EUROPEAN LANGUAGE EQUALITY

META-NET
META-FORUM 2023
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Digital Language Equality for a Multilingual Europe

12th META-FORUM – 2nd Annual ELE Conference

Georg Rehm (DFKI, Germany)
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27-06-2023 META-FORUM 2023 – Digital Language Equality for a Multilingual Europe
http://european-language-equality.eu

META-FORUM 2023 – June 27, Brussels

Digital Language Equality for a Multilingual Europe

META-FORUM 2022 – June 08-10, Brussels

Joining the European Language Grid

META-FORUM 2021 – November 15-17, *virtual*

Using the European Language Grid

META-FORUM 2020 – December 01-03, *virtual*

Piloting the European Language Grid

META-FORUM 2019 – October 08/09, Brussels

Introducing the European Language Grid

META-FORUM 2017 – November 13/14, Brussels

Towards a Human Language Project

META-FORUM 2016 – July 04/05, Lisbon

Beyond Multilingual Europe

META-FORUM 2015 – April 27, Riga

Technologies for the Multilingual Digital Single Market

META-FORUM 2013 – September 19/20, Berlin

Connecting Europe for New Horizons

META-FORUM 2012 – June 20/21, Brussels

A Strategy for Multilingual Europe

META-FORUM 2011 – June 27/28, Budapest

Solutions for Multilingual Europe

META-FORUM 2010 – November 17/18, Brussels
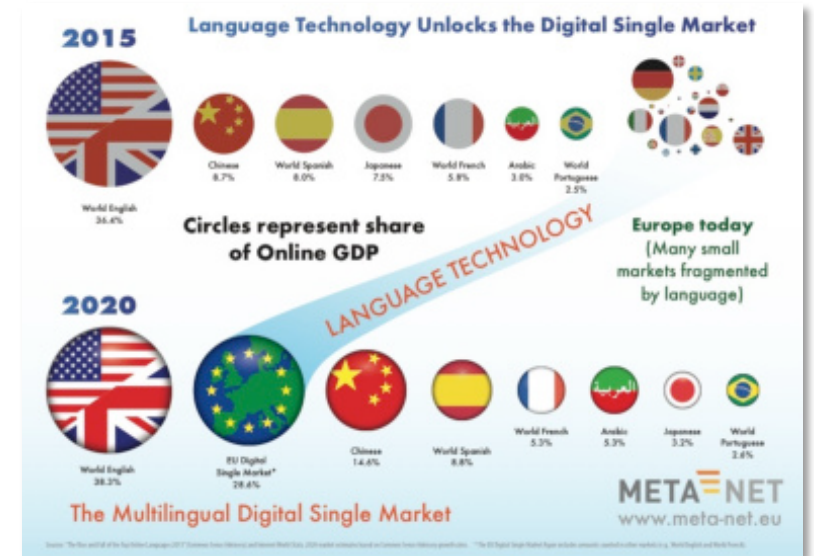
Challenges for Multilingual Europe

EUROPEAN LANGUAGE EQUALITY

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META-FORUM 2023

META-NET

FORUM
2nd Annual ELE Conference

META-NET Equality
for a Multilingual Europe

Multilingualism in Europe

- Multilingualism is at the heart of the European idea

- 24 EU languages – they all have the same status

- Dozens of regional and minority languages as well as languages of immigrants and trade partners

- Many economic, social and technical challenges:

  – The Digital Single Market needs to be multilingual

  – Cross-border, cross-lingual, cross-cultural commu-nication between citizens, organisations etc.

  – Digital Language *In*equality

  – Applications such as ChatGPT change everything yet again …

META=FORUM 2010

META=FORUM 2015

Riga Summit 2015

META=FORUM 2017

T4ME

META=SHARE

AI4EU

META=NET

META=FORUM 2012

COMPRISE ELITR Prêt-à-LLOD

EMBEDDIA Gourmet

T4ME
EU-funded project (Seventh Framework Programme) working on technologies for the Multilingual European Information Society

META-NET
Established in 2010, META-NET is a network of Excellence consisting of 60 research centres from 34 countries, building the technological foundations of a multilingual European information society

META-FORUM 2010
"Challenges for Multilingual Europe"
(November 17/18, 2010)

