

Republika e Kosovës

Republika Kosova-Republic of Kosovo

Kuvendi - Skupština - Assembly

Law No. 03/L-047

ON THE PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF THE RIGHTS OF COMMUNITIES AND THEIR MEMBERS IN KOSOVO

The Assembly of the Republic of Kosovo,

On the basis Article 65(1) of the Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo,

Hereby adopts

LAW ON THE PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF THE RIGHTS OF COMMUNITIES AND THEIR MEMBERS IN KOSOVO

Article 1 General provisions

- 1.1 The Republic of Kosovo shall guarantee full and effective equality for all people of Kosovo. Kosovo regards its national, ethnic, linguistic and religious diversity as a source of strength and richness in the further development of a democratic society based on the rule of law. In the development of the Republic of Kosovo, the active contributions of all persons belonging to communities is encouraged and cherished.
- 1.2 The Republic of Kosovo shall take special measures to ensure the full and effective equality of communities and their members, taking into consideration their specific needs. Such measures shall not be considered act of discrimination.
- 1.3 Persons belonging to communities in the Republic of Kosovo shall be entitled to enjoy individually or jointly with others the fundamental and human rights and freedoms established in international legal obligations binding upon the Republic of Kosovo. These

rights and freedoms are guaranteed by the constitution, other laws, regulations and state policies.

- 1.4 For the purposes of this law, communities are defined as national, ethnic, cultural, linguistic or religious groups traditionally present in the Republic of Kosovo that are not in the majority. These groups are Serb, Turkish, Bosnian, Roma, Ashkali, Egyptian, Gorani and other communities. Members of the community in the majority in the Republic of Kosovo as a whole who are not in the majority in a given municipality shall also be entitled to enjoy the rights listed in this law.
- 1.5 Every person belonging to a community shall have the right to freely choose to be treated or not to be treated as such, and no disadvantage or discrimination shall result from the choice to exercise or not to exercise the rights that are connected with that choice.
- 1.6 In their free exercise of rights and freedoms enshrined in this law, communities and their members shall respect the rights of others.
- 1.7 The authorities in the Republic of Kosovo, including the Courts, shall interpret this law in accordance with the guarantees of human rights and fundamental freedoms and the rights of communities and their members established in the Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo with applicable international human rights obligations including the provisions of the Council of Europe Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.

Article 2 Identity

- 2.1 Communities and their members shall have the right to freely maintain, express and develop their culture and identity, and to preserve and enhance the essential elements of their identity, namely their religion, language, traditions and cultural heritage. In addition to the specific rights enumerated in this law, fundamental human rights shall be exercised freely and equally, including freedom of thought; of expression; of the media; of association and assembly; of religious belief and practice; and the right to manifest, in public or private, individually or in community with others, the cultural attributes of the respective community.
- 2.2 The Republic of Kosovo shall create appropriate conditions that enable communities and their members to freely maintain, express and develop their identities.
- 2.3 Measures intended to alter the proportions of the population in areas inhabited by persons belonging to communities to their disadvantage are prohibited. Kosovo shall protect persons belonging to communities from policies or practices aimed at, or having the effect of, assimilation against their will.
- 2.4 Persons belonging to communities have the right to have personal names recognized in their original form and in the script of their language as well as to revert to their original names if they have been changed. This includes the right to freely choose their given and family names and the names of their children, and the right to enter such names

into public registries, personal identification and other official documents in their own language and script in accordance with the law.

Article 3 Full and effective quality

- 3.1 The Republic of Kosovo shall promote a spirit of peace, tolerance, inter-cultural and inter-religious dialogue, and support reconciliation between communities. The standards set forth in this law, in the Council of Europe Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities, and in other relevant instruments shall be respected in order to achieve full and effective equality of all the people of Kosovo.
- 3.2 The Republic of Kosovo shall take all necessary measures to protect persons who are subject to threats or acts of intimidation, hostility or violence as a result of their national, ethnic, cultural, linguistic or religious identity. The competent bodies shall prosecute, as provided by law, those engaging in such threats or acts described in this paragraph.
- 3.3 All forms of discrimination, direct or indirect, on account of national, ethnic, cultural, linguistic or religious identity are prohibited. In accordance with the law, the Republic of Kosovo shall ensure that all members of communities fully enjoy their fundamental rights and shall take special measures to remedy any situation where these persons are excluded from equal exercise of these rights.
- 3.4 The Republic of Kosovo shall take such affirmative measures as may be necessary to promote full and effective equality in all areas of economic, social, political and cultural life, including education, media, health and other public services. Such action shall be offered equally to all communities and their members based solely on need.
- 3.5 The Republic of Kosovo shall protect the freedom of movement and safety and security of members of communities throughout the country.

