EFNIL & its activities

‘National’ languages and multilingualism in Europe

Johan Van Hoorde
President of EFNIL
Sr. Policy Advisor Nederlandse Taalunie
What is EFNIL?

- Established in 2003 (Stockholm)
- 33 member institutions from 23 EU member states
  (Spain, Portugal, Czechia & Cyprus EU-member states not represented)
- 7 member institutions from 6 non-EU states of Europe
  (Georgia, Iceland, Norway, Serbia, Switzerland, UK)
- 18 conferences, # topics of common interest
- Projects, esp. LLE, ELM, ELIPS
- Founding member of ECSPM
- Like ECSPM a partner in ELE
Goals & objectives

(a) Collection & exchange of information about official standard languages of the EU

(b) Provision of expert advice about language policy in the EU

(c) Preservation of linguistic diversity within Europe

(d) Promotion of plurilingualism amongst the citizens of the EU states
Projects: LLE and ELM

- **LLE = Language Legislation in Europe**
  - A survey of the legal framework concerning the status of the language(s) of a country: constitution, language law(s), other language related regulations.
  - See: [http://www.efnil.org/projects/lle](http://www.efnil.org/projects/lle)

- **ELM = European Language Monitor**
  - Monitors status & use of languages in the various member countries of EFNIL. Renewal of data creates a longitudinal dimension: ELM 1 up to 4.
  - Aspects such as: (a) national language vs. regional/minority, (b) legislation / administrative regulations, (c) language use in education and research (d) language use in business, (e) language use in mass media, (f) dissemination of the official language(s) abroad and (g) language institutions (policy - research)
  - See: [http://www.efnil.org/projects(elm](http://www.efnil.org/projects/elm)
Projects: ELIPS – Master Thesis

- **ELIPS = European Languages and their Intelligibility in the Public Space**
  - Monitors specific policies regarding the use of languages as instruments of communication for government, legislation and public administration
  - Aspects such as: (a) use of plain language, (b) use of easy-to-read language, (c) legislative & administrative terminology, (d) use of other languages than the official one in communication with inhabitants, (e) gender neutrality and cultural diversity.
  - Results to be published early next year. See: [http://www.efnil.org/projects/elips](http://www.efnil.org/projects/elips)

- **Master Thesis Competition (Pilot)**
  - 3 winners each year / first edition summer 2020 – now call 2021
  - After pilot phase: evaluate, adjust, extend to PhD