



EUROPEAN CENTRE
FOR
MINORITY ISSUES

20
24

PERSPECTIVES

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ABOUT THE ECMI

The ECMI conducts academic and policy-oriented research, provides information and documentation, and offers advisory services concerning minority-majority relations in Europe.



The ECMI sees ethnic diversity as a European heritage and cultural pluralism as a human asset. Aiming to facilitate respect for diversity in all aspects of society, the ECMI is committed to working for the improvement of the situation of Europe's national minorities through heightened awareness of minority rights and minority issues among all relevant actors. The Centre maintains active relations with other

academic institutions and NGOs involved in conflict resolution and inter-ethnic relations, and engages in collaborative projects in these fields. The ECMI's specific purpose is to provide actors with new knowledge and toolkits that empower and equip them to mitigate differences and exchange views through constructive dialogue about how to build a peaceful and diverse Europe.



The Centre was founded in 1996 by the governments of Denmark, Germany and Schleswig-Holstein. As an independent research centre it is based in the German-Danish border area and occupies an historic building, the Kompagnietor, in the centre of Flensburg. The Centre also features a highly specialized library on inter-ethnic relations, cultural-linguistic diversity issues and ethnic conflict in Europe with more than 3,000 items in over twenty languages.



OPENING PERSPECTIVES



“The ECMI is set to continue its vital growth in 2024 thanks to additional financial support from our founders as well as new external funding for research and action-related projects. Over the last five years, the ECMI has doubled its annual budget, and this has allowed the Centre to both widen and deepen its activities. We now encompass six solid research clusters, a wide range of dissemination outputs, ever-expanding public outreach, and a more comprehensive focus across all of Europe. The ECMI is as robust as it has ever been!”

“The ECMI will have a truly European year in 2024, organizing events in over a dozen locations across eight different countries. From training workshops in Belgrade to policy dialogues in Strasbourg. From an academic conference in Italy to a media seminar in Latvia. Along the way, we will welcome a post-doctoral researcher from Ukraine, a new Researcher from the Basque Country and two new Researchers in the Denmark-Germany minority issues cluster. The ECMI will truly live up to its name in the coming calendar year!”



HIGHLIGHTS

EXTERNAL PROJECT

MINORITY PROTECTION FOR EU ACCESSION IN SERBIA, YEAR 2

During the second year of this externally funded project, the ECMI will focus on four key policy areas. In conjunction with the adoption of an Action Plan for National Minorities by the Serbia government, the ECMI has developed a policy reporting toolkit, aimed at establishing an effective evidence-based feedback mechanism for the Action Plan's implementation. The toolkit specifically involves enhancing data collection methods and ensuring seamless coordination across the various stakeholders involved in the Plan. Tailored training sessions will prepare civil servants for evidence-based reporting, followed by a post-implementation review in six months. The project will also feature an annual conference to discuss the Action Plan's impact on national minorities.

A second focal area involves supporting Councils for Interethnic Relations in Serbia. Two rounds of regional training sessions will be conducted with the goal of bolstering these councils' organizational capacities and mediation skills. Drawing from innovative initiatives and successful

models (particularly from Germany and other regions), our goal will be to contribute to a revitalization of these councils, which have experienced functional challenges.

A continuing activity for 2024 will concern raising awareness among civil servants on national minority issues. This includes discussions on ethnic data collection and ethnic monitoring in public administration, and socio-economic participation of minorities, especially in border or remote regions. Moreover, we envisage a study visit to Schleswig-Holstein for ten Serbian civil servants, which will offer insights on minority protection practices and can be inspirational for Serbian partners.

Finally, the ECMI will support an effort to address the sometimes thorny issue of minority symbols and holidays in Serbia. This will involve conducting a comparative study on European practices in this realm and facilitating a roundtable discussion on the primary challenges and prospects within the Serbian context.



