



European
Civil Society Platform
for **Multilingualism**

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Image by Brian Merrill, Pixabay



ABOUT US

We are a European civil society platform, initially launched by the European Commission. Since 2016 ECSPM is an independent organisation of European organisations, networks and research centres in Europe and beyond. Our secretariat is in Copenhagen and we operate under Danish law.

Committed to taking action to preserve the linguistic and cultural resources of Europe and to contribute to the effective management of its linguistic diversity, our members are concerned with the equity and preservation of the official, minority, and heritage languages of Europe, as well as the linguistic and cultural wealth that the inflow of migrants bring to Europe.

A novel and exciting recent development of the ECSPM is the CURUM constituency: a cluster of university units researching issues of linguistic and cultural diversity.

Affiliated with us are partners with significant expertise in school education and lifelong learning, multilingual technologies, and bilingualism studies.

Our expert group of distinguished scholars supports our work and actions.

Visit our website (ecspm.org) and find out more about:

- Who we are
- Our organisational structure
- Membership



OUR ACTIVITIES

- We hold an event, hosted by a different European university or centre annually. See the EVENTS page of our website
- Our General Assembly takes place once a year, scheduled parallel to our annual symposia/conferences, but our virtual meetings are frequent.
- We post position papers that initiate discussion on issues open to debate
- We initiate, participate and support research projects and seek funding for research related to multilingualism
- We participate and support academic publications and policy drafting.



OUR MISSION

While we continue to problematise the very concept of "multilingualism" and other related notions, we are concerned about language use in today's globalising world, characterised by increasing mobility, where information and knowledge are key determinants for social transformation, protection of the environment, human development, social justice and educational equity.

We view the creative use and synthesis of languages and other modes of communication (i.e., visual, audio, spatial) as important to effective communication, a means to cultural enrichment and to education for the development of plurilingual and pluricultural competences, in educational contexts which increasingly aim at multiliteracies pedagogies so as to enable learners to participate fully in our dynamic, technological and culturally diverse societies. It is our duty to encourage social agents to use creative practices across linguistic and cultural barriers.

With ECSPM on the EU Transparency Register, we are seeking to influence EU decision-making regarding language and language education policies. Our basic tasks, however, are to offer expert advice and assist the implementation of policies valuing European linguistic and cultural diversity, making sure that EU Member States respect language rights, the right of students to learn two languages in addition to the official language of the school and to contribute with research based ideas regarding new paradigms in education.

Our particular fields of interest from the perspective of multilingualism:

Education, Language rights & Language education policy, Translation & Technology, Arts & Culture, Language & discourse in society, Communication.



COMMUNICATION

Bessie Dendrinis, President: bessiedendrinis@ecspm.org

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Locating and sending information:

We locate and post information about important decisions regarding language policy and rights, about events, research and publications connected to our concerns, but we also welcome information on related issues from you.