

ANNUAL REPORT



EUROPEAN CENTRE
FOR
MINORITY ISSUES

2018

INSPIRING CHANGE





“Another successful year full of activities has passed for the European Centre for Minority Issues.”

Prof. Dr. Jørgen Kühl
Chairman of the ECMI Executive Board



PREFACE

The highly committed scientific and administrative staff have continued the fine work from previous years, wrapped up ongoing projects and initiated new ones as well.

Just to mention some highlights, the work on the multi-year projects Minority Map and Timeline of Europe and on Non-Territorial Autonomy Arrangements has continued. The externally funded projects on Minorities in the Western Balkans and Teaching in Diversity were finalized.

The ECMI arranged events focusing on Central Asia and the Ukraine, and a series of public lectures in Flensburg. The 8th Summer School on National Minorities and Border Regions this year took place in Brussels. The staff taught courses at the OSCE Academy in Kyrgyzstan, Swansea University, and at the Europa-Universität Flensburg.

The ECMI in Kosovo continued its strong focus on the protection and promotion of the rights and interests of all minority communities. ECMI Georgia was, after a dormant period, reactivated with new initiatives contributing to the promotion of minority rights in the region.

Traditionally, the ECMI works closely with the office of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities. Hence, it was a pleasure to welcome High Commissioner Lamberto Zannier in Flensburg for a two-day visit in late August 2018.

In 2018, the periodical external evaluation of the ECMI was initiated by the three founding states: the Kingdom of Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany and the State of Schleswig-Holstein. The evaluation focuses on both scientific and administrative aspects of the centre, and it will be ongoing through a significant part of 2019. It will lead to a report with observations and recommendations, which will be a highly useful tool for the future work of the ECMI.

On the following pages, you will find information on all aspects of the manifold activities of the ECMI fulfilling its mandate on minority issues in Europe.

Prof. Dr. Jørgen Kühl
Chairman of the ECMI Executive Board



“2018 was full of accomplishments and highlights that advanced the ECMI’s mission to facilitate minority-majority dialogue and respect for diversity in all aspects of society in Europe.”

Prof. Dr. Tove H. Malloy
ECMI Director

THE DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE

Ukraine was again at the top of our agenda with several projects launched, and with the establishment of a project team in Kyiv; ECMI Ukraine is now a reality. While the overall political situation was and still is tense and very present in the international media, 2018 was a good timing for placing minority rights on the agenda:

In February, the ECMI organized a roundtable discussion together with the President’s Administration in Kyiv. The aim of the Roundtable was to drive forward the implementation of the recommendations drafted by the ECMI and the partners of the Eastern Partnership Programme (2014-2017) on how to improve the roadmap for minority protection and their empowerment under the auspices of the Office of the President of Ukraine. Among the guest speakers were Mr. Johannes Callsen, SH Commissioner for National Minorities and Ms. Svetlana Krätzschmar, former President of the City Council of Flensburg. The event hosted representatives of the Administration of the President, the Ministry of Culture, the Experts Council on Ethnopolitical Affairs, regional administrations and local umbrella organizations of national minorities.

Our short-term project “Youth for empowerment” was unique in that it brought young activists from the regions in contact with policy-makers in Kyiv for the first time. I attended the final event and saw the results at the project in Kyiv on 11 December. I was impressed by the eagerness and motivation of the young participants who presented their policy recommendations to Ukrainian high officials. In two previous workshops they had identified the special needs of their communities regarding minority issues after learning about democratic values on minority rights and diversity. We are grateful to the German Federal Foreign Office for funding the project.

September saw the kick-off of a multi-year project addressing participation of minorities in decentralization in Ukraine. Three multi-ethnic regions (Odessa, Chernivtsi and Transcarpathia) will be in focus, and the aim is to promote decentralization while securing the participation of minorities in regional development and in the up-scaling of territorial management. The project is funded by the German GIZ (Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit) and we look forward to continuing the cooperation in the years to come.

Kosovo remains a key focus area for the ECMI, and our teams in Pristina and North Mitrovica continued their dedication to promoting a peaceful, multi-ethnic society. They support the Brussels Dialogue, and they focus on improving bilingualism in all aspects of life, especially in education and public administration. We continue to be supported by a number of international donors, and we would like to thank all of them for putting trust in the ECMI Kosovo.



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2018 was also the year we celebrated the 20th anniversary of the European Framework for the Protection of National Minorities. In the month of the anniversary, we published an ECMI Focus, titled “20 years of dealing with diversity: is the Framework Convention at a cross-road?” and in March, we launched a scientific volume assessing the Framework Convention developed in cooperation with the University of Frankfurt.

Our networking continued at full speed in 2018. We presented ECMI results in international fora, like the European Parliament and the Council of Europe’s CAHROM. In December, we had the opportunity to host Canadian experts on minority issues, and the dialogue with European experts remains a key part of the sharpening of our tools and knowledge. The ECMI is dedicated to our mission and our mandate, which remain as relevant as ever.

Prof. Dr. Tove H. Malloy
ECMI Director

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HIGHLIGHTS 2018

HIGHLIGHTS 2018

**ROUNDTABLE
IN KYIV**



More detailed information see page 23

13th – 14th March

The ECMI and the Goethe University Frankfurt invite scholars, policy-makers and interested members of the general public to a Book Launch Conference on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. The event marked the 20th anniversary of the FCNM in February 2018 and launched the publication “The Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities: A Commentary”, edited by Prof. Rainer Hofmann, Dr. Detlev Rein and ECMI Director Prof. Malloy.

**TRAINING-COURSE AT
THE UNIVERSITY OF
SWANSEA IN WALES**



Leighton Collins / Shutterstock.com

More detailed information see page 28

**AMBASSADOR
LAMBERTO ZANNIER
AT THE ECMI**



More detailed information see page 38

29th November

Final event of the Project Teaching in Diversity (Teach-D) in Flensburg: The project members exhibit the developed products for the very first time. In the course of the event, the participants test some of the practices first-hand.

11th – 15th June
ECMI teaches at the OSCE Academy in Bishkek.

12th February

The ECMI travels together with international minority experts to Kyiv to meet among others the Deputy Head of the Administration of the President of Ukraine to discuss on how to improve the roadmap for minority protection and their empowerment in Ukraine.

**BOOK LAUNCH
CONFERENCE AT THE
GOETHE-UNIVERSITY
FRANKFURT**



More detailed information see page 22

19th – 23th March

ECMI gives a training-course on the minority protection regime in Europe at the University of Swansea in Wales, UK.

**TRAINING-COURSE AT
THE OSCE ACADEMY
IN BISHKEK**



More detailed information see page 27

28th – 29th August

The OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities, Ambassador Lamberto Zannier pays a working visit to the ECMI.

**FINAL EVENT
OF TEACH-D
IN FLENSBURG**



More detailed information see page 20-21



PARTNERSHIPS

The ECMI has extensive cooperation with multiple partners across Europe and beyond. In 2018, the ECMI has expanded its circle of partners, as well as extensively cooperating with established networks within various projects and activities.

At the local level we worked extensively with the following stakeholders in the region as well as with the universities in the Danish-German border region:

- Dialog Forum Norden
- Europa-Universität Flensburg
- FUEN
- University of Southern Denmark
- Den Slesvigske Samling (Schleswig Collection/ DSS)
- DCBIB (the Danish Central Library in Flensburg)



At the inter- and national level, we continued to work with the following international organizations, NGOs, universities, framework programmes and networks operative in the protection of minorities:

- Abo Akademi, Finland
- Åland Islands Peace Institute (ÅIPI), Finland
- American University of Central Asia (AUCA, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan)
- Anna Lindh Foundation German Network
- American University of Central Asia
- Centre for the Research of Ethnicity and Culture (CVEK)
- Council of Europe
- CSEM, Tbilisi, Georgia
- CVEK, Bratislava, Slovakia
- College of Law and Criminology at Swansea University, Wales
- Corvinus University Budapest (Hungary)
- Ethnocultural Diversity Resource Center (EDRC) in Cluj
- Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Latvia
- Hungarian Academy of Sciences Centre for Social Sciences, Institute for Minority Studies
- ifa (Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen), Stuttgart
- Illia State University (Georgia)
- Institute for Minority Studies (KI) of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Hungary
- Jagiellonian University (Poland)
- KIMEP University (Kazakhstan)
- Kontseilua
- Lobachevsky State University of Nizhni Novgorod (Russia)
- Master Programme in Peace and Security Studies, University of Hamburg
- MIME – Mobility and Inclusion in a Multilingual Europe
- National University 'Kyvi-Mohya Academy' (Ukraine)
- OSCE Academy Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan)
- OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities
- Regensburg Library

PARTNERSHIPS

- Sorbian Institute, Bautzen (Germany)
- The European Academy (EURAC)
- The European University Institute (EUI), Florence
- TIME – Translation Research Training
- University of Georgia
- University of Glasgow
- University of Groningen
- University of Tartu (Estonia)





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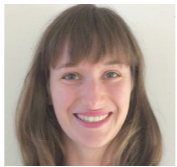
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www.ecmi.de/people



ECMI HEADQUARTERS

ONGOING RESEARCH PROJECTS

MINORITY MAP AND TIMELINE OF EUROPE (MMTE)

The MMTE is reimagined as a dynamic and versatile tool.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Minority Map and Timeline of Europe (MMTE) is an online interactive and hands-on research tool that provides an impartial perspective and evaluation of minorities, minority issues, and minority-majority relations within all states and regions of Europe. The user interface of the MMTE website – including complementary interactive and detailed maps, timelines, and analyses – provides new, varied, and interconnected ways to interpret minority communities. The MMTE utilises a visual and hands-on approach to present data and information, for a better comprehension of relationships and associations concerning minorities and the countries they are living in. To this end, the website is composed in a thematic format to promote consistency, uniformity, and comparison between entries.