NEW RESEARCH PROJECT

MINORITIES CAUGHT IN NATION-STATE CONFLICT: COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVES ACROSS DENMARK-GERMANY AND CROATIA-SERBIA



Violent conflict between states always leaves behind wounds and memories that can take decades to heal. All the more complicated are situations, where national minorities from the warring states remain in the other neighboring country. Such reciprocal populations face multiple burdens in the wake of an erstwhile conflict. These include reorganizing themselves as minority communities, overcoming stigma left over from the conflict, re-establishing contact to the kin-state and eventually developing relations across the two minorities.

Two regions in Europe especially exemplify these challenges: the German-Danish border area and the Croatian-Serbian relationship. Both pairs of nations have fought bloody wars between them, stretching back over 100 years. At the same time, the onset of clearly defined nation-states – after 1920 for Germany/Denmark and after 1991 for Croatia/Serbia – has meant that notable national minorities are present in each of the opposite countries. Each of these four minorities has faced the difficulties outlined mentioned above.

This project will bring together a team of scholars from both regions, aiming to develop a comparative view across the special ethnopolitical and social challenges that these situations have engendered. The project will serve both to place the

German-Danish example in a better comparative light, whilst also reflecting on how far Croatian-Serbian reconciliation has come over thirty years. An opening workshop will be held in Zagreb, followed by an additional meeting in Flensburg. An edited volume in which authors from both regions jointly work on key thematic issues should be completed by 2025.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

THE DIGITAL TRANSITION FOR
MINORITY LANGUAGE MEDIA
IN ITALY AND GERMANY:
A KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE
WITH EUROPEAN PARTNERS

In partnership with EURAC Research in Bolzano/Bozen, the ECMI will be co-organizing in December an international conference looking at the challenges faced by minority language media as a result of the digital transition. Thanks to a grant from the Villa Vigoni German-Italian Centre for the European Dialogue, the event will bring together both scholars and practitioners in the field and will serve as a further boost for strategic cooperation between the ECMI and EURAC.



Since early 2020, the ECMI has developed a unique and concerted focus on minority language media, spearheaded by Sergiusz Bober and Craig Willis from the Politics and Civil Society Cluster. This work has led to numerous publications, research networks and thematic workshops. It has also helped to establish the ECMI as an active and visible player within the realm of media-related research, including the leadership of an EU COST Action application in 2023.



ANNUAL SUMMER SCHOOL

VOICES UNHEARD:
CHALLENGES AND FUTURE OF
MINORITY LANGUAGE RIGHTS
25 August – 1 September 2024
Bratislava

The ECMI's 14th Annual Summer School will focus on issues of minority language broadly defined. Everything from language, policy and language rights to language revitalization and language transmission will be covered by a wide-ranging team of international scholars and experts. The chosen location – Bratislava – will highlight patterns of both historical and contemporary linguistic change. Ranging from the multilingualism of a century ago to today's predominantly nation-state context, the Summer School will draw attention to how languages interact and evolve under a variety of political, social, economic and other influences. As is customary for the Summer School, the event will feature an excursion to a minority-language area – in this case the Hungarian minority region in southern Slovakia – alongside conventional lectures, interactive seminars and group projects. It will also continue

the ECMI's tradition of engaging different parts of Europe, following summer schools in Ukraine, the Basque Country, Serbia and elsewhere.





CLUSTER HEAD: KYRIAKI TOPIDI

The Cluster on Culture and Diversity examines current challenges to minority cultural identity formation and development. In particular, the Cluster is focused on the overlapping (dis)-advantages of digital technologies on minority group cultural identity as well as the relevance of cultural/religious minority identity within diversity governance.

INTERSECTIONAL INCLUSION

Intersectionality as a research paradigm is expanding among disciplinary and geographical boundaries. Not least within digital spaces, the challenge becomes to explore how inequalities materialize particularly through minority women's experiences online and within policy making. To understand the implications of this complex process, a series of workshops will take place designed to translate intersectionality into a policy approach relevant to minority group standard setting.

