



EUROPEAN CENTRE
FOR
MINORITY ISSUES

20

21

ANNUAL REPORT

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The ECMI's 25th anniversary year was one filled with both commemoration of the past and innovation for the future. Anniversary initiatives like the ECMI's publication bundles attested to the Centre's rich legacy of scholarship. Meanwhile, novel research topics like minorities and the digital paradigm spoke to emerging trends in the field. A dramatic increase in the Centre's funding from our Founders also testified to the ECMI's continued relevance for the study of minority issues.

PROF. DR. JØRGEN KÜHL
CHAIR, ECMI EXECUTIVE BOARD

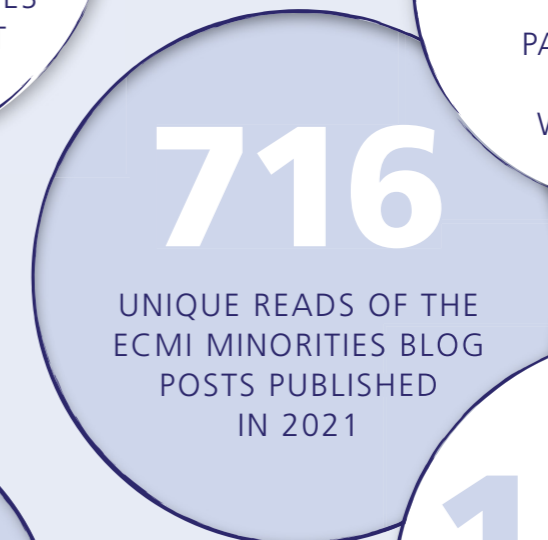


The scope of the ECMI's activities continued to grow in 2021. From new electronic media outputs (webinars and interviews) to novel publications (Minorities Blog) and additional regional networks. The growth in the ECMI has been very gratifying, despite the difficulties of the COVID-19 pandemic. New researcher staff coming to the ECMI in 2021 and 2022 will take this rejuvenation even further.

PROF. DR. VELLO PETTAI
ECMI DIRECTOR

2021

IN NUMBERS



HIGHLIGHTS

2021



7 APRIL

ECMI ONLINE TALKS

The first ECMI Online Talk was held and involved an international panel of experts discussing securitisation of the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on minorities. (see Page 31)



3-4 JUNE

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

The conference entitled “Minorities and Self-Determination – 100th Anniversary of the Post-World War I Plebiscites” was co-organised by the ECMI and the Danish Central Library for South Schleswig and was part of the 100th anniversary celebrations of the border settlement between Denmark and Germany. (see Page 20)



8 AUGUST

JEMIE SPECIAL ISSUE

The special issue of JEMIE entitled “Minorities, European Security and Securitisation of Group Relations: Approaching Security from a Minor Perspective” was published. (see Page 32)



22-29 AUGUST

ANNUAL SUMMER SCHOOL

The 11th Annual Summer School (special theme: “Minorities and the New Digital Paradigm”) took place in Flensburg. (see Page 23)



17 AUGUST

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSIONER VISITS ECMI HQ

The ECMI welcomed the Federal Government Commissioner for Matters Related to Ethnic German Resettlers and National Minorities Dr. Bernd Fabritius at its headquarters. (see Page 11)



3 DECEMBER

ECMI 25TH ANNIVERSARY

To celebrate its 25th anniversary, the ECMI created various celebratory activities including an Anniversary reception with high-ranking guests. (see Page 16)

CLUSTER ACTIVITIES

The core of the ECMI's research activity is organised across distinctive analytical-conceptual clusters. This delineation is a trademark aspect of the Centre's approach to minority issues. While some ECMI projects are carried out across clusters each cluster itself has a responsibility to craft and implement its own research agenda. Such activities may include in-house workshops, conference organizing, field research, network building or teaching.

CULTURE AND DIVERSITY

In 2021, the Culture and Diversity Cluster projected its work in three equally timely and challenging thematic areas: the first focused on the connection between minority identity with digitalization. Largely in development, this theme considered legal, political, ethical and other aspects of digitalization for minorities, in light also of gender, race, class, ethnicity or sexuality. The Cluster launched a network of interdisciplinary research on the narrower field of religious identity in the digital space organizing a workshop and a joint publication activity. The second area of Cluster focus was dedicated to the study of minority-related collective action within social justice activism. Combining a workshop with a planned edited volume, this research reflected on multiple understandings of processes of social change from a comparative minority perspective. The third theme that dominated the Cluster's work was centred on the relevance and positionality of minority groups for diversity management purposes in multicultural societies. The aim remains to move beyond narrow grounds of discrimination in order to understand more holistically the concepts of minority disadvantage and connect it with processes of recognition of minority groups. For this, the Cluster was engaged in a variety of activities such as external report drafting and an edited volume.



CLUSTER HEAD: KYRIAKI TOPIDI

CLUSTER HIGHLIGHTS:

- Completion of the Expert Report on Germany for the Global Pluralism Index Project
- Expert Workshops "Minority Rights and Social Movements" and "Religious Identity in the Digital Space"
- Kyriaki Topidi's chapter on "Accountability in the globalized digital age: online content moderation & hate speech in the EU" in the book "Accountability and the Law: Rights, Authority and Transparency of Public Power" by P. Mikuli and G. Kuca published by Routledge

CONFLICT AND SECURITY

The notion of securitisation has long been a central research paradigm in international relations and security studies. The Conflict and Security cluster focused in 2021 on applying this framework to minority issues, both within the context of the COVID-19 pandemic as well as more broadly. The approach was motivated by recent work on human security, securitisation and minorities, as well as the concept of "security in the vernacular" coined in the field of development studies. Of particular interest was how minorities perceive (in)security and why societies and states perceive minorities as a security threat, and the effects of this securitisation on government policies, formal and informal group relations and new forms of (ethnic) tolerance. The discussion of securitisation of minorities aimed to contribute to ontological enquiry by moving the discussion outside of the rights-protection framework to acknowledge other modalities of the treatment of minorities.



CLUSTER HEAD: MARIKA DJOLAI

CLUSTER HIGHLIGHTS:

- JEMIE special issue "Minorities, European Security and Securitisation of Group Relations: Approaching Security from a Minor Perspective"
- Online Talk "COVID-19: Securitisation, Minorities, Diversity"
- Peer-reviewed article: Andrea Carlà and Marika Djolai, "Securitization of Minorities under Covid-19: Discourses, Practices, and Historical Antecedents", European Yearbook of Minority Issues, Volume 19.

EQUALITY AND INCLUSION

Socio-economic participation was the central theme of the Equality and Inclusion Cluster for 2021. The Cluster completed a special report on key policy areas impacting the socio-economic participation of national minorities that was commissioned by the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities (HCNM). This report then kick-started a series of other activities on the topic, including the appointment of the Head of Cluster, Andreea Cârstocea, to a special expert group for drafting a future set of HCNM guidelines concerning the socio-economic participation of national minorities. Likewise, the Cluster convened a scholarly workshop on the issue in November 2021 that represented the starting point for two edited volumes focusing on socio-economic participation scheduled to be published in the next two years.



CLUSTER HEAD: ANDREEA CÂRSTOCEA

CLUSTER HIGHLIGHTS:

- Report on socio-economic participation of national minorities submitted to HCNM
- Expert Workshop "Socio-economic Participation of National Minorities"
- Draft book proposals for two edited volumes on socio-economic participation

POLITICS AND CIVIL SOCIETY

In 2021 the Cluster consolidated its presence in the field of minority language media (MLM) research through several initiatives. First, it actively disseminated the results of its 2020 project on the effects of the early phase of the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdowns on MLM outlets operating in 11 linguistic spheres. This was achieved through a series of conference presentations and invited guest lectures as well as publications. Towards the end of 2021 the project was expanded to include new linguistic settings in southern Europe along with a broader temporal scope. In terms of contributions to practice-oriented debates, the Cluster critically analysed policies concerning the mechanisms of minority recognition in six European and Central Asian countries, formulating recommendations aiming to enhance the level of protection of minority communities. Moreover, the Cluster was active in international initiatives trying to conceptualise a code of good practice concerning so-called sovereignty disputes, involving such cases as Catalonia or Scotland.



