**Europe and Central Asia Regional Forum**

**2-3 May 2022**

**30th Anniversary, UN Declaration on the Rights of Minorities 1992-2022**

**Thematic Session 3: Minority participation as a procedural and substantive right and process**

**Recommendations proposed by MEP Andrea Bocskor:**

Non-discrimination of national, regional and linguistic minorities is essential to stability, security and peace in a region, as even the slightest grievance can be a reason for a hostile movement. All democratic countries should guarantee basic ethnic, cultural, linguistic, and religious rights of persons belonging to national minorities. National authorities must set legal frameworks and conditions for the protection of fundamental human and minority rights, in line with international standards and conventions.

States must create an atmosphere of tolerance and dialogue, and do their utmost to curb hate speech against minorities, to prevent tensions and conflicts between national communities living within a country.