



Declaration nr. 2

Name of the person introducing the declaration: Gabriel Hribar

On behalf of the party: Enotna lista Carinthia-Austria

Declaration: Protection of Slovene language as second official language in Austrian Carinthia.

The planned change of the state constitution of the Austrian federal state Carinthia boils down to a public devaluation of the Slovene language as it is emphasized that German is the only official language. This shows us how far the rights of the Austrian Slovene minority are lagging behind those of the German speaking minority in South Tyrol/Italy for example. Whereas in the new state constitution of Carinthia the symbolic nomination of equality seemed to be too much to ask for. This is a withdrawal from the goodwill in the initial promising draft for the new state constitution.

The European Free Alliance
declares that:

- the Government of Austrian province Carinthia should change the draft for a new Constitution. The article 5 with the definition that German is the **single federal state language** has to be changed to that extend that the Slovene language is also an official language in Carinthia.
- the Austrian Government should pay attention to the fact that local authorities cannot shorten the guarantees defined in article 7 of Austrian State Treaty on minority rights.

The EFA urges the government of the Austrian province Carinthia to protect the Slovene language as second official language.