CLUSTER HIGHLIGHTS:

- Conference: “Minorities and Self-determination – 100th Anniversary of the Post-World War I Plebiscites”
- Online Talk: “Minority languages and media landscapes in Africa, Europe, and Latin America: Between global and regional dynamics”
- Peer-reviewed journal article: Sergiusz Bober and Craig Willis “The Covid-19 pandemic and minority language media in Europe: the effects of spring 2020 lockdowns”, *Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development*, 2021

JUSTICE AND GOVERNANCE

The concept of non-territorial autonomy was in focus of the Cluster in 2021. In the past decade, the concept of non-territorial minority autonomy has gained renewed attention in the academic literature. Although the developed theoretical models appear tempting for offering solutions for some challenging minority situations throughout Europe, the practical effects of non-territorial arrangements available in Europe are rather limited. The Justice & Governance Cluster sought to open the question of how to adequately assess the effectiveness of the bodies of non-territorial autonomy. To this end, the Cluster worked on the development of an assessment methodology and the creation of relevant indicators. The first data gathering occurred in September during a fieldwork visit to Slovenia (at the Institute for Ethnic Studies) and with funding from the ENTAN network. To enhance the ECMI's networks and facilitate research exchange, the Cluster also organised an online talk discussing the particularities of non-territorial autonomy as well as an expert workshop on national minority councils.



CLUSTER HIGHLIGHTS:

- Expert Workshop “Monitoring and Evaluation of Performance of National Minority Councils”
- Online Talk “Can Minority Non-Territorial Autonomy Work in Practice?”
- Research stay by Ljubica Djordjević at the Institute for Ethnic Studies, Ljubljana, Slovenia

ECMI IN THE REGION

The ECMI has always stood with one leg in the European-wide scholarly and governmental debate, while firmly planting its other leg in the German-Danish border region. In addition to strong connections with the four recognized minority groups of this area (Germans in Denmark, Danes, Frisians and Sinti & Roma in Schleswig-Holstein), the ECMI also works with regional authorities and collaborative networks.

EXPERT TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN LANDTAG

Continuing a strong tradition of scholarly-policy dialogue, the ECMI was again invited to offer expert testimony before the European Affairs Committee (Europaausschuss) of the Schleswig-Holstein Landtag during a November hearing examining various topics related to the Conference on the Future of Europe, including social cohesion, citizenship, and minorities.

In an address before the Committee, ECMI Senior Researcher Ljubica Djordjević emphasised the invisibility of the minority perspective in EU politics. As an initial solution to this problem, she proposed a strategy of small steps: ensuring greater visibility for national minorities in EU politics via ‘minority mainstreaming’, and by considering the effects of EU measures on national minorities. Her address was published on the website of the Landtag and also worked into an ECMI Minorities Blog post

TRAINING WORKSHOP FOR MINORITY ORGANISATIONS IN GERMANY

A second way the ECMI worked directly with regional minorities is through the Minority Council of Germany or Minderheitenrat. In June, the ECMI organised a training workshop for the minority organisations represented in the Council. Around 30 participants from minority organisations took part in the two-day online workshop entitled “The Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Implementation, Possibilities and Deficits in the Context of the Federal Republic of Germany”. ECMI researchers offered participants an insight into specific issues related to the Framework Convention and Germany, such as how state reporting takes place and what articles of the Convention have been under particular scrutiny vis-à-vis Germany. The workshop came after the ECMI completed its own shadow-report in 2020 on Germany's compliance with the FCNM.

VISIT BY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSIONER

On 17 August, Dr. Bernd Fabritius, the Federal Government Commissioner for Matters Related to Ethnic German Resettlers and National Minorities, visited the ECMI in Flensburg. The discussion between the ECMI Director and the Commissioner involved varied topics concerning the current state of minority issues in the German-Danish border region and Germany in general. The Commissioner emphasized the crucial role of the ECMI in future research on minorities and highlighted the importance of the German-Danish border region as a best-practice case. He supported the recent strengthening of the ECMI's regional focus. Both sides also expressed a willingness for future cooperation and the Commissioner invited the ECMI Director for a meeting in Berlin.



MINORITY COMPETENCE NETWORK

The ECMI was one of the founding members of the Minority Competence Network (Minderheiten-Kompetenz-Netzwerk), when it was created in 2020. The Network has a mandate to expand collaboration among the minority communities and other relevant institutions in the region. Financed primarily by the Land Schleswig-Holstein, the Network not only encompasses the key national minority groups, but also representative bodies like the Federal Union of European Nationalities (FUEN). In 2021, the ECMI contributed both by serving on the Network's governing board as well as by giving lectures at one of the Network's workshops on minority issues in the region.

ONGOING PROJECTS

Research and action-oriented projects are one of the core elements in the work of the research staff at the ECMI. Whether implemented jointly with other big research institutions or commissioned directly by the donors, they ensure the outreach and applicability of the ECMI's research.



COMPARATIVE AUTONOMY ARRANGEMENTS

Exploring and analysing autonomy arrangements is a long-standing research focus at the ECMI. In 2021, the ECMI continued this work, mainly through two projects: "Autonomy Arrangements in the World" and "ENTAN: European Non-Territorial Autonomy Network".

AUTONOMY ARRANGEMENTS IN THE WORLD

Time period: 2015–present
Funding: joint financing

This project is a joint endeavour of four European research institutions: Eurac Research (Italy), Babes Bolyai University (Romania), ECMI (Germany) and Romanian Institute for Research on National Minorities (Romania). The core of the project is an online compendium of territorial and non-territorial autonomy arrangements in the world. The website

offers several case-studies of autonomy arrangements in the world and tracks a growing trend in this field. During the current stage of the project, a comparative/horizontal comparison of the cases was carried out. The role of the ECMI in the project was to supervise case studies of non-territorial autonomy (NTA) arrangements.

ENTAN: EUROPEAN NON-TERRITORIAL AUTONOMY NETWORK

Time period: 2019–2023
Funding: mobility costs

ENTAN is an EU-funded COST Action aimed at establishing a network of researchers studying the concept of non-territorial autonomy (NTA). The ECMI is represented in the Management Committee by Ljubica Djordjević (member) and Kyriaki Topidi (substitute).

On 24–25 September, the "Second ENTAN Conference: Non-Territorial Autonomy as an Instrument for Effective Participation of Minorities" took place in Budapest, Hungary. The varied topics were clustered in seven sessions with both Ljubica Djordjević and Kyriaki Topidi presenting in their areas of expertise. Ljubica Djordjević was also selected to be on the organising committee for the Third ENTAN conference, planned for May 2022. As part of the ENTAN's Short Term Scientific Mission programme, Ljubica Djordjević conducted a research stay in September. She was hosted by the Institute for Ethnic Studies in Ljubljana, Slovenia where she studied the non-territorial minority autonomy in Slovenia as a potential channel for effective minority participation. [\(See more on page 24\)](#)

GLOBAL PLURALISM MONITOR

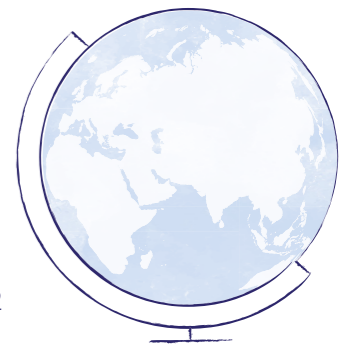
Time period: 2019–2022
Funding: joint funding

The Global Pluralism Monitor (formerly, the Global Pluralism Index) is an action-oriented tool that examines the treatment of diversity holistically and comparatively across the globe. The Monitor focuses on the interplay between institutional and cultural responses to diversity to evaluate inclusionary and exclusionary practices across society. It is developed by the Global Centre for Pluralism (Canada). In 2019, the Monitor was successfully piloted in a limited number of countries. These pilots were followed by a period of intensive methodological review to enhance the rigour of the Monitor's methodology/design. The project overall aims to produce country assessment reports for 30 countries by the end of 2022 and is developing the partnerships and infrastructure required to support this aim. Kyriaki Topidi was involved as an expert developing

(together with Viktoria Aygül) a report on Germany, which gives an overview of legal commitments (e. g. implementation of inclusive laws), the environment for claims-making and contestation vis-a-vis the state, pluralism in news media, group based inequalities, and intergroup relations. The report also included recommendations and scoring based on the assessment criteria of the Global Centre for Pluralism. The next phases of the project will include public engagement with the report's findings and its publication.