DIGITAL CULTURAL SELF-REPRESENTATION(S)

Technology is not neutral. It is tied to social constructions linked to existing relations of power, domination and discrimination. Systems and processes through which digital services and technologies become available, are developed and undergo regulation must commensurately be grounded within non-discrimination and equality. This research theme looks at minority cultural identity as a salient form of vulnerability in the online world from both a theoretical and empirical perspective. Whether in accessing or while using the internet, individuals from marginalized groups, including women members of ethnic and cultural minority groups, are already identified as victims of subordination and of new forms of abuse due to their identity markers. The 2024 output for this research strand will include the preparation of a major monograph alongside individual research articles/chapters that cover topical issues related to the theme.

RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

Multicultural governance can often encompass both cultural and religious minorities. For religious communities, the promotion of multiculturalism can become complicated when and if religious edicts infringe on individual rights. At the same time, it is important to not overlook the capacity of religious minorities to be vital democratic entities within states. The work in this research stream will focus on the dialogical exchange between states and religious minorities in a comparative European perspective with the aim to develop a methodology to study the dominant approaches that states and religious minorities groups adopt to put forward claims towards autonomy. In close collaboration with select national experts, we will organize expert meetings/workshops and design a multi-year research agenda to this effect.



CLUSTER HEAD: FELIX SCHULTE

The Conflict & Security Cluster investigates conflict dynamics across cultural identity encounters ("Why do ethnic conflicts escalate?") as well as post-conflict institutional reforms ("How can ethnic conflicts be regulated?"). From different thematic and methodological perspectives, the Cluster follows a theory-based empirical-analytical approach that rigorously tests theoretical concepts using both qualitative-comparative and quantitative methods.

SPARKING EVENTS, EMOTIONAL CLIMATES, AND CASCADES IN CULTURAL IDENTITY CONFLICTS (SPARK)

Ethnic and religious conflicts frequently develop into volatile and explosive situations. They often resemble the proverbial powder keg, where even seemingly trivial trigger events can lead to the spontaneous emergence of conflictive mass behaviour in the form of mass protests or riots. How can we explain such escalation dynamics? The SPARK project (funded by the German Research Council, DFG) analyses the escalation dynamics in cultural identity conflicts on a global scale. By considering the role of proximate causes, collective emotions as "perceived grievances" and self-organization, we test an innovative and comprehensive explanation of escalation phases in ethnic conflicts that will contribute to a better understanding of this phenomenon and can help improve early warning systems. In 2024, our focus will be on two ethnic minorities and their protest behaviour in a repressive environment: Crimean Tatars in Ukraine and Kurds in Turkey. Special case-study reports will be prepared along with dissemination activities.

TERRITORIAL SELF-GOVERNANCE IN TROUBLED TIMES. AUTONOMY IN THE FACE OF CULTURAL POLARIZATION AND SUBNATIONAL AUTOCRATIZATION

Autocratization is an ongoing and worrying trend in many democratic and authoritarian systems. Largely unexplored are autocratization processes at the sub-national level and in regions that enjoy a high degree of territorial self-government. This particularly concerns minority regions in deeply divided societies. What drives autocratization dynamics? When and how do democratic or autocratic "enclaves" emerge? What role does polarization between ethnic groups and between minorities and majorities play in this context and what impact does this have on the risk of ethnic conflict? This research strand bridges autonomy research with research on autocratization and ethnic conflict. A major output in 2024 will be the completion of a first-ever dataset on autocratization in autonomous regions based on expert codings.