The MMTE is an ongoing flagship project of the ECMI. First created in 2001 as the Ethnopolitical Map of Europe, the project was re-evaluated and redesigned in 2010 so to reach a wider audience. Suitably, as an easy-to-use tool, the MMTE provides current and credible quantitative and qualitative information on Europe’s minorities for students and researchers, non-governmental organisations and policy makers, and the informed public. The MMTE endeavours to act as a central clearinghouse website that provides information on minority communities in a timely, straightforward, and reliable manner. Additionally, the MMTE project is intended to help develop the ECMI’s own goals and projects to better understand minority issues as well as implement corresponding programmes.

2018 IN A NUTSHELL

Among the project partners there are research institutions, a school with a pedagogical profile, The past year has built extensively on the methodological work conducted by the team in 2017, and has been focused on bringing theory into practice, particularly in implementing the new working guidelines and scientific approach. The most significant development in 2018 was the redesign of the MMTE website to bring it more in line with the latest functionalities and opportunities presented by new coding languages and technology in website design. The updated MMTE website is scheduled to launch in 2019 and will reflect the new inclusion criteria based on the project’s scientific grounding, which were also developed during the last 12 months. Accordingly, the existing entries for Belarus, Lithuania, Slovakia, Sweden and Austria have been revised and updated to comply with the improved format, and new content has been produced for the Italy and Bulgaria entries, all of which will be included in the March relaunch. 2018 also saw the publication of the first MMTE Working Paper, “Majorities and Minorities in Post-Soviet Space”, written by Federica Prina and Aziz Berdiquolov.

ECMI HEADQUARTERS

Year	Event
1900	
1918	End of World War I
1919	Creation of the League of Nations and the Minority Section
1929-1939	Great Depression increases interwar migration
1939	Beginning of World War II
1948	10 December 1948 UN General Assembly adopts Universal Declaration on Human Rights
1950	
1976	23 March 1976 ICCPR enters into force
1989	Fall of the Iron Curtain
1992	Establishment of the High Commissioner on National Minorities
2000	

MINORITY MAP AND TIMELINE OF EUROPE



ECMI HEADQUARTERS

ONGOING RESEARCH PROJECTS

NON-TERRITORIAL AUTONOMY: AUTONOMY ARRANGEMENTS IN THE WORLD / EUROPEAN NON-TERRITORIAL AUTONOMY NETWORK (ENTAN)

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Although not set as a standard in any of the international documents relevant for national minority protection, autonomy arrangements can foster the quality of the implementation of national minority rights and the participation of national minorities in public affairs. More generally, they can foster democracy and a sense of "ownership" among national minorities. The aim of the research is to examine existing non-territorial arrangements, including their good and weak points, to identify good practices and the possibility of exporting them or some of their elements to other similar environments.

As a part of its work on non-territorial autonomy arrangements, the ECMI will further contribute to the project on "Autonomy Arrangements in the World", a network also involving: EURAC (Italy), Center of the Study of Democracy of the Babeş-Bolyai University (Romania), and Romanian Institute for Research on National Minorities (Romania).

ENTAN is a COST Action aiming to examine comparatively and comprehensively the concept of non-territorial autonomy (NTA), in particular NTA arrangements for reducing inter-ethnic tensions within a state and for accommodation of the needs of different communities while preventing the calls to separate statehood. The Action will tackle recent developments in theories and practices of cultural diversity; minority rights (including linguistic and educational rights); state functions and sovereignty; conflict resolution through policy arrangements; policy making and inclusiveness; self-governance and autonomy. The main objective is to investigate the existing NTA mechanisms and policies and to develop new modalities for accommodation of differences in the context of growing challenges stemming from globalisation, regionalisation and European supranational integration. Along with issues related to culture and education of diverse groups within a nation state, and legal arrangements for recognition and practicing of separate identity, the Action will also focus on political strategies and policies that have potential to increase the autonomy of stateless nations and to empower cultural, ethnic and religious communities. The network is created upon agreed research activities, which include interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary group work, training and empowerment of young researchers, scientific conferences and publications, and dissemination of results to policy makers, CSOs and communities. The Action is proposed by scholars coming from ITCs and other EU countries. It is based on past experiences, the current state of affairs and extensive theoretical and practical knowledge, which ensures that the results and recommendations will be relevant across Europe.

ECMI HEADQUARTERS

2018 IN A NUTSHELL

The ECMI team has embarked on a research effort with a number of partners since 2012 to address the role of ethno-cultural minorities in the public management of diverse societies. While the overall aim of the project is to inform the diversity management policy discourse about viable strategies, the specific goal is to fill the knowledge gap in academic research on NTA arrangements. With the research process supported by a network of international and interdisciplinary researchers, the project team examines the challenges to the implementation of existing and emerging models of NTAs.

The results of the research are disseminated through the ECMI publications and a 5-volume series in co-operation with Oxford University Press (OUP). Over the past year, the team worked on contributions for the 3rd volume "Alternative Approaches to Ethno-Cultural Diversity Management: Theorizing New Paradigms of Non-Territorial Autonomy". The project also co-operates with the multi-partner co-operation Autonomy Arrangements of the World, run jointly with EURAC Research, Babeş-Bolyai University and Romanian Institute for Research on National Minorities.

EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR MINORITY ISSUES





ECMI HEADQUARTERS

ONGOING RESEARCH PROJECTS

NATIONAL MINORITIES AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

New for 2018, combining three fields of research (Regional Development, Border Region Studies and Minority Studies), the ECMI aims to explore the role of minorities in regional development.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Throughout its work in the field of minority issues, the ECMI had the chance to observe and analyse the peaceful and prosperous development of minority-majority relations in many regions across Europe. These positive relations are often intimately linked to the quality of life in the region and the socio-economic well-being of its inhabitants. However, when it comes to regional development, the true potential of minorities is often untapped and remains under-researched. Mostly living in peripheral and border regions, their strategic and structured involvement in regional development activities and bridge building is especially important and could be a tool to increase social cohesion. By combining three fields of research (Regional Development, Border Region Studies and Minority Studies), the ECMI aims to explore the role of minorities in regional development, particularly in border regions.

2018 IN A NUTSHELL

After preliminary internal discussions and planning, an exploratory workshop is scheduled for 2019 in order to explore the knowledge in the wider Europe of national minorities role in regional development. Furthermore, the workshop intends to connect scholars from other fields examining related issues and to potentially lay the groundwork for collaborative multidisciplinary research on the topic in the future.



ECMI HEADQUARTERS

FINALIZED EXTERNALLY FUNDED PROJECTS

MINORITIES IN WESTERN BALKANS

As a follow-up to Minorities in the Western Balkans project of 2016, the ECMI implemented a second round of initiatives in Macedonia and Kosovo. After the successful implementation of the previous modules implemented together with FUEN and GIZ, the project partners once again supported the local stakeholders in four target countries. The project concluded with the final conference in February 2018 showcasing the project results.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Minorities in Western Balkans was a project supported by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and co-financed by the State Chancellery Schleswig-Holstein in 2016 and 2017. The project was jointly implemented in 2016 and 2017 by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) Regional Office North (Hamburg) and the GIZ Regional Project on Social Rights for Vulnerable Groups (SoRi) and in cooperation with the Federal Union of European Nationalities (FUEN), and the European Centre for Minority Issues (ECMI). The project aimed to introduce the Schleswig-Holstein model to the local actors in the Western Balkans and to increase access of Roma to municipal services. The direct target group of the project are members of the (pro) Roma NGOs and local governments in Serbia, Macedonia, BiH and Kosovo.

Over the last two years the project covered eight municipalities in four countries, with the involvement of local government representatives as well as representatives of over 15 different organizations from six different countries. Over 120 people directly participated in the events. The expressed interest from the Western Balkans, as well as the project results, have shown that despite the political and social differences between the regions, sharing good practices can become an inspiration and can lead to positive changes.

2018 IN A NUTSHELL

The results of this two-year project were presented at a final conference in Skopje in February 2018. The conference aimed to gather the project's beneficiaries as well as local contacts and present the project results to a wider audience. The presenters spoke about the achievements of the project and wider impacts, as well as ways to make these results sustainable.

In addition to the specific outputs of the project, the initiative was a successful step towards the transfer of knowledge and introducing practices from the Schleswig-Holstein region, as well as establishing a sustainable network of municipalities and Roma NGOs in four target countries in the Western Balkans.



