The language policy arrangements and the practice of multilingualism in the EU institutions

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The language policy arrangements and practice of multilingualism in the EU institutions

OUTLINE

1. The field, and the methodology. Language policy performances.

2. The infrastructure for EU Multilingualism in the European Parliament (The channel regime). Resources, repertoires.

3. English and LFE: Sociolinguistic practice and the language ideological framings for LP concepts.

4. What next? Questions on the potential impacts of MT.

The field and the methodology. Language policy performances.

- The EP: The most multilingual among the EU institutions. 704 MEPs/27 MSs/ 24 official languages.
- Institutional / societal multilingualism. European public sphere(s).
- How representative and relevant for sociolinguistic research? (availability of the multilingual infrastructure, enhanced agency & the lack of power asymmetries, elite multilingualism).
- EP speeches as publicly staged language policy performances
- Language policy as performance
- Ethnography of Language Policy and Linguistic Ethnography as research framings

The infrastructure of multilingualism in the EP: The channel regime

- 24 language booths/270+1500 interpreters
- 24 monolingual channels in a translanguaging space? Boundaries reified/reproduced and blurred.
- “Resource efficient full multilingualism” as the real existing parity principle.
- Pivot, relay and retour languages. System breakdowns and blended resources.
- The elephant in the room.

English and LFE: Sociolinguistic practice and the language ideological framings for LP concepts

- English or LFE? Ideological framings and ethnographic observations:
- Enregisterment of LFE Voices.
- Indexical achievements and the partition of social space in interaction.
- Identification potentials across conventional boundaries

CONCLUSION:

LFE may be considered a translingual practice, but it only works within the infrastructure of multilingualism.

FURTHER QUESTION:

How the massive availability of AI based MT would change this infrastructure and LFE within it?

Thank you for your attention and questions!

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