META-FORUM 2012
Conference "A Strategy for Multilingual Europe"
(Brussels – June 20/21, 2012)

META-NET White Papers
Release of 32 volumes on 31 languages, revealing that there is a severe threat of digital extinction for at least 21 European languages
(December 2012)

CRACKER
EU-funded project CRACKER (Horizon2020) pushing towards an improvement of MT research in terms of efficiency and effectiveness (2015 – 2017)

Cracking the Language Barrier Federation
Founded in 2015, the federation has been assembling European research and innovation projects as well as all related community organisations working on multilingual technologies

META-FORUM 2015
Conference "Technologies for the Multilingual Digital Single Market" (Riga – April 27, 2015)

Strategic Agenda for the Multilingual Digital Single Market (Version 0.5)
Launch of the Strategic Agenda for the Multilingual Digital Single Market titled "Technologies for Overcoming Language Barriers towards a truly integrated European Online Market" (April 2015)

Riga Summit on the Multilingual Digital Single Market
Summit "Shape the future of the multilingual digital single market" (April 27–29,2015)

"Language Equality in the Digital Age"
Workshop on "Language Equality in the Digital Age", commissioned by the EU Parliament's Science and Technology Options Assessment Committee (STOA) (January 2017)

"Language equality in the digital age: Towards a Human Language Project"
Launch of the study on "Language equality in the digital age: Towards a Human Language Project", commissioned by the EU Parliament (March 2017)

META-FORUM 2017
Conference "Towards a Human Language Project" (Brussels – November 13/14, 2017)

Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (V1.0)
Launch of the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda titled "Language Technologies for Multilingual Europe – Towards a Human Language Project" (December 2017)

2010   2011   2013   2015   2017

EUROPEAN LANGUAGE GRID
2019-2022

2012   2014   2016   2018

META NORD

METANET4U

CESAR

META-NORD
EU-funded (ICT PSP)
Project to establish an open linguistic infrastructure in the Baltic and Nordic countries (2011 – 2013)

METANET4U
EU-funded project (ICT Policy Support Programme) to enhance the European Linguistic Infrastructure (2011 – 2013)

CESAR
EU-funded project (ICT Policy Support Programme) functioning as a part of META-NET to standardise language resources and tools (2011 – 2013)

META-FORUM 2011
Conference "Solutions for Multilingual Europe"
(Budapest – June 27/28, 2011)

"State of the Art of Machine Translation – Current Challenges and Future Opportunities"
Workshop on "State of the Art of Machine Translation", commissioned by the EU Parliament (December 2013)

META-SHARE
Initiated in 2013, META-SHARE has functioned as an open and secure network of repositories for sharing and exchanging language data, tools and services

Strategic Research Agenda for Multilingual Europe 2020
Launch of the Strategic Research Agenda for Multilingual Europe 2020 (January 2013)

META-FORUM 2013
Conference "Connecting Europe for New Horizons"
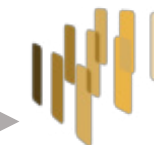(Berlin –September 19/20, 2013)

Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (Version 0.9)
Launch of the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda titled "Language as a Data Type and Key Challenge for Big Data" (July 2016)

META-FORUM 2016
Conference "Beyond Multilingual Europe"
(Lisbon – July 4/5, 2016)

CRACKER
Cracking the Language Barrier

ELG Final Proposal Submission
Final submission on Feb. 20, 2018

EUROPEAN LANGUAGE EQUALITY
2021-2022
2022-2023 (ELE2)

EUROPEAN LANGUAGE DATA SPACE
2023-2025

META=FORUM 2011

**META=FORUM 2013**

META=FORUM 2016

ELE META-FORUM 2023

"Language Equality" EP Resolution (2018)

European Parliament Resolution "Language equality in the digital age" P8_TA(2018)0332 – Voting (11 Sept. 2018): **592 yes** – 45 no

> Recommendation: Establish a large-scale, long-term coordinated funding programme for research, development and innovation in the field of language technologies, at European, national and regional levels, tailored specifically to Europe's needs and demands

Council of the European Union – Education, Youth, Culture and Sport Council, 4-5 April 2022:

The conclusions call for the development of an ambitious digital policy for the development of language technologies [...].