Article 4 Language

- 4.1 The Albanian and Serbian languages and their alphabets are official languages of the Republic of Kosovo and have equal status in its institutions. The Turkish, Bosnian and Roma languages shall have the status of official languages at the municipal level or will be in official use in accordance with the Law on the Use of Languages.
- 4.2 Persons belonging to communities shall have the right to use freely and without interference the language of their community in private and in public, orally and in writing.
- 4.3 Persons belonging to communities shall have the right to freedom of expression, including the right to receive and impart information and ideas in the language of their respective community.

- 4.4 Persons belonging to communities subject to arrest or detention shall have the right to be informed promptly in a language she or he understands of the reason of her or his arrest and of the nature and cause of any accusation against her or him
- 4.5 Persons belonging to communities shall have the right to defend themselves court in their language; if necessary the government shall provide them with the free assistance of an interpreter.
- 4.6 Persons belonging to communities shall have the right to display in their community language signs, inscriptions and other information of a private nature visible to the public.
- 4.7 In areas where persons belonging to communities represent a sufficient share of the population, traditional local names, street names and other topographical indications shall be also displayed in the respective non-majority language. This shall be governed by Law on the Use of Languages.
- 4.8 The use of language in relations between persons belonging to communities and the administrative authorities at the central and municipal levels, in relation to the courts, the media, and in education, shall be regulated by the Law on the Use of Languages.
- 4.9 Kosovo shall take affirmative measures to ensure that languages other than the official languages are preserved, maintained and promoted, and shall orient its conduct according to the European Charter for Regional and Minority Languages.

Article 5 Culture

- 5.1 Communities in the Republic of Kosovo and their members have the right to express, maintain and develop their culture and traditions and to administer their own cultural affairs.
- 5.2 Communities shall have the right to establish associations for culture, art, science and education and other associations for the expression, fostering and development of their identity. These associations shall have the right of registration as citizens' associations, and such registration shall not be denied or revoked other than for reasons prescribed by law.
- 5.3 Communities shall have the right to establish community representative organizations that may act as umbrella organizations in relation to the respective community and seek representation on the Community Consultative Council. These associations shall, in addition to requirements under paragraph 2 of this Article, comply with a code of conduct relating to their genuine representation of their respective community, democratic functioning, efficiency and financial transparency. Such a code of conduct shall be adopted by the community representative organization through the Community Consultative Council established in accordance with Article 12 of this law.
- 5.4 Organizations or associations established under paragraph 2 and 3 of this Article shall be eligible for support and financial assistance, including from the government, in accordance with the law.

- 5.5 Communities and their members shall have the right to celebrate freely and publicly their traditional and religious holidays in accordance with the law.
- 5.6 Communities and their representative organization shall have the right to use and display symbols of their community in accordance with the law and international standards.
- 5.7 Persons belonging to communities, acting individually or through their representative organizations shall have the right to maintain contacts among themselves and others living in the Republic of Kosovo and to establish and maintain free and peaceful contacts with persons in any State, in particular those with whom they share an ethnic, cultural, linguistic or religious identity or a common cultural heritage, in accordance with the law and international standards.
- 5.8 The Republic of Kosovo shall conclude bilateral, multi-lateral, regional or subregional agreements with other states to encourage and foster cultural, educational and other forms of cross-border cooperation.
- 5.9 Persons belonging to communities and their associations have the right to freely participate without any discrimination in local and international organizations and their activities.
- 5.10 The Republic of Kosovo shall preserve the cultural and religious heritage of all communities as an integral part of the heritage of Kosovo and shall ensure the effective protection of sites and monuments of cultural and religious significance to communities according to the law.
- 5.11 In cooperation with the Community Consultative Council and community representative organizations, the Republic of Kosovo shall develop a strategy for the effective protection of sites and monuments of cultural and religious heritage to communities.
- 5.12 The Government of Kosovo may delegate to community organizations and associations that are willing and have the capacity to fulfill such a function, the task of maintaining certain sites and monuments of special interest to them, and offer funding towards that aim in accordance with the law and international standards.

