europa. O secretario xeral do Consello de Europa transmitirá unha copia certificada conforme del a cada un dos Estados membros do Consello de Europa e a todo Estado convidado a adherirse a esta Carta.