



CONCEPT NOTE

Conference on minority data

Empowering minority voices: Data-driven approaches for protecting and promoting minority rights in Serbia

Date: November 21, 2024

Venue: Faculty of Law, University of Belgrade

The conference aims to foster collaboration and dialogue among key stakeholders in Serbia to enhance the protection and promotion of minority rights through data-driven approaches. By aligning with European Union standards and Council of Europe recommendations, especially the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) and those of the Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (ACFCNM), the event will focus on:

- **Strengthening Compliance:** Providing guidance to Serbian beneficiaries on complying with EU acquis and international standards related to minority rights.
- **Supporting Legislative Reform:** Facilitating discussions that support the ongoing legislative and policy reforms aimed at combating discrimination and protecting the rights of national, ethnic, and linguistic minorities.
- **Promoting Evidence-Based Policy:** Conducting research and gathering data that will aid institutions and inform policies that address discrimination, social exclusion, and stigmatization of minorities.
- **Raising Awareness:** Enhancing awareness of the rights of national minorities, ensuring their access to information, services, and redress mechanisms.

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by the Council of Europe

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Agenda

- 09:30 – 10:00 Registration and welcoming coffee
- 10:00 – 10:20 Opening Remarks
- Prof. dr Rejhan Kurtovic*, State secretary, Ministry for human and minority rights and social dialogue
- Prof. dr Ivana Krstić*, Head of the Institute for Legal and Social Studies, Faculty of Law, University of Belgrade
- János Babity*, Head of Office, Council of Europe Office in Belgrade
- 10:20 – 11:00 Presentation of findings - sustainable and human rights-based data collection framework on issues pertaining to the access to rights of persons belonging to national minorities
- Aleksandra Vujić*, Independent expert on minority issues, Project Department Coordinator (ICEPS)
- Patrick Simon*, Director of research at INED (National Demographic Institute) and fellow at the Institute for Migrations
- 11:00 – 11:45 Discussion
- 11:45 – 12:00 Closing remarks and next steps
- 12:00 – 12:15 Cocktail

The research and event are supported through the project [Combating Discrimination and Promoting Diversity in Serbia](#), part of the joint program of the European Union and the Council of Europe, [Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Türkiye](#), in cooperation with the Ministry for human and minority rights and social dialogue and the Faculty of law, University of Belgrade

Meeting will be held in Serbian and English language and simultaneous interpretation will be provided.