Article 6 Media

- 6.1 Communities and their members shall be guaranteed access to information without discrimination. Communities and their members shall have the right to create and use their own media, including for the purpose of providing information in their language through, inter alia, daily newspapers and wire services. Communities and their members shall have a reserved number of frequencies for electronic media in accordance with the law and international standards.
- 6.2 Communities shall be guaranteed access to equitable representation in public broadcast media. Time shall be allocated for programming about communities on public

broadcasting channels and to ensure the mainstreaming of communities' perspectives in domestic news broadcasting.

- 6.3 Communities shall have the right to community programming in their language in public broadcast media in accordance with the law. Such programming should cover both the activities of the respective community and other content of interest to it, extending to news, culture, sports and entertainment. Persons belonging to communities shall have a leading role in generating and presenting such programs.
- 6.4 Public broadcast media outlets shall ensure, at national and local levels, an adequate number of broadcast hours of programming in the languages of communities, including at peak viewing/listening times. The minimum number of community programming hours shall be prescribed by law.
- 6.5 The Government of Kosovo shall be obliged to take all measures within its powers to secure an international frequency plan that will allow the Kosovo Serb Community access to a licensed Kosovo-wide independent Serbian-language television channel operating effectively and without discrimination in accordance with law.
- 6.6 The free reception of cross-border broadcasts, whether direct or by means of retransmission or re-broadcasting, shall be guaranteed.
- 6.7 Persons belonging to communities shall be adequately represented on the regulatory bodies relating to the media in the Republic of Kosovo. Representatives of communities shall be appointed to the Independent Media Commission in consultations with community representative organizations.
- 6.8 Regulations concerning the prohibition of incitement or spreading of racial, ethnic or religious hatred or intolerance shall also apply to the media outlets referred to above.

Article 7 Religion

- 7.1. The Republic of Kosovo has no official religion and is neutral on questions of religious beliefs.
- 7.2 Persons belonging to communities shall have the right to freedom of belief, conscience and religion. This right includes the freedom to have, not to have, to retain or to change religion or belief and the freedom, either alone or in community with others, in public or in private, to manifest religion or belief, in worship, teaching, practice and observance. This right shall be subject only to limitations as prescribed by the law and international standards.
- 7.3 The Republic of Kosovo shall not interfere with the religious freedom of communities and persons belonging to them.
- 7.4 The practice of religious rites, traditional forms of religious life, including monastic life, and religious education shall be protected along with church property.

- 7.5 The Republic of Kosovo shall promote the preservation of the cultural and religious heritage of all communities as an integral part of the heritage of Kosovo.
- 7.6 The Serbian Orthodox Church in Kosovo shall be afforded the protection and enjoyment of its rights, privileges and immunities according to the Law on the Establishment of Special Protective Zones.
- 7.7 Communities and their members have the right to establish community religious organizations and institutions in accordance with the law. Exercise of this right shall be subject only to legal requirement of registration. Restrictions shall only apply as provided in paragraph 2 of this Article.

Article 8 Education

- 8.1 All persons belonging to communities shall have the right to receive public education at all levels in one of the official languages of Kosovo of their choice. Persons belonging to communities are entitled to pre-school, primary, secondary public education in their own language, even if it is not an official language. The Government of Kosovo shall establish reasonable and viable thresholds for establishing specific classes or schools operating in community languages. The minimum threshold for such classes or schools shall be lower than thresholds normally stipulated for educational institutions and classes. The maximum thresholds shall correspond with the established thresholds normally stipulated for school classes. This shall be regulated by law.
- 8.2 In municipalities in which there are an insufficient number of pupils to make education available in a non-official community language, the Government of Kosovo has an obligation to offer alternatives, including subsidized transport to an area where such schooling is being offered, distance learning, roving teaching arrangements or offers of boarding.
- 8.3 The Republic of Kosovo shall guarantee the existing facilities for professional training and higher education at university level in community languages. In accordance with an expressed need and financial viability, the Government of Kosovo shall provide further higher education and professional training programs in community languages.
- 8.4 Communities and their members shall have the right to establish and manage their own private educational and training establishments for which public financial assistance may be granted, in accordance with the law and international standards. Such establishments shall be eligible to apply for accreditation by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology if they comply with the general educational standards of the curricula of the Republic of Kosovo in accordance with the law. The Ministry of Education, Science and Technology shall monitor the quality of the delivery of education in accordance with the law.
- 8.5 Schools that teach in the Serbian Language may apply curricula or textbooks developed by the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Serbia upon notification to the Kosovo Ministry of Education, Science and Technology according to procedures established in the Law on Local Education.