RESEARCH PROJECTS ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION AND CONSULTATIVE MECHANISMS IN CENTRAL ASIA

Time period: November 2021–Sept. 2022
Funding: €12,902



The OSCE's High Commissioner on National Minorities (HCNN) has supported the effective participation of national minorities in public, political, and social life as part of the office's ethnic conflict prevention strategies. In order to analyse the barriers for inclusion of minorities in Central Asia and to enhance their participation in political life, the HCNM commissioned the ECMI in November 2021 to conduct research and prepare in-depth reports on two topics:

- 1) Socio-economic participation of national/ethnic minorities in Central Asia; and
- 2) Consultative mechanisms for national/ethnic minorities in Central Asia.

The ECMI team consisting of Aziz Berdiqulov, Andreea Cârstocea (for the study on socio-economic participation) and Ljubica Djordjević (for the study on consultative mechanisms) started their desk research in November 2021 and submitted preliminary inception reports to the HCNM in December.

FINALISED PROJECTS

In 2021, the ECMI finalised two important projects, which serve as important consultative tools for the donors. They either provide a framework for future work in a certain area or function as a valuable policy evaluation tool for the decision-makers.



CONCEPTUALIZING THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION OF MINORITIES

Time period: December 2020–June 2021
Funding: € 20,650

Over the years, the OSCE's High Commissioner on National Minorities (HCNM) has issued a number of guidelines and recommendations to governments for addressing minority issues. One area, which has received less attention, is how to enhance the socio-economic participation of minorities. The HCNM therefore commissioned the ECMI to produce a policy study looking at not only a conceptualization of what socio-economic participation means, but also cataloguing existing best practice across the OSCE's member-states.

The ECMI put forth a project design encompassing seven relevant areas: education, healthcare, employment, housing, access to public goods, environment, and regional development. The project scoured

through a wide range of academic literature and policy documents from over a dozen OSCE countries. For each of the policy areas, drivers were identified that would bolster minorities' opportunities for socio-economic participation along with case studies of policies that have served as best practice.

The longer-term objective of carrying out these research activities was to provide a framework for the HCNM's future advice and assistance to participating States on issues relating to the socio-economic participation of national minorities. Based on this initial policy overview, the project leaders Andreea Cârstocea and Craig Willis, convened an expert workshop on the topic of socio-economic participation of national minorities (See page 21).

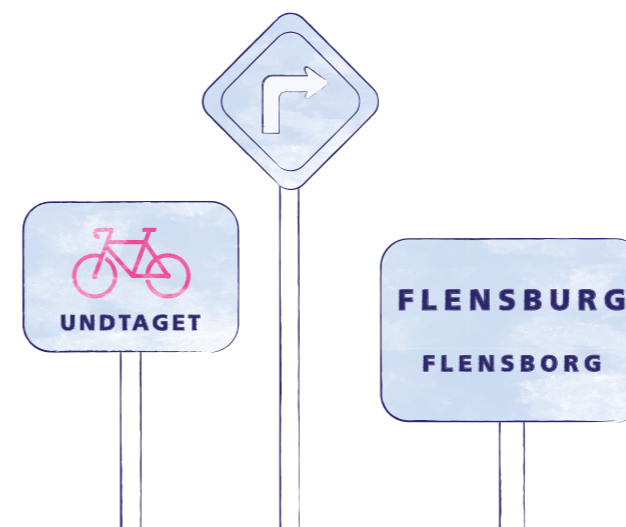
EVALUATION OF SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN LEGISLATION ON THE PROMOTION OF THE NATIONAL MINORITIES

Time period: December 2020–June 2021
Funding: € 24,856

To understand the impact of a 2016 law enhancing the rights of minorities in regional administration in Schleswig-Holstein, the State Chancellery of the Schleswig-Holstein Government commissioned in December 2020 a policy evaluation study, led by Prof. John Siegel (Universität Potsdam). With the ECMI and the Hochschule für Polizei und öffentliche Verwaltung NRW as partners, the research team developed a three-pronged approach, analysing policy documents, carrying out interviews and implementing an on-line survey.

The ECMI research team (consisting of Sonja Wolf, Viktoria Ayygöl, and Ljubica Djordjević) was responsible mainly for data collection and document analysis. This included designing the on-line questionnaire as well as conducting local interviews. During April and May 2021 the ECMI conducted final interviews with representatives from administrations at municipal (Kommune), district (Landkreis), and state (Land) level. The target groups included both regional and local authorities as well as judicial officials and childcare workers -- all in relation to the use of Danish, Frisian, and Low German in these bodies.

The findings were put together in a report entitled "Evaluation of the law on implementation of the constitutional mandate to strengthen national minorities and ethnic groups in Schleswig-Holstein". The report was submitted in June 2021 and incorporated into a series of reports issued by the government of the Schleswig-Holstein during the 19th election period of the Landtag.



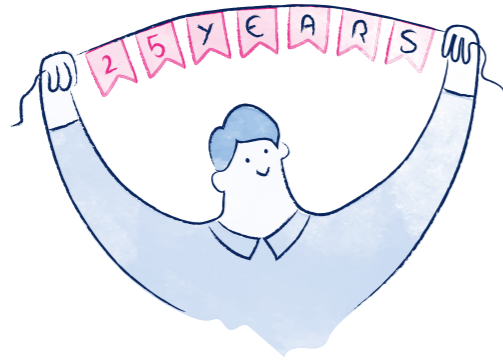
The main aspects covered in the report were:

- the use of Danish, Low German and Frisian languages both by the local population when approaching state authorities and by staff working for state bodies;
- the level of awareness among state officials and in the courts of the region;
- use of bilingual motorway signs;
- application of regional minority languages in day-care centres.

The report was made available online and accessible to the public (in German). Members of the ECMI team were also on hand in Kiel during a parliamentary discussion of these reports in the Landtag.



ECMI EVENTS



THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ECMI

The ECMI turned 25 in 2021. Over the past quarter century, the Centre had established itself as one of the leading organizations promoting high-quality research, policy-relevant analysis, training, and co-operation in the field of minority studies.

To celebrate this wonderful occasion, several different activities took place throughout the year.

ANNIVERSARY PUBLICATION BUNDLES

The ECMI commissioned an analysis of its entire collection of nearly 700 academic and policy-oriented publications, aiming to identify key analytical areas, where the ECMI's publications have had the most impact. Carried out by Pablo Gavira Diaz from the University of Kiel, the analysis singled out 10 themes, where across the last 25 years a clear thread of scholarly advancement can be seen thanks to the ECMI's publications. Pablo Gavira Diaz drew on all of the ECMI's outlets to find ways in which these works could be re-combined into special thematic bundles. For each bundle, a short introductory text was written, giving readers an insight into what the publications say about a given theme.

The bundles were implemented in collaboration with Brill, which kindly allowed selected publications from the European Yearbook of Minority Issues to be accessed for free on their website. The 10 bundles were released successively throughout the anniversary celebrations in 2021 and will remain available into 2022.

The bundles were presented as follows:

- **23 August:** Minorities in the Digital Age
- **6 September:** Non-Territorial Autonomy
- **20 September:** Self-Determination and Secession
- **4 October:** Minorities before the Court: Rights, Provisions and Jurisprudence
- **18 October:** Roma
- **1 November:** Minorities in the South Caucasus
- **15 November:** Minorities in the Western Balkans
- **29 November:** The Protection of Minorities at the EU Level: Policies and Initiatives
- **6 December:** The Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
- **13 December:** Threats to Minorities

ANNIVERSARY PANEL

On the day of the ECMI's anniversary, December 3, a special academic panel entitled "European Minority Issues: the Road Travelled and the Road Ahead" took place at the Danish Central Library in Flensburg.

The ECMI's quarter-century of work has paralleled very much the evolution of the contemporary European minority rights regime. Alongside European institutions, however, national governments, minority communities and academic scholarship have also been important in how this framework has evolved.



ANNIVERSARY RECEPTION

To celebrate fully the ECMI's founding in 1996, the Centre held an anniversary reception at its Kompagnietor headquarters on December 3. The Prime Minister of Schleswig-Holstein, Daniel Günther, congratulated the Centre on its achievements and emphasised its significant contribution to Schleswig-Holstein's pioneering role regarding the minority rights regime in the past 25 years. The Consul General of Denmark in Flensburg Kim Andersen and the President of the Flensburg City Council Hannes Fuhrig also participated. Together with representatives of the local minority organisations, politicians, affiliated researchers and former directors, they acknowledged the 25 years of productive research.