The Equality and Inclusion Cluster studies issues related to social justice, social and economic inequalities, and the inclusion of national minorities. In 2024, the work of the Cluster will be structured along two main areas of enquiry: socio-economic participation of national minorities and inclusive education.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION OF NATIONAL MINORITIES

The participation of national minorities in socio-economic life is increasingly present on the agenda of international organisations. In 2023, the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities launched a new set of recommendations on the topic, to which the ECMI contributed a great deal. Likewise, the United Nations and the Council of Europe have been giving more weight to socio-economic aspects of participation in their work. The E&I Cluster's focus on socio-economic participation corresponds to this increased interest and contributes to efforts to identify the opportunities and modalities through which national minorities can meaningfully participate in, benefit from, and contribute to social and economic life. For 2024, our efforts will concentrate on finalising a pair of edited volumes analysing the legal and conceptual scope of socio-economic participation for national minorities (Vol. I), while providing a comprehensive outline of the policy areas and best practices pertaining to this area of participation Vol. II). Dissemination outputs will include a bi-monthly series of online seminars inviting scholars working on this subject to share and discuss their research.

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

Despite legal and policy measures aiming to promote inclusive societies, national minorities are often faced with unequal access to resources and services, discrimination, and exclusionary attitudes from the majority population. In this context, schools are often perceived as neutral places of learning where children of all backgrounds are exposed to cultural differences and gain the necessary tools for socio-economic advancement later in life. There is, however, evidence that oftentimes prejudiced, hostile, and discriminatory attitudes and actions of classmates and teachers towards pupils belonging to minority groups affect the overall academic performance and educational outcomes of these children.

The research ongoing on this topic challenges the narrative of the school as a neutral place and seeks to shed light on the specificities of interethnic bullying, as well as its impact on the academic performance and educational outcome of minority children. Based on previous work, the Cluster will develop an edited publication researching interethnic bullying and aspects of diversity management in schools, and to this purpose will organize an author workshop mid-2024.



From the late 1980s onward, European minority concerns have become an integral part of a complex network of legal norms, standards, and practices involving multiple institutions. The Justice and Governance Cluster at ECMI focuses on examining the European minority rights framework, exploring its developing structure, and assessing its practical effectiveness.

THE ECRML IN STALEMATE?

Since the early 1990s, when the momentum for the codification of European standards in minority protection grew, it has become clear that this would not be a smooth endeavour. When the first attempt to adopt a minority-focused protocol to the ECHR failed, one of the 'exit' strategies was to create a convention dealing with a more 'neutral' and universal topic: language. In 1992, the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (ECRML) was drafted and opened for signature, serving as a 'prelude' to the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (FCNM). However, over time, it became evident that dealing with language issues was not so straightforward, and the ECRML fell to a secondary place compared to the FCNM. The number of ratifications has been indicative of this fact: while 39 states have ratified the FCNM, only 25 states have ratified the ECRML. The most recent ratification of the ECRML dates back to 2010 (Bosnia and Herzegovina), whilst other ratifications have been either slow, or not forthcoming at all – despite a country having signed the document. What are some of the reasons for this stagnation? In 2024, the J&G Cluster will commission a comparative set of country case-studies, where progress on the ECRML has been delayed. The papers will be presented as part of a special workshop in Strasbourg in coordination with the Council of Europe.

THE FRAMEWORK CONVENTION AND THE NATIONAL MINORITIES: BENEFICIARIES WITHOUT BENEFITS?

The Framework Convention on the Protection of National Minorities has a vaunted history of now more than 25 years. Through six cycles of monitoring carried out by its Advisory Committee (AC), the FCNM has amassed a rich store of experience helping to refine European standards and develop dialogue with states-parties to the Convention. To understand these processes in greater depth, the J&G Cluster has been developing since 2023 a series of case-studies across countries and the different FCNM reporting cycles with a view to answering three questions: how has the AC's overall monitoring system evolved? how have key countries' engagement with the AC changed over time? and to what extent can we assess the actual success of the AC's recommendations vis-à-vis states-parties? For 2024, the Cluster will finalize its case-studies and draw the project together with the completion of a comparative monograph. Dissemination activities will include workshops in direct collaboration with the Council of Europe as well as with external experts and policy-makers.



