



2009-05

The Assembly of Delegates of the Federal Union of European Nationalities (FUEN), at its session on 2 October 2009 in Brussels, adopts the following resolution:

Submitted by Stiftelsen Skånsk Framtid – Foundation for the Future of Scania

The Assembly of Delegates,

RECOGNISING that many small regional languages in the member states of the Council of Europe are nowadays partly protected through the European Charter on Regional or Minority Languages;

CONCERNED that the Swedish Government did not recognise the historic Scanian language when adhering to the European Charter on Regional or Minority Languages;

CONCERNED that Sweden's recent decision to legally make the standard Swedish the only official language in the country without at the same time ensuring the continued existence of the regional languages, of which the historic Scanian language is one;

CONCERNED that Swedish Government's centralised cultural and linguistic policies is not promoting linguistic diversity in the Sweden and, as a consequence, what remains of the historic Scanian language, spoken widely in Scania only a generation or two ago, is likely soon to become extinct;

NOTING that FUEN has actively promoted cultural and linguistic diversity in Europe;

THEREFORE,

EXPRESSES its concern about the Swedish Government's attempts to neglect and ignore the historic Scanian language;

APPEALS to the European Union Commission to continue its support for cultural and linguistic diversity in Europe and to the Council of Europe and UNESCO not to give in to any pressure from the Swedish Government to have the Scanian language removed from lists of endangered languages such as the UNESCO's Atlas of the World's Languages in Danger and other contexts where the historic language appears;

APPEALS to the Council of Europe's Committee of Experts for Sweden for the European Charter on Regional or Minority Languages, to continue its support for the Scanian language as expressed in its report on Sweden 2002;

VOWS to continue its support for Scania in its struggle for recognition of its historic language.