- 8.6 The university of the Mitrovicë/Mitrovica North shall be an autonomous public institution of higher learning. The municipality of Mitrovicë/Mitrovica North shall have authority to exercise responsibility for this Serbian language university as governed by law.
- 8.7 In relation to cases other than those referred to in paragraph 5 of this Article, the Government of Kosovo shall establish integrated curricula in community languages that are not an official language, as well as education standards for all aspects of education and shall monitor and enforce the quality of the delivery of education in community languages. Educational establishments operating in a community language that is not an official language can design school programs in their own way, while complying with the overall framework of the integrated curriculum and meeting standards of achievements stipulated by the Government. Moreover, communities shall be entitled in cooperation with the Government to generate educational modules concerning their own culture, history and traditions.
- 8.8 In its arrangements for teacher training, the Government of Kosovo shall ensure that sufficient qualified personnel are available to fulfill obligations under paragraph 7 of this Article. Teacher training for those seeking to teach in community languages shall be conducted in the relevant languages. In selecting suitable candidates, the authorities shall be mindful of the need to have education in community languages delivered by qualified speakers of that language, preferably by native speakers.
- 8.9 The Government of Kosovo shall ensure that heads and teachers of public educational institutions operating in community languages are mainly representatives of such communities and are fully familiar with the identity of the relevant community.
- 8.10 In primary and secondary schools where the language of instruction is not an official language, pupils shall also learn an official language of their choice in accordance with the law.
- 8.11 The Government of Kosovo shall ensure equal access of persons belonging to communities to higher education at university level. To this end, it shall establish special measures to ensure the admission of candidates from community schools to higher and university educational institutions.
- 8.12. The Kosovo national educational curriculum shall cover the history, culture and other attributes of communities traditionally present in the country to foster the spirit of respect, understanding and tolerance among all communities in Kosovo. Community representative organizations shall be consulted in the process of designing such a curriculum.

Article 9 Economic and social opportunities

9.1 Communities and their members shall have the right to enjoy their property, and the opportunity to work for just and equitable compensation without discrimination.

- 9.2 The Republic of Kosovo shall develop public employment programs and other initiatives, in addition to specially targeted measures, aimed at overcoming direct and indirect discrimination against persons belonging to communities. Special consideration shall be given to improving the situation of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities.
- 9.3 The planning, development, implementation, and evaluation of special mechanisms to enhance economic and employment opportunities for vulnerable groups within society shall take place with the full participation and consultation of community representative organizations. Special consideration shall be given to the poor, the elderly, children, young families and single-parent families, widows and the disabled members of communities.
- 9.4 The Republic of Kosovo shall ensure the equality of men and women in employment, economic and social opportunities, and shall regularly monitor whether women are at risk from double discrimination due to gender and their belonging to a particular community. The government shall adopt special measures to counter such discrimination.
- 9.5 Persons belonging to communities shall be entitled to equitable representation in employment at all levels in publicly owned enterprises and public institutions, including the security sector, the Judiciary, the prosecution service, government agencies relating to the administration of justice and correctional facilities, defense, security, and intelligence.
- 9.6 Where persons belonging to communities find it difficult to meet standards for admission to positions in public services, including in particular higher-level positions, special measures shall be provided.
- 9.7 Persons belonging to communities shall have equal opportunities in procedures concerning public procurement or the privatization of public property.

Article 10 Health

- 10.1 The Republic of Kosovo shall take necessary measures to ensure that persons belonging to communities shall have equal access to health care without discrimination.
- 10.2 The Republic of Kosovo shall take special measures to ensure that satisfactory health care services are provided to persons belonging to socially and economically vulnerable communities.
- 10.3 Medical safety instructions shall be available in the relevant community languages.
- 10.4 The Republic of Kosovo shall recognize medical qualifications attained abroad, in particular of qualifications of persons speaking community languages, provided that such medical qualifications are in conformity with international standards of accreditation, based on applicable law.
- 10.5 Information related to health care education, including information about rights and obligations and entitlements of communities and their members, shall be displayed and provided in the languages of the respective communities.

10.6 The Republic of Kosovo shall establish effective, transparent, participatory and accessible procedures to monitor access to and delivery of health care services for members of communities.