CLUSTER HEAD: MARTIN KLATT

The Denmark-Germany border region encompasses a unique variety of minority situations, including not only reciprocal German and Danish national minorities in the immediate borderland area, but also autochthonous communities such as the Frisians as well as historical minority groups such as the Sinti and Roma in Schleswig-Holstein. All of these minorities constitute the focus of this special regional cluster.

UNPACKING THE MODEL

Minority accommodation in Denmark-Germany region has often been lauded as constituting a “best-practice example” for Europe and beyond. But there is a critical need to unpack the more precise dimensions of majority-minority relations going on, since the region is far from being one single policy model or recipe. This research strand will produce a White Paper that will lay out in a clearer fashion the multi-faceted nature of minority issues in the Sydschleswig and Sønderjylland area. It will serve as a dialogue vehicle for policymakers, minority communities, and the public as a whole, to take better stock of what challenges remain across the more individualized minority contexts that exist. Important dissemination and outreach events will accompany the final output at the end of the year.

INTERGENERATIONAL LANGUAGE TRANSMISSION

For many minority communities around Europe, one of the most important dimensions of life involves retaining language vitality. North Frisian, spoken almost exclusively in the district of North Frisia, is an endangered minority language whose speaker numbers have been declining for years. To date, research as well as language policies and planning measures have focused on the maintenance and revitalisation of North Frisian via the traditional education system. This remains important. However, promoting the intergenerational transmission of North Frisian in the home, long before children enter the education system, is also crucial. The research conducted as part of this strand

will investigate these issues, with the aim of informing language policies and planning measures that support the intergenerational transmission of North Frisian – and thereby the revitalisation of this endangered minority language. In 2024, an important survey-based study will be conducted among North Frisian speakers, the results of which will constitute the basis for more targeted approaches to supporting intergenerational language transmission among minority communities.

ZUZÜGLER: EXPANDING THE GERMANY MINORITY IN DENMARK?

Since the early 2020s, a notable trend in regional minority issues concerns the growth in the number of citizens of Germany moving to the southern Danish region as new residents. Known as *Zuzügler*, these individuals represent a wide range of social backgrounds and resettlement aims. More importantly, they constitute a new dimension to the German national minority in the region, to the extent that they become members of that community, enroll their children in German-language schools or participate in local organizations. In collaboration with the *Bund Deutscher Nordschleswiger*, the ECMI began in 2023 a targeted research project on the *Zuzügler* by carrying out a comprehensive press review and conducting wide ranging interviews both among the new residents as well as minority community leaders. In 2024, the project will present its first research report as well as hold a series of dissemination events.



Although frequently relatively small in a demographic sense, minority communities usually constitute social microcosms characterized by structural complexity. Those might include autonomous institutions of internal self-government, bodies facilitating dialogue with national authorities, political parties or media available in languages of minority communities. The aim of the Politics and Civil Society Cluster is to follow those dynamically evolving and highly contextual organizational networks and offer topical research outputs concerning them, frequently of a comparative nature.

MINORITY LANGUAGE MEDIA

In 2024 the Cluster will keep its strategic focus on minority language media (MLM), with the topic in recent years becoming its flagship scientific endeavour. Within this broad thematic area, the Cluster intends to address several detailed aspects, with some of them being a continuation of activities initiated in preceding years, whilst others constitute new research angles. In the former context, 2024 will see the conclusion of the project on the role of media for the revitalization of minority languages, an initiative implemented together with the University of the Basque Country. Conceptualised as a Delphi study consisting of several rounds of questionnaires, the project saw a successful completion of the data collection phase in 2023, with the Cluster moving to the data analysis, publication of results and dissemination in 2024. Similarly, the Cluster will continue its work on the topic of minority language journalism. This entails two projects, the first one – addressing comparatively journalists working in Basque and Galician contexts – will see its wrap up this year, with the analysis focusing on such aspects as gender issues or precarisation. In terms of the new thematic lines concerning MLM journalism, the role of journalists in the process of the digitalization of minority language newspapers will be examined, through the prism of their specific contribution to consensus-building within the community of readers in favour of the digital switch. In addition to the above, in 2024 the Cluster plans to explore further areas of MLM. One of them zooms in on the nexus between documentary

films produced in minority languages and minority identities, whereas the other continues a focus on the audiences of minority language broadcasters – including their actions via social media such as TikTok.

