



LANGUAGE RICH EUROPE

MULTILINGUALISM FOR STABLE AND PROSPEROUS SOCIETIES



In partnership with



Sponsored by



Project publisher



With the support of the Lifelong Learning Programme of the European Union



What is Language Rich Europe?

Language Rich Europe is a **networking project** which brings together **1200 policy makers and practitioners from 24 countries and regions** in Europe to discuss and develop better policies and practices for multilingualism.

Network members are drawn from the fields of education, business, public services and the media.



LANGUAGE RICH EUROPE
MULTILINGUALISM FOR STABLE AND PROSPEROUS SOCIETIES

Who is involved? What are their roles?



- Co-financed by the European Commission under its Lifelong Learning Programme



- Initiated by the British Council, the UK's international organisation for educational opportunities and cultural relations



- Managed by the British Council, and supervised by a Steering Group made up of representatives of over 30 partner organisations



- Contribution of funding, services and expertise from Language Rich Europe project sponsors

What are the Project Objectives?

- To facilitate the exchange of good practice in promoting intercultural dialogue and social inclusion through language teaching and learning
- To promote European cooperation in developing language policies and practices across several education sectors and broader society
- To raise awareness of the European Union and Council of Europe recommendations for promoting language learning and linguistic diversity across Europe



LANGUAGE RICH EUROPE
MULTILINGUALISM FOR STABLE AND PROSPEROUS SOCIETIES

Why Language Rich Europe?

84% of Europeans believe that people should be able speak more than one language.*

83% of European businesses use language skills as a factor in recruitment.**

44% say of Europeans say they cannot hold a conversation in another language.*

**(Eurobarometer)*

*** (Language Rich Europe)*

In a **globalised world** with increasing levels of migration, being able to speak more than one language has never been so important:

- to enhance **job prospects** for individuals,
- to foster intercultural **understanding** and **social cohesion**
- to increase Europe's **competitiveness**



LANGUAGE RICH EUROPE
MULTILINGUALISM FOR STABLE AND PROSPEROUS SOCIETIES

What does Language Rich Europe Do?

LRE provides a commentary on current language policies and practices in participating countries/regions.

Research and Analysis

Trends in Language Policies and Practices in Europe

The project conducted an analysis of language policies and practices in Europe, comparing them to EU and CoE standards.

Consultation

Now stakeholders are coming together in a series of over 80 interactive events across Europe to share knowledge and good practice in multilingualism.

This will result in concrete, evidence-based recommendations for decision makers at country and European level





LANGUAGE RICH EUROPE
TRENDS IN POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR
MULTILINGUALISM IN EUROPE
DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION



With the support of



This project has been funded with support from the European Commission.
This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission
cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the
information contained therein.

LANGUAGE RICH EUROPE
MULTILINGUALISM FOR STABLE AND PROSPEROUS SOCIETIES

The Research: Who is involved?

- Research led by the Babylon Centre for Studies of Multicultural Society at Tilburg University



- Data complemented by research partners in each country who provided their own analysis of the findings, supported by examples of good practice and promising initiatives



LANGUAGE RICH EUROPE
MULTILINGUALISM FOR STABLE AND PROSPEROUS SOCIETIES

The Research: Draft Framework and Indicators

- Tool for self- evaluation of policies and practices against EU documents
- Desire to trigger follow-up research
- Interest in comparing findings with other studies



The Research: Language Types

- *National languages*: Official languages of a nation-state
- *Foreign languages*: Languages that are not learnt or used at home but learnt and taught at school or used as languages of wider communication in non-educational sectors
- *Regional or minority languages*: Languages that are traditionally used within a given territory of a state by nationals of that state who form a group numerically smaller than the rest of the state's population
- *Immigrant languages*: Languages spoken by immigrants and their descendants in the country of residence, originating from a wide range of (former) source countries



The Research: Language Domains

- Languages in official documents & databases
- Languages in pre-primary education
- Languages in primary education
- Languages in secondary education
- Languages in further and higher education
- Languages in audiovisual media & press
- Languages in public services & public spaces
- Languages in business



