The Assembly of Delegates of the Federal Union of European Nationalities (FUEN), at its session in Eisenstadt on 3rd June 2011 adopts the following resolution:

Submitted by the Federal Union of European Nationalities on the proposal of RMDSZ (Democratic Alliance of Hungarian in Romania)

The FUEN - Federal Union of European Nationalities - is aware of the fact that the autochthonous national minorities and traditional minorities from the EU member states need European level community standards - set of norms, policy tools, strategies - ensuring and preserving their rights.

Autochthonous national minorities and traditional minorities are groups, which have been residents in the same area for generations while in many cases national borders have shifted. Their rights to self determination, preserving distinct cultural traditions, learning and speaking their language must be respected by the nation states. The FUEN considers that only a European level policy tool can achieve the implementation of such rights and encourage the application of best practices - positive measures and implemented policy-tools in all member states.

The FUEN welcomes the new form of public participation in European Union policy shaping, the European citizens' initiative introduced by the Lisbon Treaty. It provides that "not less than one million citizens who are nationals of a significant number of Member States may take the initiative of inviting the Commission, within the framework of its powers, to submit any appropriate proposal on matters where citizens consider that a legal act of the Union is required for the purpose of implementing the Treaties." The launch of the first European Citizens' Initiatives will be possible from 1st April 2012.

The FUEN considers this new form of public participation an excellent opportunity which will raise the awareness of Europeans and European institutions regarding the autochthonous national minorities and will create the conditions for adopting a policy tool regarding their rights.

FUEN, using the European citizens’ initiative together with its member organisations, European officials and experts, will examine the feasibility of a successful, Europe-wide petition campaign aiming to safeguard the autochthonous, national minorities / ethnic groups in Europe and, if appropriate, will implement this initiative.