MINORITIES AND SPORT

The interplay between sports and minorities has been an emerging topic for the Cluster since late 2022. Although the importance of sports clubs for minorities from the sociopolitical point of view has been the focus of the broader academic community, language-related aspects of their functioning remain a largely under-researched area. This results in a significant gap, which the Cluster intends to address, as sports arenas are one of the eminent public spaces where identity-related aspects are manifested by minorities. In the context of professional sports, this leads to complex dynamics involving fans' behaviour (bottom-up dimension) and the clubs' responses to their socio-political and sociolinguistic settings. The Cluster's intention is to look comparatively at the resulting political and linguistic landscapes of relevant sport clubs, through the creation of a scale allowing us to assess how prominent minority identity markers are in their day-to-day functioning regarding such areas as: linguistic policies, openness towards certain kinds of fan behaviour, connections to the political elites within a given minority or tensions in relation to majority clubs.

PRESENCE

The ECMI was created as an international institution, intended to network and operate across the European region broadly defined.

One key symbol of this is our tight connection with European institutions related to minority affairs. This relationship starts with having high-level representatives from the European Parliament, the Council of Europe, and the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities (HCNM) sitting on the ECMI's Executive Board.

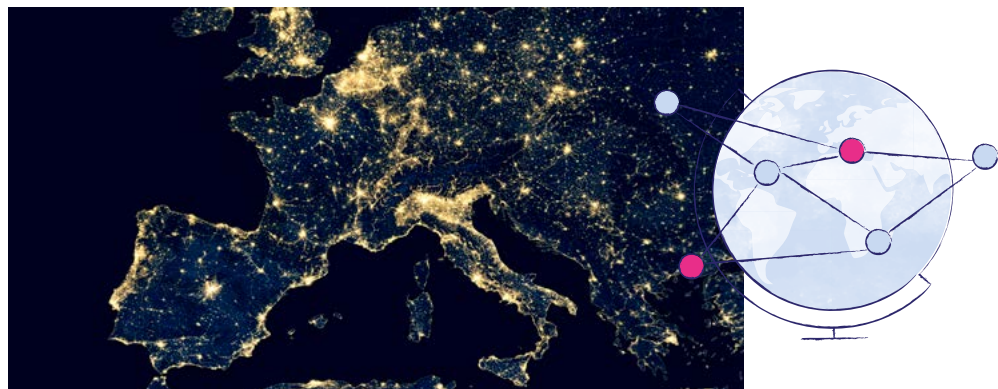
At the same time, the ECMI gives back to these institutions by contributing to their policy-making processes either by participating in their consultative bodies or providing specialized policy analyses.

An important initiative for 2024 will be to take the ECMI's research directly to these stakeholders. For example, the ECMI will organize two meetings at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg focusing on the current state of the CoE's two main instruments for national minorities, the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities and the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages. The events will be held directly with the

monitoring institutions for these treaties, namely the FCNM's Advisory Commission and the ECRML's Committee of Experts.

Likewise, the ECMI will continue its promotion of the HCNM's new "Recommendations on the Effective Participation of National Minorities in Social and Economic Life" by presenting a scholarly volume on this topic and familiarizing policy-makers with this important document.

With regards to the EU, the ECMI will begin a study of how EU enlargement in the Balkans and Eastern Europe will affect minority issues, in particular the role of conditionality as well as kin-state influences.

