

Bill on language rights of ethnic minorities in education submitted to Ukraine's Rada

Culture

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The bill also envisions state guarantees for each Ukrainian citizen's right to get education of all levels in regional or ethnic minority language

KYIV, September 29. TASS. A bill on ensuring protection of ethnic minorities' language rights in the sphere of education was submitted to Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada on Thursday, the author of the legislative motion, the press service of deputy Nestor Shufrych [pictured] of the Opposition Block caucus said in a report. The proposed amendments concern Article 7 of the (newly endorsed) Law on Education, it said. For instance, a proposal has been made to give a new formulation in Clause 1 of the article. Shufrych proposes to confirm at the level of legislation that the instruction process uses the state language (Ukrainian) or a regional language or the language of an ethnic minority if an educational institution is located where the language in question has a wide spread and the local authorities take steps towards fostering its application. The bill also envisions state guarantees for each Ukrainian citizen's right to get education of all levels in regional or ethnic minority languages. Like in the previous case, the necessary condition for this is the wide spread of a language in the territory where an educational institution is located and where the authorities take steps to foster the application of that language. An overhauled Law on Education took effect in Ukraine on September 28. It triggered a sharp reaction in a number of European countries because of its provisions encroaching on the rights of ethnic minorities in the sphere of education. [⋮] <http://tass.com/world/968035>