The ECMI's Anniversary panel was chaired by ECMI Director, Vello Pettai, and included the following speakers:

Prof. Dr. Rainer Hofmann

(former President of the Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities)

Ms. Linda Pieper

(Advisor on National Minority issues, State Chancellery of Schleswig-Holstein)

Mr. Loránt Vincze

(President, Federal Union of European Nationalities; Member, European Parliament)

Dr. Jennifer Jackson-Preece

(Associate Professor in Nationalism, London School of Economics and Political Science)

The panel discussion was broadcast live on the ECMI's social media and later made available as a recording.



ECMI TIMELINE AND INTERVIEWS

A special sub-page on the ECMI web page was created and devoted to the anniversary together with social media campaigns. This included an interactive timeline which outlined the most important milestones of the Centre from its foundation in 1996. The timeline was

also used for printed materials and shared within the ECMI network. A series of anniversary interviews with important partners and people closely associated with the ECMI was published on the website.

4 December 1996 Official opening of the ECMI in the Kompagnietor, Flensburg. Appointment of the first ECMI Director, Prof. Stefan Troebst.

May 1997 The ECMI holds its first scholarly conference entitled 'Ethnoradicalism and Centralist Rule: Western and Eastern Europe at the End of the Twentieth Century'.



April 1997 First ECMI Lecture delivered by Max van der Stoep, High Commissioner on National Minorities of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

October 1997 Formation of the ECMI Advisory Council encompassing twenty experts on minority issues from across Europe.

January 1998 Act of Foundation and Statutes are signed; the Centre's establishment phase is completed.

May 1998 First working paper released on 'Conflict in Kosovo: Failure of Prevention? An Analytical Documentation, 1992-1998', author Stefan Troebst.



July 1998 Queen Margrethe II and Bundespräsident Roman Herzog visit the ECMI.

May 2000 Prof. Marc Weller is appointed Director of the ECMI.

November 2000 The first issue of the Journal on Ethnopolitics and Minority Issues in Europe (JEMIE) is published.



January 2001 The first European Yearbook of Minority Issues is published in collaboration with Brill publishers.

June 2001 The ECMI's first field office is established in Pristina, Kosovo.

January 2003 A second field office in Tbilisi, Georgia is opened.

January 2006 The ECMI and the University of Flensburg hold a series of public lectures as part of their strategic cooperation.

May 2009 Prof. Tove H. Malloy is appointed Director of the ECMI.

December 2010 The ECMI hosts an international conference on 'National Minorities in the 21st century - New challenges for an integrated Europe', attended equally by the ECMI Advisory Council.

September 2011 The first Annual Summer School on National Minorities in Border Regions takes place in Flensburg. Ever since, the Summer School has been an integral part of the ECMI's yearly calendar bringing together young researchers from all over the world.



June 2021 The ECMI co-organises an international conference 'Minorities and Self-determination - 100th Anniversary of the Post-World War I Plebiscites' helping to commemorate the referendums that took place in the German-Danish border region.

March 2020 The appointment of Prof. Vello Pettai as Director.

November 2019 Launch of the ECMI Minorities Blog.

September 2018 The ECMI launches an action-oriented project with the U-LEAD donor consortium in Ukraine looking at decentralization reforms in the country and their impact on national minorities.

November 2016 The ECMI teams up with the Danish Central Library in Flensburg to re-locate the Centre's specialized collection of more than 3,000 books and materials on minority issues to the Library, making it more accessible to the general public.

July 2014 Through a special grant from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark, the ECMI launches a three-year project 'Eastern Partnership Programme', working with policymakers, minority community leaders and academic experts on minority issues in Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine.

October 2013 The ECMI publishes its first textbook 'Minority Issues in Europe: Rights, Concepts, Policy' as an outcome of its annual course on minority issues in Europe, which is taught by ECMI staff at the University of Flensburg.

July 2012 The ECMI organizes an anniversary conference 'HCNM 20 Years on' for the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities. High Commissioner Knut Vollbaek delivers the keynote address.

CONFERENCE

“MINORITIES AND SELF-DETERMINATION – 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE POST-WORLD WAR I PLEBISCITES”

Keynote Speakers:
Prof. Matthew Qvortrup and
Dr. Volker Prott
3–4 June

Co-organised by the ECMI and the Danish Central Library for South Schleswig, this conference was designed to echo the 100th anniversary of the border settlement between Denmark and Germany resulting from the outcome of two plebiscites held in 1920 in Northern and Middle Schleswig. The aim of the conference was to draw attention to these plebiscites and the impact they had on national minorities in the relevant areas, alongside reflection on the notion of self-determination itself and legal frameworks concerning minority rights elaborated in the aftermath of World War I. The conference enhanced the comparative and interdisciplinary perspective in scholarly research on these issues.

The conference featured two keynote speakers. Professor Matthew Qvortrup delivered a lecture on Schleswig plebiscites in both historical and contemporary contexts additionally focusing on the role of emotional arguments, while Dr. Volker Prott examined the plebiscites from 1917–1923 as tools for contributing to the establishment of just and lasting peace.

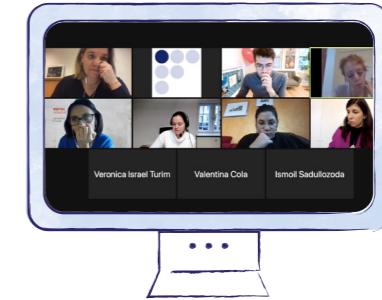
The conference's open call attracted many submissions out of which 17 were selected by the organisers and presented in the following panels:

- Panel 1:** Self-determination: the concept and its historical contextualizations
- Panel 2:** Plebiscites as a tool for self-determination in 1920–21
- Panel 3:** Minority treaties as a consequence of the Versailles Peace Conference
- Panel 4:** Post-plebiscitary territories as living spaces between the two World Wars
- Panel 5:** Plebiscites, referenda and self-determination in current contexts
- Panel 6:** Concluding discussion

A conference volume will be prepared in 2022.

ECMI EXPERT WORKSHOPS

By bringing together select specialists for policy horizon-scanning, joint publications or research exchanges, expert workshops at the ECMI spread the word about minority issues in Europe and create new linkages for future cooperation. In 2021, the ECMI organised the following expert workshops:



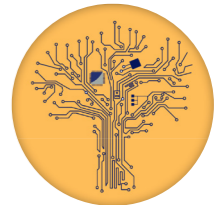
MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF PERFORMANCE OF NATIONAL MINORITY COUNCILS

Convener: Ljubica Djordjević
21 April

The workshop explored possibilities for the monitoring and evaluation of performance (functionality and/or impact) of national minority councils in five countries: Croatia, Hungary, Montenegro, Serbia, and Slovenia. The focus on these five countries came from conceptual similarities between their minority institutions, which stem from some sort of a domino-effect and “institutional transplantation” built on the Hungarian model of 1993.

RELIGIOUS MINORITIES IN THE DIGITAL SPACE

Convener: Kyriaki Topidi
27 October



The workshop reflected on the varied ways in which the digital evolution affects individuals and groups belonging to minorities in the quality and quantity of their human expressions. The struggles linked to understanding the challenges of digitalisation for minority identities were a core focal point of the discussion.

SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND MINORITY RIGHTS

Convener: Kyriaki Topidi
20–21 May

The core thematic focus of this interdisciplinary event was to address, compare and explain how local/national actors use international minority rights norms to pursue their agendas. With the help of rich disciplinary accounts ranging from anthropology, sociology, law, political science and gender studies, workshop participants showcased a variety of perspectives on how social mobilization happens in relation to minority rights across the globe as well as the ambivalence of its impact.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION OF NATIONAL MINORITIES

Conveners: Andreea Cârstocea and Craig Willis
11–12 November



The workshop reflected on the scope of the right of national minorities to socio-economic participation, as well as on the historical and political contexts that have led to the current status quo in the legal realisation of this right. The workshop was both a follow-up to a policy report prepared for the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities as well as a lead-in to a scholarly volume on the topic in 2022.



EDUCATION & TRAINING

The core element of the ECMI's commitment to teaching and education continued to be our Annual Summer School on National Minorities in Border Regions. Alongside this independent initiative, however, ECMI staff also contributed to teaching and student advising at other universities and partners.



ANNUAL SUMMER SCHOOL

The Annual Summer School on National Minorities in Border Regions entered its 11th year in 2021. The Summer School took place at the Danish Central Library in Flensburg on 22–29 August. Taking into account the Covid-19 pandemic and the growing use of online tools, the Summer School's topic – 'National Minorities and the New Digital Paradigm' – could not have been more timely. Echoing also previous years of collaboration, the Summer School was co-organised with the Coppieters Foundation.

