

MINORITY COMMISSIONER: Model for inclusion of minorities and other vulnerable groups

Webinar
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Implemented by:



In cooperation with:



Project: “Enhancing local capacities to implement the 2030 Agenda and the Leave No One Behind Principle”

Creation of the model for intercultural dialogue and cooperation

- National minorities in Schleswig-Holstein region: the Danish minority, the Frisian ethnic group and the German Sinti and Roma and linguistic community of Low German speakers.
- **Development of the model as a result of the great cultural and linguistic diversity, the historic experience and the systematic efforts of all stakeholders to bring peace to the region.**



Self-determination

Bonn-Copenhagen Declarations

Principles of Schleswig-Holstein
Minority Policy as
successful model of coexistence
and cooperation

Reliable Legal and financial
frameworks

Institutions

Establishment of the Minority Commissioner (MC)

- Created in 1988 as “Commissioner for Borderland and Minority Affairs in Schleswig-Holstein” in order **to promote the cooperation** between minorities and the majority
- Political appointment and have the same ranking as a State Secretary.
- The Minorities Commissioner reports to the Schleswig-Holstein (Schleswig-Holstein) Prime Minister and Parliament

Composition

The office of the Commissioner is a volunteer position

The office itself consists of one person.

Administratively supported by several staff of the state chancellery in the department for external affairs and minorities

The Commissioner has fixed office hours for meetings and consultations

Participates in a large number of ad hoc meetings with the minorities and representatives of the government.

ROLE of MC

- Provides advisory service to the Schleswig-Holstein Prime Minister and government
- Represents the Schleswig-Holstein government before the minorities
- Conducts dialogue-meetings and consultations with minorities (chairs the DFN sessions)

