



**“Fan S. Noli” University, Korçë Department
of Linguistic and literature, FEF**



**Tirana University
Department of Linguistic, FHF**

**International Scientific Conference "Language Policies for Minorities of the Balkans:
Achievements and Perspectives"
12-13 November 2021, “Fan Noli” University, Korçë, Albania**

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In today's multiethnic societies it has become increasingly necessary to address the challenges of integration faced by the coexistence of different peoples (nations), cultures and traditions in the Balkan countries and beyond. The Balkan is a product of its own history. Its peoples have shared with each other both the good that comes from this coexistence and the bad that has come from conflicts and disputes throughout the centuries. Now they are sharing the challenges of building the common future on coexistence principles and the appreciation of each other's culture and traditions. These challenges need to be addressed, not as something foreign and harmful, but as an added value to our nations. This way, the Balkan states are aiming to increase the integration space, the coexistence opportunities and the respect for the linguistic, religious and cultural rights of minorities, considering them an added value, a friendship bridge and an undeniable historical fact.

This will for coexistence and for politically and legally respected minorities aims to be harmonized with the Council of Europe's Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities, ratified by Law no. 8496, dated 3.6.1999 and with the international agreements in the field of human rights. Even though these international agreements are non-binding for the countries that have signed them, they do advise the drafting of specific laws with the objective of “improving the legal framework and policies for minorities’ protection”. The spirit of this Convention is to protect minorities’ rights and to guarantee the exercise of specific human rights for every person belonging to a national minority, highlighting the promotion of their distinctive identity as an essential component of an integrated society which guarantees non-discrimination and full equality under the law.

Without denying the institutional and individual contributions in this respect, we believe that the drafting and particularly the implementation of such laws requires a social and democratic emancipation of the society and of the political decision-making leaders. More than that, the spirit of tolerance and awareness of different ethnicities within the state should prevail, while minorities should not be seen as a source of conflict, but as a source of mutual enrichment synergy. Concepts such as the majority population within a state, the official language, culture and religion supremacy/prestige are not fruitful for any ethnic group within the state and in the interstate realm. On the contrary, reliance on new research and official statistics coming from institutions such as academies, scientific research centers, university departments, research



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institutes in the field of social, economic and cultural studies, which are objective in dealing with such issues, as well as the cooperation with state decision-making institutions are the paths that should be followed for obtaining results based on concrete and universally accepted linguistic realities.

2. Study fields: Linguistics, Sociolinguistics, Linguistics Anthropology, Psycholinguistics, Language and Culture, Pedagogy, Jurisprudence (Legislation), Political Studies etc.

3. Thematic topics

Languages in contact: theory approach
Language policy on Balkan’s minorities and legislation
Language policy and cultural and religious heritage
Languages, language variations and local/national language policy
Multicultural and intercultural policy
Official and non-official language policies
Language policy and education process in community
Language attrition and language revitalization
Language, globalization and linguistic diversity
Language policy and the employment
Language policy and linguistic discrimination
National identities and language policy
Speech communities and language policy
Natural right vs legal right on language use

4. Presentation

Oral paper
Poster
Roundtable Discussion

Please visit the conference website <https://lpbm.artn2d.com/> for more details.