



COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE
Committee of Ministers
Comité des Ministres

**Recommendation RecChL(2007)2
of the Committee of Ministers
on the application of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages by the United Kingdom**

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 14 March 2007
at the 989th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers,

In accordance with Article 16 of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages;

Having regard to the declarations submitted by the United Kingdom on 27 March 2001, 11 March 2003 and 22 April 2003;

Having taken note of the evaluation made by the Committee of Experts of the Charter with respect to the application of the Charter by the United Kingdom;

Bearing in mind that this evaluation is based on information submitted by the United Kingdom in its second periodical report, supplementary information given by the United Kingdom authorities, information submitted by bodies and associations legally established in the United Kingdom and the information obtained by the Committee of Experts during its on-the-spot visit;

Having taken note of the comments made by the United Kingdom authorities on the contents of the Committee of Experts' report;

Recommends that the authorities of the United Kingdom take account of all the observations of the Committee of Experts and, as a matter of priority:

1. elaborate and implement a comprehensive Scottish Gaelic language education policy;
2. develop a comprehensive Irish language policy, including measures to meet the increasing demand for Irish-medium education;
3. develop further Welsh-medium education, in particular, take steps to improve linguistic continuity in the transition from primary to secondary level in Welsh-speaking areas, and establish a co-ordinated approach to monitoring progress achieved in developing Welsh-medium education;
4. increase support for the printed media in Scottish Gaelic and Irish;
5. take further measures to ensure that health and social care facilities offer services in Welsh;
6. strengthen the efforts to improve the position of Scots and Ulster Scots.