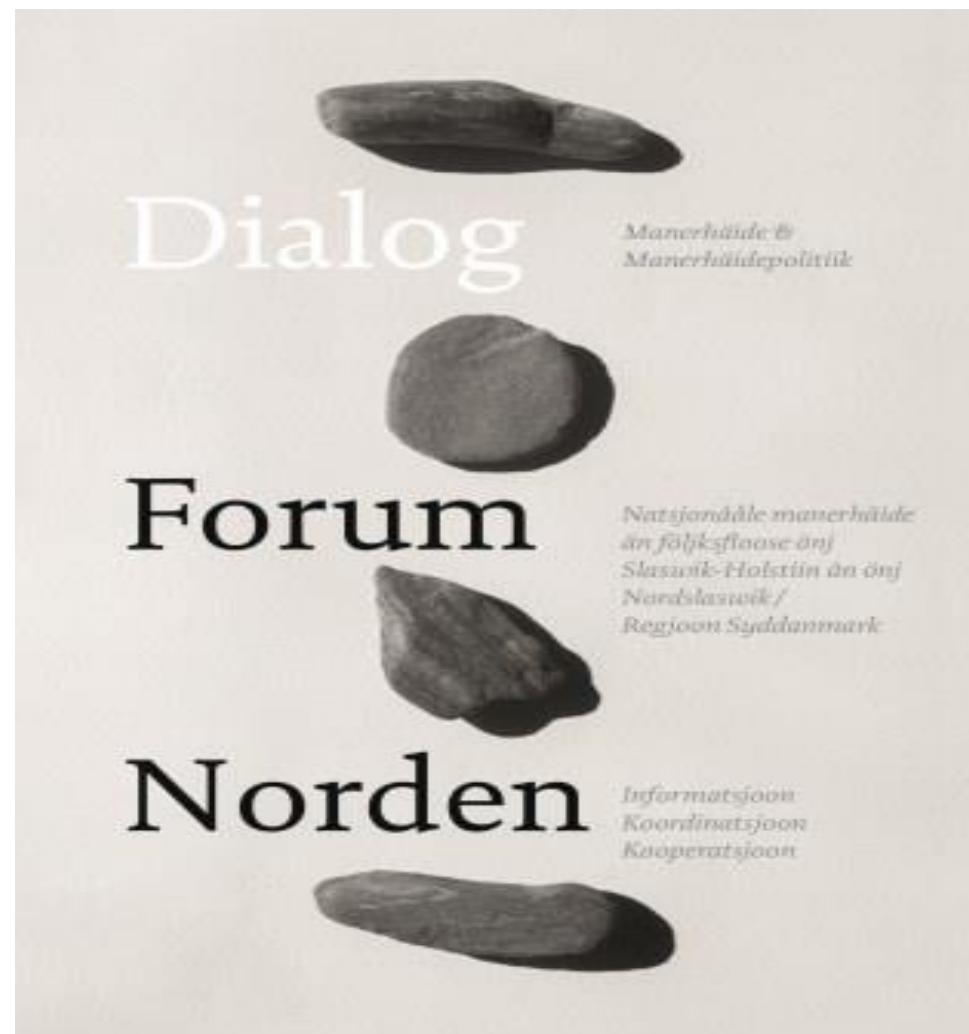
Other initiatives of MC

1996-2021



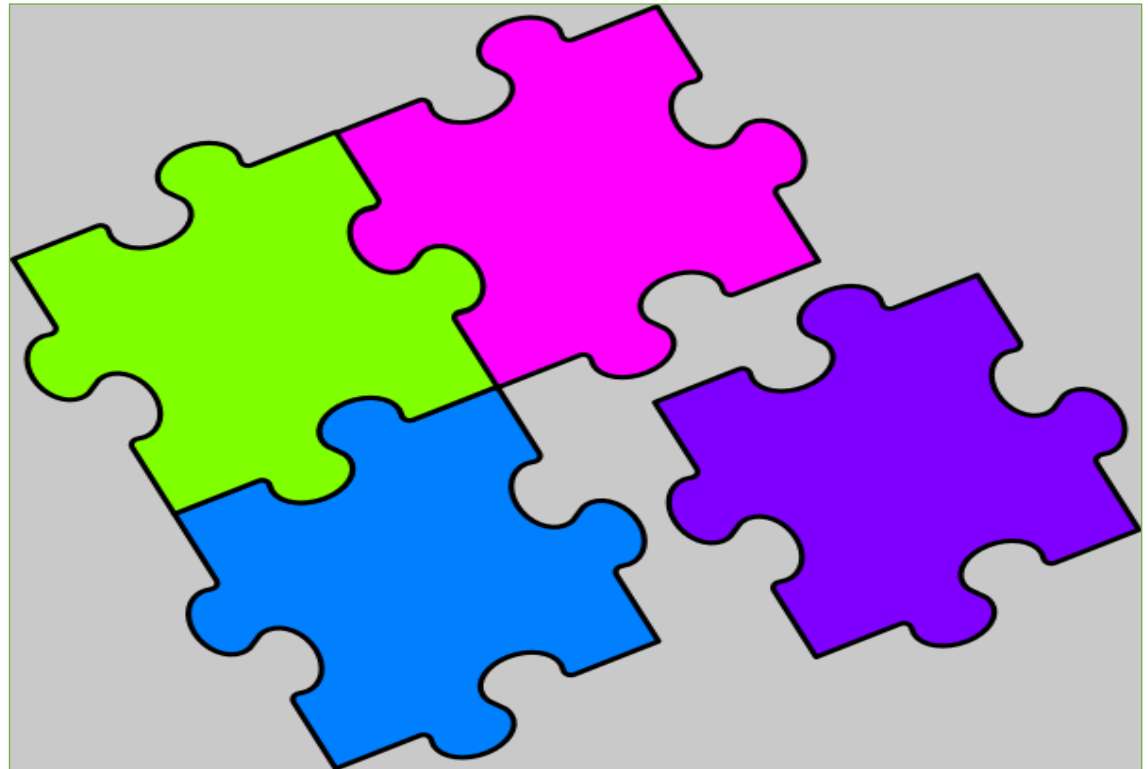
EUROPEAN CENTRE
FOR
MINORITY ISSUES

25
YEARS




Key factors for successful transfer of the problem-solution model

- ✓ Support of the (local) government
- ✓ Good cooperation between the LGs and the civil society organizations
- ✓ Motivation of the involved parties



A model-transfer is in fact a transfer of an idea, adapted to local needs and realities

- Grass-root initiatives corresponding to **identified needs** at the community level  improved delivery of Municipal services
- Partnership should fill in the gap of a lacking institutional structure providing targeted **support to the minorities and vulnerable groups** within the community
- Mechanism to enable **regular and structured dialogue** between the public authorities and the stakeholders

CHALLENGES?

- Gaining trust among a wide range of stakeholders and requires planning of specific activities
- Additional support and effort to foster the dialogue between the public authorities, service providers, business, civil society, and the end-users, and to interconnect them
- Networking and promotion of the work of Office /position
- Active outreach

Contribution to SDG's – Leaving no one behind!



HOLD THE VISION TRUST THE PROCESS

GordaNestorovska

nestorovska.gordana@gmail.com

Memet Memeti

m.memeti@seeu.edu.mk



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