ECMI HEADQUARTERS

SUMMARY QUOTES FROM MINORITIES IN WESTERN BALKANS PROJECT PARTNERS:

- Ms. Linda Pieper (Representative of the Schleswig-Holstein State Chancellery):
"We feel proud that we could be an inspiration and a good example of knowledge transfer."
- Mr. Ljubiša Stanišić (Head of the newly established Office for Minority Issues in Bijelina, BiH):
"The City of Bijelina is a step ahead compared to other municipalities in Bosnia and Herzegovina in terms of dealing with minority issues."
- Mr. Dragan Joković (Head of the NGO Otaharin): "This project helped us to look at the issues from outside of the Balkan perspective and be part of greater Europe."
- Mr. Nezir Huseini (Director of the NGO Sonce in Tetovo): "The Platform is a good example of how these minority groups can coexist and communicate together if given a structured space for dialogue and opportunity."

FINALIZED EXTERNALLY FUNDED PROJECTS

Teaching in Diversity is the title of the ECMI's project implemented together with ten different partners from eight European states. The project was funded by the European Commission within a framework of its Erasmus+ programme and was implemented throughout the last two years, with a series of closing events held in the final months of 2018.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Respect and tolerance for diversity are fundamental European values. Nevertheless, the recent economic and financial crisis and the flow of refugees has significantly reinforced the negative attitudes towards the "other". As a result, diversity has become a challenge that people face and deal with on a daily basis, and hostility towards people with different cultural backgrounds has increased.

Acknowledging that educational institutions are the first place where diversities meet and interact on a daily basis and that they are the first pillar of the societal integration and acculturation, the project sought to address the topic of Diversity Management at school, focusing on teachers as key actors in the process of the transfer of knowledge, values, skills and competences. In contrast to the numerous initiatives providing the teachers with skills and competences in 'how to teach diversity', this project focused on one significant gap, identified in the teachers' training: why teaching diversity is important, how to teach in diversity, and how to manage diversity.

Among the project partners there were research institutions, a school with a pedagogical profile, associations of educators and other organizations promoting new technologies, and media in education from eight different countries:



ECMI HEADQUARTERS



Final event of Teach-D in Flensburg, Germany

- European Centre for Minority Issues (ECMI), Germany (lead partner)
- European Academy of Bozen/Bolzano (EURAC), Italy
- Mercator European Research Centre at the Fryske Akademy, The Netherlands
- Workers Education and Training College (WETCO), Bulgaria
- Asociația Paradigme Educationale, Romania
- Danmar Computers LLC, Poland
- Kairos Europe Limited, UK
- Liceul Pedagogic "Mircea Scarlat" Alexandria, Romania
- MEDEA: Media and Learning, Belgium
- CSP – Innovazione Nelle ICT, Italy

In Schleswig-Holstein, the project implementation was supported by the Centre of Teacher Training at the Europa-Universität Flensburg and the Schleswig-Holstein State Chancellery, both acting as associate partners to the ECMI.

2018 IN A NUTSHELL

The closing partner meeting took place between 25-26 October 2018 at the ECMI HQ in Flensburg, where the ECMI team has consulted partners on the final financial arrangements and finalization of the products, it was decided to expand the website and to add a photo gallery. Following this, the team held a Teach-D Multiplier event in Alexandria, Romania on 8 November, which attracted a lot of attention among the local media in Romania and even made it to the Romanian TV. Then the final event was held on 29 November 2018 again at the ECMI HQ in Flensburg, where the project exhibited its products for the very first time in Flensburg. After the event, the participants were able not only to enjoy the process of self-development but also to test some of the practices first-hand.



ECMI HEADQUARTERS

EVENTS

BOOK LAUNCH CONFERENCE WITH FOCUS ON FCNM

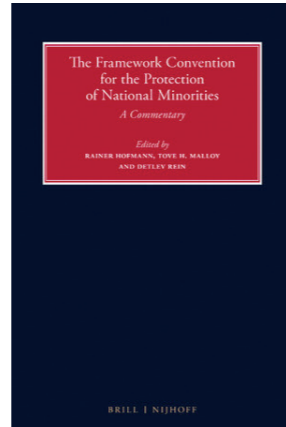
Minority experts were gathered for the conference ‘Taking Stock after 20 Years’ in Frankfurt the 13th and 14th of March. The ECMI and the Goethe University Frankfurt invited scholars, policy-makers and interested members of the general public to the event, which took place at the historic Eisenhower-Saal at the Goethe University in Frankfurt.

The conference marked the twentieth anniversary of the Framework Convention for the Protection of Minority Rights (FCNM) in February 2018 and the connected book launch: “The Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities: A Commentary”, edited by Rainer Hofmann, Tove H. Malloy and Detlev Rein (Brill, 2018).

In light of the launch of the publication, the various panels discussed the provisions of the FCNM and their implementation practices: Creating the Conditions for Human Dignity (chaired by Prof. Dr. Tove Malloy), Protecting Identity (chaired by Dr. Detlev Rein), Managing Diverse Societies (chaired by Prof. Dr. Rainer Hofmann) and External Insiders and their Views on the Future of the FCNM (chaired by Prof. Petra Roter)



13th and 14th march 2018. Book Launch Conference at the Goethe-University Frankfurt.



ECMI EXPERT WORKSHOPS: GEORGIA, MOLDOVA AND CENTRAL ASIA

Throughout the year, ECMI organised three expert Workshops on Georgia, Moldova and Central Asia which took place in the ECMI headquarters building in Flensburg. A number of outstanding external experts from varying disciplines in the field of minority issues (among other Olivier Ferrando, from the SciencesPo – Paris School of International Affairs, Alexander Iskandaryan; Director of the Caucasus Institute, Yerevan (Armenia) and Giorgi Sordia; Director of the Centre for the Studies of Ethnicity and Multiculturalism, Tbilisi (Georgia)) attended the events along with the internal ECMI team. The workshops aimed to strengthen the international research network for potential joint research projects in the future.

ECMI HEADQUARTERS



On 12 February 2018. Fostering intercultural dialogue in Ukraine: ECMI Roundtable in Kyiv, Ukraine.

INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE IN UKRAINE

On 12 February 2018, the ECMI organized a roundtable discussion in Kyiv. Among the guests were Mr. Johannes Callsen, SH Commissioner for National Minorities and Ms. Swetlana Krätzschmar, President of the City Council of Flensburg.

The event, organized by the ECMI, hosted the representatives of the Administration of the President of Ukraine, Ministry of Culture of Ukraine, Experts Council on Ethnopolitical Affairs at the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine, Regional Administrations and local umbrella organizations of national minorities. Among the guest speakers from Germany were Mr. Johannes Callsen, Member of the Schleswig-Holstein Landtag and the Commissioner of the Minister-President of the State of Schleswig-Holstein for National Minorities and Ethnic Groups, Border Area Activities and Low German, and Ms. Swetlana Krätzschmar, President of the City Council of Flensburg.

Since 2014, the European Centre for Minority Issues (ECMI) has been active in Ukraine as part of the ECMI Eastern Partnership Programme (EPP), covering Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine. As part of the EPP, the ECMI has collected extensive data about current ethno-cultural relations in Ukraine. This has resulted in a number of recommendations on how to improve existing frameworks and design new measures to enhance national minority protection.

The aim of the Roundtable “Fostering Inter-Cultural Dialogue in Ukraine” was to begin implementing the recommendations drafted by the ECMI in cooperation with relevant authorities and stakeholders under the auspices of the Office of the President of Ukraine. Through an exchange with actors from other European countries, the participants in the Roundtable had the opportunity to discuss good practice and procedures for intercultural dialogue.



ECMI HEADQUARTERS

MINORITIES AND THE NATION: FINDING COMMON GROUND WORKSHOP

Hosted by the ECMI, this workshop aimed at junior researchers was organised by two ECMI researchers on 17th March 2018. The workshop 'Minorities and the Nation: Finding Common Ground' was organised by two of the ECMI's Junior Research Associates aiming to establish a network of early stage researchers dealing with minority issues throughout Europe.

The participants were students at universities across Germany, as well as Slovakia and Belgium, who work within the disciplines of political science, sociology and law using both qualitative and quantitative methods. The workshop itself was structured around three sessions: Narratives & Perceptions, The Rules of the Game, and Minority Agency & State Structures. Each session allowed two speakers to present their work, followed by in-depth roundtable discussions with other participants.

WORKSHOP ON HISTORICAL MINORITY RESEARCH

In November 2018, the ECMI was involved with and hosted one of the days of a workshop concerning Historical Minority Research. Co-organised with the Europa Universität Flensburg and the Sorbian Institute, the opening event held in the conference room at Kompagnietor involved an introductory lecture by ECMI Chairman of the Executive Board Prof. Dr. Jørgen Kühl on "Historische Minderheitenforschung am Beispiel des deutsch-dänischen Grenzlandes". In addition, ECMI representatives attended the following two days of workshops taking place at the Danish Library in Flensburg as well as on campus at the Europa Universität Flensburg.

ROTARY CLUBS IN FLENSBURG: THE ECMI ENGAGES WITH LOCAL GROUPS

The local Rotary Clubs in Flensburg learnt about the work of the ECMI. As part of the local outreach, ECMI Junior Research Associate Sonja Wolf presented on the ECMI aims and current projects.

Flensburg, the northern most city in Germany and seat of the ECMI, is also home to three Rotary Clubs and several service clubs. In 2018, Rotary Club Flensburg and Rotary Club Flensburger Förde again invited the ECMI to their gatherings to present our work, aims and current projects.

