

Questionnaire Situation of a religious minority

Country:	Slovenia
Name of religious majority:	The protestant Church in Republic Slovenia.
Number of believers:	About 18.000 believers.
Regional, national distribution within the country (e.g. are believers dispersed or concentrated in one or more places?):	The number of believers depends on the birth rate which has fallen recently. But lately the number of new born babies has risen, which influences the number of our members. The majority of Protestants are in Prekmurje, some are in Ljubljana , Maribor and Primorska.
Are believers organized in communities or similar structures?	They are organized in the so-called Church communities. These are civil and legal organizations in which the Protestants join in religious and material way. Church communities are lead by priest and the representative of the believers – laics (an inspector).
Legal position/ status (e.g. is the religious majority recognised and is there equal status with the religion of the majority?):	The Slovene Protestants have been present since the 16th century, since Reformation Primož Trubar, Jurij Dalmatin, Adam Bohorič, Sebastjan Krelj and other created Slovene formal Language, they published the first books (Abecedarij, Katekizem 1550) and formed Slovene national feeling. So they are present the mind of each Slovene person. The rights are assured by the Slovene constitution.
Are there any limits on the religious majority enjoying freedom of worship in the country? If yes, what are the reasons...-legal reasons- -social reasons- -other reasons-	The Protestants and other religions are free to practice their services, which assure also performing religious ceremonial and other activities.
Is the religious majority visible to others? When yes, how?	The Protestants have formed the language, literature and national feeling since the 16th century, so the pupils are taught this in primary, secondary schools and other educational institutions. Since Slovenia become an independent country, 31st October has become the national day. The Slovene government makes a celebration dedicated to the actions of

	the Protestants. The celebration is broadcast on national TV. The national TV also broadcast 4 protestant services, thus other people from Slovenia learn about their religion.
What influence do Religious Minorities of the country have on the religious majority?	Both try to live in tolerant and peaceful. Both Churches issued common wedding services, due to a large number of mixed marriages; they also cooperate with ecumenical talks, debates, blessings (firemen, new buildings, ect.) The representatives of both communities are present in the army, police and hospital.
What influence does the culture of the religious majority have on the minority culture of the country?	This is no special influence, because both communities live together as described before.
What influence do the minority cultures of the country have on the architecture of the religious majority's places of worship?	These are no special influence, because the minority looks back on 500-year tradition, which is present in architecture, music and art.