



### **Federal Union of European Nationalities**

- 1949 in Paris
- Largest European Umbrella Organisation
  - 103 Members
    - 35 Countries
  - 70 Years of Experience





# The Federal Union of European Nationalities promotes and empowers ...

- Identity
- Language
  - Culture
    - Rights
- Uniqueness

..... of Minorities in Europe.

IF YOU TALK TO A MAN IN A LANGUAGE HE UNDERSTANDS, THAT GOES TO HIS HEAD. IF YOU TALK TO A MAN IN HIS LANGUAGE, THAT GOES TO HIS HEART.

NELSON MANDELA



## **Key-Topics**



#### Minority Interests Advocate:

- European Union
- Council of Europe
- United Nations
- OSCE (Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe)
- European Dialogue Forum (FUEN Body)





## **Key-Topics**



#### Minority Rights = Human Rights

- Peaceful coexistence
- Linguistic & Cultural Diversity
- 💊 -> Minority SafePack



## **Key-Topics**



#### Working Groups

- German Minorities (AGDM)
- Turkish Minorities (TAG)
- Slavic Minorities (AGSM)
- Non-Kin State Minorities
- Education Working Group
- Yearly FUEN Congress







### Schleswig-Holstein

-Most northern German Federal State

- -2,9 mio inhabitants
- -Capital is Kiel (other cities: Flensburg, Lübeck...)
- -Danish, Northern-Frisian, Sinti and Roma minorities
- -Lower-German, Frisian, Danish and Romanes languages

-International minority institutions like FUEN and ECMI in Flensburg





# MINORITY INSTITUTIONS IN SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN

COMMISSIONER FOR ISSUES PERTAINING TO NATIONAL MINORITIES AND ETHNIC GROUPS, THE BORDERLAND, AND LOW GERMAN (MINORITY COMMISSIONER)





The Minority Commissioner of Schleswig-Holstein is an advisor to the head of the state's government. They are appointed by the minister president and have the same ranking as a state secretary. The Minority Commissioner is an important link between the minorities and the state government and functions as the central contact point for the minorities in Schleswig-Holstein.

-Since 1988

-Link between minorities and the state government

-Tailoring State's minority policy

-Advocation, monitoring and promoting minority rights





#### DIALOGFORUMNORDEN (DFN)

DialogForumNorden is a platform for exchange and information for and by the four minorities of the German-Danish border region and a number of private and public institutions. It is a tool to pool the voices of minority communities and local actors and find desirable solutions to common problems.

#### MINORITY COMMITTEES WITH THE SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN PARLIAMENT

The Committee for Issues Pertaining to the Frisian Ethnic Group in Schleswig-Holstein (Frisian Committee), the Committee for Issues Pertaining to the German Sinti and Roma in Schleswig-Holstein (Sinti and Roma Committee), and the Committee for Issues Pertaining to the German Minority in Denmark (Nordschleswig Committee ) are contact points between the minority communities and the parliament.





### SINTI AND ROMA SCHOOL MEDIATORS & EDUCATION CONSULTANTS

The School Mediators and Education Consultants are Sinti and Roma, it is their task to facilitate communication between the schools and Sinti and Roma parents of school children, as well as to ease the children into the school and day care system. They are trained especially for these tasks and are employees of the state.





Transfer of knowledge to the Western-Balkan Region:

- -Capacity building
- -Best practices sharing
- -Study Visits
- -Building trust between institutions and civil society (NGOs,CSOs)
- -Successfully implemented models of Minority Commissioner,
- Dialog Forum, etc.







## Questions?