What happens at the Kompagnietor? What are the ECMI aims and activities? What role do we play in promoting the Danish-German border region and Schleswig-Holstein? How do we encourage knowledge transfer and bridge building among different groups in Europe? These were some of the questions which were answered in the presentations for the Rotary Clubs. The club members were happy to get to know the ECMI more closely and expressed their interest in hearing from us and about us more often.

ECMI HEADQUARTERS

EDUCATION

SUMMER SCHOOL 2018

ECMI held the eighth annual Summer School on National Minorities and Border Regions (NMBR) between 2 and 9 September 2018. This year the core theme was "Diversity: European heritage and/or driver of change" and was hosted in cooperation with the Coppieters Foundation in Brussels.

After the successful Lviv 2016 edition, and due to the higher interest in the training programme, in 2017, the ECMI summer school offered again the chance to students from Eastern Europe to deepen their knowledge on minority issues and on international standards and practices regarding the protection and promotion of minority rights. Introducing the framework of the Minority Rights Regime in Europe from the perspective of international relations, politics, and culture, the course critically examined the extent to which national and EU institutions' mechanisms can face new challenges. It built upon existing knowledge, to yield innovative approaches and new ideas, with a focus on diversity management as a conflict-prevention mechanism. The intensive programme included academic lectures, open discussions, and interactive seminars, organised in thematic modules. The participants were introduced to various case studies and enhanced their knowledge on these issues. The interactive summer school programme was aimed at Master and PhD students, young researchers, and professionals.

The European year of cultural heritage 2018 was the moment to reflect on the European diversity as a value, a practice, and a trigger for socio-political changes. Understanding the impact that the dynamics have on mainstream societies, national (old) and new minorities, and on their interactions, will enable better evaluation of potential risks and planning of adequate pre-emptive measures to address those risks and to foster positive developments in the future.

The one-week training course focused on cultural diversity as a European heritage and as a driver of change, drawing connections between historical past, current events, and future perspectives. Combining traditional and non-formal education methods, interactive sessions, and networking activities, the interdisciplinary training fostered critical thinking, multi-level exchange of knowledge and experience, and the establishment of a network of young activists and professionals.





ECMI HEADQUARTERS

Through practice-based activities and creative workshops, the ECMI 2018 Summer School was not only equipping participants with the understanding of politics of diversity and the related advantages and challenges, but also fostered their civic engagement and interest in policy and decision-making processes.

MINORITY REGIME SEMINAR

Traditionally, the ECMI has taught the third semester students at the European Studies MA programme of the Europa-Universität Flensburg.

The European Minority Rights and Minority Protection Regime is the title of the ECMI seminar taught jointly by the ECMI team. The Seminar addresses aspects of minority history and politics as well as social and cultural issues and emerging new challenges to minority protection.

Last semester, the course included lectures on selected topics within wider areas of History, International Law and Relations, Concepts and Theories, and Politics and Policy. Throughout the semester, the students were introduced to various issues within the wider topic of the Minority Protection Regime in Europe. Spanning everything from the history of minority rights, to exploring basic principles of international law in relation to minority protection, as well as politics and theories, the students were familiarized with specific issues such as nationalism, ethnic conflicts, empowerment, Europeanization, education, the role of media, and right-wing populism.

ECMI LECTURE SERIES 2018

During the past winter semester starting from September, the ECMI organized a series of Public Lectures for 2018, in addition to its annual semester course on European Minority Rights and Minority Protection Regime. The lectures were open not only to the students, but also other faculty members at the University and wider audiences in Flensburg. Throughout this semester there were two such lectures organized:

- The first Public Lecture of the semester presented 33 years of Prof. Poujol's extensive field research on Bukharan Jews conducted mostly in Uzbekistan, with some extensions to Israel and New York. Prof. Catherine Poujol is a regional director of French Institute of Central Asian Studies in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan with as important research partner for the ECMI Central Asia programme. The lecture was organized in the premises of the University of Flensburg which allowed for an increased attendance by local university students and staff.
- The second lecture was delivered by Dr. Peter Kroh focusing on the role of minorities in collective national memory. His lecture titled 'Minderheitenpolitik als Teil der Erinnerungskultur' (Minority politics as part of the culture of remembrance) was held in German to attract a wider local public.

ECMI HEADQUARTERS



In June 2018. Training-course at the OSCE Academy in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

ECMI TEACHING AT OSCE ACADEMY, BISHKEK

The ECMI taught an intensive one-week seminar at the OSCE Academy in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan in June 2018. The seminar is an outcome of the cooperation between the ECMI and OSCE Academy, and is offered to the Master's students of the Academy. ECMI Director Prof. Dr. Tove Malloy and Senior Research Associates Dr. Sergiusz Bober and Dr. Ljubica Đorđević-Vidojković were amongst the team that delivered lectures and interactive seminars throughout the week.

The aim of the course was to provide students with in-depth knowledge and robust skills on the basis of which to develop an informed understanding of minority issues in the 21st Century. The approach of the Seminar was multi-disciplinary and minority issues were examined from the perspectives of political science and law, including international human rights law and international relations studies, political theory, political sociology and cultural studies.

The specific objectives of the Seminar were:

- To enable students to place the issues of minorities in the wider context of European history/politics and the practice of European governance,
- To enable students to understand, critically analyze, and evaluate contemporary debates about minorities,
- To enable students to understand the political and ethical implications of academic research in relation to minority issues.



ECMI HEADQUARTERS



Between 19th and 23th March 2018. Training-course at the University of Swansea in Wales, UK.

ECMI TEACHING AT SWANSEA UNIVERSITY

Between 19 and 23 March 2018 the ECMI team taught at the University of Swansea in Wales, UK. The ECMI course on 'The European Minority Rights and Minority Protection Regime' was part of the curriculum of the LLM in Human Rights Programme at the College of Law and Criminology (Coleg y Gyfraith a Throseddeg). The course was taught as an intensive one week block module.

The ECMI team addressed the wider topic of the minority protection regime in Europe from an interdisciplinary perspective and delivered lectures on history, international law, political participation, theories of nationalism, theories of conflicts, language policies, and minority media. The lectures also addressed contemporary challenges to minority rights in Europe, including discussing the rise of the far-right and environmental degradation.

The ECMI teaching team included Senior Research Associates Dr. Zora Popova, Dr. Andreea Carstocea, Dr. Sergiusz Bober, Dr. Ljubica Djordjevic, Dr. Anita McKinna, and course coordinator Stanislav Cernega.

ECMI HEADQUARTERS

TRAINING COURSE AT IFA STUTTGART

Following successful cooperation in recent years, the ECMI conducted an inhouse workshop for the Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen (IFA) in Stuttgart. ECMI researchers, Stanislav Cernega and Viktoria Martovskaya, trained 20 employees from the cross-cultural department on minority issues in Europe.

The training involved a short introduction on the historical development of minority rights in Europe, followed by an overview on International/European hard and soft law relevant for the protection of national minorities, before being divided into separate sessions on a wider range of topics.

Following this intensive workshop, the participants should be able to understand the basic concepts related to non-discrimination and equality, plus possess a greater awareness of what constitutes discrimination and how it can manifest itself.

REGIONAL EVENTS AND MEETINGS

Throughout the past year the ECMI engaged with local actors at different events and gatherings. Some of them included:

- ECMI Head of Secretariat Ms. Maj-Britt Risbjerg Hansen regularly participated at the Language and Culture Steering Committee Meetings (Styregruppemøde Sprog & Kultur) in Padborg, Denmark
- ECMI Director Prof. Dr. Tove Malloy attended the 2020 conference at the state chancellery in Kiel
- ECMI Senior Research Associate Dr. Sergiusz Bober and ECMI PR and Communications Coordinator Katharina Schönharting attended the panel discussion of local stakeholders „Die dänisch-deutsche Minderheit: Ein Modell für die Zukunft Europas?“ in Berlin
- ECMI Senior Research Associate Dr. Sergiusz Bober attended Harro Hallmann's (BDN) presentation on German minority in DK (Baltic Sea Youth Dialogue)
- ECMI PR and Communications Coordinator Katharina Schönharting and a group of ECMI interns visited the BDN in North Schleswig / Apenrade
- ECMI PR and Communications Coordinator Katharina Schönharting and a group of ECMI interns visited the SSF in South Schleswig / Flensburg
- ECMI Senior Research Associate Dr. Sergiusz Bober attended the Deutscher Tag in Tinglev, Denmark.



ECMI IN THE FIELD

ECMI KOSOVO

The ECMI Kosovo is the principal non-government organization (NGO) engaged with the protection and promotion of the rights and interests of all minority communities in Kosovo. With the overarching goal to contribute to developing an inclusive, democratic and stable multi-ethnic society in Kosovo, the office has been active since 2004.



During 2018 ECMI Kosovo sustained its commitment to minority rights by fostering activities regarding human rights, minorities' communities, and other Vulnerable and Marginalised Groups (VMG). The continuous contribution of ECMI Kosovo to the Equal Rights for All Coalition (ERAC) since 2016, brought significant advances to enhance the human rights respect and awareness. In 2018, the Coalition continued to provide support to VMGs claiming their rights, develop research policy papers with concrete recommendations to government institutions and assist its implementation to human rights structures, as well as create promotional campaigns and materials to raise awareness of the role of civil society in democracy and human rights.