During eight days, 23 participants were treated to a mixture of lectures, workshops, panel discussions, site visits and social gatherings. While the range of participants continued to be very broad, this year's Summer School also benefited from closer recruitment cooperation with the University of Mainz and the University of Jena, both of whom send large groups of dedicated students.

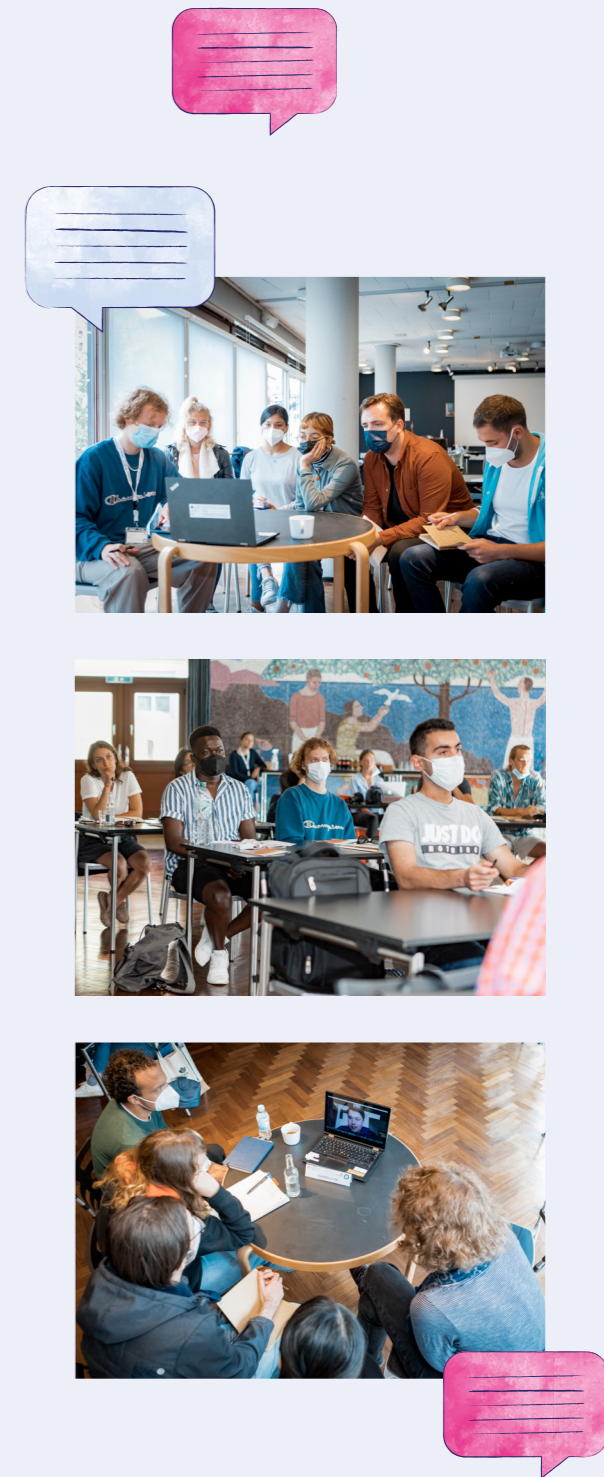
The lecturers and trainers at the Summer School were equally diverse. Besides the ECMI's own staff, many external guests also shared their expertise representing different EU initiatives or human rights organizations such as the MAMA (Measuring anti-Muslim Attacks) or the No Hate Speech Network. Local minority experts were also involved; for example, Hauke Heyen, a Frisian researcher at the Europa-Universität Flensburg and Gwyn Nissen, editor-in-chief of the local minority newspaper Nordschleswiger.

Site-visits included a day trip to Denmark, where participants went to Apenrade to visit the main community house of the German minority and Sønderborg, where the German historical museum is located.

GRADUATE TEACHING

For several years, the ECMI has been an integral part of the European Studies MA programme at the Europa-Universität Flensburg (EUF). Mainly involved with the Culture and Diversity module of the programme, the ECMI has continually offered a course on the European minority rights regime. During the 2021/22 Winter semester, the ECMI offered a new course on

Comparative Ethnopolitics taught by Director Vello Pettai. The course examined different ethnopolitical regimes that exist in the world (ranging from consociationalism to apartheid) and their impact on minorities. In addition, ECMI staff served as thesis advisors for students at the EUF and at Hamburg University.



NETWORKING

Sharing expertise, presenting work, networking and partnership building – these are the heart of an intellectual community. By attending, participating in, 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.

RESEARCH STAYS

KYRIAKI TOPIDI

Host institution: International Institute for the Sociology of Law of Oñati, Basque Country, Spain
Time frame: 15 June–15 July

This research visit served a double aim. The first was to conduct research at the Institute's rich collection of socio-legal studies in order to produce a book proposal for an post-workshop volume on Minority Rights and Social Movements (See page 21). The second aim was to conduct research on the topic of "Challenging State Monopoly in Diversity Management: The Relevance of a Multi-actor Approach in Protecting Religious Minorities in Europe". This theme will be the object of a chapter contribution to a volume edited by Dr. Topida and Jessika Eichler on "Minority Recognition and the Diversity Deficit: Comparative Perspectives" (under contract with HART Publishers). The research visit further resulted in a preliminary agreement between the ECMI and the IISL to hold the 2022 ECMI Summer School at the Institute in Oñati.

LJUBICA DJORDJEVIĆ

Host institution: Institute for Ethnic Studies, Ljubljana, Slovenia
Time frame: 1–30 September

Contributing to the work of the European Non-Territorial Autonomy Network (ENTAN), Ljubica Djordjević conducted a research stay in Slovenia, where she carried out more than 20 interviews with representatives of the Italian and Hungarian minorities. The fieldwork examined the everyday functioning of these communities' self-governing bodies in Slovenia. In addition, the interviews helped to test a draft set of indicators seeking to measure the comparative effectiveness and performance of such bodies. The main conclusion

from the stay was that the framework's five overarching clusters are well designed, although individual indicators will need to be fine-tuned depending on the specific circumstances of a case-study or institutional setup.

CRAIG WILLIS

Host institution: Universidad Carlos III de Madrid (UC3M), Madrid, Spain
Time frame: several trips between September–December 2021

ECMI Researcher Craig Willis spent part of the Autumn 2021 semester in Spain on a research stay related to his PhD research on minority language media. Hosted by Universidad Carlos III de Madrid (UC3M), as a visiting PhD researcher, Willis travelled to Catalonia, the Basque Country and Galicia on three separate field research trips between September and November. The trips were funded by a research grant at the Interdisciplinary Centre for European Studies (ICES) at the Europa-Universität Flensburg, where his PhD is registered. The topic of Willis's thesis concerns minority language media, and his field research led him to interview a range of scholars and practitioners, including at the three public broadcasters in focus: TV3, EITB and TVG. These cases will eventually form a comparison to Irish, Welsh and Scottish Gaelic broadcasters in the British Isles. Alongside these field research trips, Willis also networked with fellow PhD students at the Social Sciences Department of UC3M, gaining useful recommendations on literature and Spanish datasets as well as presenting an overview of his research at their PhD research seminar series.

RESEARCH SEMINAR

In 2021, the ECMI opened a second year of its Research Seminar, serving as a forum for the exchange of scholarly work and ideas. The Seminar is designed with an alternating schedule of in-house and external presenters, thereby allowing ECMI staff to learn about the work of both each other and top scholars in the field. Interns and visiting scholars were also invited to participate and present.

