



Norway Apologizes for Historical Assimilation Policies

[Source: TH](#)

Norway's Parliament issued an official apology for the century-long [assimilation policies](#), known as "**Norwegianisation**," that discriminated against the Sami, Kven, and Forest Finn communities.

- Assimilation Policy promotes integrating diverse groups into the dominant culture, often requiring them to **adopt its norms, values, and language**, sometimes **losing their own cultural identity**.
- The **Norwegianisation process** aimed to erase the cultures and languages of the Sami, Kven, and Forest Finns.
 - Indigenous children were taken from their families and sent to state-run schools, where they faced discrimination and forced cultural change.
- **Sami:** Indigenous people from northern Europe, primarily in Norway, Sweden, Finland, and Russia, are the speakers of the **Sami languages**, which are endangered.
- **Kvens and Forest Finns:** Migrants from Finland and Sweden who settled in Norway centuries ago, with distinct cultural practices.

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