

Motions

Motion number	22
Name of the person introducing the Motion to the GA	Zsolt Szilágyi
Member party	Erdélyi Magyar Szövetség
Title (of the Motion)	Support for the European Citizens initiative on Cohesion Policy for the equality of the regions and sustainability of the regional cultures

Text of the motion: (In English; Maximum 600 words)

Having regard to the fact that:

- Almost 10 % of the population in the EU belongs to a national, ethnic or linguistic minority, most of them are living in a national region;
- Both the European Civic Initiative on National Regions and the Minority Safe Pack were successful initiatives, as they collected more than one million signatures;
- They raised the question that there is no effective legally binding mechanism in the EU to protect national minorities, their culture and language;
- The European Commission refused to initiate any legal action after the Minority Safe Pack went through all legal steps;
- The ignorant and negative attitude of the European Commission towards minority protection disappointed and angered those who still believe that the EU should help to save endangered communities and their cultures;
- The cohesion policy of the EU should pay special attention to regions with national, ethnic, cultural, religious or linguistic characteristics that are different from those of the surrounding regions.

We call on the European Commission:

- To assure a fair and open dialogue with the initiators of the ECI on National regions and to consider to initiating legislation on the request signed by about 1.3 million European citizens;;
- To reshape the European cohesion policy in order to help national regions to develop, in order to protect their community and their culture;

- To put in practice point nr. 3 of A article 3 of the Treaty on European Union, which says, that the EU “shall respect its rich cultural and linguistic diversity, and shall ensure that Europe's cultural heritage is safeguarded and enhanced.”
- To have a more active policy on the protection of national regions and on the protection of national and ethnic minorities.

Please see Article 7 of EFA's [Rules of Internal Order](#) for the rules regarding motions.