The Research: Sample used for each domain

Further and higher education

- 69 VET institutions and 65 universities

Public services and spaces

- 63 cities

Business

- 484 companies in 4 sectors: banks, hotels, supermarkets and construction



LANGUAGE RICH EUROPE
MULTILINGUALISM FOR STABLE AND PROSPEROUS SOCIETIES

The Research: Countries Surveyed

1. Austria
2. Bosnia & Herzegovina
3. Bulgaria
4. Denmark
5. Estonia
6. France
7. Greece
8. Hungary
9. Italy
10. Lithuania
11. Netherlands
12. Poland
13. Portugal
14. Romania
15. Spain
16. Switzerland
17. Ukraine
18. United Kingdom



The Research: Regions Surveyed

Spain

1. Catalonia
2. Basque Country

Netherlands

3. Friesland

United Kingdom

4. England
5. Wales
6. Scotland
7. Northern Ireland



The Research: Regions Surveyed

Spain

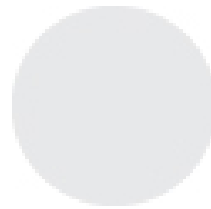
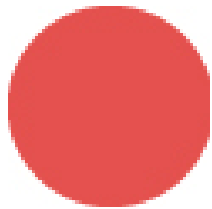
1. Spain (Madrid, Sevilla, Valencia)
2. Catalonia
3. Basque Country



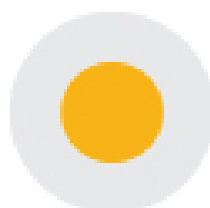
LRE circles



Pre-Primary



Primary

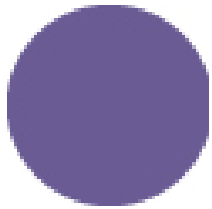


Secondary



LANGUAGE RICH EUROPE
MULTILINGUALISM FOR STABLE AND PROSPEROUS SOCIETIES

LRE circles



VET



Universities



Media



LANGUAGE RICH EUROPE
MULTILINGUALISM FOR STABLE AND PROSPEROUS SOCIETIES

LRE circles – cities



Strategies
How widespread?
How many languages

**Oral and written
communication**
How many languages?



	Un'altra LN	LS	LI
Programmazione ● durante l'orario scolastico ● in parte durante l'orario scolastico ● al di fuori dell'orario scolastico	●	●	●
Requisiti minimi per la dimensione della classe ● nessun requisito ● 5-10 ● >10	●	●	●
Monitoraggio delle abilità linguistiche ● standardizzato a livello nazionale ● su base scolastica ● assente	●	●	●
Livello da raggiungere Un'altra LN: ● in base a indicazioni nazionali o regionali ● in base a indicazioni della scuola ● non specificato LS: ● in riferimento al QCER ● in base a indicazioni nazionali o della scuola ● non specificato LI: ● in base a indicazioni nazionali o regionali ● in base a indicazioni della scuola ● non specificato	●	●	●
Disponibilità di fondi statali ● totale ● parziale ● nessuna disponibilità	●	●	●
	LN		
Programma scolastico ● coerente ed esplicito ● di tipo generale ● assenza di linee guida	●		
Sostegno aggiuntivo per i nuovi arrivati ● prima dell'ingresso a scuola ● durante la scuola ● assente	●		
Test diagnostico in entrata ● per tutti ● solo per gli immigrati ● assente	●		
Monitoraggio delle abilità linguistiche ● standardizzato a livello nazionale ● su base scolastica ● assente	●		



What has happened so far?

November 2010 – April 2011

- Design and piloting of questionnaire

April 2011 – September 2011

- Research conducted in 24 countries/regions

September 2011 – April 2012

- Analysis and writing up of data, translation into 23 languages

May – June 2012

- Publication of “draft for consultation” document and initial discussion with stakeholders



What happens next?

September – November 2012

- Follow-up national workshops with stakeholders to discuss findings of survey

December 2012

- First international conference in London and publication of project findings and good practice

January 2013

- National workshops to develop recommendations at national and European level

March 2013

- Final conference in Brussels to present recommendations to EU institutions



LANGUAGE RICH EUROPE
MULTILINGUALISM FOR STABLE AND PROSPEROUS SOCIETIES

How can you get involved?

- Join the LRE network in you country – join the conversation
- Participate in the national workshops
- Promote multilingualism in your area of work/life



LANGUAGE RICH EUROPE
MULTILINGUALISM FOR STABLE AND PROSPEROUS SOCIETIES