THE YOUTH DIGITAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP ACADEMY

The Youth Digital Entrepreneurship Academy is a cross-border initiative funded by the European Commission and aimed to foster digital networking and entrepreneurship and for socio-economic integration of youth in Kosovo and Albania. The academy grants incentives to young people from Prizren and Lezha, including women and members of non-majority communities, to develop their own professional capacities and opportunities for (self) employment.

During 2018, Expert/s have been recruited in Kosovo and in Albania and have identified the market needs of the several local business sectors that operate in Prizren and Lezha that would also profit from Web-design and IT services. The programs of the local vocational and educational schools are evaluated to set the starting point for the YDEA training program, filling the gaps in the current curricula, advancing and modernizing teaching methods. Furthermore, the training scheme has been developed and it will correspond to the needs of schools and local

ECMI IN THE FIELD

business sectors in the two regions as identified in the report. This training program consists of four modules: INTRODUCTION TRACK- Introduction to Computer Science, TRACK 1: Front-End Development, TRACK 2: Back-End Development, TRACK 3: Mobile App Development (Android Apps) and TRACK 4: Business Management.

EQUAL RIGHTS FOR ALL COALITION (ERAC)

In 2018, ERAC worked on more than 100 human rights and discrimination cases, while providing efficient legal aid and support to members of minority communities, women, youth and LGBTI community. This year we reached approximately 280,000 citizens in the territory of Kosovo. We managed to publish 9 policy reports and recommendations directed to the relevant government institutions, as well as 10 success stories on the violation of fundamental rights and freedoms in Kosovo. 9 conferences were organized to publish the policy reports. Apart from the organization of several on-the-job workshops for paralegals and capacity building activities for CSOs in the field, ERAC organized a study visit to Podgorica, Montenegro, for exchange experiences and practices with CSOs working there on the domain of law and fundamental rights. Lastly, within ERAC, ECMI launched different awareness-raising campaigns including the publication of promotional videos, brochures, leaflets, stickers, tote-bags, in-depth journalistic pieces and billboards. Moreover, ECMI Kosovo, through ERAC, joined forces with USAID Kosovo to promote access to free legal aid for marginalized and vulnerable groups.



SUPPORT TO EDUCATION IN THE SERBIAN LANGUAGE

In the course of the diploma verification mechanism established in this project, the Kosovo Government has stipulated a Commission that to date received 1,535 applications, of which 1,350 were approved, 144 are currently being reviewed and 38 diplomas were denied due to not falling under the mandate of the Commission. Taking into account the fact that the process of diploma recognition has been unresolved for the past 17 years, these developments represent a success story in Kosovo. ECMI Kosovo facilitates the verification process both as part of their mandate as the mediating party between the Commission and University of Mitrovica North (UMN), and also by providing technical support to the work of the Commission for the Verification of degrees. ECMI Kosovo has assessed the impact of the project and conducted three surveys in December 2016, in April 2017 and October 2018, in order to assess the impact



ECMI IN THE FIELD

of the verification process and to monitor how the successful applicants have used their verified diplomas. The third survey shows the following statistics: Out of 811 applicants contacted, 261 applicants applied for jobs and 99 applicants or 38% individuals of those successfully obtained a job. Many Serbs and those from the Serbian-speaking community who received diplomas from University of Mitrovica North were working in various public institutions in Kosovo. However, their status as permanent civil servants was unconfirmed, and they usually worked with short term contracts. The number of applicants who had this status in Kosovo Institutions and have verified their diplomas to confirm their status as permanent civil servants at various Kosovo institutions is 205 or 25%. In total 57 or 7% of applicants have verified diplomas in order to take further professional examinations in Kosovo (such as the bar examination, or professional licenses –notary, mediators etc.) A total of 334 or 41% verified their diplomas in order to complete their personal documentation so these would be ready should an opportunity arise for employment at Kosovo institutions. A significant number of these applicants work in Serbian institutions in Kosovo (schools, hospitals, education, etc.) and are waiting for further discussions and agreements between Kosovo and Serbia for their future work status in Kosovo.

Furthermore, ECMI Kosovo is working with the MEST and other relevant partners in education sector, to address both short term solutions – as it is the case with diploma verification process by expanding its mandate for verification of the high school and professional school diplomas – but also very importantly to finding long term solutions to the existing situation where education in Serbian language is completely separated from the education system of Kosovo, and therefore not recognized by it. It was agreed to work with Ministry of Education, for a longer term vision and strategy for finding a suitable solution to the current situation. In this respect, it is of paramount importance that the Kosovo Government and MEST have a clear strategy to the inclusion of education in Serbian language within the overall framework of Kosovo education system.



ECMI IN THE FIELD

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE ACQUISITION FOR MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS IN KOSOVO

In 2018 within the project Official Language Acquisition for Municipal Officials in Kosovo, ECMI Kosovo will continue with the organisation of Albanian and Serbian language courses in different municipalities in Kosovo. Also, the implementation of the project Developing Teaching Materials to Assist Official Language Acquisition by Municipal Officials in Kosovo will continue in 2018, which aims at providing new academic material for both Albanian and Serbian language courses.

SCALING UP THE RESULTS IN ENHANCING ACCESS TO AND RETENTION IN EDUCATION FOR VULNERABLE AND DISADVANTAGES CHILDREN

The actions of this project in 2018, coordinated and harmonized with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MEST), have been very successful with regard to the early identification of children at risk of dropping out and responding in real time to situations where abandoned children were identified by supporting and empowering school and municipal officials trained to find sustainable solutions to identified cases. Furthermore, the activities of the project have provided continuous support to the 10 municipalities covered for the technical and substantial use of the Early Warning System module. ECMI Kosovo have trained and supported school and municipal officials, and MEST in all actions undertaken to address the issue of out-of-school children.

DEVELOPING TEACHING MATERIALS TO ASSIST OFFICIAL LANGUAGE ACQUISITION BY MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS IN KOSOVO

During 2018, ECMI Kosovo has continued the implementation of the project 'Developing Teaching Materials to Assist Official Language Acquisition by Municipal Officials in Kosovo'. This project foresees new textbooks, along with the associated workbooks, as well as new teachers' manuals to be developed for both Albanian and Serbian language courses. The textbook materials are developed and correspond with the "Common European Framework of Reference for Languages" (CEFR) standards A1, A2 and B1. A total of 18 documents are produced and will be published during January 2019. Textbook materials are tailored for the needs of municipal administration officials working in Kosovo. This way, the teaching methodology and materials are overhauled for both Albanian and Serbian language courses produced for municipal officials working in mixed ethnicity municipalities, thereby enabling them to provide services in both official languages. This project is funded by OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities (HCNM).



ECMI IN THE FIELD

ECMI GEORGIA

The ECMI International division has been present in Georgia through its office in Tbilisi covering the South Caucasus region between 2004 and 2015. Throughout the years, the ECMI has focused its activities and programmes in the niches of Minority-Majority Relations, Dialogue and Consultation, Capacity Building and Policy Formation, Governmental and Institutional Support and Research and Documentation. In 2018 the ECMI has relaunched its activities in Georgia. With new initiatives, new representation and format, the ECMI will continue to promote minority rights in Georgia.

In February 2018, the ECMI has organized a workshop on “Interethnic Relations and Protection of National Minorities in Georgia” that gathered ECMI senior research associates and five external experts (two from Georgia, one from Armenia and two from Germany) to discuss the current state of affairs in the respective field and to elaborate the possibilities for further ECMI research and action in Georgia. The agenda of the workshop was formed around five of the most pressing issues, which ECMI has preliminary identified together with its partner organization, the Centre for the Studies of Ethnicity and Multiculturalism (CSEM): political participation, decentralization, education in and for a diverse society, challenges to the ratification of the European Charter for Regional and Minority Languages (ECRML), and gender and minorities. The focus in 2019 will continue to be on the research and mapping the developments in the identified areas, which is necessary to develop adequate ECMI actions in Georgia.

POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

National minorities remain quantitatively and qualitatively underrepresented in Georgian politics. The electoral system does not provide measures for fostering participation of national minorities, and the mainstream political parties only sporadically address the issues of interest for national minorities. Furthermore, forming political parties on ethnic grounds remains outlawed in Georgia. The ECMI will continue its in-depth analysis of Georgian electoral system and party system (especially in the light of the constitutional changes and the transformation of the electoral system) and their effects on participation of national minorities. The aim is to identify potentials for introduction of measures that can foster participation of national minorities in political processes and thus strengthen integration and cohesion of the society as a whole. Special attention will be paid to the instruments for minority participation at the local level of governance and the quality of local democracy in multiethnic municipalities. Initial research will be performed with regards to the participation of national minorities in public administration, both at the central and the local levels.

ECMI IN THE FIELD



DECENTRALIZATION

It is a common sense that decentralization fosters democracy and provides better quality of minority rights at the local level. With this presumption, the ECMI team will analyze the vertical organization of powers in Georgia, the competences of the local level governance, and the quality of minority protection at the local level. The aim is to identify how the ongoing decentralization reform affects the status of minorities, and which instruments can be imposed on the local level to foster participation of national minorities in public life and to improve the quality of implementation of minority rights at the local level.

