

SYLWESTER CHRUSZCZ, MEP

ZAPÓSLANEC EUROPSKEHO PARLAMENTA
ABGEORDNETER DES EUROPÄISCHEN PARLAMENTS
POSEŁ PARLAMENTU EUROPEJSKIEGO



Press Release

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Saxony closes further schools of Sorbian minority

The Government of Saxony has announced further closures of Sorbian minority schools. The actions of Saxon Government contravene international agreements as well as standards set by European Union for the protection of national minorities of which the Federal Government of Germany is a signatory.

In light of this scandalous move by the Government of Saxony two members of the European Parliament Mr. Sylwester Chruszcz from Poland and Mr. Jaromir Kohlicek from the Czech Rep. have tabled a parliamentary question to the European Commission regarding the continuous closure of Sorbian minority schools.

The signing of the parliamentary question took place in the Sorbian village of Chrósćicy/Crostwitz on the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II. This village is well known from the first closure of Sorbian middle school in 2001 which sparked an international protest as well as intervention of the European Parliament to no avail of Sorbian parents and pupils and which was full disregarded by the Government of Saxony.

Today there is circa 60,000 Sorbs living in Germany in the region called Lusatia which is divided between the State of Saxony and the Land of Brandenburg. The Sorbs are an indigenous Slavic people of this region and their language is listed on the endangered list of European languages.

Europski běrow
Při Młynskich wrotach 2
02625 Budyšin
tel./fax: + 49 (0) 3591 3278 39
Email: europski-berow@o2.pl

Europabüro
Mühlorgasse 2
02625 Bautzen
tel./fax: + 49 (0) 3591 3278 39
Email: europski-berow@o2.pl

Parlament Européen
Bât. Altiero Spinelli
03E258
60, rue Wiertz
B-1047 Bruxelles
tel.: + 32 (0) 2 284 5571

Parlament Européen
Bât. Louise Weiss T11089
Allée du Printemps
BP 10024/F
F-67070 Strasbourg Cedex
tel.: +33 (0) 3 88 17 5571