European Parliament
2014-2019

TEXTS ADOPTED
Provisional edition
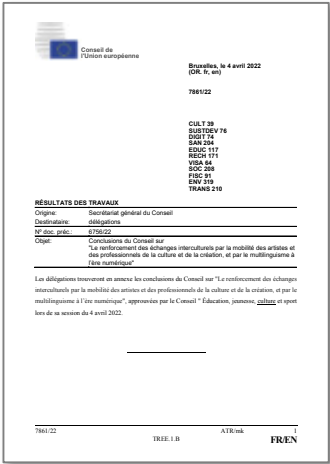
P8_TA-PROV(2018)0332

Language equality in the digital age

European Parliament resolution of 11 September 2018 on language equality in the digital age (2018/2028(INI))

The European Parliament,

– having regard to Articles 2 and 3(3) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU),

– having regard to Articles 21(1) and 22 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union,

– having regard to the 2003 UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage,

– having regard to Directive 2003/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003 on the re-use of public sector information[1],

– having regard to Directive 2013/37/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013 amending Directive 2003/98/EC on the re-use of public sector information[2],

– having regard to Decision (EU) 2015/2240 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2015 establishing a programme on interoperability solutions and common frameworks for European public administrations, businesses and citizens (ISA2 programme) as a means for modernising the public sector[3],

– having regard to the Council resolution of 21 November 2008 on a European strategy for multilingualism (2008/C 320/01)[4],

– having regard to the Council decision of 3 December 2013 establishing the specific programme implementing Horizon 2020 – the Framework Programme for Research and

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[1]   OJ L 345, 31.12.2003, p. 90.
[2]   OJ L 175, 27.6.2013, p. 1.
[3]   OJ L 318, 4.12.2015, p. 1.
[4]   OJ C 320, 16.12.2008, p. 1.

European Parliament and European Commission (2022/23)

Intergroup for Traditional Minorities, National Communities and Languages (March 2022)

Meeting with Commissioner Gabriel (March 2023)

STOA Workshop "Towards full digital language equality in a multilingual European Union" (November 2022)

Global LT and NLP Market is exploding: **341.7B$** by 2030

Natural Language Processing (NLP) Market Worth USD 341.7 Billion, with a 27.6% CAGR by 2030 - Report by Market Research Future (MRFR)

NLP Market Benefits in Behavioural Healthcare Drive Market

September 29, 2022 10:02 ET | Source: Market Research Future

Note: *these numbers are pre-ChatGPT!*

https://www.globenewswire.com/en/news-release/2022/09/29/2525379/0/en/Natural-Language-Processing-NLP-Market-Worth-USD-341-7-Billion-with-a-27-6-CAGR-by-2030-Report-by-Market-Research-Future-MRFR.html
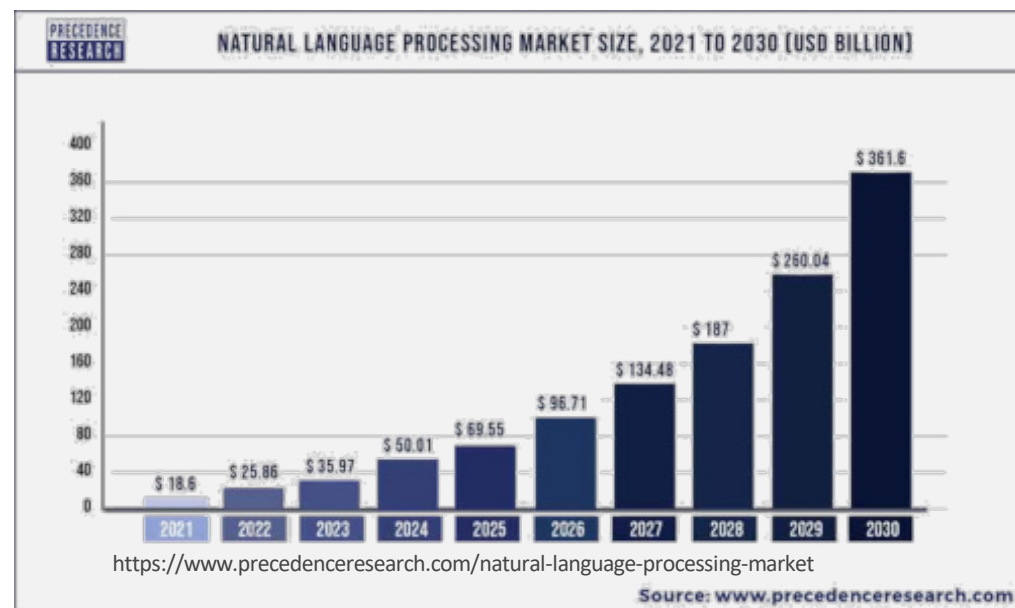
Players leading the NLP market include-