EDUCATION IN AND FOR A DIVERSE SOCIETY

The starting assumption is that education in minority languages in Georgia is below average and that teaching of Georgian for students attending minority schools is insufficient and does not successfully mitigate the shortage of the state language proficiency among minority population. Although there is a general (political) will to improve the quality of minority education (seen primarily as a tool for integration), the effects of the imposed measures are rather weak (although they should not be underestimated; for instance, the “4+1”-programme for the enrolment into the universities). Several issues remain current: teaching of the state language, increasing the quality of education in minority languages, monitoring of the outcomes of the measures, programs and reforms in education, and participation of national minorities in adopting education policies (textbooks and curricula, teaching staff etc.). The issue of education is not limited to minority education, but it also covers the way minorities are presented in the curricula and textbooks developed for the majority and the promotion on diversity as a societal value in both majority and minority education. ECMI will perform a certain mapping of the current state of affairs in the area of minority education, and in the second step the mapping of the openness of majority education for minority issues and promotion of diversity of Georgian society.



ECMI IN THE FIELD



CHALLENGES TO RATIFICATION OF THE ECRML

The problem of the ratification of the ECRML has been persistent in Georgia for years. Although a ratification document has been drafted, its quality is disputed, and the issue remains unsolved. ECMI will further examine the current discourses about the ECRML (both among majority and minorities) and the potentials for the issue to get out from a dead end. It is crucial to promote the ECRML as a "tailor-made" instrument and to emphasize the benefits for all parts of the society (i.e. majority as well) from the linguistic diversity of the country. The ECMI will also work on the relationship between the state language and minority languages and will promote the principle that protection and promotion of the state language and of minority languages do not collide, but should be put in a fine balance to promote multilingualism.

GENDER AND MINORITIES

It has been generally assumed, that men still dominate the decision-making in the Georgian society and that women need additional support for empowerment. Furthermore, women belonging to national minorities are exposed to a twofold discrimination: because of their sex and ethnic affiliation. Despite this, or even because of this, women are often being neglected when developing minority-oriented policies and instruments, what makes gender mainstreaming extremely needed in dealing with national minority issues in Georgia. Against this background, ECMI finds it essential to perform a comprehensive research on the position of women belonging to national minorities in Georgia. Education, employment, discrimination, access to justice, just to name a few, are issues that define the position of minority women in Georgia, and will be subsequently analyzed in depth. Furthermore, the gender aspect will also be considered in all issues listed above, and it will be examined whether, and if yes to what extent the policies addressed to national minorities affect women.

DISSEMINATION AND OUTREACH

AT KOMPAGNIETOR FLENSBURG

Working on the European level, and primarily concerned with policy relevant research and analysis, the ECMI is renowned for its unique expertise among its target audiences in academia and other relevant stakeholders. The ECMI, the leading institution on minority rights, focuses its work on geographical Europe, while introducing the example of the Danish-German border region and the model of Schleswig-Holstein on minority-majority relations and where possible, ensuring knowledge transfer between regions.

Over the past 20 years, our international team at the Kompagnietor has managed research and put into action projects in 15 different countries (with offices in eight of them at different times). Since the ECMI's establishment, the headquarters has hosted 231 interns and 27 visiting researchers from 55 different countries all over the world. Locally, the ECMI is engaged with providing information about minority issues to interest groups and visitors. Building bridges and establishing networks being some of its key goals, over the years the ECMI has hosted high-ranked delegations from different parts of world. During each visit, delegation members visit the ECMI at Kompagnietor to hear about our work and thematic topics of interest, and also, to visit relevant stakeholders in the Danish-German border region. In 2017, the ECMI organized and hosted two such visits.

EUROPEAN COMMITTEE OF THE STATE OF SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN VISIT

On 7 February 2018, the ECMI hosted the Committee on European Affairs of the State of Schleswig-Holstein at the Kompagnietor. With the start of a new legislative period, the members of the committee will familiarise themselves with the work of the ECMI and our current activities. The ECMI Director Prof. Tove Malloy and the research team presented the ECMI projects implemented in 2017.

The Committee heard about various projects, including those implemented in cooperation with the Government of the State of Schleswig-Holstein. In addition to being one of the funding parties of the ECMI, the government of Schleswig-Holstein is also an active partner and supporter of the ECMI's initiatives in the Danish-German border region and other regions.





DISSEMINATION AND OUTREACH

OSCE HIGH COMMISSIONER ON NATIONAL MINORITIES VISITS ECMI

On 28 and 29 of August, the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities, Ambassador Lamberto Zannier, paid a working visit to the ECMI. During his visit he held intensive discussions with the ECMI research team, addressing pressing minority issues in Europe and thematic issues that the international community faces in regard to improving relations between minorities and majorities in specific regions of Europe.

The High Commissioner also had the opportunity to meet unofficially with local stakeholders from the Schleswig-Holstein government, the Federal Union of Nationalities in Europe and the three national minorities in the Danish-German border region.

At the end of his visit, the High Commissioner expressed his appreciation for the invitation to come to the region and learn about the ECMI's important work all over Europe, and he praised the good minority-majority relations in both Denmark and Germany.



Visit by HCNM 29 August 2018

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VISITING GROUPS

In 2018, the ECMI team also welcomed the following groups at the Kompagnietor:

- Flensburg tourist guides visited the ECMI
- Visit by refugee teachers from Svendborg, DK
- The Committee of Europe at the Schleswig-Holstein land parliament is visiting the ECMI to learn about the work ECMI is doing
- Students visiting from EUC Syd
- The team of the High Commissioner on National Minorities (HCNM) visited ECMI and met with minority representatives.
- Visiting group from Austria/ Flensburger Turistinformation
- Presentation to group of Ethnologist students from Kiel / DK library

INTERNAL GUEST LECTURES

In 2018, the following lecturers visited the ECMI and gave presentations to our team:

- Head of division of the Schleswig-Holstein land Ministry of Education, Science and Culture Hans Staecker spoke about "Language Issues/Minority Educational System in Schleswig-Holstein" at the ECMI
- ECMI internal Workshop on Central Asia
- VHS Group Presentation
- Moldova workshop by Prof. Malloy
- Martin Jarrath / UNESCO Baltic Sea Project
- Chairman Jørgen Kühl Inaugural Lecture
- Workshop on fundraising (Dr. Zora Popova)
- Research Presentation - Jim Molos
- ECMI Public Lecture - Prof. Catherine Poujol
- Public Lecture "Minderheitenpolitik als Teil der Erinnerungskultur"
- Workshop "Historical Minority Research" Introduction
- Sonja Wolf in the frames of the Workshop "Historische Minderheitenforschung"
- ECMI Consultant Dr Kyriaki Topidi presentation on religion in education
- Alina Jašina-Schäfer, PhD presentation / Uni Giessen



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ECMI ON TOUR

Sharing expertise, presenting work, networking and partnership building – these are some of the reasons behind the busy travel schedules of the ECMI team. By attending, participating, and presenting at various events (conferences, trainings, seminars), the ECMI is spreading the word about minority issues in Europe and building networks for future cooperation:

Who?	What?	Where?
ECMI Project Research Associate Stanislav Cernega	Participating in launch of Centre of Excellence at Helsinki University	Helsinki, Finland
ECMI Senior Research Associate Sergiusz Bober & ECMI Junior Research Associate Sonja Wolf	Attending COST application workshop at Southern Denmark University	Sonderborg, Denmark
ECMI Senior Research Associate Dr. Zora Popova	Final GIZ Project Event and Workshop	Pristina, Kosovo
ECMI Communications and Outreach Coordinator Tamari Bulia	Final GIZ Conference	Skopje, Macedonia
ECMI Director Prof. Dr. Tove H. Malloy	61st ACFC Plenary	Strasbourg, France
ECMI Director Prof. Dr. Tove H. Malloy	FCNM Commentary book launch and Frankfurt University	Frankfurt, Germany
ECMI Senior Research Associate Dr. Zora Popova	European-Ukrainian Forum	Rzeszow, Poland
ECMI Director Prof. Dr. Tove H. Malloy	Workshop on Asymmetric Decentralisation	Padang / Jakarta, Indonesia
ECMI Senior Research Associate Dr. Zora Popova	Speaker at GIZ event on Decentralization in Ukraine	Kiev, Ukraine
ECMI Senior Research Associate Sergiusz Bober	4th European Congress of Local Governments	Krakow, Poland
ECMI Senior Research Associate Ljubica Djordevic	International Workshop on Constitutional Protection of Minorities	Trento, Italy
ECMI Senior Research Associate Dr. Zora Popova	Speaker at TAIEX event, Bulgaria EU Presidency	Sofia, Bulgaria
ECMI Director Prof. Dr. Tove H. Malloy & ECMI Senior Research Associate Sergiusz Bober	European Narratives of Crisis Conference	Helsinki, Finland
ECMI Director Prof. Dr. Tove H. Malloy & ECMI Senior Research Associate Ljubica Djordevic	20th Anniversary of FCNM Conference	Strasbourg, France
ECMI Director Prof. Dr. Tove H. Malloy	Speaking at Corsica Conference	Paris, France
ECMI Junior Research Associate Sonja Wolf & Project Assistant Polina Sulima	FUEN Congress	Leeuwarden, Netherlands
ECMI Senior Research Associate Ljubica Djordevic & ECMI Senior Research Associate Sergiusz Bober	ASN Conference	Graz, Austria
ECMI Senior Research Associate Sergiusz Bober & ECMI Junior Research Associate Sonja Wolf	ABS Conference	Vienna, Austria/ Budapest, Hungary
ECMI Director Prof. Dr. Tove H. Malloy	Attending 10th Anniversary of Bolzano / Bozen Recommendations	Bolzano, Italy
ECMI Senior Research Associate Ljubica Djordevic	Participation in OSCE HCM Roundtable on Access to Justice	Tbilisi, Georgia
ECMI Senior Research Associate Ljubica Djordevic & ECMI Junior Research Associate Stanislav Cernega	OSCE HCNM Roundtable	Chisinau, Moldova