Article 11 Political Participation

- 11.1 Communities and their members shall have the right to effective participation in political decision-making at all levels of government, including in decisions of special relevance for them or for the areas in which they live. Such participation is assured through representation in the Assembly of Kosovo, the Government, the Judiciary and other bodies of Kosovo as provided for in the Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo.
- 11.2 Participation in municipal governance is guaranteed through the Law on Local Self-Government, including the establishment of the offices of Deputy Chairperson of Municipal Assembly for Communities and the Deputy Mayor for Communities.
- 11.3 Persons belonging to communities have the right to form political parties and to run for elected seats and positions at all levels of government.
- 11.4 Political parties, other than those established by persons belonging to communities, with the aim of representing those communities, may not exclude persons on grounds of their belonging to communities and are encouraged to open themselves to the diversity of Kosovo society.
- 11.5 In accordance with paragraph 3, Article 5 of this law, community representative organizations shall be encouraged to assist the respective communities in representing their interests in a consolidated way and to take a role in the self-management of resources made available for the advancement of their cultural life.

Article 12 Community Consultative Council

- 12.1. There shall be a Community Consultative Council under the auspices of the President of the Republic of Kosovo. The Council shall have the following mandate:
- a) to assist in the organization and the articulation of the views of communities and their members in relation to legislation, public policy and programs of special relevance to them:
- b) to provide a forum for coordination and consultation amongst communities, and to ensure the effective functioning of the community representative organizations according to a code of conduct to be adopted by the Community Consultative Council;
- c) to provide a mechanism for regular exchange between communities and state institutions;
- d) to afford the communities the opportunity to participate at an early stage on legislative or policy initiatives that may be prepared by the Government or the Assembly, to suggest such initiatives and to have their views incorporated in the relevant projects and programs, including the annual strategy and report under Article 13 of this law, in accordance with the law;

- e) to fulfill requests for other mandatory consultations with regard to certain legal acts, as foreseen in the Constitution and the law;
- f) to enable communities to participate in the needs assessments, design, monitoring and evaluation of programs that are aimed at their members or are of special relevance to them:
- g) to make recommendations during the decision-making process concerning the apportionment of funds, both international and allocated from the budget of the Republic of Kosovo, for projects aimed at communities or their specific interests;
- h) to contribute to the reporting of the government of Kosovo to international human rights mechanisms; and
- i) to raise awareness of community concerns within the Republic of Kosovo and to contribute to harmonious relations between all communities within the Republic of Kosovo.
- 12.2. The Community Consultative Council shall be established on the basis of a statute reflecting the provisions of this law. The statute of the Council shall be adopted after consultation with the communities by a presidential decree within three months of the coming into force of this law. The Council shall commence its work within one month of the adoption of this statute.
- 12.3 The Community Consultative Council shall meet once a month. It may create specialist working groups on issues such as education, employment, social provision, culture, language and other related issues that may meet more often.
- 12.4 The Community Consultative Council shall meet twice a year to conduct a major review of community policy and concerns in the Republic of Kosovo, which shall be chaired by the President of the Republic of Kosovo.
- 12.5 At the ordinary meetings of the Community Consultative Council, the position of the chairperson shall be held by a member of the Council who is elected by the Council for the period of one year. The chairperson shall be assisted by two deputy chairpersons, who shall be appointed from two communities to which the chairperson does not belong.
- 12.6 The Community Consultative Council shall consist of representatives of all communities in Kosovo and of the Government, the Office of the President and relevant agencies. From the Roma, Egyptian and Ashkali communities, there shall be two (2) representatives respectively, one (1) of each of whom may be a member of the Assembly of Kosovo. The Bosniak and Turk communities shall have three (3) representatives respectively, one (1) of each of whom may be a member of the Assembly of Kosovo. The Serb community shall have five (5) representatives, two (2) of whom may be members of the Assembly of Kosovo, and the Gorani community shall have two (2) members, one (1) of whom may be a member of the Assembly of Kosovo. In relation to each member, a substitute member may be appointed. Those members who are not members of the Assembly of Kosovo shall normally be the chairpersons or vice chairpersons or the other senior nominees of community representative organizations or representatives of associations or NGOs affiliated with a particular community.
- 12.7 Representatives of the relevant community shall be nominated by that community through its community representative organizations. Where there is no such organization, or there is more than one organization purporting to represent a given community, the

Office of the President shall seek to support the establishment of one coordination mechanism for the community in question and mediate between the contending groups when necessary. Where no agreement is possible, the President appoints the relevant representative according to the criteria established in the statute of the Community Consultative Council.

