

# **The Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers has urged Russia to halt violations of the right to education in the Transnistrian region of Moldova**

In the period 4-6 June 2014, in Strasbourg, took place the 1201st meeting of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe. The Committee of Ministers discussed the Decisions of the European Court which have not been executed by the defendant states.

The case Catan and others was discussed on June 5th 2014, following the requests from representatives of the 170 petitioners from Tighina (Bender), Grigoriopol and Râbnița.

Following the examination of the received materials, the Committee of Ministers has expressed its profound concern caused by the reports regarding continuous violation of the right to education in the Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova (through acts of intimidation and pressure which affect the functioning of schools with Latin script). At the same time, the Committee of Ministers reminded about the unconditional obligation of each member state, according to Article 46, paragraph 1 of the Convention, to execute the final decisions and has summoned the Russian authorities to take all possible measures to end the violation of the plaintiffs' right to education and send to the Committee of Ministers:

- within a month, information about the way in which it intends to guarantee that schools with Latin script will continue to function in the 2014/2015 school year; and
- as soon as possible, but no later than September 1st 2014, a complete plan of action or a report on how it will implement the Court's sentence.

Moreover, the delegates of the June 2014 Reunion of the Committee of Ministers insist that Russian authorities pay to the plaintiffs, without further delay, the compensations established by the European Court, have agreed to reexamine this case during the 1208th meeting (September 2014) (DH) and, in the absence of information from Russian authorities, have delegated the secretariat to prepare a draft interim resolution project to be distributed together with the draft agenda of the meeting.

In front of the European Court of Human Rights, the plaintiffs were represented by attorneys and lawyers of the Promo-LEX Association, who have made constant efforts towards updating the situation of the schools and informing the Committee of Ministers and other relevant actors important to the process of monitoring and enforcing the decision Catan and others. vs Russia and Moldova.

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