The full schedule of presentations during 2021 was as follows:

Andras Pap

"Ethno-racially targeted penal populism revisited in the Covid-crisis: The case of policing Roma communities"

Caitlin Boulter

"New minorities and the nation-state: sociological explorations of Germany's minority rights debate"

Oana Buta

"Roma nomination: Power and Electoral Gains"

Ljubica Djordjević

"An Outline for Systematic and Evidence-Based Monitoring of the Functioning of the National Minority Councils in Serbia"

Ivan Laskarin

"Irredentist conflicts"

Marika Djolai

"Securitisation of minorities in Europe"

Hauke Heyen

"Small language in a big audience: usage of North Frisian in social media"

Aziz Berdiqulov

"Civil Society and COVID-19 Crisis Management in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan"

Pablo Gavira Diaz

"A Contemporary View of the Cultural Dimension of Genocide: Lemkin's Legacy"

Sonja Wolf

"Minority Agency in Regional Development: The German Minority in Denmark"

Mariya Riekkinen

"Mitigating vulnerability of national minorities in situations of emergency: case study of the Russian-speakers in Finland vis-à-vis the observance of social norms during the COVID19 pandemic"

Elnur Sirinli

"Global actors in Conflict resolution: Cyprus and Nagorno-Karabakh"

Christof Roos

"How to Handle the Exodus? Policy Responses to EU Freedom of Movement from Eastern Europe"

Vello Pettai

"Minorities and E-governance"

Viktoria Aygül, Kyriaki Topidi

"Global Pluralism Monitor Project: Country Report on Germany"

Christofer Berglund

"Planning for Integration: Landscapes of Power in Borderland Governance"

Nathalie Baumgart

"The European Court of Human Rights and the Protection of National Minorities – are we there yet?"

John Ishiyama

"Organization and the structure of opportunities: Understanding the success of ethnic parties in postcommunist Europe"

Marta Anzilotti

"Impact of the Covid19 pandemic on the education of Roma children"

CONFERENCES

In 2021 ECMI staff participated in the following conferences:

Marika Djolai presented a paper "Securitisation of Minorities in Europe" at the Institute for Peace research and Security Policy, University of Hamburg, online, 27 January.

Kyriaki Topidi participated as an expert and presented a paper "From Multiculturalism to Interculturalism: Approaches to Religious Diversity Management in Education in England" in the expert workshop "Alternative Approaches to Ethno-Cultural Diversity Management at Sub-National Levels: Ethiopia in Comparative Perspective", online, 13 March.

Kyriaki Topidi presented a paper "Online Forms of Racism in Europe" at the European Youth Parliament – Germany / Regional Meeting, online, 15 March.

Craig Willis presented two papers 1) "The Impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on Minority Language Media in Europe: A comparative analysis", and 2) "Impact of the European Structural and Investment Funds in the traditional minority language speaking areas of Celtic nations" at the XVIII International Conference on Minority Languages, online, 24–26 March.

Sergiusz Bober presented a paper "On the efficiency of monitoring mechanisms: minority language media in ECRML and FCNM" at the XVIII International Conference on Minority Languages, online, 24–26 March.

Sergiusz Bober presented a paper "Does ethnic kinship matter in electoral politics? The evidence from four European examples" at the Political Science Association Annual International Conference – Belfast, online, 29–31 March.

Craig Willis presented his paper "Identifying contemporary aims of minority communities at the European Union level through the lens of the Minority SafePack Initiative" in the Abo Akademi - Annual Minority Seminar Minority Experiences and European Narratives: Contemporary and Historical Perspectives", online, 14–16 April.

Ljubica Djordjević presented a paper "An Outline for the Assessment of Minority Representative/Participatory Bodies" at the international conference "The Legal Situation of national minorities in Lithuania in the Context of National and International law" organised by the European Foundation of Human Rights in Vilnius, Lithuania, online, 26 May.

Sergiusz Bober and Craig Willis delivered a guest lecture "Minority Language Media in Europe and the Covid-19 pandemic: A study of 10 linguistic spheres" at the KURS-Kolloquium, Europa-Universität Flensburg, online, 9 June.

Kyriaki Topidi presented her paper "Deconstructing State-Centric Legal Spaces in Europe: The Legacy and Implications of the ECtHR's Molla Sali Case" at the 7th Juris Diversitas General Conference, online, 9–11 June.

Craig Willis presented the paper "Universal Basic Income as a Tool against Minority Marginalisation" (co-authored with D. Schweikard) at the European Network in Universal and Global History Congress 2021, online, 15–18 June.

Craig Willis presented his paper "The Minority SafePack Initiative and an EU-wide Basic Income: A combination to address minority issues?" at the 27th International Conference of Europeanists organised by the Council for European Studies, online, 21–25 June.

Kyriaki Topidi presented two papers 1) "Accountability in the globalized digital age: online content moderation & hate speech in the EU", and 2) "Hate Speech and Religious Minorities in the Digital Age" at the ICON Mundo Conference, online, 6–9 July.

Ljubica Djordjević presented her paper "Linguistic nationalism: legal status of languages/"languages" that emerged from Serbo-Croatian" at the Nitobe Symposium on "Language, Conflict and Security", online, 26–27 July.

Sergiusz Bober and Craig Willis delivered a guest lecture "Minority Language Media in Europe and the Covid-19 pandemic: A study of 10 linguistic spheres" as part of the Indigenous Language Media in Africa 2021 Research Seminar, North-West University (South Africa), online, 18 August.

Kyriaki Topidi presented a paper "Regulation of Muslim Religious Minority Groups and the European State: The Unique Case of Legal Pluralism in Greece" at the EASR 2021 Conference, online, 30 August–2 September.

Kyriaki Topidi chaired a panel and presented a paper "Women, Minorities and Traditional Governance" in the workshop "Traditional Governance and Women Network" at the North-West University, online, 2–3 September.

Vello Pettai delivered a lecture on "German Danish border region in comparative perspective" at the "Civil Society Dialogue" workshop organised by the Minderheiten-Kompetenz-Netzwerk, Knivsjberg, Denmark, 14 September.

Sergiusz Bober served as a discussant at the EurasiaLab & Fellowship Program "Transformation Processes in Eastern Europe and Central Asia – Presenting the Research Findings of the Eurasia Lab Fellows", online, 16 September.

Kyriaki Topidi presented a paper "Faith Education in Britain: A normative pluralist scenario in the making" at the 2nd ENTAN Conference, Budapest, Hungary, 24–25 September.

Ljubica Djordjević presented a paper "An Outline for Systematic and Evidence-Based Monitoring of the Functioning of the National Minority Councils in Serbia" at the 2nd ENTAN Conference, Budapest, Hungary, 24–25 September.

Kyriaki Topidi and Viktoria Aygül participated in the working groups of the workshop "Digitalisation and Ethics. Function" organised by the Humboldt Institute for Internet and Society (HIIG), Berlin, 7–8 October.

Viktoria Aygül and Polina Sulima conducted workshops on "The power of Youth Participation" within the project "diversityEUnited", 31 October.

Kyriaki Topidi participated as an expert in the Eurac webinar series "Federalism and the Law of Diversity: Islands or archipelago?", online, 10 November.

Craig Willis presented on the topic "Minority language media and the non-native speaking audience – a comparison of six spheres" at the Department of Social Sciences PhD research seminar, UC3M, Madrid, 30 November.

Aziz Berdiqulov presented his paper "Civil Society and the COVID-19 Governance Crisis in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan" in a workshop on "Civil Society and the Pandemic: Perspectives from Eurasia and the Caucasus", University of Portsmouth, online, 8 December.

Craig Willis gave a guest lecture "The Covid-19 pandemic and minority language media in Europe: the effects of spring 2020 lockdowns" for the NOR Research Group – University of the Basque Country, Bilbao, Spain, 10 December.

Ljubica Djordjević gave a guest lecture "Measuring the effects of the work of minority self-governments (national councils of national minorities) in the states formed on the territory of Yugoslavia" at "Regional Tea Party on Thursdays at 18.00" organised by the Academic Network for Cooperation in South East Europe, online, 16 Dec.



PARTNERSHIPS

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

Dialog Forum Norden
Europa-Universität Flensburg (University of Flensburg), Flensburg, Germany
Federal Union of European Nationalities (FUEN), Flensburg, Germany
University of Southern Denmark (SDU), Sønderborg, Denmark
DCBIB (Dansk Centralbibliotek for Sydslesvig), Flensburg, Germany
Akademie Sankelmark/ Europäische Akademie Schleswig-Holstein/Academia Baltica, Oeversee, Germany

At the national and international level, the ECMI continued to work with the following organizations, NGOs and universities involved with the protection of minorities.