- 12.8 The President shall appoint members of the Community Consultative Council for a term of two (2) years, renewable once, in accordance with the nominations made by the community representative organizations. Should the President refuse to appoint one or more of the nominees, he or she shall give a reasoned opinion for this decision and seek a new nomination from the relevant community representative organization.
- 12.9 The Office of the President shall be represented by a senior representative. Ministers or Deputy Ministers and representatives of the state agencies whose remit is of special relevance to communities shall also participate. The number of governmental representatives entitled to vote in the Community Consultative Council shall not exceed one third of the overall membership of the Council. The chair of the Community Consultative Council may invite civil society organizations, individual experts, additional governmental representatives or representatives of international agencies to participate in meetings of the Council without the right to vote.
- 12.10 The Community Consultative Council shall adopt its own rules of procedure and agree on an annual work plan establishing clear targets. The Community Consultative Council shall report regularly, at least once a year, to the President of Kosovo and to the Assembly of Kosovo. The Community Consultative Council will also inform the general public of its activities and report.
- 12.11 The Community Consultative Council shall be supported by a secretariat located in the Office of the President of the Republic of Kosovo, and shall be allocated a budget to enable it to function effectively, and, inter alia, to engage in studies and surveys, seek external expert advice, to build the capacity of its members, and to publicize its activities.
- 12.12 The Community Consultative Council shall make recommendations on the basis of its mandate. Where recommendations are addressed to public institutions, these institutions shall give a reasoned response within one (1) month, which shall include information on the actions by the specific institution(s) that have been or will be undertaken. Where the Council consults in relation to draft legislation, it shall have the right to be heard at the committee stage and make substantive written submissions within one (1) month. The Community Consultative Council has the right to receive a reasoned response to its recommendations within one (1) month in case its advice is not or not fully taken into account.
- 12.13 The Community Consultative Council may also be assigned a budget for programming relating to community issues in Kosovo. It will assign portions of this budget to community representative organizations, NGOs and other actors in support of projects aimed at satisfying community interests. It will also arrange for capacity building within the relevant community representative organizations to help ensure effective organization and articulation of community interests.
- 12.14 The Community Consultative Council may undertake social and cultural activities that bring different communities together and promote common understanding and

tolerance among the communities with the objective of building intercommunity trust and harmony.

Article 13 Implementation

- 13.1 In consultation with the Community Consultative Council and other relevant national and international stakeholders, the Government of Kosovo shall prepare, adopt and publish once a year a comprehensive strategy for the promotion and protection of rights of all communities and their members. The Government shall present annually a comprehensive report to the Assembly of Kosovo on the implementation of its strategy.
- 13.2 The strategy shall establish targets and special measures for combating exclusion and marginalization of communities and their members in the economic, social and cultural life in Kosovo and for the full implementation of this law.
- 13.3 The report shall include full information and detailed data on the implementation of the strategy under paragraph 2 of this Article, including on activities, developments and findings required according to this law.
- 13.4 Communities and their members shall have the right to:
- a) defend their rights before all courts of the Republic of Kosovo;
- b) file a complaint to the Office of the Ombudsperson of the Republic of Kosovo and other specialized bodies including the Independent Media Commission and the Language Commission; and
- c) bring to the attention of the Deputy Chairperson of the Municipal Assembly for Communities when they believe their rights have been violated.
- 13.5 Community representative organizations established under paragraph 3, Article 5 of this law and the Community Consultative Council have the right to file a request to the President in relation to issues of concern to them, and have standing to bring claims relating to the violations of the rights of communities and their members in accordance with law.
- 13.6 Communities and their members, acting through their community representative organizations and the Community Consultative Council, shall be invited to contribute to the reporting on compliance by the Republic of Kosovo with international human rights standards and to maintain contact with the relevant international implementation bodies.

Article 14 Amendments or repeal

Amendments or repeals of this Law can only occur in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo.

Article 15 Entry into Force

- 15.1 This law shall enter into force after its adoption by the Assembly of Kosovo and upon publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Kosovo.
- 15.2 Upon entry into force of this law, any law or regulation inconsistent with the provisions of this law shall be null and void to the extent of its inconsistency.

Law No. 03/L-047 13 March 2008

President of the Assembly of the Republic of Kosovo
Jakup KRASNIQI