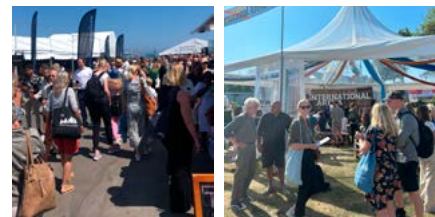


OUTREACH

Since its establishment in 1996, the ECMI has explicitly embraced action projects and knowledge transfer, extending its commitment beyond academia to include non-academic audiences. In 2024, we will feature new initiatives that will engage directly with public and educational institutions.

ECMI AT THE "FOLKEMØDET"

The "Folkemødet" or People's Meeting that takes place every June on the Danish island of Bornholm represents a unique forum for public discussion of political and societal affairs. Speakers and participants engage with politicians and representatives from government ministries, NGOs, and the commercial sector. For this year's gathering, the ECMI will team up with the Danish Grænseforeningen to sponsor a panel on minority issues in the Nord-slesvig/ Sønderjylland area.



MINORITY COMPETENCE NETWORK OF SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN/SOUTH DENMARK (MKN)

The Minority Competence Network was founded in 2020 as framework for promoting exchange and dialogue about minority issues between Schleswig-Holstein/South Denmark and other areas

of Europe. As a founding member of the Network, the ECMI has helped to develop tailored study-tours of the German-Danish region relating to minority education, language, history and other topics. For 2024, we will continue building contacts with Croatian and Serb minorities, following two successful exchange visits in 2023.

ENGAGING WITH SCHOOLS

Recent years have underscored the potential of young people to instigate positive change for a peaceful Europe. Drawing on this, the ECMI has also placed a special emphasis on involving children and young people in its work. We regularly host school groups at the Kompagnietor, while also providing training sessions in schools and other educational institutions. In 2024, the ECMI will craft a special Minority Education Package tailored for secondary schools. This innovative resource will serve to introduce and discuss minority issues within a classroom setting. Initially focused on schools in the Danish-German borderland, this initiative will undergo further development throughout the year. The project will be spearheaded by the Cluster on Minority Issues in the Denmark-Germany Border Region.

PUBLICATIONS

MINORITIES BLOG



The ECMI Minorities Blog features multidisciplinary exchanges about challenges faced by minority communities across the world. The Blog is research-led and engages critically with events, public policies or trends that concern the protection of minorities and their crosscutting relevance.

Editors: Sergiusz Bober, Felix Schulte

EUROPEAN YEARBOOK OF MINORITY ISSUES

A critical review of contemporary developments in minority-majority relations in Europe. It combines analysis, commentary and documentation in relation to conflict management, international legal developments and domestic legislation affecting minorities in Europe. Published by Brill, the Yearbook has been a mainstay in field for over 20 years.

Editor: Ljubica Djordjević

JOURNAL ON ETHNOPOLITICS AND MINORITY ISSUES IN EUROPE (JEMIE)

A peer-reviewed electronic open-access journal edited under the auspices of the ECMI. The journal addresses minority issues across a broad range of disciplines. It features both special issues and general contributions. As of 2023, JEMIE is also indexed in the referencing system Scopus.

Editor: Andreea Cârstocea

Assistant Editors:
Craig Willis, Oana Buta



MEDIA OUTPUTS

CONVERSATIONS WITH EXPERTS

ECMI Conversations with Experts are a series of video interviews between a prominent expert in the field of minority issues and a researcher from the ECMI. In 2024, the ECMI researchers will continue to invite scholars to discuss minority related topics. A total of 10 conversations are planned in the course of the year.

ONLINE TALKS

The Online Talks are organised as online panel discussions around a topic closely related to the research activities of the Centre. Hosted by an ECMI researcher, they bring together experts, practitioners and an online audience through lively discussions and Q&A sessions. The Talks require pre-registration but are also archived on the ECMI webpage.