Åbo Akademi University, Turku, Finland
American University of Central Asia, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
Coppieters Foundation, Brussels, Belgium
CSEM (Centre for the Studies of Ethnicity and Multiculturalism), Tbilisi, Georgia
EDRC (Ethnocultural Diversity Resource Center), Cluj, Romania
Eurac Research, Bolzano/Bozen, Italy
ifa (Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen), Stuttgart, Germany
OSCE Academy in Bishkek, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
Universidad Alberto Hurtado, Santiago, Chile
University of Bath, Bath, United Kingdom
University of Groningen, Groningen, Netherlands
Friedrich Schiller University Jena, Jena, Germany
University of Tartu, Tartu, Estonia
University of Trieste, Trieste, Italy

ECMI AND THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

ECMI AND CDADI

Ever since the Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI) was set up by the Committee of Ministers in 2019, the ECMI has been involved in CDADI meetings with an observer status. Ljubica Djordjević represented the ECMI in the meetings on 2–4 February and 15–17 June. The CDADI is an intergovernmental body of the Council of Europe and its main task is to review and steer the organisation's work in areas of equality for all and inclusion. The discussions among experts and governmental representatives focused on topics such as equality for Roma and Traveller women and girls, artificial intelligence in connection to equality and discrimination, or hate speech. A study on the active political participation of national minority youth in Council of Europe member states was also adopted.

ECMI AND ADI-ROM

For many years, the ECMI has been invited to participate as an expert institution in the Council of Europe's monitoring of Roma and Traveller issues. In 2020, this work was reorganised into the Council of Europe's Committee of Experts on Roma and Traveller Issues (ADI-ROM). ECMI Senior Researcher Andreea Cârstocea participated in the 2021 biannual meetings of ADI-ROM. Current issues debated in the meetings on 16–17 March and 27–28 October included the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Roma and Travellers and the member states' responses as well as debates on the causes, prevalence, consequences, and possible responses to antigypsyism. Another important matter discussed was the contribution of this body to the development of a new and comprehensive legal instrument on combating hate speech, to be developed by the Council of Europe Committee of Experts on Combating Hate Speech.

KOFRIES

(COOPERATION NETWORK PEACE RESEARCH AND SECURITY POLICY)

KoFrieS is a network of different academic institutions from Germany and abroad supporting the Peace and Security Studies M.A. programme of the Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy at the University of Hamburg (IFSH). In 2021, the ECMI continued hosting interns from the Institute and participated in the Institute's events aimed at attracting students interested in minority studies.



ECMI AND THE UN SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON MINORITY ISSUES

The ECMI has been cooperating with the UN Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues on various issues for several years. On 12 October, the current Rapporteur Fernand de Varennes and the Tom Lantos Institute co-organised the European Regional Forum on Conflict prevention and the protection of the human rights of minorities together with help from the ECMI and other institutions. The main task of the event was to inform the work and recommendations of the 14th session of the global UN Forum on Minority Issues. The forum brought together representatives from member-states, UN and regional organisations, civil society groups as well as minorities. The discussion was organized into several thematic sessions with the thematic session no. 3 entitled "Obstacles to implementing the rights of minorities and early effective conflict prevention" being chaired by ECMI Director Vello Pettai.

The UN Rapporteur also took part in an ECMI Online Talk which focused on the effect of the Covid-19 pandemic on the securitization of minorities. In his welcome speech, de Varennes stressed the disproportionate negative impact of COVID-19 on minorities and other marginalized groups.

COMMUNICATIONS & DISSEMINATION



ECMI IN THE MEDIA

The ECMI's work both locally and internationally has been reported on frequently by the three main newspapers in the region, Flensburger Tageblatt, Flensburg Avis and Der Nordschleswiger. In 2021, interviews with Executive Board Chair Jørgen Kühl

and Director Vello Pettai were the basis for several articles about the 25th anniversary celebrations. Another topic that caught the interest of the local press was the Annual Summer School, this time organised in Flensburg.

- Der Nordschleswiger, 25 August, „ECMI-Summer-School beim ‘Nordschleswiger’“
- Flensburg Avis, 27 August, „Studierende erforschen digitale Minderheitenkultur“
- Der Nordschleswiger, 31 October, „2 Millionen Kronen für Zentrum für Minderheitenfragen“
- Flensburg Avis, 1 November, „Mindretalscenter får nye millioner fra Danmark“
- Flensburg Avis, 27 November, „Jubilærende center øget fokus på grænselandets mindretal“
- Flensburg Avis, 27 November, „ECMI: Ny forskning i mindretal er nødvendig“
- Flensburg Avis, 3 December, „Delstatens og grænseregionens stolthed“
- Der Nordschleswiger, 4 December, „25 Jahre ECMI: Wo den Regierenden die Minderheiten erklärt werden“
- Flensburg Avis, 5 December, „Mindretals-centret er blevet voksen“
- Flensburger Tageblatt, 7 December, „Viktoria Aygül forscht in Flensburg über Hate Speech und Minderheiten“

ECMI ONLINE TALKS

The ECMI launched a new series of webinars called ECMI Online Talks bringing together experts and practitioners with a live audience through lively discussions and Q&A sessions. The Online Talks were organised as video-recorded panel discussions around a topic closely related to the research activities of the Centre. They allow participants to go deep into a certain topic or promote special research outcomes that have emerged. The Online Talks require pre-registration to be able to participate in the Q&A session, but are also live streamed on the Centre's social media and then available as recordings.

In 2021, the following Online Talks were organised:

- COVID-19: Securitisation, Minorities, Diversity, hosted by Marika Djolai, 7 April
- Can Minority Non-Territorial Autonomy Work in Practice?, hosted by Ljubica Djordjević, 9 June
- Minority languages and media landscapes in Africa, Europe and, Latin America: Between global and regional dynamics, hosted by Sergiusz Bober, 3 November

ECMI CONVERSATIONS WITH EXPERTS

The ECMI's other electronic media series "Conversations with Experts" was designed to provide in-depth video interviews with prominent experts in the area of minority issues.

The following episodes were published in 2021:

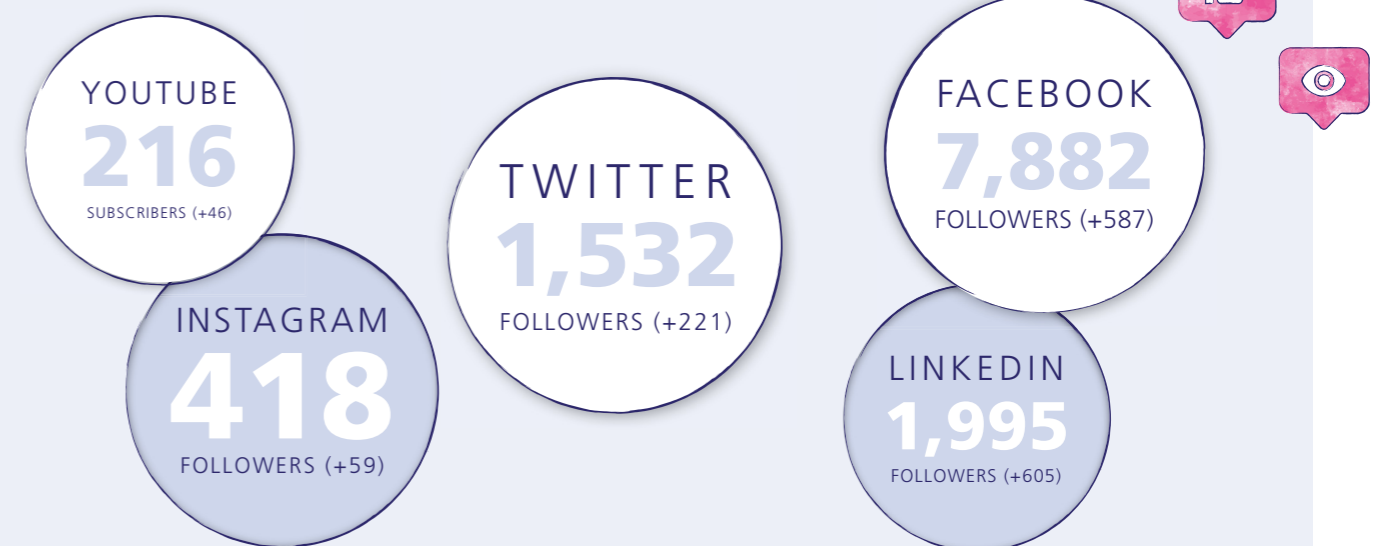
- Episode 4: "Groups in Conflict and Crises in 2020" with James Ker-Lindsay, Visiting Professor at the European Institute, London School of Economics and Research Associate at the Centre for International Studies, Oxford University
- Episode 5: "Danish Minority and Its Self-Perception" with Rejhan Bosnjak, Author of the book "Danskhed under forandring: Det danske mindretals selvopfattelse"

The interviews are available on the ECMI YouTube Channel as well as the website.



