EFNIL

European Federation of National Institutions for Language

www.efnil.org

"YOUR LANGUAGE IS OUR HERITAGE"

EFNIL provides a forum for institutions whose role includes monitoring the official language or languages of their country, advising on language use, or developing language policy to exchange information about their work and to gather and publish information about language use and language policy within the European Union.

In addition, promotes linguistic and cultural diversity within the European Union.

MISSION

## THE PURPOSE OF THE FEDERATION IS:

- The collection and exchange of information about the officially recognised standard languages of the EU and other official European languages;
- The provision of expert advice about language policy in the EU;
- The preservation of linguistic diversity within Europe;
- The promotion of plurilingualism amongst the citizens of the EU states.
- The Federation also maintains an interest in the minority and regional languages of Europe.

TO THIS END, THE FEDERATION SEEKS TO ENGAGE IN:

- Projects relating to the description and analysis of the current linguistic situation within the EU as well as implications for longer-term linguistic development;
- Scientifically based analysis of cross-state language problems and questions of language policy;
- Consultation services in the field of language policy for political decision-makers of the EU institutions and member states;
- Propagation of the cultural and practical benefits of European linguistic diversity and plurilingualism through relevant actions and publications;
- All other activities which contribute to its aims.

ORGANISATION AND MEMBERS

38 member organisations from 28 countries.
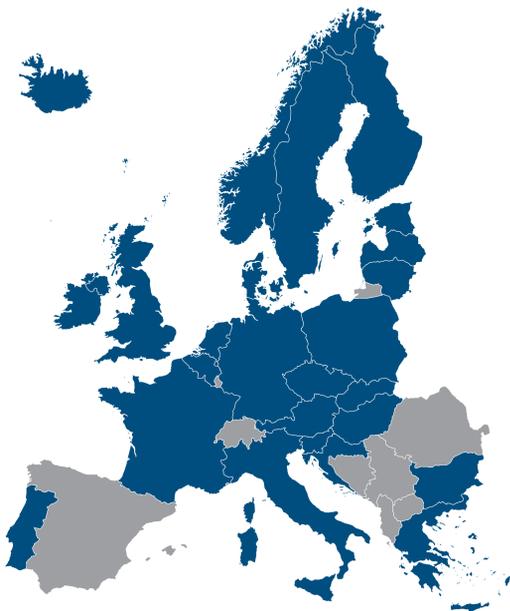
The Federation was founded by the General Assembly of its member institutions in Stockholm on 14 October 2003.

The organisational structures of the Federation are as follows:
- The General Assembly of the members
- The Executive Committee
- The Secretariat

ACTIVITIES

CONFERENCES

The Federation holds its annual conference and General Assembly each autumn. The conference is a thematic meeting, in which the delegates discuss one or more major topics concerning language planning and policy.

Stockholm 2003 "Linguistic functional domains, language planning and national languages"

Paris 2004 "European cooperation in translation"

Brussels 2005 "Foreign language teaching and language policy in Europe"

Madrid 2006 "Examples and models of pluricentric languages"

Riga 2007 "Language policies in Europe"

Lisbon 2008 "Language use in Europe"

Dublin 2009 "The Relationship between Official Languages and Regional and Minority Languages in Europe"

Thessaloniki 2010 "Language, languages and new technologies: ICT in the service of languages"

London 2011 "The Role of Language Education in Creating a Multilingual Europe"

Budapest 2012 "Lexical Challenges in Multilingual Europe"

Vilnius 2013 "Translation and Interpretation in Europe"

Florence 2014 "Language use in university teaching and research past, present, future"

Helsinki 2015 "Language use in public administration – theory and practice in the European states"

Warsaw 2016 "Stereotypes and linguistic prejudices in Europe"

PROCEEDINGS

The presentations of the annual conferences are published in proceedings.

PROJECTS

ELM – The European Language Monitor
http://efnil.org/projects/elm

- **What is the European Language Monitor (ELM)?**
  The ELM intends to provide a rich and complex empirical basis for the development and evaluation of national and European language policies. It is conceived as an online system to collect data and provide detailed up-to-date information on the linguistic situation and its development in the various member states of the European Union and possibly, also, of other European countries.
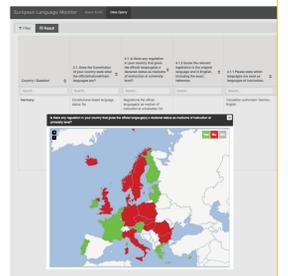
- **For whom is the ELM?**
  Target groups of the ELM are primarily policy makers at the national and the European level. ELM should also be of use for linguists, sociologists, publishers, journalists, and other persons who are more or less involved or interested in language development and language policy.

EFNILEX – Automatically generated online prototype dictionaries
http://efnil.org/projects/efnilex

- **What is the objective of EFNILEX?**
 To find a method that facilitates the creation of bilingual dictionaries by automatic means.

- **Why is it important?**
  To help the production of dictionaries for lesser used languages by reducing the human effort needed for lexicographic work.

- **What are the pros and contras of EFNILEX?**
  Pros: Time and cost-effective, decreases the reliance on human intuition during lexicographic work, give hints about the best translation candidate.
  Cons: The creation of parallel corpora is rather tedious for lesser used languages, the method in its present state deals only with one-token units, the resulting dictionary might also include incorrect translation candidates, as well.
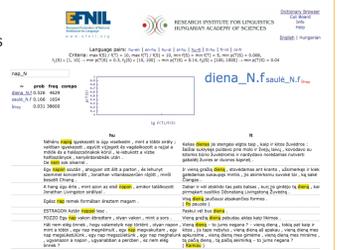
LLE – Language Legislation in Europe
http://efnil.org/projects/lle

To purpose of LLE is to monitor language legislations in member states of the EU. In response to a questionnaire EFNIL members described the language legislation in effect in each of the member states. The resulting survey is published on the EFNIL website and is updated regularly by member institutions.

RESOLUTIONS

2007 - Riga Resolution of EFNIL on National and European Language Policy
2008 - Lisbon Resolution on Language Use in Business and Commerce in Europe
2012 - Budapest Resolution on the Lexical Challenges in Multilingual Europe
2014 - Florence Resolution on Language Use in University Teaching and Research

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