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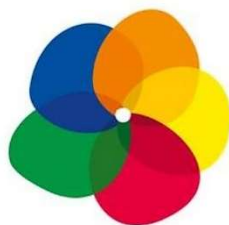
Working Group of Turkic Minorities in FUEN

The EU Commission decided to register FUEN's 1 million signatures campaign 03/04/2017

With the decision on 29 March 2017, the European Union (EU) Commission decided to register the Federal Union of European Nationalities (FUEN)' Minority SafePack Initiative – the European citizens' initiative for the minorities in Europe.

The EU Commission had refused to register the Minority SafePack initiative of FUEN in 2013. The General Court of the European Union announced in February 2017 and annulled the Commission's initial decision. As a result of the reassessment of the proposed initiative, the Commission has decided to register the initiative calling for improvement of protection of people that are members of national and linguistic minorities in Europe and strengthening cultural and linguistic diversity in the EU.

With the initiative to be registered on 3 April 2017, 1 million signatures supporting the initiative



**MINORITY
SAFEPAK
INITIATIVE**

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SIGNATURES FOR DIVERSITY IN EUROPE

are required to be collected from at least seven different EU states within a year. The EU Commission shall take an action within three months to fulfill the recommendations presented by FUEN or in the case of making decision not to take any action it shall present its reasoning for it.

Following the decision of the EU Commission, Loránt Vincze, President of FUEN stated that Minority SafePack is

European Commission - Press release
Commission registers 'Minority SafePack' European Citizens' Initiative
Brussels, 29 March 2017

The European Commission has today decided to register a European Citizens' Initiative inviting the Commission "to improve the protection of persons belonging to national and linguistic minorities and strengthen cultural and linguistic diversity in the Union".

The registration of this Initiative on 3 April 2017 will start a one-year process of collection of signatures of support by its organisers.

This registration follows an initial Commission Decision to refuse to register the 'Minority SafePack' Initiative on 13 September 2013, which was annulled by the General Court of the European Union on 3 February 2017. The Commission has reassessed the proposed Initiative, which requests proposals for 11 legal acts. Further details of the proposed acts can be found in the Annex.

While 2 of the 11 acts manifestly fall outside the framework of the Commission's power to propose legislation, 9 of them do not. Statements of support may therefore be collected on the basis of these 9 proposals.

The Commission's decision to register the Initiative concerns only the legal admissibility of the proposal. The Commission has not analysed the substance at this stage. Should the Initiative receive one million statements of support within one year, from at least seven different Member States, the Commission will have to react within three months. The Commission can decide either to follow the request or not, and in both instances would be required to explain its reasoning.

Background

not only collecting signatures, it is rather to create a discussion about an issue significant for European Union in Europe wide. Within this context, he noted that FUEN without being

restricted with collection of 1 million signatures from seven EU states it aims to introduce the initiative to many European regions.

In pursuit of the decision of the EU Commission, FUEN will present the Minority SafePack Initiative at the European Parliament in Brussels in a meeting it will organize with participation of minority representatives, politicians, experts and the media. Besides, Minority SafePack Initiative will also become the prominent issue of the FUEN 2017 Congress to be held on 17-21 May 2017 in Cluj-Napoca/Kolozsvár/Klausenburg.

Halit Habip Oğlu, FUEN Vice President stated “Following the decision of European Court of Justice making a positive judgement about FUEN’s initiative, the EU Commission decided to register the Minority SafePack initiative. This is a very significant step for the national minorities living in Europe. Hence, thanks to the initiative that provides important proposals for protecting national minorities and supporting linguistic and cultural diversity we aim to have the issue of protection of minorities discussed at European level substantially. In the upcoming period we will make the effort for the initiative to be evaluated in content by the EU Commission and to collect one million signatures to mobilize the Commission.”

For press release by FUEN: <https://www.fuen.org/news/single/article/green-light-for-the-minority-safepack-initiative/>

For press release by EU Commission on FUEN initiative: http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-776_en.htm