

# Motions

<b>Motion number</b>	10
<b>Name of the person introducing the Motion to the GA</b>	Iva Divkovic
<b>Member party</b>	OMO Ilinden – PIRIN, MAEI
<b>Title (of the Motion)</b>	Motion for the Protection of the Macedonian Identity in EU and Candidate States
<p><b>Text of the motion:</b> (In English; Maximum 600 words)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Considering the report on “Minimum standards for minorities in the EU” from (2018/2036(INI))</li> <li>Considering the fact that the Macedonians are indigenous people on the territory of Bulgaria and Albania and display distinctive cultural traits, maintain long-term and loyal ties to the state and are sufficiently representative although smaller in number as than the rest of the population of that state;</li> <li>Considering foremost that the Macedonians are <b>strongly motivated</b> to preserve that which constitutes their common identity, including their culture, their traditions and their Macedonian language;</li> <li>Considering that the Macedonians fulfill the criteria for a minority according to the aforementioned EU-Report;</li> <li>Considering that, Macedonians are subject of state organized systematic policies of assimilation, discrimination and denial of their human and minority rights;</li> </ol> <p><b>EFA condemns:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bulgarian policy of denying the existence of the Macedonian nation and blocking Macedonia's EU membership;</li> <li>The Bulgarian policy of assimilating and discriminating against the Macedonian minority in Bulgaria;</li> <li>The Bulgarian policy of ethnically targeting the Macedonian minority in Albania to artificially create a Bulgarian minority through the mass granting and selling of Bulgarian EU citizenships, assimilation efforts, pressure on the authorities, and financial inducements - a clear abuse of Bulgaria's EU membership.</li> <li>Further the leveraged use of this recently created minority to blackmail Albania and legitimize the assimilation of the Macedonian minority.</li> <li>The legal proceedings supported by the Bulgarian state against the Macedonian Alliance for European Integration, which aims to silence the political voice of the Macedonian minority in Albania.</li> <li>The issuance of false certificates of Bulgarian origin by certain Albanian</li> </ul>	

municipalities—despite having no legal jurisdiction to issue such documents—for the purpose of acquiring Bulgarian passports through corrupt means.

**The European Free Alliance calls for:**

**From Bulgaria:**

- To abandon its conditions for Macedonia's European integration which are contrary to the Copenhagen criteria, and to lift the blockade on Macedonia's EU accession;
- To grant the Macedonians in Bulgaria the same rights it demands for the Bulgarians in Macedonia, in accordance with the principles of justice and equality;
- To immediately stop its aggression against the Macedonian minority in Albania;
- Together with Greece and Albania, to sign and fully implement the **European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages**, including active support for the Macedonian language and culture for the Macedonian and other minorities.

**From the EU institutions:**

- To reopen the minority issue in the post-monitoring process for Bulgaria and ensure full compliance with the Copenhagen criteria;
- For the European Commission to investigate the treatment of the Macedonian minorities in Bulgaria, Albania, and Greece;
- To require that future EU texts explicitly reference the “ethnic Macedonian minority” in the main body, not in footnotes or vague terms;
- To create mechanisms allowing minorities to compel EU institutions like the EU Commission to act on systemic rights violations;
- To treat ECtHR precedent equally and not use it to justify inaction, especially where minorities lack legal resources;
- To recognise the Macedonian language as a minority language and support its institutional use;
- To acknowledge that registration requirements to access EU funded grants deny Macedonian EU citizens equal access;
- To urge the European Commission to review and remove registration requirements for grant applications for the aforementioned reason;
- To guarantee the right to self-determination and self-expression for Macedonians in both Bulgaria and Albania.

**Reasoning:**

This motion draws on the EU Report on Minimum Standards for Minorities (2018/2036(INI)) and responds to the rising suppression of Macedonian identity in Bulgaria and Albania, and the EU's failure to explicitly mention the ethnic Macedonian minority. A new approach is needed to ensure visibility and inclusion within the EU's human rights framework.