- 3M Co. (US)
- IBM Corporation (US)
- Hewlett-Packard Co. (US)
- Oracle Corporation (US)
- Apple Inc. (US)
- Microsoft Corporation (US)
- SAS Institute Inc. (US)
- Dolbey Systems Inc. (US)
- Verint Systems Inc. (US)
- Net base Solutions Inc. (US)

All US!

PRECEDENCE RESEARCH

NATURAL LANGUAGE PROCESSING MARKET SIZE, 2021 TO 2030 (USD BILLION)

- 2021: $18.6
- 2022: $25.86
- 2023: $35.97
- 2024: $50.01
- 2025: $69.55
- 2026: $96.71
- 2027: $134.48
- 2028: $187
- 2029: $260.04
- 2030: $361.6

https://www.precedenceresearch.com/natural-language-processing-market

Source: www.precedenceresearch.com

Without a decisive intervention by the EU, Europe will be pushed further to the side lines in the global NLP market.

# European Language Technology – *Relevance & Urgency*

- Global LT, NLP and AI market (including data and data spaces) – let's make Europe a key player!

- European LT community is highly fragmented – let's connect and share resources and continue to build a world-class community – including industry and academia – with global impact!

- Digital language equality – let's enable all Europeans to participate in the digital space *in their own language*!

- Cross-cultural & cross-lingual communication – let's enable European conversations and debates across language borders!

- Democratic online discourse free of organised disinformation campaigns and hatespeech – let's apply our technologies where they matter and where they can make a difference!

- Digital sovereignty – let's develop and deploy Language Technologies *for* Europe built *in* Europe.

Project Expo

Today, 12:30-13:30

- A total of 15 projects present themselves

- Including eight ELE2 pilot projects (FSTP)

- Everybody is invited to join the expo/project booths
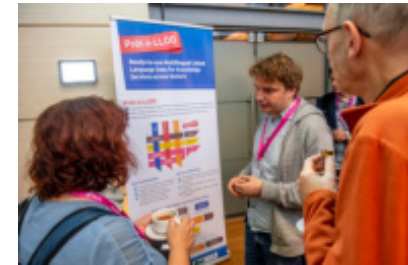
Time	Session
09:00-10:15	**Session 1: Opening – European Language Equality**
10:15-10:45	*Coffee Break*
10:45-11:45	**Session 2: The Role of National and Regional Language Institutes for Digital Language Equality**
11:45-12:30	**Session 3: ELE – The Pilot Projects and their Results**
12:30-13:30	*Lunch Break + Project Expo*
13:30-14:45	**Session 4: European Large Language Models**
14:45-15:15	*Coffee Break*
15:15-16:30	**Session 5: National Language Technology and AI Programmes in Europe**
16:30-16:35	*Short Break*
16:35-17:20	**Session 6: ELE – LDS – EDIC: How are they related and how do they play together?**
17:20-17:30	**Closing Session – 17:30 Reception**

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European Language Equality

Thank you and enjoy the conference!

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Session 1: Opening – European Language Grid

09:15 **Invited Keynote**

Jordi Solé (Member of the European Parliament)

09:30 **ELE: General Overview and Book Presentation**

Andy Way (DCU, Ireland) and Georg Rehm (DFKI, Germany)

09:45 **New Features in the Digital Language Equality Dashboard and an Update of the Cross-language Comparison**

Maria Giagkou (ILSP, R.C. "Athena", Greece)

10:00 **ELE Strategic Research, Innovation and Implementation Agenda – Revisited**

Georg Rehm (DFKI, Germany)

10:15 *Coffee Break*

Invited Keynote

Jordi Solé (Member of the European Parliament)