ECMI ON SOCIAL MEDIA

The ECMI is active and regularly interacts with the followers on the following social media (numbers as of 31 December 2021 compared to 31 December 2020):



PUBLICATIONS

The ECMI features a multidimensional publications portfolio, through which we as an institution contribute to the development of the academic field. With over 700 publications out under the ECMI name since our founding in 1996, the Centre has a rich heritage of scholarly input into minority studies. In 2021, each of our outlets had either multiple issues or article series. Most are available on the ECMI website.

JOURNAL ON ETHNOPOLITICS AND MINORITY ISSUES IN EUROPE (JEMIE)

VOLUME 20, ISSUE 1

Special Issue: Minorities, European Security and Securitisation of Group Relations: Approaching Security from a Minor Perspective

This special issue of JEMIE aimed to contribute to a better understanding of contemporary security challenges that minority communities face in the European countries, and different forms of securitisation they are exposed to. With the aim of offering new theoretical and practical approaches for research on the securitisation of minorities, the articles in this issue delved deeper into the role of politics, the state, and the rights frameworks, alongside exploration of how minorities perceive (in)security.

"Introduction: Fighting for Security from a Minor Perspective and Against Securitisation of Minorities in Europe", **Marika Djolai**

"On Security, Minorities, and Opportunistic Narcissism", **Stavroula Pipyrou**

"Fear of Others: Processes of (De)Securitisation in Northern Ireland", **Andrea Carlà**

"Theorising 'Good Personhood' in Rural Kosovo: Inconspicuous Coexistence and Local Serb Responses to Security and Identity Dilemmas", **Francesco Trupia**

"Populist Radical Right Parties and the Securitisation of Asylum Policy", **Helena E. Hirschler**

"Non-Dominant Groups in Kosovo: A Marginalised View on (De)Securitisation of Minorities After Conflict", **Marius-Ionut Calu**

Book Review: Crisis and ontological insecurity – Serbia's anxiety over Kosovo's secession, **Marika Djolai and Elisabeth Reimers**

VOLUME 20, ISSUE 2

(regular issue)

"From Community Autonomy in Hungary to Indigenous Self-Determination in the Outback of Australia: Can Non-Territorial Autonomy Find Traction Down Under?", **Bertus de Villiers**

"What Are Karelians Made of, RuNet?", **Teemu Oivo**

"Ceramic Frogs: A Form of Indirect Discrimination Against Roma", **Isabel P. Meireles**

"Media Language Planning During a Pandemic – the Influence of Covid-19 on Language Recommendations to Swedish Media in Finland", **Jenny Stenberg-Sirén**

"Facing Post-Communist Religiosity: Questioning And Shifting Religious Identity Among Yezidi Women From Armenia and Georgia", **Boris Komakhidze, Sayedehnasim Fatemi**

Book review: The Palgrave Handbook of Minority Languages and Communities, **Craig Willis**



EUROPEAN YEARBOOK ON MINORITY ISSUES (EYMI)

The EYMI is published by Brill, with the ECMI serving as the main editorial institution in collaboration with Eurac Research, Glasgow University, Åbo Akademi, Hungarian Academy of Sciences and Babes-Bolyai University. Volume 19 (2020) compiled in 2021 featured the following articles:

General articles

Stephanie E. Berry and Isilay Taban, "The EU Migration Pact and Action Plan on Integration and Inclusion: a Progressive Step or Half Measure?"

Vanessa E. Thompson, "Policing Blackness in Europe: Colonial Entanglements and Contemporary Articulations of Struggle"
Jørgen Kühl, "The Making of Borders and Minorities: Revisiting the Plebiscites after World War I"

Special Focus: Covid-19 and Minorities

Roberta Medda-Windischer, Foreword by the Guest Editor
Katharina Crepaz, "Minorities and Health During the Covid-19 Pandemic: Health Inequalities and Discrimination"
Andrea Carlà and Marika Djolai, "Securitization of Minorities under Covid-19: Discourses, Practices, and Historical Antecedents"
Mireia Grau-Creus, Jordi Garcia-Muniesa and Ander Errasti, "Self-rule and Covid-19 Times: on How the Pandemic Unveiled Rigidities and Elasticities of the Self-government Institutional Framework"

International Developments

Noémi Nagy, "The Rights of European Minorities: Justice, Public Administration, Participation, Transfrontier Exchanges and Citizenship – International Developments in 2020"

Mariya Riekkinen, "Sociocultural and Economic Rights, Education, and the Media in the Context of European Minorities – International Developments in 2020"

National Developments

Christina Allard, "Sami Land Rights: Recent Developments in Swedish Case Law"
Ksenia Maksimovtsova, "One Nation – One Language: The Ambiguity of the State Language Policy and Policy Towards Minorities in Contemporary Latvia and Ukraine"
Levente Salat, István Gergő Székely and Dorottya Lakatos, "The Autonomy Movement of Hungarians in Romania"

Book Reviews

Anna Ajlani: Katharina Crepaz, Ulrich Becker and Elisabeth Wacker (eds.), Health in Diversity – Diversity in Health. (Forced) Migration, Social Diversification, and Health in a Changing World (Springer, Wiesbaden, 2020), e-ISBN 978-3-658-29177-8 (e-book)
Felix Schulte: Olgun Akbulut and Elçin Aktoprak (eds.), Minority Self-Government in Europe and the Middle East. From Theory to Practice (Brill, Leiden, 2019), ISBN 978-90-04-40544-8 (hardcover)
Mitja Žagar: Norina Bogatec and Zaira Vidau (eds.), A Community at the Heart of Europe. Slovenes in Italy and the Challenges of the Third Millennium (Newcastle, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2020), ISBN 978-1-5275-4622-6 (hardback)

MINORITIES BLOG

Clara Lhullier, "Unable to Stay, Nowhere to Go: The Hidden Reality of LGBTIQ Homelessness in the European Union"

Marika Djolai and Ljubica Djordjević, "Identity Disputes and the EU Enlargement: The Case of North Macedonia"

Craig Willis, "Why Scottish and Welsh Speakers Will Miss European Structural Funds"

Andreea Cârstocea and Craig Willis, "Less equal than others: National minorities and the overlooked challenge of socio-economic inequalities"

Olha Sribniak, "Native Others: What Implications Does the Law on Indigenous Peoples Have for Ukraine's Indigenous Population?"

Garbi Schmidt, "On Hyphenated Identities"

FINANCES

The ECMI receives core funding from the Kingdom of Denmark, the German Federal Government and the Land Schleswig-Holstein. As part of a re-invigoration of the Centre's work, the three Founders decided to increase their financing in 2021–2022. In 2021, the two German founders nearly doubled their contribution to € 688,000, while Denmark pledged to do the same in 2022. On top of this, external funding during 2021 came in from the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities and the Coppieters Foundation.



LIST OF EXTERNAL PROJECTS AND CO-FUNDING:

FUNDING INSTITUTION	TITLE	AMOUNT	YEAR
OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities	Research report on socio-economic participation and consultative mechanisms in Central Asia	12,900 €	2021–22
Coppieters Foundation	ECMI Summer School in Flensburg	5,000 €	2021
Land Schleswig-Holstein	Evaluierung des Gesetzes zur Umsetzung des Verfassungsauftrags zur Stärkung der nationalen Minderheiten und Volksgruppen in Schleswig-Holstein	24,856 €	2020–21
OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities	Research Report on the socio-economic participation of national minorities	20,000 €	2020–21
Coppieters Foundation	ECMI Summer School in Flensburg	8,344 €	2020
German development agency GIZ	Career Guidance and Counselling for Vulnerable Groups (Serbia)	9,000 €	2019
Auswärtiges Amt Germany	Empowering Future Minority Leaders (Moldova)	77,200 €	2019
Coppieters Foundation	ECMI Summer School in Berlin	5,115 €	2019
Erasmus +	Boosting European Security Law and policy, workshop on data protection (BeSEC)	6,048 €	2018–20
German development agency GIZ	Diversity Management for Sustainable Economic Development (Ukraine)	471,000 €	2018–19
Council of Europe Study	Strengthening the protection of national minorities in Ukraine	10,000 €	2018
Auswärtiges Amt Germany	Training for Empowerment in Ukraine	44,958 €	2018
University of Swansea	Master Course Module	16,000 €	2018
OSCE Academy of Bishkek	Master Course Module	13,800 €	2018

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