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Who?	What?	Where?
ECMI Director Prof. Dr. Tove H. Malloy	Speaking at NGO Workshop on the cultural rights of the Afrikaans in South Africa	Pretoria, South Africa
ECMI Director Prof. Dr. Tove H. Malloy	Attending 30th Anniversary of German Federal Commissioner on National Minorities	Berlin, Germany
ECMI Director Prof. Dr. Tove H. Malloy	Speaking at European Parliament Sub-Committee on Human Rights	Brussels, Belgium
ECMI Director Prof. Dr. Tove H. Malloy & ECMI Senior Research Associate Ljubica Djordevic	Attending UN Forum on Minority Issues	Geneva, Switzerland
ECMI Junior Research Associate Sonja Wolf	Attending FUEN Forum on Minority Regions	Bolzano, Italy
ECMI Research Assistant Viktorija Martovskaya & ECMI Project Assistant Aziz Berdiqulov	Attending The Challenges of Engaging Europe's Breakaway States event	Brussels, Belgium

ECMI IN MEDIA

For 2018, ECMI decided to focus more on the expansion of our online presence. This was a successful step. On top of that various media outlets mentioned ECMI or talked about specific projects and events of the ECMI this year. The following media outlets have published about the work of the ECMI in their print and online issues:

Flensburger Tageblatt
Flensburg Avis
Der Nordschleswiger

ECMI ONLINE

For our news, updates and announcements, we regularly use various online media tools to disseminate information with our audiences. Blog posts on InfoChannel, informational pages on the ECMI website and social media engagement on various platforms have been successful throughout the past year. During 2018:

- Almost 60 updates have been published on the ECMI InfoChannel (www.infoecmi.eu), featuring news on ECMI publications, upcoming or past events, project developments and initiatives.
- We have sent out 3 newsletters to our networks, partners and voluntary subscribers.
- Social media engagement numbers have risen with a current status of:
 - 1001 Twitter followers (@ECMIFlensburg)
 - 6,415 Facebook Followers (/ECMIFlensburg)
- We have regularly updated photo galleries on the ECMI Flickr account and videos on the ECMI YouTube Account as well as on the Instagram channel. Our photo galleries capture most interesting parts of the ECMI events and activities.
- ECMI former colleagues, interns and affiliates are proud members of the ECMI LinkedIn Network, where we regularly share updates about different opportunities to join the ECMI team to 826 direct followers.



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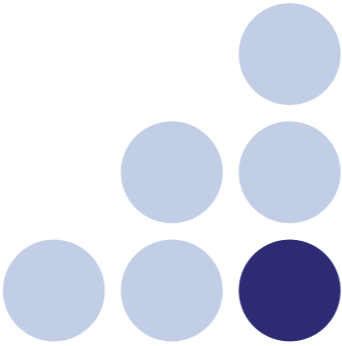
- Our mobile users can download the ECMI mobile app and browse through news and project information from their iOS and Android devices easily
- ECMI public events are now streamed LIVE and saved on Facebook. These events can be found under ECMI Videos on Facebook:
 - Final event “Youth for Empowerment” in Kyiv. The project is funded by the German Federal Foreign Office and is run in cooperation with the Ministry of Youth and Sports as well as the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine.
 - Panel 1-4 Book Launch Conference on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities: Taking Stock after 20 Years. The Conference gathered experts and prominent scholars on national minority issues and focused on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (FCNM). The event marked the 20th anniversary of the FCNM and the launching of a new publication titled “The Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities: A Commentary”, edited by Rainer Hofmann, Tove H. Malloy and Detlev Rein (Brill, 2018).

WHAT WERE THE MOST ENGAGING SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS IN 2018?

- Facebook: Our post about the Convention on behalf of the 20th anniversary of the FCNM reached 10489 users.
- Twitter: 5688 users saw our tweet about the ECMI participation in the convention of the 20th anniversary of the FCNM with a new publication.

The image shows two screenshots of social media analytics. The left screenshot is from Facebook, showing a post from the European Centre for Minority Issues (ECMI) dated 1 February 2018. The post text reads: "The Convention is one of the most important instruments in our daily work with promoting national minority rights and protection," states Prof. Tove Malloy, ECMI Director and member of the FCNM Advisory Committee. The ECMI joins the 20th anniversary of the FCNM, with a new publication. Below the text is a video player showing a conference. The analytics for this post show 10,489 reached people and 158 interactions.

The right screenshot is from Twitter, showing a tweet from ECMI (@ECMIflensburg) dated 1 February 2018. The tweet text reads: "The ECMI joins the 20th anniversary of the FCNM with a new publication: 'The Convention is one of the most important instruments in our daily work with promoting national minority rights and protection'". The analytics for this tweet show 5,688 impressions and 62 total engagements.

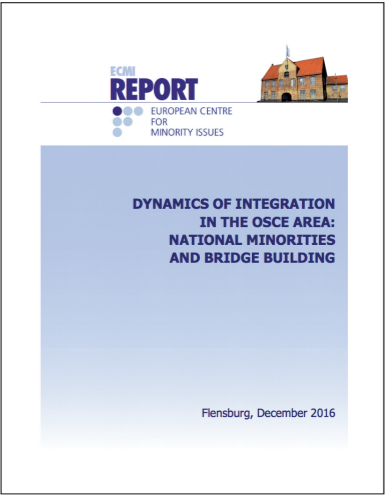


PUBLICATIONS



“DYNAMICS OF INTEGRATION IN THE OSCE AREA: NATIONAL MINORITIES AND BRIDGE BUILDING”

Do national minorities contribute to bridge building in international relations? If so, how, and what are some good examples of such cases across the OSCE area? These are the key questions of the report published in January 2017. The report was published in support of the 2016 German OSCE Chairmanship’s focus on “the situation of national minorities in times of crisis, their positive contribution to social integration and their potential to build bridges in international relations”.



JOURNAL ON ETHNOPOLITICS AND MINORITY ISSUES IN EUROPE (JEMIE)

- Volume 17 / Issue 1, General Issue
 - How could the Gagauz Achieve Autonomy and what has it Achieved for them? A Comparison Among Neighbours on the Moldova-Ukrainian Border (Simon Schlegel)
 - Is an Advisory Body for Aboriginal People in Australia Progress to Rectify Past Injustices of a “Toy Telephone”? Insights from European and Other Examples (Bertus de Villiers)
 - Promoting Multi-Ethnicity or Maintaining a Divided Society: Dilemmas of Power-Sharing in Kosovo (Bekim Baliqi)
 - Book Review: The Crisis of Multiculturalism in Europe: A History (Alan B. Anderson)
- Volume 17 / Issue 2, Special Issue on Minority Rights and the New Migration
 - Defining National Minority under Czech Law (Sylva Reznik)
 - Dayton and the Political Rights of Minorities: Considering Constitutional Reform in Bosnia and Herzegovina after the Acceptance of its Membership Application to the European Union (Jared O. Bell)
 - Managing Diversity in Deeply Divided Societies: The Quest for Self-Determination by the Afrikaans-Speaking Community in South Africa (Bertus de Villiers)
 - Book Review: Consociationalism and Power-Sharing in Europe (Sonja Wolf)





PUBLICATIONS

- Volume 17 / Issue 3, Special Issue
 - Preface (Tamara Hoch)
 - Overview: The Diversity and Complexity of Separatist Movements in Europe (Alan B. Anderson)
 - Pathways out of Violence: Desecuritization and Legalization of Bildu and Sortu in the Basque Country (Angela Bourne)
 - Between Consolidated Autonomy and Separatist Claims: a European Perspective on Present-Day South Tyrol (Katharina Crepaz)
 - The Discourse on Asymmetrical Devolution in Moldova: Gagauzia and Transnistria in Focus (Larisa Patlis)
 - Book Review (Alan B. Anderson)
 - Commentary (Alan B. Anderson)

ECMI ISSUE BRIEFS

- The ECMI Issue Brief #39 on "Moldova: Four Priorities for Mainstreaming Minority Rights", authored by Dr. Anita McKinna
- The ECMI Issue Brief #40 on "Building Bridges Within and Across Diverse Societies: The Role of States" authored by Dr. Zora Popova
- The ECMI Issue Brief #41 on "National Minorities and Socioeconomic Equality: Still Work in Progress" authored by Dr. Andreea Cârstocea
- The ECMI Issue Brief #42 on "The FCNM at 20: Is There Indeed a Crisis?" authored by Dr. Ljubica Djordjević

