

Introduction



EFNIL & Taalunie

as actors withing the ECSPM

Survey



- **Johan Van Hoorde** as a candidate for the ExComm
- My native language: **Dutch**
- My organisation: **Nederlandse Taalunie**
 - ✓ official language policy body for Dutch
 - ✓ founding member of EFNIL
- **EFNIL**

European Federation of National Institutions for Language

Johan Van Hoorde



Johan Van Hoorde



- ° Ghent, 1956
- Germanic languages / philosophy
- Lecturer Business Communication – Univ. Antwerp
- Staff member Taalunie since 1991, policy agent in:
 - ✓ spelling – grammar – terminology
 - ✓ speech and language technologies
 - ✓ language consultation by citizens
 - ✓ European collaboration: co-founder of EFNIL
 - ✓ Member of Executive Committee of EFNIL

Dutch language area

EFNIL



Dutch as a native language



A pluricentric language, official language in the Netherlands, Belgium (Flanders – bilingual region of Brussels), Surinam and various smaller islands in the Carribean area

- 22 million native speakers
 - ✓ ± 16 million Netherlands
 - ✓ 6 million Flanders – Brussels
 - ✓ 500.000 Surinam
- ± 40 th language in the world
[Polish (40M), Greek (14M), Swedish (9M)]

Dutch as a foreign language



- 1,250,000 learners of Dutch als L2 (~95,000 adults)
- 400,000 pupils learn Dutch as a foreign language in secondary schools in Germany, Belgium (French region) and the North of France
- 30,000 students at universities abroad
- ± 180 sections of Dutch at universities in 40 countries
- 2,500 annual exams for the certificate of Dutch as a foreign language

Nederlandse Taalunie



Intergovernmental organisation, established in 1980 by the Netherlands and Belgium for a common policy in the field of Dutch language and literature

- Member states

- ✓ Netherlands
- ✓ Belgium: Flemish Community
- ✓ Surinam (associated member)
- ✓ Antillean islands (declaration of collaboration)

- Fields of Activity

- ✓ Language policy – language planning
- ✓ Language teaching & learning (home – abroad)
- ✓ Literature and language-based culture

Why did we want EFNIL?



Many of the challenges and issues at stake are common to all / most languages & countries of Europe

- Collect empirical data (ELM)
- Exchange information – best practices
- Develop common vision

social-economic challenges for Europe and the world, their implications for the language landscape & the contribution language policy and planning has to offer

- Influence political agenda: both national and European level
- More collaborative work, if not by all members then in partial coalitions and partnerships

What is EFNIL?



- European Federation of National Institutions for Language
- Established in Stockholm in 2003
- 39 member institutions in 28 countries
- Annual conferences and General Assembly each autumn

Themes: a.o. foreign language teaching, pluricentricity, language & economy, minority languages, language technology, language in higher education, linguistic prejudice

- Projects: ELM, LLE, (Efnilex), ELIPS
- Legal person according to Luxemburgish law since 2016
- More info: www.efnil.org

- European Language Monitor (ELM)

A rich and complex empirical basis for the development and evaluation of national and European language policies

Up-to-date information on language situation in the various European countries (EU and non)

- Data collection through questionnaire
- Data renewed every 3 years – this autumn ELM3
- Renewal of data offers a longitudinal dimension to ELM
- See: www.efnil.org/projects/elm/data-query

- Language Legislation Europe (LLE)

A survey of language related legislation and ruling in the various European countries (EU and non)

- Descriptive texts for each country in French and English
- Description includes: language within the constitution, language laws, status of minority languages, language ruling within non-linguistic areas such as consumer's rights, areas of contention with European Commission
- See: www.efnil.org/projects/lle

- Project on automatic generation of online prototype bilingual dictionaries
- Feasibility of modern, cost-effective method for development of dictionaries, esp. for those languages for which there are not yet good quality dictionaries available
- Prototypes available for:
 - ✓ Hungarian – Lithuanian and v.v.
 - ✓ Dutch – French and v.v.
- Terminated in 2016
- See: www.efnil.org/projects/efnilex

- European Languages and their Intelligibility in the Public Space (ELIPS)

Use of languages as instruments for government, legislation and public administration

- Aspects:
 - ✓ Plain language – easy-to-read language
 - ✓ (Multilingual) terminology for legislation and public administration
 - ✓ Unbiased communication in terms of gender, social class, race, religion etc..
- Start with questionnaire spring 2018
- See: www.efnil.org/projects/elips

Eager to work with you!!



So sorry for not being with you in person but eager to know you and to work with you in the future

A special word of thanks to Bessie and Guðrún for their perseverance and preparatory work!!!!!!



Thanks for your kind attention.