

European Commission
against Racism and Intolerance

ECRI
Commission européenne
contre le racisme et l'intolérance

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



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**ECRI CONCLUSIONS
ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS
IN RESPECT OF ESTONIA
SUBJECT TO INTERIM FOLLOW-UP**

Adopted on 21 March 2018¹

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¹ Any developments which occurred after 23 November 2017, date on which the response of the Estonian authorities to ECRI's request for information on measures taken to implement the recommendations chosen for interim follow-up was received, are not taken into account in this analysis.

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FOREWORD

As part of its fifth round of monitoring work, ECRI has renewed its process of interim follow-up with respect to two specific recommendations made in each of its country reports.

In line with the Information Document on ECRI's fifth monitoring cycle brought to the attention of the Ministers' Deputies on 14 November 2012¹, not later than two years following the publication of each report, ECRI addresses a communication to the Government concerned asking what has been done in respect of the specific recommendations for which priority follow-up was requested.

At the same time, ECRI gathers relevant information itself. On the basis of this information and the response from the Government, ECRI draws up its conclusions on the way in which its recommendations have been followed up.

It should be noted that these conclusions concern only the specific interim recommendations and do not aim at providing a comprehensive analysis of all developments in the fight against racism and intolerance in the State concerned.

¹ CM/Del/Dec(2012)1154/4.2.

2. *In its report on Estonia published on 13 October 2015, ECRI recommended that the authorities take advantage of the launch of the 2020 integration strategy to run an information campaign for all vulnerable groups, and in particular the Russian-speaking minority and/or persons of undetermined citizenship, placing the emphasis on the fact that the state believes that each of these groups should integrate fully into Estonian society and that they are welcome there.*

ECRI notes that the Estonian authorities have taken several steps with regard to this recommendation. ECRI has been informed that the Estonian Ministry of Culture allocated funds to conduct an information campaign to encourage young people with a different mother tongue to Estonian to apply for work in the public sector and to explain employment opportunities to these people. Prepared by the Estonian Integration Foundation (MISA) and implemented in the first half of 2017, this campaign was conducted bilingually³ in Estonian and Russian - and included a media campaign on Internet, including social media, as well as several outreach activities in schools and universities. In the framework of this campaign, the administrations of Estonian ministries were also informed of the importance and the methods of recruiting people from different language backgrounds rather than just Estonian native speakers.

ECRI is also pleased to note that a cross-media programme on integration was created to introduce positive and integration-friendly attitudes to Estonians and people of other nationalities who live in Estonia. A television programme called “Meie Eestid”⁴ was designed for this particular purpose and was broadcast on the main Estonian public TV (ETV) channel during the Autumn 2017.

In view of these considerations, ECRI concludes that its recommendation has been fully implemented.

³ <http://karjeravestonii.meis.ee/?lang=ru> and <http://karjeravestonii.meis.ee/>

⁴ <https://etv.err.ee/v/377a7b0f-ef30-44a8-8e37-f15c95db9c2b>