ECMI WORKING PAPERS

- ECMI Working Paper #105 on "Majorities and Minorities in Post-Soviet Space" by Federica Prina and Aziz Berdiquolov
- ECMI Working Paper #106 on "Local Bodies for Interethnic Relations in the Western Balkan States" by Dr. Ljubica Djordjević.
- ECMI Working Paper #107 on "(Un)Friendly School Environments? Bullying And Microaggressions As A Cause For Roma Children's Academic Underachievement" by Andreea Cârstocea
- ECMI Working Paper #108 on "Minority Communities In Contemporary Tajikistan. An Overview" by Aziz Berdiquolov
- ECMI Working Paper #109 on "Universal Basic Income as a Tool of Empowerment for Minorities" by Sonja Wolf and Craig Willis
- ECMI Working Paper #110 on "The Influence of Dialogue Projects on the Reconciliation Process in Kosovo: Give Peace a Chance? - The Case of the Youth Peace Camp" by Nevena Radosavljević
- ECMI Working Paper #111 on "Roma Policy-Making in Romania and Bulgaria: In Need to Prioritise Combating Anti-Gypsyism" by Andreea Cârstocea
- ECMI Working Paper #112 on "The Trembling Of A Complex Regional Consociation: 2018 Provincial Election In South Tyrol" by Guido Panzano

PUBLICATIONS

- ECMI Working Paper #113 on "The Mixed Tale of Croatia's Implementation Of The Fcnm: Successful Legislative And Institutional Implementation Marred By Local Administrative Resistance And Misapplication" by Dimitrios (Jim) Molos Ph.D., LL.M.
- ECMI Working Paper #114 on "National Minorities Vis-À-Vis Political Developments in Their Kin States. The Case Of Flensburg Avis Newspaper." by Sergiusz Bober

ECMI REPORTS

The ECMI Report #70 on "The Region of Central Asia: Introduction: Report on the ECMI Expert Workshop on Central Asia" authored by Sergiusz Bober, Aziz Berdiquolov and Craig Willis.

ECMI KOSOVO PUBLICATIONS

- ECMI Kosovo publishes policy briefs and monitoring papers on differing issues, under the title of ECMI Kosovo 'Political Update and Analysis' briefs. In 2018, these included reactions on number of events that took place in Kosovo, such as diploma verification, Serb-majority municipalities, and visa liberation. Such publications can be found online at: <http://www.ecmikosovo.org/en/Political-update-and-analysis>
- In addition, ECMI Kosovo also publishes Studies and Handbooks. Recent publications include:
 - "Implementation of the International Human Rights Treaties Named in the Constitution of Kosovo"
 - "Supporting Serbian and Albanian Language Proficiency Amongst Kosovo Municipal Civil Servants"
 - "Towards Equal Linguistic Quality of Kosovo Legislation into Albanian and Serbian Language - A Step in Filling the Gap in the Implementation of the Law on the Use of Languages"
 - "Enhancing Inclusive Education For All In Kosovo"
 - "Civil servant training programs and capacity building on the rights of the non-majority communities and non-discrimination in Kosovo"
 - "The people in between: The future of citizenship and freedom of movement of Kosovo Serbs and other non-majority communities"

All can be found online at: <http://www.ecmikosovo.org/en/Studies-and-handbooks>

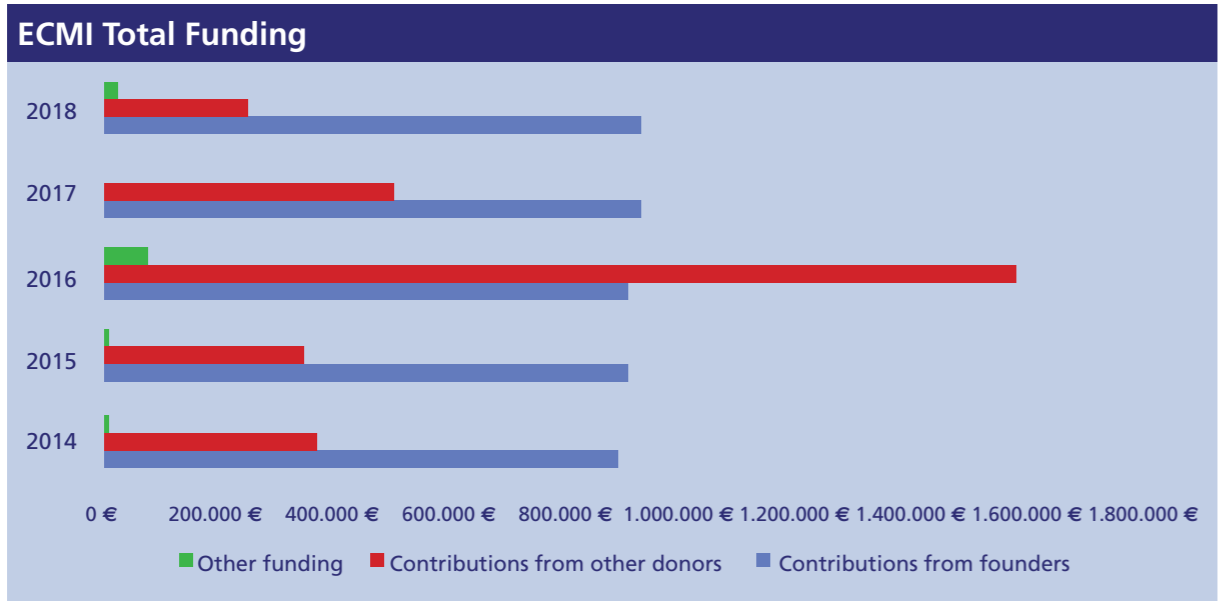
OTHER

"The Decade of Roma Inclusion: Origins, Actors, and Legacies" was the title of the article in the special issue of the European Education, published with the ECMI support. The Article was authored by Christian Brüggemann (Humboldt University of Berlin) and Eben Friedman (European Centre for Minority Issues).

www.ecmi.de
www.infoecmi.eu



FINANCES

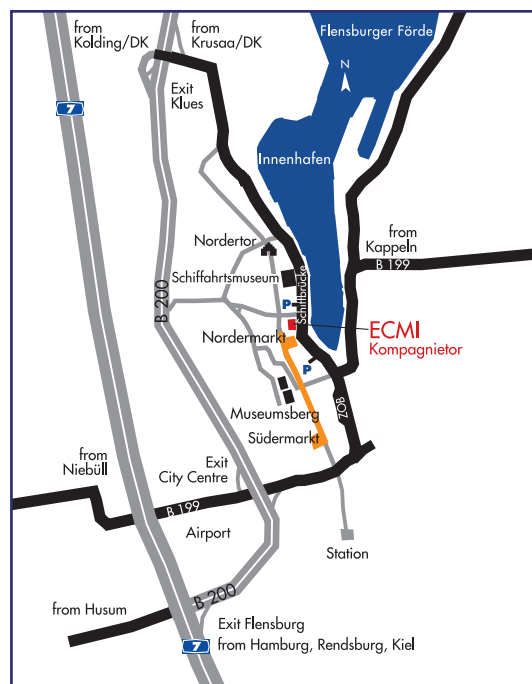


FINANCES

In 2018, the ECMI was supported by the Kingdom of Denmark (50%), the German Ministry of interior (27%) and the State of Schleswig Holstein (23%) with an annual (stable) contribution of 926.000 € in total.

In addition, ECMI received external funding for projects as follows:

ECMI Externally Funded Projects 2018				
Responsible	Donor Institution	Project Title	Grant size	Timeframe
ECMI HQ	Erasmus + Programme of the European Commission	Diversity Management for teachers (TiD/TeachD)	194.000,00 €	2016-2018
ECMI HQ	Erasmus +	Boosting European Security Law and policy, workshop on data protection	6.048,00 €	2019
ECMI HQ	Centre Maurits Coppetiers	ECMI Summer School in Brussels	7.245,00 €	2018
ECMI HQ	CoE	Study "Strengthening the protection of national minorities in Ukraine"	10.000,00 €	2018
ECMI HQ	Auswärtiges Amt Germany	Training for Empowerment in Ukraine	44.958,00 €	2018
ECMI HQ	GIZ	Development for Diversity in Ukraine	471.000,00 €	2018-2019
ECMI HQ	University of Swansea	Master Course Module	16.000,00 €	2018
ECMI HQ	OSCE Academy of Bishkek	Master Course Module	13.800,00 €	2018
ECMI Kosovo	EU Office in Kosovo IPA funds	Equal Rights for All Coalition	1.110.928,00 €	2015-2019
ECMI Kosovo	EU Office in Kosovo IPA funds	Support for Education in Serbian Language in Kosovo	678.957,80 €	2016-2019
ECMI Kosovo	MFA Norway/ Norwegian Embassy	Support to Implementation of Agreements reached in Brussels Dialogue	375.300,00 €	2018-2020
ECMI Kosovo	OSCE/ HCNM	Developing Teaching Materials to Assist Official Language Acquisition	35.300,00 €	2018
ECMI Kosovo	UNICEF	Enhancing Access to and Retention in Education for children Phase III	52.700,00 €	2018-2019
ECMI Kosovo	EU Delegation in Albania	Fostering Youth development and employment Lezha and Prizren	546.000,00 €	2018-2022



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