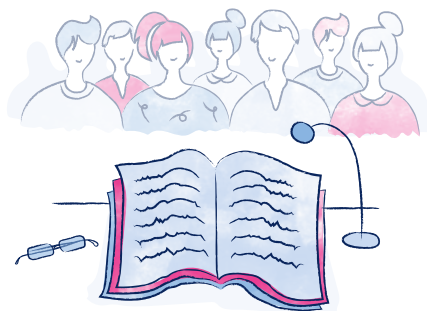


DISKURS: A NEW DANISH-GERMAN NEWSLETTER

With its recent expansion into more regional minority research and collaboration, the ECMI will introduce in 2024 a new Danish- and German-language newsletter, DISKURS. The publication will feature profiles of the ECMI's work as well as updates on research results and impact. Both digital and print versions will be available.

WORKSHOPS

Expert workshops at the ECMI spread the word about minority issues in Europe and create new linkages for future cooperation. Workshop topics for 2024 will include:



“North Frisian Then and Now: Attitudes, Acquisition, and the Application of Research Findings”

“Six Cycles, Eighty Meetings and Twenty-Five Years: the Effectiveness of the Advisory Committee of the Framework Convention on National Minorities”

“Minority Language Media and Kin-states”

“Inclusive Education for Minorities: Diversity Management in Schools”

“Intersectional Inclusion: Across Disciplines, Settings and Contexts”

“Stagnation in the ECRML? Case-studies of Reluctant Adherents”

“Navigating Change: the Resilience of Territorial Autonomy”

“Sport and Minorities: Between Community-building, Linguistic Breathing Spaces and Manifestations of Identity”

TEAM

Vello Pettai

Director

Sergiusz Bober

Senior Researcher

Andreea Cârstocea

Senior Researcher

Ljubica Djordjević

Senior Researcher

Martin Klatt

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Felix Schulte

Senior Researcher

Kyriaki Topidi

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Principal Researcher

Doğukan Cansın Karakuş

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Jody Metcalfe

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Craig Willis

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Maddi Dorransoro Olamusu

Researcher

Johann C. Hörkner

Project Associate

Maj-Britt Risbjerg Hansen

Head of Secretariat

Stanislav Černega

International Communications Coordinator

Oana Buta

Information Officer

Katharina Jürgensen

Regional Communications Coordinator



EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board is the main strategic governance body of the ECMI. It comprises nine members representing the founders, the scientific community, as well as European institutions. The Board convenes at least biannually to approve the budget, the annual plan of activities, and other business in line with the statutes.

Jørgen Kühl (Chair)

Honorary Professor of Minority Issues, Europa-Universität Flensburg

Monika Wingender

Professor, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, University of Giessen, Germany

Johannes Callsen

Schleswig-Holstein Commissioner for Matters related to National Minorities and Ethnic Groups, Border Area Activities and Low German

Annemarie Falktoft

Deputy Director General, Danish Agency for Higher Education and Science, Denmark

Marek Szczygieł

Director, Office of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities

Elise Cornu

Director, Division of National Minorities and Minority Languages, Council of Europe

Sönke Rix

Member of the German Parliament

Garbi Schmidt

Professor, Department of Culture and Identity, Roskilde University, Denmark

Christel Schaldemose

Member, European Parliament

Linda Pieper

Substitute for Mr. Callsen

Thorsten Afflerbach

Substitute for Ms. Cornu

ADVISORY COUNCIL

To reinforce its work, the ECMI draws also on an international Advisory Council that meets every 18 months. The Council provides perspective on current ECMI activities, emerging trends and networking opportunities.

(2022–2025)

Jennifer Jackson-Preece (Chair)

London School of Economics and Political Science

Florian Bieber

University of Graz

Joshua Castellino

Minority Rights Group

Nicole Dołowy-Rybińska

Polish Academy of Sciences

Aliona Grossu

Jewish Community of the Republic of Moldova

Rainer Hofmann

University of Frankfurt

Erin Jenne

Central European University

Helen Kelly-Holmes

University of Limerick

Angéla Kóczé

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